

Jacob Quinton

Jacob is a first year Master of Planning student at Dalhousie University who is interested in planning for healthy communities and equitable communities. Jacob is currently assisting James in the design portion of the development guidelines for local property owners, and is also developing an accessibility checklist for businesses to adapt to the Nova Scotia Accessibility Act.

In 2017, the NS Gov't passed the Accessibility Act which recognizes accessibility as a human right and sets a goal of an accessible Nova Scotia by 2030. In order for our members to start preparing for this new legislation, James researched what other cities and jurisdictions were implementing and put together a [Check List](#) that includes how to transform and business or a building into being fully accessible and also included different funding possibilities that are available.

This summer he assisted fellow student James Coons who worked with a property owner from the district to explore the development potential of their property. Jacob was involved in the design portion. The project involved analyzing the Land Use By-Laws, modeling the development possibilities, and presenting his findings to the developer. This project allowed him to develop his computer modeling skills as well as extend his knowledge of zoning laws and policies.

Jacob was also involved in many projects that had involvement from the whole team. One of the team projects was [Dartmouth Connects](#) which is all about connecting people with other people, businesses and organizations with similar interests and skills or needs and wants; in general, having a more connected community.

The Summer Jacob was with the Village on Main was also the first summer that we were dealing with the impacts of COVID 19. With this there were many projects that he worked on that normally we would not have been doing. Together with fellow student, James Coons, they researched the various funding opportunities available to small businesses during the initial lockdowns due to COVID 19. Once their research was concluded they gathered all the information regarding the funding programs and created a document that was easy to follow and made accessing programs easier.

He was involved in designing and building a 'pop up patio' to serve as an extra outdoor seating area while COVID 19 Health Restrictions were in place. This allowed for people to get take out from a Village On Main restaurant and eat it outside. Jacob also assisted with other COVID protocols such as adding specially designed social distancing makers that were added at all the bus stops in the Village on Main.