

## Bike Winnipeg Education Committee Report May 10, 2015

The education committee includes Jackie Collett, John Wilmot, Dave Elmore, Jeremy Hull, Mark Cohoe, Jim Falloon, and Laura Donatelli. The committee did not meet as a group this month but we followed up on the following:

### 1. Employer-sponsored cyclist classes

Dave and Jeremy met with MPI regarding the use of the Cycling Champions program to offer employer-based cyclist training. This would mean that the course would be provided without charge to participating employers and employees. The initial response was positive, with MPI viewing this as a possible pilot project. They need to investigate the issue of insurance and will get back to us to let us know whether they want to go ahead with it. Dave would work with them to develop and define the actual course, which would be similar to what was provided for MB Hydro, perhaps with some modifications.

Guy Bonnetta has been talking with Monsanto employees and with Dave, about a possible cyclist course there. Discussions are currently trying to clarify timing, costs and course content.

### Transit Union Cycling/Bus Driver Education

We have not yet heard back from the union. We need to follow up.

### National Occupational Health and Safety Week launch, May 4

Mark attended the launch at the human rights museum. The people attending were safety officers from various employers. The speakers/discussion highlighted the importance of physical activity to the mental health of employees, resulting in healthier, more productive employees. Mark thinks that the wellness benefits message (reduced sick days, higher productivity and happiness, and lower pharmaceutical costs) is the best message to pitch the idea of support for bicycle commuters to employers.

### Bike Together Winnipeg (BTW)

Laura has been attending the BTW meetings with the most recent being on May 5th. They have been having difficulty filling the coordinator position, so planning is a bit behind. The first of 5 summer bike rodeos to be held in low income neighbourhoods combining MPI and BTW activities, including bike and helmet giveaways, is scheduled to take place at Norquay CC on June 6th. The WRHA and MPI are discussing whether there will be modifications to the standard MPI bike rodeo. Laura is still interested in exploring the possibility of a continuing "bike club" to follow the Norquay one-day event but would need support from the coordinator and some form of liability coverage to consider it, so holding off for the present. Laura is scheduled to take the MPI Cycling Champions course on Monday May 11. The next BTW meeting will be on May 26th.

Jeremy