



MEDIA RELEASE

**MINISTER IRVIN-ROSS TO OPEN WORKSHOP ON
CHILD AND YOUTH FRIENDLY PLANNING GUIDELINES**

Winnipeg, Feb. 10, 2009 – The Honourable Kerri Irvin-Ross, Minister of Healthy Living; Minister Responsible for Healthy Child Manitoba, will open a workshop hosted by The Centre for Sustainable Transportation (CST) at The University of Winnipeg on Feb. 11.

“The workshop is part of the CST’s Canada-wide program to make communities more child and youth-friendly,” said Dr. Richard Gilbert, CST research associate, who is directing the program with fellow research associate, Dr. Catherine O’Brien. “For each province, we are developing a set of guidelines that will help municipal transportation and land-use planners take better account of the needs of children and youth.”

Following Hon. Irvin-Ross, a local youth from the Manitoba Eco-Network youth group will present the current draft of the guidelines for Manitoba. The group is acting as consultants on the project. The afternoon includes a presentation on Manitoba’s Active and Safe Routes to School Program.

The Centre received a grant of \$189,000 from the Public Health Agency of Canada to development the guidelines for each province, except Ontario. The Ontario Trillium Foundation funded the CST’s work on the Ontario guidelines. Resource Conservation Manitoba is also providing assistance for this project.

A draft of the Manitoba guidelines is available at kidsonthemove.ca. The full-day workshop begins at 8:30 am at The University of Winnipeg’s Convocation Hall, attendance is by pre-registration. Journalists are welcome and no pre-registration for media is required.

The CST at The University of Winnipeg is a membership-based, non-profit organization that facilitates best practices for the movement of people and goods over the long-term. The Centre bridges academic, business, and public interests to identify and help craft winning transportation solutions that benefit society and the environment and enhance mobility. For more information, visit cst.uwinnipeg.ca.

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