

August 12, 2015

**Diane Szoller, Jason Jordan and Gosse van Oosten (a working group of CAN-Bike London) would ask the City of London's Cycling Advisory Committee to consider a support letter for a submission to MTO's Curriculum/Outreach granting process.**

On July 3, 2015, the Ministry of Transportation announced funding opportunities for Cycling Infrastructure and Cycling Skills Training. As part of a TORONTO 2015 Pan Am/Parapan Am Games celebration, \$380,000 has been made available to develop, enhance and deliver cycling skills training programs. Applications are due this fall. There are two funds in schools or at the community level to build skills to promote safe and enjoyable cycling, and encourage healthier active lifestyles.

1. Cycling Skills - The first is for cycling skills training projects up to \$2,500 for delivery or instructor training projects up to \$3,000 for delivery. Applications will be considered on a first-come, first-served basis. The second is for curriculum and/or public education projects up to \$25,000. Applications will be evaluated in a competitive process.

**We have made application to the two small grants for cycling skills and training projects in partnership with the Urban League of London. Our goal is to expand our capacity in London region and build on programming in – Middlesex, Elgin and Oxford. CAN-BIKE London was spearheaded in late 2012 to establish a national cycling safety standards training program in the London region with certified instructors. CAN-BIKE curriculums promote safe cycling to support cyclists of all ages, and skill level. CAN-BIKE is oriented toward recreational and utilitarian cycling and teaches defensive riding skills, traffic analysis skills, and collision avoidance techniques to give the cyclist a greater sense of confidence and control in traffic. It also provides the basics on safe equipment, the provincial Highway Traffic Act and bike inspection. We have been piloting projects with schools, City Parks and Recreation and community events since initial startup.**

**We look to apply to the second larger granting process as well with the Urban League of London. We have invited London Cycle Link to partner with us. Discussions are in process on capacity considerations to ensure that 3 Board members are available to participate. A potential campaign to involve various community sectors would build on cycling training opportunities and offer specific programs with strong and to some degree measurable outcomes.**

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2. Infrastructure - Ontario has a 20-year #CycleON strategy to promote cycling as a viable mode of transportation, improve cyclist safety and help make Ontario a premier cycling destination. \$10 million has been made available through the Ontario Municipal Cycling Infrastructure Program to help municipalities build new or improve cycling infrastructure, such as signed bicycle routes with paved shoulders, separated bicycle lanes with physical barriers, bicycle-only or multi-use paths, and bicycle traffic control devices. Expressions of interest were open until August 6, 2015. Both EOIs and applications are evaluated in a competitive process. Municipalities are eligible to apply for up to 50% of total eligible costs of a cycling infrastructure project to a maximum of \$325,000. Funding will be provided between April 1, 2016 and March 31, 2018.