



Brampton Bicycle Advisory Committee

This is the inaugural newsletter of the Brampton Bicycle Advisory Committee (BBAC).

It is formatted as a letter to the interested citizens who signed our petition last May in support of the City of Brampton becoming a Bicycle Friendly Community as recognized by Ontario's Share the Road Cycling Coalition.

“We figure you signed that petition because you agree with one of more of the following statements:

- You are or want to be a cyclist whether for recreation or transportation
- Your friends or family members are Brampton cyclists
- You are concerned about the increasing levels of obesity, traffic congestion and environmental pollution in our city
- You are concerned about road safety, for motorists, cyclists and pedestrians
- You care about the state of cycling infrastructure and want to see more of it in the city because you believe that more cycling is good for every resident of Brampton, whether they personally cycle or not

We are the Brampton Bicycle Advisory Committee.

We are a group of volunteer citizens. We organized last spring because we agree with all of the above statements and believe that there is a need for an organization that will support and advocate for cyclists and cycling in the city of Brampton.

Since our first meeting in April 2013 we have accomplished quite a bit:

- We have made two presentations to City Council increasing the awareness of cycling needs and issues.
- We worked with city staff to get Council support for a motion that would see bicycle facilities (infrastructure) be implemented as part of the road improvement and traffic calming initiatives. We are also providing specific input on individual city and regional road construction projects including the Metrolinx Main Street LRT.
- We worked with city staff to prepare and submit an application to become a Bicycle Friendly Community. While the city was not awarded Bicycle Friendly Community status in 2013 it did receive Honourable Mention as result of that application in recognition of the city programs and investments made to date.
- We were involved in a number of bike safety and community outreach presentations and events including Bike to Work Day, the CeleBrampton Bike Festival and the Brampton Flower Day parade.
- We are currently involved with the city and the Region of Peel in developing a standardized bike skills training curriculum for public and high-school students.
- We have created our own www.BikeBrampton.ca web site.

Three to four times a year we plan on publishing a Bike Brampton Newsletter to keep you informed about cycling related subjects that are important to our city.

But we sincerely hope you will stay with us and become more involved. Cycling is a growing phenomenon in Brampton as it is in many communities across Ontario. The prospect of increased cycling in our community is overwhelmingly positive and will deliver a number of societal and individual benefits. The Brampton Bicycle Advisory Committee is committed to bringing leadership, advocacy, encouragement and guidance on cycling matters to political leaders, city staff and Brampton residents such that those benefits may be swiftly and effectively realized.

We invite you to visit our site frequently where you will find postings, news, events and other information tidbits about cycling in the city. You are invited to leave your comments and questions. www.BikeBrampton.ca

Best wishes to you and your family for safe cycling in 2014 and beyond.

Sincerely,

David Laing,
Chair, Brampton Bicycle Advisory Committee

p.s. Mark your calendar for our **Bike the Creek** event, June 21, 2014 <http://bikebrampton.ca/events-2/>

