

### **CITY COMMITS TO WALK21 INTERNATIONAL CHARTER FOR WALKING**

Mayor Frank Campion signed The Walk21 International Charter for Walking this week with support from Harold Sawchuk, Welland Active Transportation Advisory Committee Chair. The Charter is a common policy reference through which cities, organizations, neighbourhood groups, and community members express a commitment to encourage everyday walking and better walkability in their communities.

The Walk21 International Charter for Walking was developed in 2003 during the Walk21 conference series and was strategically designed by experts from more than 35 countries. It identifies the significance of safe walkable cities and provides a common framework to help decision-makers shape policies on creating a culture where people choose to walk.

“I’m pleased to see the Active Transportation Committee taking the lead on initiatives such as campaigning for the Walk21 International Charter for Walking,” said Mayor Frank Campion. “I’ve been walking every Monday morning with a group of residents on Merritt Island and we still look forward to it after two years. I hope to see more people join us in the new year.”

“I am delighted that Mayor Campion and City Council unanimously agreed to renew their commitment to the principles of the Walk21 International Charter for Walking,” said Harold Sawchuk, Active Transportation Advisory Committee Chair. The Principles form the foundation, and with the support of City Council, we can continue building a more walkable pedestrian-friendly community where citizens of all ages can strive for active living through active transportation.”

The Charter has been signed by more than 5,000 people, including 500 Mayors who strive to make their cities healthier by promoting better walking communities. For more information on the Walk21 International Charter of Walking visit [walk21.com](http://walk21.com), or for more information on City of Welland activities and the Mayor’s Monday Walk visit [welland.ca](http://welland.ca).

The Welland Active Transportation Advisory Committee (WATAC) was appointed to advance issues and infrastructure related to active transportation, educate the public, promote active transportation, raise public awareness, enhance connectivity, and explore best practices.

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**PHOTO:** Harold Sawchuk & Mayor Frank Campion

