



NEIGHBOUR**PLAN**  
— DOWNTOWN  
JACKSON CREEK

# PORTRAIT



# OVERVIEW

GreenUP and The Centre for Active Transportation are working together on the NeighbourPLAN program. NeighbourPLAN is an initiative affiliated with the Active Neighbourhoods Canada partnership, which uses a collaborative process (known as co-design) to support people in reimagining public spaces. Downtown Jackson Creek is the second of three Peterborough neighbourhoods participating in NeighbourPLAN. Learn about the process below!

## **PHASE 1: PORTRAIT** (Summer & Fall 2018)

*Understand how residents use public space and identify local needs and interests.*

## **PHASE 2: VISION** (Winter 2018 & Spring 2019)

*Identify key design priorities based on the portrait, and explore how they could be applied.*

## **PHASE 3: PLAN** (Summer & Fall 2019)

*Support residents to advance their ideas and meaningfully engage in formal processes.*



This Portrait of the Downtown Jackson Creek neighbourhood highlights some of the unique assets of the area, and some of the areas of concern identified by residents. It is a guiding document to support phases 2 and 3 of the project.

# WELCOME to Downtown Jackson Creek!

The Downtown Jackson Creek neighbourhood is located West of downtown Peterborough, on Treaty 20 territory in the traditional territory of the Michi Saagiig Nishnaabeg.

Downtown Jackson Creek is a dense and lively neighbourhood, located close to stores, shopping, restaurants, services, and more. The unique character of the community is influenced by the mixed land use and history of the area. The neighbourhood is home to some of the most notable architecture in Peterborough, including many churches, Hutchison House, and Cox Terrace. There are many natural assets in the community, including the Trans Canada Trail and Jackson Creek, which runs through the heart of the neighbourhood.

The neighbourhood is home to many seniors and young adults, and is a lower income community with a high number of people experiencing poverty. It is also an active neighbourhood -- many people get around by walking, biking, and transit, although there are some areas in the community that lack safe infrastructure for active travel.

We have been engaging with residents in the neighbourhood since June 2018 through community BBQs, pop-up map chats, visits to retirement residences, exploratory walks, resident committee meetings, and more! We have engaged over 400 people who have contributed their thoughts to this portrait document.



# HISTORY TIMELINE

## Pre-colonization:

Nogojiwanong (Peterborough) was a gathering place for the Anishinaabeg people, upon whose territory Peterborough sits today.

## Nogojiwanong means:

“the place at the end of the rapids”

**1818** Treaty 20 signed

**1819** Peterborough is established as Scott's Plains

**1835 - 1920** Major churches built along “Church Row”

**1837** Hutchison House was built for Dr. John Hutchison

**1892** GE founded and opened in Peterborough

**1905** Peterborough is incorporated as a city

**1910 - 1920** Peak use of railroad along Bethune St. with over 100 trains per day

**1923** Williams Treaty signed

**1995** The Grand Trunk Rail Road was converted into the Trans Canada Trail

**2004** Flood along Jackson Creek devastated the neighbourhood

# VISION TREE

**Enhanced social connections & community events**

**Slower traffic**  
Reduce speeds, especially on Reid and Rubidge

**Better biking support**  
More bike lanes and repair stands

**Diversity of uses in the parks**  
Gardens, fruit trees, splash pads, and playgrounds

## DREAMS

**Improved trails**  
Better connections and more lighting

**A safe place for people experiencing homelessness**

**Hub-style services**

**A truly complete street on Bethune**

**Community kitchens**

## EXISTING FEATURES

**Good transit access**

**Architecture**

**A mix of housing options**

**Access to social services & supports**

**Residents**  
Diverse and friendly people

**Proximity to downtown**  
Workplaces, churches, and local businesses

**Natural Beauty**  
Green spaces, trails, parks, and creek

# HOT SPOTS



## LEGEND: PLACES THAT I...

- Live
- Play & Gather
- Shop
- Work
- Feel Proud of
- Feel Afraid of
- See Possibilities



# HOT SPOTS

## #1 Two-stage crossing at Reid & Rubidge

This crossing is challenging. Traffic moves quickly, and vehicles coming down the hill on Rubidge are difficult to see. There are no tactile or audio warnings for those with visual impairments and people using mobility devices have challenges navigating fences.

## #2 Rubidge Park

This park is an asset. People love the Trans Canada Trail, and use the park to walk dogs and play sports. Residents see opportunities to enhance this park with better seating, garbage disposal, lighting, and play structures.

## #3 Bridge on Trans Canada Trail

This bridge has been a controversial site in the neighbourhood. Many people enjoy the bridge, and see it as a peaceful place to sit and gather. However, some people experience fear here, especially after dark. There are also concerns about the bridge's surface quality and lack of maintenance. There is a need to consider the diverse users of this space and look for solutions that benefit all.

## #4 Downie & Donegal

People enjoy taking strolls down some of the residential streets and appreciate the gardens and architecture.

## #5 Kawartha Participation Projects

It is important to have diverse housing in the neighbourhood. KPP provides housing for people with disabilities. However, residents have noted that it is hard for people using mobility devices to navigate the crossings and narrow sidewalks on Reid.

## #6 Bethune Street - Road Quality

People are concerned with the quality of infrastructure on Bethune. The road is bumpy, with missing sidewalks, poor lighting, and inadequate connections to the Trans Canada Trail. These concerns may be addressed with the upcoming Bethune Street redevelopment.



# HOT SPOTS

## #7 “Church Row”

Residents appreciate the many churches in their neighbourhood. The architecture along Church Row gives the community a unique character. As church congregation numbers decline, residents would like to explore the possibility of re-purposing these sites for community uses.

## #8 Bethune Street - Social Concerns

Residents have noted social concerns on Bethune Street, with drug use and sex work present along this corridor. Going forward, the project must consider the safety and needs of all users of this street, including sex workers and people that are living with addictions. People have suggested a 24-hour drop-in safe space, a safe injection site, and/or a public sharps disposal bin.

### + Neighbourhood-wide:

Many people have expressed a need for more affordable housing and resources for people experiencing poverty and homelessness.

## #9 Reid & Rubidge

The speed of traffic along Reid and Rubidge is a key concern. These streets lack safe crossings, and people have noted dangerous encounters at intersections. Rubidge, in particular, has no signalized crossings for a 750-metre stretch, between Charlotte and McDonnel. People have suggested converting these streets to two-way traffic, adding signalized crossings, enhancing sidewalks and incorporating bike infrastructure.

## #10 Old Baskin Robbins Ice Cream Factory

People see this site as a place of opportunity. What could go on this block in the future?

## #11 Simcoe Bethune Park

People celebrate recent enhancements to this park, like the updated basketball courts, but have also suggested further improvements, like a splash pad.

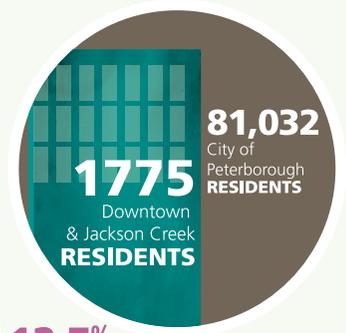
## #12 Library

The recently renovated library is an asset that is celebrated!

# GETTING TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOURS

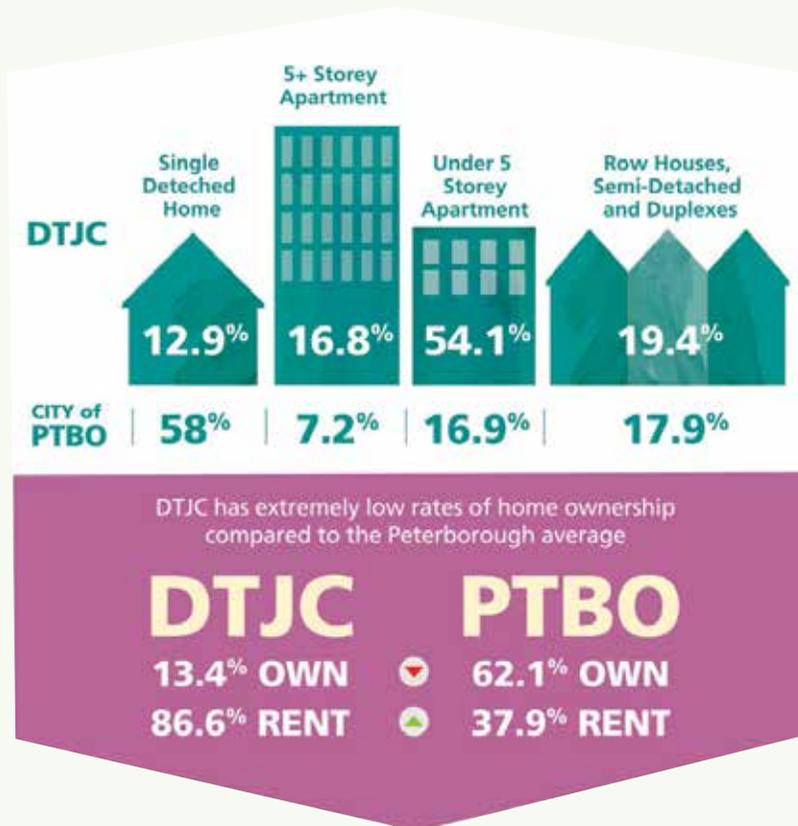
## PEOPLE & DEMOGRAPHICS

Downtown Jackson Creek (DTJC) is a relatively young neighbourhood. It is home to a lot of young adults, but fewer children and youth than the Peterborough (PTBO) average. Although the percentage of seniors is average across the neighbourhood as a whole, there is a very high concentration of seniors in the area that includes the Jackson Creek Retirement Residence and the Brooklawn Apartments.



# HOUSING

The neighbourhood has diverse housing options including retirement residences, apartments for people with disabilities, and a large percentage of subsidized and low-income housing.

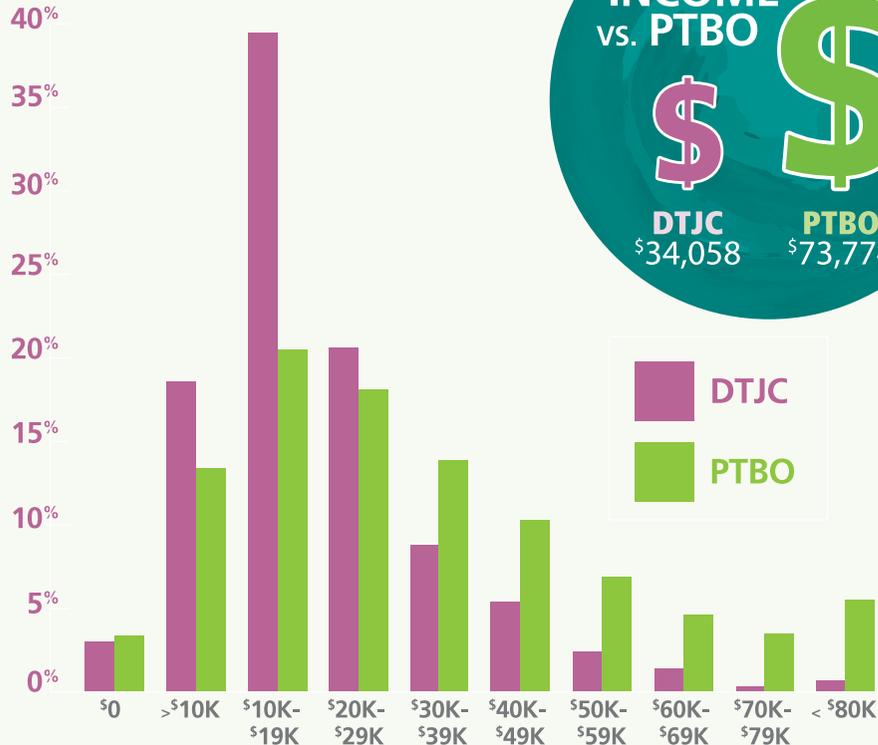


# INCOME & EMPLOYMENT

Downtown Jackson Creek is a lower income community, with many residents experiencing poverty, underemployment, and unemployment. The average income in Downtown Jackson Creek is less than half of the Peterborough-wide average income.

Unemployment rates are high, especially for males - **15.3% of males in DTJC are unemployed**

Total unemployment in DTJC - **12.7% vs. 8.9% city-wide**

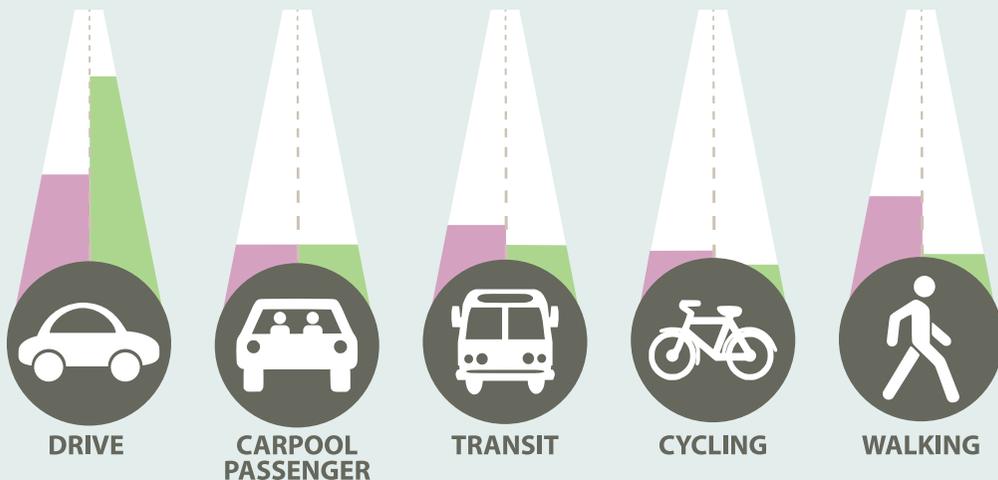


# GETTING AROUND YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

## TRAVEL & TRAFFIC

Breakdown of commutes by travel mode:

DTJC PTBO



**SUSTAINABLE  
COMMUTES**

(carpool, transit, AT)

**50.8%**  
in DTJC

**24.3%**  
in PTBO

**Walkscores**  
(from [www.walkscore.com](http://www.walkscore.com))

**90** score  
in DTJC

**47** score  
in PTBO

# POPULAR ROUTES

This road safety map was developed through engagement with the community. We've heard a number of concerns about road safety in the neighbourhood, identified by orange routes on this map. Roads highlighted in green are routes that residents find safe and enjoyable to use.



# ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION & TRANSIT

The neighbourhood has excellent access to transit, and high volumes of pedestrians and cyclists each day.

Average daily:

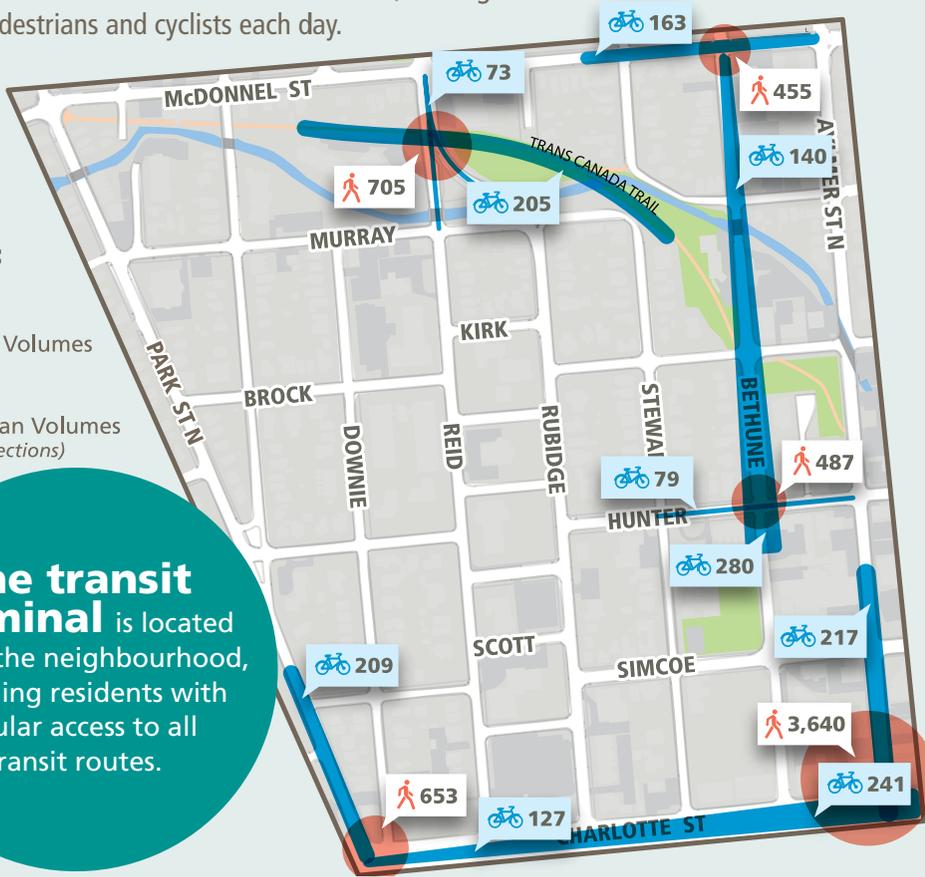


Cyclist Volumes



Pedestrian Volumes  
(at intersections)

**The transit terminal** is located nearby the neighbourhood, providing residents with regular access to all transit routes.



# DID YOU KNOW?



The cross streets between Reid and Rubidge were originally offset with the rest of the cross streets in the neighbourhood to showcase the architecture of the churches. If you stand downtown and look up Hunter, Simcoe, or Brock Streets, you get a clear line of sight to some of Peterborough's grandest buildings.



According to the 2016 City of Peterborough Sidewalk Strategic Plan, most of the missing sidewalks in this neighbourhood are considered high priority.



The neighbourhood has seen good investment in transit shelters and updated curb cuts in the recent years.

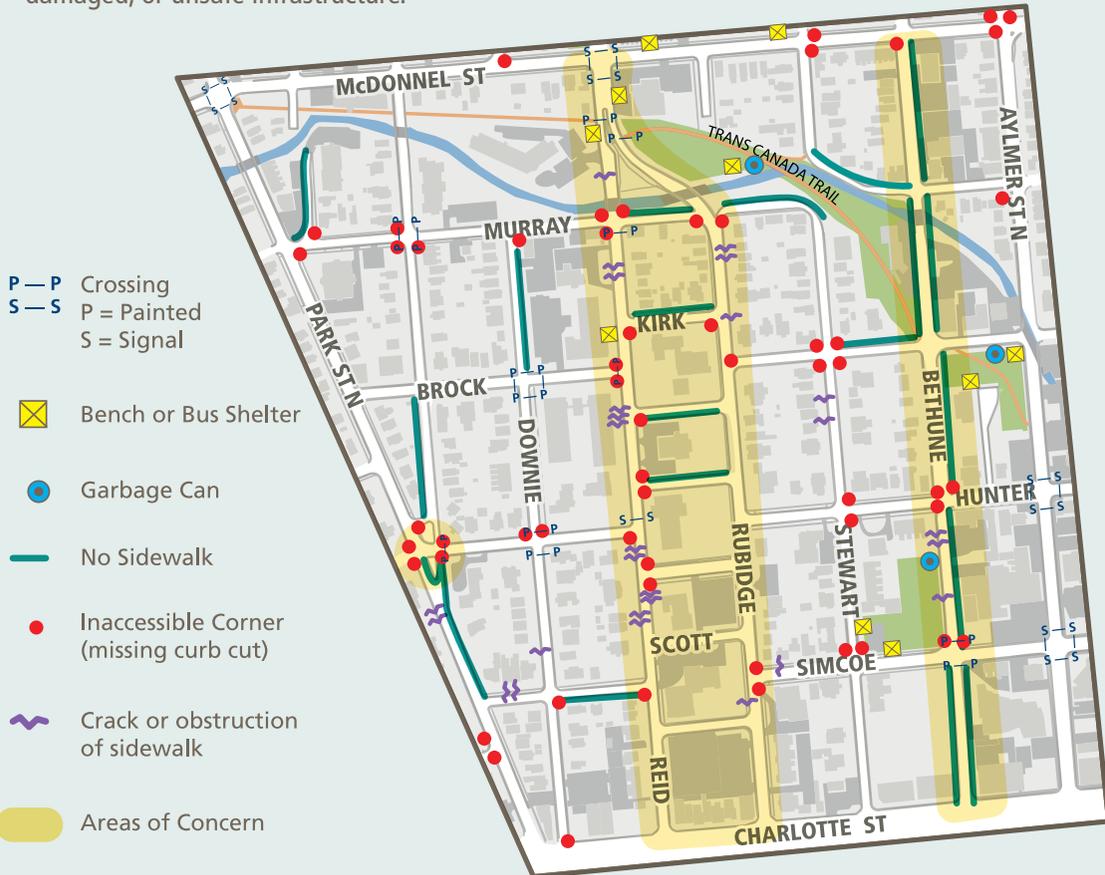


The City has plans to do a complete reconstruction of Bethune Street, construction should start on this project in 2019.



# AREAS OF CONCERN

Areas highlighted in yellow have a particularly high presence of missing, damaged, or unsafe infrastructure.



## KEY DESTINATIONS within a 10 minute walk

### Groceries

- FreshCo
- Main Ingredient
- Charlotte Pantry

### Shopping

- George, Water, & Charlotte Street Independent Retail
- Shoppers Drug Mart
- Peterborough Square Mall

### Parks

- Rubidge Park
- Simcoe/Bethune Park
- Confederation Park
- Victoria Park

### Transportation

- Transit Terminal (access to all bus routes)
- Trans Canada Trail
- Greyhound and GO Transit

### Sites of Interest

- Hutchison House historical site
- Churches: St. Andrews United, Cathedral of St. Peter in Chains, Trinity United

### Services

- Peterborough Public Library
- City Hall
- YWCA Peterborough Haliburton
- City of Peterborough Social Services
- Peterborough Youth Services
- Brock Mission
- YES Shelter for Youth and Families
- John Howard Society
- PARN- Community-based HIV/STBBI Programs
- Canadian Mental Health Association HKPR
- Dental Offices
- Medical Facilities

### Education

- Peterborough Alternative & Continuing Education (PACE @ PCVS)
- Trill College (Trent University)

## DENSITY FACT!

DTJC is dense relative to the rest of Peterborough:

**45.0 people/hectare** in DTJC

**12.6 people/hectare** PTBO

*(Census 2016)*

## Land Use Types:

 Institutional/Public

 Residential

 Industrial

 Commercial

 Open Space/Park



  
**5mins**  
**400m**

  
**10mins**  
**800m**



**MURRAY & DONEGAL**

**Land Use Types:**

- Institutional/Public
- Residential
- Industrial
- Commercial
- Open Space/Park



**STEWART & SIMCOE**



**REID & RUBIDGE**



Ontario  
Trillium  
Foundation



Fondation  
Trillium  
de l'Ontario

An agency of the Government of Ontario  
Un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario



a project of



JohnHoward  
SOCIETY OF PETERBOROUGH



**WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

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