


Hamilton

INFORMATION UPDATE

TO:	Mayor and Members City Council
DATE:	December 6, 2018
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	City of Hamilton Wins Smart Commute Regional Employer of the Year Award (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
SUBMITTED BY:	Brian Hollingworth Director, Transportation Planning and Parking Planning and Economic Development Department
SIGNATURE:	

The annual Smart Commute Award recognizes employers for their exceptional achievements in promoting smart travel options such as walking, cycling, transit, carpooling, and teleworking. Smart Commute Hamilton is a Program of the City of Hamilton and Metrolinx, and part of a broader network of 13 Smart Commute offices that work with local employers to develop sustainable transportation solutions.

This year, the City of Hamilton won the coveted Regional Employer of the Year Award out of over 340 workplace members across the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA).

The panel of judges noted that, this past year, the City of Hamilton has made great strides to encourage sustainable transportation options for staff by piloting the innovative Commuter Rewards Program and creating a Smart Commute Committee. The City also hosted the largest Bike to Work Day event in Hamilton's history, with 650 people gathering outside of City Hall, hundreds gathering at receptions at McMaster University and Mohawk College, and a record-breaking SoBi Hamilton Riding Day. In addition, over 1,000 people took the online Bike to Work Day pledge, and 20% of participants were riding to work for the first time.

The Smart Commute Program, at the City of Hamilton, sets a positive example for other employers throughout the GTHA. The City has made significant investments to support the program, such as, providing funding and human resources to operate the workplace program, and providing cycling and transit infrastructure to help support the commute to work.

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

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The City of Hamilton has been a Smart Commute workplace since 2005. Major initiatives undertaken for City staff include:

- **Corporate Carshare Program** with 125 members;
- **Employee Commuter Discounted Transit Pass** available to all staff;
- **Secure bike parking facilities** at City Hall, City Centre, Lister Block, and 330 Wentworth Street North (all of the major locations), with showers installed in three of these locations;
- **Preferred carpool spaces** at City-owned parking facilities;
- Participation in every Smart Commute Campaign since the City joined the Program; and,
- Active participation in the Smart Commute Hamilton **Advisory Group**.

As the City grows and intensifies, the need for the Smart Commute Program will no doubt increase. Progress and outcomes achieved in 2017 have set the stage for continued growth and success. If you require further information on this matter, please contact Peter Topalovic, Project Manager, Sustainable Mobility Programs Ext. 5129 or via e-mail.

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