



Media Release

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Vernon extends the e-scooter and e-bike sharing program until April 2024

The City of Vernon is pleased to announce it is extending the e-scooter and e-bike sharing contract with Neuron Mobility to April 2024, to coincide with the end of the Province of British Columbia's Electric Kick Scooter Pilot Program. The current contract is set to expire in April 2023, but due to the program's success, Council has endorsed extending the contract for another year.

"Vernon residents have embraced the e-scooter and e-bike sharing program since its launch in 2021, and it is helping to change how people navigate the city," said Mayor Victor Cumming. "Many Vernon riders use e-scooters to commute during the week. This makes our city unique from other places that Neuron Mobility operates, where most rides are being taken over the weekend."

Data collected through Neuron Mobility's data tracking app indicates that since the program launched in 2021, riders have travelled over 390,000km within Vernon, saving an estimated 25 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions. Between March and August 2022, over 26,000 riders signed up with Neuron Mobility.

"E-scooters and e-bikes are becoming a functional, reliable and economical form of transportation in Vernon," said Anne Huisken, Active Transportation Coordinator. "The data collected by Neuron Mobility supports the goals in the City's Master Transportation Plan and Climate Action Plan to reduce single occupancy vehicle use to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, create healthier communities, and extend the life of our infrastructure."

Anyone who rides an electric kick scooter is encouraged to brush up on the rules, ride safely, and be extra courteous toward others. Helmet use is required by the *Motor Vehicle Act* and the City's Traffic Bylaw #5600. For more details about the rules and regulations, visit www.vernon.ca/smallwheels.

The City of Vernon continues to monitor the program and is working with the Province on the possible future of e-scooters beyond the pilot program's end in April 2024. Staff will report back to Council once more details on permanent regulations come into place.

For more information on the Province of B.C.'s Electric Kick Scooter Pilot Program, visit the Province's [website](#).