

NEW HOPE COMMUNITY BIKES

Building community through bicycles.

Annual Report 2018



2018 Highlights

New Hope moves to a new building with 3x the space.

New Hope partners with OPP and Pikangikum First Nation to start a shipping container bike shop 2000km away in Pikangikum, ON.

Ride Smart program scales up to teach even more students the basics of safe cycling.

Community pulls together to help fundraise \$95,000 for new building.

A learning hub for building and repairing bikes, offering safe cycling education, providing access to affordable transportation, and fostering a rich and inclusive cycling community.

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CRA #



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2018 Numbers

493

Bikes refurbished and sold

115

Individual donors

153

Basic Tune-ups

12

Schools participated in Ride Smart

54

Classes participated in Ride Smart

1012

Students participated in Ridesmart

114

New First Time Riders



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Looking back in appreciation

2018 marks the tenth anniversary of the start of New Hope Community Bikes, and it is incredible to look back on all that we have accomplished and appreciate the community that has made these accomplishments possible. New Hope Community Bikes started as an outreach ministry of the New Hope Church plant in 2008 when some people who were committed to having a positive impact in their neighbourhood started repairing bikes at the Ottawa Street Farmer's Market. From these humble beginnings, we have grown into an integral part of the cycling community in Hamilton and beyond. We remain committed to the idea that bicycles are an excellent tool for strengthening our community, building relationships and helping make our cities more liveable and are continually working to make bicycles, and bike related skills available to more people every year. Over 10 years we operated out of 6 different locations, with the expectation that each one would be a permanent home. However, changing gears has been constant for NHCB and Light Rail Transit plans for Main St. and King St meant moving to our seventh location in the fall of 2018.



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Looking forward in anticipation

A history of moving locations almost every two years had us looking for a more permanent home for our workshop and retail activities. The Hamilton Community Foundation supported this need and saw the value of our community programming and have provided us with a mortgage to purchase our new building that will meet our long term needs. This new space has the capacity for twice as many workstations, will allow us to host larger volunteer groups and workshops, has a small kitchen for sharing food and a community space that can be used to gather and share the passion for cycling. The new space also gives us more area to store donated bikes until they can be refurbished by volunteers and staff. We are excited to welcome everyone into this new space and build relationships around bicycle repairs and riding skills. Our storefront is more than just a retail space and workshop; it has always been a place where people from all walks of life can learn new skills, share their skills and experiences with each other, and community is built around a shared interest in bicycles.

COVER

- Youth using our portable pump track features at the Paris to Ancaster event.
- 01 Neighbourhood repairs at a bike rodeo on the mountain
- 02 3-year-old twins practice their balance skills at the Stinson Community Festival.
- 03 Tuesday night mountain bike rides at Christie Lake Conservation Area.
- 04 New bikes lined up for Ride Smart in the spring of 2018.
- 05 Pump track set up at Barton St. Festival
- 06 Donated Bikes rolling in at Arcelor Mittal Dofasco's annual community bike drive.
- 07 Bike Art for kids at the Stinson Community Festival
- 08 A youth volunteer works on replacing a tube in the new workspace.

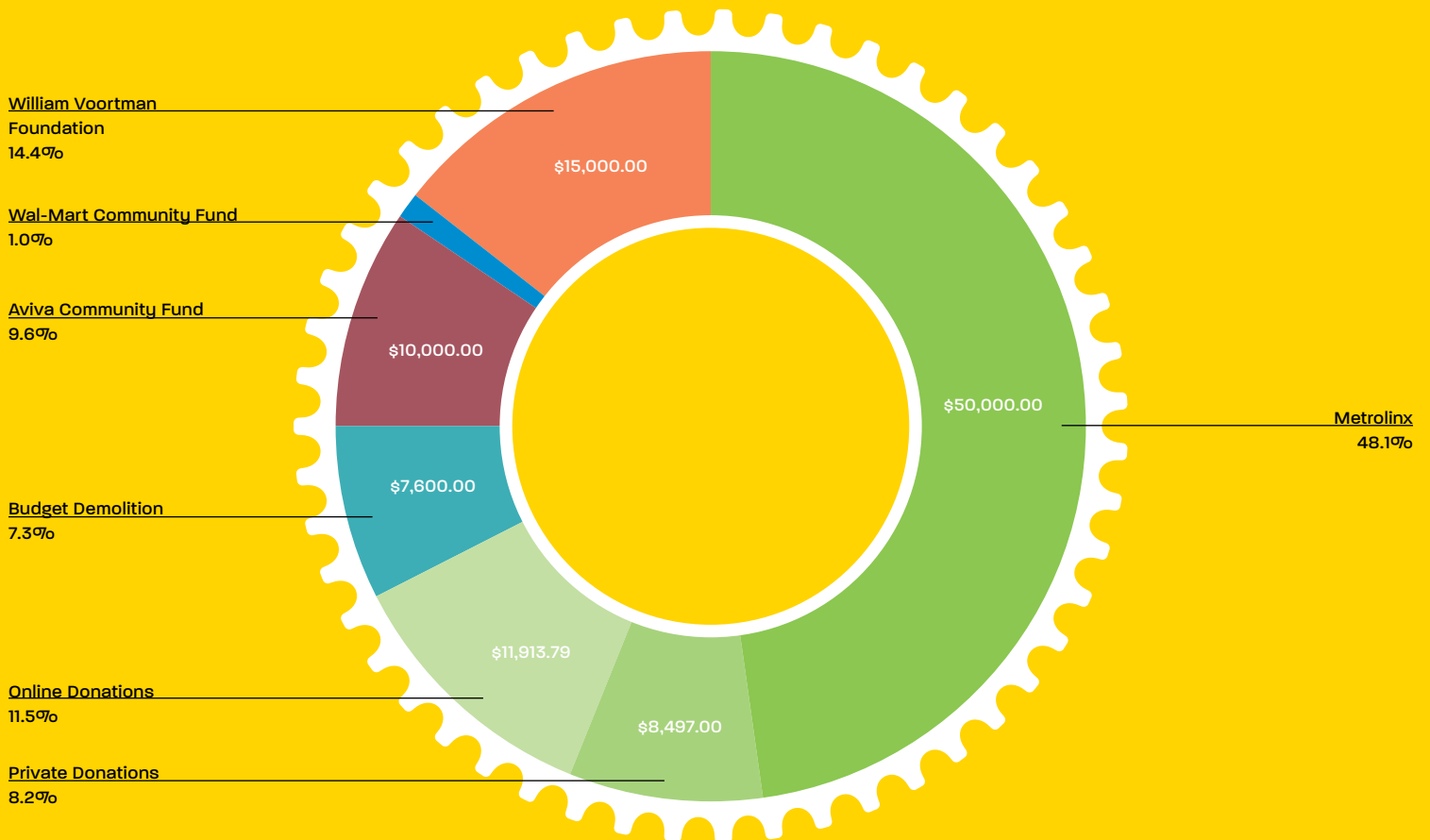
Changing Gears Capital Campaign

Bike shop storefronts don't often come 'move-in' ready. In early 2018 we began looking for a space to purchase, but every option required significant renovations, improvements or complete demolition. We settled on a property just a few blocks from our 5 year home at Main and Kenilworth. This former marijuana grow-op was clean and had many improvements that would make it a great bike shop, including a large waterproofed basement and a large workshop area. A budget was set of \$95,000 for renovations and capital improvements.

By mid-December, we had met this fundraising goal, and renovations were completed. As part of this fundraising campaign, we hosted our first ever bike ride fundraiser, an Everesting challenge. Eleven people set out to ride a portion Mt. Everest's 8,800m elevation. On a rainy day at the end of October, this group completed a total of 298 laps of the Niagara Escarpment and raised \$10,000 in support of their efforts!

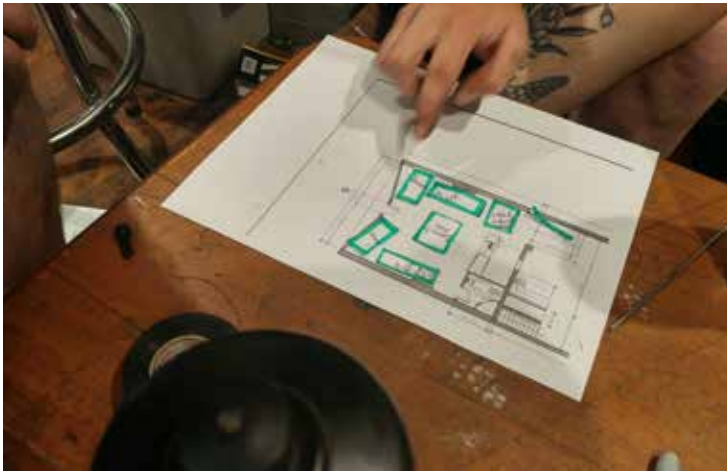
New Hope's co-founder completed the challenge solo by riding 80 laps, spending nearly 19 straight hours in the saddle! This one-day event was a huge success, and we have already started plans to replicate it in 2019.

Fundraising Goal \$95,000



Next page:

- 01 Staff move around pieces to design the new shop layout.
- 02 Half-way up the climb for the Everesting event.
- 03 A volunteer group from Hamilton, Ohio helps to take up floor tiles in the new storefront.
- 04 Workers from Just Working Construction Inc. finishing the drywall for the storefront.
- 05 A group of volunteers and staff who helped on the BIG move day.
- 06 A blank slate; now the workshop space.



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- 07 Storefront display.
- 08 Cash desk with a full free tube bin.
- 09 Check in stand for taking in repairs.
- 10 Expanded workshop area with 7 functioning workstations.
- 11 Our bike wash station made possible through the Aviva Community Fund.
- 12 The kitchen from the property was relocated and will provide space for sharing food for staff and volunteers.
- 13 Former summer student Jacob works on truing his wheel.



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Women's Programming



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In 2018 we continued to offer our regular bi-monthly Women's* Only Nights at the shop. These nights consist of a Basic Bike Repair Course and a Drop-In Night. The basic bike repair course gives women a chance to learn the basics about tools, and their bike in a supportive small group environment. The Drop-In night offers a less structured approach to bike repair. During a Drop-In Night, women can bring in their own bike to work on, learn advanced repair techniques, or help New Hope staff refurbish bikes for sale. These nights have been integral to building community relationships with women across the city and have empowered over 50 women to learn how to tune up their own bicycles.

At the tail end of 2018 New Hope received a generous grant from ArcelorMittal Dofasco to provide more women's specific programming. With this grant, we were able to begin our "More Wheels Less Roles" program which seeks to engage young women in high school who have an aptitude or interest in mechanics, engineering, and cycling, and to start our own women's mountain bike group. In November we co-hosted a high school mechanical challenge with Dofasco at their training warehouse. This involved having teams of high schoolers compete to fix contaminated disc brakes and then participate in our "emergency stop challenge" to see who's brakes worked the best after their repairs. Our Dofasco mechanical challenge day also focused on talking to young women about the importance of breaking down gender roles within mechanics and cycling more broadly to encourage greater gender parity in both of these fields.

The second component of the More Wheel Less Roles is our monthly Women's Group Ride. Kicking off in the winter/spring of 2019 these rides will allow women new to, and familiar with mountain biking a low pressure and beginner friendly monthly group ride. Part of our grant funding has gone to purchasing a mountain bike for women new to the sport to try, and ride to eliminate the financial barriers many people face when getting into mountain biking as a hobby.



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Rebecca Murray — Program Coordinator (above)

Rebecca started as a summer student and has now been with NHCB for almost 4 years. She now runs our women's programming, and is our Ride Smart program lead. Like all staff at NHCB, Rebecca picks up the necessary tools and skills to get the job done. In this case the job meant using a nail gun to install board and batten on the office at the new shop. Rebecca has a growing love for mountain biking and is excited to be able to share this love with others. For more information about our women's specific programming you can reach out to Rebecca at womensnight@newhopecommunitybikes.com

01 Using our cargo trike to get our tools and repair stand home from repairs at Mohawk College. NHCB has been providing on site repairs at Mohawk College for the past 4 years as a kickoff to bike month.



Keep Pedaling in Pikangikum

OPP
Partnership

PREVIOUS PAGE

Youth taking ownership of their new bike shop after it was delivered in April

01 Inside the shipping container bike shop

02 Andrew, Tyler and Sid (NHCB) and Adam (OPP) at the Pikangikum airport

03 Standing on the ice road, the best way to get supplies and a shipping container into Pikangikum



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In 2017 New Hope Community Bikes developed connections to the First Nation community of Pikangikum and biking related activities that were taking place through a Crime Prevention Strategy called Project Journey. Constable Adam Belanger of the Bruce Peninsula OPP Detachment offered to bring a team of people who could support a mountain biking program in the community. One of the people selected for this team was former New Hope Community Bikes staff, and current board member, Nicola Gladwell. Nicola works as a School Mental Health Worker in the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation just south of Hamilton. Through Nicola, Cst. Belanger was introduced to other New Hope Community Bikes staff and volunteers, and a new team made a trip to Pikangikum in the fall of 2017.

Biking is an ideal activity fit for an isolated community such as Pikangikum because it is both social and independent, meaning it can be done as a group but doesn't require the organization that a team sport would need. Similarly, the size of the community is roughly 10 km from end to end, meaning every part of it can be accessed by bike relatively quickly.

“Activities are not only safe and positive, but they are meaningful to the youth. Experiences provide youth the opportunity to believe in themselves while connecting with role models and mentors that help guide their learning of important life skills which help them feel they have control over what happens in their lives.”

~ Sgt. Chris Amell

OPP Special Project Coordinator

Project Journey

Three trips to Pikangikum to run mountain bike programs and build trails had proven that there was sustainable interest among youth in the community to ride bikes on existing and new trails that teams were building. However, access to bikes was limited to when a program was being offered, either after school or by Project Journey. Recognizing this as a supply and demand issue, NHCB set out to come up with a way to make bikes more widely available in the community: a shipping container bike shop seemed like a great solution.

In February, NHCB purchased a used 40' shipping container through funding from private donors and the Norfolk Rotary Club. For two weekends we outfitted the container to be a useable bike shop. It included: building workbenches, shelves, bike racks, wiring and installing lights and outlets, fabricating gates that would keep the container secure when not in use, and providing some bikes and parts to help the shop get going. Through the generous offer of a Southern Ontario farmer, we were able to get the container delivered to Red Lake for just the cost of a rental flatbed trailer.

At the beginning of April, Cst. Belanger lead a new team (above) up to the community to place the shipping container, provide comprehensive mechanic training to a group of youth and teach about the opportunities cycling offers during two school days. Students were excited by bike demonstrations in the gym especially when our former pro downhill rider jumped over the school principal! Youth leaders (previous page) received 15 hours of bike mechanic training.

Equipped with new mechanic skills, these youth were able to work at the container bike shop for the summer, signing-in and out bikes and helmets, maintaining the fleet of bikes, leading group rides with younger youth and helping to build new trails throughout the community. When asked about their experience at the end of the summer, youth appreciated that they were hired for their learned skills rather than just being another set of hands to do the work.

The Numbers in Pikangikum

50+

Youth with meaningful employment

50

Bikes repaired over 8 weeks

400

Bike sign-outs over the 8 weeks of summer programming.

80

Group rides led throughout the summer

3km

Of new trails built

8

Youth learned mechanic skills and were able to use those skills for employment. "Hired for the skills that they had, not just another pair of hands to make the work easier."

Overall the focus on mountain biking as a community activity has provided:

- New opportunities for recreation
- Community buy-in and ownership e.g. no vandalism
- Biking has a visible presence in the community
- Youth learned to share the skills they had learned with others E.g. teaching others to repair a flat tire and a broken chain



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- 01 Learning hub rebuilds in the classroom.
 - 02 Tyler teaches about adjusting disc brakes.
 - 03 Youth working on rebuilding wheel hubs.
 - 04 Andrew and Sid talk about types of bikes with highschool Outdoor Ed class.
 - 05 Sharing our love of bikes with elementary school students at Eenchokay Birchstick School
 - 06 Youth riding the newly built pump track in the center of the community
 - 07 Sign out sheets for bikes used at the container bike shop
 - 08 The first bike repaired at the container bike shop
 - 09 Painting the bike storage container that sits across from the repair shop
- BACK COVER**
 Riding the pump track on a bike originally donated to New Hope Community Bikes



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