

# BikeBrampton Meeting Minutes

Wednesday June 21, 2023 – 6:30pm – 8:00 pm, Virtual Meeting

**Attendees:** Lisa Stokes, Cindy Evans, Dayle Laing, David Laing, Ewa Milewska, Steve Laidlaw, Barry Lavallee, Polly Thornham, Sonia Maset, Gerald Pyjor, Leslie, George Shepperdley, Tyron Nimalakumar, Fernanda.

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## Review & approve minutes from last meeting

Indigenous Land Acknowledgment

[May Minutes](#)\_edited – Steve moved, approved.

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## Brampton City Update

1. [Bike the Creek Video](#) – by Barry Lavallee
2. **Bike Month Proclamation** – David made a [Delegation May 31st](#) – Dayle and Steve were present. - opportunity to remind Council about all the upcoming events, including encouragement to attend and ride in Bike the Creek.
3. **Bike to Work Day** – June 1<sup>st</sup>. [Blog post](#) Event was quite successful given the short planning time line. Strategic communications used many BikeBrampton images on the big screen in Garden Square. Mayor Brown spoke about importance of AT. David was invited to deliver remarks. He spoke about the future of transportation. Remarks are included in the blog. **Action:** BikeBrampton will work with Staff for more business involvement in 2024.
4. **Bike to School Week** – David and Dayle gave a safety demo to grade 4,5 & 6 students at St. Rita's. Polly gave helmet demos at Jefferson PS. Bramalea SS welcomed Sonia's Different Spokes team of volunteers on Jun 6<sup>th</sup> with huge line ups of students for the ever-popular BikeWrX pop-up bike repair. Clark Blvd PS had us back on Jun 15<sup>th</sup> for bike repair.
5. **Bike lane update** –
  - a. Bike lanes improve traffic efficiency (eg. Charolais), but the perception is that traffic is slower, which is incorrect. Crashes are reduced. It is also a myth that retail revenue is lowered when there are bike lanes, which has been studied in Toronto and proven false. Community Rides and Different Spokes improve the community. This needs to be better communicated to Council. Health and environmental benefits spin off from increased cycling.

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- b. **Action:** members to document what bike lane painting has faded: eg. Eastbourne, Finchgate. At North Park & McKay, bike boxes are not finished. **Action:** Send list to Steve.
  - c. Cindy reported the Streets for People education insert came out with our property tax bills.
  - d. Tyron reported planned bike lanes for this year (subject to budget) are: Jayfield, Linkdale, Jessie, Kingnoll, Gillingham, Mill, Central Park. Balmoral is happening now. Peter Robertson (Sunny Meadow to Great Lakes) is getting final asphalt now.
6. **Community Rides** – Lisa reported participants so far: 30, 30, 15, 37. Cyclists on ride last night included 6 new people. Rides starting on trails are quite popular. Rides also advertised on tax bill insert. eScooters synergize with AT / cycling promotion. Steve reported he successfully worked with Staff to encourage promotion of Community Rides on the live screens in recreation centres. See [City website](#) for themed rides. ([BikeBrampton website](#)) There are 9 rides after this Sunday that are not fully staffed. Sign up for one or several rides, with one registration. Riders can get automatic reminders before each ride. 5 and 15 km routes. Let Lisa know if you can volunteer.
7. **ATAC (formerly BCAC)** – now the **Active Transportation Advisory Committee** has had the first meeting. All AT is included. Lisa and Steve are the co-chairs. There are 9 members, 4 of which are new this term. It will meet bimonthly, with interim meetings by Zoom (July 11<sup>th</sup>). Next official meeting: Aug 10<sup>th</sup>.
8. **Pedal Poll** – Brampton AT Staff and volunteers participated on June 13<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. Results will be forthcoming later when Velo Canada Bikes collates. Polly did 2 sessions and noted good idea to have 2 people on the roads for counting. Lisa noted count would have been higher on other side of road. She saw mainly pedestrians. Steve & Barry counted 703 cars and 16 cyclists.

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## Regional Update

1. [Different Spokes](#) – **Downtown Brampton Bike Hub** – Sonia reported hours at the hub will be Mon/Wed/Fri, 3-7:30 PM. In July, Thursday drop-in time is being added. Upcoming activities: Rides July 8<sup>th</sup>, Aug 12<sup>th</sup>, Meet your Mentor ride Jun 22<sup>nd</sup>, Brakes Jun 28<sup>th</sup>, Algoma workshop Jun 22<sup>nd</sup>. [Registration to attend free events](#)

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2. Sonia reported a huge turnout at Southfields Jun 20<sup>th</sup>. Next one in September.
3. PSARTS – (Peel Safe and Active Routes to School) – there does not seem to be any current activity on this committee. Leslie reported she retired from teaching school a year ago and now supply teaches. Lisa & Cindy saw school classes out on bikes in Quebec. David & Dayle saw a group of physical education students from Heart Lake SS out on bike rides with their teacher. This depends on whether teachers ride and are willing to organize. Once the culture starts, there is carry-over. Lisa still notes some bikes at RJ Lee PS. That school has no bussing. Steve concluded that a champion is required for success in school cycling.

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## BikeBrampton Projects

1. [Bike the Creek](#) – [blog post](#) - Dayle – We had over 1,200 registered, from Windsor to Montreal! Steve, Lisa, Alina assisted Dayle for Team Brampton dignitary ride. Mayor Brown rode and posted [video](#). David emceed the event. Sonia hosted the BikeWrx pop up repair and led the bike valet. Despite her 7 volunteers, they were overwhelmed! Her suggestions for 2024 are noted. Dayle reported positive feedback on Bike the Creek. Instagram followers now at 696.
2. **Bike Parking update** – Staff reported that contracts with e-scooter companies stipulate that, at no time should scooters take up more than 50% of bike racks. Our experience is that scooters outside Different Spokes frequently take up all the spaces. This project is in the pilot phase, so issues should be reported to 311 for solutions.
3. [Brampton Environmental Alliance](#) (BEA) –David updated on the federal New Horizons for Seniors grant (GATCWN), called [Graceful Aging through Connecting with Nature](#). 8 of the 26 events planned until end of October have occurred. Some activities linking youth and seniors (55+) include library activities, tree-planting, Bike Hub events, turtle tracking, etc. Other grants being sought are from the provincial government, TRCA/United Way, and ParticipACTION. 300 subscribers to mailing list; 213 on Instagram. “Rooted in Hope” is the provincial grant. Secondary school youth have been selected for training. Sonia is part of this program where AT will be used to convey the youth to tree locations. TRCA & United Way are involved in Bramalea SNAP,

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where GATCWN workshops will be held in the Knightsbridge area. **Action:** David to send Barry flyers for #3, #11 Knightsbridge. The lack of tree cover in this area makes it hotter. Barry is working on a video. Cindy attended the last SNAP meeting, where TRCA has identified neighbourhood champions.

4. **Rib n Roll** – May 27<sup>th</sup> – Steve & Brenda organized for Sonia to bring a Different Spokes / BikBrampton booth. Her 'A' team of volunteers from Algoma attended, as did Brenda, Cindy and Dayle. Heidi and Alina also supported. We identified an opportunity for bike valet to make event more bike friendly next year. Sonia suggested she would like to apply for a summer student to support bike valets at many city events over next summer season.
5. **Future Ground Network Building Power Session** – May 27<sup>th</sup> Humber Lakeshore Campus – David rode his bike to the event, crossing under the almost-finished QEW bridge. He met David Suzuki, Tara Cullis, Severn Suzuki (who is now the Executive Director of David Suzuki Foundation).

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## Caledon Update

1. **Caledon Day** June 17<sup>th</sup>. Steve, David, Dayle, Yvon & Cynthia rode **Velocity bike ride** in support of Caledon Community Services happened in the morning. Wayne managed the site and thanked us for attending this seniors fundraiser. Sonia, Jonathon, David, Steve, Dayle hosted BikeWrx pop-up in the afternoon. We were next to the bike valet. Sonia kindly trained the students on how to manage the valet. Wayne sold Caledon Trailway books. Steve bought a book and noted the book is a template for creating OBRY Trail.

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## EVENTS:

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### Different Spokes Pedalwise Rides

[Registration to attend free events](#)

Thur Jun 22<sup>nd</sup> – Meet your Mentor Ride

Wed Aug 2<sup>nd</sup> 6-8:00pm Mentor & Protégé Ride Series

Wed Aug 9<sup>th</sup> 6-8:00pm

Wed Aug 16<sup>th</sup> 6-8:00pm

Wed Aug 23<sup>rd</sup> 6-8:00pm

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Wed Aug 30<sup>th</sup> 6-8:00pm

Sat Jul 8<sup>th</sup> 1:00pm Pedalwise Group Rides – Vivian Lane

Sat Aug 5<sup>th</sup> 10:00am-12:00pm Pedalwise Group Rides – Rosalea Park

Mon Aug 7<sup>th</sup> 6-8:00pm

Thur Aug 10<sup>th</sup> 10:00am-12:00pm

Sat Aug 12<sup>th</sup> 1-3:00pm

Mon Aug 14<sup>th</sup> 6-8:00pm

Sat Aug 19<sup>th</sup> 10:00am-12:00pm

Mon Aug 21<sup>st</sup> 6-8:00pm

Sat Aug 26<sup>th</sup> 11:00am-1:00pm

Tue Aug 29<sup>th</sup> 6-8:00pm

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## Different Spokes Workshops

[Registration to attend free events](#)

Wed Jun 28<sup>th</sup> - Brakes

Thur Aug 3<sup>rd</sup> 7-9:00pm – Gears & Shifters

Thur Aug 10<sup>th</sup> 7-9:00pm – Intro to Repair

Thur Aug 17<sup>th</sup> 7-9:00pm– Rules & Routes

Thur Aug 24<sup>th</sup> 7-9:00pm – Brakes

Thur Aug 31<sup>st</sup> 7-9:00pm – Get your Bearings

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## [Community Rides](#)

Rides posted on Brampton [website](#) - 14 Free rides of 5 and 15km with themes.

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## Go with God Bike Ride

July 15<sup>th</sup> 8am-1pm, Loafers Lake Park

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## MP Sonia Sidhu's Summer BBQ

Sun Aug 13<sup>th</sup> 2-5:00pm – Timberlane Park, 75 Timberlane Dr. rsvp [sonia.sidhu@parl.gc.ca](mailto:sonia.sidhu@parl.gc.ca) – (bicycle friendly event)

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## [The Journey Ride for Refuge](#)

Sat Sept 23<sup>rd</sup> – fundraiser for local charities – walk or bike

Adjourned 8:46pm

Next ZOOM meeting Sept 13, 2023 – 6:30-8:30pm