

Bike Winnipeg Board Meeting – Jan. 13, 2016 Education Committee Report

Committee Members: Jeremy Hull (chair), Fabian Suarez-Amaya, Bromley Basford, Laura Donatelli, Dave Elmore, John Wilmot, Mark Cohoe

The Education Committee met on Dec 8 in preparation for a meeting we organized for Dec 17, described below.

Pilot Project for Cycling Education in the Schools

The Education Committee organized a meeting to discuss experiences and ideas for promoting bicycle education for children. The meeting took place on Dec 17 at the Sport for Life Building, courtesy of MCA and was attended by 17 people from different organizations including individual schools, community programs, Manitoba Education, MPI, the WRENCH, Green Action Centre, Wayfinders, Bike Together Winnipeg, Hugh John Macdonald School, the City of Winnipeg, Elmwood School, CAN-BIKE and Manitoba Cycling Association. Lots of information was shared, including a proposal for a pilot program in the schools prepared by Bromley Basford on behalf of Bike Winnipeg. The proposal idea was well received by those attending, and many of them expressed an interest in continuing to develop and pursue this idea. Since the meeting the proposal has been expanded to provide more detail on how the project would operate and how much it would cost. (available on request) We hope to form an inter-agency working group and meet with school divisions and funders to move the proposal forward.

Employer Based Cycling Education

We have been planning to contact employers this winter and offer provide a commuter cycling course for employees, including follow-up contacts with two employers or employee groups who have expressed interest. In the mean time MPI has indicated that they are planning to develop a similar service, as we had discussed with them last year, and have invited us to participate in their working group. They anticipate that the program will be launched in June, 2016. Dave has agreed to participate in that group. We feel this is promising, but we may also proceed with our plans until MPI's program is in place, in case it takes longer than anticipated to get the new program up and running. In any case we plan to keep in touch with MPI and coordinate with them.

-- Jeremy