

Nominations for 2017 Bike Winnipeg AGM

Bike Winnipeg Co-Chair Team

Kaye Grant, Business Consultant working with Social Enterprises and Worker Co-operatives

I have been on the Board of Bike Winnipeg for the past five years of which four have been as Co-chair. I am interested in Bike Winnipeg's vision of a "city where cycling is embraced as a preferred mode of transportation..." My interest is tied to my love for cycling. My vision for Bike Winnipeg is to increase its visibility and impact on Cycling in Winnipeg.

I do most of my commuting by bike, I also road ride and I have done bike tours in both Canada and US. My travels have taken me to other major cities such as Montreal, Ottawa, Minneapolis, Toronto, Vancouver and Portland where I have seen firsthand some great cycling infrastructure.

I bring my five years of experience on the Bike Winnipeg board which gives me with the knowledge and content to assist in furthering the work of Bike Winnipeg. Previously I served on the executive of the Winnipeg Cycling Club as treasurer, vice-president and president. I have a business background and experience in developing board processes and structures.

Rachael Alpern is an architectural intern in this prairie city of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

With her design and construction background she is excited at the prospect of continuing to offer her skills to Bike Winnipeg, as Co-Chair.

Originally from Edmonton, Alberta, she discovered the thrill of cycling anywhere around the city through interconnected parks and trail systems. She has since been eager to implement similar strategies in Winnipeg, Manitoba. The past ten years have seen her bicycle commuting to work, donating time to teaching volunteer mechanics how to fix bicycles at the Bike Dump, Oriol's Bike Cage, the Bike Lab, and the Wrench, and was the first paid Volunteer coordinator at the Bike Dump. She co-founded the woman oriented bicycle mechanics teaching series called "Moon Cycle" and has participated in many bicycle related events such as Cyclovia, Cycle of Giving, and Bike to Work Day.

For the past two years, she has been a Director at Large for Bike Winnipeg, volunteering at a diversity of events such as Bike Valet, Art Rides, and tabling at Ciclovia; producing renderings; and graphic design for the publication of reports, and looks forward to another year of providing support to Bike Winnipeg.

Denis De Pape

Denis is interested in joining Bike Winnipeg's Board of Director because its mandate aligns with his interests in sustainable living, being physically active, and reducing urban car usage. A non-driver all of his life, Denis is now rewired and an avid volunteer, having coached soccer and basketball, advocated for French Immersion schools, participated in church and school advisory councils, facilitated planning and organizational workshops for numerous NGOs, including Bike Winnipeg and the Winnipeg Trails Association. Denis has served on the Board of Directors and Board Committees of many NGO including Save Our Seine and Green Action Centre. For many years, Denis taught a course in natural resource and environmental economics and sustainability at the Natural Resources Institute, University of Manitoba. He has spent much of his career working for InterGroup Consultants, assessing and finding ways to mitigate or enhance the socio-economic effects of infrastructure and resource development projects. His favourite activity is biking through the parks and trails of South St. Vital including the magical Bois-des-Esprit, the largest natural area along the Seine River in Winnipeg. He travels by bike four to five times a week between his residence in south St. Vital and downtown for meetings or old St. Boniface to visit his elderly parents.

M Scott Sewell

I come from a modest, middle class household in south St. Vital. As such, my car ownership began early and persisted well into my 20's. It was culturally and socially understood as, simply, the thing to do; a benchmark of maturity, the only gateway to freedom and a full social calendar. Despite years of evidence to the contrary, it took a traffic collision and a summer working at The Forks on the back of a beat-up mountain bike to disabuse me of these notions. At the end of that summer I bought that beat-up mountain bike and stopped buying monthly bus passes. My commute to work (a seven and a half kilometre burn from Silver Heights to downtown, straight down Portage and sorely lacking in bike lanes) became less of a drag and more of an invigoration. That was close to five years ago. I now live downtown, commuting in the opposite direction and my bicycle has become part of my daily life.

Seeing other cities, both internationally and in Canada, adopt attitudes friendlier to urban cycling has shown me the shortcomings Winnipeg has and some of the hurdles that need to be overcome to open our city to changes in policy and planning.

Brittany Curtis

Brittany Curtis is a Masters of City Planning student at the University of Manitoba, writing her thesis on walkability in winter cities. Having studied Kinesiology during her undergraduate degree, she is passionate about active transportation and its potential to positively effect population health. In 2015, she interned with the Downtown Winnipeg BIZ to help develop the Bike Friendly Business program. She has never owned a car, but her bike's name is Oslo.