

## Newsletter June 6<sup>th</sup> to Aug. 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Hello Everyone,

It's been a fairly quiet period in the shop with a lot of our volunteer mechanics on holiday. We are fortunate to have had 4 mechanics in off and on, to do the final checks on the bikes we had ready for our clients and another volunteer who is in on a regular basis, to deliver them.

We've been trying to keep the shop clean, but as usual, it is an ongoing challenge with all the bikes and parts donated on a regular basis. Bikes for Humanity is still not up and running, so we don't have a home for our excess bikes and parts. With all available storage spaces full, and roughly 25 to 30 bikes in someone's back yard, we are currently turning away all but bikes in the very best condition suitable for either the Christmas Bureau or for a quick turnaround for our clients.

Our partner in Victoria has 40 plus bikes in sizes that we need, stored in his backyard where he is currently working on them to be ready for either our pickup or for his personal delivery to us.

In June, we turned out 32 bikes and although I don't have the figures together, probably a similar amount in July. At the moment, we have over 100 unfilled orders, but our production should improve in early September with the return of those away on holiday.

One of our sports equipment volunteers is still having knee problems and is unable to navigate the stairs in our facility. Another volunteer has been filling in admirably, cleaning and storing the donated runners and sports equipment.

Our annual barbecue, held on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, saw 37 guests attend, including Harry Bains, our local MLA, representatives from the Surrey and Delta Police exhibit departments, Jim Christie from McElhanneys, a Rep from Night Shift, and some old volunteers at Rec. We had a perfect day for the barbeque and thanks to the efforts of 7 of our volunteers and others, all went well.

On Wednesday, August 30<sup>th</sup>, we have been asked to participate in a Bike Rodeo at the Shxwowhamel First Nations Band, located near Hope. The invitation came from the RCMP Indigenous Bike Squad who we have partnered with in the past, to put on rodeos at three other native bands. I'll be looking for some help with that endeavor.

