

April 2013



Sustainable Mobility Advisory Panel

for the City of Greater Sudbury

**City of Greater Sudbury Transit
Stroller Policy Change Request**



Sustainable Mobility Advisory Panel



Caregiver carrying baby, stroller, shopping and paying for bus



Stroller located in wheel chair priority area



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Current Policy

Strollers and walkers MUST be folded and stored on end in a safe place as to not interfere with other passengers.

Babies must be taken out of strollers and be held in your arms.

<http://www.greatersudbury.ca/living/transit/transit-rules/>

Sustainable Mobility Plan Recommendation

The Sustainable Mobility Plan (SMP) for the City of Greater Sudbury was received by Council on Wednesday, June 16, 2010. This plan is the first of its kind for the City of Greater Sudbury, and will assist the city in achieving its objective of becoming the most pedestrian-friendly city in Ontario by 2015 - a resolution passed by City Council in 2007.

The Sustainable Mobility Plan recommends states the following:

Recommendation: Adopt a new policy which would allow care givers to keep children seated and secured within a stroller while riding the Transit.

- 54% of low income families are single parents with children under 18 years of age (Social Profile of Greater Sudbury, SPC 2009).
- This policy disproportionately impacts female-led single parent families, the majority of which live in poverty and rely on transit to transport their child to daycare for employment purposes, etc. (SMP, page 55)

Proposed Stroller Policy for Greater Sudbury Transit

Draft submitted by the SMAP Policy Committee

We propose the following changes to the Greater Sudbury Transit stroller policy:

Open strollers of an approved size be permitted to use the priority seating area with priority given as follows:

1. People using wheelchairs or scooter
2. Persons with disabilities
3. Children in strollers

Process:

- The caregiver should lift up the priority seats and place open stroller in space made available to allow other passengers to safely navigate the aisle;
- The stroller should face the rear of the bus;
- The baby/child must be buckled-up in the stroller;
- The brake/wheel lock of the stroller must be applied;
- The caregiver must hold the stroller securely while the bus is in motion.

Passengers traveling with a stroller should be able to board and disembark without assistance from the bus operator.

Should anyone noted in priority groups (1) or (2) require the priority seating area, the caregiver will be asked to move to the regular seating on the bus and fold the stroller.

It is the responsibility of the passenger to ensure that their stroller does not interfere with the safety or comfort of other passengers. They must also ensure they are in care and control of their stroller at all times. If a stroller is too large to fit safely out of the aisle way, or if a passenger has too many items hanging from the stroller, they will not be permitted to keep their stroller open.



Stroller restrictions:

Single strollers and double *length* strollers are allowed to remain open in the priority seating area on the bus. Strollers must be able to fit through the front doors and down the aisle in order to board the bus.

Oversized strollers, which include jogging strollers and double *width* strollers, will only be allowed on the buses if folded.



Comments and Recommendations from Transit Users, Governmental Authorities and Researchers on Using Strollers on Buses

Focus Group for the Sustainable Mobility Plan

Tuesday, March 9, 2010, 10:00-11:30am

Our Children, Our Future Hub – Minnow Lake Place, CGS

- If I don't have a ride I don't go out. I look healthy but I'm not. The transit drivers are not that accommodating. They don't like to wait for you. They don't like to put down the ramp [for strollers]. It's very difficult.
- One bus driver told me that to lower the ramp [to accommodate a stroller] it takes too much time and puts them off schedule. Unless someone asks, they won't do it.
- Today I was getting on the bus and I put my stroller in the overhead racks. The bus driver watched me until I had it 'just right' so I knew it wouldn't fall and then she told me that I couldn't put it up there because it would be a safety hazard. I spent a good two minutes getting it 'just right'.
- It depends which bus driver you get. Some are nice. The men are more accommodating than the women.
- Just try going on the bus with my two year old. He just won't sit down.

Transit Supportive Guidelines Ontario Ministry of Transportation

Universal access can also help other transit users meet their daily needs, for example, shoppers with carts, **parents with children in strollers**, travellers with luggage, and the elderly. Meeting a greater range of transportation needs helps build transit ridership. (page 124)

Section 3.5 Ridership Strategies

There is growing trend towards more children and youth travelling by automobile than in previous decades which is contributing to lower activity levels within that age group. Car travel has replaced children and youth walking, cycling and riding transit. Transit can be made better for traveling with children and more attractive to youth by:

- Providing family passes that enable a family to travel for the cost of a single pass during evenings or weekends;
- Offering discounted fares or free transit for younger age groups;
- Offering timed transfers to enable multiple stops on one fare;
- Developing programs that welcome children and youth onto transit, such as providing transit information to schools;
- Providing information on school-specific transit routes and schedules;



- Locating convenient services at transit stations;
- **Assessing the transit system from perspective of a parent with a stroller; and**
- Providing transit services to family attractions. (page 141)

<http://www.mto.gov.on.ca/english/transit/supportive-guideline/transit-supportive-guidelines-2012-en.pdf>

Exploring the Role of Transportation in Fostering Social Exclusion: The Use of GIS to Support Qualitative Data

Talia McCray & Nicole Brais
Netw Spat Econ (2007) 7:397–412

Traveling with young children on public transportation is challenging. Several studies have shown that parents of young children often avoid using public transportation (McCray 2000; Michelson 1985; Tivers 1988). The young mothers from Beauport broadly explored the dilemma of traveling with children. All had young children, and none lived within walking distance to a daycare center or their place of job training. Therefore a desire to access employment translated into a long arduous daily journey of four trips (to and from work with two daycare stops). A major complaint voiced in all five focus groups was the difficulty of storing a stroller while in transit on the bus for women with young children. Strollers are only allowed on the bus if folded up. If a child is sleeping, the child must be awakened, and taken out of the stroller to be carried onto the bus. When the bus is full, one must plan ahead to get off the bus at a more distant stop than the intended stop, to allow enough time to get everything to the door.

I was seated and I was waiting for the bus to come to a stop. I had rung [the bell]. The bus just slowed down, and it took off again. Whoa, excuse me, but I rang, it's me! Excuse me if I wasn't in front of the door, but I have a child and a stroller and all, and they stop so fast that I knew I wasn't able to stand up. You risk falling just to be sure to be ready to get off. You know, it's stressful every time (Limoilou).

Strollers, Carts, and Other Large Items on Buses and Trains: A Synthesis of Transit Practice

Transit Cooperative Research Program 2011

Among the stroller policies that transit agencies have deemed most effective are those that minimize an operator's involvement: strollers must fit through vehicle doors and be kept out of aisles. (page 71)



Public Transit Systems in Ontario

For a complete list of Transit Systems please visit:

<http://www.mto.gov.on.ca/english/traveller/transit.shtml>

1. Bancroft (3,880)
2. Barrie (187,013)
3. Belleville (92,540)
4. Blind River (2,540)
5. Brampton (523,911)
6. Brantford (135,501)
7. Brockville (39,024)
8. Burlington (175,779)
9. Chapleau (2,116)
10. Chatham-Kent (104,075)
11. Clarence-Rockland (23,185)
12. Cobourg (18,519)
13. Cochrane (5,340)
14. Colltrans (Collingwood) (19,241)
15. Cornwall (58,957)
16. Cramahe, Township (6,073)
17. Deseronto (1,835)
18. Dryden (7,617)
19. Durham Region (Ajax/Pickering, Whitby, Oshawa, Clarington)
20. Dysart (2,985)
21. Elliot Lake (11,348)
22. Espanola (5,364)
23. Fort Erie (29,960)
24. Fort Frances (7,952)
25. Greater Sudbury
26. Greenstone (4,724)
27. GO Transit Train
28. GO Transit Bus
29. Guelph (141,097)
30. Halton Hills (59,008) - **specialized**
31. Hamilton (721,053)
32. Hanover (7,490)
33. Hearst (5,090)
34. Huntsville (19,056)
35. Ingersoll (12,146)
36. Kapuskasing (8,196)
37. Kawartha Lakes (73,214)
38. Kenora (15,348)
39. Kingston (159,561)
40. Lanark (5,128)
41. Lasalle (28,643)
42. Leamington (49,765)
43. London (474,786)
44. Machin (935)
45. Meaford (11,100)
46. Midland (16,572)
47. Milton (84,362)
48. Mississauga (713,443)
49. Nation Municipality – Transit of Eastern Ontario (11,668)
50. Niagara Falls (82,997)
51. Regional Municipality of Niagara (431,346)
52. North Bay (64,043)
53. North Perth (12,631)
54. Oakville (182,520)
55. Ottawa (1,236,324)
56. Orangeville (27,975)
57. Orillia (40,731)
58. Owen Sound (32,092)
59. Parry Sound (6,191)
60. Pembroke (24,017)
61. Perth East (12,028)
62. City of Peterborough (78,698)
63. County of Peterborough (58,000) - **specialized**
64. Point Edward (2,034)
65. Port Hope (16,214)
66. Quinte West (43,086)
67. Renfrew County (101,326) - **specialized**
68. Russell Township (15,247)



69. Sarnia (89,555)
70. Sault Ste. Marie (75,141)
71. Schreiber (1,126)
72. St. Catharines (131,400)
73. St. Mary's (6,655)
74. St. Thomas (37,905)
75. Stratford (30,886)
76. Tecumseh (23,610)
77. Temiskaming Shores (13,566)
78. Thorold (17,931)
79. Thunder Bay (121,596)
80. Timmins (43,165)
81. Toronto Transit Commission
(TTC) (2,615,060)
82. Wasaga Beach (17,537)
83. Regional Municipality of
Waterloo (525 000)
84. Municipality of Wawa (2,634)
85. Welland (50,631)
86. West Elgin (5,157)
87. West Perth (8,919)
88. Windsor (319,246)
89. Woodstock (37,754)
90. York Region (Aurora,
Markham, Newmarket,
Richmond Hill, Vaughan)
(1,097,000)

Research and Analysis

There are a total of 90 Transit Systems in Ontario. Of these 90 some only offer specialized transit (shared door to door public transit service for people with physical and /or functional disabilities who are unable to use conventional transit), conventional transit or both.

We looked at the stroller policies of conventional transit systems that service a population of 40 000 or more people. This left us with 36 transit systems to research. We were not able to find information on 2 of these systems: Niagara Falls and Welland. This left us with 34 systems.

From this research we found that following:

- Only 9 transit systems out of 34 do NOT allow children to remain in their strollers on the bus. These 9 are: City of Greater Sudbury, Belleville, Chatham-Kent, Cornwall, Go Transit Bus (note strollers can remain open on the Go Train), Kawathra Lakes, London, Orillia, Quinte West.
- Only 2 of these 9 systems have populations greater than 150, 000: City of Greater Sudbury and London. Of these two policies London does not require caregivers to remove their children from the strollers, only suggests it.
- Of these 9 systems only the City of Greater Sudbury, Belleville, and the GO Transit bus has 100% fully accessible bus systems.
- The following Northern Ontario Transit Systems allow children to remain in the strollers: North Bay, Sault Ste. Marie, Thunder Bay and Timmins.

City	Pop.	Open Stroller on Bus?	Policy
City of Greater Sudbury	160,274	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strollers and walkers MUST be folded and stored on end in a safe place as to not interfere with other passengers. Babies must be taken out of the strollers and be held in your arms. http://www.city.greatersudbury.on.ca/cms/index.cfm?app=div_transit&lang=en&currID=292
Barrie	187,013	Yes	<p>Priority front seating on Barrie Transit is designated for use as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. People using wheelchairs or scooter 2. Persons with disabilities 3. Children in strollers <p>Note: Children in strollers will be accommodated, however, should anyone noted in priority (1) or (2) require the wheelchair area, you will be asked to move to another seat and you may need to fold your stroller.</p> http://www.barrie.ca/Living/Getting%20Around/Pages/TransitInformation.aspx
Belleville	92,540	No	Via telephone conversation: you have to take your child out and fold up the stroller
Brampton Transit	523,911	Yes	VIA EMAIL: Strollers are view as a mobility device. Strollers are permitted to be open on the bus providing there is adequate space and does not impede the safe operation of the vehicle.
Brantford	135,501	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Previous practice dictated that passengers traveling with strollers and/or bundle buggies had to fold them up before boarding a bus. This policy has been revised, and single strollers, double length strollers and shopping carts are allowed on the bus without having to be folded. If a passenger boards the bus with an unfolded single stroller, double length stroller or bundle buggy, it is the responsibility of that passenger to ensure that strollers and/or bundle buggies do not interfere with the safety or comfort of other passengers.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oversized strollers, which include jogging strollers and double width strollers, will only be allowed on the buses if folded. • It is the responsibility of the passenger to ensure that their stroller and/or bundle buggy does not interfere with the safety or comfort of other passengers. They must also ensure they are in care and control of their stroller and/or bundle buggy at all times. If a stroller is too large to fit safely out of the aisle way, or if a passenger has too many items hanging from the stroller, they will not be allowed to board the bus. Finally, passengers traveling with a stroller and/or bundle buggy must be able to board and disembark without assistance from the bus operator. • A passenger riding with an unfolded stroller must remain holding the stroller with the stroller brakes on. • Passengers traveling with a stroller and/or bundle buggy may utilize the space designated for wheelchairs or scooters. However, should a passenger with a disability board the bus, they will be given priority for this space. When the seats are occupied or requested by seniors or persons with disabilities, persons traveling with a stroller or bundle buggy will be required to move to another location on board the bus. When asked to move to another location, they may also be requested to fold up their stroller or bundle buggy to ensure that they keep the aisle clear. If the passenger has not yet boarded the bus and the accessible seating is occupied, the passenger traveling with the stroller or bundle buggy may be requested to wait for the next available bus. The bus operator has complete discretion, if they feel that the stroller and/or bundle buggy is compromising safety of passengers, to request the passenger move the stroller and/or bundle buggy to a safe location <p>"Passengers will assume full responsibility for the safety of their child who is seated in an unfolded stroller."</p> <p>http://www.brantford.ca/residents/roadtransportation/public_transit/TransitNewsEvents/Pages/StrollerPolicy.aspx</p>
Burlington	175,779	Yes	<p>Strollers are permitted providing they do not obstruct the aisles.</p> <p>http://cms.burlington.ca/AssetFactory.aspx?did=15298</p>

Chatham-Kent Transit	104,075	No	<p>Via Email: The policy that our service provider (Aboutown) adheres to is that all strollers are folded up and placed at the back of the bus or held onto which the bus is in motion. This is for the safety of all passengers on the bus</p> <p>Janet Couvillon Administrative Assistant Engineering and Transportation Division janet.couvillon@chatham-kent.ca</p>
Cornwall	58,957	No	Via telephone conversation with Cornwall Transit
Durham Regional Transit (Ajax, Whitby, Oshawa, Clarington, Uxbridge etc)	<p>Ajax: 109,600</p> <p>Whitby: 122,022</p> <p>Oshawa: 149,607</p> <p>Clarington: 84,548</p> <p>Uxbridge: 20,623</p>	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remember it's up to you to board and unload your stroller when riding transit. If you require help, please travel with someone to assist you. • Children in strollers may be wheeled aboard accessible, low-floor buses. If requested, the accessible ramp will be lowered. Once on board the bus you still may be asked to collapse your stroller to maximize space in the priority seating area. • Operators will request strollers be folded and explain the safety issues. • Children should be removed from the stroller and seated or held securely and safely on your lap. • Choosing to not fold your stroller or remove your child/children, you assume the safety, responsibility and liability involved. • Passengers with strollers may park in the wheelchair accessible area if the area is NOT required by priority passengers. • Raise the seats and remember to lock the brake and hold the stroller securely before the bus begins moving. Before exiting, please lower the seats in the wheelchair area for the next passenger. • If the wheelchair area is full, please proceed to the rear of the bus. The rear of the bus is a safe location and allows for the front area of the bus and aisles to remain free for other passengers to board and exit. • Hold strollers securely and apply the brake or fold and store between seats. • Strollers may not fit down the centre aisle and may result in passengers being unable to access seats or exits. The maximum size stroller allowed on a DRT bus is 48" long by 24" wide. Strollers, including jogging strollers, larger than the maximum size can not be accommodated.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strollers exceeding the maximum size restrict the centre aisle and result in passengers being unable to access seats or exits. DRT does not allow play buggies, plastic pull-along carts or wagons anytime. When the bus comes to a complete stop move to the front exit. For a full view of the exit area - pull the stroller behind you and lift the strollers back wheels slightly for a gentle and safe exit to the curb. If your stroller does not fold, or if you choose to not fold a stroller, you may be denied access to service during rush hours times or when space is limited. During rush hours or when space is limited, your Operator will request the stroller be folded for the safety and comfort of other passengers. If space is not available for passengers with strollers a DRT Supervisor is advised of the incident. Passengers are not denied service based solely on choosing to not fold a stroller. Please be prepared that in some circumstances you may need to wait for a later bus to accommodate a stroller if the accessible area is occupied and you do not fold your stroller. If you plan your trip in advance to avoid rush hour service you may avoid issues related to the limited space in the priority seating area. If your child is lost, frightened, hurt or in trouble your DRT Operator can notify emergency response to assist. Unsupervised young children are not refused transportation after dark or when their safety is a concern. <p>http://www.durhamregiontransit.com/durham/index_e.aspx?DetailID=5</p>
Go Transit Bus	N/A	No	<p>Strollers can be brought on our service anytime, but they must be collapsible to fit on the GO Bus.</p> <p>http://www.go transit.com/public/en/travelling/faq.aspx</p>
GO Transit Train	N/A	Yes	<p>Open strollers are allowed on GO Trains</p> <p>http://www.go transit.com/public/en/travelling/faq.aspx</p>

Guelph	141,097	Yes	<p>Passengers traveling with strollers and/or bundle buggies must: 1) board and exit the bus unassisted, 2) maintain care and control of their stroller and/or bundle buggy, and 3) keep the stroller and/or bundle buggy clear of the aisle.</p> <p>http://guelph.ca/living/getting-around/bus/riding-guelph-transit/rules-and-guidelines/</p>
Hamilton	721,053	Yes	<p>Collapsible buggies and strollers are allowed on-board the buses unless it interferes with the flow or movement of passengers within the bus; or in the opinion of the HSR Operator, the safety of the passenger or child is placed at risk by boarding with the child in the stroller. It may not be necessary to remove the child from the stroller or the goods from the buggy unless:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You are traveling during rush hours; or • The location will interfere with the flow of movement of passengers within the bus; or • In the opinion of the HSR Operator, the safety of the passenger or child is placed at risk by boarding with the child in the stroller. <p>Buggies/strollers should be placed in the wheelchair area if possible. The stroller should face the rear, with the brakes applied. Should a customer using a wheelchair/scooter wish to board, the Operator will request the customers occupying the wheelchair compartment to move. In this event, please move to the rear of the bus, lock the wheels, and remain in control of the buggy/ stroller.</p> <p>Always exit the bus using the rear doors so as not to disrupt the flow of passengers boarding at the front. Step down first then back the stroller off the bus for the safety of your child.</p> <p>http://www.hamilton.ca/NR/rdonlyres/8B444688-07C0-4ED4-9896-B3728338D42D/0/HSRSystemMapCoverside.pdf</p>

Kawathra Lakes	73,214	No	Please fold stroller before entering bus http://www.city.kawarthalakes.on.ca/residents/transportation/lindsay-transit
Kingston	159,561	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open strollers are allowed in the Courtesy Seating Area only if it is available (i.e. unoccupied). The caregiver must set the brakes of the open stroller and hold onto it during travel. If the Courtesy Seating is not available, caregivers may safely wheel the stroller to the rear of the bus and it may remain open if space permits. It must not obstruct the doors or aisle. If there is not enough room to safely keep the stroller open, the caregiver must collapse it (even if you have groceries and a child in the stroller). Collapsible strollers may be stored between the seats. If you use your collapsible stroller to shop with your child, please plan to do so during non-peak hours to reduce the possibility of having to collapse your stroller. http://www.cityofkingston.ca/residents/transportation/transit/courtesyseating/questions.asp#Q4
London	474,786	No	We request that if possible, buggies/strollers be folded for the comfort and convenience of all passengers http://www.ltconline.ca/Conventional.htm
Milton	84,362	Yes	Via Email: Our transit service is 100% low floor accessible and can accommodate your open stroller. All we ask is that you utilize the forward seats that can lift allowing your stroller to fit out of the way of boarding & deboarding customers. Your child is allowed to remain in the stroller as long as you have a hold on the unit. Locking the

			brakes on the stroller will be of great help to control it. Rick Wiebe Manager, Milton Transit rick@miltontransit.ca
Mississauga	713,443	Yes	Large articles (i.e. strollers, groceries and carts) are the responsibility of the customer. They must not block normal movement in the aisles. http://www.mississauga.ca/file/COM/PassengerGuidelines.pdf
Niagara Falls	82,997		
Niagara Region Transit	431,346	Yes	Strollers are acceptable on Niagara Region Transit buses. If there are no wheelchairs on the bus, strollers can be strapped into the area designated for wheelchairs. If wheelchairs are occupying the accessible area, strollers need to be folded upon entering a Niagara Region Transit bus. http://www.niagararegion.ca/transit/ridingthebus.aspx
North Bay	64,043	Yes	Priority Seating on North Bay Transit (in order of priority): Let the driver know right away if you need the bus to kneel or you need the ramp. 1. People using mobility aids such as wheelchairs and scooters. 2. Persons with disabilities, seniors in need (age 65 or older), people with walkers. 3. Children in strollers & bicycles

			<p>Note: children in strollers and bicycles will be accommodated, however, should anyone noted in priority (1) or (2) require the accessible seating area, you will be asked to move to another seat.</p> <p>The maximum size for a stroller is 61 centimetres (24”) wide by 122 centimetres (48”) long. Oversized strollers must be folded before boarding the buses. An oversized stroller is anything larger than the single sized stroller measurements as stated above and includes jogging strollers.</p> <p>http://www.cityofnorthbay.ca/common/pdf/strollerbrochure-april2012.pdf</p>
Oakville	182,520	No	<p>When there is space, when other customers will not be affected or at the driver’s discretion buggies and other large articles may be allowed on the bus. The driver may decline to allow such objects at any time that he/she feels safety may be compromised.</p> <p>Customers are required to carry their own buggies or articles on and off the bus.</p> <p>For the safety of all customers, the aisles must not be blocked by such articles. http://www.oakvilletransit.com/how-to-information.html</p>
Orillia	40,731	No	<p>Via Email: The Orillia Transit asks that parents remove the child from the stroller and sit them on a seat or infant in arms, and strollers be folded up and placed at the back of the bus for safety of all passengers and children.</p> <p>Karen Strain Secretary-Operation Public Works – Transit City of Orillia</p> <p>kstrain@orillia.ca Tel: 705-325-8434</p>

Ottawa-Gatineau (OC Transpo)	1,236,324	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • stroller can go in a space designated for wheelchairs if there is one available; • if a wheelchair position is not available, open strollers are allowed in the aisle unless they interfere with other passengers or with the safe movement of transit users; • if this happens, the operator may ask the customer to fold the stroller (this is current practice); • if an open stroller is in a wheelchair area and someone with a wheelchair requires that space, the stroller will be required to move. http://www.octranspo1.com/about-octranspo/bus and o-train vehicles#Q3
Quinte West		No	<p>Do not leave your child in his/her stroller. All strollers must be folded while traveling on the bus.</p> http://www.quinteaccess.org/public-transit/policies-public
Peterborough	78,698	Yes	<p>Mobility devices such as wheelchairs and walkers have priority for accessible space on the bus over strollers.</p> http://www.peterborough.ca/Living/City_Services/Transportation/Transit/Frequently_Asked_Questions/What is permitted on Peterborough Transit buses .htm
St. Catharines Transit Service	131,400	Yes	<p>When traveling on our public transit bus with a child and stroller there are some safety rules you should know. Please make sure you get a stroller that can be accommodated on St. Catharines Transit buses. SIZE OF THE STROLLER DOES MATTER. We recommend the size should be no more than (50.8 cm wide and 122 cm long) or (20 inches wide and 48 inches long). Larger strollers than specified may have difficulty maneuvering on and off the bus. It is recommended to travel outside peak periods. Brakes must be applied and St. Catharines Transit recommends the child be removed from the stroller. For the safety of all passengers the stroller MUST NOT block the aisles. The PRIORITY SEATING SEATS that fold up are for WHEELCHAIRS, SCOOTERS, and STROLLERS. Strollers must give priority to a wheelchair or scooter.</p> http://www.yourbus.com/riding-tips/

Sault Ste. Marie	75,141	Yes	<p>If space is available, passengers with other needs, such as caregivers with a child in a stroller or passengers with a bundle buggy may use the courtesy seat area but they should be aware that they may need to vacate the seats to accommodate someone with a disability.</p> <p>http://www.cityssm.on.ca/Open_Page.aspx?ID=1143&deptid=1</p>
Sarnia	89,555	Yes	<p>If space is available, passengers with other needs, such as caregivers with a child in a stroller or passengers with a bundle buggy may use the courtesy seat area but they should be aware that they may need to vacate the seats to accommodate someone with a disability. The highest priority for courtesy seating should be given to passengers with disabilities.</p> <p>http://www.city.sarnia.on.ca/pdf/Transit/AODChangesJan12012.001(1).pdf</p>
Thunder Bay	121,596	Yes	<p>Seats in the front priority seating 'flip-up' to make room for persons using mobility equipment. Please use this feature to create room for yourself and stroller, and to clear the aisle so that others may board and move further onto the bus.</p> <p>Your child must be secured with the safety belt provided in your stroller</p> <p>Please brake stroller wheels and ensure that the stroller is placed as far away from the aisle as possible once you are settled</p> <p>Hold on to the stroller securely <u>at all times</u> during your trip</p> <p>Please note, in very crowded conditions, the operator may ask you to fold the stroller and hold your child in order to make room for other passengers.</p> <p>It is very important to use a stroller that can be easily accommodated on transit buses.</p>

			<p>Some large recreational or tandem strollers simply do not fit on board. You may not be able to ride, or you may experience difficulty manoeuvring the stroller every time you use the bus.</p> <p>Choose a stroller that can be accommodated on transit. Strollers should be a maximum 24 inches wide by 48 inches long (61 cm wide and 122 cm long).</p> <p>http://www.thunderbay.ca/Living/Getting_Around/Thunder_Bay_Transit/Priority_Courtesy_Seating/Using_Strollers.htm</p>
Timmins	43,165	Yes	<p>Priority Seating The front seating area on transit buses provides a wide aisle with seats that fold up. This space is designated as priority seating for (in order of priority):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. People using mobility aids such as wheel chairs and scooters 2. Persons with disabilities, seniors, people with walkers 3. Children in strollers <p>Stroller Sizes The maximum size for strollers is 61 centimetres (24") wide by 122 centimetres (48") long. Oversized strollers will not be permitted on transit buses.</p> <p>ACCEPTABLE Examples Dimensions: 107cm (42") Long X 57cm (22.5") Wide X 102cm (40") High Stroller Dimensions: 104cm (41") High X 51cm (20") Wide X 71cm (28") Deep</p> <p>TOO LARGE Examples Dimensions: 62 cm (24.5") wide X 114 cm (45") high X 120 cm (47") long Length from Wheel to Handle: 120 cm (47 inches) Width from Wheel to Wheel: 66 cm (26 inches)</p> <p>http://www.timminstransit.ca/news.php</p>
Toronto (TTC) Bus	2,615,060	Yes	<p>Via email: Customers with strollers are permitted on buses any time of the day. Only one exception to the rule is when a bus shows up overcrowded it is the operator's responsibility to advise customer to wait for the next bus. The TTC recognizes and values the diversity of its customers by showing everyone the respect and dignity they deserve.</p>

			<p>Claudio Gasparini Customer Service Representative Toronto Transit Commission wtscremail@ttc.ca</p>
<p>Regional Municipality of Waterloo (Grand River Transit)</p>	525,000	Yes	<p>When attempting to board the bus all strollers must be able to fit through the front doors and in between the aisles.</p> <p>On some buses the front doors are 40 inches wide. And on all other buses the front doors are 30 inches wide. The aisles in a bus are roughly 24 inches wide. Strollers must be able to fit through the front doors and down the aisles in order to board the bus.</p> <p>GRT recommends small umbrella strollers that can easily fit in the aisles and allow space for passengers boarding and exiting the bus. All customers should know the dimensions of their stroller before attempting to board the bus.</p> <p>Strollers do not need to be folded up unless there are crush load conditions or standees on board the bus. Under crush load or standee conditions, children must be removed from the stroller and the stroller folded down before boarding.</p> <p>Customers with strollers are required to move to the rear of the bus, lock the wheels of the stroller and remain in firm control of it at all times.</p> <p>Hold on to the stroller at all times to avoid tipping. Position the stroller so passengers can walk freely down the aisle. http://www.grt.ca/en/riderprograms/safetytips.asp</p>
Welland	50,631		
Windsor	319,246	Yes	<p>Via Email: Strollers such as umbrella strollers are currently allowed on the bus with a baby seated inside. Transit Windsor is currently reviewing our stroller policy, but as of now this is allowed. We believe that the safest spot for any baby is out of the stroller and being held by an adult. TW@city.windsor.on.ca</p>

York Regional Transit (Vaughn, Markham, Newmarket, Richmond Hill, Stouville etc)	1,097,000	Yes	Strollers are allowed on vehicles at the discretion of the vehicle operator, but the stroller must be folded if it will interfere with standing passengers or the safe movement of passengers. If you want to leave your child in the stroller, or if the stroller cannot be folded, you may be asked to wait for the next vehicle that has more room. http://www.yrt.ca/en/ridingwithus/howtosfaqs.asp#general3
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Strollers/Carriers

Umbrella Strollers: typically not recommended until a baby is 6 months old. Typically retail from \$100 to \$500 CDN (Toys R Us)



Product Dimensions: (in inches)

45 x 10 x 8

Travel System Strollers: (ones that car seats attached to) are popular in Sudbury. Typically retail from \$200 to \$500 CDN (Toys R Us)



Product Dimensions: (in inches)

28.5 x 25.5 x 20.6

Double Strollers: To be used with twins or with two children born close together. Typically retails from between \$200 to \$500 CDN (Toys R Us)

Double Side by Side Stroller



Product Dimensions: (in inches)
36 x 30 x 14

Tandem or Double Length Stroller



Product Dimensions: (in inches)
33.5 x 22.5 x 20.2

Three-wheeled stroller: Often referred to as an “SUV Stroller”. Can sometimes be a jogging stroller

Three-wheeled stroller



Product Dimensions: (in inches)
35.5 x 19.7 x 11.7

Jogging Stroller



Product Dimensions: (in inches)
37.2 x 19.2 x 14.3

Baby Carriers: typically used for babies between 8 and 25 pounds (newish born to 1 year). Retail from between \$70 to \$200



Child Carrier: Typically used from when a child can sit upright unsupported (7 months old) to 40 kg (88 pounds). Typically retails from \$100 - \$350 CDN (MEC).



Note: The Montreal Children’s Hospitals recommends to “never use soft baby carriers in places where you could easily fall (e.g. icy sidewalks)”. <http://www.thechildren.com/en/news/news.aspx?ID=729>