

## **Advocacy, Citizenry and the Olympics-The transformation of walking in Vancouver**

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"Vancouverism" is the particular term coined to describe the attitude and philosophy that has transformed the City of Vancouver into a place where people want to live, work, and visit. Part of a metropolitan area of 2.2 million people, Vancouver has had a very different development and transportation history compared to any other city in North America. This session will explore the citizen driven initiatives that have transformed Vancouver from the classic grid based street system into a city that celebrates a walking culture, alternate transportation modes, and embraces thinking out of the box. The hosting of the 2010 Winter Olympics will be assessed, along with the long term impacts and legacies on walking and car culture. Examples of citizen driven walking projects from conception to implementation will be highlighted, along with best practices that can be adopted by any walking walking advocacy group, citizens, or municipalities to encourage places to walk to and through.