

Phil Green Award - Letter of Response: Nicole Hanson (September 30, 2017)

As the recipient of the Phil Green Recognition Award in September 2017, I want to share a few words regarding my vision for the City of Mississauga.

Mississauga is a growing metropolis. A city defined by its ever-changing skyline, mile hike waterfronts, luminous parks and diverse food destinations. As the city continues to grow and evolve, so do the ways in which we experience it. Whether by foot, accessible modes of transportation (transit), cycling or car - we can anticipate challenges in the built environment, in moving around the city we love.

For this reason, I envision the residents playing an active role in advocating for complete, connected streets. It is only in complete and connected road networks that we will be able to experience the untold stories of each neighbourhood. This experience will only come through reliable active transportation infrastructure.

I envision active transportation infrastructure being supported in each part of the city through accessible and barrier-free integrated cycling networks, mixed-use urban boulevards, off-road trails, and shared routes that seamlessly connect to existing trails and parkland. It is with appreciation that I esteem the Cycling Master Plan as a timely blueprint and GPS guide that will champion and facilitate education and safety for residents to move through the city. Lastly, I envision Council's will to aggressively support the adoption and implementation of such master plans while budgeting for cycling infrastructure for a variety of users and intensity of uses.

The Mississauga Cycling Advisory Committee (MCAC) has been extremely instrumental in facilitating a visible conversation on Mississauga's commitment to champion active transportation infrastructure on both a local and intra-regional level. For this reason, we have much to celebrate, much to be proud of, and much to build on collectively as a city because of this strong foundation. As MCAC continues to champion the presence of active transportation for the city's Transportation Master Plan, Lakeshore Connecting Communities, Dundas Connects, Inspiration Lakeview, Inspiration Port Credit, and the Hurontario Light Rail Transit project -- I will continue to support, honour and build collectively with these efforts, as a visionary, city-builder and humanitarian.

Remember, how you move around this city is your politic, it is your revolution, it is your ultimate lived experience. For this reason it is vital to voice the importance of infrastructure that supports Active Transportation (AT) for all Mississauga residents, which can then be ushered by a spirit of commitment and dedication by Council.

Yours In Service, Nicole N. Hanson

Submitted to the Mississauga Cycling Advisory Committee (MCAC)