



# Connecting Communities through Active Transportation

#### **UBCM Electoral Area Directors' Forum**

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April 5, 2022







#### **Overview**

Move. Commute. Connect: B.C.'s Active

**Transportation Strategy** 

- 1. Overview and current state of AT in B.C.
- 2. Education and Encouragement Programs
- 3. Policy and Planning
- 4. Infrastructure







#### Move. Commute. Connect.



- in 2019 with three years of commitments
- Active Transportation Design Guide and What We Heard consultation summary report were released as companion documents





#### **Measures of Success**

#### Move. Commute. Connect. Goals

- Double the percentage of trips taken by active transportation by 2030
- Vision Zero = no fatalities or serious injuries resulting from collisions and crashes on the road.

#### **CleanBC Roadmap to 2030**

- Modeshare goals:
  - Increase the share of trips made by walking, cycling, transit to 30% by 2030, 40% by 2040 and 50% by 2050.
- Vehicle Kilometres Travelled (VKT) reduction goals:
  - Reduce the distances travelled in light-duty vehicles by 25% by 2030, compared to 2020.
- Development of a Clean Transportation Action Plan



# **Benefits of Active Transportation**

#### Doubling B.C.'s current active transportation mode share would result in benefits such as:

- **Health Benefits** 
  - Increased physical activity and improved mental health
  - Better air quality
  - Safer travel options
- **Environmental** 
  - Reductions of GHG Emissions
- **Economic Development** 
  - Creating jobs and tourism opportunities
- **New Opportunities** 
  - Amendments to the Motor Vehicle Act for new mobility options
- **Added Benefits for Rural Communities** 
  - Cycletourism, short distances, access to trails





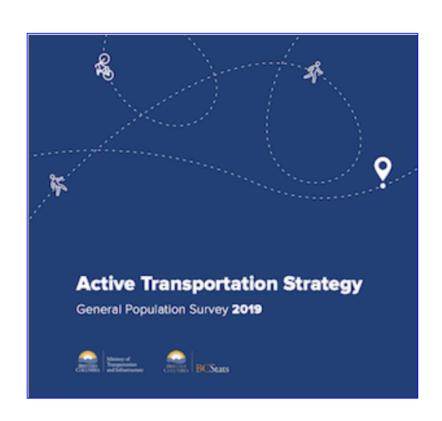






## **Active Transportation Population Survey**

- Conducted by BC Stats
- Baseline data on travel mode and perceptions across the province
- Random sample phone survey in November – December 2019
- Survey of 3,800 residents distributed across province
- Followed-up in 2021 and every two years going forward







# **Primary Mode**

Percentage of respondents who primarily used AT to key destinations



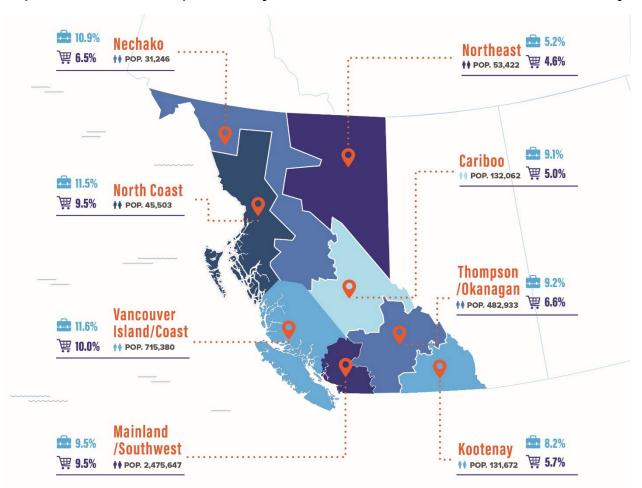






# **Regional Profiles - Primary Mode**

% of respondents who primarily used AT to work and community activities







# 2. Education & Encouragement

- GoByBike Week
- E-bike Rebates
- School Programs





### **GoByBike Week**

- Formerly Bike to Work Week
- Multiple events each year
  - Spring and fall GoByBike weeklong events
  - Winter GoByBike Day
  - Spring Bike to School Week
- 81 communities and 500,000 participants
- Outreach to small towns
- Year-round programming









#### **E-Bike Rebates**

#### **Scrap-It**

- Provides rebates of up to \$750 in exchange for scrapping a gas-powered car
- Also provides rebates on EVs, transit passes, and carshare credits

#### **Specialty-Use Vehicle Incentive Program (SUVI)**

- Rebates of up to \$1700 for businesses
- Cargo e-bikes only
- Encourage zero-emission transportation and delivery

#### No PST on e-bikes

- 7% savings







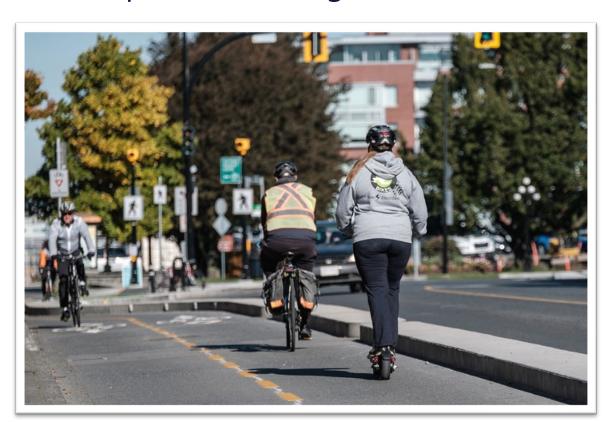
- EveryoneRides Grade 4-5 school-based cycling education
  - Administered by HUB Cycling
  - Satellite courses in smaller communities (Cowichan, Sunshine Coast, etc)
  - In 2020, the program reached 1,800 students through online, in-class and on-bike learning
- Active School Travel Pilot Program supports students walking and biking to school through programs and capacity building





# 3. Policy & Planning

• BC Active Transportation Design Guide



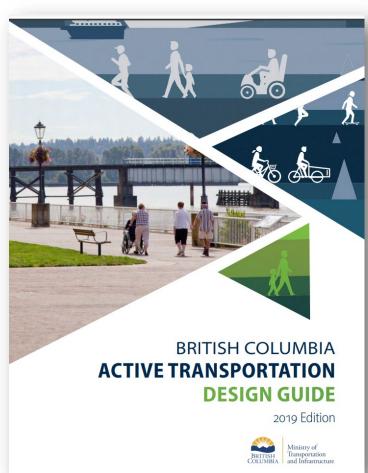




# **Design Guide**

- BC Active Transportation Design Guide (2019)
- Has won regional, national, and international awards
- Available free online







# Design Guide

- Includes considerations specific to small and rural communities
  - Lower motor vehicle volumes
  - Maintenance considerations
- Training was offered across the province including in small and rural communities









# 4. Infrastructure

- BC Active Transportation
   Infrastructure Grant Program
- Provincial Roads in Your Communities







# **BC Active Transportation Grant Program**

- Active Transportation Infrastructure Grant Program Highlights
  - Two streams: AT infrastructure grants and AT network plan grants
  - Eligible applicants are Indigenous and local governments
  - Focus on Indigenous, small, and rural communities
- Incorporates UNDRIP and GBA+ lens
- Supports CleanBC
- Supports healthy communities
- Supports tourism & economic development











### **AT Grant Program – Network Plan**

- The province cost-shares to a maximum of 50%, or \$50,000 whichever is less.
- Limited to communities with population <25,000</li>
- Establishes a long-term vision for active transportation, with the aim of increasing AT use year-round.
- ATNP includes community profile, data collection, consultation summary, plan and implementation
- Typical costs include project consultants, public engagement, data collection and review





### **AT Grant Program - Infrastructure**

The province cost-shares on a sliding scale to a maximum of \$500,000

Population	Grant cost-share
Indigenous community or Indigenous partnership	80%
<15,000	70%
15,000 – 25,000	60%
>25,000	50%

#### **Potential projects include:**

- Multi-use paths
- Pedestrian infrastructure (e.g. sidewalks, walking paths, staircases)
- Cycling infrastructure (e.g. protected, separated bike lanes)
- Intersection improvements (e.g. protected intersections, signalizing, improved crosswalks)
- Amenities (e.g. bike parking, washrooms, lighting, directional signage, e-bike charging stations, automatic counters)

#### **Shovel-Ready requirement**





# **AT Grant Program - Infrastructure**

- Since 2017, the Grant Program has awarded approximately \$50M across the province.
- 68% of 21/22 Infrastructure projects are from Indigenous and small (<15K) communities



Vanderhoof



Tofino





Kelowna





#### **Ministry Regional Districts are responsible for:**

- Ministry Right of Way/Highways
- Highway Maintenance and operations (clearing shoulders)
- Consultation and Approvals for construction on RoW
  - Highway Crossings
- Increases opportunities for partnership
  - Community Safety Enhancement Program





# **Questions?**

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