

WALKING THE WALK
IN **SmallerCities**



*A federally funded knowledge partnership that brings together
the City of Brandon, Prairie Mountain Health, and Brandon University*



Bringing the best to Brandon

- *Make public spaces in Brandon better*
- *Make Brandon a model for other smaller urban centres, especially cities like ours that are on the Canadian prairies*
- *Explore how people in Brandon use public spaces for meeting and moving, especially active transportation like walking and biking, and open public spaces like parks and plazas*
- *Listen and learn → explore possibilities → build and share*

Why this project?

- *Support for better public spaces and active transportation is in City Plan 2050, in City Council's strategic plan, and in the new Climate Change Action Plan.*
- *Walking, biking, parks and plazas are proven economic boosters*
- *Affordable investments that foster a healthier and happier population*
- *Brandon hits the sweet spot — large enough to do it, small enough to make it work*

A team built for success



Dr. Rachel Herron
*Lead researcher,
Brandon University*



Jeff Fawcett
*Mayor,
City of Brandon*



Ryan Nickel
*Director of Planning,
City of Brandon*



Dr. Amy Frykoda
*Medical Officer
of Health,
Prairie Mountain Health*



Grant Hamilton
*Director of
Communications,
Brandon University*



Jared Friesen
*Research Assistant,
Brandon University*



Partnering with local experts

A Knowledge User Advisory Council will help guide our consultations

- *Brandon Neighborhood Renewal Corporation*
- *Brandon Urban Aboriginal Peoples' Council*
- *Manitoba Harm Reduction Services*
- *Seniors for Seniors*
- *Sexual Education Resource Centre*
- *Westman Immigration Services*
- *and more*

Actively seeking more members to represent the diverse socio-economic, cultural, and demographic groups that make up our community

Reaching out across the country and overseas

- *Guelph*
- *Oshawa*
- *Saskatoon*

- *Copenhagen,
Denmark*

Supported by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research through the Healthy Cities Research Initiative as well as the Canada Research Chairs program, by Brandon University, by Prairie Mountain Health, and by the City of Brandon.



Chaires de recherche
du Canada

Canada Research
Chairs

Making Brandon a livability leader

- *Brandon can be a model city for active transportation and public space initiatives*
- *Demonstrate “built in Brandon” solutions here that will be copied by other places*
- *Develop collaborative approaches that can also be shared with other groups*
- *These approaches should deliver meaningful health and social impacts through an equity lens*



Summer 2023 — Consultations

- *How do people in Brandon use active transportation (like walking and biking) and public spaces*
- *How would people like to use them, and why aren't they?*
- *Online campaign*
- *Intensive focus groups*
- *Pop-up consultations*

Fall/Winter 2023–24 — Learning and exploring

- *We've heard the gaps, what are solutions?*
- *Gain world-class experience with proven solutions in Copenhagen*
- *Reconvene focus groups to explore solutions for Brandon*
- *Adapt and translate those possibilities to our context*

Summer 2024 — Building and sharing

- *Select and implement a chosen project — best fit for Brandon*
- *Meet an active transportation or public space need*
- *Pop-up project — rapid implementation, iterate and improve*
- *Invite others to be inspired*

Learn More



SmallerCities.ca



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