

CITY OF BRAMPTON SNOW  
CLEARING POLICY TO  
ENCOURAGE WINTER CYCLING

# Introduction

Consistent messaging is essential when trying to reform attitudes of the citizens of Brampton. When we say we want to encourage active transportation, all our policies should be on board with this end. That being said, if we are encouraging people to cycle year round, for transportation, we should make sure there is a welcome spot for their bikes at municipal destinations. This means bike racks should be cleared of snow, in a consistent basis, across the city.

# Background

- In early December of 2019, while I was talking to a Brampton 311 staff person about an unrelated matter, I asked if 311 would be an appropriate place to request snow clearing around the bike racks of my local recreation centre. She put me on hold while she consulted with her supervisor about the matter. When we resumed our conversation, she informed me that her supervisor said that bike racks are considered to be not maintained during winter months.
- A few weeks later, I followed up on this with a written request on the 311 web page asking for this policy in writing as well as the name and contact information of the Brampton City manager who would be in charge of facilities maintenance.
- Within one week I received a phone call from a City of Brampton staff person who informed me she could arrange to have the bike rack area cleared of snow at Earnscliffe Recreation Centre, which was the recreation centre I patronize. I explained that I appreciated that but my original request still needed to be followed up.
- The same staff member contacted me in January of 2020, by phone, to confirm that the snow was being cleared satisfactorily from the bike rack at Earnscliffe Recreation Centre. I confirmed that it was, but that I was requesting that all municipal facilities be given the same consideration. She asked me for specific facilities. I told her I could not say specifically since I had not visited many of them after a snow fall. I reiterated my request for her to provide the contact information of the person who would be in charge of such things. She insinuated that it would be hard to do but she would try.
- On February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020, I attended a meeting at Chris Gibson Recreation Centre. I noticed that the bike racks closest to the main door were socked in with snow. At this point I decided to follow this up with the Brampton Cycling Advisory Committee.