



## Media Release

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Fall GoByBike Week - a big success!**

An impressive 507 Vernon and North Okanagan riders joined others across the province in riding their bikes, scooters, skateboards and other small wheels during Fall GoByBike Weeks, held from October 3-16, 2022.

The City of Vernon would like to thank everyone who joined the challenge. Over the two-week event, Vernon and North Okanagan riders rode almost 36,000 kilometers and saved almost 8,000 kg of greenhouse gases – the equivalent of two round trips to Vernon's sister city of Tavullia, Italy.

“Vernon riders embraced Fall GoByBike Weeks this year, with almost double the number of riders participating compared to last year's fall event,” said Anne Huisken, Active Transportation Coordinator. “It's exciting to see how many people travelled on their bikes and other small wheels and the collective impact those actions had on diverting greenhouse gas emissions.”

GoByBike Week is a part of the City of Vernon's larger strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to make active transportation the first choice to move around Vernon. The event encourages people to ride their bikes and small wheels and log their rides. Riders are entered into a draw to win various prizes.

A total of 62 local teams participated from a variety of sectors including education, health, government, non-profit, industry and the general community. Our five top teams were:

- City of Vernon Velocity: 41 riders, 3,674 km, 797 kg greenhouse gasses saved
- Kal Tire - Vernon: 17 riders, 1,288 km, 279 kg greenhouse gasses saved
- Vernon Wheelies: 13 riders, 1,527 km, 331 kg greenhouse gasses saved
- Vernon Secondary School (Staff): 13 riders, 1,090 km, 236 kg greenhouse gasses saved
- 25<sup>th</sup> Street Gang: 4 riders, 1,279km, 277 kg greenhouse gasses saved

Riders Quentin Little won the local grand prize, a weekend getaway to Sparkling Hill sponsored by the City of Vernon, and Teresa Prince won a \$500 gift pack sponsored by Pedego Oyama.

This year, the City of Vernon also organized the Fall Ride Challenge Card. Riders were encouraged to complete as many challenges as possible on the card and were entered to win additional prizes. Riders Daryl Chymko and Val Banks each won a downtown shopping spree (valued at \$150). Two local youth riders also each won a 10x punch pass to the Rock Garden Climbing Gym.

GoByBike Week is organized across British Columbia by the GoByBike BC Society with the support of generous sponsors, including the Province of British Columbia, BC Hydro, BC Transit, Black Press Media, Exodus Travels, and ICBC.

Furthermore, the City of Vernon would like to thank major sponsors including Armstrong Regional Co-op, Tourism Vernon, Pedego Oyama, Neuron, and Castanet, and the nearly 15 other local businesses and organizations that supported GoByBike Weeks through sponsorship, in-kind contributions, and prize donations. To learn more about GoByBike Week, visit [gobybikebc.ca/vernon-north-okanagan](https://gobybikebc.ca/vernon-north-okanagan).

Mark your calendars for next year's events. Winter GoByBike Week will take place February 6-12, 2023 and Spring GoByBike Week will take place from May 29-June 4, 2023.