



STAEBLER 150 DTK HISTORY CRAWL



Staebler Insurance has called Kitchener home for its 150-year history. To pay homage to the history and our many office locations, members of our Staebler 150 team created a Downtown Kitchener Crawl with stops along the way to learn more about Kitchener's history and Staebler's rich connection with the city.

Scan to open the **Staebler 150 Downtown Kitchener History Crawl** Google Map directly on your smartphone!



- 1. Park at the Kitchener Market underground lot** (9:30 am)
 - Entrance is on Cedar Street N
 - Cost: Up to \$15 for entire day parking
 - Take the elevators up to the G level
- 2. Yeti Café for a famous DTK Breakfast** (9:40 am)
 - From the front of the market building, turn right and walk across Eby Street to the Yeti
 - Breakfast items range in price from \$8 to \$16
 - **Pro Tip:** You can fill up a reusable water bottle at the café
 - **Promo:** Mention the "Staebler 150 DTK History Crawl" at The Yeti to receive a free coffee or tea
 - Walk North on King St, turn left on Queen St
- 3. Former Staebler office at 379 Queen St S** (Buena Vista Villa), circa 1870s (10:50 am)
 - J.M. Staebler's home (later sold to J.M. Schneider)
 - First known office of Staebler Insurance
 - Continue west on Queen St
- 4. The Queen's Greens Community Garden** (10:55 am)
 - Along the sidewalk there is a "Help Yourself" Garden with beans, kale, rhubarb, etc.
 - Each plot is a rented space by community members who contribute to the maintenance and the upkeep of the garden



5. **Schneider Haus National Historic Site** (11:00 am)

- A registered National Historic Site. Home to five outbuildings and two historical gardens to explore
- Take path to the right to lead directly into Victoria Park
- Open Wednesday-Sunday, 12 pm-4 pm

6. **Victoria Park** (11:15 am)

- J.M. Staebler was on the First Park Board which led to the creation of Victoria Park in 1896
- Great photo opportunities on the bridges and near entrances
- Clock tower was transplanted from the original city hall
- A splashpad and playground for children to enjoy

7. **Café Pyrus for a cool drink/snack at 305 King St W** (11:30 am)

- Great little break spot near the middle of the route
- A wide selection vegan food options and plenty of hot and cold beverages

8. **New Carl Zehr Square at Kitchener City Hall** (12:00 pm)

- New splashpad for kids and kids at heart to cool down on a hot day

9. **Kitchener City Hall** (12:15 pm)

- Public washrooms located inside to the left
- **Pro Tip:** Take this chance to fill up your reusable water bottle

- Explore the upstairs for the Wall of Mayoralty (J.M. Staebler, 1891), various art installations, and a convenient exit to Duke Street

10. **Hop on the LRT at City Hall Station** (Duke Street, Northbound)

- Say hi to Tiny Home Takeout located in the adjacent St. Mary's Church parking lot
- Costs \$3.75 per ride. Ticket is valid for 90 minutes to ride on the LRT and any GRT bus route

11. **Grand River Hospital Station** (12:55 pm)

12. **Central Fresh Market** (1:05 pm)

- Grab a snack and a refreshment at this classic MidTown grocery store

13. **Former Staebler office at 618 King St W**, circa 1964-2005 (1:15 pm)

- The site of Staebler's modern built office from 1964-2005

14. **Former Staebler office at 183 King St W**, circa 1940

- Former home to the Public Utilities Commission, before they moved across Gaukel St.
- Now a pizza shop at the corner of King and Gaukel
- Side entrance has wall murals and a door to 183 King St.

15. **Former Staebler office at 144 King St W**, circa 1920 (1:30 pm)

- Originally the “Weber Chambers,” the first office building with an elevator
- Now simply named “The Chambers”

16. **Former Staebler office at 107 King St W**, circa 1955

- Small sliver entrance (door with stairs up) beside Yo Sushi

17. **Former Staebler office at 23 King St W**, circa 1893 (“handsome brick building built by J.M. Staebler”)

- Unfortunately, could not find a definitive location
- A hair salon was closest business to this address
- Next to The Walper Hotel

18. **The Walper Hotel**

- Landmark boutique hotel dating back to 1893
- Home to a coffee shop on the corner of King and Queen Streets
- TWH Social restaurant is now located in the basement

19. **Former Staebler office at 11 Queen St S**, circa early 1900s

- Since been demolished
- Parking lot behind the bank at King and Queen

20. **Walk back to the Kitchener Market** (3:00 pm)

- If you parked, remember to pay for parking before you head to the exit
- Cost: Up to \$15 for entire day parking

The DTK Crawl took a leisurely 5 ½ hours, with stops to eat and drink.

Total steps: We all recorded over 12,000 steps starting from the Kitchener Market and returning to the Kitchener Market

Bonus Additional Steps:

21. **Centre in the Square:** 101 Queen Street N

- Opened in 1980, Keith Staebler was instrumental in bringing a performing arts centre to Kitchener
- The KW Art Gallery is also located inside (Admission is free, check the [KWAG website](#) for updated hours)

22. **Current Staebler office:** 871 Victoria St N (formerly the Coronet), circa 2005-Present

- Stop at our reception desk to collect your special Staebler 150 gift pack