



October 12, 2026

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From the Board

An Early Peek at 2026 in Review

The year isn't over yet. We'll continue riding if the weather is good and our 'tough' ride leaders offer pop-ups (some of us 'get cold feet' . . . literally). We'll have pop-up walks and, when the snow arrives, pop-up cross country ski events too.

Here are some **preliminary statistics** to October 10: ▪ 278 Members, ▪ 65 New Members, ▪ 181 'active' events (167 were rides), ▪ 2,245 registrations for 'active' events. ('active' events don't include the AGM, Volunteer Appreciation, Peking Duck Banquet, etc.).

Below is an **overview of the 2026 rides**. Planning for **2027** will start soon. EBTC's Ride Program Coordinator on the Board, Sonja Taylor at RideProgram@bikeclub.ca, welcomes your suggestions for the 2027 program and/or your interest in organizing or leading rides. She will provide feedback, as well as guidance for planning and/or orientation for leading rides.

- **Most days of the week, we had at least one ride.** If more than one, it was from a different location or had a different focus (social vs fitness). For information about the rides listed below, click on [Series Rides Summary](#) and [Unique Day and Multi-Day Rides Summary](#).

- **We continued to offer our popular 10 series rides** - Sunday Social and Fitness; Monday Recreational Ride (evening); Monday Meanderings (evening); Hilltops and Coffee Shops on Tuesday; Tuesday Social rides; Country and Urban Tuesday ride (evening); Rambling Routes on Wednesday (evening); Thursday Recreational Long Rides; Friday Quiet Roads; Saturday Target the Tour/Target On series.
- **On weekday evenings, we added new short series rides to the 4 evening series noted above** - Westend Easy Evening (WEE) rides; Southwest Thursday Intermediate Rides (STIR); Thursday Night Rollers.
- **Also popular was the new Thursday evening BEER (Bold Explorers Enjoy Riding) short series**, where a 20 to 25 km ride preceded a brewery visit.
- **Our weekend program of 3 series rides was strengthened with a new easy Saturday morning social ride** - Short and Sweet, where leadership was shared among four ride leaders.
- **We had 7 unique (once-a-season) weekend cycling events paired with socializing and food** - Season Launch with Pizza (Graminia area); Fort Saskatchewan Brunch; two Bakery Rides; Gran Fondue and Rides (Ardrossan area); Beaumont/New Sarepta to Miquelon Lake; Lac St Anne Rides and Barbecue.
- **Pop-up rides were also offered throughout the season** - to many different locations!
- **We ran 4 overnight/multi-day cycling trips** – Drumheller; Thunder Lake; Fairmont Hot Springs; the new Red Deer to explore the C and E trails north and south. In addition, a one night "test your gear" Bike Packing event was offered but was sadly canceled.



It's Pop-up Time!

As the weather becomes less reliably good for cycling, EBTC leaders often post active events close to the event date for registration, whether rides, walks or cross-country ski outings. You can check the Calendar frequently, log into Karelo frequently **or** you can register [here](#) to receive an email notification whenever a pop-up event is added, which includes the link to register.

Note that Karelo considers the pop-up list as a regular event. You can register, cancel and re-register according to your seasonal interests.



Upcoming Events

Saturday, Oct. 17: Pop-up Ride to Fort Saskatchewan

Sonja Taylor, Ride Leader

Don't put your bikes away just yet! There is a new pop-up 43 km ride on October 17 from Ardrossan to Fort Saskatchewan. To register, go to the [Calendar](#) or click [here](#).

Weekly Recap

Tuesday, October 6: The Bison Ride!

Liz Timleck, Ride Leader

Mother Nature was playing games with us at Elk Island National Park. I checked the forecast multiple times before the ride and it said early morning rain that would be done well before our 11:00 a.m. start. The sun was shining but there were black clouds to the north which was the direction we were headed.

We set out and within a couple of kilometres we were forced to stop as there was a stampede of bison crossing over the road. It was a fantastic sight to witness. I am not sure what instigated this event - it must have been the black clouds emptying! We headed back to the main entrance to wait it out.

We set off again to finish the ride and the skies continued to threaten us for the duration. We are a hearty bunch and we preserved. Final score: EBTC 1; Mother Nature 0.



Oct. 12: Thanksgiving Walk from the Muttart Conservatory

June MacGregor, Walk Organizer

The weather improved for EBTC's first walk of the fall – so much so that we followed an 8 km route with lookouts over the sunny river valley. One of these lookouts, however, did require scrambling over a barrier. We overcame every challenge and were happy to see people of all ages enjoying the trails and the greenery of the Muttart, where our walk ended with coffee, snacks and conversation. Watch for more 'pop-up' walks/hikes in and outside of our urban area.



Helpful Links

Sign Up:

Click here for
EBTC
membership

Click here to join
the Pop-up
Email List

Click here for
RideWithGPS
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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