

# the Urban cyclist

June 2001, Issue 10

[www.vacc.bc.ca](http://www.vacc.bc.ca)

**The Vancouver Area Cycling Coalition quarterly**

## Peddling in Downtown Vancouver

By Reuven Dukas

Imagine many European and Asian cities, where cycling is one of the dominant modes of transportation. In such cities, it is quite common to observe hundreds of bicycles parked in front of downtown buildings. Are we likely to see crowds of cyclists and fewer cars in downtown Vancouver in the near future? Perhaps so, if City Council keeps its promise. Several years ago, Vancouver's City Council has adopted the following official policy: "City Council has set a list of transportation priorities in the following order: pedestrian, bicycle, transit, movement of goods, and private automobile. All existing and new projects in the City are evaluated with these priorities in mind and are developed to accommodate them, wherever possible."

Since 1990, a network of sixteen bikeways has been built by the city. Most of these bike routes are wisely designed and well used by cyclists for commuting and recreation. Bike lanes are currently considered also for the western part of Georgia Street and for parts of Pacific Boulevard. However, the downtown peninsula, the heart of Vancouver, is still notably bike lane deficient. Currently, the only marked bike lanes in the downtown are on Pender Street.

Most recent activity, and existing policy, point towards a more bicycle-friendly downtown. The City of Vancouver 1997 Transportation Plan states that it will "continue to develop bikeways, and, as a top priority, provide a more complete bicycle network by using painted bike lanes in areas such as the downtown, where off-arterial bikeways are not possible." The plan also proposes the implementation within six years (i.e., by 2003) of painted bike lanes on the following streets: Burrard, Howe, Seymour, Smithe, Nelson, and Beach.

At their April meeting, members of the VACC Vancouver committee congratulated City Council and staff for their active support for cycling facilities in Vancouver in general and the downtown peninsula in particular. It is clear, however, that the City will have to move quickly in order to complete a downtown cycling network by 2003.

Members of the VACC Vancouver committee agreed that a top priority should be the implementation of direct, safe bike lanes leading to and



**New Westminster Mayor Helen Sparkes is riding for Bike Fest at the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Hyack Festival in the Royal City. For more details on Bike Fest go to [www.hyack.bc.ca/bikefest.html](http://www.hyack.bc.ca/bikefest.html)**

crossing all bridges of the downtown peninsula (Burrard, Granville, Cambie, Lions Gate), including the Georgia Viaduct. Good connections are also necessary between downtown and the Adanac bikeway, as well as the SeaBus terminal.

Besides streets already included in the City Transportation Plan, we concluded that a useful downtown bikeway network should include the following streets: Davie, Denman, Pacific, Beatty, Cambie, Bute, and Cardero or Nicola. We also suggested improvements to the bike lanes on Pender Street, which are currently unsafe in some parts, and changes to Granville Mall, which may involve bike lanes and cyclists' access at streets crossing the Mall. Finally, we noted that Robson may be an alternative to Nelson/Smithe one-way couplet, as long as good

### Beyond this page

- The VACC expands ..... 2
- Bike calendar ..... 3
- False Creek North..... 6
- Grandview Highway .... 6
- The Pattullo Bridge ..... 7
- CanBike / BikeSmarts ... 8
- Membership Form ..... 8

Please see DOWNTOWN on page 7.

# the Urbane cyclist

Published in March, June, September, and December by the Vancouver Area Cycling Coalition (VACC)

The views in this publication are not necessarily those of the VACC.

### CONTRIBUTORS:

Jim Alix, Richard Campbell, Reuven Dukas, Kari Hewett, Bruce Mol, and Ken Wuschke.

### PROOF READER:

Cheryl Tan

### ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVE:

Ken Wuschke ..... 604-731-6220

## VACC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Ken Wuschke - President ..... 604-731-6220
- Jessé Neri - Vice-President ..... 604-221-2604
- Colin Brander - Secretary ..... 604-733-9265
- Larry Pamer - Treasurer ..... 604-272-4351
- Jim Alix ..... 604-540-6593
- Richard Campbell ..... 604-733-1764
- Chrystal Dalyce ..... 604-521-2801
- Brian George ..... 604-522-2977
- Rachel Jamieson ..... 604-254-3554
- Jean Male ..... 604-531-3484

## FOUNDING MEMBER

British Columbia Cycling Coalition



## MEET US

The VACC Board meetings are open to all interested in bicycling in Greater Vancouver. We meet on the second Wednesday for the following months at 6:30 pm.

- Jun 13 ..... Sanctuary Foundation, 34-6<sup>th</sup> St, New West
- Jul 11.. Riverside Park, Kent Av, E of Elliott St, Vancouver
- Aug 8 ..... Sanctuary Foundation, 34-6<sup>th</sup> St, New West
- Sep 12 ..... Firehall Library, 1455 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Av, Vancouver

## INTERNET

Join our list serve by sending an email to [vacc-request@sustainability.com](mailto:vacc-request@sustainability.com) with the words **subscribe VACC** in the body of the message.

Our website is [www.vacc.bc.ca](http://www.vacc.bc.ca)

## GOT SOMETHING TO SAY?

We welcome articles (400 words or less) and letters about cycling in Greater Vancouver.

Submissions may be sent to:

**THE URBANE CYCLIST**  
**VANCOUVER AREA CYCLING COALITION**  
PO BOX 40074 RPO ROYAL CITY  
NEW WESTMINSTER BC V3M 6J7

Or e-mail: [vacc@canada.com](mailto:vacc@canada.com).

We reserve the right to edit submissions for clarity and length.

NEXT DEADLINE  
**FRIDAY, AUGUST 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2001**



# The VACC expands

By Ken Wuschke

Over the past few years, the Vancouver Area Cycling Coalition has been active making cycling an essential component of the transportation picture in the Lower Mainland. While we have worked with various government bodies throughout southwest British Columbia, frequently we are asked by cyclists, "What is the VACC?"

The earliest stages of the VACC happened about five years ago. There was no group effectively lobbying for the rights of cyclists on all roads of the region. Some groups were just interested in Downtown Vancouver, while another only focused on the highway network. It was a period of discord within the cycling community. Gradually people began to see the need to link up the various groups and begin to speak with one voice. This way cyclists could avoid having various government bodies play one cycling group off another.

However, given the size of the region, it has become a task in itself to keep on top of issues. Within the GVRD there are twenty-one municipalities, an electoral district, the Vancouver International Airport, UBC, SFU, and a myriad of other agencies that are in charge of roads and multi-use trails that cyclists ride on. The VACC has found the most effective way to deal with this Pandora's Box of government bodies is to create local committees. To date the VACC has committees for Burnaby, Delta, New Westminster, Surrey, Vancouver, and White Rock. Most recently we have created a new committee for the Northeast Sector. This includes Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam, Port Moody, Anmore, and Belcarra.

As often is the case, the VACC Tri-Cities committee had an issue of significance to rally around. This time it is the Lougheed Highway between Brunette and Coleman. The City of Coquitlam has recently upgraded Lougheed Highway, but in reality it has become extremely unsafe for cyclists. The formerly wide lanes have been reduced to 3.0 metres. The Transportation Association of Canada ([www.tac-atc.ca](http://www.tac-atc.ca)) has been recommending that all roads have a minimal width of 4.3 metres to accommodate automobiles and bicycles in the same travel lane. In addition to the reduction of the lane width, the City of Coquitlam removed a shoulder that was among the best in the GVRD for cycling on.

Currently the VACC Tri-City committee is working closely with members of the VACC New Westminster committee to share knowledge and experience in providing constructive cycling alternatives to city hall staff. Essentially that is the purpose of the VACC – to help cyclists work more effectively in reminding elected officials and civic staff that bicycles are a part of the transportation picture. But all too often, those who make the decisions forget that cycling is an important form of transportation in the Lower Mainland.

This spring several members of the VACC sat down and came up with a mission statement for the organization: "Making cycling an integral part of the transportation culture". That sums up why the VACC is working hard at creating a committee for the Northeast Sector. However, we still want to work with cyclists in all parts of the GVRD to achieve our goals. This is why we need people to be more involved with the VACC.

In addition, we want to work with other existing cycling groups to create a better cycling environment. Certainly it is time for cyclists to band together and become a unified voice when dealing with the many city halls in the region.

While the VACC looks to cycling issues within the GVRD, the British Columbia Cycling Coalition (BCCC) deals with cycling concerns around the province. It is made up of cycling groups similar to the VACC in Victoria, Nanaimo, Kelowna, and Salt Spring Island. As well, there is representation from groups like Cycling BC, Better Environmentally Sound Transportation, and Cross Canada Cycle Tour Society. Uniquely, the City of Parksville Bicycle Advisory Committee joined the BCCC last year. These groups are working together by sharing knowledge amongst them, just as the VACC encourages its various committees to do so as well. Together the VACC and BCCC member groups are becoming an effective voice for cycling advocacy in BC. And governments are starting to listen more to the cycling community.

This is the larger picture. The smaller picture is just as important. Have you ever got frustrated by a road being poorly engineered for cyclists? Did you feel the bicycle route network does not go anywhere? Do you feel the cyclists' needs are being ignored in general? The VACC is a good place to find out how you can change things for the future. If you have not joined the VACC and you ride anywhere in the GVRD please consider the value of having your voice heard to improve cycling. It is an investment for a region where cycling is a viable form transportation.



# Bike calendar

Make a date with some cyclists!

While the Vancouver Area Cycling Coalition makes sure that all the events times, dates, and locations are accurate at press time, there can be changes. You are urged to contact the person listed with each event to make sure that there has been no changes.

As there are many unusual abbreviations used in this calendar here is a short summary of them.

- BAC ..... Bicycle Advisory Committee
- BAS ..... Bicycle Advisory Subcommittee
- BCCC ..... British Columbia Cycling Coalition
- CCC ..... Citizens' Cycling Committee
- GNCC ..... Greater Nanaimo Cycling Coalition
- JBAC ..... Joint Bicycle Advisory Committee
- VACC ..... Vancouver Area Cycling Coalition

## May 2001

- MON MAY 28 — 6:30 PM** ..... VACC NEW WESTMINSTER MEETING  
Sanctuary Foundation ..... 34-6th St, New Westminister  
Andrew Feltham ..... 604-521-2742 - feltham@telus.net
- WED MAY 30 — 5:30 - 9:00 PM** .... BURNABY BIKEWAYS OPEN HOUSE  
Cameron Community Centre ..... 9523 Cameron Av, Burnaby  
Martin Pardoe ..... 604-294-7216 - pardoe@city.burnaby.bc.ca
- MON MAY 30 — 6:30 PM** ..... VACC VANCOUVER MEETING  
Firehall Library ..... 1455 W 10th Av, Vancouver  
Rachel Jamieson ..... 604-254-3554 - rachelbikes@hotmail.com

## June 2001 — BIKE MONTH

- FRI JUN 1 — 1:00 - 4:00 PM** ..... THE ROAD LESS TAKEN  
Langara Community College ..... 100 W 49th Av, Vancouver  
Leslie Kemp ..... 604-323-5981  
A public discussion.
- SAT JUN 2 — 11:00 AM** ..... BIKE TO PITT MEADOWS DAY  
Harris Road Park ..... Lougheed Hwy @ Harris Rd, Pitt Meadows  
Russ ..... 604-465-8461  
Bruce ..... 604-497-7341
- SAT JUN 2 — 1:00 - 6:00 PM** ..... GNCC BIKE FAIR  
Centennial Building ..... Beban Park, Nanaimo  
Allan Dunlop ..... 250-756-3803 - dunlopallan@home.com  
Bike Swap - Maintenance Clinics - Live Entertainment
- SAT JUN 2 — 9:00 PM** ..... LANTERN RIDE  
Vancouver Art Gallery ..... Georgia & Howe, Vancouver  
Lee ..... 604-255-2102
- SAT JUN 2** ..... BICYCLE BAKERY DAY  
Contact Eva for location information.  
Eva ..... 604-873-9366  
A tour for nice buns!
- MON JUN 4 — 7:00 PM** ..... MAPLE RIDGE / PITT MEADOWS BAC  
Maple Ridge District Hall 11995 Haney Pl, Maple Ridge  
Bruce McLeod ..... 604-467-7342  
Bmcleod@district.maple-ridge.bc.ca
- WED JUN 6** ..... NATIONAL CLEAN AIR DAY
- WED JUN 6 — 7:30 - 9:00 AM** ..... CLEAN AIR DAY, PANCAKE BREAKFAST  
CBC Plaza ..... Georgia & Hamilton, Vancouver  
Rita ..... 604-669-2860

## June 2001 — BIKE MONTH

- WED JUN 6 — 5:30 - 9:00 PM** ..... BURNABY BIKEWAYS OPEN HOUSE  
Confederation Community Centre for the Retired  
..... 4585 Albert St, Burnaby  
Martin Pardoe ..... 604-294-7216 - pardoe@city.burnaby.bc.ca
- WED JUN 6 — 6:30 PM** ..... VACC NEW WESTMINSTER EXPLORER RIDE  
Century House ..... Moody Park, 8th St & 7th Av, New West.  
Marion ..... 604-520-7636  
Introduces riders to New Westminister's Crosstown Greenway route and other recently added or improved routes. Suitable for less experienced riders.
- WED JUN 6 — 7:00 PM** ..... NORTH VANCOUVER JBAC  
North Vancouver City Hall ..... 141 W 14th St, North Vancouver  
Kevan Delaney ..... 604-983-7395 - kdelaney@city.north-van.bc.ca  
Brian Edey ..... 604-990-2414 - bedey@dnv.org
- WED JUN 6 — 7:00 PM** ..... RICHMOND CCC  
Richmond City Hall ..... 6911 No. 3 Rd, Richmond  
Victor Wei ..... 604-276-4131 - vwei@city.richmond.bc.ca
- WED JUN 6** ..... COMMUTER CHALLENGE  
Contact David for location information.  
David Primack ..... 604-669-2860  
..... www.vancouver.commuterchallenge.net
- WED JUN 6 — 7:00 PM** ... BALANCING DEVELOPMENT WITH LIVEABILITY  
SFU Harbour Centre ..... 515 W. Hastings St, Vancouver  
Joy ..... 604-915-5234 - www.smartgrowth.bc.ca  
Reservations required ..... 604-291-5100
- THU JUN 7 — 2:00 PM** ..... BC PARKWAY - RIDGEWAY CONNECTOR URBAN TRAIL OPEN CEREMONY  
Central Park ..... Kingsway & Boundary, Burnaby  
Martin Pardoe ..... 604-294-7216 - pardoe@city.burnaby.bc.ca
- THU JUN 7** ..... BIKE TO SCHOOL DAY  
Various locations  
Way to Go! Program ..... 604-732-1511 - www.waytogo.icbc.bc.ca
- FRI JUN 8 — 6:30 PM** ..... VACC TRI-CITY MEETING  
Millside School ..... 1432 Brunette Av, Coquitlam  
Brian George ..... 604-522-2977  
Lucy Goodbrand ..... lucyg@sfu.ca
- FRI JUN 8 — 8:30 PM** ..... VACC BIKE FILM NIGHT  
Blinding Light! ..... 36 Powell Street, Vancouver  
Rachel Jameison ..... 604-254-3554 - rachelbikes@hotmail.com
- SAT JUN 9 — 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM** ..... BIKE TO DEER LAKE PARK  
Martin Pardoe ..... 604-294-7216 - pardoe@city.burnaby.bc.ca
- SAT JUN 9 — 12:00 NOON - 3:00 PM** ..... GRANVILLE ISLAND BIKE FEAST  
Market Courtyard ..... Granville Island, Vancouver  
Greg ..... 604-681-2329 - www.geocities.com/baiabros

Mobile • Professional • Guaranteed

**Guywires**  
cycle tech

YOUR MOBILE BIKE GUY SINCE 1992.

- Quality Care: tune-ups, overhauls, detailing
- Master built wheels & repairs
- Frame repair; milling, alignment, Vitis
- Stripped thread repair • Paint touch-up
- Education: repair, riding skills, traffic safety

Peter Pazdera  
Certified Bicycle Technician (examiner)

**420-9722**  
peterguy@axion.net

# Bike calendar

## Make a date with some cyclists!

### June 2001 — BIKE MONTH

- SAT JUN 9** ..... **GNCC ROAD RIDE CLINIC**  
Contact Allan for location information.  
Allan Dunlop ..... 250-756-3803 - dunlopallan@home.com  
Informative workshop on preparation for riding, riding skills, and traffic safety.
- SAT JUN 9** ..... **REV!**  
Science World ..... Main & Terminal, Vancouver  
Robert ..... 604-738-2641 - www.veva.bc.ca
- SUN JUN 10 — 10:30 AM** ..... **ISLAND CITY BY BIKE**  
Thompson Community Centre ..... 5151 Granville Av, Richmond  
Joan ..... 604-276-4035
- SUN JUN 10** ..... **TRAILS DAY**  
Alex ..... 604-737-3058 - www.orcbc.ca
- TUE JUN 12 — 5:30 - 9:00 PM** ..... **BURNABY BIKEWAY OPEN HOUSE**  
Bonsor Recreation Centre ..... Bonsor & Central Blvd, Burnaby  
Martin Pardoe ..... 604-294-7216 - pardoe@city.burnaby.bc.ca
- WED JUN 13 — 6:30 PM** ..... **NEW WESTMINSTER BAC**  
New Westminster City Hall ..... 511 Royal Av, New Westminster  
Edwina Steere.. 604-527-4580 - esteere@city.new-westminster.bc.ca
- WED JUN 13 — 6:30 PM** ..... **VACC THREE BRIDGES RIDE**  
Century House ..... Moody Park, 8th St & 7th Ave, New Westminster.  
Marion ..... 604-520-7636  
Introduces riders to the crossing of the Queensborough, Alex Fraser, and Pattullo bridges as well as travelling River Road in Delta. Riders should be of intermediate experience and comfortable in traffic.
- MON JUN 13 — 6:30 PM** ..... **VACC BOARD MEETING**  
Sanctuary Foundation ..... 34-6th St, New Westminster  
Colin Brander ..... 604-733-9265 - cbb@canada.com
- SAT JUN 16 — 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM** ..... **BIKE TO MARKET DAY**  
Trout Lake Community Centre ..... Victoria & E 15th Av, Vancouver  
Devorah ..... 604-879-FARM
- SAT JUN 16 — 10:00 AM** ..... **LE TOUR DE NORTH VANCOUVER**  
North Vancouver City Hall ..... 141 W 14th St, North Vancouver  
Kevan Delaney ..... 604-990-BIKE - kdelaney@city.north-van.bc.ca  
Registration: 10:00 AM, Kids Activities: 10:00 - 11:30 AM, Tour departs: 11:30 AM

## SIDESHOW CYCLES

*manager bob*  
*parts & repairs*

6579 victoria dr @ 50<sup>th</sup> av  
vancouver, bc 1 604 323 8477

### June 2001 — BIKE MONTH

- SAT JUN 16 — 6:30, 7:30 & 8:00 PM** ..... **DINOSAURS AGAINST FOSSIL FUELS PRESENT THE ROCKYSAURUS PICTURE SHOW**  
Cartier Park ..... Prince Edward & 37th Av, Vancouver  
Chris ..... 604-818-1730
- SAT JUN 16** ..... **THE NANAIMO POPULAIRE**  
Contact Allan for location information.  
Allan Dunlop ..... 250-756-3803 - dunlopallan@home.com  
A non-competitive 25, 50, or 100 km ride through the scenic areas of Cedar and Nanaimo.
- SUN JUN 17 — 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM** ..... **BIKE TO COQUITLAM'S FARMER MARKET**  
Poirier Community Centre ..... 630 Poirier St, Coquitlam  
Terri ..... 604-464-3276
- TUE JUN 19 — 4:30 - 6:00 PM** ..... **DEMONSTRATION OF VANCOUVER'S 1ST BICYCLE BOX**  
On the Adanac Bikeway ..... Union St @ Main St, Vancouver  
Geoff ..... 604-871-6192
- TUE JUN 19 — 5:30 - 8:30 PM** ..... **FALSE CREEK PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLIST CROSSINGS OPEN HOUSE**  
Performance Works ... 1218 Cartwright St, Granville Island, Vancouver  
Dale Bracewell 604-871-6440 - Dale\_bracewell@city.vancouver.bc.ca
- TUE JUN 19 — 7:30 - 9:30 PM** ..... **FORUM ON TRANSPORTATION**  
SFU Harbour Centre ..... 515 W. Hastings St, Vancouver  
Ray ..... 604-669-2860
- WED JUN 20 — 5:30 PM** ..... **VANCOUVER BAC**  
Vancouver City Hall ..... 453 W 12th Av, Vancouver  
Laura Kazakoff . 604-871-6353 - laura\_kazakoff@city.vancouver.bc.ca
- WED JUN 20 — 6:30 PM** ..... **VACC QUEENSBOROUGH - RICHMOND - RIVERSIDE LOOP RIDE**  
Century House ..... Moody Park, 8th St & 7th Ave, New Westminster.  
Marion ..... 604-520-7636  
Suitable for less experienced riders; mostly flat; requires crossing the Queensborough bridge each way.
- FRI JUN 22** ..... **SOLSTICE RIDE**  
Contact Lee for location information.  
Lee ..... 604-255-2102  
Join us for a celebration of summer as we cruise into the longest night of the year along the Midtown/Ridgeway Bikeway into Pacific Spirit Park. The ride will end at Spanish Banks and riders are encouraged to bring goodies for an informal picnic.
- SAT JUN 23 — 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM** ..... **UBC BIKE RODEO FOR KIDS**  
UBC Campus in Parking lot 'B'  
Tom ..... 604-822-9315 - www.trek.ubc.ca
- SUN JUN 24** ..... **VACC CENTRAL VALLEY GREENWAY RIDE**  
10:30 AM - 1st meet point ..... Broadway & Victoria, Vancouver  
11:00 AM - 2nd meet point ..... Lougheed & Boundary, Vancouver  
Richard Campbell ..... 604-733-1764 - campbell@cs.sfu.ca
- MON JUN 25 — 6:30 PM** ..... **VACC NEW WESTMINSTER MEETING**  
Sanctuary Foundation ..... 34-6th St, New Westminster  
Andrew Feltham ..... 604-521-2742 - feltham@telus.net
- WED JUN 27 — 6:30 PM** ..... **VACC BURNABY LOOP RIDE**  
Century House ..... Moody Park, 8th St & 7th Ave, New Westminster.  
Marion ..... 604-520-7636  
Shows cycle routes along Robert Burnaby Park, north side of Highway 1, along Deer Lake, connections back to Metrotown, returning on BC Parkway. Suitable for less experienced riders; some hills; some traffic areas.

# Bike calendar

Make a date with some cyclists!

## June 2001 — BIKE MONTH

**WED JUN 27 — 6:30 PM** ..... **VACC VANCOUVER MEETING**  
 Firehall Library ..... 1455 W 10th Av, Vancouver  
 Rachel Jamieson ..... 604-254-3554 - rachelbikes@hotmail.com

**WED JUN 27 — 7:30 PM** ..... **LANGLEY TOWNSHIP BAS**  
 Langley Township Operations Centre ..... 4700 - 224th St, Langley  
 Paul Cordeiro ..... 604-533-6183 - pcordeiro@tol.bc.ca

**SAT JUN 30 — 10:00 AM** ..... **TRAILS TO ALES ROAD RIDE**  
 To be announced.  
 Bob Goerzen ..... 250-753-5464 - bgoerzen@home.com  
 Join an easy going ride along some of Nanaimo's scenic country roads.  
 Approximately 40 km.

**SAT JUN 30 — 7:00 - 11:00 PM**  
 ..... **NANAIMO BIKE MONTH FILM FESTIVAL**  
 Global Connections Café ..... 10 Front St, Nanaimo  
 Allan Dunlop ..... 250-756-3803 - dunlopallan@home.com  
 Films of all kinds, for roadies and mountain bikers alike!

**SAT JUN 30** ..... **THE MARKET CYCLING CELEBRATION**  
 The Rive Gauche Market  
 ..... Pigeon Park, Carrall & Hastings St, Vancouver  
 Catherine ..... 604-438-8616 - transwiz@home.com

## July 2001

**WED JUL 4 — 7:00 PM** ..... **NORTH VANCOUVER JBAC**  
 North Vancouver City Hall ..... 141 W 14th St, North Vancouver  
 Kevan Delaney ..... 604-983-7395 - kdelaney@city.north-van.bc.ca  
 Brian Edey ..... 604-990-2414 - bedey@dnv.org

**WED JUL 4 — 7:00 PM** ..... **RICHMOND CCC**  
 Richmond City Hall ..... 6911 No. 3 Rd, Richmond  
 Victor Wei ..... 604-276-4131 - vwei@city.richmond.bc.ca

**MON JUL 9 — 7:00 PM** ..... **MAPLE RIDGE / PITT MEADOWS BAC**  
 Pitt Meadows District Hall ..... 12007 Harris Rd, Pitt Meadows  
 Bruce McLeod .. 604-467-7342 - Bmcleod@district.maple-ridge.bc.ca

**WED JUL 11 — 6:30 PM** ..... **VACC BOARD MEETING**  
 Riverside Park Picnic Shelter .... Kent Av, east of Elliott St, Vancouver  
 Colin Brander ..... 604-733-9265 - cbb@canada.com

**WED JUL 18 — 5:30 PM** ..... **VANCOUVER BAC**  
 Vancouver City Hall ..... 453 W 12th Av, Vancouver  
 Laura Kazakoff . 604-871-6353 - laura\_kazakoff@city.vancouver.bc.ca

**MON JUL 23 — 6:30 PM** ..... **VACC NEW WESTMINSTER MEETING**  
 Sanctuary Foundation ..... 34-6th St, New Westminster  
 Andrew Feltham ..... 604-521-2742 - feltham@telus.net

**WED JUL 25 — 6:30 PM** ..... **VACC VANCOUVER MEETING**  
 Firehall Library ..... 1455 W 10th Av, Vancouver  
 Rachel Jamieson ..... 604-254-3554 - rachelbikes@hotmail.com

**WED JUL 25 — 7:30 PM** ..... **LANGLEY TOWNSHIP BAS**  
 Langley Township Operations Centre ..... 4700 - 224th St, Langley  
 Paul Cordeiro ..... 604-533-6183 - pcordeiro@tol.bc.ca

## August 2001

**WED AUG 1 — 7:00 PM** ..... **NORTH VANCOUVER JBAC**  
 North Vancouver City Hall ..... 141 W 14th St, North Vancouver  
 Kevan Delaney ..... 604-983-7395 - kdelaney@city.north-van.bc.ca  
 Brian Edey ..... 604-990-2414 - bedey@dnv.org

## August 2001

**WED AUG 1 — 7:00 PM** ..... **RICHMOND CCC**  
 Richmond City Hall ..... 6911 No. 3 Rd, Richmond  
 Victor Wei ..... 604-276-4131 - vwei@city.richmond.bc.ca

**WED AUG 8 — 6:30 PM** ..... **VACC BOARD MEETING**  
 Sanctuary Foundation ..... 34-6th St, New Westminster  
 Colin Brander ..... 604-733-9265 - cbb@canada.com

**WED AUG 22 — 7:30 PM** ..... **LANGLEY TOWNSHIP BAS**  
 Langley Township Operations Centre ..... 4700 - 224th St, Langley  
 Paul Cordeiro ..... 604-533-6183 - pcordeiro@tol.bc.ca

**MON AUG 27 — 6:30 PM** ..... **VACC NEW WESTMINSTER MEETING**  
 Sanctuary Foundation ..... 34-6th St, New Westminster  
 Andrew Feltham ..... 604-521-2742 - feltham@telus.net

**WED AUG 29 — 6:30 PM** ..... **VACC VANCOUVER MEETING**  
 Firehall Library ..... 1455 W 10th Av, Vancouver  
 Rachel Jamieson ..... 604-254-3554 - rachelbikes@hotmail.com

## September 2001

**WED SEP 5 — 7:00 PM** ..... **NORTH VANCOUVER JBAC**  
 North Vancouver City Hall ..... 141 W 14th St, North Vancouver  
 Kevan Delaney ..... 604-983-7395 - kdelaney@city.north-van.bc.ca  
 Brian Edey ..... 604-990-2414 - bedey@dnv.org

**WED SEP 5 — 7:00 PM** ..... **RICHMOND CCC**  
 Richmond City Hall ..... 6911 No. 3 Rd, Richmond  
 Victor Wei ..... 604-276-4131 - vwei@city.richmond.bc.ca

**MON SEP 10 — 7:00 PM** ..... **MAPLE RIDGE / PITT MEADOWS BAC**  
 Maple Ridge District Hall ..... 11995 Haney Pl, Maple Ridge  
 Bruce McLeod .. 604-467-7342 - Bmcleod@district.maple-ridge.bc.ca

**WED SEP 12 — 6:30 PM** ..... **NEW WESTMINSTER BAC**  
 New Westminster City Hall ..... 511 Royal Av, New Westminster  
 Edwina Steere .. 604-527-4580 - esteere@city.new-westminster.bc.ca

**WED SEP 12 — 6:30 PM** ..... **VACC BOARD MEETING**  
 Firehall Library ..... 1455 W 10th Av, Vancouver  
 Colin Brander ..... 604-733-9265 - cbb@canada.com

**WED SEP 19 — 5:30 PM** ..... **VANCOUVER BAC**  
 Vancouver City Hall ..... 453 W 12th Av, Vancouver  
 Laura Kazakoff . 604-871-6353 - laura\_kazakoff@city.vancouver.bc.ca

**MON SEP 24 — 6:30 PM** ..... **VACC NEW WESTMINSTER MEETING**  
 Sanctuary Foundation ..... 34-6th St, New Westminster  
 Andrew Feltham ..... 604-521-2742 - feltham@telus.net

**WED SEP 26 — 6:30 PM** ..... **VACC VANCOUVER MEETING**  
 Firehall Library ..... 1455 W 10th Av, Vancouver  
 Rachel Jamieson ..... 604-254-3554 - rachelbikes@hotmail.com

**WED SEP 26 — 7:30 PM** ..... **LANGLEY TOWNSHIP BAS**  
 Langley Township Operations Centre ..... 4700 - 224th St, Langley  
 Paul Cordeiro ..... 604-533-6183 - pcordeiro@tol.bc.ca

**THU SEP 27 — 6:00 PM** ..... **BURNABY BAC**  
 Burnaby City Hall ..... 4949 Canada Way, Burnaby  
 Gloria McCaskie ..... 604-294-7295 - McCaskie@city.burnaby.bc.ca

## October 2001

**MON OCT 1 — 7:00 PM** ..... **MAPLE RIDGE / PITT MEADOWS BAC**  
 Pitt Meadows District Hall ..... 12007 Harris Rd, Pitt Meadows  
 Bruce McLeod .. 604-467-7342 - Bmcleod@district.maple-ridge.bc.ca

# False Creek North school

By Kari Hewett

On April 17th the City of Vancouver's Development Permit Board reviewed and approved —subject to conditions — an elementary school development application for 150 Drake Street, in Vancouver's Yaletown area. Purportedly the largest urban development in North America, it would seem an ideal location to float innovative, progressive measures such as a higher ratio of bicycle racks to car parking spaces than the basic minimum requirements of the Parking By-law presently provides for.

This meeting accepted a proposal to merely conform to current standards, however. In a response to my e-mail enquiry a few days later, Rick Scobie, of the City of Vancouver, explained:

"The submission before the Development Permit Board included two (Class A) bicycle spaces/lockers, located within the underground parking area for staff use and 15 (Class B) bicycle spaces in racks at grade adjacent to Drake Street, intended for use by school children and school visitors. This satisfied the minimum requirements of the Parking By-law - one Class A and 15 Class B spaces - for the staff and student populations even with the future contemplated school addition to increase enrollment to up to 400 students. The applicant was encouraged to provide more student bicycle parking in future, if experience indicates it is warranted, however, the Development Permit Board did not impose a requirement in excess of the By-law minima."

For the large student population, and 28 staff, there will be 38 car parking spaces, which is 10 more than necessary. The City of Vancouver further expects to construct and fund the underground parking lot; the rationale being that it will serve the public outside of school hours.

It is difficult to understand the logic of this decision, from a practical, environmental or health perspective. Cycling and walking to school in this very densely-populated area should be the norm, and not relegated to a fringe activity by under-allocating the necessary resources. Adequate numbers of secure racks, showers, and lockers are essential to encourage and promote this practice, by all members of the school's community.

What good can be gained from making automobile access not only easy but preferred? Emissions and the probability of injury both increase.

And what of the declining state of our overall health? Canadian children are becoming less physically active and obesity rates for

elementary school-aged children have doubled between 1981 and 1996, according to a report written early this year. Trips to and from school on a bike can be both joyful and healthy.

So, what happened?

The "developer" of this project, the Vancouver School Board, appears to be partly constrained by the type and amount of funding it receives from the provincial Ministry of Education. Vancouver City Councillor, Sandy McCormick said, "there is no provision in Ministry capital funding policies for things which are deemed by the provincial government to be 'extra's' like bike racks or adventure playgrounds. Parents must fundraise for these things, or do without."

Ian Wasson suggests there is another angle, "change the municipal Zoning By-law for that zone to require a ratio of bike racks per students: they always know the student capacity for a building, that's how they calculate the parking ratio."

It is hard to believe that in the infant years of this new millennium that we must fight to get back what seemed commonplace only twenty-five years ago. My elementary school had over 60 rack spaces, which were packed to capacity every day; if you were driven to school, that was odd.

The various levels of decision-makers, both elected and staff, need to be consistently pushed to provide the best cycling facilities and infrastructure available at all our schools and institutions in Vancouver and the throughout the Lower Mainland. Developing positive, empowering habits early in life is essential, as is continuing them into adulthood.

Six Grade Five students from Matthew Begbie School recently penned a very fine letter to **The Vancouver Sun** saying, "pollution is harming our environment. Cars and trucks burn a lot of oil, which pollutes the air.... We can help stop pollution by riding bikes, walking, carpooling and using mass transit." These children know what's wrong and what needs to be done to change it.

We are able to help them by electing representatives with the vision and ability to make this more available, and by keeping the pressure on.

For this project write to Sarah Baker the Vancouver School Board's Manager of Planning & Facilities. Also contact the City of Vancouver Council to express your concerns about the Bicycle Parking By-Law. Details on page 8 of **The Urbane Cyclist**.

This truly is an investment in the future.



# Grandview Highway North

By Richard Campbell

The VACC Central Valley committee supports area residents demand for further traffic calming measures along Grandview Highway North. In general, the VACC is encouraged with the city's plans for the Greenway. However, further street closures would make Grandview Highway North in Vancouver a wonderful greenway and cycling route.

While the planned traffic circles will serve to calm traffic somewhat, some drivers do speed between the circles. While others dangerously squeeze cyclists at the traffic circle. East from Slokan Street to New Westminster, much of the proposed Central Valley Greenway will be on separated paths. It is very important for the Grandview Highway North section to be relatively consistent with the rest of the route so that it benefits the maximum number of people.

The VACC suggests street closures on the following sections:

## Kamloops to Pentiction

Here, the road borders on an apartment complex with a larger than

usual green space between the fence surrounding the complex and the road. This section could be easily closed with very little impact on resident access yet the closure would greatly discourage the use of Grandview Highway North and other local streets as a shortcut from Slokan to Naniamo.

## Pentiction to Slokan

When the road right of way is combined with the green space from Vancouver Technical Secondary School grounds and from the Grandview Cut, which is wide in this area, a nice park can be created. This closure would completely prevent shortcutting.

## Victoria to Commercial

This section is narrow and has a relatively high level of commuter traffic shortcutting from Broadway to Commercial as well as buses turning

# Making improvements to the Pattullo

By Jim Alix

The Pattullo Bridge has become an important route within the Lower Mainland for cyclists because it is the only direct connection available for cyclists traveling between Surrey and the communities north of the Fraser River. Many cyclists use the Pattullo Bridge daily for cycling to work, for shopping, and for recreational purposes.

In spite of the fact that both the cities of Surrey and New Westminster have been very proactive in making their communities bicycle friendly, we felt that there were some major deficiencies for cyclists accessing the Pattullo Bridge from both sides, deficiencies which can be improved at minimal cost. The VACC recently sent letters to the cities of Surrey and New Westminster, and to TransLink, whose responsibilities include this important link. Specific examples and recommendations given included maintenance (both of road or trail surface and of encroaching vegetation), widening of the path approaching the bridge and of the sidewalk on the bridge (by shifting no-post barriers\* minor amounts), signage and other visibility improvements (why isn't the no-post painted?) and suggestions for placement of cyclist-activated signals.

Special note was made of the fact that the new Millennium Trail in New Westminster was clearly not designed for commuter traffic. Thus, it is still necessary to accommodate cyclists on McBride Boulevard, especially with the new traffic patterns on the north side. Slight

adjustments to the "vehicle-metering" traffic lights soon to be installed at the Columbia/McBride/Royal intersection (just before the bridge, proper) would allow a cyclist to cross safely and would have a negligible effect on motor vehicle traffic.

The VACC proposed that a multi-use trail be built on the east side of McBride Boulevard from Royal Avenue to 7th Avenue. Ultimately, this could connect to the Fraser River Greenway (through the Woodlands property) and would provide safe and convenient access to the Queen's Park Housing Co-op. Overall, these improvements would allow better access between New Westminster, Surrey and beyond to the Fraser Valley. Similarly they provide better access from Downtown New Westminster and Fraserview to the Canada Games Pool, the Justice Institute and to the new Crosstown Greenway.

If the Pattullo Bridge is of concern to you then you should contact the three government bodies involved - TransLink and the cities of Surrey and New Westminster - by turning to page 8 of this edition of

**The Urbane Cyclist** and write your own letters.

*\*No-post barriers - These are grey concrete barriers that line highways throughout British Columbia.* ☺

## Continued from DOWNTOWN on page 1.

connections to the Cambie Bridge are provided.

In addition to its existing city-wide transportation plan, the City of Vancouver is currently developing a transportation plan specific to the downtown peninsula, to be completed by December 2001. This project involves extensive public consultation - your opportunity to get involved.

The VACC Vancouver site ([www.vacc.bc.ca/vancouver](http://www.vacc.bc.ca/vancouver)) contains further information and suggestions for action. To voice your support for a bike friendly downtown peninsula, please write to Mayor Philip Owen and the City of Vancouver Council. Address information is on page 8 of **The Urbane Cyclist**. ☺

## Continued from GRANDVIEW HIGHWAY North on page 6.

around at the SkyTrain station. Blocking access to the westbound lane at Broadway will greatly improve cyclist and pedestrian safety and likely improve the access for the buses as well.

### McLean to Woodland

Closing this busy section would be wonderful and would extend the green space of the Grandview Elementary School grounds to the Grandview Cut. It would also likely increase safety for children walking and riding to school that currently have to cross busy Grandview Highway North.

These street closures will also reduce traffic cutting through this neighbourhood and provide much needed green space. The improved safety and convenience the closures will create for cyclists and pedestrians, which are the city's transportation priorities, will outweigh the slight inconvenience motorists may experience.

If done now, the cost of closing these two sections of Grandview Highway North is likely less than the cost of the currently planned reconstruction of the road. If the city decides to close these sections at a later point, this incurs further costs to the taxpayers.

Please send letters to Mayor Philip Owen and Council. You will find contact information of page 8 of **The Urbane Cyclist**. Other information can be found by visiting the VACC Central Valley committee's website at [www.vacc.bc.ca/centralvalley](http://www.vacc.bc.ca/centralvalley). ☺

# WORK WITH THE VACC

## YES, I'M WILLING TO WORK AT IMPROVING CYCLING!

### I want to volunteer on these working groups:

- Burnaby Committee ..... Brian 604-522-2977
- Central Valley Committee ..... Richard 604-733-1764
- Delta/North Surrey Committee ..... Sheila 604-930-1673
- New Westminster Committee ..... Andrew 604-521-2742
- North Shore Committee ..... Ken 604-731-6220
- South Surrey/White Rock Committee ..... Jean 604-531-3484
- Tri-Cities Committee ..... Brian 604-522-2977
- Vancouver Committee ..... Rachel 604-254-3554
- Communications Committee ..... Ken 604-731-6220
- Also, I want to contribute to the VACC by doing the following:

---



---



---



---



# CanBike / BikeSmarts

By Bruce Mol

The Strathcona Area Safety Society has asked for a **CanBike** course for teachers, parents, and volunteers who wish to teach the **BikeSmarts** curriculum to the K-7 crowd. If you would like **CanBike** Certification and have a special interest in teaching children bike skills this intense two day course is for you. Some parts of the regular **CanBike** course will be touched on only briefly to make room for **BikeSmarts** discussions.

This is a 18-plus Hour Course over 2 days. Sunday, June 17th and Sunday, June 24th from 9 AM to 6 PM. Bike and helmet must be in excellent condition. Bring a lunch. Information on webpage [www.gonecycling.com/training.html](http://www.gonecycling.com/training.html)

## How Much

The charge is \$125 for general public or \$105 for members of the Vancouver Area Cycling Coalition.

Venue is at Strathcona Community Centre at 605 East Keefer Street, Vancouver.


## How To Register

You must contact Bruce Mol by phone or e-mail. Full payment is required one week prior to course. Contact info below.

For more **CanBike** Information: If you need more information check these web pages [www.gonecycling.com/canbike.html](http://www.gonecycling.com/canbike.html) and [www.gonecycling.com/course.html](http://www.gonecycling.com/course.html) or phone 604-519-1442.

**CanBike** is based on **Effective Cycling** by John Forester. This book is available at libraries, Mountain Equipment Co-op, and finer bookstores throughout the city.

Enrolment is limited: the first eight people to register with full payment, are in. The next eight go on a waiting list until one week prior when we decide how many assistants are required to ensure safe road passage for up to sixteen people.

Phone: 604-519-1442 – E-mail: [bruce@gonecycling.com](mailto:bruce@gonecycling.com) – Web Site: [www.gonecycling.com](http://www.gonecycling.com) 

## Who to write about issues in this edition of The Urbane Cyclist.

### City of New Westminster

✉ Mayor Helen Sparkes and Council  
511 Royal Avenue  
New Westminster, BC V3L 1H9  
Phone: ..... 604-527-4522  
Fax: ..... 604-527-4594  
[hsparkes@city.new-westminster.bc.ca](mailto:hsparkes@city.new-westminster.bc.ca)

### City of Surrey

✉ Mayor Doug McCallum and Council  
City of Surrey  
14245 - 56th Avenue  
Surrey, BC V3X 3A2  
Phone: ..... 604-591-4126  
Fax: ..... 604-591-8731  
[www.city.surrey.bc.ca/CityCouncil/ContactCouncil.htm](http://www.city.surrey.bc.ca/CityCouncil/ContactCouncil.htm)

### TransLink

✉ George Puil  
Chair  
TransLink  
1700 - 4720 Kingsway  
Burnaby, BC V5H 4N2  
Phone: ..... 604-453-4500  
Fax: ..... 604-453-4626

### City of Vancouver

✉ Mayor Philip Owen and Council  
453 West 12th Avenue  
Vancouver, BC V5Y 1V4  
Phone: ..... 604-873-7273  
Fax: ..... 604-873-7750  
[mayorandcouncil@city.vancouver.bc.ca](mailto:mayorandcouncil@city.vancouver.bc.ca)

### Vancouver School Board

✉ Barbara Buchanan  
Chair of the Board of Trustees  
Vancouver School Board  
1580 West Broadway  
Vancouver, BC V6J 5K8  
Phone: ..... 604-264-4493  
[bbuchanan@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:bbuchanan@vsb.bc.ca)

### Vancouver School Board

✉ Sarah Baker  
Manager - Planning & Facilities  
Vancouver School Board  
1580 West Broadway  
Vancouver, BC V6J 5K8  
Phone: ..... 604-713-5252  
Fax: ..... 604-713-5257  
[sbaker@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:sbaker@vsb.bc.ca)

### Remember...

The more letters that are written to these people, the more likely things will get better for cyclists. However, if you do not write or call these official people, the less likely things will change for the better. It's up to you.

# JOIN THE VACC !

**YES, I WANT TO CYCLE FOR A BETTER COMMUNITY.**

1st Person: \_\_\_\_\_  
2nd Person: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_  
Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: (        ) \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

The VACC does not sell or give out address information.

The VACC reserves the right to contact individual members through the above information.

- Please e-mail *The Urbane Cyclist* to me.       \$20.00 Individual  
 \$10.00 Fixed/Student/Low Income  
 \$ 5.00 Each Additional Individual  
 \$80.00 Corporate/Organization

### I heard about the VACC:

- through the media.  
 from this newsletter.  
 via the website.  
 from a friend.  
 from another cyclist.  
 at a community event.  
 other: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make cheques payable to:  
**VANCOUVER AREA CYCLING COALITION**  
and mail, along with this application, to:

**VACC - Memberships**  
**PO Box 40074 RPO Royal City**  
**New Westminster BC V3M 6J7**

*Thank you!*