

The cover features a dark blue background with a decorative pattern of overlapping triangles in various shades of blue in the top right corner. The title 'Sheridan Campus Master Plan' is centered in white text.

# Sheridan Campus Master Plan

## Public Health

- Physical Activity
- Diabetes
- Research



The Region of Peel and the City of Brampton are obesogenic environments, driving is terrible for your health. If you think all the way back to 2019, yes, I know that feels like it was last decade, Dr. Hopkins, the then Peel Medical Office of Health, repeatedly sent stuff to Brampton City Council advocating for transit, because of physical activity. It is actually quite hard to get the general public to be more physically active, but if they switch to transit, activity goes up significantly. With increased physical activity reducing obesity and diabetes, this is a major benefit of increasing transit mode share.

Diabetes information in Brampton is a wreck, there has been strong evidence that South Asians develop diabetes at significantly lower BMI levels than white people, for well over a decade, and yet, just a couple years ago, I found out from personal experience that medical doctors, including ones who are South Asian, are often ignorant of this fact. I am South Asian, and despite seeing a doctor who was from South Asia, she did not know about this, and when I asked William Osler, which is led by a South Asian, about diabetes, BMI, and South Asians they did not care. At a BMI of 24, South Asians are about as likely to develop diabetes as whites with a BMI of 30, for someone 5'11", the difference between BMIs of 24 and 30 is 40 pounds. We need more research on this, especially on the effects of a Westernized diet on South Asians, it could be very useful both in Brampton, and South Asia.

## PSE Expansion

- Nursing
- Trades & Engineering



In the past 50 years, the government of Ontario has created 1 new university, Ontario tech, even going from an affiliated college to a university is difficult, for example, Algoma took 14 years to move from an affiliated college to becoming a university. It is comparatively easy and straightforward to expand the curriculum of an existing college or university to add a program, Sheridan College adding various medical programs is a fairly straightforward way to add medical programs on offer in Brampton.

Expanding the nursing program is great, and it isn't the only thing we need expanded at Sheridan. Magna gave Sheridan \$2 million last year, not out of generosity, but because the province is experiencing a dire shortage in the skilled trades. If Magna doesn't secure a supply of trained employees, it will hobble their business, the money wasn't a gift, it was an investment. Magna isn't the only company experiencing labour shortages in Brampton, the shortage is pervasive, if Brampton ramped up the number of skilled trades students, it would make it easier to get companies to move to Brampton, because they can get the employees they need here. Engineering is a logical expansion to pair with a skilled trades expansion, lean into Sheridan being a polytechnic, and leverage Brampton's advanced manufacturing strengths.

Fortunately, because the Davis Campus was set up as a suburban campus, the site is huge, and can easily feature massive expansion in programs and student size, the only bottleneck is transportation. The site can't experience mass expansion unless it has a major modal shift to transit, because surface parking is ruinously expensive, and structured parking is ruinously expensive, that is why Sheridan needs a proper

bus terminal to do expansion. In the longer term, we also need a BRT along Steeles to make the modal shift work for the City as a whole. If there were bus lanes along Main, then the City could easily run a College bus from Bramalea Terminal, to Peel Memorial, Downtown Terminal, Gateway Terminal, and Sheridan College to quickly bring people from across the City to the campus

## Recommendations

- Fund the nursing expansion
- Explain the expansion to the public
- Plan the transit expansion



The City has talked about wanting a medical university, put your money where your mouth is and help fund the medical expansion of Sheridan. Work with Sheridan to further expand the Skilled Trades and Engineering. The residents of Brampton also deserve to know where millions of dollars are going, and the City should partner with Sheridan to explain to residents the new campus plan, and expansions of programming, including how it will benefit the City. The City also needs to get moving on planning the Steeles BRT, to enable the Davis campus expansion to work well.