



Clifford Maynes, Associate Director, Canada Walks

Clifford Maynes is the founding Executive Director of Green Communities Canada (GCC), a national non-profit that works with its member organizations and other community partners to mobilize positive practical action for sustainability. One program, Ontario Active School Travel, works province-wide to increase walking and cycling on the school journey, with significant financial investment from the Ontario government. In January, after a quarter century, Clifford left his position as Executive Director of GCC, but continues as Associate Director of GCC's Canada Walks program. He is currently working with a national alliance of cycling, walking, and active school travel organizations engaged with the federal government, which has promised a national AT strategy. Clifford's continuing long-time goal is to connect walkability champions coast-to-coast as an effective voice for walking.



Paul Demers, Manager Policy and Government Relations, MMIC

Paul Demers has many years of senior level experience in government which includes working directly for the Premier of Ontario and three Ontario Cabinet Ministers. In the private sector, Paul was a consultant specializing in government relations where he served clients from both the public and private sector. He understands how governments function and is knowledgeable in matters of public policy, legislative and regulatory affairs. With the MMIC and COHV for over 3 years now, Paul is responsible for managing provincial legislative and regulatory advocacy initiatives as it relates to the motorcycle and OHV industries. Fully bilingual, Paul holds a Bachelor of Arts from Laurentian University in Economics.



Chris Schafer, Vice President, Government Affairs, Bird Canada

Chris Schafer is Vice President, Government Affairs at Bird Canada. Prior to joining Bird Canada, Chris was a Senior Director at another micromobility start-up after and almost five years at Uber Canada as their Senior Public Policy Manager in Canada. Previously, Chris did stints in media and as a regulatory lawyer with Gowlings in Ottawa.



Brian Pincott, Executive Director, Vélo Canada Bikes

Arriving in Winnipeg in 2019, Brian Pincott became the Executive Director of Vélo Canada Bikes. Prior to that to that move, Brian was a City Councillor in Calgary from 2007 to 2017. In that time he successfully advocated for bike lanes, a cycling strategy, and a pedestrian strategy. His governance work has spanned all orders of government including work in Haiti assisting the capital, Port-Aux-Prince, to recover from the 2010 earthquake. Before embarking on a political career, Brian was a lighting designer working in Canadian theatre, coast-to-coast, for 20 years.



Thomas Barakat, Manager, Policy and Research, Ontario Good Roads Association

Thomas is a motivated public policy and government relations professional. With a graduate degree in public service and experience in the provincial and municipal sectors, his hope is to move the needle on key issues facing Ontarians. Thomas is a steadfast believer in equality of opportunity and strives to incorporate this tenet in the policy work he leads. He currently serves as the Manager of Public Policy and Government Relations at the Ontario Good Roads Association.