

## PROVINCE OF ONTARIO ANNOUNCES FUNDING TO SUPPORT CYCLING

## Share the Road Applauds Investments to Improve Cycling Safety and Skills

(Toronto, ON – July 3, 2015) – The Share the Road Cycling Coalition (Share the Road) applauds the Ministry of Transportation for today's launch of two funding programs directed at improving and promoting cycling in Ontario.

The province is investing more than \$10 million through two, two-year funding programs: the Ontario Municipal Cycling Infrastructure Program and the Cycling Training Fund.

Municipalities can submit expressions of interest for the Ontario Municipal Cycling Infrastructure Program to build new or improve existing cycling infrastructure. Also, as part of Ontario's Promotion, Celebration and Legacy Strategy for the TORONTO 2015 Pan/Parapan American Games, municipalities, non-profits, businesses, schools and school boards can submit applications for the Cycling Training Fund to develop, enhance and deliver cycling skills training programs. The application period is now open for both programs.

"Share the Road is pleased to see funding available for municipalities and their partners," said Jamie Stuckless, Executive Director. "We know municipalities struggle with investments in infrastructure and in delivering comprehensive cycling skills training for their residents. These are clearly priority areas for Ontarians with 68% of residents supporting increased funding for cycling infrastructure and 60% in support of investments in cycling skills training. This funding announcement demonstrates the commitment of the Ministry to implementing the recommendations of #CycleON, the province's cycling strategy."

These two programs are part of the government's 20-year #CycleON strategy to promote cycling as a viable mode of transportation, improve cyclist safety and help make Ontario a premier cycling destination. Ontario will also be increasing the project cap amount to \$325,000 in recognition of the costs associated with larger and more complicated projects

"More and better infrastructure and improved access to cycling skills training are two key features of bicycle-friendly communities," said Stuckless. "Share the Road looks forward to seeing the positive community impacts of these funding investments over the next two years."

## **About the Share the Road Cycling Coalition**

The Share the Road Cycling Coalition is a provincial non-profit organization working to build a bicycle friendly Ontario. Share the Road works in partnership with municipal, provincial and federal governments, the business community, road safety organizations and other non-profits to:

- Enhance access for bicyclists on roads and trails
- Improve safety for all bicyclists
- Educate citizens on the value and important of safe bicycling for healthy lifestyles and healthy communities.

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