



Media Release

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON
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Vernon, BC
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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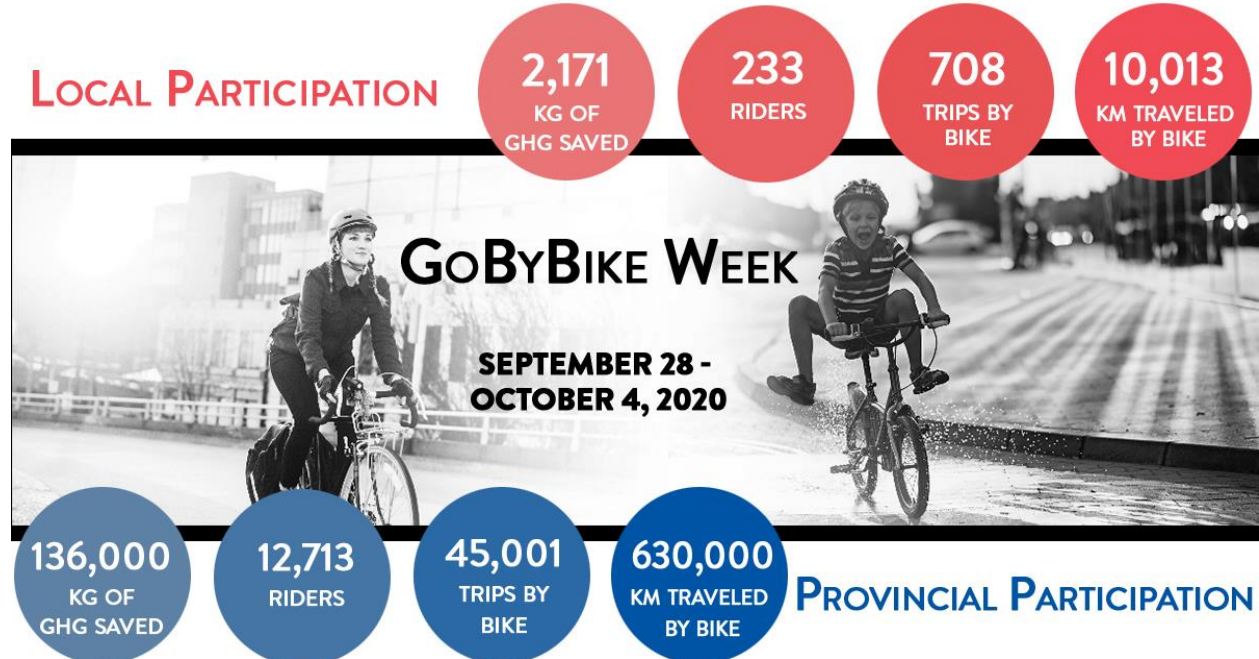
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Thank you for *Going by Bike*

Vernon and North Okanagan riders joined cyclists from across the province in taking to the streets for the first annual fall *Go By Bike Week*, held from September 28 – October 4, 2020.

The City of Vernon would like to thank everyone who joined the challenge to get on your bikes and explore our community. Together, we biked over 10,000 kilometres – the distance from Vernon to Fredericton, NB, and back! We hope that you will keep the momentum going and continue getting outside and active this fall and beyond.



By the Numbers: Local and Provincial Participation

The primary goal of *Go By Bike Week* is to introduce people of all ages to try cycling to work, to school, to go shopping, or just for fun, and to continue cycling in the future. The program

encourages people to opt out of vehicles and opt in for cycling for everyday transportation. Cycling offers the added benefits of escaping traffic, improving air quality, reducing congestion on our roadways, and improving personal health.

A total of 22 local teams participated from a variety of sectors including education, health, government, non-profit, industry and the general community. Our top teams were:

- City of Vernon Velocity: 631 km, 137 kg GHGs saved
- Kalamalka Forestry Centre's Clearcut Solutions: 503 km, 109 kg GHGs saved
- The 25th Street Gang: 444 km, 96 kg GHGs saved

North Okanagan's top rider was Liz Thomson who logged over 580km. The rider with the most trips logged was Ken Taves, who made 24 trips by bike. The local grand prize, \$1,000 to a bike shop of the winner's choice, was won by Steven Ross.

Go By Bike Week is a part of the City of Vernon's larger strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by more than doubling trips made by bike in our community by 2040. It is organized across British Columbia by GoByBike BC Society with the support of generous sponsors, including the Province of British Columbia, BC Hydro, ICBC, Exodus Travels, and Big Bear Software. You can learn more at www.gobybikebc.ca.