

## MEDIA ADVISORY

### ***Smart Commute at Metrolinx celebrates 'Bike to Work Day'***

*Events encouraging cycling scheduled across the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area*

May 22, 2009 (Toronto, Canada) – Metrolinx is encouraging commuters to participate in the third annual 'Bike to Work Day', Monday, May 25, 2009. Smart Commute, a program of Metrolinx, is working with employers across the region to encourage commuters to cycle to work on this day and every day.

On event day, cyclists will be greeted by local politicians with pancake breakfasts and free tune-ups from Durham to Newmarket to Hamilton.

WHAT: Smart Commute 'Bike to Work Day' events  
WHEN: Monday May 25, 2009  
WHERE: Toronto, Durham, Markham-Richmond Hill, Newmarket-Aurora, Vaughan, Brampton-Caledon, Mississauga, Burlington, and Hamilton.

See map at: [www.smartcommute.ca/events](http://www.smartcommute.ca/events)

DETAILS: Toronto

Time: 7:30 am to 9:30 am

Location: Nathan Phillips Square, City Hall, Toronto

Photo Opportunity: 8:40 am at Nathan Phillips Square. Paul Bedford speaking on behalf of Metrolinx.

Contact: Ryan Lanyon (416-874-5933) or Jacquie Menezes (416-874-5923), Metrolinx

Description:

The City of Toronto is launching Bike Month with a group commute to City Hall and free pancake breakfast. Metrolinx is proud to participate in the City-organized event with Paul Bedford, Metrolinx Board Member speaking on behalf of the regional Smart Commute Bike to Work Day initiative. For more information visit: <http://www.toronto.ca/cycling/bikeweek/>.

Employees of the City of Toronto, Exhibition Place and University Health Network (200 Elizabeth Street), who are Smart Commute members and partners will also be cycling on Bike to Work Day.

Durham

Time: 7:30 am to 9:00 am

Location: Durham Region Headquarters, 605 Rossland Rd. E., Whitby

Photo Opportunity: Photos are available upon request.

Contacts: Denise Murray, Corporate Communications Officer, The Regional Municipality of Durham (905-668-4113 x. 3813) and Sandra McEleney, Smart Commute Durham, The Regional Municipality of Durham (905) 668-4113 ext. 2550).

**Description:**

A formal declaration in support of this initiative from the Regional Chair on behalf of the Region of Durham encouraging everyone to “get out and try cycling” has been issued.

Regional employees who cycle to work will be welcomed at the bicycle racks and will have the opportunity to sign up for a summer-long challenge to cycle to work on a regular basis.

Employee Bike to Work Day events will also be taking place at Messier-Dowty (574 Monarch Ave., Ajax), Veridian Corp. (multiple locations), Town of Ajax (65 Harwood Ave., Ajax), City of Oshawa (50 Centre St. S., Oshawa) and Town of Whitby (575 Rossland Rd. E., Whitby).

**Markham-Richmond Hill**

Time: 7:30 am to 9:30 am

Location: 100 Commerce Valley Drive West, Thornhill

Photo Opportunity: 8:15 am

Contact: Basil Marcello, Smart Commute 404-7, 905-474-0730 x.14

**Description:**

Join Smart Commute 404-7's second annual Bike to Work Day Event and experience how easy biking to work, or anywhere, can be! Enjoy a FREE continental breakfast, FREE Bike Tune-ups, FREE giveaways and a bike safety demo, before heading out on a York Regional Police escorted bike ride. Then stop for refreshments and some prize giveaways, including a chance to win a CCM Vandal Dual XC bike (\$300 value), before the last leg of the escorted ride. Details at [www.smartcommute404-7.ca](http://www.smartcommute404-7.ca).

**Newmarket-Aurora**

Time: 8:00 am to 9:00 am

Location: Old Train Station Parking Lot, 470 Davis Drive, Newmarket

Photo Opportunity: 8:30 am to 8:45 at 470 Davis Drive

Contact: Peter Paz, Smart Commute Central York, 905-898-5900 x. 225

Description:

Cycle to Newmarket Chamber of Commerce offices and join Smart Commute Central York and partners for a free breakfast, giveaways, and a chance to win a Norco LRT1 donated by Spoke O'Motion. What a great way to try active commuting! Visit <http://smartcommutecentralyork.ca/SmartCommute> for more information.

Employee Bike to Work Day events are also taking place at Pearson Canada (195 Harry Walker Pkwy N.), Upper Canada Mall (corner of Yonge St. and Davis Dr.), Town of Newmarket (395 Mulock Dr.), York Region Headquarters (17250 Yonge St.) and Town of Aurora (1 Municipal Drive, Aurora).

Vaughan

Time: 8:00 am to 9:30am

Location: Powerstream Head Office at 161 Cityview Boulevard, Vaughan

Photo Opportunity: 8:00 am to 9:00 am, Powerstream Headquarters

Contact: Adam Arnold, Smart Commute North Toronto, Vaughan, 416-452-1270

Description:

PowerStream staff will be leading group rides from Newmarket and Richmond Hill to the Head office location at 161 Cityview Boulevard in Vaughan. PowerStream staff in Barrie will also be riding to their office location at 55 Patterson Road, Barrie. Staff will be welcomed at work with prizes and a free breakfast!

Brampton- Caledon

Time: 8:00 am to 12:00 pm

Location: Region of Peel Headquarters, 10 Peel Centre Drive, Brampton

Photo Opportunity: 8:30, 10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A, main lobby

Contact: Judy Yack, Region of Peel, 905-791-7800 x. 4553

Description:

Smart Commute Brampton-Caledon encourages Region of Peel (10 Peel Centre Drive) and Husky Injection Molding (AMC Building, 500 Queens St. S., Bolton) staff to feel good and have fun by commuting to work by bike and experiencing the health, financial and environmental benefits of riding.

### Mississauga

Time: 7:00 am to 10:00 am

Location: Group ride starts at 1447 Burnhamthorpe Rd (Riverwood Park barn) to Pancake Breakfast at Mississauga Civic Centre

Photo Opportunity: 8:00 am at Mississauga Civic Centre

Contact: Glenn Gumulka, Smart Commute Mississauga, 905-896-5941

#### Description:

Members of the public and City of Mississauga staff are invited to join Smart Commute Mississauga and the Mississauga Cycling Advisory Committee for our third annual group bike ride to work and free pancake breakfast for cyclists at the Civic Centre, Library Square. For more information visit:

[www.smartcommutemiss.ca](http://www.smartcommutemiss.ca).

Employee group commutes are also taking place at Hatch Ltd. (2800 Speakman Drive), University of Toronto at Mississauga (3359 Mississauga Rd N.), HB Group (5600 Cancross Crt), McCormick Rankin/Ecoplans (2655 N. Sheridan Way).

### Burlington

Time: 8:00 am to 10:00 am

Location: City Hall, 426 Brant Street, Burlington / Civic Square

Photo Opportunity: 8:30-9:30 am at Civic Square

Contact: Monika Rejnowicz (905) 335-7600 ext. 7879

#### Description:

City of Burlington employees are taking part in a Bike to Work Day Challenge with prizes for the City department with the greatest number of participants. The City's Transportation Demand Management team is hosting a breakfast in Civic Square and providing a bike mechanic on site to conduct a free inspection and small repairs for all participants.

### Hamilton

Time: 7:00 am to 10:00 am

Location: Gore Park (Corner of James and King), Hamilton

Photo Opportunity: 8:00-8:30 am at Gore Park

Contact: Peter Topalovic, City of Hamilton, 905-546-2424 x. 5129

### Hamilton (cont.)

#### Description:

Cycle alone, with a buddy, or in a group to Gore Park on May 25, 2009 and be rewarded with access to the Gore Park Bike Bash! Arrive between 7:00-10:00 am and be greeted with healthy treats, fabulous prizes and the opportunity to get your bike tuned-up by a professional! Smart Commute Hamilton will also co-ordinate with participating employers to develop local recognition for employees who bike to work.

Smart Commute is a program of Metrolinx that works with local employers across the region to improve commuter options like carpooling, transit, cycling, walking and telework. More than 100 employers with almost 250,000 employees have signed on to Smart Commute.

*Choose Your Way.*

*For more information about Smart Commute visit [www.smartcommute.ca](http://www.smartcommute.ca).*

Metrolinx is a Crown agency of the Province of Ontario. For more information visit our website [www.metrolinx.com](http://www.metrolinx.com).

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