

BIKEBRAMPTON.CA NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 4

OCTOBER 29, 2014

Brampton Bicycle Advisory Committee



Biking in Brampton builds our Community

Special Points of Interest:

- [Stay current with our Events](#)
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OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE THE LAST NEWSLETTER...

We are hitting autumn full stride (or circle, if you are cycling), after a lovely quiet summer and a fabulously packed “June is Bike Month” in Brampton.

Check out our full photo gallery for a quick overview of the images that moved us since the last newsletter.

It’s no secret that our first annual **Bike the Creek** event was a roaring success — see the article on page 2.

We never say no... Every time the City of Brampton invites us to attend an event, we are there with our booth, smiling BBAC members and message of safe cycling in Brampton.

- [Bike to Work Day](#)

- [Celebrampton Bike Fest](#)
- [Western GTA Summit & LIVE Taskforce](#)
- Snelgrove Community Picnic
- [Monthly Brampton Critical Mass Bike Rides](#)
- [Helping Brampton Downtown Development Corporation revitalize our downtown](#)
- Brampton Kids on Bikes Project — see the article on page 3.
- [Loafers Lake Community Picnic](#)
- Brampton Bike Clinic —

stay tuned for more on this in the next newsletter! It is now organized and ready to roll out.

BBAC members attend every meeting for transportation strategic planning in the city and region, and advocate for active transportation infrastructure.

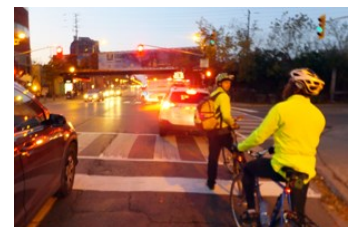
Join us at our monthly [meetings!](#)

SAVE THE DATE— BIKE THE CREEK JUN 20, 2015

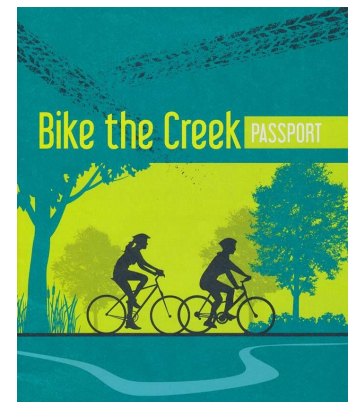
Our BBAC team is hard at work planning next year’s event with our committed partners: City of Brampton, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, Region of Peel and Town of Caledon.

We are looking at a new exciting route that will engage cyclists of all ages and fitness levels to come out to ride our trails, bike routes and experience nature in an urban setting with a sprinkling of Brampton’s heritage!

Do save the date on your calendar and stay tuned for more information.



Critical Mass Bike Rides



June 20, 2015—save the date

BIKE THE CREEK 2015 PLANNING RIDES



Planning Committee rides



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BIKE THE CREEK BRAMPTON SUCCESS

Bike the Creek Brampton was a [success story](#) for hundreds of riders on June 21, 2014.

Our first annual event was a perfect day of bike riding along the Etobicoke Creek Trail through the nature parks north into Caledon and south through the historic downtown of Brampton into the urban parks of Brampton.

Registered participants were given an official Bike the Creek passport, printed with support from **Brampton Cyclepath** and **Toronto and Region Conservation**

Authority. Cyclists were treated to complimentary coffee and donuts supplied by **Tim Hortons** at Sandalwood Parkway & Conestoga. Coming together were the t-shirt and the spandex crowd, the young and the young-at-heart, the residents and the visitors. Folks from Brampton's **Emergency Measures Service** team started participants in small groups to prevent congestion on the trail and space out everyone so they could enjoy the scenery as they rode. **The City of Brampton**

provided free mini bike tune-ups to cyclists caught short with ailing bikes. Recreation Department worked hard to coordinate dozens of volunteers and put up both permanent & temporary signage to guide the way. **Brampton Safe City** conducted a Bike Rodeo for the small children. **The Region of Peel** provided a BBQ to the hungry cyclists. The day ended with fabulous prizes drawn from the many items donated. **Everyone said, let's do it again next year!**



Everyone smiles in the same language!



Fun whether cycling or being towed in a trailer

"I had no idea the Etobicoke Creek Trail was here. What a surprise! I'll cycle here regularly from now onward!"

- Brampton resident



300 cyclists registered for our first annual Bike the Creek event!

"Some Bike the Creek participants exclaimed that they did not know Brampton had a historic downtown."

- Brampton Heritage Board member

CURB CUT ISSUE

Have you noticed high curbs that impede your progress on the pathways of Brampton?

Well, the Brampton Bicycle Advisory Committee has certainly noticed this issue and is working with City of Brampton traffic engineering folks to remedy the situation!

Our BBAC member Polly was quoted in an article in [The Brampton Guardian](#) by [Pam Douglas](#) on July 5, 2014.

When one considers how much Brampton has grown and the number of bicycle commuters who choose to leave their car at home, it is easy to see why this is such an issue in Brampton. Commuter cyclists benefit their own health and fitness, and lessen traffic congestion for those who must drive.

We will keep you posted on this issue!



BBAC member demonstrating the difficulty of mounting of a high curb in Brampton

Do you let your children bike to school?

BRAMPTON KIDS ON BIKES

Only a small percentage of children in Brampton's primary and secondary schools use active transportation (walking or cycling) alternatives to travel to and from school. That percentage has been dropping over the past number of years. Inactivity leads to significant health related issues for Brampton's youth. Current programs aimed at encouraging active transportation are piecemeal, aimed at a small percentage of the youth population and focused on a

school by school basis.

The **Heart and Stroke Foundation** has given BBAC a SPARK advocacy grant to research this issue, identify the barriers and ultimately develop a program to reverse this trend.

Do you let your children bike to school?

Why? Why not?

We want to hear from you!

Sign up to give your opinion.

Register to attend a focus group:

david@bikebrampton.ca

Bramalea Community Health Centre

40 Finchgate Blvd. Suite 224

Thursday November 13th

6:00-7:30pm

Free snacks and a chance to win a prize!



SCHOOL TRIP PLANNING APP

Check out this [new tool](#) for planning daily trips to all schools in the Region of Peel — from Peel Walk + Roll.

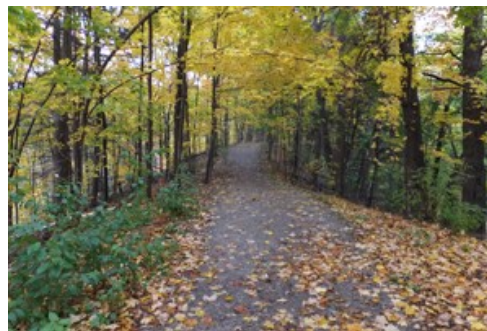
The School Trip Planner allows children and their parents to find their school and home on the map and estimate how long it would take for them to walk or bike to school.



FRANCESCHINI BRIDGE

We are so fortunate to have many interesting trails in Brampton, one of which is the Esker Lake Trail, just west of highway #410.

[Pam Douglas in The Brampton Guardian](#) on July 24, 2014 described the possibility of Brampton re-engineering the old Franceschini bridge to "give cyclists in the north and west ends of the city a safe way to get to several destinations including the Region of



Esker Lake Trail, Brampton

Peel offices, the Bramalea bus terminal and Bramalea City Centre".

"The 410 currently presents a significant barrier for the majority of cyclists in the city because existing crossings are busy arterial routes that require the cyclist to either share the lane in heavy traffic with buses and trucks, or dismount and walk long distances across bridges that are often not designed for either cyclists or pedestrians"

- BBAC Chair David Laing as quoted by Pam Douglas, The Brampton Guardian

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Brampton Bicycle Advisory Committee



**Brampton
Bicycle Advisory
Committee**

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If you have not already done so, you are invited to [subscribe](#) to our newsletter. It's free!

Get involved, leave us comments, come out to our events, even volunteer on our committee!

The Brampton Bicycle Advisory Committee meets once per month to discuss raising awareness of the benefits of cycling for active transportation in the City of Brampton, Ontario.

[Biking in Brampton builds our Community](#)

[Watch our new video](#)

TO WEAR A HELMET OR NOT, THAT IS THE QUESTION...

This is a thorny one, since adults have a choice. Children under 18 must wear a helmet. [Read all about the pros and cons and statistics](#) and make

up your own mind.

Ontario Ministry of Transportation says, "the best helmet is one that fits properly, is worn

correctly and has been manufactured to meet strict safety standards".



BBAC Chair David Laing demonstrates the correct way to wear a helmet.

