

Below is a summary of the five replies received to the reflection questions about the October 15 HCBD KTE Teleconference “**Retrofitting Streets & Neighbourhoods – Tools & Pilot Projects**”, with presentations of three initiatives:*

- Holly Owens, New Brunswick Department of Health, Adapting the Rural Active Living Assessment (RALA) tool to Canada.
- Michael Williston, Transportation Engineer, Red Deer (population 90,000) FCM Award Winning – Bicycle Infrastructure Pilot Project
- Sophie Paquin, Montreal Public Health, The Walkability Audit & Community Engagement

*see the ppts at : <http://hcbd-clasp.com/hcbd-peer-to-peer-sessions/>

- ♥ Positive feedback, learnings
- ↻ Constructive feedback for improvement
- ? Questions, issues, tensions for further discussion and reflection

WHAT DID YOU TAKE AWAY FROM THESE PRESENTATIONS? WHAT ELEMENTS DID YOU FIND INSPIRING? DAUNTING?	
♥	<p>Responses to all the presentations were positive.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants were interested in how the RALA tools had been adapted to the very small rural town context, saying this was relevant to their own populations. • Several participants mentioned that the Red Deer experience was especially interesting because it shared how the initiative encountered challenges and dealt with resistance from the community around active transportation. This demonstrated that while promoting active transportation can be daunting, it is possible to achieve, through trial and error, a series of smaller, incremental gains, which add up to long term success. I was also mentioned that this was a useful, progressive example of including both recreational and destination cycling in active transportation planning. • Interest was also high in the Montreal walkability tools. Participants were interested in following up on this projects to see what impacts it had on decision-making.
SO WHAT IMPLICATIONS DO THE PRESENTERS’ EXPERIENCES HAVE FOR YOUR OWN WORK ?	
♥	<p>Respondents mentioned intentions to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • encourage communities to ensure that there are opportunities for public feedback when developing active transportation • consider a testing approach to different forms of bicycle facilities • make use of the RALA tools as resources for communities looking for these types of tools • if possible, access the Montreal walkability training and toolbox. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Follow-up: The staff at Montreal Public Health clarified their position concerning the sharing of material contained in their safe and active walkability audit tool box (PPAS in French). It would be possible to offer training sessions in Montreal to CLASP partners who would be interested in using the material (forms, software, guideline, methods). For CLASP partners who would prefer to develop their own tools</i>

based on the MPH toolbox, MPH could supply audit forms (in French) that include 80 indicators to observe. All those interested can contact Sophie Paquin at spaquin@santepub-mtl.qc.ca

FOR THE NEXT TIME, HOW COULD WE IMPROVE?

- ☺ Suggested Improvements had to do with ensuring the best use is made of the interactive time in the sessions :
- that there is enough time for questions
 - that there are some questions prepared ahead of time to get discussion started, as participants may need a few minutes to formulate their questions
 - that participants email their questions to the moderator as the sessions progress.