

Vancouver

Vancouver Cycling Coalition

Website

www.vacc.bc.ca

Membership

Individual

\$20/year regular

\$10/year Student/Fixed/Low Income

+\$5/year each additional person at the same address

+\$5 /year for joint VACC/BC Cycling Coalition membership

Corporate

\$80/year per organization

Perks

Receive discounts at participating bike shops around the Lower Mainland

Get the VACC's nifty and informative newsletter, *The Urbane Cyclist*, delivered to your door (or your computer) four times a year

Committees

They have a board of directors who meet every second month. Out of the Board, they have an "Executive Committee" that is a sub-committee of the board and they meet on the off months. Due to the complex geography, they have sub-committees by region/area. For instance, they have a Vancouver-UBC Committee and a Surrey Committee. They also have a communications committee (web/newsletter/promotion etc.), a Fundraising committee and a Volunteer committee. The board deals mainly with organizational issues and the region/area committees deal with most of the advocacy. They also have a volunteer coordinator who organizes their volunteers to attend various events such as staffing tables and raising the profile of the organization. They state that they have a very active volunteer program in large part to a very enthusiastic volunteer coordinator.

Board

President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, 5 Members at Large.

Comments

Here is an excerpt from an email Colin Brander, their director sent me:

I think that some of the most effective aspects of cycling advocacy is to be positive and try to make friends, not enemies. We have approached politicians to discuss issues. We

attend any open houses/workshops etc, that relate in any way to cycling and make sure that we are heard and ensure that comment cards are completed etc. We develop an approach on specific issues, put together a position paper and send a letter to the Mayor and council. We encourage others to write as well. When issues go before council, we encourage as many people as possible attend to ensure that we are heard. We also make contacts with staff and meet with them often to discuss issues. In fact some have attended some of our committee meetings. We also have active Bicycle Advisory Committees (BAC) in many of our municipalities, so if there isn't one in Winnipeg, that is something to push for. Here is some information on the City of Vancouver's BAC:
<http://vancouver.ca/ctyclerk/civicagencies/bicycle/index.htm>

Ottawa

Citizens for Safe Cycling

Website

www.safecycling.ca

Membership

Costs

Individual

1 Year \$20

2 Years \$35

Household (Allows for 2nd Member)

1 Year \$25

2 Years \$45

Low Income

1 Year \$10

Perks

- Discounts at Ottawa bike stores with your membership card
- A Better Bicycling kit packed with information and resources on safe cycling
- Free delivery of the Chain Mail newsletter to your mail or e-mail box, with the latest news on CfSC's work and cycling in Ottawa
- Free delivery of the Better Bicycling newspaper to your mail or e-mail box (two per year)
- Invitations to fun social events throughout the year
- Opportunities to volunteer for many interesting projects and events
- Satisfaction that you are helping to improve cycling in your community, and helping to defend the interests of cyclists.

Board

President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, 5 Members at Large.

Comments

Recommended combining all bike related groups under one roof, as Edmonton Bike commuters does. In Ottawa, the advocacy group is separate from the Co-op repair shop, which are both separate from the cycle touring/racing group, which is separate from the crazy riders group, the Critical Mass group, the casual (recreational) riding group, the MTB group, etc. etc. etc.

By having it all under one banner, the cycling community as a whole will less administrative (read: volunteer) overhead, and fewer groups for cyclists to have to join to get involved in to do many things.

They warned against contracting with the city. Their experience was that they had to fight to keep their money from being cut, even with a five year contract, and that it detracted from their resources, and prevented them from lobbying.

They have a staff of three plus a number of volunteer positions, including Volunteer Coordinator, Website Designer, Social Coordinator, and Chain Mail Editor.

Toronto

Bike Toronto

Website

<http://biketoronto.ca>

Membership

N/A

Board

N/A

Committees

This is an offshoot of the Toronto Cycling Committee, which is run by the city of Toronto. That said, Toronto Cycling Committee they has the following sub-committees:

Promotions Subcommittee

The Promotions Subcommittee provides input to staff and makes recommendations to the Toronto Cycling Committee on the design, development and delivery of policies and programs to promote and enhance cycling including co-ordinating Bike Week; stimulating economic development through partnerships with business, government and local communities; working directly with corporate and community groups to increase bicycle use in general; communications media such as Cyclometer and the Cycling web site and integration of bicycle-transit trips.

Education and Safety Subcommittee

The Education and Safety Subcommittee provides input to staff and makes recommendations to the Toronto Cycling Committee on the design, development

and delivery of policies and programs to improve the safety of cyclists and other road users, including skills training for cyclists (including CAN-BIKE program); education related to the use of on-street and off-street facilities; education of others on cycling matters including motor vehicle drivers; and legislation affecting cycling.

Bikeway Network Subcommittee

The Bikeway Network Subcommittee provides input to staff and makes recommendations to the Toronto Cycling Committee on the design, development and delivery of policies, programs and facilities to improve the physical infrastructure for cyclists, including bicycle parking, on-street bicycle lanes and routes, off-street trails, development within rail and hydro corridors, maintenance, intersection design and signage.

Community Cycling Advisory Groups

The Toronto Cycling Committee encourages the creation of (and will work with local residents to establish) Community Cycling Advisory Groups to represent the interests of cyclists within communities, focusing on local needs and priorities, bringing such interests and needs to the Toronto Cycling Committee, and promoting the Toronto Cycling Committee's initiatives and programs as they apply to any community.

Cycling and Transit Working Group

The Cycling and Transit Working Group provides input to staff and makes recommendations to the Toronto Cycling Committee on the design, development and delivery of policies and programs to encourage the integration of cycling and transit, enhancing multi-modal transportation. The main objectives of the group include working to improve:

- bicycle accommodation on transit vehicles;
- bicycle parking facilities at transit stations; and
- bicycle access to transit stations.

Activities of the group to date include working with the TTC to make the bike rack on bus pilot project a reality, recommending suitable bus routes and participating in the evaluation and community outreach activities for the project.

Comments

bikeToronto.ca is a web site devoted to getting the word out about cycling issues in Toronto. Since early 2001 Toronto Cycling Committee member Martin Koob has used this site to keep the cycling public abreast of the latest developments at the Toronto Cycling Committee and to track the progress of its ten year Bike Plan.

Toronto Coalition for Active Transportation

Website

www.torontocat.ca

Comments

This coalition is just starting out, and is in pretty much the same boat as we are.

Toronto Bicycling Network

This is not so much an advocacy group as a recreational group.

Website

www.tbn.ca

Membership

Individual \$55/year*

Family \$80/year*

Student

*includes mandatory third party liability insurance plus a t-shirt.

Perks

Store discounts, newsletter.

Calgary

Elbow Valley

Website

www.elbowvalleycc.org

Membership

Individual

Regular	\$34/year*
Additional Family Member:	\$9/year (free for under 18)*
Student	\$29/year*
Senior (60 and older)	\$29/year*

* all memberships must add an extra \$12/membership for the mandatory Recreational Cycling Association of Alberta Insurance Fee

Board

President, Treasurer, Secretary, Advocacy Director, Program Director for Schedules, Program Director for Multi-Day Tours, Membership Director, Social Director, Communications Director, GT Director, plus three directors at large.

Committees

Unclear

Bike Calgary

Website

www.bikecalgary.org

see also <http://calgarybikeroots.org>

Membership

This is more a web-site rather than an organization.

Edmonton

Edmonton Bicycle Commuters

Website

<http://edmontonbicyclecommuters.ca/>

Membership

Fees

Regular	\$20
Household	\$25
Supporting	\$55
Student/Low Income	\$15

Perks

EBC members receive a discount of up to 15% on parts and accessories in most Edmonton bike shops.

Members of EBC receive a bi-monthly newsletter *The Cyclist's Vehicle* which contains interesting articles (eg. cycle use, city commuting, general maintenance, city bicycle planning decisions, etc.) and a list of upcoming EBC events.

Board

President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, 8 Members at Large. They also designate a newsletter editor and a tech person.

Committees

unclear

Comments

They operate a bicycle repair shop, BikeWorks that is a community work shop. "With help and guidance from our trusty volunteers, members do their own repairs and perform their own maintenance."

They also participate in a yearly bike month festival, and offer cycling courses.

Victoria

Greater Victoria Cycling Association

Website

www.gvcc.bc.ca

Membership

Individual	\$20
Student/Senior/Low/Fixed Income	\$10
Household	\$35
Sponsoring	\$50
Sustaining	\$100
Lifetime	\$300
Corporate	\$80
Joint membership in BC Cycling Coalition	\$5

Committees

Apart from the committees/workgroups listed below, they also delegate a volunteer coordinator, an info booth coordinator, a phone tree coordinator, and a newsletter distribution coordinator.

Membership Workgroup

The Membership Workgroup recruits new members to the GVCC, maintains membership records, provides information to the Board of Directors and encourages current members to renew.

Fundraising Committee

Newsletter Workgroup

Legal Defence Workgroup

A Legal Education Working Group was formed to coordinate GVCC activities respecting cyclists and the law. The mandate of the Legal Education Working Group is to work within the GVCC at a broad array of "legal" activities.

Some of the products our Working Group are involved in delivering are:

- * a compilation/library of resource materials
- * educational pamphlets
- * educational events
- * establish links with cycling friendly lawyers, police officers, and the Law Centre
- * post related information on the GVCC web site