

Regional Niagara Bicycling Committee Meeting Notes

Meeting of **Thursday, October 10, 2002**
Committee Room 4, Regional Headquarters
7:00 pm



Present:

Brian McMullan	Regional Council
Rob Gabriel	Regional Council
Dave Hunt	Public at Large
Bill Crux	Public at Large
Dwight Alguire	Public at Large
John Reep	Public at Large
Bob Romanuk	Public at Large
Marion Landry	Regional Public Health
Bob Johnson	Regional Public Works

Regrets:

Ken Forgeron	Regional Niagara Planning
Tim Whittle	Regional Niagara Police

Marion expressed that she had time constraints this evening and asked to present her information at the outset.

6. Recommendations on Bicycle Friendly Awards (BFA's)

November 7th has been secured as the date for the presentation at Regional Council of the 2002 Bicycle Friendly Awards. A media release is also in the works and will be mentioned at the October 28th Community Health Services Committee meeting. A package will also be prepared to distribute to the press on Nov 7th.

The categories of awards this year are:

- Workplaces
- Educational Institutions
- Businesses

Awards will be presented in the selected categories only if a level of merit has been achieved. Certificates of Recognition will be awarded to 3 additional businesses as well.

<p>Motion: To accept the slate of Bicycle Friendly Award Winners Moved by: Rob Gabriel Seconded by: Bill Crux Carried</p> <p>Motion: To expand the number of award categories to four and to print 5,000 copies of the 2003 one page BFA flyer in buff and blue, similar to 2002. Moved by: Dave Hunt Seconded by: Bill Crux Carried</p>
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Ideas for next year include distribution of an elementary school package. The schools are very difficult to reach as they are so curriculum driven and busy presently. School nurses will be asked to provide the information.

Last years launch of June 1st made it difficult for schools to be involved. Planning will get underway immediately for next years BFA campaign.

Bike Week: The dates provided for Toronto are May 31 – June 8, 2003.

<p>Motion: To celebrate Bike Week the same week as Toronto. Moved by: Bill Crux Seconded by: Dwight Alguire Carried</p>

Regional Niagara Cycling Survey Report: The rewritten report was received and accepted. Once provided electronically, the information will be posted to the web page.

1. **Adoption of Agenda**
2. **Review of Meeting Notes of September 12, 2002**

Missing from page 3 in Marion Landry's Bicycle Friendly Awards report was mention that, "Everyone nominated will receive a Certificate of Recognition to be presented with the Awards."

<p>Motion: To purchase 7 plaques rather than the 9 plaques originally anticipated. Moved by: Dave Hunt Seconded by: Dwight Alguire Carried</p>

Correction in Item #5: Dwight provided the spelling for Gallaway & Lehnan.

3. Business Arising

Item #7: Bob Johnson is still following up with the "No Cycling" sign posted northbound on Government Rd near Lock 7 and the Peter St. bridge.

Item #11: Bob Johnson reported that the acquisition of the CP Rail line from Smithville to Haldimand is still under review.

Item #6: There has been no action yet as a result of the closure of public access to the crossing of the canal at Lock 7. Bob Romanuk indicated that a letter of encouragement was proposed from the Niagara Falls Trails & Bikeways Committee to the City of Thorold.

5. Bicycle Study Update and Tour

Bob Johnson indicated that the Bicycle component of the Transportation Study is nearing completion. The projected date for presentation to the Transportation Steering Committee is Nov 12th then on to Public Works and ultimately Regional Council by years end. With the dates closing in before the next RNBC meeting, Bob will schedule a focus group meeting before the Transportation Steering Committee. Details tba.

The study will try and maintain flexibility in the design and development of the Regional Cycling Network. Engineering concerns should all be addressed through guidelines when the final report is accepted. Also the report should define the role of the RNBC.

On October 20th Bob encouraged everyone to attend the 20-25 km tour being sponsored by the consultants. By now everyone should have received an invitation to attend, and rsvp's are requested.

Motion:

The RNBC shall provide the refreshments on October 20th's Tour.

Carried.

Bob also informed the group that the Greater Buffalo Niagara Regional Transportation Council (GBNRTC) has expressed interest in participating in future joint meetings with the RNBC and Hamilton/Burlington. They are also considering sending representation to the monthly RNBC meetings. Dave Hunt will check with Hamilton which is organizing the Oct 19th Joint Meeting to consider a change to a Niagara venue if possible. Also, an invitation has been extended to Buffalo to attend the Oct 20th Tour.

See <http://www.gbnrtc.org/bikeped.htm> for more information.

7. Priority Utilitarian Cycling Initiatives

Dave Hunt provided an outline of categorized ideas submitted previously. Dave organized the information and explained the ranking procedure used (1 best, 5 worst).

What to do next? Bob Johnson asked if the information has been forwarded to the Transportation consultants. Yes it has as well as to Ken Forgeron. Also Dave added that he feels that the information should move from a policy and collection driven stage to a marketing and implementation level.

Action Item: Ken Forgeron is asked to follow up with MMM and then refer any recommendations to the Smart Growth initiative.
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VeloOntario Report

Dave Hunt attended Bringing Bicyclists Together, VO's first Conference for Ontario cycling advocates. Hosted by CfSC (Citizens for Safe Cycling) in Ottawa, the event garnered about 50 attendees from as far north as Sault Ste. Marie and Espinola and all over southern Ontario.

There were two main speakers at the event. Dave Hunt provided the outline for the Provincial Cycling Road Network, a project he was headed since the inception of VO. As well Jean Francois Pronovost of Vélo Québec presented a report on the initiatives there providing guidance and contrast to VO.

Following lunch were a series of workshops, topics which included Cold Weather Cycling and Cycling and Women. A ride was scheduled for Sunday, and the weather provided for a successful event.

The next meeting of VO is planned for January, 2003. Details tba.

Motion

To adjourn.

Moved by:	Bob Romanuk
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Seconded by:	Dave Hunt
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Carried.

Meeting Notes prepared by Bob Romanuk