

## **Hi! Welcome to the November 2011 Active Transportation E-Newsletter!**

### **Employment Opportunity!**

The City of Thunder Bay is looking for applicants for an 'Active Transportation Program Development Intern'. This NOHFC-funded position is for a 1-year youth internship. This individual will be working on active transportation initiatives with a particular focus on implementing the 'Bike Racks for Business' program. Please download the job description on the page below:

[http://www.thunderbay.ca/City\\_Government/Employment.htm](http://www.thunderbay.ca/City_Government/Employment.htm)

### **Bike Lanes Closed!**

Bike lanes are not maintained from November 15th to May 1st. This means that when the snow flies, snow is not cleared from Thunder Bay's bike lanes.

One of citizen's main concerns was the loss of parking with the implementation of bike lanes. In order to alleviate this concern, from November 15th to May 1st, where parking restrictions have been implemented to allow for the bike lanes, those parking restrictions are now lifted to allow on-street parking during the winter season. The reinstatement of parking is area specific, and if parking is allowed, it will be indicated on the posted street signage.

If you chose to use the bike lanes from November 15th to May 1st, you do so at your own risk. The City will **not** be plowing and clearing snow from the bike lanes; therefore, they **cannot** be deemed 'safe' for all weather use.

It should be noted, however, that cycling year-round is legal. For tips on how to do safely, please download the 'Guide to All-Weather Cycling' from here:

[http://www.thunderbay.ca/Living/Getting\\_Around/Active\\_Transportation/Resources.htm](http://www.thunderbay.ca/Living/Getting_Around/Active_Transportation/Resources.htm)

### **New Cycling Instructors!**

I am pleased to announce that Thunder Bay now has 4 new, certified cycling instructors. Congratulations to Lucas, Jonathan, Kirk, and Norman who each undertook over 50 hours of cycling training and were required to pass 3 exams with a minimum mark of 80%, to gain this certification. Their instructor was impressed with their knowledge, skills, and natural teaching ability.

In the springtime, we'll be announcing new cycling courses offered by these fine gentlemen.

### **Be Safe, Be Seen!**

With dusk and dawn arriving while many of us are still active, we need to be diligent about being visible. Drivers have a very difficult time seeing properly at these times, and many accidents occur in poor lighting conditions.

The Thunder Bay District Health Unit and Active Transportation Thunder Bay have teamed

up to raise awareness of this issue. For this campaign, launched just in time for Halloween, we gave away nearly 700 reflective arm bands and pamphlets through our partner organizations, such as EcoSuperior, Petrie's Cycle and Sports, Fresh Air, CyclePath, The Running Room, Rollin' Thunder, the Parking Authority, and George's Market.

Whether you're running, biking, or walking the dog, be sure to wear bright and reflective clothing. If you would like to pick up an armband, some are still available at EcoSuperior - 562 Red Rive Rd.

### **Urban Design Guidelines: Public Review**

Please attend the City of Thunder Bay's open house for the new Urban Design Guidelines. Tuesday November 29, 4:30-9:00pm - Community Auditorium.  
7:00 pm - Presentation

These guidelines will affect whether our major streets are safe and enjoyable for pedestrians, transit users, and cyclists. These Guidelines determine the shape and design of things like crosswalks, trees, sidewalks, benches, lighting, transit stops, etc.

The consultants will have actual drawings of long-term plans for Arthur Street, Red River Road, and May/Memorial. This is literally, the future vision of Thunder Bay. Have your say!

Please share this on your facebook, and encourage your friends, family, and clients to get out and comment. Details are attached.

### **TravelSMART Plan Approved by Council**

On November 7th, City Council approved the TravelSMART Plan in principle, allowing Administration to return to Council with a detailed implementation plan.

We want to make sure everyone who lives, works, or runs a business in Thunder Bay knows about all the options they have for getting around. TravelSMART is how we can do that.

The TravelSMART Plan was 2-years in-the-making, and involved many different partners such as; Transit, Planning, Parks, Engineering, Parking Authority, EcoSuperior, the Thunder Bay District Health Unit, and EarthWise® Thunder Bay.

We're really excited about TravelSMART because this program proposes to bring together all of the great pedestrian safety, accessibility initiatives, cycling improvements, and Transit enhancements under one program. It's a way to provide an all-in-one package that really helps people access tools and knowledge so that they can make really good travel choices.

### **Cycling Photoshoot**

I just wanted to say 'Thank you' to everyone who helped out with the cycling photoshoots that took place a few weeks ago. I received a DVD full of great photos from Damien Gilbert (the photographer). I'm excited to see how these photos make their way into our future promotional and educational material.

### **Active Transportation on Facebook!**

Active Transportation Thunder Bay is on Facebook!  
Run by the Active Transportation Coordinator, this page is always being updated with useful

links, tips, stories, and updates. Become a fan today!  
<http://www.facebook.com/atthunderbay>

**Last but not least:**

If you have any questions or comments about active transportation, please feel free to send me an email. Also, if you know of a workplace or business that may be interested in having bike lane information or may be interested in hosting a cycling workshop, please let me know. We're always looking for new ways and places for community outreach.

All the best,

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