



# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

February 14, 2016  
Douglas St. Recreation Centre  
Truro, Nova Scotia

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**Bicycle Nova Scotia  
Annual General Meeting**

**AGENDA**

**February 14, 2015**

**Douglas St. Recreation Centre**

**Truro, NS**

1. Call to order and establishment of quorum
2. Approval of agenda
3. Approval of minutes from the February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015 AGM
4. 2015 Annual Reports briefly summarized by those directors present:
  - President
  - Registrar
  - Treasurer
  - VP Road Competition
  - VP Touring and Trails
  - VP MTB Competition
  - VP MBTORA
  - VP Athlete Development and Coaching
  - VP BMX
  - REBA
5. Strategic Planning Workshop
6. Election of Directors
7. Motion to adjourn

## **Bicycle Nova Scotia 2015 Board of Directors**

Co-Presidents –lola doucet & Susanna Fuller  
Outgoing President – Jamie Lamb  
Registrar – Allan Scott  
Treasurer - Kimberly Hoffman  
Secretary – Sherry Huybers  
VP Mountain Bike Competition – Ryan Lindh  
V.P. Mountain Bike Trials and Off Road Advocacy – Russell Deveau  
VP Recreation & Touring – David Hales  
VP Roads, Education, Bikeways and Advocacy – Madeline Lawler  
VP BMX – Adam Berry  
VP Road Competition - Zach Steinman  
VP Marketing – Alan Avis  
Athlete and Coaching Development Coordinator - Simon Myatt  
Event Coordinator - Martin Austin  
Director at Large - Adam Bowes

## **Affiliated Clubs 2015**

FrameWork Racing Team  
SLEIPNIR Racing  
TrailFlow Racing  
Pictou County Cycle Racing  
Bicycles Plus Cycling Club  
Highland Bike Club  
King's-Edgehill School  
Bike Monkey Cycling  
Lunenburg Bike Barn  
idealbikes  
Cyclesmith Cycling Club  
Randonneurs Nova Scotia  
Finbar's Cycling Club  
Hub Cycle Spokebenders  
VeloLabRT  
Sweet Ride Candyasses  
Oakley Atlanti Racing  
O'Regan's Subaru Cycling  
Banks Brigade  
SMB Physiotherapy Race Team  
Java Blend Racing  
Bedford Liv Ambassadors Club  
East Coast Mountain Biking  
Velo Cape Breton Bicycle Association  
Velo Halifax Bicycle Club  
Breakaway Cycling  
Na Beinn Trails Cycling Association

## Bicycle Nova Scotia 2015 Supporters



# **2014 Annual General Meeting**

## **February 22, 2015**

### **Dalhousie University, Halifax**

#### Board Members and Directors in Attendance

- Kaarin Tae, Registrar
- Martin Austin, Events Coordinator
- lola doucet, Director at Large
- Adam Bowes, Director at Large
- Zach Steinman, VP Road
- Keith Croucher, VP MTB Trails Off-road Advocacy
- Susanna Fuller, VP Road Education and Bikeways Advocacy
- David Hales, VP Recreation and Touring

#### Approval of Agenda

- Richard Witaington motions to approve the agenda
- Seconded by David Hales
- Agenda approved

#### Approval of the Minutes of the 2013 AGM

- Lawrence Plug motions to approve the minutes
- Seconded by lola doucet
- Minutes approved

#### Director Reports

##### President's Report

- Jamie Lamb
- No Discussion

##### Registrar's Report

- Kaarin Tae
- License fees will remain unchanged in 2015
- Kaarin proposes general membership fee decrease from \$30.00 to \$22.00 per member

#### Explanation

- Covers Cycling Canada fees and insurance premiums (\$21 .15 total) BNS would collect no money
- Reduction intended to boost membership resulting in increased block funding from Gov and generally stronger representation
- Also responds to new insurance option and membership category for purely recreational clubs; explanation and discussion ensues:
- General liability insurance through Oasis designed to cut costs and increase flexibility
- Premium is \$10 per member with a minimum of \$250 per club

- Presented to remove “insurance” barrier rec clubs that have caused several to leave BNS
- To access policy, BNS will require clubs to pay an affiliation fee, standard \$110, but will not charge per member fee (clubs will only be responsible for paying affiliation fee and the \$10 insurance costs)
- BNS will strongly encourage club members to give a voluntary supporting membership donation
- New option only available to rec clubs, racing/seed/timed activities are not covered under the new policy
- Clubs that blend recreational and competitive activities are strongly encouraged to stay with Cycling Canada insurance policy
- The general member reduction is being presented to keep things fair between recreational clubs and rec/comp clubs based on the new Oasis package
- Kaarin motions to reduce general membership fee from \$30.00 to \$22.00
- Seconded by Pat Macdonald

Discussion ensues:

- Has BNS spoke with clubs who have left to see if this would bring them back?
- Kaarin explains fee reduction proposal is associated with the Oasis insurance package and intended to offer the rec/comp clubs a similar deal to rec clubs
- New insurance policy presented at the pre AGM workshop to a positive response; Randonneurs, Velo Halifax, Bicycles Plus in attendance.
- Bringing these clubs back would be a huge step in the right direction for BNS
- Andre Bicycle Plus: information on the new insurance options would benefit all members
- Susanna: BNS block funding doesn’t get submitted again for four years; increased membership won’t mean more dollars in the near future.

Kaarin: feedback from the clubs indicates some concern over fees

Keith: does block funding relate to member numbers?

Susanna says it doesn’t

- \$8.00 could be a substantial barrier to small clubs (Terry Walker)
- Last year Velo Halifax membership was divided - half wouldn’t pay \$30, other half wouldn’t ride without insurance
- Last year Velo Halifax subsidized member fees to keep them at BNS on the pretense that something would change for 2015
- Ramblers voted to pay the affiliated club fee this year – but won’t go far beyond that

- Both options (insurance) are important, but it's important to bring back the recreational clubs that have left
- Based on 2014 numbers, motion on the floor results in loss of \$800 in revenues
- Oasis Policy will cost BNS \$1000, without lowering general membership fees, it could look like general members are subsidizing the recreational clubs
- Bicycles Plus rep thinks that clubs should contribute to the organization
- What about charging each (rec and general) a smaller amount?
- Option to reduce and add fees next year raised... comment follows that re-raising wouldn't be easy
- Comment to justify fees with improved benefits and membership packages in the future..
- Annapolis Valley MTB has insurance through Oasis already... not opposed to the affiliation fee, but wants to know if insurance is required
- Response is Oasis insurance is not required
- Alternative proposal tabled to collect \$25.00 for general members
- Advice offered that handling money without collecting money is bad practice.. there is always a cost attached – supports the \$25.00 fee compromise
- Cycling Canada could also raise fees, if we don't collect more than the base, BNS could end up subsidizing them
- Terry (Velo Halifax): I can sell the \$10.00 this year to Velo, and could sell \$15.00 next year,
- Lawrence: is there a major difference for rec/comp clubs if the general membership fee is reduced? Will it increase their numbers?
- People who come to Bicycles Plus will continue to come regardless of the fee, but getting more money back in 2016 will be hard if fees are reduced in 2015

Vote on the motion on the floor ensues [reduction of general membership from \$30 to \$22:

Motion defeated with one vote in support

Sherry Huybers motions to reduce fees from \$30 – \$25

- Paul Stanhope seconds
- Vote ensues: 11 in favour, 10 opposed
- Motion is passed

Treasurer's Report

Kimberly Hoffman

BNS began employing SNS to maintain monthly statements for the first time

Preliminary balance and income statements discussed

CG deferred revenue' is Canada Games



Q: what are the \$2422.00 credit card fees?

R: isn't an expense to BNS – standard credit card fee,recouped from every member

Discussion of Year to Date

Question: Have all membership revenues been moved into general member categories?

Response: Yes, it is difficult to distinguish revenues between road and MTB through zone 4 – so they are aggregated in the preliminary statement

Question: REBA revenues V.S. expenditures show appearance of arrears, what is the explanation?

Response: Part of the deficit is due to difference in the fiscal year between BNS (Dec 31) and NS Gov. (March 31) – NS Gov still owes BNS for 2014 expenditures

Question: Looks like we're in arrears, why are we not actually in a deficit?

Further example provided: Deferred revenue is money that is received but not spent. BNS has substantial deferred revenue from 2013

Another example: QUEST funding is currently \$9000.00 revenues and 13000.00 in expenditures, but full project budget is \$45,000.00

Retained earnings from last years don't show up in 2014 revenues...part of the reason it looks like arrears

Official posting will be on the BNS website and a formal report addressing obvious discrepancies

Kimberly will continue to break down the accounts for the official statements

Need to adopt the Official Statements (still preliminary) at January 2016 AGM

Will be posted for public viewing following adoption

### **Road Report**

Zach Steinman

2014 season was a success, however experienced one large crash

- poor road conditions we a contributing factor

All precautions were taken by the organizers and participants were well aware of the road and weather conditions prior to the race –

Zach made this clear at the AGM

Although the event was unfortunate, it was handled in a professional manner

All those involved in crash are mended or on the mend and planning to race and or volunteer this coming season

### **Recreation and Touring**

David Hales

No discussion

### **MTB Report**

VP Randy Commeaux

Randy not in attendance due to flooding – Report read by volunteer

Discussion:

lola: No mention of MTB commissionaire incentive program in the report, awareness of the program is low

Several years ago, a commissary promotion created to provide a free license the following year to MTB volunteer commissary

Next VP Competition could put this into budget for 2015

Criteria: Identify commissary on the license and commissary 3 races to qualify

License fees are also waived for commissaries who don't ride – MTB and Road

### **Athlete/Coach VP Report**

VP Simon Myatt (Not in attendance)

No discussion

### **Event Organizer's Report**

Martin Austin

No discussion

### **REBA Report**

VP Susanna Fuller

No discussion

New website designs presented by Adam Barnett

### **MTB Sector Report**

VP Keith Croucher

Moving to four annual regional meetings for committee in 2015

Looking for regional reps from areas outside of Halifax to become part of the REBA committee in 2015

Strong push for regional volunteers in 2015

Regional reps will have access to new library acquisitions

### **2015 Board Elections and Nominations**

BoD and membership extend thanks to the outgoing board members for their dedication and a job well done

Nomination and Election of Available Positions:

Outgoing President

**Jamie Lamb will stay on as Outgoing President**

President

Kaarin motions to nominate Co-presidents Susanna Fuller and lola doucet

Adam Bowes seconds

**Motion passes, with no further nominations coming forward**

Registrar

Adam Bowes nominates Allan Scott

Keith Kroucher nominates Evan St. Cyr

**Allan Scott elected by ballot**

VP MTB Comp

lola nominates Ryan Lindh

Keith nominates Evan St. Cyr

**Ryan elected by ballot**

VP Road Comp

Zach is reoffering as VP Road following completion of

2 year term

**No other nominations, Zach re-elected**

VP Coaching

Simon Myatt reoffering following the completion of

2 year term

lola nominates Sherry Huybers

**Simon Myatt elected by ballot**

VP REBA

Susanna nominates Madeline Lawler

**No other nominations, Madeline elected**

MORAB

Keith reoffering after serving the last year of Lawrence Plug's term in 2014

**No further nominations, Keith Croucher re-elected**

VP BMX

David Hales nominates Adam Barry

**No other nominations, Adam Barry elected**

Events Coordinator

Martin is reoffering

**No other nominations, Martin is re-elected**

VP Marketing Director

Kaarin Tae nominates: William Clark

Adam Bowes nominates: Allan Avis

**Alan Avis elected by ballot**

Secretary

lola nominates Sherry Huybers

**No other nominations, Sherry is elected**

Meeting adjourned at 4:30

## Letter from Co-Presidents lola doucet and Susanna Fuller

i can't tell you how exciting it has been with all the energy surrounding this sport in the last year. i don't know if it's because i am involved at a different level, if its because i'm working with a powerhouse like Susanna, or if there is just way more going on in the scene. i hear stories about how good it was in the 90s, but i think i'm going to argue that it's pretty happening right now, in the "10's".

This year has been a bit of a shakeup for BNS. Two presidents working on different parts of the organization, a few new faces to the Board, and a totally different focus. With the merging of the two sectors; competition and recreation/active transportation, we cover the gambit of cycling in Nova Scotia. This means that we not only have a bigger voice, we also have a greater duty to maintain a level of transparency, equity and fiscal responsibility.

This past year has been spent implementing policies that will facilitate growth and manage the ever-expanding organization that BNS has become. After years of talking about it, we finally had a very successful **Strategic Planning Meeting** that was facilitated by Department of Health and Wellness, which is being shared with you today.

We've also had fun. Lots of it. The new **People's Choice Awards** met with a lot of support/constructive criticism, and we are looking forward to doing it again, with more time and more input from the membership. We supported the first Nova Scotian **Gran Fondo** in Baie Ste. Marie that had 425 registered and have already been approached by several organizations to help with their events this upcoming year. We also hired **Kate Venås** who has been a perfect fit for our organization, and i hope you take the opportunity to welcome her.

Some of the things we have been working on are an **Incident Reporting** page with staff, **Adam Barnett** for our website and a **Project Sponsorship** page. And of course, as many of you may have heard, we are planning on creating and building a **Nova Scotia Provincial Team**. Looking forward to 2016!

lola and I took this on last year as an experiment. We both had an interest in growing and changing BNS, and neither of us wanted to take it on alone. We also knew that it was too much work for one person – given how BNS has grown in terms of the road / bikeways side of things, and the increasing potential for Nova Scotian athletes to excel on the competitive side. Most other provincial organizations have actually split into two – but BNS has done some significant work over the last few years to ensure that not only is it capable of carrying both the competitive and non-competitive sides of cycling, but in fact, that they can be synergistic.

On the advocacy and projects front, BNS has made incredible strides over the past few years, and in the past year in particular with the **first segment of the Blue Route** implemented and with the Minister of TIR speaking and riding at the opening on August 6<sup>th</sup> in Pictou. This could not have happened without the many years of ground work and the work of our staff person, **Ben Buckwold** as well as the work of five different government departments coming together to collaborate. The launch of the **WoW project** through the hard work of **Lynne Pascoe** has allowed us to reach an entirely different demographic – and to bring back the joy of cycling that is found in childhood, lost and then found again as we retire.

We are excited for the year to come, to grow our membership – because that is how we have a voice in this province. We look forward to working with all of you to do that – to adopt a strategic plan for the next five years and to further set the foundation to ensure we meet our goal.

- *lola doucet & Susanna Fuller*

## **REGISTRAR'S REPORT**

**Board Member: Allan Scott**

### **Sector Annual Overview**

*See document on next page*

### **Sector Projects**

Help simplify online registration for members by introducing streamlined, separate registration links for supporting, general and race/technical license members.

### **Future Goals**

Increase Zone4 registration to Nova Scotia cycling events and races

### **Sector participants**

BNS and Zone4 participated in the registration of 11 races and recreational cycling events.

# Bicycle Nova Scotia Registrar Report for 2015

14 February 2015

## Summary of Membership Data

	Total 2015	Total 2014	% Change
<b>Total Membership</b>	<b>1372</b>	<b>478</b>	<b>+65%</b>
Total General Membership	185	248	-34%
Total Licensed/Tech Membership	269	229	+15%
Supporting Membership	17	7	+59%
Cyclocross Only Membership	46	0	N/A
Associated Club Membership	855	0	N/A

## Percent Distribution of Total Membership by Sector and Gender

Sector	Male	Female
General Membership	68%	32%
Licensed/Tech Membership	74%	25%
Supporting Membership	76%	14%
Cyclocross Only Membership	89%	11%
Associated Membership	N/A	N/A
<b>Total (excluding Associated Clubs)</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>31%</b>

## Club Membership Data

	Total 2015	Total 2014	% Change
<b>Total Clubs</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>+7%</b>
Associated Clubs	6	0	N/A
Junior Affiliated Clubs	2	1	+50%
Affiliated Clubs	19	24	-26%



**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Financials coming soon...

## **VP ROAD COMPETITION/CYCLOCROSS REPORT**

**Board Member:** Zach Steinman

### **Committee Members**

Always on the lookout for new Road Comp/Cyclocross committee members for 2016 :~)

Some past and present members include:

Lorenzo Caterini, Shawn Marshall, Keli Marshall, Zach Steinman,

### **Sector Annual Overview**

2015 was a challenging year for road racing in NS, The first race of the season (AMP Supercrit) had to be cancelled due to ice and snow covering course. Another race was stopped mid-way because of potentially dangerous weather/road conditions. A late addition of another race resulted in poor attendance at an otherwise amazing race venue.

On a positive note with the delegation and hiring of a dedicated results person at the majority of the races the tabulation and posting of road results was vastly improved over past years.



Overall I believe we were able to pull together a successful road season even with some minor setbacks. Cyclocross continues to grow with a dozen races this past fall. Many new and exciting venues/courses were enjoyed by new and seasoned vets.

### **Sector Events**

Looks like another full race calendar is coming together for 2016. (8+ events) And with any luck we will have no weather interruptions.

Continued enthusiasm from established and new race organizers is helping to shape and grow the scene here in Nova Scotia.

### **Sector Projects**

Working on a podium and podium backdrop for awards presentations at events.

### **Future Goals**

Further research and funding is being looked at into acquiring a chip timing system/service that can be used for both Road and MTB competitions

### **Sector Participants**

Largest turnout had 115 participants



## **VP RECREATION & TOURING REPORT**

**Board Member:** David Hales

### **Sector Annual Overview**

Recreational and touring cycling in Nova Scotia has experienced a healthy period of growth during 2015. The trend is expected to continue into the foreseeable future, especially as the Blue Route continues to develop, creating an environment that nurtures cycling in all its forms.

Several new associated clubs representing 500+ cyclists have joined BNS as Associated Clubs. The new club designation and insurance option have been very well received by the recreational clubs; most have indicated they are counting on it to continue for 2016 and beyond.

Touring inquiries from visitors planning bike tours of NS and Atlantic Canada have remained constant. Most questions regard road surfaces and grades, traffic volume, ground transportation options, and how to obtain hard copies of the Cycle Nova Scotia Route maps.

### **Sector Projects**

Participated in the Blue Route consultation process.

Assisted registrar with recreational/associated club registration.

Liaised with associated and recreation clubs throughout the season.

### **Future Goals**

Create a method of counting and reporting the number of touring inquiries fielded on an annual basis by BNS staff and volunteers.

Create a tracking method to measure the number of associated club members who support BNS as either general members or members of other clubs.

## **VP MBTORA**

**Board Member: Russell Deveau**

### **Annual Overview & Projects**

#### **South Shore**

The MARC. Trail development continues, increasing accessibility to trails. Grant in the works to develop skills park and an application to DNR in progress to secure more adjacent land for future trail building.

#### **Highlands**

Work continuing on Trans Canada Connector trails.

Fitzpatrick Mtn. Chalets have new owner. Working on agreement for mtb use.

Near incarceration facility: Recent development of informal trails. Regional Trails coordinator hoping to pilot a program within the prison to utilize the trails.

Cape to Cape Trail: Progress to Gully Lake at this point. Signage work to continue.

#### **Valley**

The Gorge: New beginner and intermediate trails are being built. Also new features at the skills park with a new dirt jump line. New signs and maps being added.

Kentville Ravine: The town is taking over management of the trails by the Agricultural Research Station. This is great news and we may see improvements to the system and new trail development in the near future. The potential is huge.

Reservoir Park: Two new trail loops, one intermediate and one advanced. About 1KM of new riding. Also other upgrades and improvements to the existing network.

The Links: Bridge replacement last summer to fix old structures. Stronger and wider boardwalks and replace missing signage.

#### **HRM**

HNWTA: BNS has written letter of support to Birch Cove trails development project.

Working with Dept. of Environment on this project.

Spider Lake: Halifax Water are interested in creating a formal land use agreement. Brightwood Golf Course not interested in trails on their land.

## **VP ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT**

**Board Member: Simon Myatt**

### **Annual Overview:**

1. Coaching Courses
2. Grass roots funded events
3. Club Development Athlete Funding
4. Elite athlete funding

### **COACHING DEVELOPMENT UPDATE**

7 Coaches (4 female and 3 male) are currently in the Comp Development Stream.  
12 coaches trained in Let's Ride – Community Cycling Initiation

### **GRASS ROOTS DEVELOPMENT**

The sector funded the following grass roots events:

1. Cyclesmith Short Track series
  - Approximately 75 kids and adults racing Tuesday evenings in Halifax
2. Colchester Short Track Cycling
  - Approximately 100 kids and adults racing Tuesday Evenings in Truro
3. Trailflow Shorttrack Series
  - Approximately 30 kids and adults racing Tuesday evenings in Wolfville
4. Pictou County Cycle Short Track series
  - Approximately 40 kids and adults racing Tuesday Evenings in Trenton
5. Highland Bike Shop's Keppoch Mountain's Weekly Mountain Bike Race Series.
  - Approximately 20 kids and adults racing Thursday Evenings in Antigonish

### **CLUB DEVELOPMENT AND ELITE ATHLETE FUNDING**

Approximately 15 athletes were provided funding to offset their travel costs to out of province events this year, with a wide variety of athletes and coaches from across several clubs in the province.

MTB Nationals at Sainte Felicien, QC

- Cyclesmith athletes
- Banks Bikes athletes

Quebec based MTB Canada Cups:

- Cyclesmith athletes

Road Nationals in Quebec:

- Oakley Atlantic athletes
- Cyclesmith athletes

Sherbrooke Quebec Cup, August

- Bike Monkey Athletes
- Cyclesmith Athletes
- Pictou County Cycle Athletes
- Velolab athletes

## **VP BMX**

**Board Member: Adam Berry**

### **Sector Annual Overview**

BMX in Nova Scotia continued to grow in 2015. Though BMX racing is still a long way from reality; BMX freestyle is experiencing a boom thanks to a number of factors, namely the construction of ever more Skate Parks and Bike Parks.

Cool Moves BMX out of Middleton had another great year, doing demos at various events across the province with their mobile ramp set up.

Halifax Recreation added BMX bikes to their revamped “Try-A-Ride” program (formerly the Mobile Skatepark Program) letting many HRM youth try BMX for the first time.

The Sportwheels BMX club returned after almost a decade hiatus, and garnered over forty members riding weekly, and at two large jams.

I personally hosted two very successful BMX clinics in Canso and Hubbards in 2015.

UCI is integrating BMX Park, and I’m looking forward to seeing what opportunities this provides to grow freestyle in Nova Scotia.

### **Sector Events**

Sportwheels BMX Club Bike Week Jam, July 5th 2015

Sportwheels BMX Club Halloween Jam, October 30th 2015

Ideal Bikes Halloween BMX Jam, October 31st 2015

### **Sector Projects**

Unfortunately, while I was involved with many BMX projects in 2015, none of them were in close conjunction with BNS.

### **Future Goals**

Pursue UCI championship initiatives for BMX

## **Events Coordinator**

**Board Member: Martin Austin**

### **Sector Annual Overview**

Overall each race series that Bicycle Nova Scotia sanctions was a success.

We had well attended race series in all disciplines (road, XCO, gravity and cyclocross). This was the first year that the Nova Scotia Super Prestige cyclocross series was a BNS sanctioned series – it was a well-organized and attended addition to the Bicycle Nova Scotia events calendar.

The date selection process continues to work well and will remain unchanged for 2016. Organizers from last year have until February 23<sup>rd</sup> to submit sanction forms to hold their weekends from last year. The 2016 calendar is looking very promising with a great deal of interest from new and old organizers alike. It could shape up to be a very busy year of bike racing.

## **MTB Competition**

**Board Member: Ryan Lindh**

**Committee Members: Michelle Marcinkiewicz – Provincial Chief Commissionaire**

### **Sector Annual Overview**

This was my first season in this position taking over from former VP Randy Comeau, who did a great job in the past – thanks for all your hard work! I'm still settling into my position but starting to get a feel for what my role is within BNS.

One of my main goals is to ensure race organizers have the support they need in order to host a great event and to see mountain bike racing continue to grow and thrive in Nova Scotia. A big part of this is a hope to see some larger events come to the province such as a Canada Cup or other major race. This would not only be great exposure for cycling in the province but also provide a fanatic training opportunity for upcoming racers.

### **Sector Events**

- 1) 6 cross country races
- 2) 2 enduro races
- 3) 1 4X event
- 4) 2 points series DH, 1 non-points race

### **Sector Projects**

- Attended Cycling Canada AGM to discuss potential of Canada Cup in NS
- Assembling a sector task guide for future board members to use as during their transition period
- Annual race poster design
- Gathering of race results

### **Future Goals**

- Streamline race results gathering and submissions
- Canada Cup races returning to Nova Scotia
- Increased participants to events
- Higher profile for MTB racing among public
- Re-evaluate current race categories and if they fully fit our needs

### **Sector participants**

Approximately 215 racers attended XC events in 2015. Overall attendance was down slightly from 2014 but still trending upwards over the last few seasons.

- 2011: 5 XC races, average 63 riders
- 2012: 6 XC races, average 76 riders
- 2013: 7 XC races, average 81 riders
- 2014: 7 XC races, average 92 riders

- **2015: 6 XC races, average 86.5 riders (18% female, 82% male)**

We had 38 racers attend gravity series events. A low over all turnout, partially as a result of several events being nearly cancelled due to downpours on race day, and conflicts with other events on the say day.

## VP Road Education and Bikeways Advocacy

### Board Member: Madeline Lawler

#### Sector Annual Overview

The REBA sector continued to support the Blue Route Implementation initiative developed by Ben Buckwold who has continued to be hired on through funding from the Department of Health and Wellness. Ben represented REBA's interests at different committee meetings, such as Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities Active Transportation (UNSM AT) committee and Nova Scotia Trails Federation. Adam Barnett continued to work part-time to help Ben on the Blue Route, and on BNS communications. We focused on developing a committee, which represents the interests of cycling groups throughout Nova Scotia and determining project ideas for focusing our efforts. We determined that developing a tool kit for cycling advocacy groups would be a major project for us to focus on. Due to logistical issues, the REBA committee met a few times over the 2015/2016 year, but still supported some great initiatives.

#### **CAN-BIKE**

Ben initiated a meeting with CAN-BIKE instructors to discuss how BNS could support CAN-BIKE. The project idea developed from this meeting was a more tailored curriculum for Nova Scotian citizens. Erin Keenan, a CAN-BIKE instructor also administered a workshop at the WOW retreat and conducted a cycling safety workshop in Halifax over the summer.

#### **Women on Wheels (WOW)**

Lynne Pascoe was hired on as the Project Coordinator for WOW to encourage more senior women to cycle in Nova Scotia. Pascoe has initiated WOW groups throughout 7 communities in Nova Scotia, including Baddeck, Bedford, Lunenburg, Mahone Bay, Musquodobit Harbour, Pictou, Sheet Harbour, Sydney, and Wolfville. Pascoe's incredible efforts have exceeded the initial objectives of 4 to 6 rides for 2015 to increase ridership among senior women and even help participants to develop social events after each ride. More rides are planned for 2016, including Bridgewater, Cheticamp, Halifax, Lockeport, New Glasgow, Ship Harbour, Tantallon, and Yarmouth.

#### **Moving Forward on Active Transportation in Nova Scotia Brief**

Steve Raftery, King County's Active Transportation Coordinator, championed the advocacy of improved active transportation infrastructure, which includes cycling. Raftery championed the drafting of the *Moving Forward on Active Transportation in Nova Scotia* brief, which will be submitted at the next UNSM AT committee meeting.

#### **Nova Scotia Charter for the Promotion of Cycling**

BNS and REBA are partnering with the Halifax Cycling Coalition to create a charter to promote cycling in Nova Scotia in order to better network with cycling advocacy groups, such as the Ecology Action Centre and Velo Cape Breton. The roundtable event occurring on February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016 will bring cycling groups together to discuss common values, principles, and objectives to be pursued.

#### **Group Updates**

- Cardiac Cycling Society – Planned the Heartland Tour
- Dal Bike Centre – Bike building workshops, networking with other bike co-ops, more rides
- Shore Active Transportation Association – Feasibility study for the Marsh Greenway project
- Velo Cape Breton – Collaboration work with Cape Breton Regional Municipality and Transportation Infrastructure and Renewal, promotion of CAN-BIKE and WOW, and organizing tours

#### **Tool Kit**

The tool kit project idea includes four different components:



- 1) Education – Incorporating bicycle safety in Driver Training
- 2) Funding – Developing grant writing workshops to help bicycle advocacy groups gain access to funding
- 3) Infrastructure – Encouraging advocacy for active transportation infrastructure funding, such as pushing for municipal governments to allocate a portion of their transportation budgets to active transportation
- 4) Safety campaign – Developing a province wide safety campaign advocating for cycling safety

### **Cycling Events**

REBA was represented at various cycling events this year, including Southwest Sunday Cycle, and the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Nova Scotia Bike Summit.

Ben Buckwold  
Director, Bikeways and Blue Route Implementation  
Bicycle Nova Scotia  
**2015/2016 Summary Report**

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The Director of Bikeways and Blue Route Implementation is funded through a grant from the Department of Health and Wellness. BNS will be reapplying to continue this program from the coming year. Additional grants were awarded from the Department of Energy and Nova Scotia Tourism to support this year's work.

### **Blue Route Provincial Cycling Network**

- On August 6th 2015, in partnership with the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal, the Municipality of the Town of Pictou, the Municipality of Pictou County, the Pictou County Trails Association and the Municipality of Colchester County, BNS launched the first segment of the Blue Route Provincial Cycling Network.
- BNS launched a new dedicated website for the Blue Route at [blueroute.ca](http://blueroute.ca)
- Awarded a Connect2 Grant from the Department of Energy to complete a preliminary bikeway design plan connecting the Chain of Lakes Trail to the Halifax Peninsula
- Continued to represent BNS as the Chair of the interdepartmental Blue Route Team and engage Municipalities on network plans
- Presentation at the Association of Municipal Administrators 2015 Conference
- Presenting on the Blue Route at the upcoming Cycling Tourism Conference in Toronto, ON, on March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016.



Blue Route Launch, August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015 with Minister Geoff Maclellan and Mayor Joe Hawes



*Official signage installed on route*

## Cycle Nova Scotia

- Collaborated with Touring Sector to develop four new Cycle Nova Scotia route maps, bringing the series to total to nine maps.
- Website: [cyclenovascotia.ca](http://cyclenovascotia.ca)
- Developing a new Cycle NS brochure for the Gran Fondo Baie Ste Marie in partnership with the Municipality of Claire.

## Can-Bike

- Initiated discussions with Can-Bike instructors to develop a strategic plan for the 2016, and build new partnerships toward the delivery of Can-Bike

## Committee Responsibilities

- Chair, Halifax Active Transportation Advisory Committee
- User Group Rep, NS Trails Federation
- Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities Active Transportation Committee
- Co-Chair, Blue Route Team

## Bike Week

- Coordination of Nova Scotia Bike Week website
- Coordination of Southwest Sunday Cycle ride as part of Halifax Bike Week

## 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Nova Scotia Bike Summit

- BNS co-hosted Nova Scotia Bike Summit in partnership with Municipality of the Town of Kentville, the Municipality of Kings County, and the Municipality of Wolfville.

Thanks to everyone at Bicycle Nova Scotia for another great year, and the opportunity to be part of a great organization!

Sincerely,

Ben Buckwold





**Election of Board of Directors**

- Treasurer
- VP Recreation and Touring
- VP Education
- VP Athlete Development
- VP Events Coordinator
- Member at large



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