

Exemplary Environmental Leadership/Sustainability Program or Initiative

 School Board:
 Lakehead District School Board

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Name of Program/Initiative: Park the Car Week

Hyperlinks to Documents or Website(s) Describing this Program/Initiative Commuter Challenge Website: <u>http://app.commuterchallenge.ca/commuter/results/2013/city/2012</u> Also attached is the poster advertising the 2014 event.

Description of Program/Initiative

Over the last two years the Lakehead District School Board (LDSB) has participated in "Park the Car Week". Developed by Lakehead District School Board secondary school, Sir Winston Churchill Collegiate and Vocational Institute, it promoted the use of "human power" to travel to school by running, biking, blading, canoeing, etc.

The successful program was adopted by the Board and the City of Thunder Bay, Thunder Bay District Health Unit, and EcoSuperior by joining in the annual Commuter Challenge in June. Park the Car Week focusses on mental, physical, and environmental health awareness. Students and staff are challenged to "Activate your body, Activate your mind".

The number of participants is tracked through the Commuter Challenge website to determine the carbon footprint reduction. Sir Winston Churchill CVI's Grade 11 chemistry students complete the calculations on their own as part of their course content. Local businesses support the program by joining the challenge or donating incentive prizes for participants.

What has been the Impact on Student Learning?

The impact on student learning has been to internalize the connection between lifestyle, health and environmental footprints. Students learn how to make choices that decrease their footprints, while at the same time improve their health and thinking skills. The program takes place during Elementary EQAO testing and is seen as a great de-stressor for students.



VFRYWHERE WILL YOU GET TO SCHOOL? HOW SKATE BOARD

A. FOR THOSE OF US WHO CAN GET TO SCHOOL /WORK ANOTHER WAY - FIGURE OUT A SAFE & ALTERNATIVE METHOD OF TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM SCHOOL « HERE ARE SOME IDEAS.

B. FOR THOSE OF US WHO HAVE TO TAKE THE BUS/CAR TO AND FROM SCHOOL, NO PROBLEM - WE CAN ARRANGE TO OFFSET THE DISTANCE TRAVELLED BY WALKING AT SCHOOL/AT WORK!

STUDENTS STAFF FAMILIES COMMUNITY PARTNERS VOLUNTEERS HOW TO PARTICIPATE? TALK TO YOUR TEACHER OR PRINCIPAL, OR YOUR SUPERVISOR. STAFF CAN VISIT COMMUTERCHALLENGE.CA AND TAKE OUR RESULTS NATIONWIDE!

SMALL CHANGES TO YOUR DAY CREATE BIG CHANGES FOR YOUR MENTAL HEALTH, WELL-BEING AND THE ENVIRONMENT!

ROLLER BLADE

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BTKF

RUN



TO REDUCE OUR CARBON FOOTPRINT, CONTRIBUTE TO HEALTH AND WELL-BEING AND IMPROVE LEARNING/WORKING READINESS!