

## Walking Safely to Midland

A few simple rules will make your pilgrimage more enjoyable for you and those who take your safety seriously. Please read these instructions carefully.

Individuals under the age of 18 must provide proof of parental consent and be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Children requiring a car seat must be accompanied by two adults, a car seat, and a vehicle.

### Safety Detail

- The persons in the high-visibility safety vests are pilgrims like you who have volunteered to serve. Please help them enjoy their pilgrimage by paying attention to them.
- There are usually 3 persons in safety vests making up the safety detail: one at the lead (usually 50 to 75 yards ahead of the cross bearer) one in the middle of the column, and one at the rear of the column.

### Order of procession

- Lead safety
- Cross bearer
- Petition bearers
- Pilgrims
- Middle safety detail
- More pilgrims
- Rear safety detail.

Pilgrims are not to walk ahead of the petition bearers.

Pilgrims are not to walk behind the rear safety position.

Pilgrims are not to cross the road unless accompanied by a safety detail.

Pilgrims will be asked to volunteer and be part of the safety detail.

One additional volunteer heads up the safety detail, providing clarification and instruction when necessary.

### Whistle Signals:



One whistle blast: car coming, move left to the edge of the travelled portion of the road, continue walking.



Two whistle blasts: cars coming from each direction, move off the travelled portion of the road and form a single line.



Three whistle blasts: All pilgrims move off the travelled portion of the road, form a single line and come to a stop.

### Best Practices

- We walk on the left, facing oncoming traffic.
- We walk well to the left and in single file: up steep hills, approaching crests of hills, and blind corners.

As the day progresses we will become tired and lose our attention to the road, at these time it is even more important to follow the safety detail instructions.

### **Support Vehicles**

Support vehicles will accompany the pilgrims for most of the time spent walking.

Support vehicles will carry some supplies, water, first aid, packs, and pick up pilgrims that would like to take a break from walking or assist with other activities at the lunch or over-night sites.

Support vehicles are to pick up pilgrims on the same side of the road they are walking. Support vehicles are encouraged to wait for the column to approach, well off the shoulder of the road, so as not to force the pilgrims onto the road in order to pass- it is best that the vehicle sits in a laneway to a field or residence and away from blind crests of hills or turns.

### **Crossing Roads**

Road crossings can be very dangerous. Over time we have developed a procedure to cross roads that minimizes the amount of time spent on trafficked roadways.

We practice crossing even lesser travelled roads in the same way we would cross a busy four-lane highway, so we are well practiced for all road crossings.

#### **Road Crossing Procedure:**

- Lead Safety detail stops at the intersection.
- The column lines up, in proper order, single file, to the left of the lead safety.
- The column will stretch out along the edge of the road in single file.
- Pilgrims wait in silence and await the signal to cross from the safety detail.
- Pilgrims cross all at once, maintaining the same order on the opposite side of the road.
- Column proceeds in order in accordance with the safety detail instructions.

EXERCISE PATIENCE AND CALM.

DO NOT TAKE IT UPON YOURSELF TO CROSS AHEAD OF SAFETY DETAIL'S SIGNAL.

DO NOT GO BACK ACROSS THE ROAD UNLESS ACCOMPANIED BY SAFETY DETAIL.

LEAVE DROPPED ITEMS ON THE ROAD UNTIL SAFETY DETAIL ARRIVES.

### **In case of a weather alert**

We are exposed to dangers of inclement weather. Normally we walk through rain.

In the event of a warning of severe weather, we will make our best effort to evacuate the group from the area of danger.

Support vehicles and trucks will be mobilized to bring pilgrims to shelter.

Please acquaint yourself in advance with <https://www.getprepared.gc.ca/>