

3RD NATIONAL BIKE SUMMIT

MAY 13-14, 2019 | OTTAWA, CANADA



SUMMIT **IMPACT** REPORT

The vision of **Vélo Canada Bikes (VCB)** is a Canada where people of all ages and abilities can safely ride a bicycle for daily transportation. The evidence for the benefits of cycling continues to mount rapidly, and building bike friendly environments across Canada will bring important health, environmental, and economic benefits to all Canadians.



The **current priorities** of Vélo Canada Bikes are to:



1. **Bring Canada in line with most OECD countries by getting the Federal government to develop a National Cycling Strategy**, as part of a larger active transportation (AT) strategy, which will serve as a framework for collaborative action between all levels of government to advance cycling in Canada.



2. **Have a dedicated federal infrastructure fund** for active transportation so all communities can receive financial support to make their communities safe, convenient and enjoyable for pedestrians and cyclists alike.

On May 13-14, 2019, Vélo Canada Bikes hosted the **3rd National Bike Summit** at Ottawa City Hall and on Parliament Hill.

WITH A FEDERAL ELECTION TAKING PLACE IN THE FALL OF 2019, THE **SUMMIT OBJECTIVES WERE TO:**



Illustrate how **investments in cycling will lead to** a healthier, greener and more prosperous Canada.



Demonstrate the need and **importance of federal support** to advance everyday cycling in Canada.



Mobilize cycling stakeholders to **work together** to achieve a bike and active transportation friendly Canada.



Engage with parliamentarians and decision-makers from all levels of government and civil society to increase understanding of the opportunity cycling presents for a healthier, greener, more equitable Canada.

THE SUMMIT AT A GLANCE



Over 115 people attended the 2019 Bike Summit. Delegates travelled to the Bike Summit from across Canada and internationally, representing 92 organizations, including the All Party Parliamentary Cycling Caucus, municipal leaders, cycling advocates, policy makers, academics, not-for-profit organizations and industry. Over the 3 days of the Summit, Vélo Canada Bikes received over 67,000 Twitter impressions, allowing us to spread our vision across Canada!

The full Summit program included a pre-summit session featuring a roundtable discussion on greenways and trails on May 12th. On May 13th, there was a full day of **presentations from cycling experts** at Ottawa City Hall and over the lunch hour, Canadian cycling industry leaders were hosted for a lunchtime industry session. In the evening, a reception was hosted by the All Party Parliamentary Cycling Caucus in the Parliamentary Precinct.

On Tuesday May 14th, delegates met with 21 MPs from all parties, to ask that a national cycling strategy be part of their election platforms. Delegates also participated in a visioning session that examined what content should be included in a national cycling strategy. The day finished off with the 8th Annual Bike Day on the Hill and a **bike ride with the Governor General, Her Excellency the Right Honourable Julie Payette.**



AGENDA | Monday, May 13th, 2019 | Ottawa City Hall, 110 Laurier Ave W, K1P 1J1

7:30am - 8:30am	REGISTRATION AND CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST
8:30am - 8:50am	WELCOMING REMARKS Jeff Leiper, Councillor, City of Ottawa Kate Walker, Vélo Canada Bikes
8:50am - 9:20am	OPENING REMARKS Dr. Theresa Tam, Canada's Chief Public Health Officer
9:20am - 9:50am	Importance of a National Cycling Strategy for Canada Anders Swanson, Vélo Canada Bikes
9:50am - 10:20am	Economic Benefits of Increasing Cycling in Canada Todd Litman, Victoria Transport Policy Institute
10:20am - 10:40am	REFRESHMENT BREAK & NETWORKING
	BY THE NUMBERS: MEASURING BICYCLE USAGE IN CANADA
	How is Cycling Increasing Across Canada?
10:40am - 11:20am	Yvonne Verlinden, The Centre for Active Transportation, Toronto
	National Active Transportation Report Card
	Jamie Hilland, Urban Systems

11:25am-12:25pm BREAKOUT SESSIONS

THE (SURPRISING?) IMPORTANCE OF BICYCLE PARKING FOR PROMOTING CYCLING IN CANADA

The Bike Rack is the New Blue Box

Elyse McCann, EnviroCentre, Ottawa

BREAKOUT #1

Bicycle Parking Can No Longer Be a Transportation System Afterthought

Zve Leve, RuePublique, Montreal

“More Than Just Parking Bikes”: Examining the Case of One City’s Bike Valet Service

Jerome Nicol, Saskatoon Cycles

CYCLING AND EQUITY IN CANADA

The Full Cost of Cycling - Economics of Sustainable Transportation

Kealey Dekker, City of Calgary, Alberta

BREAKOUT #2

Cycling Equity: Infrastructure is Not Enough

Robin Black, Cyclo Nord Sud, Montreal

Measuring Success: Active Transportation and Health Indicators Report

Sue Sauvé, City of Peterborough, Ontario

MUNICIPAL AND PROVINCIAL CYCLING INITIATIVES IN CANADA

#BikesCanDoThat

Jamie Stuckless, Share the Road, Ontario

BREAKOUT #3

Cyclovía Red Deer 2018 and beyond!

Bill Franz, Red Deer Association for Bicycle Commuting

Revision of Quebec’s Highway Code: The Vélo Québec Advocacy Campaign

Jean-François Pronovost, Vélo Québec

AREAS OF CYCLING GROWTH: CARGO BIKES AND TRAILS

Policy Needs for Stimulating the Pedelec Cycle Logistics Market in Canada

Sam Starr, Critical Mobility, Vancouver

BREAKOUT #4

Recreational Trails and Benefits to Canada

AJ Strawson, International Mountain Bicycling Association (Canada)

The Great American Rail Trail

Kevin Belanger, Rails to Trails Conservancy, USA

12:30pm - 1:15pm LUNCH



1:15pm - 1:45pm **Increasing Cycling in Canada to Decrease Greenhouse Gas Emissions**
Dr. Karl Saidla, Carleton University

1:45pm - 2:30pm **BIKE\$: What Does the Future of the Bicycle Industry in Canada Look Like?**
Industry Panel
Tim Hadfield, Shimano Canada
Sylvain Bosse, Outdoor Gear Canada
Michael Manocha, Invest in Canada

2:30pm - 2:50pm **REFRESHMENT BREAK**

2:50pm - 3:30pm **E-Power and Bikes: The Future is Here**
A panel discussion all about e-bikes, why they are changing transportation and what Canada can do to prepare
Dr. Dea van Lierop, Utrecht University
Sam Starr, Critical Mobility
Richard Campbell, British Columbia Cycling Coalition

3:30pm - 4:10pm **KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Cycling Infrastructure & Women on Bikes**
Dr. Kay Teschke, Professor Emeritus, University of British Columbia

4:10pm - 4:30pm **Political Perspectives on the Future of Cycling in Canada**
Elizabeth May, Leader of the Federal Green Party

4:30pm - 4:45pm **CLOSING REMARKS**

6:00pm - 9:00pm **EVENING RECEPTION**
Wellington Building, Parliamentary Precinct
180 Wellington St, Room 430, Ottawa, ON, K1A 0A6
Reception hosted by the All-Party Parliamentary Cycling Caucus

- The Arnos - National Cycling Advocacy Awards Ceremony
- Announcement of Top 10 Cycling Infrastructure Projects





AGENDA | Tuesday, May 14th, 2019 | Room 705 in Victoria Building
| 140 Wellington St, Ottawa

7:00am ARRIVE AT VICTORIA BUILDING AND CLEAR SECURITY

7:30am - 9:00am CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

8:00am - 9:00am Delegate Training for Cycling Education Day
Room 705 Victoria Building
Please note: This training is mandatory for those signed up to participate in the Cycling Education Day

9:00am - 4:00pm Cycling Education and Engagement Meetings
Teams of Summit delegates will meet with MP's and Senators and discuss the case for cycling as a tool to achieve our Paris targets, improve the health of Canadians, reduce inequality and boost our economy

9:00am - 3:00pm CONCURRENT PROGRAMMING
ROOM 705 IN THE VICTORIA BUILDING

9:00am - 10:00am Provincial Cycling & Active Transportation Strategies in Canada
British Columbia - Richard Campbell, British Columbia Cycling Coalition
Ontario - Jamie Stuckless, Share the Road

10:30am - 11:00am BREAK

11:00am - 12:30pm FEDERAL CYCLING ADVOCACY WORKSHOP

12:30pm - 1:30pm LUNCH

1:30pm - 2:30pm Collective Next Steps as Cycling and Active Transportation Stakeholders

2:30pm - 3:00pm WRAP UP: LESSONS LEARNED

3:00pm - 4:00pm FREE TIME

4:00pm 8TH ANNUAL BIKE DAY ON THE HILL
Organized by National Health and Fitness Day

4:30pm GATHER ON THE STEPS OF PARLIAMENT WITH YOUR BIKE

5:00pm INTERPROVINCIAL BIKE RIDE with Parliamentarians, guests and delegates from the National Bike Summit

6:00pm - 8:00pm BBQ IN THE EAST BLOCK COURTYARD, PARLIAMENT HILL

PRE-SUMMIT GREENWAYS AND TRAILS ROUNDTABLE

Across Canada, pedestrians and active recreationalists are being “mixed” with motor vehicles onto one trail, creating unsatisfactory experiences for active people and leading to their displacement from rail trails and other greenway trails. Rail trails, in particular, are perfectly suited to human powered transportation due to their low grades. The pre-Summit roundtable discussion was comprised of representatives from trail organizations, health and fitness groups, and industry representatives who met to share challenges and opportunities for trail organizations across Canada.



DAY 1 AT OTTAWA CITY HALL

HIGHLIGHTS



The morning session of the Bike Summit featured an opening **keynote address** from **Dr. Theresa Tam**, Canada’s Chief Public Health Officer, whose first report in 2017 focused on designing healthy living through changing our built environment. Dr Tam highlighted the positive physical and mental health benefits for Canadians that active modes of transit like cycling provide.

Four concurrent break-out sessions provided delegates with an array of options to choose from:

- The (Surprising?) Importance of Bicycle Parking for Boosting Cycling in Canada
- Cycling and Equity in Canada
- Municipal and Provincial Cycling Initiatives in Canada
- Areas of Cycling Growth : Cargo Bikes and Trails





Afternoon keynote presenter, Dr. Kay Teschke, Professor Emeritus from the University of British Columbia, talked about gender and cycling and the importance of safe infrastructure to encourage more women to cycle. Safety concerns affect women disproportionately and Dr. Teschke's research has identified key infrastructure to support cycling, including how painted bike lanes are not safer than roads without bike lanes, and how separated bike lanes are the only infrastructure that strongly motivates more cycling.

“Women are the indicator species for cycling. If half the people cycling are women, you’re building it right.”

- Dr. Kay Teschke -

Throughout the day, speakers and summit participants actively participated in **Q&A sessions and engaged in inclusive, multi-stakeholder, discussions.**

What do Summit delegates see as the **barriers to the Federal government taking a more active role** in creating a bike friendly Canada?



- 35%** ● Lack of political will
- 24%** ● Lack of voter support
- 16.5%** ● Federal government sees the promotion of biking as the role of provinces and municipalities
- 13%** ● No real barriers, only perceived by decision-makers
- 9.5%** ● Other
- 1%** ● Cost of building dedicated infrastructure is too high

The day's events were rounded off with an entertaining **Q&A featuring Federal Green Party Leader, Elizabeth May, and Vélo Canada Bikes Chair, Anders Swanson**, with each making the case for national transportation policy that includes money and planning for the provision of networks of protected bike lanes.

“Bicycles should have more rights on our streets, pedestrians should have more rights on our streets and cars should have less.”

- Elizabeth May -



CYCLING INDUSTRY ROUNDTABLE

Over 20 representatives from the Canadian cycling industry were invited to participate in a roundtable discussion over lunch on May 13th. Points of discussion included: the need for both specialized stores and large retailers to work together to advance cycling in Canada and how important it is for Canada to prepare for an e-bike revolution and make this line of business profitable for Canadian companies.

Record attendance from industry representatives at the **3rd Bike Summit** bodes well for the future of bicycle sales, distribution, manufacturing and innovation in Canada. Together we can make an even better case that bikes mean business.



E-BIKES DEMO AND PANEL SESSION

Thanks to sponsorship from Bosch and Scooteretti, Summit delegates had the opportunity to try e-bikes in the courtyard at City Hall on May 13th. New this year to the e-bike demo was a Class 3 e-bike. A particular big thank you goes out to William Leishman, the owner of Scooteretti, for making the class 3 e-bike demo possible.

During an e-bikes panel session on the afternoon of May 13th, there was recognition of the huge potential of e-bikes to open new markets for new people to cycle, and an urgent need for federal leadership to support this new wave in mobility as it spreads across Canada. Attendees were briefed on the importance of regulatory harmonization and of national-level programs like rebates (especially in light of recently-announced rebates for electric automobiles). Delegates were encouraged to learn and share as much as possible to prepare for the e-mobility “revolution” and make sure Canada gets it right.



EVENING RECEPTION | HOSTED BY THE ALL PARTY PARLIAMENTARY CYCLING CAUCUS

An evening reception was hosted on May 13, 2019 by the All Party Parliamentary Cycling Caucus, with Members of Parliament Pam Damoff, Wayne Stetski and Gord Johns welcoming guests, including a number of dignitaries. The evening also featured a special guest appearance by Sharon Donnelly, a Canadian Olympic triathlete, who spoke about her career and noted that “I would travel the world to ride, and then come back home and feel disappointed about what [bike infrastructure] we have here. I want Canada to be on the top of my destination list”.



THE ‘ARNOS’-NATIONAL CYCLING ADVOCACY AWARDS CEREMONY



Arno Schortinghuis

The evening reception also saw the launch of the “**Arnos**”, a National cycling advocacy awards ceremony, created in memory of Arno Schortinghuis, who passed away in 2018. Arno was the longest serving board member of VCB and a champion of cycling at the local, provincial and national level. If you talk to anyone who knew him, they would describe Arno as a passionate, gentle, thoughtful, kind individual, with a twinkle in his eye. He was known as a conciliator, who always looked for common ground to try and secure agreement and move a group or an issue forward.

A lifelong champion for cycling, Arno understood that the pace of change to achieve a bike-friendly Canada would primarily be accelerated through greater political will. Born in the Netherlands, a country well-known for its cycling culture, Arno knew what it would take to create a similar culture in other countries and cities around the world. He believed in the power of data to make the case for greater investment in cycling infrastructure, and worked tirelessly to promote the many benefits of cycling.

The Arnos will honour Arno’s legacy to cycling moving forward. **The Arnos comprise of three awards** – the National Cycling Advocate of the Year, the Industry Award and the **Lifetime Achievement Award (awarded for 2019 to Arno)**, in memoriam, and collected by Richard Campbell on behalf of Arno’s family).





The **National Cycling Advocate of the Year** for 2019 went to Mayor Lisa Helps of Victoria, BC, who received the award in person from Summit Chair, Kate Walker.



The **Industry Award** went to David Bowman of Outdoor Gear Canada, presented to Sylvain Bosse by past VCB board member, Laura Robinson.

TOP TEN BEST BIKE PROJECTS IN CANADA

The Top Ten Best Bike Projects In Canada 2018 were also announced at the evening reception. The goal of these awards is to highlight some of the best new cycling projects in Canada so others can admire, share and learn! These awards were a collaborative effort with Vélo Canada Bikes and SRAM, and nominations were sought from across the country. The Top 10 Bike Projects of 2018 (in no particular order!) were:

Vélorution - Saint-Michel – Montréal, QC

West Alexander to East Exchange District Protected Bikes Lanes – Winnipeg, MB

17th Ave BRT Bike / Ped Bridge / Pathways – Calgary, AB

Moving Saanich Forward – Saanich, BC

Halifax Side Guards Initiative – Halifax, NS

Dockless Bike Share : Lime Bikes – Calgary, AB

EME Vélo + - Shippagan, NB

Implementation of Laval Cycle Network - Laval, QC

Alberta Bicycle Facility Design Guide - Alberta

Fort Street Protected Bike Lanes – Victoria, BC

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE SELECTED PROJECTS!



CYCLING EDUCATION DAY

As in previous years, the last day of the Bike Summit on **May 14th featured a cycling education day, with small groups of delegates meeting with MP's to discuss cycling.** The delegates were briefed on VCB's 2019 election asks and then **met with 21 MPs from key committees that address health, finance, culture and sport; the Deputy Minister of Infrastructure, and the Ministry of Transportation.** Discussions focused on key strategies to advance cycling, which if executed will lead to reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, improve the health of Canadians, reduce inequality and boost our economy.

While groups of delegates met with MPs and other decision-makers, concurrent programming was provided for the remaining Bike Summit delegates. Delegates learned about provincial cycling and active transportation strategies in Canada and heard from John Weston, a former MP for West Vancouver—Sunshine Coast—Sea to Sky Country. John focused his remarks on the best ways to conduct federal advocacy. This was followed by a small group discussion where delegates were asked to identify, based on the stakeholders they represented, what elements should be included in a national cycling strategy.

The concurrent session finished off with a **group visioning session** that identified our next collective steps as cycling and active transportation stakeholders. Delegates unanimously agreed on the need for federal leadership to accelerate action to support cycling and other modes of active transportation. Specifically, **delegates noted the value of federal direction to provide standards across Canada, address inequities across rural and urban communities, and provide ways to incentivize cycling, walking and transit over car use.** The message from delegates was clear - Canada must invest in a national cycling or active transportation strategy and dedicated infrastructure to support action from coast to coast to coast.



MOVING THE NEEDLE ON A **BIKE-FRIENDLY CANADA** 2019 FEDERAL ELECTION ASKS

The Bike Summit once again highlighted the **urgent and growing demand for federal action** to support cycling and other modes of active transportation. Our collective call to action is clear - Vélo Canada Bikes and its broad and varied group of allies ask that all federal parties consider including the following in their 2019 election platforms:

**IN COLLABORATION WITH PROVINCIAL AND TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENTS,
THE FEDERATION OF CANADIAN MUNICIPALITIES, THE ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS
AND ADDITIONAL STAKEHOLDERS, THE PARTY, IF ELECTED, WILL:**

#1 SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION STRATEGY FOR CANADA.

As part of this strategy, the government will establish a national-level forum to consult, share, and develop a plan for safely moving more people and goods by bicycle and by foot, in a wide variety of Canadian settings including urban, rural and remote communities. The plan will consider the unique needs of the different modes of active transportation, particularly biking and walking, and the importance of building active transportation infrastructure to maximize existing and future investments in public transit infrastructure.

#2 CREATE A FUNDING STREAM designed to rapidly increase the development and improvement of active transportation infrastructure and related traffic calming in all Canadian municipalities and in rural areas.

#3 DIRECT STATISTICS CANADA TO COLLECT DATA that will ensure the adequate and appropriate monitoring and reporting of the prevalence, potential and safety of cycling and active transportation in Canadian municipalities. Use this data to set achievable evidence-based five- and ten-year transportation mode share targets for cycling, walking and transit.

8TH ANNUAL BIKE DAY ON THE HILL

The **8th Annual Bike Day on the Hill**, organized by National Health and Fitness Day and Vélo Canada Bikes, took place on Parliament Hill on the afternoon of May 14, 2019.

At 4:30pm, parliamentarians, summit delegates and cycling supporters gathered on the steps of Parliament Hill with their bicycles and listened to federal leaders pledge support for cycling in Canada. Senator Marty Deacon was joined by Elizabeth May, leader of the Federal Green Party; Catherine McKenna, Minister of Environment and Climate Change; and her Excellency the Right Honourable Julie Payette,

“We need a national transportation policy that enhances the value of bikes, walking and transit and downgrades the value put on the personal automobile” - **Elizabeth May**



After the speeches were completed, Bike Summit delegates participated in an interprovincial bike ride with parliamentarians and cycling supporters. Following the ride, participants gathered in the East Block Courtyard for a BBQ and social.

NEXT STEPS AND CALL TO ACTION

With a federal election on the horizon, it's time to **let our elected officials know that support for cycling matters to Canadians**. As of June 2019, both the Green Party and the NDP have committed to support cycling in their national platforms, recognizing the value of cycling as a means to reduce Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions, improve health and boost the economy.



HELP VCB GET CYCLING ON THE AGENDA OF ALL FEDERAL PARTIES:



Call your MP and the other Federal candidates in your riding, and ask them what their party is doing to support cycling and inform them of VCB's election asks.



Invite your MP to a "Ride Your Riding" election special event.
Showcase the many benefits of a Bike Friendly Canada in your community.



Donate to Vélo Canada Bikes
(a registered non-profit organisation), to help us build the case for a bike-friendly Canada.



Support your local bike organisations and retailers, because bikes mean business.



QUESTIONS TO ASK OF YOUR MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT AND FEDERAL CANDIDATES:

1. Since countries who develop a strong national cycling strategy see escalating ridership and economic, social and environmental benefits, **what will your party do to develop a national cycling strategy?**
2. Knowing the benefits of bicycling for transportation and the link between safe cycling infrastructure and increased ridership, **what will your government do to hasten the construction of national, regional and local networks of protected bicycle infrastructure?**

OUR SUMMIT SPONSORS

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Photography by Vélo Canada Bikes board member, Yvonne Bambrick



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