

Best Workplaces for Commuters

**Canada's First Three:**

**Best Workplace, Site, & University**



September 28th, 2023 | 3:00PM



# Today's Program

- Welcome and Overview
- Presenter Introductions
- Presentations and Discussion
- Q & A
- Evaluation

# Our Presenters



**Kyle Leetham**

Environment and Energy Division

City of Toronto

# Our Presenters



*Yorkdale*

**Natasha Gervais**, Building Supervisor  
Yorkdale Shopping Centre  
Oxford Properties Group

Collaborative effort from our Operations team at Yorkdale Shopping Centre:

Leah Walker  
Joe Rodrigues  
Alejandro Wong  
Bob Vounotripidis  
Marcio Oliveira  
Wendel Bidy  
Daniel Navas  
Daniel Williams

Dharam Jandu  
Lorenzo Muscoiona  
Malcolm Simon  
Quentin Collard  
Sean Ballantine  
Sonia Lima  
Andrian Santos  
Evan Mcdonnell  
Harpreet Mall  
Jessica Carvalho

Larry Chan  
Luca Aiello  
Pablo Alvarado  
Tiago Craveiro  
Molly Sarker  
Huda Badreddine  
Vianna Ko  
Evelyn Albanese  
Alexander Fernandes

# Our Presenters



YORK 

**Donna Hubbert**

Director, Parking & Transportation Services  
York University

# Our Moderator



pointA

**Kelly Bray**

Associate Director, BWC

pointA

# The City of Toronto: Canada's First Best Workplace for Commuters



# Who We Are

- Toronto is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest city in North America
- World leader in business, finance, technology, entertainment and culture.
- One of the most multicultural urban areas in the world.

## Walking and Cycling

- Over 1,600 public parks
- 367 km (228 miles) of on-street cycling infrastructure
- 386 km (240 miles) of off-road trails

## Transit

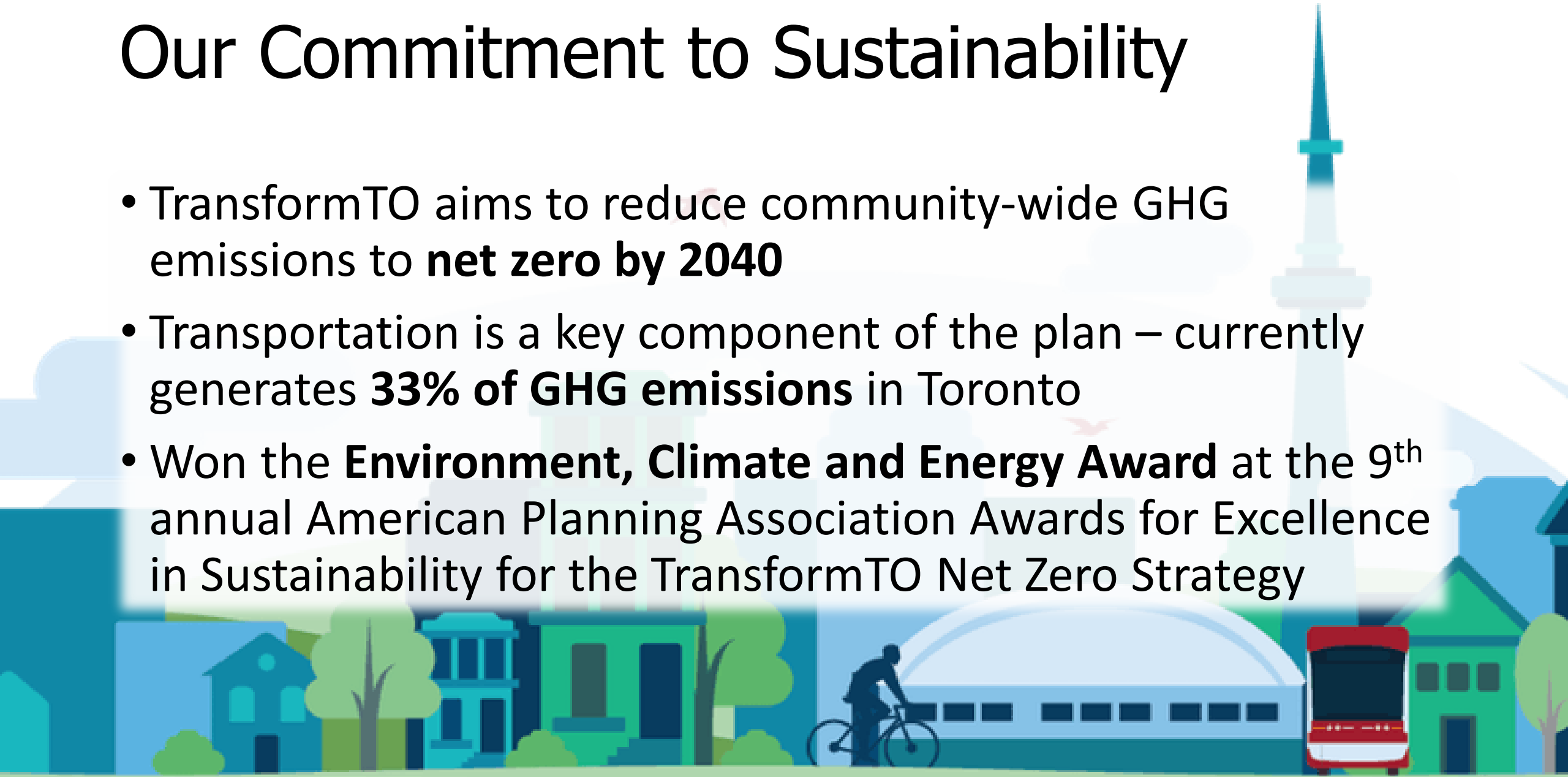
- Nearly one million trips per weekday on the TTC
- 184 bus and streetcar routes
- 75 subway stations





# Our Commitment to Sustainability

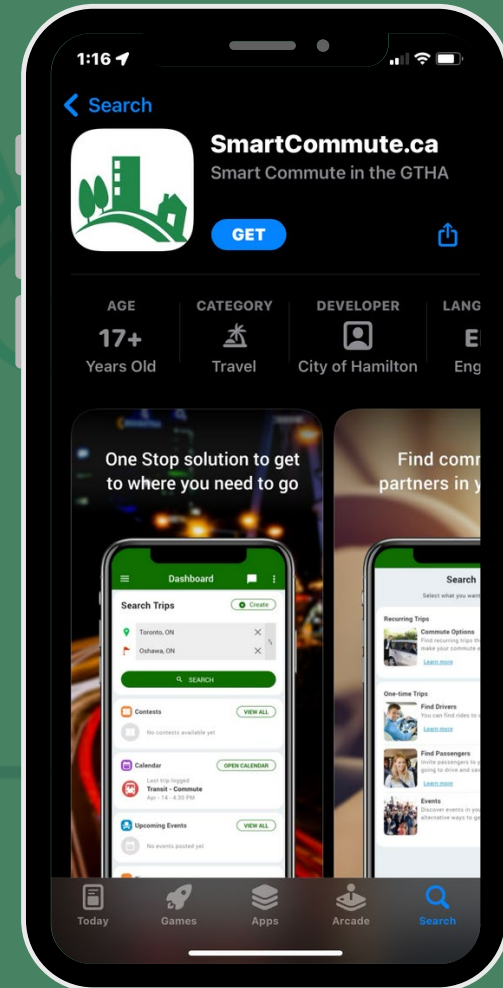
- TransformTO aims to reduce community-wide GHG emissions to **net zero by 2040**
- Transportation is a key component of the plan – currently generates **33% of GHG emissions** in Toronto
- Won the **Environment, Climate and Energy Award** at the 9<sup>th</sup> annual American Planning Association Awards for Excellence in Sustainability for the TransformTO Net Zero Strategy



# Our Commuter Benefits

The BWC designation applies to 16 of the City's largest workplaces, covering more than 16,000 employees. We offer:

- A hybrid work model which allows employees to work remotely 2-3 days per week (ModernTO)
- Use of City fleet vehicles to meet operational needs
- City offers supports for staff to walk, cycle, carpool, and take transit to and from work
- Membership in the Smart Commute Program



# The Smart Commute Program

Smart Commute is a regional program supported and implemented by municipalities in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area and the City of Greater Sudbury with the goal to reduce SOV trips, reduce congestion and GHG emissions.

Through Smart Commute, City employees have access to:

- Annual campaigns such as Bike Month to promote active transportation
- An online carpool ride-matching tool
- Emergency ride home program
- Sustainable commuting webinars, workshops, resources, and more!



# Why BWC?



“The City of Toronto is proud to be recognized as the first municipality and workplace in Canada to achieve the designation of Best Workplace for Commuters. Our support of sustainable commuting helps our employees experience a better, less stressful commute and supports our TransformTO Net Zero Strategy by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and congestion from a major source: transportation.”

– Mayor Olivia Chow





The BWC designation aligns with the City's sustainability, inclusivity, and accessibility goals. It is important to us to show leadership in these areas, as well as sustainability. By proudly displaying our Best Workplaces for Commuters designation, we can use the City's influence to encourage other municipalities and employers to take meaningful steps towards sustainability and inclusion as well.

# Thank You

More information about the Smart Commute Program is available on the SmartCommute.ca website. Toronto-based organizations interested in participating in the City's Smart Commute program can email:

[scommute@toronto.ca](mailto:scommute@toronto.ca)

Questions about Transform TO can be directed to

[transform@toronto.ca](mailto:transform@toronto.ca)



# Yorkdale Shopping Centre: Canada's First Best Site for Commuters





# Who We Are

For almost 60 years, Yorkdale has built a reputation for being Toronto's ultimate shopping destination.

- 2 million square feet of space
- 270 stores featuring the largest collection of first-to-market labels and luxury brands in the country
- \$2 billion in annual sales, productivity exceeding \$2,000 per square foot.
- Approx. 7,000 employees on-site and 18 million visitors per year

# Our Commitment to Sustainability

Yorkdale is committed to sustainability.

- One of Canada's first shopping centres to implement a recycling program
- Rooftop beehive is home to 50,000 bees
- One of the largest solar panel installations in the GTHA
- 150,000 square foot green rooftop
- BOMA Best Platinum and LEED Gold certified, among others

# Our Commuter Benefits

- EV charging
- Indoor access to TTC subway and GO Transit station
- TTC and YRT bus stops on-site
- Indoor bike room
- Two complimentary tire inflation stations
- TMA membership through the Smart Commute program

# Highlight: Parking Management

Yorkdale's G Parkade and E Parkade are Parksmart certified.

- First in Canada and first retail certification in the world
- Digital signs display real-time parking availability
- Reserved parking spaces for carpools/vanpools and EVs
- Collection of rainwater for landscaping and garage cleaning
- Energy-saving programmable lighting

# Why BWC?

At Yorkdale Shopping Centre we are passionate about sustainability and accessibility, and the Best Sites for Commuters designation showcases those goals perfectly. With the Best Sites for Commuters designation, we can encourage employees and customers alike to explore our services and provide them with the best amenities. By following this designation, we hope to bring forward a more sustainable future.

# Thank You

To learn more about Yorkdale's many commuter benefits,  
contact [info@yorkdale.com](mailto:info@yorkdale.com) or visit  
<https://yorkdale.com/parking>.

# York University

## Canada's First Best University for Commuters

DONNA HUBBERT  
DIRECTOR, PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

YORK 



# Who we are

- › Three core campuses
- › Approx. 7,000 employees
- › 54,500+ students
- › 3,000 live on campus
- › Over 500 Acres



York University is a top international teaching and research university and a driving force for positive change.



# Our Commitment to Sustainability

- Whole-institution approach includes administration, operations, curriculum & research, and social justice
- Announced first Chief Sustainability Officer in 2023
- More than 80% of York University students, faculty and staff use alternative means of transportation to campus



**We plan to right the future and create positive change with our whole-institution approach to sustainability.**

# Our Commuter Benefits

- A transportation hub with two TTC Subway Stations and TTC bus depot connected to local and regional transportation such as the GO Train, GO buses, YRT/Viva buses and Brampton Transit Züm buses.
- Secure bicycle parking (bike enclosures and bike lockers)
- Bike share on campus
- Bike Repair Stations
- Remote work options
- Diamond Pool carpool program
- TMA membership and healthy initiatives
- EV Charging



# Commuter Benefits Highlight: Campus Shuttles

Complimentary shuttle services to transport community members on specific routes such as the Glendon-Keele Shuttle, a Village Shuttle and VanGO a mobility service.

The Glendon-Keele shuttle gives staff and students the opportunity to relax or get work done while travelling between campuses.



- 45-minute trip one-way
- 12 departures per day from each campus
- Riders can reserve up to 10 rides per 5-day period using the York University Mobile Order Reservation App
- Additional shuttle service brings students from Keele Campus to “The Village” student housing area
- Outbound-only service 7 days per week in the evening

## Why BWC?

York University has a long history of sustainability. We were the home of the first environmental studies faculty in North America, as well as Ontario's first transportation management association. Becoming Canada's first Best University for Commuters continues a long tradition of being at the forefront of environmental action.



**Thank you!**

**Learn more: [yorku.ca/transportation](https://yorku.ca/transportation)**



# Join BWC!

2024 application deadline:  
**November 30, 2023**

National List Release:  
**January 2024**

*Partners and BWC members in  
Florida can apply anytime!*

[www.bestworkplaces.org/join](http://www.bestworkplaces.org/join)

Recognition for  
**WORKPLACES, UNIVERSITIES and SITES**

[bestworkplaces.org](http://bestworkplaces.org)



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# Q & A

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**Thank you!**

Recognition for  
**WORKPLACES, UNIVERSITIES and SITES**

[bestworkplaces.org](https://bestworkplaces.org)