



*“Two Wheel View is a fun and welcoming place.  
You get to learn a bunch of awesome skills  
and its really cool.”*

– Dilpreet, Bike Club Participant

# IMPACT REPORT

2016



## Why Two Wheel View?

Two Wheel View is a youth development organization that uses the bicycle as a tool to build resiliency. We engage in continuous learning through program and participant evaluation. Like our programming, our evaluation methods are strengths-based, focusing on contribution, positivity, and learning as opposed to attribution, faults, and road blocks. Through our evaluation learnings and the anecdotal evidence that we receive we know that Two Wheel View creates positive social impact in three key outcome areas:

- Youth development and social outcomes
- Health and environment outcomes
- Cultural outcomes

Together, outcomes and changes in these three areas contribute to increased resiliency in the youth we serve.

As a result of our programming, Two Wheel View participants are better equipped to draw upon their strengths when faced with challenges – able to move forward in the world as mentally and physically healthy citizens.

When funders and investors support Two Wheel View, they can be confident in our ability to create positive social impact that has ripple effects throughout our communities. Our commitment to ongoing impact assessment not only provides consistent accountability, but enables us to continuously improve our programming to create the most meaningful and impactful experience for our participants.

*“For me, Two Wheel View’s mission to change kids’ lives from the seat of a bike is an important service to the children and communities they are growing up in. A bike is recreation and transportation. In my life, I have found that regular use of a bicycle is good for my physical and mental health as well as reducing my carbon footprint. And it’s fun! Two Wheel View is giving young people who participate in their programs an opportunity to see the world differently and take care of themselves and the planet.”*

~ David White, TWV Volunteer and Trip Leader



"I saw an increase in confidence and strong growth in social connections among the participants."

They gained understanding about how groups and communities function, and were able to assume more direct roles in them."

~ Bike Club Host Partner

"Two Wheel View is the most enjoyable place I've gone so far and also the best after school activity."

~ Mike, Bike Club Participant

## Our Strategy

Two Wheel View partners with youth serving organizations, schools, communities and donors to provide youth with high impact programs and experiences that use the bicycle as a "vehicle for change".

## Our Organizational goals are...

- To **impact** participants in three outcome areas:  
**1. Youth development & social outcomes 2. Health & environment outcomes 3. Cultural outcomes**
- To positively **influence** the way participants interact within their communities and the world.
- To **mobilize** young people to draw upon their strengths and experience through student-directed initiatives.
- To **encourage** ongoing volunteer work and mentoring.
- To **promote** active and responsible lifestyles.
- To **provide** supportive, adult role models for youth.
- To **encourage** personal growth through opportunities for environmental and community action and leadership.
- To **increase** participants' sense of self-efficacy and ability.



# Our Programs

TWV programs increase youth resiliency and lessen risk factors of students through cognitive development, social competence, and emotional and physical wellbeing; thus increasing their likelihood of future success.

The *Earn-a-Bike* program uses the bike as a tool to develop leadership and teamwork skills as well as bike mechanic capabilities in youth ages 11-17. *Bike Science* gives Grade 4 students the opportunity to roll up their sleeves as they explore torque, leverage, pulleys, wheels, axels and gear ratios first hand. *Full Cycle* encourages First Nations youth to attend school and to engage in positive activity that builds community and enhances youth resiliency. TWV also hosts fundraising and educational *Community Events*.

Imagine a one-of-a-kind *bike trip* opportunities in Argentina or Norway, visiting historic towns and cities of Quebec or discovering western Canada's mountain parks. Two Wheel View invites youth and adults, ages 14 and older to discover one of our amazing destinations.

Two Wheel View offers a grass-roots approach to responsible travel where participants explore new cultures and gain valuable experiences while making meaningful community connections. As a part of the Two Wheel View bike trip experience, you will:

- Volunteer in local and host community projects.
- Prepare for the adventure through Two Wheel View's unique pre-trip orientation sessions that includes bike mechanics, team building, and fun.
- Discover new cultures and natural landscapes.
- Stay connected after the trip through social media and events hosted by Two Wheel View.

"I guess we were never really sore or tired because just about every second was too much fun to not be happy and excited."

~ Rogelio Orozco, Participant, Argentina 2016

"It was awesome because you got to learn new stuff and they teach you in a fun way.

I met new friends and developed deeper relationships cause I've never been close with them before."

– Brandon, Bike Club Participant

"If I were to share with a student that has never done Two Wheel View, I would share it is the most inspiring program I've ever been in.

It inspired me to be brave and try new things. It was like a family. We got to know the group really well and shared our progress each class."

~ Thea, Bike Club Participant

"The students love the program, and we were able to 'steer' many students into the program who needed to establish connections with peers and feel empowered in their ability to learn and build a bike.

Even students who had low engagement in school before the program were motivated to attend and participate."

~ Bike Club Host Partner



# TWV 2016 STATS

“Two Wheel View has proven tremendous positive impact on the lives of so many young people. In particular, this past year has seen the organization turn a corner in program delivery and effectiveness, especially in their work in First Nations communities. As a loyal donor for many years, I prefer to fund winners and support organizations that strive to grow and improve. Two Wheel View is exactly that: the staff and all the stakeholders are fully committed to a common goal and continue to demonstrate outstanding results and impressive metrics year over year.”

~ Andy Williamson, Social Venture Partners

54

days on trips



315

youth in bike and safety workshops



220

youth graduated from Earn-A-Bike



66

participants on BikeTrips (both Adult and Youth)



25

youth in two First Nations communities participated in Full Cycle





**195**

board member hours logged

**321**

instructional hours

**287**

volunteer bike mechanic hours logged

{ = eight hundred and three hours }

Cumulative distance cycled:

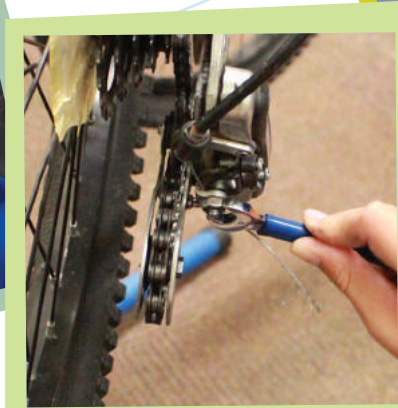


**16,885 kms**

{ = distance to cross the country twice on the Trans-Canada highway }

**19**

Bike Club partners



# Program Profile: Full Cycle Initiative

The Full Cycle Initiative is a Two Wheel View program facilitated at the Morley Community School on the Stoney First Nation, west of Calgary. This program includes two components: a bike mechanics course (Bike Club) and a 5-day bike expedition through traditional Stoney-Nakoda land, focused on cultural and environmental education.

Full Cycle encourages youth to attend school and to engage in positive activity that builds community and enhances youth resiliency. The aim of this program is to reduce risk factors facing First Nation's youth and increase protective factors that will impact their long-term personal growth and positive development.

This spring we worked with Anne Miller of Constellation Consulting Group to evaluate this initiative. Participants were grouped into two groups: In-school session (ISS) participants and trip participants. Not all students from the ISS group were able to attend the trip but all trip participants had been a part of the ISS.

We expanded this program in the fall of 2016 to the First Nation's community of Eden Valley – southwest of Calgary. This initiative is supported by the Government of Alberta and the Calgary Foundation.

- Increased self-esteem – 81% of ISS participants and 92% of trip participants identified feeling better about themselves because of the program.
- Increased sense of adventure and desire to try new things – 81% of the ISS group and 85% of the trip group wanted to try more new things because of the program.
- Positive peer interactions are fostered through the program 88% of the ISS participants and 100% of bike trip participants interacted more with their friends in the positive program space created by Two Wheel View.
- Increased physical activity and desire to live active lifestyles – 75% of the ISS group and 100% of the trip participants felt more active as a result of this program.
- Increased environmental awareness and sustainable activities – 92% of bike trips participants increased their environmental awareness and 75% of in-school session learned how to recycle and repair things because of the program.

"[I liked] when we got together and got to know a little bit more about each other."

"[I liked] being with my friends more often"; "I want to be outside more often"

"I've tried to become a better leader"

"This week (bike trip) is probably the happiest I've been in a long time!"

"My favourite part was being away from technology and phones.  
At home, everyone is always texting or looking at their phones."

"I support Two Wheel View because I believe their strengths-based hands-on programming approach is creating real social impact in our communities. The young people who participate in Two Wheel View walk away with not only practical bike mechanic skills, but also a deepened sense of self-efficacy, a desire to lead, and an interest in giving back to the community. Using the bicycle as a tool for learning Two Wheel View effectively draws young people into programming that has a long-term positive effect on youth development. By equipping participants with bikes and the skills to maintain them, Two Wheel View is encouraging self-efficacy, active transportation, healthy living, and environmental consciousness.

## I would recommend supporting Two Wheel View for three reasons:

1. Two Wheel View results are real, visible, and long-term. They are creating demonstrable impact in our communities through strengths-based programs that support the resiliency of young people while teaching them practical transferrable skills.
2. Two Wheel View has a diversified and sustainable funding model. It incorporates an innovative social enterprise approach, individual donations, grants, and volunteers, resulting in a funding base that is both broad and viable in the long-term.
3. Two Wheel View enables a participatory approach. It offers supporters opportunities for bike trip participation, learning and volunteering that encourages personal development and wisdom-sharing while supporting a good cause."

~ Anne Miller, Constellation Consulting Group

## Featured Partnership: The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award

The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award is the world's leading achievement award for young people. The Award is self-directed and develops the whole person- mind, body and soul. "We challenge young people to step outside their comfort zone and grow through the four sections (Physical Recreation, Skills, Community Service & Adventurous Journey) of The Award which encourages; personal discovery and growth, self-reliance, perseverance and responsibility." – Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

The beauty of our partnership with The Award is that youth can get additional recognition for the things they are already achieving at Two Wheel View. The Award is internationally recognized and provides power to the scholarship applications, university submissions and resumes of those who complete it.

In June 2016, Two Wheel View got the opportunity to meet His Royal Highness Prince Edward at The Award's Youth Showcase in Calgary. The Alberta, Nunavut and North West Territories Division of the Award hosted this event in conjunction with their Gold Award ceremony. It was a showcase of some of their partners and participants with performances and skill demonstrations from the four different components of the Award: Skills, Physical Recreation, Service, and Adventurous Journeys. Two Wheel View was well represented with six past TWV trip participants in attendance, including three Gold Award recipients.

Past participant Raine McDougald read the final address on behalf of the award recipients:

*"I'd like to begin by thanking His Royal Highness Prince Edward, The Earl of Wessex, for being with us here today to present the Gold Award. Thank you for making this a moment that none of us will ever forget!"*

*I'm honoured to be here on behalf of myself and my fellow achievers and to share my experiences with the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Program.*

*The Award program wasn't always easy, but it helped me build confidence that I can achieve my goals. I need that confidence the most during my Adventurous Journey, for mine I bicycled from Drumheller to Banff National Park. If you have ever driven from the Badlands into the mountains you will understand... it is ALL uphill.*

*This reminds me of a Samuel Smiles quote, "The battle of life is, in most cases, fought uphill. If there were no difficulties, there would be no success. If there were nothing to struggle for, there would be nothing achieved."*

*Time and time again, I have pushed myself beyond limits I could never have imagined."*



## Bike Trip Reflection

In the summer of 2016, I found myself on a path towards redemption as an individual, leadership in a collective, and love within a network. As a team of brilliant and young individuals, we travelled to fantastic lands across Alberta on the way from my hometown of Drumheller to Banff. One of the highlights of this trip was my first glimpse of the Rocky Mountains, as it was my first journey away from the surrounding prairies of my hometown. It was truly spectacular to feel an aura of communication and support surrounding me on this trip; I haven't felt something exactly like it since. A moment of significance was when we could be defined as a unique sort of family- the participants and leaders surrounding a camp stove, crafting a makeshift chicken soup- sharing stories of diverse culture and endearment through spices and laughter.

This experience helped me to build skills needed to make an impact in the adult world, such as environmental awareness, community stewardship, and the utter importance of leadership and team skills in one's personal life. On this journey I learned the significance of the art of travel, and how critical exiting the comfort zone is for maturity and growth. Since August, I have maintained close and personal friendships with each of the individuals I have shared this experience with. I am so glad that this opportunity has brought me together with people of my own nature- some of the greatest and most kind human beings who I now share a lifelong friendship with.

~ Evelyn Stanger, Participant Badlands to Banff 2016



## What TWV means to me

As a TWV facilitator it has been my pleasure to work with a large diversity of youth while they participate in our Earn-a-Bike sessions. I am constantly blown away by the experience these youth have. I have witnessed new friendships form, leadership flourish and confidence grow. Over the course of 8 weeks these young people are shown that they can do more than they ever thought and are given the space to grow. One of my favourite parts of program is witnessing young people engaged in hands-on learning in a group setting. The ability to develop expertise and techniques required for bicycle mechanics is a great contrast to other environments that focus more on theoretical skills. This focus on experiential learning in a group setting is a great tool to help spark curiosity, create a sense of accomplishment and, by extension, increased self worth. As youth work together on the challenges of bike mechanics, I have witnessed some amazing displays of teamwork and kindness. Giving young people a bike that they worked hard to earn is also an amazing thing. It rewards commitment and perseverance all while increasing access to environmentally friendly transportation and physical fitness. I think that is one of the things that set Two Wheel View apart. It is so many things all at once and I truly believe we are impacting young lives in a meaningful way.

~ Mollie Bennett, TWV Staff

## Donors

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Alberta Human Services  
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