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Welcome to Cycle Toronto's Ring & Post newsletter, your guide to Toronto cycling news.

At right: Show your Support for Cycle Toronto on #GivingTuesdayCa, a global day of giving!



November 2015

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Check out these newly proposed options for Bloor St!

Campaign update: pilot bike lanes on Bloor St inch closer to reality!

As the City continues to build a downtown network of protected bike lanes, there remains a tricky problem: how do people from the west, east and midtown access the network? Protected bike lanes on

Bloor St will help unlock latent demand in the west end, create a safer environment for people riding bicycles and build out the Minimum Grid.

The number of supporters for bicycle lanes on Bloor St & Danforth Ave continue to grow: we're thrilled that the David Suzuki Foundation has now signed on in support! Learn more about their work [here!](#)

Have your say! The City is hosting a public drop-in event on Dec 2 from 4-8pm at Trinity-St. Paul's Church (427 Bloor St W). Learn more [here!](#)

Help us raise \$30,000 on #GivingTuesday to support cycling education across Toronto & get a charitable tax receipt

About Us

We are Toronto's largest member-based cycling advocacy organization working toward creating safer streets. The more people we represent, the more power we have in creating a safe cycling city. Please [join Cycle Toronto](#) to make Toronto a better place to ride, and save money with [member discounts](#) around the city.

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Platinum Business Members





Help us raise \$30,000 to support our work!

We've all heard of Black Friday and Cyber Monday, but how about

Giving Tuesday? This year, show your support for Cycle Toronto on Tues, Dec 1st by making a donation to support our **Street Smarts program**, which provides vital cycling education to communities across Toronto.

Help us reach our goal of \$30,000 - spread the word by using the hashtags #GivingTuesdayCA and #unselfie and tell others why you are choosing to support us and the great work we can do together!

Cyclist Education: our popular Toronto Cyclist Handbook, currently offered in 17 languages, will be updated and revamped to include exciting new information pertinent to cyclists in our city. We'll also bring back our Get Lit! program to help keep cyclists safe.

Driver Education: we will work with community partners to launch a brand new ad campaign aimed at educating drivers on the importance of the new 1m passing law to help keep all of us safer on the road.

Community Outreach: we will create a new fund to empower our Ward Advocacy Program to enable local community groups across Toronto to put on their own educational & community building programming such as bike rodeos, festivals and sticker campaigns.

Support our work! Make a donation now through our partner Culturelink Settlement & Community Services' **Canada Helps page** and receive a charitable tax receipt.



Cycle Toronto voted Best Cycling Group in NOW Magazine Reader's Choice Awards

We're pretty proud to announce that Cycle Toronto has won **NOW Magazine's 2015 Reader's Choice Award** for "Best Cycling

Group" for the third year in a row! Many thanks to everyone who voted - 2015 was a great year for us and we're looking forward to making 2016 even better!



Protected bike lanes on Lakeshore Blvd W: attend an upcoming public meeting

Good news! The City is proposing a new protected bike lane along Lakeshore Blvd W between First St & Norris Cres that would fill a major gap in Toronto's

Waterfront Trail and provide a key linkage in building out the Minimum Grid. The next step in turning that vision into reality is a public drop in happening on Tues Dec 8 from 6-8pm at the New Toronto Library, 110 Eleventh St. Comment on potential designs and show your support! Learn more about the meeting [here](#).



Cycle Toronto Rides Bloor Danforth Auction Highlight

Thanks to everyone who came out and rode with us for Cycle Toronto Rides Bloor-Danforth! With your support, we raised over \$33,000 to support our advocacy work! Here's a little highlight from the Silent Auction: Tom Worrall with his new Urbanite bike! Many thanks to **Urbanite Cyclist** for supporting our work by providing this sweet new ride, and to our awesome Ride Supporters **McLeish Orlando**, Bike Law Canada, MEC and

Tom Worrall with his new Urbanite bike [Coffee Pubs](#) for their support!



West Hill Collegiate Institute bike club

Bike to School Project reaches hundreds of students this fall

We're rolling! Close to 700 high school students took part in cycling activities this fall, delivered by the Bike to School Project led by our partner CultureLink. All grade 9 students at Harbord CI and Central Toronto Academy participated in a two-part cycling training program during gym class.

CultureLink met with the influential EcoTeams from 43 schools, planning for increasing the profile of cycling as part of their environmental campaigns. 6 teachers enrolled in a three-day CAN-BIKE 2 to 6 teachers as part of their professional development, to support their work with bike clubs at their schools.

And to top it off, CultureLink launched a new bike club at West Hill Collegiate Institute in Scarborough. Plans for the Club include rides and trips to cultural and recreational sites, mechanics and riding skills workshops, and training in video production and digital storytelling. The Toronto Centre for Active Transportation's Scarborough Cycles project helped the club overcome a major barrier to participation by loaning them 16 new Simcoe bikes for use in group activities. Thanks to the Toronto Foundation and the Metcalf Foundation for support of cycling in Scarborough!



Our new T-shirts are in stores NOW!

New Cycle Toronto T's in time for the holidays!

Want to show your support for Cycle Toronto out on the street? A t-shirt is a great way to spread the word about our advocacy work! We just released a brand new t-shirt! T-shirts are only \$25, available in men's and women's fit, and can be

purchased at the Spacing Store, [Urbane Cyclist](#), and [Curbside Cycle](#) just in time for the holidays!



Cycle Toronto Member Appreciation Night at MEC!

Join us for our Member Appreciation Night at MEC on Thursday, December 3rd from 6pm to 8pm. Like last year, Cycle Toronto members will receive 10% off everything in the store, including bikes and boats. We'll also have Gift Memberships and Membership Gift Packs for sale!

To receive the discount, you must be a current Cycle Toronto member and a MEC member. Discount only applies on purchases made between 6pm & 8pm at the MEC Toronto location on December 3rd, 2015.

Has your Cycle Toronto membership expired? Either [renew now](#), or renew at the door on December 3rd. Don't have your card? We'll have you on our list!

RSVP to the event on [Facebook](#), and encourage your Cycle Toronto friends to join you - you don't want to miss this!



Gold Business Member Profile: Steam Whistle Brewing

Cycle Toronto is excited to announce our new partnership with [Steam Whistle Brewing](#), who has joined us as a new Gold Business Member! Brewed at The Roundhouse, home of the steam

locomotives that helped pioneer our nation, Steam Whistle brings you an authentic, locally-crafted pilsner. The brewery has a tasting and bottling facility as well as operates as an event space and offers site tours, home delivery and even has a green party bus! They also have bicycle repair stations across Canada and engage in a number of green initiatives included bottle recycling, waste diversion, water conservation and more.

Update from the Board of Directors

Our Ward Advocacy Groups increasingly face challenges that, more often than not, are city-wide issues. For instance, policies on shared space (where the City has chosen experimental designs that see cars and bikes mingle), the use of sharrows instead of dedicated cycling facilities, and the preoccupation with retaining on-street car parking are working against our local advocates as they seek positive change in support of active transportation. To harmonize our advocacy work city-wide, the Advocacy Committee is creating a series of public position statements on what quality bike infrastructure and traffic law enforcement should look like in the City of Toronto. Draft statements have been prepared on Shared Space and Use of Sharrows, with statements on Bike Parking and Bike Boulevards to be completed by December. Early in the new year, statements on Protected Bike Lanes, Safe (One-Metre) Passing and the Idaho Stop will be prepared. Once these have been completed, the set will be posted on the Cycle Toronto website to help our ward advocates speak with a strong, united voice. [Read more](#) from the Board about diversity, strategic planning, and fundraising on our website.

Ward Advocacy in Action!

The 3rd Annual Ward Advocacy Skill Swap happened on November 21st at Metro Hall. The Skill Swap is a one day advocacy skills training workshop, free for members. There were over 80 people in attendance, taking part in sessions focused on how to access City Hall, and developing strategies for effective campaigns. Many thanks to the [Metcalf Foundation](#) for providing the funds that made this event possible. Big thanks are also due to all our generous and talented presenters: councilors Mike Layton and Joe Cressy, Jacquelyn Hayward Gulati and Christina Bouchard from Transportation Services, Pat Brown from [McLeish Orlando](#), Claire McWatt and Kate Bangay from [WITOPOLI](#), Sarah Lezniewski from [Unifor](#), Bianca Wylie from [Swerhun Facilitation](#), and Katelynn Northam from [leadnow.ca](#)!

Also - we're organizing in Etobicoke Centre! We're reaching west of the Humber River to get people from around Islington, the Kingsway, Thorncrest Village, Eatonville, Humber Valley Village, Humbervale, Richview and other neighborhoods to come together to work on improving places to ride in Etobicoke - and connections to the Downtown.

Email mark.romeril@cycleto.ca for more information about both of these events.

Cycling in the News

Check out these recent news stories on cycling:

- [VIDEO: Bike Lanes on Bloor Make Sense \(Bells on Bloor\)](#)
- [TOinTransit: Fort York pedestrian and cycling bridge gets go-ahead \(insideTORONTO\)](#)
- [This Bike Path Paved With Solar Panels Shows That All Streets Could Double As Power Sources \(FastCompany\)](#)
- ['Abandoned' bikes may not always be forsaken, cyclists say \(Toronto Star\)](#)
- [Cyclists crowdsource close calls on Twitter \(NOW Magazine\)](#)
- [Winter cycling: good idea or flat-out insane? \(CBC News\)](#)
- [Toronto begins bike-removal blitz, targeting derelict, abandoned bikes in preparation for winter \(Canadian Cycling Magazine\)](#)
- [Female cyclists have lower hospitalization rates, study finds \(CBC News\)](#)
- [New Queens Quay is confusing, yet improved, users say \(insideTORONTO\)](#)
- [Toronto cross-town bike lane could be a game-changer \(David Suzuki Foundation\)](#)
- [Province announces faster process for submitting environmental assessments on bike paths, trails \(insideTORONTO\)](#)
- [Cycle Toronto, Toronto police and McLeish Orlando teaming up to ensure cyclists are safe \(insideTORONTO\)](#)

Upcoming Events

Thurs Nov 26 - Talk Transformation: Low Carbon Mobility in Toronto
Scarborough Civic Centre, Council Chambers, 150 Borough Drive, 7:00-8:30pm (doors open at 6:30)

Tues Dec 1 - Giving Tuesday A global day of giving! ALL DAY

Tues Dec 1 - Changing Lanes: Blueprints for a New Road Order - Isabel Bader Theatre, 6:00pm-8:00pm

Wed Dec 2 - Public drop-in for Bloor St pilot design options - Trinity-St. Paul's Church, 427 Bloor St W, 4:00pm-8:00pm

Thurs Dec 3 - Cycle Toronto Member Appreciation night at MEC - MEC Toronto, 6:00pm-8:00pm

Tues Dec 8 - Lakeshore Cycle Tracks meeting - New Toronto Library, 110 Eleventh St, 6:00pm-8:00pm

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