



Southwestern Ontario Student Transportation Services

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Southwestern Ontario Student Transportation Services and Active School Travel

Southwestern Ontario Student Transportation Services (STS) is pleased to announce its participation in promoting active school travel for students.

Fewer students are using active travel modes to get to and from school, which causes increased traffic congestion in and around school zones. Between school purpose vehicles, staff and parents, traffic in and around school property is a significant challenge during drop off and pick up times. The entire community benefits by having fewer small passenger vehicle trips when students are able to choose active travel methods like walking or wheeling over car travel.

The London District Catholic School Board is promoting active school travel and has engaged STS to do so. STS has hired a Travel Planner to complete this work in partnership with the Elgin-St. Thomas, London-Middlesex, and Oxford Active & Safe Routes to School Committee, which is comprised of many community partners including London Catholic District School Board, Thames Valley District School Board, Middlesex-London Health Unit, Southwestern Public Health, Western University, parent and school councils, municipalities, police services, and community organizations.

The project will launch:

October 24, 2018
3 pm (prior to dismissal)
St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School (1956 Shore Road)

In addition to supporting LDCSB schools who are interested in taking on a school travel planning initiative, the grant also provides additional funds for the City of London and Can-Bike as local partners. Schools already involved in travel planning will receive additional support through wayfinding signs, bike racks and promoting safe cycling practices.

These projects are made possible through Ontario Active School Travel, a program of Green Communities Canada with financial support from the Government of Ontario. In addition to funding the program is providing new and improved resources, program development, training, coaching and other supports to partners in London and 11 other communities across the province.

Active school travel has numerous benefits, including health and fitness, a reduction in obesity, improved cognitive function and school performance, social development, an increase in independent mobility, increased happiness, reduced traffic and school zone congestion, reduced emissions, and improved air quality.

If you would like more information on this topic, please contact Carol Rossi at 519-649-1160 x 221 or crossi@mybigyellowbus.ca