

## News Release

November 7, 2011

**“Stop, Drop and Stroll” - Human-sized pylons took over the streets around St. Stephen’s Elementary this morning handing out coffee and traffic safety information during drop-off time.**

Like many schools, streets adjacent to St. Stephen’s experience traffic congestion before and after school. In hustling kids to class and themselves to work, driving parents often break traffic rules, putting their own and other children at risk.

“In their rush, parents often stop on the opposite side of the road from the school, letting their children dash across a busy street, mid-block,” says parent Lezlie Lowe. “Parents also park in no stopping zones, idle near the playground or do U-turns in the middle of the street as children are exiting other vehicles. It’s a huge safety concern.”

David Lane, parent and one of the human pylons, took part to improve safety.

“[We] wanted to help educate the community about the benefits of creating a safe pedestrian environment, while promoting the benefits of walking and biking. As busy parents, we don’t always see the street signs that regulate vehicle parking. But I don’t believe anyone missed the human traffic pylon cones this morning!”

St. Stephen’s principal Tyler Rutledge sees the traffic chaos every morning. “It would be wonderful if we could see an increase in the number of students that walk or ride their bicycles to school. It would provide some necessary exercise for the children and would also help reduce the vehicle traffic around the school.”

**Stop, Drop and Stroll** is a project of the St. Stephen’s School Travel Planning Committee. The group works to boost traffic safety and encourage children and their families to choose active transportation, such as walking and biking, to get to school.

St. Stephen’s School Travel Planning Committee works in partnership with [Active & Safe Routes to School](#) at the Ecology Action Centre.

For more information on School Travel Planning in Nova Scotia visit <http://saferoutesns.ca/index.php/planning/the-program-five-easy-steps/>.

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For more information (and high res photos) contact:

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