

Traffic Fatalities, Traumas & Equity

Committee of Council, Nov 13, 2024

Dayle Laing, BikeBrampton

Legislation that guides road design must prioritize safety over travel times

120 physicians and researchers from the University of Toronto are signatories to this letter to Premier Ford.

- “The Ministry of Transportation is responsible for **servicing the people of Ontario***, not its motor vehicles.”
- “We bear witness to the trauma inflicted on pedestrians, cyclists and the drivers of motor vehicles due to traffic-related injuries – the **majority of which are preventable.**”
- “Among survivors, the **horrific consequences** of motor vehicles hitting pedestrians, cyclists and people in other vehicles are difficult to imagine. Brain injuries that fundamentally change personalities, memories and cognition; torn spinal cords that commit people to lifelong ventilatory support; scars from surgeries; post-traumatic stress disorder from both the trauma and the care required to help people survive. These patients spend weeks and months in hospital, and often never return to work or school.”
- “We must address the **root causes of traffic congestion** and provide options for solutions, such as improved transit connectivity and reliability, incentives for choosing alternatives to motor vehicle travel, and **support for complete streets** that offer **safe and efficient transportation options for all people.**”
- “Research from many jurisdictions, including Toronto, shows that **protected bicycle lanes reduce the risk of motor vehicle trauma for pedestrians and cyclists.** A recent position statement from the Canadian Paediatric Society strongly **endorses protected bike lanes as a way to protect children**, the most vulnerable road users.”
- “Reductions in speed that result from changes to road design also improve safety for motorists. **Bicycle lanes benefit all road users**, and it is much **preferable to prevent motor vehicle trauma than to try to treat it.**”
- <https://healthydebate.ca/2024/10/topic/legislation-road-design-safety-travel-times/>
- * *bolding of text is mine*

Traffic Collision Statistics

- Vision Zero

“No loss of life is acceptable due to a motor vehicle collision.”

- CANADIAN FATALITIES, 2022
 - 294 pedestrians
 - 46 cyclists
 - 258 motorcyclists
 - 316 passengers
 - 952 drivers
 - 1,866 Total
- CANADIAN SERIOUS INJURIES, 2022
 - 1,328 pedestrians
 - 443 cyclists
 - 1,151 motorcyclists
 - 1,505 passengers
 - 4,160 drivers
 - 264 other
 - 8,851 Total
- REGION OF PEEL, 2017-2022
 - 169 cyclist collisions

Advocacy for Respect for Cyclists

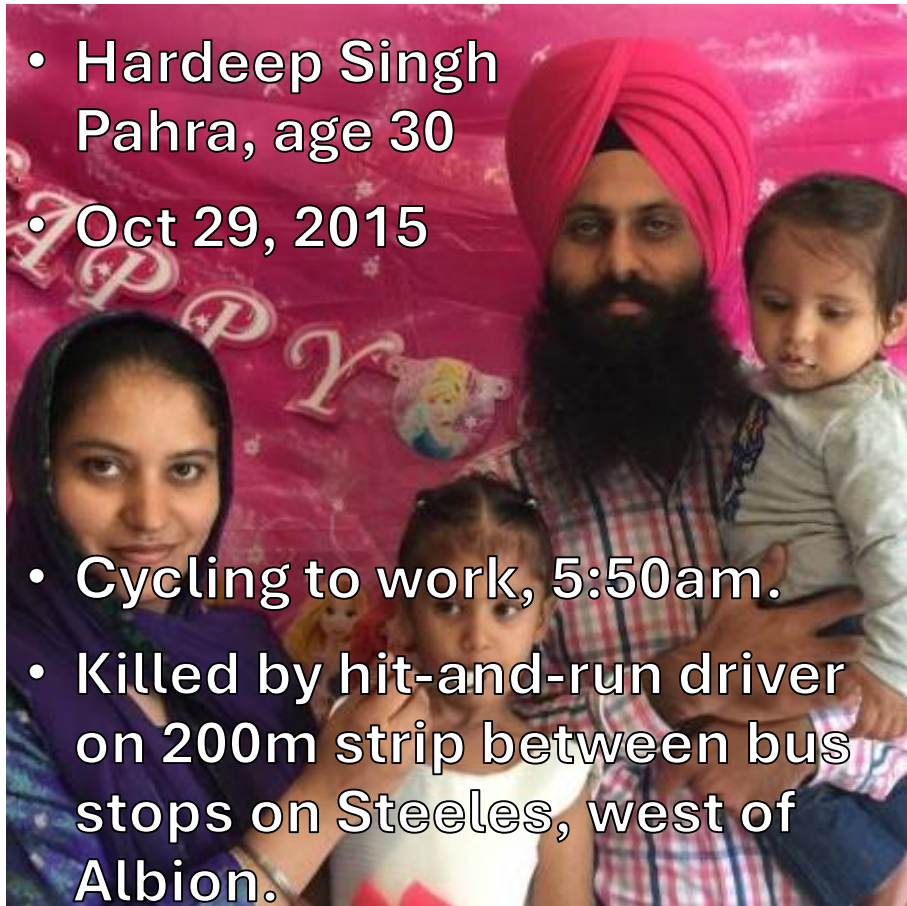
‘Ghost Bikes’

- ARC is volunteer-run, established in 1996
- Helped BikeBrampton organize several Ghost Bike tributes to cyclists killed by drivers
- <https://respectcyclists.org/ghostbikesfaq>



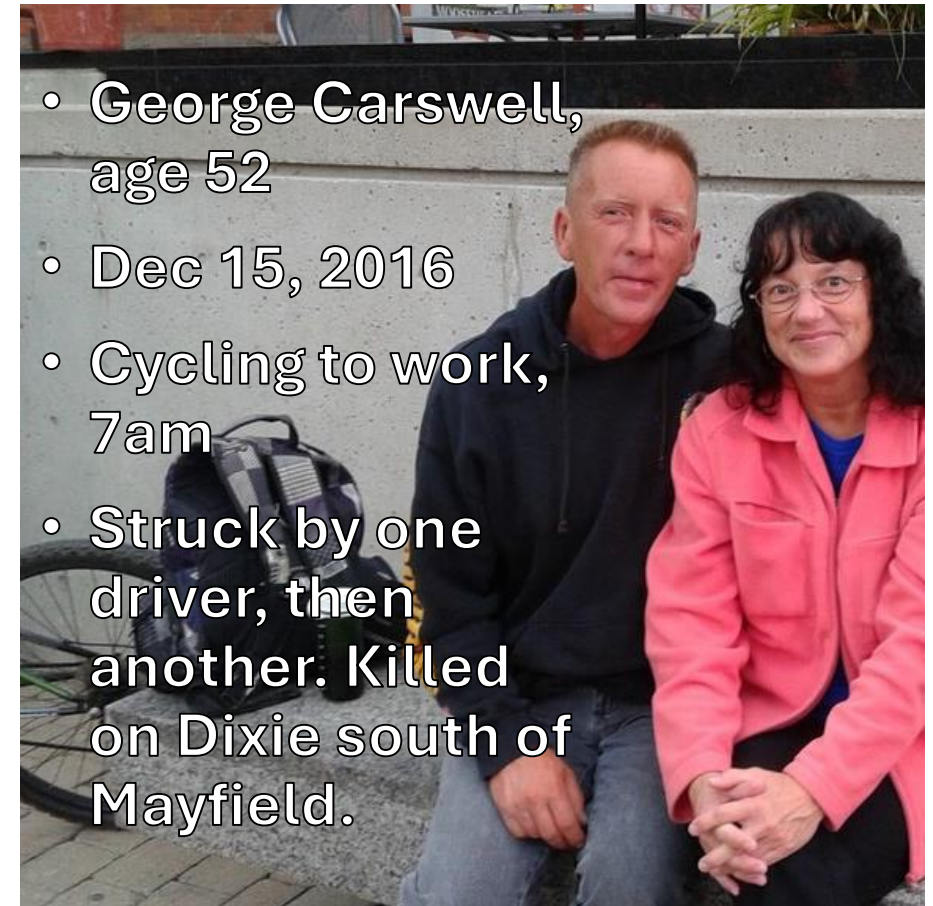
ARC & BikeBrampton Ghost Bike, 2023

Brampton Ghost Bikes



- Hardeep Singh Pahra, age 30
- Oct 29, 2015
- Cycling to work, 5:50am.
- Killed by hit-and-run driver on 200m strip between bus stops on Steeles, west of Albion.

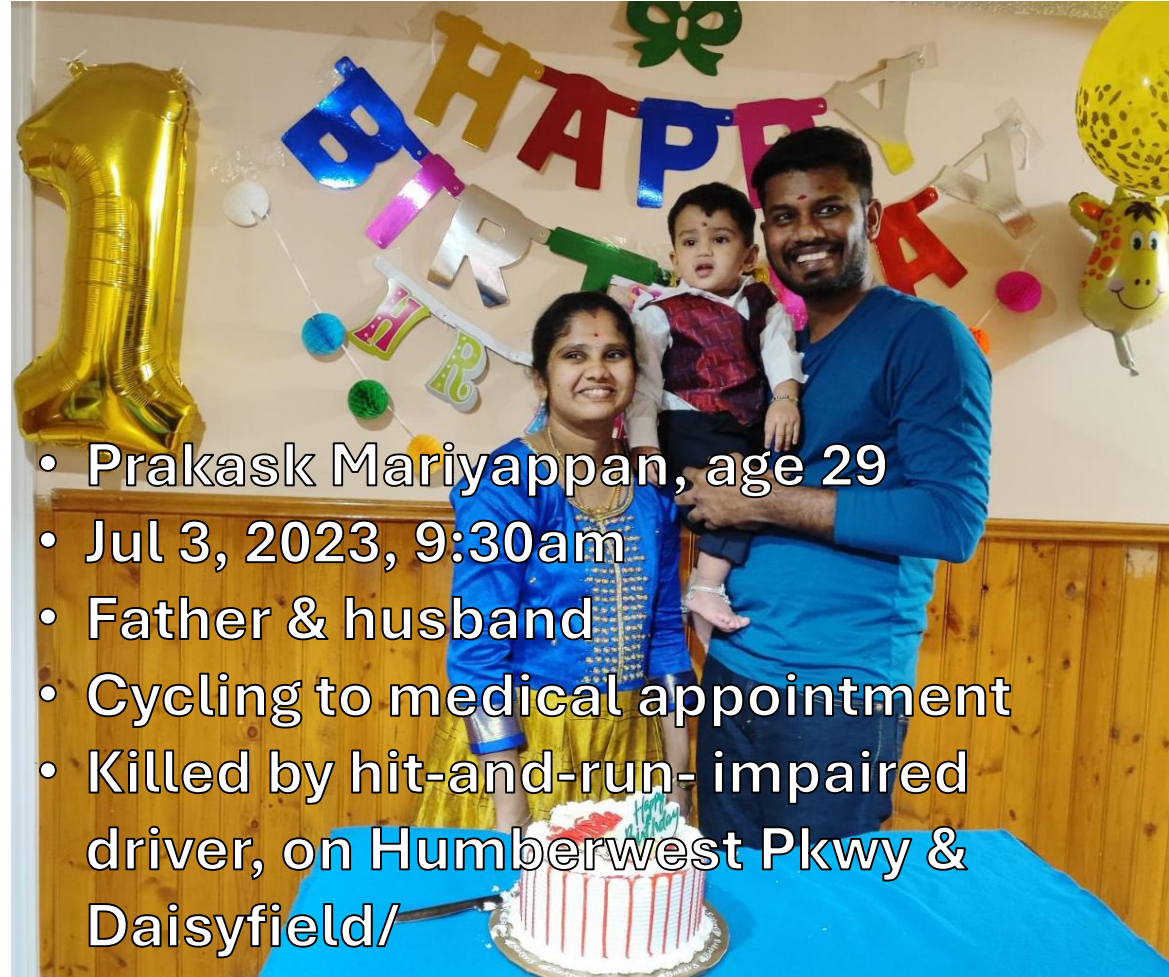
- Simon, 17 yrs old
- Jul 19, 2016
- Cycling, 9:30pm
- Killed by minivan driver at Chinguacousy & Duffield.



- George Carswell, age 52
- Dec 15, 2016
- Cycling to work, 7am
- Struck by one driver, then another. Killed on Dixie south of Mayfield.

Brampton Ghost Bikes

- Colin Fisher, age 32
- May 2, 2020, around 12:00am
- Cycling home from his girlfriend's house.
- Killed by hit-and-run driver of 2-tone black F-150, on Bovaird between Heritage & Mississauga Rd.



- Brampton woman, age 33
- Sep 11, 2024, 8:55pm
- Cycling – critical head injuries; *current status and name unknown*
- Struck by hit-and-run driver of black SUV on Steeles at #410 northbound ramp

Guri - Brampton resident

<https://youtu.be/PcvmS2h2E3g>

- IT specialist with degrees from India
- Can't find work in his field
- Food delivery cyclist in Brampton & Toronto
- Hit by driver who entered bike lane
- 12 stitches to his head





Amber - her son was recently concussed from cycling crash with driver

- Brampton student – volunteers at Different Spokes bike hub
- Cycling to school
- Hit by driver on Queen St. at Chinguacousy
- Suffered concussion
- Bicycle wrecked
- Rough poll of 40 cyclists at Different Spokes, after Diwali Glow ride. 8 have been hit by drivers.(20%)