

Hamilton & Burlington Chapter

### March 2022 Newsletter



#### Valentine's Event

We had a great time Sunday Feb 13 giving citizens rides on a cold snowy day at William's. We met some of the new passengers and we raised \$330.

### Police Checks & Vaccinations

It's not too soon to apply for your police check. It can take anywhere from 3 days to 3 weeks, based on last year's pilots' experience. The cost is \$30 for the police check and here is the link to Halton and Hamilton. You apply according to where you live through the appropriate on-line portal.

https://hamiltonpolice.on.ca/how-to/get-back ground-check

https://www.haltonpolice.ca/en/services-and-reporting/record-checks.aspx#Vulnerable-Sector-Check-

Remember the organization that you are getting the police check for is New Hope Community Bikes and because we are working with seniors a 'vulnerable sector' check is the type required. The seniors' centres have also asked that all our pilots be fully vaccinated (2 shots and a booster) given the vulnerability of their populations.

# Pilot Training for 2022

We are still working on setting up times and looking for a suitable FREE indoor location for some of the training. We hope to start training in late April/early May. Pilot training generally consists of a group zoom / in person session reviewing the program and the pilot requirements, followed by two two-hour on-bike sessions. The second session will be held on the actual trail so there is an opportunity to become familiar with the route. Once the trainer and the pilot are comfortable with the bike and the ability to carry a passenger, the trainer issues a 'pilot licence'. We will send an email that

outlines when the training sessions are scheduled and how to sign up for a particular session. Pictured below- our trainers; Geoffrey, John and Adam, along with myself and Tammy.



## **Advisory Team**

Since November, Tammy and I have been joined by some additional volunteers who have been working with us to plan for the upcoming season.

- Valerie C from Burlington (a keen e-bike cyclist) worked on our Valentine's Day event and has been working to set up a Burlington site
- Christi H from Hamilton was the brains and brawn behind the Valentine's Day Event
- Allan F (Dundas) was a pilot last year and is keen to work on the proposed Shalom Village location this summer
- Lorraine C (Burlington), a super keen volunteer pilot from last year, has been working on the Good Shepherd partnership for this summer at the Waterfront Trail
- Tessy (Hamilton) has been working with Tammy on indoor training space

- John H (Carlisle) has been working on mapping possible other routes and seniors' centres
- Geoffrey H (a CanBike instructor from Hamilton) is keen to help Adam and John with training, and
- Shauna S (Burlington City Councillor) has helped with Burlington contacts

So big thanks to these folks who are working to ensure we are ready to go in 2022.

### Other Volunteer Opportunities

Areas where we could still use some help include:

- Social Media Coordinator
- Scheduling Coordinator
- Webmaster

Let us know if you could take on one of these roles for the year or if you know someone who may be interested, and if you know a large space in Hamilton or Burlington that we could use for indoor training at no cost.

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