



## Congratulations ITE 2021 Award Recipient

### PEDESTRIAN AND BIKE COMMITTEE JOHN LAPLANTE AWARD BRITISH COLUMBIA ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION DESIGN GUIDE



The British Columbia Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure has received the Pedestrian and Bicycle Standing Committee 2021 John LaPlante Award for its Active Transportation Design Guide. This award recognizes a project that applies innovative solutions or techniques related to pedestrian and bicycle activities and honors the memory of John LaPlante, a pioneer in the area of complete streets and a well-known champion for pedestrian and bicycle safety.

The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure is committed to improving transportation networks that connect people from the places they live to the facilities they use daily. Yet, design guides widely used in Canada and British Columbia had not fully addressed the needs of active transportation users and set the Ministry up to achieve the Province's CleanBC Plan, which asked practitioners to build a more inclusive street when given an opportunity, addressing the needs of people walking, cycling, and taking transit. The British Columbia Active Transportation Design Guide was delivered in support of CleanBC and the Province's goal to build a cleaner and greener future through sustainable transportation. It introduces several new ideas that can be used for conditions both inside and outside the urban areas to improve the conditions throughout the region. The full 577-page Guide is available through this [link](#).

British Columbia's active transportation strategy, "Move. Commute. Connect.," aims to double the percentage of trips taken with active transportation by 2030. The British Columbia Active Transportation Design Guide helps all levels of government use best practices when designing and building active transportation infrastructure. The team that wrote the Guide reached out to all indigenous and local governments in British Columbia and more than 60 agencies and non-profit organizations to discuss how to improve the transportation design and operations and provide a guide that would be an exemplary one from which others could learn.

Reflected in the Guide are many of the innovative ideas that John LaPlante espoused, including the best available information on bike signals, rural pedestrian and cycling design considerations, including new information about advisory bike lanes, and other context sensitive applications. This Guide incorporates international best practices, and its work is directly transferable to other communities and on projects throughout the world.

The strongest commitment within the Guide is the focus on improving conditions for travelers in a way that results in better outcomes in public health and the environment. It includes descriptions on communication and education strategies into a project's capital budget to continue community engagement after the project is completed. The authors believe it may be the most comprehensive outreach on a project throughout the province.

\*Pictured above: Jesse Skulmoski, Director of Strategic Initiatives and Active Transportation Grants (Project Manager)



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(L to R) Ian Pilkington, Jennifer Hardy, Jesse Skulmoski, Kenedee Ludwar, Ed Miska, Kathryn Weiker

The guide seeks to transform how people get around in a way that reduces pollution and leads to better health outcomes, while making communities cleaner and more liveable because enabling citizens to move under their own power can bring significant quality of life, health, and economic benefits.

To ensure that active transportation is accessible for everyone, regardless of age, ability, ethnicity, or gender—we developed the Design Guide using a Gender Based Analysis Plus (GBA+) lens. GBA+ is a people-centered approach to strategy development that considers gender, race, ability, sexual orientation, age and language throughout the entire process.



A large and multi-disciplinary team of professionals contributed to this successful project:

### BCATDG Training

**Ian Pilkington**, Chief Engineer

**Ed Miska**, Executive Director, Engineering Services

**Kenedee Ludwar**, Director, Transportation Systems and Road safety Engineering

**Jennifer Hardy**, Senior Traffic Standards Engineer

**Nini Nytepchuk**, Traffic Operations Engineer

**Kathryn Weicker**, Director, Major Projects, Infrastructure and Properties

**Mark Louttit**, Senior Electrical Systems Design Engineer

**Ryan Oakley**, District Program Engineer

**Darren Vagt**, Highway Design Supervisor

**David Woolford**, Senior Bridge Design and Construction Standards Engineer

**Caitlin Sowers**, Engineer-in-Training

**Katherine Kirby**, Executive Director Policy and Legislation

**Jesse Skulmoski**, Director of Strategic Initiatives and Active Transportation Grants (Project Manager)

**Alan Callander**, Manager of Active Transportation and Climate Action

**Brian Patterson**, Sr. Transportation Planner, Urban Systems