



SNOW MOLE Questionnaire

Age-Friendly Winter Walkability and Pedestrian Safety Audits
for Seniors and Other Valuable Pedestrians

You are invited to be a **SNOW MOLE** and complete a Winter Walkability and Pedestrian Safety Audit. **SNOW MOLES** are volunteers who report on what it is like to walk outside on a winter day.

A. Instructions to Age-Friendly Ottawa SNOW MOLES

1. **Pick a time of day** when you need to go out, preferably a day or two after winter weather (e.g. snow, freezing rain).
2. **Pick a destination:** e.g. school, grocery store, bank, drug store, transit stop.
3. **Use** the Snow Mole questionnaire to audit your walk.
4. Complete the questionnaire online (www.coaottawa.ca/snowmoles) or drop off/mail it to: The Council on Aging of Ottawa, 1247 Kilborn Pl, Ottawa, K1H 6K9. If you are with a community group give your completed questionnaire to your community association leader.

B. Questions about you and your winter walk

Date (day/month/year): _____ Time of day: ____ a.m. ____ p.m. ____

Describe winter conditions (i.e. snow, freezing rain, slushy) _____

City/ Neighbourhood of walk audit: _____

Names of main streets on route: _____

Approximate distance: ___ less than 1 km, ___ 1 km, ___ 1.5 km, ___ more than 1.5 km

C. About you:

Age ___; Female ___ Male ___

I have a mobility aid: Yes No

I walk this route for (check all that apply):

- Transportation: to reach a specific location
- Recreation: for enjoyment and/or physical activity
- To question safety and accessibility of this route

D. Snow Mole Checklist: (Please circle or highlight your answer)

1. Have the sidewalks and streets in front of your house, residence or school been:
Plowed? Yes No Not applicable
Sanded? Yes No Not applicable
Salted? Yes No Not applicable
2. Are the sidewalks on your route **well** sanded or salted?
Yes No Not applicable
3. Does snow thrown onto the sidewalk from snow plows or people’s snow blowers interfere with walking?
Yes No
4. If there are paths or walkways on or near your route, are they well plowed?
Yes No Not applicable
5. Are the snow banks shorter than your waist?
Yes No
6. Can you walk (or use a mobility device) to safely get to your destination or to the nearest bus stop?
Yes No
7. Is the closest bus stop area clear of snow/ice?
Yes No Not applicable
8. Is the bus stop area fully accessible?
Yes No Do not know
9. Is any seating on this stretch of road kept clear of ice and snow?
Yes No Not applicable
10. Are you able to get to your destination and back home safely?
Yes No
11. Do you have any other safety concerns?

Please report any hazards or problems needing immediate attention to the City of Ottawa’s phone line 311.

Thank you for completing and returning this Winter Pedestrian Safety audit