## Community Benefits Report









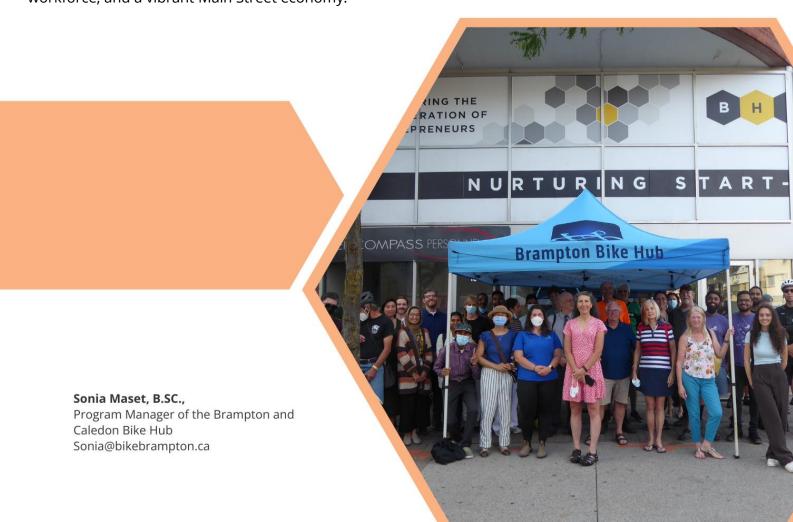
### Acknowledgements

The Bike Hub has been delivering services in partnership with Punjabi Community Health Services (PCHS) and BikeBrampton since 2016. Services are offered in both Brampton and Caledon by the Bike Hub as part of the Region of Peel's Community Cycling Program.

The Bike Hub opened Different Spokes on August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022, in Downtown Brampton. Different Spokes is committed to enhancing the resilience, health, and mobility of residents by empowering the community to chose bikes to get around.

PCHS started its journey as a not-for profit, charitable organization, in 1990 and joined the movement to bring positive change in visible minority communities in every possible way. Each service that PCHS provides today was an identification of complex issues in our communities and coming up with culturally relevant solutions.

BikeBrampton is a volunteer group, started in 2013, with a mission to advocate for access to safe and affordable active transportation (AT) choices. Its vision for Brampton, (along with Caledon and the rest of Peel Region), is to be an increasingly sustainable community, (economically, environmentally, and socially) through higher rates of AT participation. This vision is reflected in various aspects of community living including improved collective health, reduced traffic congestion, a lower carbon footprint, a productive workforce, and a vibrant Main Street economy.



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### Services Offered

Accessing bicycle repair services provided out of Different Spokes required membership obtained by completing registration and reporting on transportation habits, cycling comfort and confidence, and interest at the hub. Membership is not required for PCHS clients, visitors, and those accessing services at outreach events.



### **Bike Library**

Used bikes are refurbished for rent for up to one year. U-Locks and cycling handbooks are provided at the time of rental. Members either give a deposit to lend the bike for this duration or volunteer at the hub. Donated bicycles are evaluated then repaired by volunteers under the guidance of a Mechanics Instructor.



#### **BikeWrx**

Mechanical Instructors and volunteers guide members through bicycle repairs and maintenance at one of four do-it-yourself (DIY) workstations at the hub. Weekly workshops on bicycle repair, crafting, and riding are hosted at the hub. A limited selection of used parts is available at the hub for members to use for free under the condition that parts must be installed at the hub.



#### **Pedalwise**

On-road riding program designed to build community, familiarity, comfort, and confidence using existing trails and roadways. Weekly rides begin and end in Downtown Brampton.



#### **Mental Health and Addiction Services**

One-on-one supportive counseling for individuals facing issues related to mental health or addictions. Service delivery consists of case management, care plan development, working alongside the client and their family, providing wrap around support and connecting clients to additional resources.



### **Sahara Support Services**

Supports individuals and families at the imminent risk of homelessness or in emergency shelter situations. Clients are assessed and provided with one time rental or emergency funding, grocery support, social integration support, various government programs and supports.

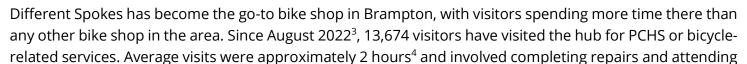
### **Executive Summary**

- 1. Members biking for transportation INCREASED BY 25%. They also DROVE 19% LESS.
- 2. **66% OF MEMBERS** reported arriving to Downtown Brampton by bicycle, with only 6% using a car to go to other destinations once they were there.
- 3. 13,674<sup>1</sup> people visited Downtown to receive bike-related or PCHS services.
- 4. **59%** of **Members** reported visiting Different Spokes as their primary reason for visiting Downtown Brampton. **80%** of **VISITORS** reported visiting at least one other business in Downtown.
- 5. Spending induced by the Brampton Bike Hub and PCHS in Downtown is estimated to be between \$97,343 and \$108,960.
- 6. **767 Members Joined Different Spokes** and have actively used bicycle-related services offered out of Different Spokes<sup>2</sup>.
- 7. \$571,127 is the market value of all used parts, repair services, and provided to members out of Different Spokes.
- 8. 6 Jobs were created in Downtown Brampton, including two social workers, one program manager, one hub lead, and two mechanics.
- 9. Service hours provided:
  - a. The Bike Hub has offered bike-related services out of Different Spokes for approximately 25 hours per week, with an additional 6.5 hours of services being offered through rides and outreach events.
  - b. PCHS delivered 20 hours of Mental Health and Addictions Services out of Downtown Brampton.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Visitors to 8 Nelson Street West over approximately 12.5 months since August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022 till September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023. DIY services, Bike Rentals, and Workshops were not offered out of 8 Nelson Street West between December 1<sup>st</sup> to January 9<sup>th</sup>. Rides and Social Services were offered.

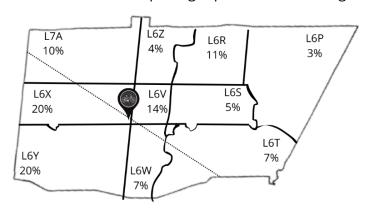
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Including joining a ride, engaging in DIY repair, attending a workshop, volunteering and/or renting out a library bicycle.

# Different Spokes is a Destination



workshops, joining rides, taking out bikes, volunteering, attending meetings, socializing, donating bikes or simply checking the Hub out. In fact, 59% of members reported visiting the Bike Hub as their primary reason for spending time in Downtown Brampton, according to the 2023 Exit Survey<sup>5</sup>. Different Spokes remains the only brick and mortar Bike Hub's with a storefront in the Region of Peel to offer DIY bike repair stations, and one of only eight places to fix a bicycle in Brampton as of September 2023. 47% of Bike Hub Members reside in postal codes located outside of downtown Brampton<sup>6</sup>, and 7% live outside of Brampton entirely.

The Bike Hub has facilitated more repairs than ever before. 3,446 repairs took place at the hub, which equates to approximately 75 repairs per week. Different Spokes provided a total of 31.5 hours of program delivery per week including services taking place outside the physical location like rides, with 25 of those hours taking place out of Different Spokes. PCHS predominantly delivered services to clients outside of the Bike Hub. On average, PCHS provided 20 hours of mental health and addiction services to 5,789 clients at the hub at other venues in Downtown.





<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The Bike Hub was closed for Rentals, DIY repairs, and workshops between December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 and January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Rides were still hosted and PCHS still offered clients intervention services during this time.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 118 minutes on average

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The Exit Survey was completed by 72 individuals between August 2023 and October 2023. 57 responses were collected for this question.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Defined as residing in L6P, L6R, L6Z, L6T, L7A, L6W, and L6S

# Different Spokes Services Are in Demand









Between May and July, there was such a significant demand for services that there was up to a month long wait for an open BikeWrx station, and bikes were rented out as soon as they were repaired. The 15-minute member registration survey was completed 786 times and registered 917 people<sup>7</sup>. 66% of members are active, with 767<sup>8</sup> of members having joined a ride, engaged in DIY repair, attended a workshop, and/or taken out a library bike. As a result, walk-in Thursdays were introduced, and staff and volunteers had to be vigilant in coaching participants on repairs within the 90-minute appointment timeframe.

The Bike Hub's popularity comes from its dedication to fostering a healthy and diverse cycling community. It offers a welcoming environment for all, from seasoned riders to those just starting out. The hub's workshops are specifically designed to cater to a wide range of skill levels, and its staff members are always ready to offer advice and guidance. Since opening, the hub has become more than just a bike shop – but a community centre for riders of all levels, backgrounds, and abilities.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Duplicates, disqualified, and incomplete surveys are excluded from this count.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Of the 767 active members, there were 552 membership registrations, with an average of 1.4 people per membership registration.

### Different Spokes Fosters a Vibrant Downtown



While staff and volunteers provide a wealth of knowledge to repairs, members know they will always leave with more than a fixed bike. Throughout their visit at Different Spokes, members experience a highly positive cognitive affect9 as they are immersed in a hands-on education and collaborative learning environment designed to empower them to ride and repair their bicycles. As the space has expanded its pool of volunteers and instructed them on the basics of bike repair, volunteers and staff are now able to communicate and instruct members in over 14 languages. With the addition of PCHS expanding Mental Health and Addictions Services as well as Sahara Support Services to Downtown Brampton clients received holistic treatment at their time of need. This enhances a sense of community well-being and reduces the number of folks' experiencing crisis without support.

Different Spokes has cultivated a of local sense of pride and ownership in the community. Donations received have quadrupled this year compared to years past, with 278 bikes and hundreds of parts being donated to the hub by 94 individuals. New members may indicate that they are not interested in volunteering when completing the 15-minute registration survey, but by the end of the first appointment are asking what they can do to help. On average, members spent approximately 2 hours 10 per visit and visited 7.2<sup>11</sup> times each. 59 volunteers spent a total of 6,404 hours leading rides, coaching repairs, or supporting the hub in other ways. With 21 volunteers spending per week



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> This positive affect is similar to the Ikea Effect. The Ikea effect refers to the cognitive bias that results in a disproportionately high value of items that they partially create. At the hub, access to equipment, tools, and knowledge allows them to complete repairs they felt they never could accomplish alone https://www.hbs.edu/ris/Publication%20Files/11-091.pdf. <sup>10</sup> 118 minutes

# Different Spokes Benefits the Community

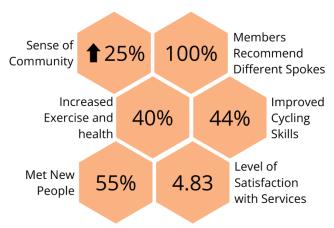
Visitors of the Bike Hub leave with a sense of belonging, resilience, and an open invitation for the next ride or workshop. Members gain a newfound appreciation of how riding a bike can seamlessly integrate into their daily routine and get to connect with rider like them while accessing **SERVICES OFFERED** out of Different Spokes. The community environment at workstations promotes members to help each other with projects, fostering a sense of community and fortitude. As members continue to engage at the hub or on rides, this behaviour increases. After joining the hub, the number of members that report feeling a sense of community, belonging and acceptance increased by 25%12. 55% of members also reported meeting new people as the most significant benefit of joining the Bike Hub, followed by improved cycling skills and confidence (44%), and increased exercise and improved health (40%). Discussions at the hub frequently extend beyond repair towards practical riding tips, good places to grab a bite after a lengthy repair, gear and tools that improve riding quality, and favourite local trails and cycling tips. Participants rate services offered out of the Bike Hub 4.83 out of 5, and 100% of survey respondents would recommend the service to friends and family.



#### Testimonial:

"I recently assembled a bike I bought a bike to get to work and immediately stripped the threading on my crank. That's when I was first introduced to Different Spokes and became a member. From supplying replace parts and teaching me how to keep my bike running smoothly and safe, Different Spokes is always there to support my efforts and get myself to work."

### Key Highlights



<sup>12 (</sup>N = 72) collected between August and October 2023

# Different Spokes Benefits the Community









While DIY Bike Repair is the most popular program at the hub, the goal of providing repair services is to get folks to ride the bikes they fix. Since its establishment, the Bike Hub has organized 82 rides attended by 902 participants, and 74 workshops attended by 576 people in Downtown Brampton<sup>13</sup>. Workshops last 90 minutes on average and rides about 120 minutes, with half the time spent cycling and the other half enjoying social activities at local cafes or restaurants. Each month, Bike Hub administrators individually invite new members on rides to increase participation and capitalize on the high level of positive affect members experience at the hub. This ride and workshop schedule is promoted in addition to other local events happening within Downtown Brampton through the Different Spokes Newsletter.

### Key Highlights



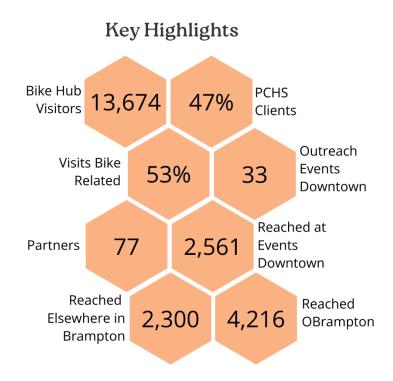
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Including the 8 Community Rides hosted in Downtown Brampton in partnership with the Active Transportation Advisory Committee (formerly the Brampton Cycling Advisory Committee).

# Different Spokes: An Attraction for Everyone

Just as there isn't just one reason to ride a bicycle, visitors to Different Spokes arrive for a variety of reasons. In Partnership with PCHS, the Bike Hub has brought 13,674 visitors to Downtown Brampton. Of these visitors, 47% were PCHS clients, and 53% were there for bike-related reason. Outreach events held in Downtown Brampton outside the Hub<sup>14</sup> reached an additional 2,300 individuals across 33 in-person events hosted in, resulting in enhanced service coverage across activation events hosted in Downtown Brampton.

To achieve its' mission of empowering people to chose bikes to get around, the Bike Hub and PCHS has met and partnered with **77** INTERSECTIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND INITIATIVES that support and engage environmentalists, newcomers, families, youth, international students, women, seniors, and cyclists. While many of these partners have service areas within Brampton, 44%<sup>15</sup> serve communities outside of Brampton. The nature of these partnerships varies from cross-promotion and outreach to delivering services and providing resources. The Bike Hub partnered with these organizations and promoted Different Spokes and Downtown events to an additional 6,524 people in-person within Brampton (10%) and outside it (19%). These partnerships have resulted in the following audiences coming downtown to join as Members:

In-Person Engagements	Total	%
Activations in Downtown	3,561	11.3%
Brampton	2,300	10.2%
Downtown	13,874	60.4%
Outside Brampton	4,216	18.6%
Grand Total	22,644	100.0%



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Including 23 bicycle-related, and 10 PCHS-related outreach events held in Downtown Brampton. Attendees at these events are classified as "downtown in-person engagements" and are excluded from the 13,674 in-person engagements measured since their purpose of engaging with Different Spokes was part of a larger activation in Downtown Brampton.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> 36 partner organizations outside Brampton

## International Students



The Bike Hub has become a second home for international students, with 32%<sup>16</sup> of members being international students attending Algoma University or Sheridan College. International students face significant internal and external barriers to participating in socio-economic life<sup>17</sup>. Canadian rules and regulations and overall transportation culture is often significantly different from students' home countries,

leaving them vulnerable to fines and worse, collisions resulting in serious injuries. This is especially important for this demographic, who is significantly more likely to use a bicycle to earn a wage. The Bike Hub has delivered workshops that increase mobility through DIY repair, implemented an earn-a-bike program, and hosted rides<sup>18</sup> specifically designed to enhance their safety and knowledge of infrastructure and educating them on the Canadian road rules for cyclists. The Hub has trained six Algoma students to become ride leaders that run rides through the AU Bike Club.

25 Students have volunteered 15 hours of their time to earn a bicycle. This not only enhances their mobility and sense of community but is often their first Canadian work experience. Through volunteering, students develop leadership skills and enhance their employability. Members who opt for this often continue volunteering and visit the hub to not just volunteer but socialize with their newly formed Canadian network.

#### Testimonial's:

"The staff just do not help fix bikes but empower by teaching and provide a warm and welcoming environment."

"Bike rides and mentorship programs really helped me as I am really an introverted person, I was not able to make friends but through these programs, I met some awesome people.

Plus, it really helped me in developing healthy habits.

"As an international student, the program saved me a lot of money. and provided me a community to be happy about."

"I did Uber on the bike I got from the Bike Hub. Uber was my living for the month."



 $<sup>^{16}</sup>$  N = 243

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> https://www.induscs.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Sept.20 Invited-Forgotten Intl-Students-Report-2021 Final.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1n9hRsCHu32-7cvHtnRRoksdGBiuHvvsD?usp=sharing

### Woman & Girls

The Bike Hub plays a vital role in in bridging the gender gap in cycling and bike repair spaces. Women have been historically underrepresented in these areas, and this has contributed to a lack of access to resources and knowledge. The Bike Hub provides a safe and inclusive space for women to learn about cycling, bike repair, and maintenance, with 3-4 female bike mechanics helping support repairs out of the

space every week. The Hub has offered workshops tailored specifically to women through partnerships with the Girl Guides **Pathfinders** and Embers and have encouraged female participation in all aspects of program delivery.



### **Environment Minded**

With an increasing number of individuals seeking to reduce waste in landfills, minimize their carbon footprint, and use eco-friendly transportation, Different Spokes has become a popular destination for environmentally conscious folks. Whether it's through upcycling workshops, bicycle repairs, or simply reducing one's transportation carbon footprint, The Bike Hub caters to those who are passionate about sustainability. The Bike Hub has delivered 18 events<sup>19</sup> since 2022 reaching approximately 497 individuals.

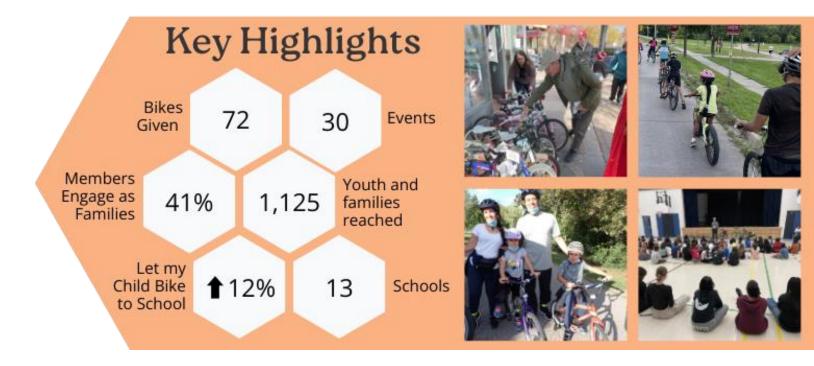


The Bike Hub has collaborated on these events with 14 partners operating both within and outside of Brampton.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> These events include: Rooted in Hope riding workshops & events, Earth Day events, the Climate Caucus presentation, The Rooted in Hope events in partnership with the BEA, Earth Day events, The Climate Caucus presentation, Climate Change Youth Forum, the Outdoor Show, the Tour of the Tree's Community Ride, Bike the Creek, 1 Stop the 413 Ride, upcycling workshops held at the hub,

### Families & Youth

Families who ride together, ride forever! The Bike Hub has hosted educational workshops, provided bike repair services, and given bikes to 13 schools and youth-focused organizations. 41% of all Bike Hub Members engage at the hub or during rides as a family. In 2022, the Bike Hub continued to provide pop-up trail-side bike repair services, Bike Rodeos, cycling education, and rides that were predominantly attended by families. Youth who do not yet have access to drivers' licences are significantly more likely to use a bicycle to get around and are primed to continue doing so if they believe riding a bike is a safe, effective, and affordable option even after they are old enough to get a drivers' licence<sup>20</sup>. After joining the bike hub and riding with their children, the number of parents who would let their child bike to school increased by 12%, with to 58%<sup>21</sup>.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Yang, X., Telama, R., Hirvensalo, M., Tammelin, T., Viikari, J. S., & Raitakari, O. T. (2014). Active commuting from youth to adulthood and as a predictor of physical activity in early midlife: the young Finns study. Preventive medicine, 59, 5-11.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> The Bike Hub Exit Survey was completed by 72 individuals between September and October 2023.

### Seniors

Seniors make up 20% of members who use the bike hub and benefit greatly from the communal repair

atmosphere at the Hub and attending rides. Seniors in this demographic are at significantly higher risk of developing diabetes<sup>22</sup>. Since joining the bike hub, 80% of seniors report feeling healthier and riding their bikes more, with two thirds reporting they now ride longer distances<sup>23</sup>. In the summer of 2023, The Bike Hub was recruited by the Brampton Environmental Alliance to enhance the on-road and mechanical skill of seniors engaging in acts of tree-planting volunteerism through their project, Rooted in Hope. Seniors from this group attended repair workshops at the hub, joined educational and skill rides, and reported feeling significantly more confident in their knowledge of the Highway Traffic Act as well as more connected to their peers.

#### Testimonial:

"By grace of Waheguru jio, This bike was donated for use in Gurdwara. This is the 20<sup>th</sup> bike I've rescued from the side of the road and restored to like-new condition using secondhand parts after four hours of work.

I've seen many students and seniors have the same experience at the hub, increasing their mobility to explore new places in the city. Bikes and parts destined for garbage are helping Indians and other residents of the city.

Otherwise earned goodwill and lot of love, blessings and respect in the city."







### Key Highlights

Members are Seniors 20% 83% Ride More

Events For Seniors 7 66% Ride Longer Distances

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> https://www.theglobeandmail.com/arts/art-and-architecture/article-brampton-comes-alive-a-big-bold-vision-for-remaking-the-suburbs/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> (n = 12) seniors responded to the 2023 Exit Survey

# Commuters & Newcomers



Newcomers often find their transportation options limited by a lack of affordable modes of transportation and the absence of a driver's license<sup>24</sup>. Fortunately, the Bike Hub, located at the transportation hub in Downtown, offers a solution. By engaging with commuters at the hub, the Bike Hub encourages newcomers to spend more time in the area. Moreover, the Bike Hub has collaborated with Brampton Transit to release three TikTok Videos<sup>25</sup>, and has provided approximately 282 bike mounting demonstrations at the bus station. Being located at a transportation terminal has also benefitted 5,789 clients accessing PCHS' social services, reducing their barriers to accessing culturally appropriate services and reduced the need for law enforcement to be involved. received

#### Testimonial:

"After seeing Different Spokes at the farmers market, I decided to repair my bike which was stored many years. Before riding with Jasdeep and Sonia, I never biked on the road before. I now take my bikes on short trips to Shoppers', weather permitting, and put my bike on the bus when weather is not good."



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Sallis, J. F., Bauman, A., & Pratt, M. (1998). Environmental and policy interventions to promote physical activity. American Journal of Preventive Medicine, 15(4), 379-397. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/S0749-3797(98)00076-2

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup>https://www.tiktok.com/@citybrampton/video/7114372599131409669 https://www.tiktok.com/@citybrampton/video/7109201470339157254 https://www.tiktok.com/@citybrampton/video/7107693209274371333

## Cyclists & Tourists



Different Spokes attracts cyclists and tourists in Downtown Brampton. Do-It-Yourself repair services, workshops and bicycle rentals appeal to tourists and cyclists for different reasons. Tourists who want to explore Downtown Brampton for just one day find bike rentals appealing, while cyclists find DIY repair services and workshops particularly helpful for learning how to maintain their bikes independently, saving them money on repairs and boosting their overall resilience. The shop has hosted members from 15 different cycling clubs in Brampton, Caledon, and Mississauga, many of whom ride engage in cycling tourism and want to get bike repair basics down pack before their next expedition. Different Spokes has been recognized as a bike-friendly business by Ontario by Bike. The Bike Hub has been featured in numerous articles and newsletters by well-respected organizations such as The Centre for Active Transportation, Ontario By Bike, Ontario Cycling Association, Bike Collectives Wiki, Fletchers Creek SNAP, Brampton Guardian, Insauga, and Govlaunch. In addition, the shop has partnered with the Biking Lawyer to host a "know your rights" workshop.



### Different Spokes Amplifies Businesses





Different Spokes has exposed visitors to the wide range of local businesses, events, and initiatives within Downtown Brampton. After rides, members are shown some of the best places to lock a bike in Downtown and slide into a table at a local restaurant, drop by the farmers market, or check out the event happening in Garden Square. PCHS & the Bike Hub have partnered with community groups like Algoma University, the Brampton Library, Rose Theatre, Farmers Market, the Rotary Trai's Rib' n' Roll, and the Downtown Brampton BIA, to host 33 events to 2,300 individuals outside of Different Spokes. These events and services were promoted through the Different Spokes e-newsletter, which has 649 subscribers.

#### Downtown Brampton BIA Partnership

Different Spokes is participating in the Downtown Dollars initiative with the BIA and has hosted 5 pop-ups<sup>26</sup> in conjunction with their other activations. Upon their recommendation, Different Spokes is also looking to expand operations to service cyclists for Saturday activations in 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Opening Vivian Lane on Sept 13, 2022, Queen Street Activation on August 19,2023, Vivian Lane Market on September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Diplock Lane Market on Saturday August, 26<sup>th</sup>, and the BIA's Spooktacular where Different Spokes raffled off 10 kids bikes October 28th, 2023.

#### Other Local Businesses & Partnerships

We've partnered with Algoma University, Tina Singh's Bold Helmets, and the Journey Thrift. Tina Singh is a Brampton resident and Occupational Therapist who designed bicycle helmets for Sikh children who wear Patka's. You can currently find a Bold Helmet at Different Spokes

to try on!

Different Spokes and Journey Thrift are working to improve the quality of bikes the store receives for donation. The Journey Thrift is the only enterprise that can use the Bike Hub with the goal of selling bikes. Different Spokes benefits from this relationship as the Journey Thrift will provide rags, appliances, utensils, and office supplies at no charge upon request and availability.

Different Spokes is partnered with Algoma University. It has hosted 13 events<sup>27</sup> in collaboration with Algoma directed at educating their students and empowering them to ride bikes. As of September 2023, the school has softly launched a weekly bike rental program similar to what Sheridan College offers but has selected Different Spokes to service these bikes as required.

The hub offered Bike Valet at the Farmers Market last year as part of the FreeCycle Program. High-School aged youth were trained on basic bike repairs and would park and provide basic tune-ups to individuals bikes while they browsed the farmer's market. 197 bikes were parked at the farmers market across 9 days. The hub is seeking funding through Canada Summer Jobs to fund students to coordinate a similar program in 2024.

Overall, the Bike Hub has proven to be an asset to the community, promoting healthy and sustainable transportation options, supporting local businesses, and fostering a sense of community among visitors.







<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Including Rides, workshops, DIY repair, and pop-up booths at their new student orientation

## Transportation Analysis



Driving was the dominant mode share<sup>28</sup> for participants, with 52% of trips occurring by car followed by transit with 21%. By the fall of 2023, there was a 25% increase in bicycle mode share from 8% from when they first joined Different Spokes. Driving mode share fell by 19%, with survey respondents travelling equally by car and bicycle. There was a modest decline in walking and transit, which may be due to the increased convenience of cycling over walking and affordability and time savings of biking over transit.

	Entry	Exit	Variance
Bike	8%	33%	25%
Walk	19%	16%	-3%
Transit	21%	17%	-4%
Drive	52%	33%	-19%
E-Scooter	0%	1%	1%

Table 1 Mode Share of (N = 72) members when they first join the bike hub <sup>29</sup>compared to September 2023

While recreational cycling declined with cyclists riding their bike 14% less for transportation, there was an increase in utilitarian cycling observed among members who completed the entry registration survey and the exit survey. Specifically, members were more likely to travel to appointments or for trips where they do not have to carry loads or pack another outfit for their workplace or school. These trips could include travelling to and from group rides or accessing other services offered out of Different Spokes, SINCE 67% OF MEMBERS arrive to Different Spokes by bike, with only 7% of members using cars to It is expected that with time and increased confidence in cycling, stamina, and carrying loads, members will commute to work with their bikes or get groceries.

Purpose of Cycling	Entry	Exit	Variance
Recreation	50%	36%	-14%
Commuting to School & Work	21%	23%	2%
Groceries & Other Shopping	18%	21%	3%
Appointments, Social & Entertainment	11%	20%	9%

Table 2 Primary purpose of bicycle trips when they first join the bike hub compared to September 2023

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Mode share is defined as the forms of transportation used to get from one destination to another. This excludes trips that are made for purely recreational or leisure purposes, where the destination and the starting point are the same. Examples of leisure or recreational trips excluded from this question include walking a dog or going for a bike ride where no stop was made.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup>Participants mode share in the fall of 2023 compared with their mode share upon becoming a member of Different Spokes.

## The Bike Hub Increases Cycling



The Bike Hub encourages people to ride a bicycle and is geared towards encouraging members to ride recreationally. As their experience of repairing and riding bikes increases, cycling for transportation becomes a more tangible option. As utilitarian cycling increases, over time their behaviour (spending habits) will transition to that of a commuter cyclist. Utilitarian and commuter cyclists contribute more to the local economy by frequenting local shops, restaurants, cafes, and other businesses in higher numbers than any other transportation mode <sup>30, 31</sup>. Since self-propelled travel requires food for fuel, biking for transportation increases spending on food while decreasing the individual's range to obtain it<sup>34</sup>. According to Elly Blue in Bikenomics (2013), for every \$50 spent fueling a vehicle, \$33 goes directly to fossil fuels companies. By contrast, out of every \$50 spent at locally owned businesses, \$34 stays in the local community through taxes, payroll, and local contracts.

Members arrive by bicycle and spend money on local businesses. All the services provided by the Hub are designed to empower cycling and remove barriers to riding a bicycle to get around. According to the 2023 exit survey, 67% of members arrived Downtown by bike, spending an average of \$20 per visit<sup>32</sup>. Once Downtown, only 7% of members reported travelling by car to transport themselves to a secondary location. 80% of members reported visiting at least one other business in Downtown Brampton. A full account of the economic impacts in Downtown Brampton is discussed in **Economic Impact of the Bike Hub**. Notably bike riders are both a construction-resistant demographic and a boon to the economy. Cyclists spend more on local businesses than motorists, with an average of \$75.66 USD per month versus \$61.03 USD respectively, as found in a 2012 Portland State University study<sup>33</sup>.

After participating in the program, members biked **25% MORE** FOR TRANSPORTATION AND DROVE **19%** LESS. This is because the Bike Hub:

- 1. Enhances Riding Confidence and Comfort.
- 2. Enhances affordable Access to Repairs.
- 3. Creates Community Around Cycling<sup>34</sup>.
- 4. Makes Cycling to Destinations a Norm.
- 5. Enables First-Mile, Last Mile trips with Transit.
- 6. Increases Rates of Winter and Shoulder Season Cycling.

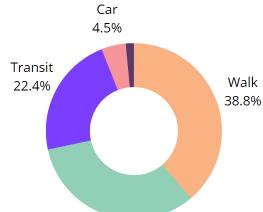


Figure 1 Mode Share of participants visit in downtown after they visited at least one other business

<sup>30</sup> Elly Blue, Bikenomics 2014

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> Blondiau, T., van Zeebroeck, B., & Haubold, H. (2016). Economic Benefits of Increased Cycling. Transportation Research Procedia, 14, 2306–2313. doi:10.1016/j.trpro.2016.05.247

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> (n = 72) collected in September 2023

<sup>33</sup>http://kellyjclifton.com/Research/EconImpactsofBicycling/TRN\_280\_CliftonMorrissey&Ritter\_pp26-32.pdf%20p.%2029

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> Ledsham, T., Zhang, Y., Farber, S., & Hess, P. (2022). Beyond downtown: factors influencing utilitarian and recreational cycling in a low-income suburb. *International Journal of Sustainable Transportation*, 1-22.

De Geus, B., De Bourdeaudhuij, I., Jannes, C., & Meeusen, R. (2008). Psychosocial and environmental factors associated with cycling for transport among a working population. *Health education research*, 23(4), 697-708.



## Enhance Riding Confidence and Comfort

The perception that cycling is unsafe is the largest reason people do not bike. Understanding the rules of the road, which routes are both quiet and safe, and creating community around cycling mitigate this barrier. According to the Exit Survey,

- 77% reported feeling more confident and knowledgeable in their understanding of road rules related to biking, and how to share the road with cars and trucks.
- Members knowledge on road rules for riding a bike increased by 14%.
- Knowledge of bike routes in the community increased by 7%.

## Affordable Bikes & Repairs

One cannot ride a bike that does not work or do not have. As discussed at length, the Bike Hub removes barriers associated with accessing repairs, bikes, and enhances members ability to repair their bike themselves.





### Create Community Around Cycling

There is a circular relationship between cycling and creating community. Cycling with others builds community and enables socializing, while a cycling community increases cycling. Thus, the more people who an individual knows who cycle the more likely they are to cycle. The Bike Hub has hosted the following since 2022:

- 229 rides across the Region of Peel attended by 2,000.
- 72 Pop-ups attended by 5,144.
- 45 workshops attended by 699.
- 1 Ghost Bike Ride for Prakash Mariyappan.



### Education on Riding Tools & Resources

Being able to load your bicycle onto the bus enhances the efficiency of transit and makes cycling more appealing. When distances are longer than 15km and involve multiple bus transfers, cyclists will opt to ride for the first and last mile of the trip with a bicycle. The Bike Hub hosts workshops on cycling tools to easily find cycling routes, collaborated with the Biking Lawyer that hosted a "Know your rights" workshop, and transports equipment for outreach events on Cargo Trailers.

## Increase Rates of Winter & Shoulder Season Cycling

The Bike Hub encourages riding in the winter by continuing to host rides between November and April when cycling rates typically drop. Each night the hub also closes near sundown, with most volunteers and participants riding by bike, many opt to ride part of their journey home together. Also, the Bike Hub has hosted one glow ride, and plans on hosting many more.

- 12% increase in participants who are likely to ride in the winter or on cold days in the spring and fall.
- 6 rides hosted during the shoulder or winter seasons, and 1 ride held at night (with more planned).





### Make Cycling to Destinations A Norm

The Bike Hub hopes to expand visitors understanding of bikes to see it as more than a recreational activity, but a way of life. At the hub, members are exposed to riders of all shapes and sizes, cultural backgrounds, genders, ages, and abilities. All library bikes come with U-locks, expecting that they will be using their bike to transport themselves. Many riders at the hub are already commuter cyclist, and during rides recreational cyclists take part in behaviours that are normal to commuters.

## Cost Benefit Analysis



Members visitors, & clients of PCHS and the Bike Hub have had significant direct and indirect economic impact on the surrounding Downtown businesses. Members reported spending \$20 per visit to Downtown Brampton, typically on food. Since 2022 the Bike Hub has run 82 rides out of Downtown that have resulted in visiting a local business or stopping by one of many Downtown's activations. With members 47% of members residing outside of Downtown Brampton and 7% residing outside of Brampton, this results in many of our members telling us "I had no idea this was here".

#### **Summary of Economic Impacts**

- Approximately six jobs were created in Downtown Brampton, including two social workers, one program manager, one hub lead, and two mechanics.
- It estimates to have induced between \$97,343 and \$108,960<sup>35</sup> of revenue towards local businesses in Downtown Brampton by VISITORS, CLIENTS, MEMBERS, and SERVICE PROVIDERS since opening in 2022.
- The total market value for all repair services and parts is \$511,061. Average value of services and parts per visit is \$148.
- The market value of the 275 bicycles from the library is \$60,066, with a net revenue of \$7,100.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> Cumulating \$16,224 by service providers, \$10,854 by PCHS clients, \$50,903 by Members, and between \$19,362 and \$30, 979 across all other visitor interactions.

# Catalyzing Spending in Downtown



The Bike Hub promotes experiencing Downtown's vibrant arts and food offerings. It estimates to have induced between \$97,343 and \$108,960 of revenue towards local businesses in Downtown Brampton by visitors, clients, members, staff, and volunteers since opening in 2022. Spending habits across these visitors is described below.









### Service Providers Spending

\$16,224 has been spent on food and entertainment in Downtown Brampton by service providers<sup>36</sup>. Staff and volunteers made 2,028 visits, with staff and volunteers reporting an average bill of \$16 on food and beverages. Approximately half of all volunteer and staff visits result in getting food during or after their shifts downtown since they average approximately 5 hours per shift. The Bike Hub encourages this type of spending by purchasing food and beverages for each other or going out for food after shifts.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> Defined as social workers, bike hub mechanics and administrators, and volunteers.

# Catalyzing Spending in Downtown



### Member Spending

Members spent a total of \$50,903 on food and entertainment in Downtown Brampton. Of the bicycle-related visits<sup>37</sup>, there were 5,480 categorized as longer visits and were most likely to result in spending <sup>38</sup>. On average, members spent approximately 2 hours per visit and visited 7.2<sup>39</sup> times each. After visiting the hub, 80%<sup>40</sup> of members reported visiting at least one other business in downtown and spent an average of \$20, which would generate approximately \$87,680 to local businesses. With approximately 58% of all members report visiting Different Spokes their primary reason to visit Downtown, it is assumed that \$50,903<sup>41</sup> of all

dollars spent by members was directly induced by Different Spokes.

### **Client Spending**

PCHS reported that a quarter of their 5,789 client interventions took place at food venues within Downtown, with an average bill of \$7.5. This resulted in an estimated \$10,854 in profits for these businesses.

### Other Downtown Visitors Spending

When visitors stop by the hub as part a secondary reason for visiting Downtown, The Bike Hub still



impacts spending habits of visitors, resulting in in profits being generated by local businesses. Specifically, the Bike Hub estimates that between \$19,362 and \$30, 979 was generated to local businesses after visiting Different Spokes as a secondary destination based on

Approximately 1,520 visits to Different Spokes were categorized as general inquiries and did not spend more than 15 minutes at the hub. In collaboration with six other organizations, the Bike Hub and PCHS reached an additional 2,561 individuals across 33 outreach events in Downtown. These events varied from health or repair workshops, fixing bikes, or parking bikes at the Farmers Market, to educating visitors on cycling resources. While these visitors were not required to complete a survey, members did provide data on their

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> PCHS visits (non-bicycle related visits) described in "CLIENTS" section,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> Visits categories with longer durations totaled 5,480 and included DIY repair - 125 minutes; meetings – 90 minutes; donations – 30 minutes; rides - 120 minutes; bike rentals – 50 minutes; and workshops - 120 minutes.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> 767 over a span of estimated total of 11,216 hours.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> 56 responded to this question in the 2023 Exit Survey.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> 5,480\*80% members visiting at least 1 other business downtown and spending an average of \$20 = 87,680. 87,680\*58% of visitors reporting their primary reason for visiting downtown is \$50,903.

# Catalyzing Spending in Downtown



spending habits on visits to Downtown where visiting Different Spokes was not the primary reason<sup>42</sup>. 42% of members reported spending an average of \$14 at businesses in Downtown When Different Spokes was just a stop along the journey. With 4,335 visits of this nature, it is estimated that visitors of this type spent approximately \$77,448 at businesses in Downtown Brampton. Although revenue generated by visitors cannot be not exclusively attributed to the Bike Hub and PCHS, it is assumed that between 25%-40% of revenue generated for businesses by this demographic for the following reasons:

- Bike Valet users spent more at the Farmers Market. This service enabled visitors to wander freely throughout the market without worrying about bike theft and security or parking their bike at the limited spaces in Gage Park.
- Downtown workshop attendees at outreach events spent a minimum of 15-45 minutes engaging with events, increasing the overall likelihood that they would spend money on food during their outing.
- Individuals with cycling related inquiries would spend anywhere between 5-30 minutes in this interaction, as many visitors are not fully aware of cycling resources, road rules, routes, or tools they could use to make their bike work better for them.
- Cycling resources is still limited in Brampton, so time spent responding to questions about trails, road rules for cyclists, installing free bells and lights, or consulting on repairs or sourcing parts, or providing maintenance repairs like tire inflation takes anywhere between 5 to 10 minutes.
- Different Spokes added six additional secure bike parking spots on Main Street outside the 502 Bus stop. These bicycle parking spots encourage more people to bike, which is known to increase overall spending. Although the total number of bikes parked is not being recorded, a bike was seen parked there just two hours after the installation, and the racks remain occupied throughout April to October. Downtown areas generally lack sufficient bike parking, especially in well-lit, high-traffic areas with ample space for locking the frame and wheel, and security cameras nearby. In Melbourne, one bike parking spot generated five times more revenue than a car parking space, with bike riders spending \$31 on average compared to \$6 by motorists<sup>44</sup>.

Thus, the bike hub estimates that revenue generated after stopping by the Bike Hub's storefront or outreach booth as part of another visit contributed between \$19,362 and \$30, 979 spent in Downtown.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> (n = 22) 42% of members reported other destinations in Downtown as reason for primary visit.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> http://kellyjclifton.com/Research/EconImpactsofBicycling/TRN 280 CliftonMorrissey&Ritter pp26-32.pdf%20p.%2029

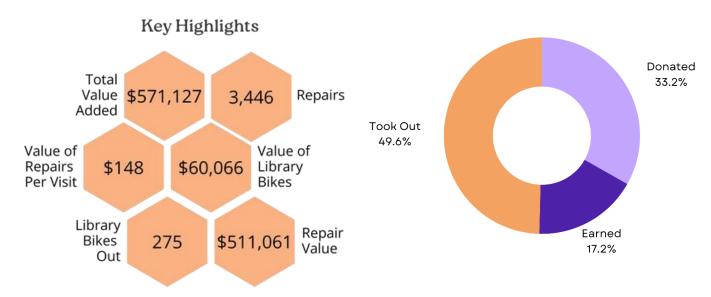
<sup>44</sup> https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/07293681003767785

## Value of Bike Hub Services

All parts, service instruction, rides, and workshops offered out of the hub are completely and totally free for members. Total value of repair services and bicycle rentals offered through Different Spokes amounts to \$571,127. Variations in service offerings from the initial community benefits letter are described in BIKE HUB SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES.

The hub boasts an impressive \$511,061 of value added to members across 3,446 fixes, averaging a value of \$148.31 per visit. Market value of an hour of repair labour done by members at workstations is approximately \$50 per hour, with members spending an average of 118 minutes per visit. While quality and quantity of repairs by novice mechanics is lower than what a professional Bike Mechanic could provide, mechanical instruction received by participants brings this value back up. Used parts are valued at \$40 per repair. Additionally, the Hub has given away 1,040 lights and 2,084 bells to members, adding an extra \$36,364 to total value of repairs.

The Bike Hub enhances access to affordable bikes. Since 2022, 275 bicycles have been given away, lent out, or earned by members. Bikes are rented out for a deposit that is on generally \$150 or less on average. Each bike is equipped accessories that make the bike legal to ride. Members have up to 365 to return the bike in the same condition to get their full deposit returned to them. The total value of these used bicycles, bells, U-locks, and reflectors is estimated to be \$60,066 at Market Value. The hub receives a small deposit for bicycles rented out through the Bike Library. Bike rentals have accounted for \$7,100 of profit.

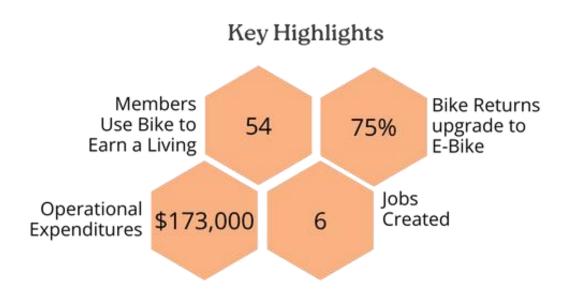


## Enhancing Socio-Economic Mobility & Creating Jobs

Total operational expenditures increased to \$173,000 to accommodate increased capacity and capital expenditures of bicycle related services alone. Three part-time mechanics, one full-time program manager, and one part-time Hub Lead was hired to support operational needs of Different Spokes. On average, 21 volunteers contribute 123 hours per week towards support DIY repairs, delivering workshops, rides, or helping out in other ways. Volunteers and staff all share the responsibility of maintaining the space, down to carefully sorted shelves of components and parts, as well as performing basic cleaning duties.

Having access to a functional bicycle and/or affordable repair services has an immeasurable impact on the lives of members. While many of these impacts cannot be observed, the Bike Hub has had the following impact on improving members ability to participate in socio-economic life.

- At least 54 members of the Bike Hub have used their bike to earn a living, mainly by delivering food through a delivery app.
- 75% of library bikes returned to the hub are because the member is upgrading to an e-bike to ride for UberEATS.
- Each of the 128 bikes that have been earned or rented out by members have come equipped with a U-Lock, instruction on how to use the lock to avoid thefts, bells and lights, reflectors, and a pamphlet on rules and regulations specific for cyclists.
- With members repairing their bikes an average of 4.5 times each and approximately 75% of all members describing themselves as newcomers to Canada, three out of fours taking place at the hub can be assumed to be done by Newcomers.



# Bike Hub Successes & Challenges

- 1. Originally the Hub intended to Open Different Spokes in January 2022. The following changes to operations were made to accommodate a summer opening when service demand was highest.
  - a. For-Profit repairs were deferred and ultimately not offered out of the space. Reducing the scope of services helped establish the membership base and prioritized training more volunteers. The space was also utilized for other community organizations to host meetings and workshops. Early into 2023 many DIY Bike Co-Ops in Toronto were not offering in-person services, making DIY services out of the hub more unique. The free DIY bike repair services were popular, with an increase in community engagement and a thriving downtown. Despite the challenges faced leading up to the delayed opening, repairs out of Different Spokes by members exceeded initial projections and has continued to thrive and provide a valuable service to the community.
  - b. New and used parts were not available for purchase, as a point of sale (POS) system was deferred. Presently, only used parts are available at the hub. Use of these parts can only be installed at the hub by members. While this policy has allowed the Hub to use up existing inventories of parts, Different Spokes will be establishing a POS system to handle part sales, memberships, and inventory in 2024.
- 2. PCHS reached 5,789 clients in Downtown Brampton.
- 3. 3,446 repairs took place in Different Spokes, which is 14% more than initially projected.
- 4. Initially, staff and volunteers were not able to effectively communicate with all visitors in any other language than English. After hiring a multilingual international student as the Hub lead and training other multilingual volunteers on repairs, 14 languages are regularly spoken at the Bike Hub.
- 5. The Bike Hub estimates to have generated six times the amount of revenue initially projected in 2021. Initially a total of 16,000 dollars worth of revenue was estimated to be generated by visitors of Different Spokes at businesses in downtown based on a significantly lower scale of operations and capacity in an area with less commercial zones.
- 6. Of the mechanics on staff, none were able to commit to working on Saturdays. As operational demands increase, additional mechanical staff will be trained to fulfill this service demand. Alternatively, total operational hours will increase so that mechanics are able to fully sustain themselves through their contract with the Bike Hub and PCHS.



# Bike Hub Successes & Challenges

- 7. The growing scale, scope, and capacity of the program have highlighted the need for more streamlined and effective data collection operations. Approaching this challenge will require multiple approaches, including:
  - a. Establishing a POS system that can streamline bike library deposits, parts purchases, inventory, and membership fees.
  - b. Requiring members who complete repairs out to the hub to outline their visit through a survey.
  - c. Creating an online marketplace for used bikes to be posted.

## Bike Hub 2024 Sustainability Plan

- 1. Based on last years operational outputs, the Bike Hub estimates that it will generate \$113,649 in profit for 2024. The timeline to establish a fully operational POS is by April 2024. These profits will be generated through memberships, new and used parts sales, flat-rate rental fees, and bike sales. These revenues will go towards enhancing hours of operation, training, and paying future venue rental fees.
- 2. The Bike Hub is presently working on capital grants and the Canada Summer Jobs' program to deliver bike valet services in the Summer of 2024. These services will be delivered through large scale cycling, music, and entertainment events in Brampton and Caledon. Bikes will be parked for free but have the option to donate to Different Spokes through the Square Application.
- 3. The Bike Hub aims to be operational 30 hours a week between April and September, including Saturdays. Being open on weekends will allow Different Spokes to enhance service coverage of local activations in Downtown. Different Spokes anticipates that an increase of short-term rentals will occur. Additional staff will be hired to support these extended hours of operations.

### Appendix



	Mississauga Cycles
	Toronto Outdoor Show
	Ontario Cycling Association
	Ontario By Bike
	Gateway Bike Hub
	Bike Sauce
	Bike Kitchen
	B!KE Peterborough
	Toronto Bike Collective
	The Ranch Community Bike Hub- Winnipeg
ton	The Biking Lawyer
duit	Toronto Centre for Active Transportation
Outside Brampton	Charlie's FreeWheels
side	Recycle Ottawa
Out	Jeanette Perk's Cycling Club
	Mountain Equipment Co-Op
	Future Ground Network
	David Suzuki Foundation
	Climate Change Youth Forum
	Climate Caucus
	Resilient Caledon
	Town of Caledon
	Southfields Caledon Recreation Centre
	Caledon Community Services
	West Bolton SNAP
n	TRCA (Eco-schools)
Operates Within and Outside Brampton	Peel Community Recycling Centre
	Broadening Horizons
	Region of Peel Sustainable Transportation
	Department
	Region of Peel Volunteer Services
	TRCA -Bike the Creek
	Anti-Black Racism Systemic Discrimination
	Peel Safe and Active Routes to Schools
	Indus Community Services
	Moyo Health & Community Services
	Apna Health

lusi	Frank L.;s Cycling Group
Exc	People Against Littering

	el Regional Police
	nnedy Valley Trail Network
	ampton Environmental Alliance
	y of Brampton Transportation
	cathalon
	eridan College's Mission Zero
	ghland Bikes
	art Beat Bikes
	ort Chek
Re	d Mvmnt
Al٤	goma University
Fle	tchers Creek SNAP Project with CVC
Bra	amalea SNAP with TRCA
Gr	owing Health Towers
Bra	ampton Community Network
Bra	amalea Springdale Network
М	Murchy Community Network
Jou	urney Thrift Store
Re	Connect Brampton
Ac	tive Transportation Advisory Committee
Ka	rleigh Elsdon's Cycling Club
Do	wntown Brampton BIA
8 8	30 cities
Bra	ampton Transit
Bra	ampton Library
Cit	y of Brampton's Tourism Department
Ca	tholic Cross-Cultural Services
Gr	oupo Bimbo (Canada Breads in Bramptor
Gir	d Guides (Pathfinders)
Gir	d Guides (Sparks)
Sai	int Rita's Elementary School
Yo	uth Juvenile Correctional facility
No	orth Peel Alternative Secondary school
Ва	lmoral Senior Public School
Sai	ndalwood Heights
Cla	ark Street School
Ea	rnscliffe Senior Public School
Bra	amalea Secondary School
Ma	assey Street Public School

### Newsletters & Articles Featuring Different Spokes

#### **TCAT Newsletter 2023**

#### Active Transportation in Action





### Building Suburban Biking Community, One Bicycle at a Time: Sonia's Inspiring Story

Sonia Maset is a program manager at the Brampton and Caledon Bike Hubs. She is a cyclist, an amateur bicycle sticker collector, and an educator. Her mission is to mitigate road rage, social isolation, and the diabetes epidemic that worsens every year through increasing access to cycling. Growing up in Brampton, Sonia and her friends loved biking everywhere but never thought they could fix their own bikes or ride anywhere but the sidewalks.

At Different Spokes - Brampton and Caledon's Bike Hubs, volunteer mechanics and staff help everyone rebuild their bikes, grease bearings, dispel winter cycling myths, and introduce them to cargo trailers and other bike attachments. Community members are invited out on rides to meet other "bike-minded" neighbours and increase their confidence using the roads and trails. No bike? No problem! The hubs take donated bikes that volunteers fix up for the Bike Library. According to Sonia, cycling is a tool to build equity, competence, health, and most importantly: community. Sonia is inviting everyone to visit the bike hubs, join the programming and take a gander at her growing cycle sticker collection.

### Different Spokes Brampton Bike Hub

Address:

Unit 104, 8 Nelson Street West, Brampton, Ontario, Canada, L6X 1B7

Web: More Information

Email:

Phone:

Tags:



Different Spokes is a non-profit, member-based cycling education and support organization that empowers cycling for transportation and recreation. Roll on by to learn repair basics, pump your tires, and find local gems to ride.



### Brampton cycling community comes together at Different Spokes **Bike Hub**



By Ryan Rumbolt

Published August 26, 2022 at 10:58 am

#### **GOVLAUNCH**

### Brampton, ON advances active transportation goals with Different Spokes bike hub partnership

Brampton, ON Different Spokes Bike Hub Active Transportation





share 
tweet



share (in)



City officials opened the hub with Bike Brampton and Punjabi Community Health Services (PCHS). The Nelson Street West location offers bike repairs and parts replacements. PCHS team members rent and sell reconditioned bikes to residents seeking affordable paths to cycling. Different Spokes also teaches new bike riders and highlights the health benefits of active travel. Brampton pursued the hub as part of its Streets for People initiative, which added 30 kilometers of trails in 2022.

#### **BRAMPTON GUARDIAN**

## 

#### **BRAMPTON ENVIRONMENTAL ALLIANCE**



The Rooted in Hope project was officially launched on August 19th in the parking lot of Gore Meadows Recreation Centre. Sonia Maset, Program Administrator for the Brampton Bike Hub trained four senior team leads on bike safety and skills training.

### Brampton & Caledon Bike Hub

#### Different Spokes Brampton Bike Hub

Different Spokes is a member-based cycling education and support organization. At Different Spokes - Brampton and Caledon's Bike Hubs, volunteer mechanics and staff help everyone rebuild their bikes, grease bearings, dispel winter cycling myths, and introduce them to cargo trailers and other bike attachments. Community members are invited out on rides to meet other "bike-minded" neighbours and increase their confidence using the roads and trails. No bike? No problem! The hubs take donated bikes that volunteers fix up for the Bike Library. According to Sonia, cycling is a tool to build equity, competence, health, and most importantly: community.

### Different Spokes: The Caledon and Brampton Bike Hub



Website Brampton Bike Hub ₪

Email sonia@bikebrampton.ca@

Founded 2015

Location Brampton & Caledon, Canada

Language English

Services DIY Repair Services
Offered Pay Repair Services
Bike Sharing Services

#### FLETCHERS CREEK SNAP BY CVC



Cyclists participating in Bike the Creek.

Different Spokes: Brampton Bike Hub Mondays and Fridays, 3 to 8 p.m. and Wednesdays, 3 to 6 p.m.

BikeBrampton's mission is to empower cyclists. Once you become a member, you can roll in your bike and they will teach you the basics. Need a bike?

Borrow one from their <u>Bike Library</u>. Want to up your cycling game or learn the road rules for cycling? Join <u>Pedalwise</u>. <u>Register for a BikeWrx Workshop or make an appointment to visit Different Spokes, located at 8 Nelson Street West in downtown Brampton.</u>

Watch these short videos about trail etiquette, bike maintenance tips, and bike safety from BikeBrampton.

### **Community News and Events**

BikeBrampton's BikeWrx Workshop - Brakes Wednesday, April 5, 6 to 8 p.m.

BikeBrampton is hosting a free workshop where registrants can learn when and how to replace bike brake pads, reduce noise, and adjust the fit and position of brakes. Register for the Brakes workshop.