

From: ["Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca)
To: ["Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"](#)
Date: 4/5/2022 10:10:18 AM
Subject: [Upcoming news release: City expands cycling education to all grade 6 and 7 students in Vancouver public schools \(April 6, 2022\)](#)

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing to inform you that the City will be issuing the below news release on April 6, 2022, to announce the expansion of cycling education to include all grade 6 and 7 students in Vancouver public schools. Paul Storer, Director of Transportation, is quoted. HUB Cycling and the VSB are also quoted as this is a joint partnership with the City.

A few key points include:

- HUB Cycling will deliver the School Active Travel cycling program to 37 schools this year—up from 6—and more next year.
- The course includes four lessons that teach students walking and cycling safety theory and on-bike skills via school ground training and group rides around the neighbourhood.
- To ensure all students can participate, HUB Cycling will supply bicycles—including adaptive bicycles—and helmets to those who need them.
- The program will be free of charge for all students.

Best,
Paul

Paul Mochrie (he/him)
City Manager
City of Vancouver
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The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sḵwəxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

City of Vancouver
News release
April 6, 2022

City expands cycling education to all grade 6 and 7 students in Vancouver public schools

The City of Vancouver, in partnership with HUB Cycling and the Vancouver School Board, is excited to announce the expansion of the [School Active Travel Education program](#) as part of our [Climate Emergency Action Plan](#).

Media are invited to Nootka Elementary on Thursday, April 7 to see the cycling education program in action. (See “Notes to Editors” for details.)

Beginning in 2022, [HUB Cycling’s Ride the Road bike safety education course](#) will become available to all grade 6 and 7 students in Vancouver public schools. The free program will be delivered at 37 schools this year—up from the previous six per year since the program first launched

in 2018—and more schools next year. This will allow us to reach all public elementary school students in the target grades every two years.

The Ride the Road: Active Travel course includes four lessons that teach students walking and cycling safety theory and on-bike skills via school ground training and group rides around the neighbourhood.

“Cycling in a city can be daunting for kids and their parents. Courses like Ride the Road build confidence, encourage independence and show that safe, active travel to school can be a fun, green and healthy way to get around,” says Paul Storer, the City’s Director of Transportation.

To ensure all students can participate, HUB Cycling will supply bicycles—including adaptive bicycles—and helmets to those who need them. Students will also receive a course completion certificate that includes resources to further encourage the use of active transportation modes among children and their families.

“HUB Cycling is pleased to provide universal biking and walking education to all Vancouver elementary schools over the coming two years,” says Rose Gardner, HUB Cycling’s Director of Bike Education. “With this expansion, the City of Vancouver becomes a leader in providing youth with the skills and knowledge needed to use active transportation and stay safe on our roads. Raising a generation of sustainable transportation users is critical to realizing our climate action and vision zero goals. In addition to numerous health benefits, cycling also helps build a stronger connection to the community.”

HUB Cycling will monitor program outcomes by surveying students, parents and teachers and will deliver an annual report to the City by December 2022.

“It is great to see a program dedicated to cycling education for Vancouver students,” says Lois Chan Pedley, Vancouver School Board trustee. “The HUB Cycling program encourages active transportation and helps young cyclers build skills and confidence to cycle to and from school safely. As a Board, we continue to support active and sustainable transportation choices for school communities and families.”

Spaces in the program are full for this spring, but schools interested in participating in the fall can contact HUB Cycling at schools@bikehub.ca or register for Bike to School Week at www.bikehub.ca/btsw.

Background

Established in 2012, the City’s School Active Travel Planning program consults with school communities and stakeholders to improve safety, identify transportation-related challenges and opportunities, and increase the number of children walking, cycling and rolling to school.

In November 2020, Council approved the Climate Emergency Action Plan including direction to develop a Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Action Plan. The TDM Action Plan includes an expanded School Active Travel Program, which identifies a number of actions to help build and sustain an active travel culture in schools.

Since 2018, the City has worked with HUB Cycling to deliver the Ride the Road walking and cycling course to grade six and seven students at six public elementary schools per year.

Notes to Editors

Media availability details:

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- Where: Nootka Elementary – 3375 Nootka St.
- When: April 7 -11:05 am to noon
- Who: Interview availability with HUB, City of Vancouver, VSB and select students
- Please RSVP to media@vancouver.ca

Media contacts
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Vancouv

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Hub Cycling

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