

**Recommendation for a Motion to the Ontario Ministry of Education
Regarding Cycling Education**

Cycling Advisory Committee Date: December 17, 2015

Whereas approximately twenty per cent of morning car traffic is comprised of children being driven to school, causing increased congestion, collisions and insurance rates;

Whereas congestion and accidents consume excessive amounts of police, municipal staff, and school administration resources;

Whereas vehicular emissions generate about thirty-four percent of Ontario's greenhouse gas emissions;

Whereas reduced congestion would decrease costs associated with road construction, maintenance and repair, ease parking lot congestion, and improve the safety of students in school zones;

Whereas reduced congestion would reduce air pollution in school zones, thereby mitigating negative health impacts on students and staff, and thus improving healthcare and reducing employee benefit costs;

Whereas only four to seven per cent of Canadian school-age children and youth receive the requisite minimum one hour per day of moderate to vigorous physical activity, (compared to the eighty-four percent of preschool-age children who meet the requirement);

Whereas studies have shown that active transportation to school increases brain activity for up to four hours, and increases academic performance and decision-making abilities and,

Whereas cycling safety training will provide students with the skill set to safely cycle to and from school and instill confidence in their cycling ability, resulting in an increase in ridership and making cycling the default option for student transportation,

Therefore be it resolved that the City of Brampton request the Ministry of Education to adopt mandatory cycling education in the Ontario Elementary and Secondary School curricula, on a graduated basis, integrated with existing curriculum, from grade one to grade ten, including both safety and skills training.