



BOARD OF EDUCATION

Media Information

April 11, 2008

BICYCLE RODEOS ARE BACK!

Kelowna – Do you remember the feeling of learning to ride a bicycle without training wheels? Do you remember that rush of freedom when your parent's balancing hand let go and you didn't fall?

If you have to strain to think back that far, well, maybe it's time to strap on a helmet and saddle up. Not only is bicycling fun, it's an excellent way to get exercise. Whether you're an avid mountain biker or incorporating cycling into your daily commute, you too can reap the many health benefits of bicycling. However, bicycling is not without its risks.

School District No 23 in conjunction with Kelowna City Hall Transportation Demand Management are re-introducing bike rodeos to our schools in the hopes of preventing bicyclist injuries. The rodeos include a skills event designed to teach children safe bike handling as well as traffic rules. RCMP auxiliary constables, City of Kelowna Bylaw officers on bikes as well as the School District's Traffic Safety Officer will be attending the rodeos to lend a hand and have fun with the kids.

Rodeos will include a series of stations each one dealing with an important aspect of safe cycling. Participants receive a free bicycle inspection as well as the opportunity for one-on-one coaching by RCMP constables and City bylaw officers. These are people who know a thing or two about street safety!

Rodeo schedule:

April 17 at 8:30 am on the field at A.S. Matheson Elementary

April 23 at 8:30 am on the field at Glenmore Elementary

April 24 at 8:30 am on the field at South Kelowna Elementary

April 25 at 8:30 am on the field at Anne McClymont Elementary

April 30 at 8:30 am on the field at Dorothea Walker Elementary

The District's Traffic Safety Officer will also be offering pedestrian safety classes for students at George Pringle Elementary. On April 14 and 16, Dave Gibson will give a half hour pedestrian safety presentation. On April 28 and 29, Gibson will do presentations on bicycle safety.

For comments, please contact:

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For background information: please contact Lisa Harrison lharriso@sd23.bc.ca or 470-3284.
