

The Community Bike Centre

The *Community Bike Centre*, launching in the spring of 2015, is an exciting new initiative aimed at addressing the serious lack of cycling support services within Brampton. Utilitarian cyclists, i.e. those using or interested in using their bicycle for transportation, will be able to acquire skills through two programs:

The 'PedalWise' community program is designed to develop community cycling knowledge, utilitarian cycling skills and confidence and community connections while promoting healthy living and having fun cycling. This program will provide participants access to cycling mentors, bicycles and safety equipment.

The 'BikeWrx' program is designed to empower the community to cycle efficiently and economically by providing basic bicycle mechanical skills through a six-session 'BikeWrx Mechanics' course. This program will retrofit donated used bicycles to make them roadworthy and give these valuable resources a second life in the community. The retrofitted bikes will be used in the PedalWise program and also be available for purchase at reasonable prices. Subsidies may also be available depending on economic need.

Collection of used bicycles from the community will take place under the banner of 'reCYCLE cycles'. The Community Bike Centre will also offer weekly do-it-yourself hours in the 'BikeWrx' garage providing access to bicycle repair stands and tools as well as volunteer mentorship.

Community members who complete the 'PedalWise' program and the 'BikeWrx' mechanics course will be encouraged to share their knowledge and skills with the community by becoming future mentors and volunteering their skills to help retrofit bicycles.

The Community Bike Centre will *educate*, *empower and enable* the community through the development of utilitarian bicycling and mechanical skills. It also complements other services provided by the Community Environment Alliance including Share IT and Act-Heal, which foster sustainability, resource conservation, economic empowerment and physical activity.

The Community Bike Centre is a project of the *Community Environment Alliance* and their partners the *Region of Peel, BikeBrampton* and the *Toronto Centre for Active Transportation*.



