

Mary McGaffey

Mary is a Master of Planning student at Dalhousie University with an undergraduate degree in Human Geography and Education. Mary has spent the past 6 years living between her second home on the east coast and her hometown of Ingersoll, Ontario. She has always loved being part of the community, which is why she decided to pursue planning and work as a student Planning Coordinator with the Village on Main.

Throughout the summer of 2021, Mary worked on a wide range of projects with members of the Village on Main team. Mary and her fellow planning coordinator, Ben, worked together to create grant applications for the Canada's Health Communities Initiative and the Canada Community Revitalization Fund. If awarded, this project would support the revitalization of the underused community pedway. They were tasked to create a project design, collect and incorporate community feedback, and produce a [comprehensive document](#) that includes all details of the revitalization process.

Mary dedicated part of her internship to researching the transportation systems in Dartmouth, NS. This research was used to bring attention to local councillors the need for more focused public and active transportation options that support the future growth of our community. Two reports were produced: [Transit in The Village on Main](#) and [Transit in Dartmouth](#).

She also supported the VOM in creating the [Village on Main's catchment area](#) through project planning, map development, and community intercept surveys, so you may have seen her outside Sobeys with her good friend, CID!

In partnership with Ben, they created a map that showcases all [recent sale and development activity](#) in the area to highlight all the growth that is happening in the Village on Main.

Her final project was working with land-use by-laws to create a project plan focused in developing a conceptual framework to ensure that land-use aligns with the future needs of the community.

Mary really appreciated the opportunities to expand practical planning skills, work with different stakeholders, and form meaningful relationships with her team members.