



March 2, 2025

From the Board

****NEWS FLASH** Tour de l'Alberta returns in July, 2025:** In an agreement between EBTC and the Canadian Birkebeiner Society, the Biking Like a Viking event is being rebranded as the Tour de l'Alberta, which many cyclists in the region and beyond remember with fondness. Your Board is pleased to have a not-for-profit society with event organization expertise assume this brand, and thanks to Charles World, president of the Birkie Society, for working with us on this initiative. The Club is now turning attention to our training/fitness rides to prepare members for this event and other rides later in the season.

Reminders

2025 Membership: Click [here](#) to renew or, if new to EBTC, to join the Club. The confirmation email from Karelo will have your 2025 membership card to keep (electronic or paper) for bike shop discounts arranged by EBTC. **Note:** **New members**, please find key information and links [here](#).

Pop-Up List: Sign up [here](#) to receive an email whenever a weather-dependent outing is put in the calendar for registration close to the event date.

Upcoming Events

AGM & Volunteer Appreciation Brunch, March 30
June MacGregor, EBTC President on behalf of Board

Where? Laurier Heights Community Hall (14405 85 Ave NW)

What's Planned? Your Board looks forward to seeing many members at both events. Each requires registration as we need attendee numbers for

quorum at the Annual General Meeting (AGM), and for preparing food for the Volunteer Appreciation Brunch.

AGM – 10:30 a.m. to noon. Come at 10:30, grab a coffee/tea/goodie before the meeting starts. Hear how things went in 2024, learn what's in the works for 2025, and have your say. Expect some social time before the brunch. **Click [here](#) to register for the AGM.**

Volunteer Appreciation Brunch - 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Register to celebrate EBTC's 2024 volunteers, socialize and enjoy an excellent buffet brunch prepared by executive chef and member, Michael Roloff. You'll also hear from some members who cycled abroad and see some fascinating photos of their adventures.



Brunch is offered to members at a 'Club subsidized' cost of \$25, to be paid by credit card when you register. **Click [here](#) to register for the Volunteer Appreciation Brunch** (Note: brunch is free to 2024 volunteers, who have already been contacted)

Members can invite non-member partners or friends to the brunch. Non-members will pay \$30 (cash only) at the door. However, you need to contact me, President@bikeclub.ca, with the name(s) so that we can track the attendee numbers for our chef.

Cycling the Oregon Trail: September 2025

Hans Feldmann, EBTC Member

The 2025 edition of the Pacific Coast trip, Astoria (Oregon) to San Francisco, will offer three cycling trip options.

Option 1 is a 12-day trip from Astoria to San Francisco (September 13-26, 2025), covering 1,250 km and including the Redwoods and Golden Gate Bridge. **Cost: \$3,400.**

Option 2 allows participants to join the first seven days of the trip, cycling from Astoria and arriving in Eureka, CA, on September 20 (750 km, up to 130 km/day), after which they must arrange their own transportation to San Francisco. **Cost: \$2,500.**

Option 3 must find their way to Eureka, CA, on September 20, joining the group for the final five days to San Francisco (510 km, up to 119 km/day), also passing through the Redwoods. **Cost \$1,900.**

Continue reading [here](#).

Drumheller: The Dinos and Drama Tour, May 23-26

Karen & Norbert Broda, EBTC Ride Leaders

Don't miss out! Registration opens **April 1** for this popular ride, with 18 cycling spots available.

We return for a third year to pedal through the dramatic landscape and unique sites of the Badlands – canyons, a ferry ride, hoodoos, a saloon! The drama isn't limited to the landscape. Once again, we'll be attending the buffet and a live comedic performance of *The Foreigner* at the [Rosebud Theatre](#).

The trip's 'hub and spoke' format covers distances between 36-70 km each of the four days. Several hotels and campgrounds are situated as close as a 2 km cycle from each day's starting point in Drumheller.

With some significant hill climbs and no sag wagon, this trip is suitable for **intermediate** riders. Pedal assist e-bikes are welcome.

This is a 'pay-your-own-way' trip. Participants are responsible for all transportation, accommodation, food/snack and entertainment costs. Non-cycling spouses/friends are welcome to join in the Rosebud Theater evening and Wayne Saloon lunch stops.

More information in upcoming newsletters!



****NEW****

Fairmont Hot Springs

Cycling Fairmont Hot Springs, May 19-22

Sonja and Freeman Taylor, EBTC Ride Leaders

Mark your calendar! Registration opens **April 2** in Karelo for a two-day cycling trip in the Fairmont Hot Springs (FHS) area.

As a “pay your own way” trip, participants are responsible for arranging all transportation, accommodation, food/snacks and any other expenses. This is an **intermediate**, social (no drop) ride as there is NO van support and the second day has considerable elevation gain. Each participant is welcome to bring a well-maintained road bike or a pedal assist e-bike. Each day we’ll meet up at the designated time and location so we can start together.

Plan to arrive in Fairmont Hot Springs on the evening of May 19 for two days of cycling on May 20 and May 21. You may wish to stay May 22 and do your own thing. You might also consider signing up for the 4-day cycling trip in Drumheller with leaders Karen and Norbert Broda from May 23-26. Register for one or both — your choice! (NOTE: the two trips have different registration dates in Karelo.)...Continue reading [here](#).



Event Report

Not Quite Whitemud Creek South Trails, Friday, February 28
June MacGregor, EBTC Walk Leader

With the trails too icy to tackle, we ventured into the slush of the neighbourhoods. Led by Phil Davidson, the rest of us didn’t have a clue where we were or where we were going but we enjoyed the sun, warmth, exercise and company, including a nice mid-walk break and chat at Square 1 Coffee.

Note: If this week's walk on Friday, March 7 is a 'go', it will be communicated in a pop-up email.



From the Saddle

EBTC Throwback

Scott Keast, EBTC Member

We were famous back in 2011! Our club has always been a quiet bunch of bike nerds – and I mean that in a respectful loving way. None of that in-your-face race club bravado; our club has more of a low intense burn of enthusiasm. Well in 2011 our club was featured in the *Canadian Cycling Magazine* – whoohoo, national fame and glory!

The group in the article included a long list of EBTC members, so many that I can't identify them all, but maybe you can. Here are a few that I picked out (back row left to right) - Ron Chapman (President), Al Carlson, Euna Kang (?), Britt-Marie Berhardson. Middle row left to right – Paul Loxton (?), Chris Sommerfeld, Anne-Marie Adachi, Sid Bennett (black cap), Neil and Sheila Warhaft, Nadine Leenders, Chris Chapman, Maria Buchegger, and Greg Pommen. Front row (kneeling left to right) - Ernie Mah, Dan Boonstra, Lois Knight, Larry Zelazo and Bernie Lee. That's all I can recognize – how about you?



Edmonton Bicycle and Touring Club

Rides for all levels and a focus on friendship



by **Kathy Fitzgerald**

When Ron Chapman and his wife Chris signed up for the Ride to Conquer Cancer, they joined the Edmonton Bicycle and Touring Club (EBTC) to get some proper training and experience. Now, three years later, Ron is the president of the 33-year-old club that has more than 400 members. With rides almost every day of the week and a welcoming program for new cyclists, the EBTC is a recreational, not-for-profit and volunteer-run group that supports and encourages riders of all levels. "Activities like Cycling 101 make it easy for newcomers to join the group," said Ron.

The Chapmans first joined the Rookie Recreational Rides that are geared to new cyclists. But there are also rides like the Thursday Afternoon Get-A-Ways, which explore the highways north of Edmonton and Ride the Parkland, which takes riders through communities just west of the city. Wednesday's Show and Go Cycling is an easy social ride touring Edmonton's bike paths and quiet residential streets, and Outback rides are designed for all levels of highway riders. More serious cyclists wanting to train for a race take part in Target the Tour each week. This group offers race tips and helps develop the endurance and skills needed to safely participate in a race.

Regardless of the type of ride, spending time together is valued by the EBTC. "We will often stop at funky little places such as a caboose restaurant. One time we rode

PROFILE

Club Name	Edmonton Bicycle and Touring Club
City	Edmonton
Established	1978
Members	400+
Web	bikeclub.ca

to the Edmonton Valley Zoo for their birthday celebration and got to cut the birthday cake," said Dan Boonstra, a seven-year member. Whether it's ice cream, lunch or coffee, taking a break together is a regular part of EBTC activities.

The club also provides numerous opportunities to enjoy the diverse landscapes of Alberta. Trips like Jasper-Banff, Elk Island-Lamont,

Waterton Lakes and Blue River keep members exploring every corner of their home province. The highlight event of the year is the EBTC's Tour de l'Alberta, held annually on the last day of the Tour de France. This non-competitive ride is fully supported and offers five distance options from five kilometres for kids up to 185 km. The event increases awareness of cycling and celebrates Alberta's French heritage by taking riders through some of the province's French communities just outside of Edmonton.

While cycling is the focus of the EBTC, friendship is just as important. "We love it," said Ron Chapman, "I don't think we could ever move back to the coast now, the friendships we have made through the club mean too much to us." ☺

Kathy Fitzgerald is an Edmonton-based freelance writer who cycled in her first Tour de l'Alberta this year.

Photo: Courtesy of Edmonton Bicycle & Touring Club

Helpful Links

Sign Up:

Click here for EBTC

Click here to join the Pop-up

Click here for RideWithGPS

membership

Email List

member access

Dive deeper into the EBTC community:

Click here to contribute to the
Newsletter

Click here to connect with
EBTC on Instagram

Click here to see the public
EBTC Facebook page

Click here to connect with the
members Facebook group

Click here to bring a friend on
an EBTC ride

Click here to visit the EBTC
website

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