



ACER's Project Crossroads

"Climate justice science, for trees and for people."

"Working Together for Safer, Greener Spaces in our Mississauga Communities"

Canadian Healthy Communities Initiative sited in Dixie/Bloor Area

To: City of Mississauga – Environmental Action Committee

Date: July 6, 2021

Prepared: Catherine Soplet, Building Up Our Neighbourhoods

For: Alice Casselman, B.Sc.(Hons), M.O.Ed., Founder and President

ACER (Association for Canadian Educational Resources)



ACER Funded \$50,605 for June 2021-June 2022 under Infrastructure Canada new \$31 million COVID-response investment into physical, social and digital infrastructure



Responds to social needs arising from COVID-19: 1-year funding of small-scale infrastructure projects to create and adapt public space and programs that lead to safer, more vibrant and inclusive communities.

The Healthy Communities Initiative Themes:



Safe and vibrant public spaces



Improved mobility options



Digital solutions



Funded by
Canada



ACER'S CHCI Collaboration for Dixie-Dundas areas

5.4



Residents, Public Schools
and Local Business Networks

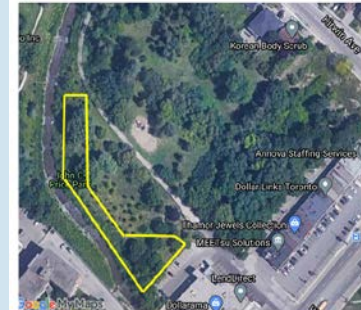


Blooming Boulevards



Canada Healthy Community Initiative Targets Public Parks

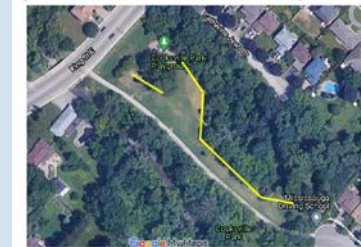
NE of Hurontario & Dundas
(350m from intersection)



NW of Dixie and Dundas
(650m from intersection)



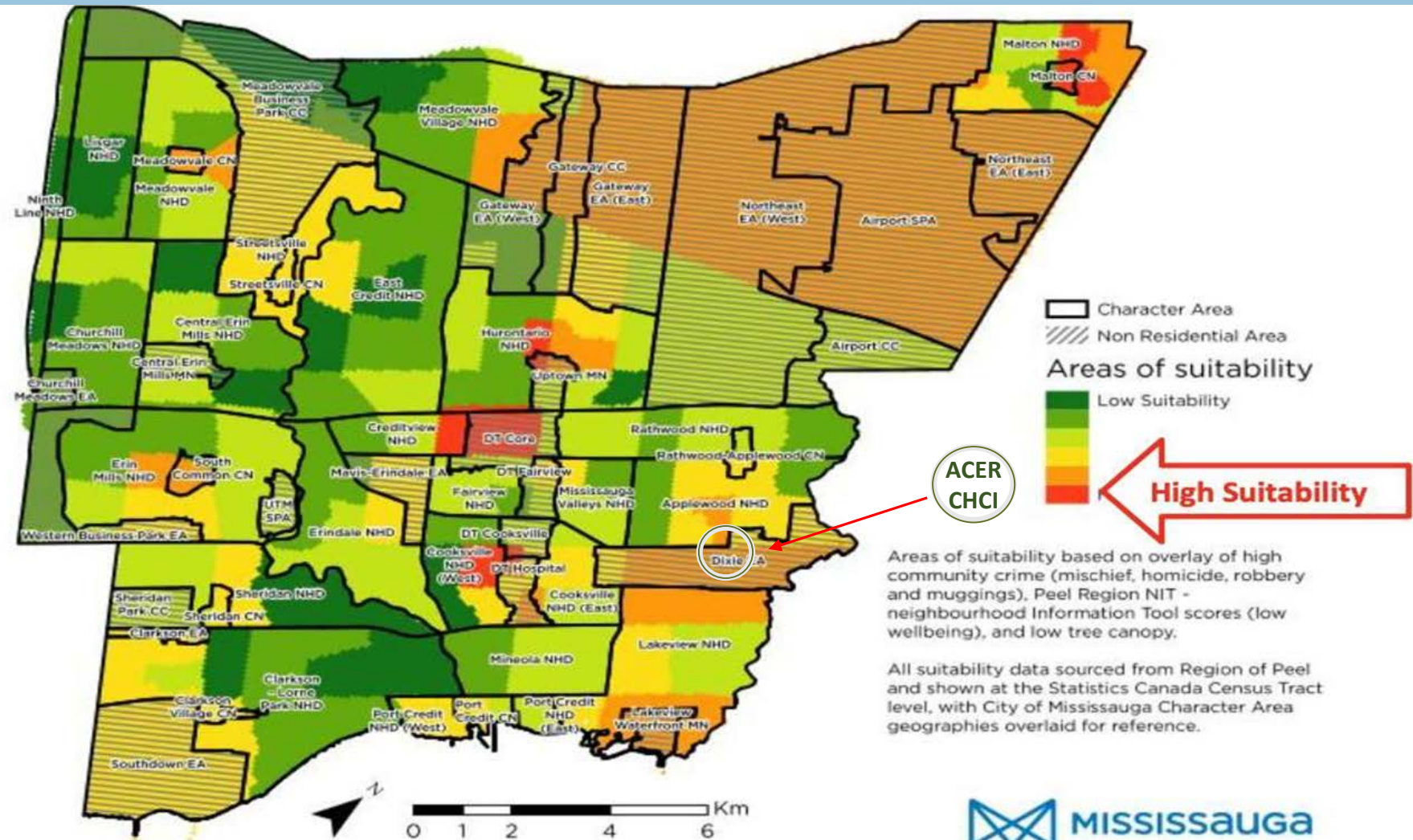
SE of Hurontario and Dundas
(475m from intersection)



Applewood Heights Park
Brickyards Park
Fleetwood Park



Mississauga Data Map: Low Tree Canopy Areas with overlay data for unmet health and social needs



Based on Project Crossroads 2020: Summarizing Report^{5.4}

ACER gets Peel Region nod, for community-engaged climate action in Knightsbridge

Project Crossroads can address trifecta of crises: climate change, racism and COVID-19



Alisa
Community Volunteer



Co-designed plantings of native tree species on...

Grade 11 student Vanessa logged volunteer hours ahead of her remote learning, despite blustery early morning weather. "I woke up early and so I thought, why not come out and help my community?" she said.



Catherine Soplet
Building Up Our Neighbourhoods
Mississauga, Ontario soplet@sympatico.ca @Soplet

January 8, 2021

Association for Canadian Educational Resources
Helen Street, Mississauga L5G 3B5

Attention: Alice Casselman, President

Re: Delegation to Peel Regional Council – ACER reports on Project Crossroads

I am pleased to provide this Letter of Support to ACER (Association for Canadian Educational Resources) by summarizing its success to deliver Project Crossroads urban reforestation initiative in October 2020, as a contribution of climate change labs to the Knightsbridge area of Bramalea SNAP (Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Program)



December 11, 2020

Sent via Email

Alice Casselman
Founder and President
Association for Canadian Educational Resources

Catherine Soplet
Founder
Building Up Our Neighbourhoods

Dear Alice and Catherine,

Re: Letter of Support for a Proposal to Environment Canada Regarding the Climate Action and Awareness Fund

The Region of Peel is pleased to provide a letter of support for the Association for Canadian Educational Resources (ACER) proposal titled "Project Crossroads: Climate justice science, for trees and for people", which supports health and wellbeing of communities with significant exposure to climate risk through action on climate change adaptation, risk reduction and Greenhouse Gas (GHG) mitigation.

ACER's proposal to enable community-based tree planting in geographic areas where tree canopy is low and coincident with some of the Region's most vulnerable neighbourhoods is strongly aligned with objectives in the Peel Climate Change Partnership's Green/Natural Infrastructure Strategy. Further, residents' tree growth data supports plans for future urban forest plantings and meets goals of the Peel Region Climate Change Master Plan for building community resilience with green infrastructure.

The Region is familiar with ACER's past accomplishments and is confident in ACER's ability to successfully deliver this important program in collaboration with its partners to accelerate much needed climate action in our community.

Kindest personal regards,


Nando Iannicca,
Regional Chair and CEO, Region of Peel

Cc:
Kathryn Lockyer, Interim Commissioner of Corporate Services
Christine Tu, Director of Climate Change and Energy Management



<https://youtu.be/BJeFO33axU8>

2+ 003

<http://bit.ly/AcerPx> BUON-Report Dec-2020

ACER's Project Crossroads



Volunteers
Family "bubbles"

.... and students

Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Program



ACER funded for Bramalea SNAP project by:



Interested in tree planting, measuring, and monitoring?
Get started with Mulch, Measure, and MOR!

RESULTS: October 2020, under COVID

- 5 planting events in 3 Knightsbridge locations
- 71 volunteers, include secondary students
- 153 large trees + native pollinator/bird shrubs (biomass equivalent to 1840 x 1-gallon 18" trees)

Impact:

- Measure-Mulch-MOR units w/ training videos
- Extend Million Trees program with mulch delivery
- Animate non-profit agency ecosystem
- Introduce Carbon Calculation for GHG emission

Project Crossroads is a Proof-in-Concept for application Environment Canada under CAAF:

<https://bit.ly/ACER-Proposal-CAAF-11-2020>

Climate Action and Awareness Fund



Total Proposal value: \$ 1,472,588

EC-CAAF: \$ 816,712

In-Kind: \$ 655,876

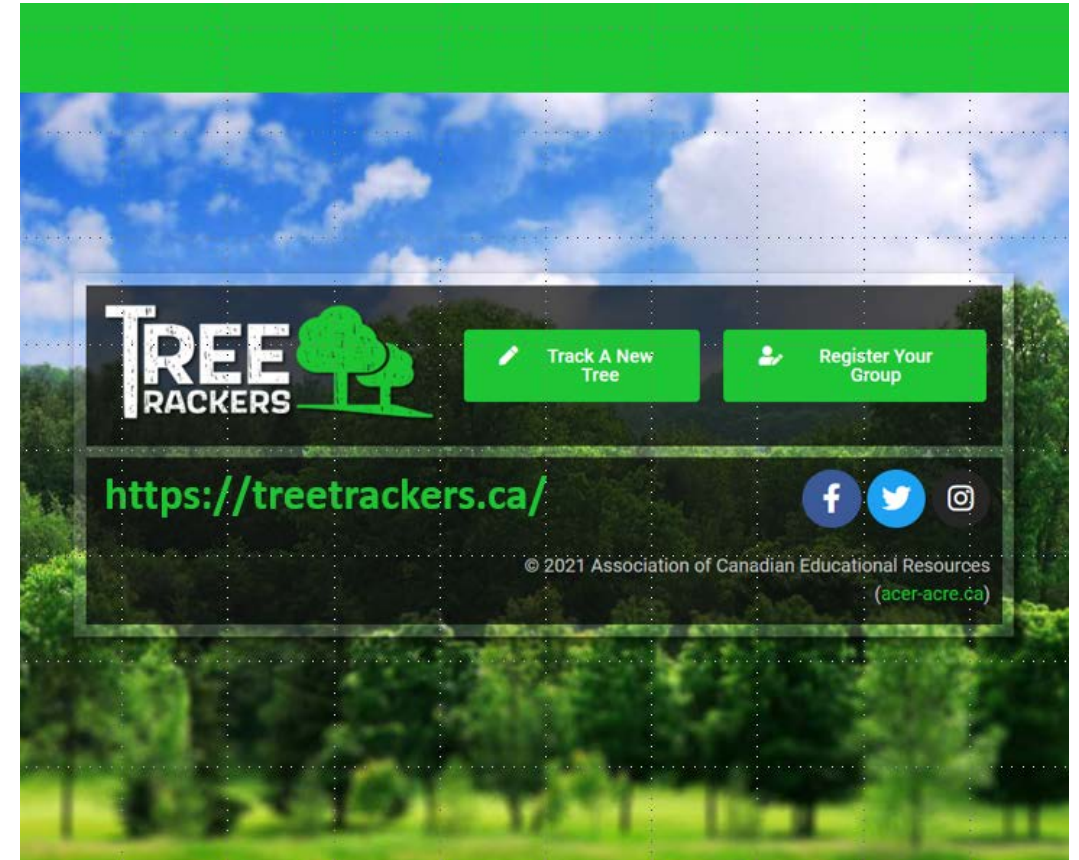
Four years:
2021-2025

New Digital Products: Outdoor/ On-line/ COVID-adapted^{5.4}

- Mulch, Measure and MOR
- TreeTrackers.ca



A “Family Bubble” measures their newly planted tree in Knightsbridge. October 2020 (Brampton)



<https://www.acer-acre.ca/mulch-measure-mor>

<https://treetrackers.ca/>