

STEPHEN HICKSON

URBAN PLANNER

PROFILE

I am a recent urban planning graduate, skilled geospatial analyst, and clever urban designer. My experience includes over 3 years in transportation research, real property, policy, and data analysis positions. I'm passionate about building accessible, sustainable, equitable, and safer cities.

SKILLS

- Bilingual (EN/FR)
- Data analysis and visualization in R, Excel, SAS, SPSS, STATA
- ArcGIS and QGIS
- Graphic design and layouts in Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign
- Transit service planning using Arcadis IBI Transit Data Tools
- Produces quality policy briefs, memos, and reports.
- Microsoft Office

KEY EXPERIENCE

FIRST PLACE FINISH

National Capital Commission 2023 Urban Design Challenge

- Created winning plan for the Sussex Drive Corridor in Ottawa with a focus on active transportation improvements, Indigenous placemaking, public space, and water access. The plan came first out of 19 submissions representing 10 planning and design schools across Canada.

GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Transportation Research at McGill • May 2022 – Jan. 2023

- Used R, Excel, and SPSS to manipulate origin-destination and in-house surveys to produce two published papers.
- Used the ArcGIS network analysis toolbox to create a walk-shed analysis around future rapid transit stations for the Autorité Régionale de Transport Métropolitain (ARTM).

JUNIOR INVESTMENT ANALYST

Public Services and Procurement Canada • June 2020 – Dec. 2020

- Created project dashboards, generated metrics of project success, and reviewed investment reports for major capital projects in the Parliamentary Precinct.

EDUCATION

MASTER OF URBAN PLANNING (TRANSPORTATION)

McGill University • 2021 – 2023

- Recipient of 2022 SSHRC Scholarship
- Supervised Research Project: Editing GTFS data to evaluate accessibility changes of proposed light rail alignments connecting Ottawa and Gatineau.

HONOURS BSOCS – ECONOMICS & PUBLIC POLICY

University of Ottawa • 2016 – 2020

- Dean's Honour List and Merit Scholarship
- International exchange to Université Paris-Dauphine (2018)



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PRESENTATIONS

- National Capital Commission 2023 Urbanism Lab
- 2023 Transportation Research Board
- Appeared on-air with CBC and Radio-Canada to discuss transportation planning.
- Presented design plans to elected officials and community groups.

OTHER INFORMATION

- Secret Government Clearance
- G level driver's license
- Student member of the Canadian Institute of Planners
- Eligible for membership in the Canadian Institute of Planners.

PUBLICATIONS

- Hickson, S., Badami, M., Manaugh, K., DeWeese, J., El-Geneidy, A. (2023). Who is buying SUVs and Light Trucks in Montreal? A Factor and Cluster Analysis. Transportation Research Record
- Hickson, S., & El-Geneidy, A. (2022). Analyzing Public Transport Mode Share by Generational Cohort in Montreal Canada (1998-2018). Findings, 36789.

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

SWIPE CARD AND OCCUPANCY ANALYST

Health Canada • Jan. 2021 – Sept. 2021

- Used Excel to manipulate and analyze swipe card and occupancy data using to ensure agency compliance with physical distancing measures.

JUNIOR ANALYST

Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat • Sept. 2019 – Dec. 2019

- Processed compensation related data requests in SAS.
- Wrote policy paper on RCMP bonus levels.

JUNIOR BUSINESS ANALYST

Canada Revenue Agency • Jan. 2019 – Sept. 2019

- Created Gantt charts, project dashboards, and other visuals to support policy on the agency's next generation of office space.
- Compiled and presented capital cost estimates.

JUNIOR POLICY ASSISTANT

Public Services and Procurement Canada • May 2018 – Sept. 2018

- Researched best practices to develop the federal government's policy on capital prioritization of real property.

PARLIAMENTARY INTERN

Office of MP Nathan Cullen • Nov. 2016 – Sept. 2017

- Managed the MP's schedule, researched legislation, and designed mail-outs in Adobe InDesign.
- Responded to constituents and corresponded with Ministers.

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

- Consultant for Les AmiEs du Courant Sainte-Marie (2023)
- Member of Bike Ottawa Advocacy Working Group (2016-2018)
- Logistical Assistant for FORUM for Young Canadians (2017)
- Co-Prime Minister of Sacred Heart High School (2014-2015)



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