



TORONTO

2023 Annual Report

Erik Nevland, MASC, P.Eng., PTP
2023 ITE Toronto President

February 2024



Section Details

Institute of Transportation Engineers Toronto Section

Area Served: Toronto, Thunder Bay, Durham, York, Peel, and Halton, plus all other portions of Ontario not covered by other Sections.

Student Chapters (4): Lakehead University, Toronto Metropolitan University, University of Toronto, and York University

Founded: 1974

Membership: ~750

Website: www.itetoronto.ca

Social Media:

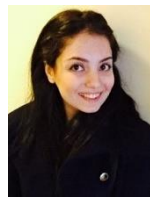


2023 Executive



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[1] President: Erik Nevland



[2]

[2] Vice-President: Azadeh Heydari



[3]

[3] Secretary: Stephanie Phan



[4]

[4] Treasurer: Heather Hector



[5]

[5] Communications Coordinator: Jocelyn Wallen



[6]

[6] Immediate Past President: Behzad Rouhieh



[7]

[7] ITE Canada Director*: Jason Dahl

*non-voting member

Committees (6): Activities*, Awards*, Communications*, Student Engagement*, Nominations, Tellers

*New in 2022, with implementation plan scheduled until 2025.

Introduction

2023 was a year of growth after the end of the COVID-19 pandemic. The frequency of events has returned to pre-pandemic levels, which was a commitment made to the membership at the last AGM. Informal member surveys have identified that some members are burned out on virtual webinar events, whereas other members still prefer virtual events. Given this split, the ITE Toronto Section offered a smaller number of virtual events and focused on delivering the two flagship in-person events: the Summer Luncheon and the Christmas Luncheon/AGM. ITE Toronto also invested in hardware to allow for hybrid streaming of events in spaces without independent AV equipment. The cost-effective technology purchased by ITE Toronto allowed meeting #7 to be held as a hybrid event.

Several challenges arose in 2023, but the ITE Toronto Section Executive continued to move forward. The President was required to reduce their involvement for a period due to surgery and recovery. Website and communications updates were strained when the Social Media Coordinator went on medical leave and then maternity leave. Several ITE Executives had pregnancies and children born during 2023. Lastly, there have been difficulties in finding a permanent Chair for the crucial Activities Committee.

The significant three-year ITE Toronto Section restructuring, initiated in September 2022, continues to be implemented. It was identified that a seven-year executive commitment was no longer reasonable, and

more volunteers were needed to deliver the level of service required by our members. As such, a motion was passed to restructure the executive and establish Committees and Chairs. The implementation plan was developed to phase out the Activities and Communications Coordinator roles and establish a series of committees to better fill their scope of work. Four new committees were established in 2022 (Activities, Awards, Communications, and Student Engagement), with a fifth committee identified for 2024 (Membership). The Secretary and Treasurer roles will also run alternating two-year terms.

Many committee positions have been filled; however, several Chair positions require permanent appointees. Several engagement sessions have been held with current and prospective Committee members to find permanent Chairs. Despite these challenges, most Committees met several times during 2023, with the most significant advancements being made by the Communications Committee. Key Committee achievements include approval of Committee Terms of Reference, the website migration, a revised Toronto Section funding model for Student Chapters, and ITE Toronto's engagement in the ITE Canada Merchandise Working Group.

2024 will mark the 50th anniversary of the ITE Toronto Section. The momentum of the restructuring in 2023 will help ensure that 2024 is an outstanding year to celebrate the ITE Toronto Section. Further work will be required to ensure the Committees are working efficiently, which will help ITE Toronto continue to improve its engagement with its membership.

Meetings

The ITE Toronto Section hosted or co-hosted a total of ten events in 2023, including several held jointly with other ITE student chapters and committees. The ITE Toronto Executive also held nine monthly meetings with a quorum present (plus additional non-quorum meetings).

2022 Project of the Year Presentation (Hamilton Complete Streets Design Manual)

Meeting: #1 Date: February 22, 2023 Location: Markham, ON
Speakers: Trevor Jenkins (City of Hamilton) and James Schofield (WSP)
Meeting was free to all attendees.



Big Data & Emerging Traffic Technologies Workshop

Meeting: #2 Date: March 2, 2023 Location: Mississauga, ON
Speakers: Pedram Izadpanah, Alexandre Nolet, and Josée Dumont (True North Safety Group).

Meeting hosted by the ITE Canada Training Committee with support from the ITE Toronto Section.



University of Toronto ITE Student-Industry Mixer

Meeting: #3 Date: March 29, 2023 Location: Toronto, ON
Speakers: Each sponsoring company presented, including Arcadis IBI Group, Paradigm, True North Safety, T2 Utility Engineers, LEA, Region of Peel, McIntosh Perry, Access, BA Group, Metrolinx and HDR.

Meeting hosted by the ITE University of Toronto Student Chapter with support from the ITE Toronto Section.



ElevateITE

Meeting: #4 **Date:** April 1, 2023 **Location:** Waterloo, ON

Speakers: Rosana Correa (ITE), Edward Soldo (ITE), Julia Salvini (ITE Canada), Pedram Izadpanah (ITE Canada), Jeff Jongsma (ITE SW Ontario), and Erik Nevland (ITE Toronto).



Meeting hosted by the University of Waterloo, McMaster University, and York University ITE Student Chapters with support from the ITE Toronto Section.

Lunch n' Learn - New Zoning By-Law Parking Requirements

Meeting: #5 **Date:** April 20, 2023 **Location:** Virtual

Speakers: Micheal Hain (City of Toronto)

Meeting was free to all attendees.



ITE Toronto 2023 Summer Luncheon

Meeting: #6 **Date:** July 14, 2023 **Location:** Toronto, ON

Speakers: Mark Majewski (LocoMobi World Inc.), Brian Storrie (LocoMobi World Inc.), and Brian Hollingworth (City of Hamilton)



Highlights:

The annual ITE Toronto Spring/Summer Luncheon is always very well received and 2023 did not break this pattern. The event was hosted at the University of Toronto Hart House, and featured presentations by Mark Majewski and Brian Storrie from LocoMobi as well as Brian Hollingworth from the City of Hamilton.

LocoMobi presented on examples and the journey and learnings of commercialized and modernized mobility solutions, referencing solutions in Kitchener, Metro Vancouver, Oakville, and the PanAm Centre. The solutions needed to integrate hardware, data, UX, software, analytics, and human “visioneering”.

The City of Hamilton is undergoing a significant transformation in terms of development and transportation. In his presentation, Brian highlighted some of the initiatives and projects serving to accelerate this change including a new Complete Streets approach, micro-mobility implementation, various parking initiatives, and some bold street re-design projects. The presentation also included some insights and observations on how transportation planning has changed over the past three decades and how things may change in the future.



The sponsor for this event was BA Group.

Automated Speed Enforcement Panel Discussion

Meeting: #7 **Date:** September 19, 2023 **Location:** Hybrid

Speakers: Trevor Kanhai (City of Toronto), Steven Kemp (Region of Durham), and Sheilagh Stewart (Stewart Solutions Inc.).

Due to the support from event sponsor Arcadis IBI Group, this meeting was free for both in-person (Toronto) and virtual attendees.



Joint ITE Canada Section Student Presentation Competition

Meeting: #8 **Date:** October 11, 2023 **Location:** Virtual
Speakers: Luke Blommestejn (Western), Enosh Chen (Waterloo), Lucas Rodey (Western), J. Alejandro Dos Santos (Western), Grace Mulcahy (YorkU), Reza Aminghafouri (Waterloo)



Meeting held jointly with the ITE Southwest Ontario Section and the ITE Hamilton Section.

Data in Transportation Webinar

Meeting: #9 **Date:** October 19, 2023 **Location:** Virtual
Cost: Free
Speakers: Erin O'Higgins (StreetLight), Arash Mirhoseini (Stantec), and Jonathan Eller (GHD).



Christmas Luncheon & AGM

Meeting: #10 **Date:** December 14, 2023 **Location:** Toronto, ON
Keynote Speaker: Inderjit Hans (City of Brantford)

Highlights:

Our Christmas Luncheon and Annual General Meeting is always our most attended and most popular event of the year. This year we combined this event with our Innovation of the Year Award Competition which ended up being a very popular decision with the event attendees.



Our keynote speaker was Inderjit Hans, the Commissioner of Public Works at the City of Brantford, who presented on the Brantford on Track: Paving the Way for GO Rail Extension proposal. This proposal comes in response to the pressing need to address Brantford's growing population, increased economic activity, and the evolving transportation demands of the community. Inderjit's presentation was well received by attendees as it was timely and relevant.

Several awards were distributed at the AGM, including the 2023 Project of the Year Award to the University of Toronto for their "Electric-Cargo Pilot Study in Toronto" project. The Attendance Award was presented to Tanvir Chowdhury (Arcadis) and the President's Award was presented to Jocelyn Wallen (LEA Consulting Ltd./ITE Toronto).



The Innovation of the Year Award Competition was held during the latter-half of the meal. Ghazaleh Mohseni Hosseinabadi (York University) was awarded the 2023 Innovation of the Year Award as she received the most votes for her presentation on the "Strategic Interactive Planner Tool for Bike-Share Systems" project. Competition runners-up Bernard James (Parsons) and Kamand Khosravian (York University) also showcased their innovative projects.

Event gold sponsors included BA Group, Egis, and Parsons. Event silver sponsors included Croizer Consulting Engineers, Paradigm Transportation Solutions Limited, and True North Safety.

Student/Younger Member Support

ITE Toronto assisted with facilitating two events organized by student chapters: meetings #3 and #4. Our assistance included sending representatives to attend each of these events, participating in the (virtual) social hours, cross-promotion via our communication channels, and being available for input in the planning and execution phases of these events. Additionally, the Section co-hosted meeting #8, the 15th Annual Joint ITE Canada Section Student Presentation Competition. ITE Toronto participated in the scheduling, planning, communication, nomination process, and judging of this competition and award. We also equally financially contributed to the prizes.

ITE Toronto budgets for and offers financial support of up to \$1250 to each of our four Student Chapters to support their operational needs. In 2023, this included support for ITE Canada conference attendance and support for event planning. We ask the student chapter to provide a short memorandum justifying the expenses and to demonstrate the positive impact on their group.

ITE Toronto has one representative, Erik Nevland, on the ITE International Younger Member Subcommittee. As part of our restructuring, we have also started an ITE Toronto Student Engagement Committee that includes representatives from all four Student Chapters in our Section.

Application of Technical Knowledge

ITE Toronto Section did not pursue a solution to a local transportation issue or collaborate with industry on a project or program in 2023.

Networking Events

The first hour of meetings #6 and #10 included in-person networking between attendees. In addition, we participated in the networking for meeting #3 and #4, the student engagement events. Additional networking occurred at our other in-person events, notably meetings #1 and #7.

K-12 STEM Outreach

ITE Toronto formed a Student Engagement Committee in 2022. The role of STEM and K-12 Outreach Director has not yet been filled in this committee; however, the section is targeting filling this role in 2024. This role should increase ITE Toronto's K-12 STEM outreach.

New Member Recruitment

ITE Toronto has migrated its website to the new ITE Canada webpage, which includes information of interest for new member recruitment. Similarly to 2022, the ITE Toronto Executive improved efforts to recruit planners in 2023, including informal engagement with planners and tailoring events to ensure planners are interested. Lastly, as part of our restructuring, we have plans for a Membership Committee that will focus, in part, on new member recruitment.

Diversity and Inclusion

All 2023 virtual meetings were offered for free to all who wish to attend, in part to remove financial, structural, or other barriers. The ITE Toronto Executive has begun including diversity and inclusion criteria when identifying potential speakers, including priorities around representing planners and other non-engineers. Our ongoing election reform will see a process that better considers diversity and inclusion when nominating potential candidates. Lastly, ITE Toronto has one representative, Erik Nevland, on the ITE Equity Committee. Erik contributed to the ITE Foundational Equity Glossary.

Training/Professional Development

ITE Toronto did not organize an independent training event in 2023; however, we did assist the ITE Canada Training Committee with the facilitation of meeting #2. ITE Toronto has also been taking steps towards offering two in-person training events in the future, including a Big Data & Emerging Traffic Technologies workshop and a Vision Zero workshop.

Field Trips/Technical Tours

ITE Toronto did not organize any field trips or technical tours in 2023. Several plans for technical tours were delayed until 2024.

Service Projects

ITE Toronto did not participate in any community service projects in 2023.

Funding Support

Outside of dues and charging for events, ITE Toronto raised funds by selling sponsorships for meetings #6 and #10, the Summer and Christmas Luncheons. An event sponsor was also obtained for meeting #7.

LeadershipITE

ITE Toronto has had members participate in *LeadershipITE* for three consecutive recent years: Amy Jiang (2020), Erik Nevland (2021), and Farhad Shahla (2022). All three *LeadershipITE* alumni regularly attend ITE Toronto events, allowing for networking and discussion of their experiences in the program. Details about the program have been provided by ITE Toronto to interested members, and historically nominations letters and mentoring have been offered when requested.

Advocacy

Presentations at meetings #5, #6, and #7 focused on upcoming legislation and regulations that affect the transportation industry. As a rule, ITE Toronto tries to plan meetings on topics that are particularly relevant to the membership, often focussing on important and/or recently updated issues, legislation and regulations within our geographical area. Likewise, we try to arrange training sessions when guidelines are updated. To supplement this, we put out surveys to our members on a semi-annual basis to identify new topics.



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