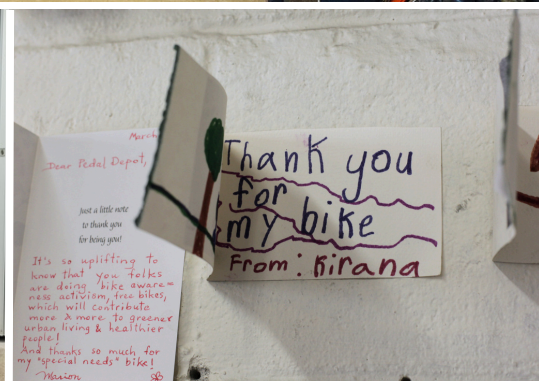




OUR COMMUNITY BIKES

Building Bikes, Building Community



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www.ourcommunitybikes.org/



[2429 Main Street, Vancouver](#)



1993



2025



SHIFTING GEAR

Using bikes as a tool for social change

Empower



Teaching people to fix their own bikes, providing bike mechanics and work experience for those who face barriers to employment.

Educate



Providing mechanical skills and cycling knowledge, delivering training for young mechanics, educating the community on how to refurbish and reuse bikes.

Enable



Providing bikes to low-income individuals and offering free maintenance services, equipping local municipalities with the capacities to reduce landfills

About Us

Open in Mount Pleasant since 1993, Our Community Bikes (OCB) is a community bike shop where we use bikes as a tool for social change.

We equip the community with the resources and knowledge to access biking by providing refurbished bicycles and education in mechanical skills to empower people and to enable their access to community services and opportunities.

We do this through a range of programs including Pedals for the People, Gear-Up, Youth Bike Club, DIY drop in, and a variety of other initiatives which we deliver in partnership with a range of local and national organizations.



Pedaling towards equity

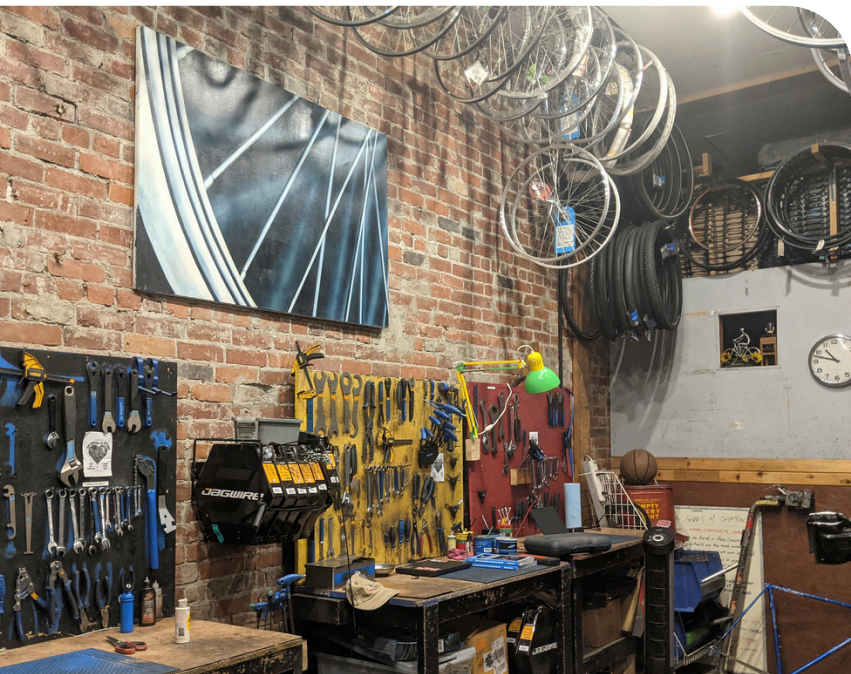
Bikes provide access to independent mobility. There is a long way to go to ensure access for all.



Bicycles are critical for Transportation Justice

They enable community participation, the ability to earn an income and access services. Lack of options for affordable, reliable transportation can further limit opportunities for people to make the connections they need, and access the resources required to move beyond their current circumstances.

However, equal access to biking requires comprehensive grassroots efforts to make bikes and the means to maintain them widely available.



The long road to transportation equity

- **Elevating voices:** Urgency for community participation in biking, ensuring needs and demands of marginalized folks are heard.
- **Affordability:** Lack of options for affordable, reliable transportation can further limit opportunities for people to make the connections they need, and access vital resources and services
- **Lack of representation:** The cycling industry's workforce and target market lacks diversity. There are numerous examples of inequitable opportunities for underrepresented groups in sales and mechanics roles, as well as in purchasing cycling attire or riding itself.



Why Vancouver needs OCB

OCB uses the bicycle to empower individuals with skills and opportunities; along with improving access to mobility, through education and skill building opportunities in mechanics and wider life.



Free & affordable bikes

Refurbishing second hand bikes and donating them to those in need in our community.



DIY & access programs

A range of programs to directly support people who have historically been marginalized from biking spheres, helping them maintain their own bike.



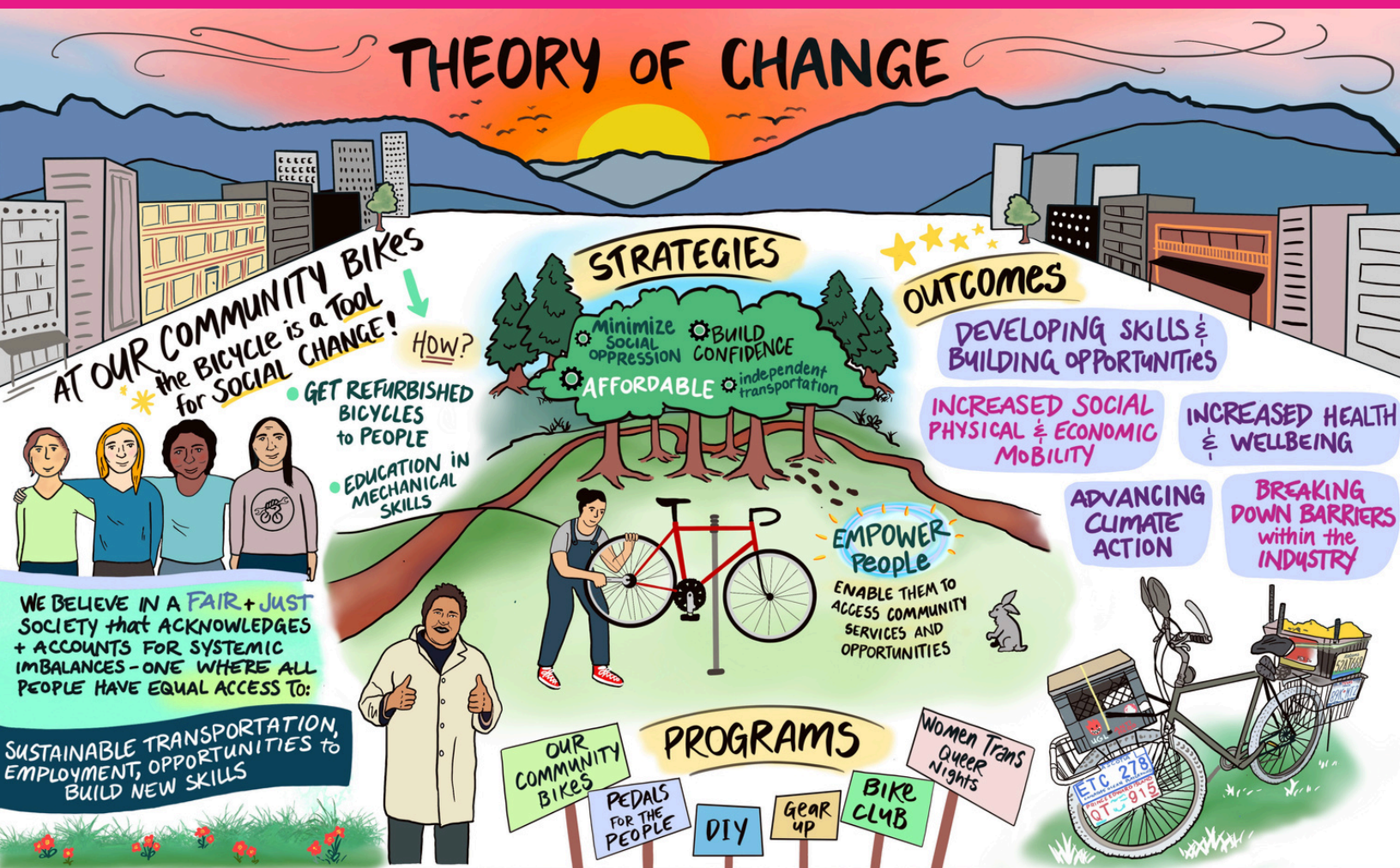
Free & affordable servicing

Regular free maintenance clinics in various locations around Vancouver.



Youth mechanics education

Training programs for young people, allowing them to access employment in the cycling sector.



THE TRIPLE ACTION APPROACH



Social enterprise

Our social mission includes providing bikes to underserved communities, empowering people to fix their own bikes, and increasing diversity within the cycling industry.



Community bike shop

We sell refurbished bikes and bike parts. We are also a full-service repair shop and bicycle recycling hub.



Bike programs

We provide education and workspace for people who want to repair their own bikes or learn how to do so.



OUR PROGRAMS

From youth clubs to bike recycling projects, OCB coordinates a huge range of programs aimed at building biking education, providing low cost transportation, community spaces, and environmental action.

Oppenheimer Park Repair Clinic

Every Tuesday and Sunday from 11:30am-2:30pm, we have a team set up at Oppenheimer Park to provide basic tunes and adjustments on bikes, walkers and wheelchairs. Supporting over 60 people every month, clinics ensure members of the downtown eastside community get the mechanic support they need to stay mobile.

[More information here](#)



Pedals for the People

We refurbish bikes, provide helmets, locks and lights, and subsidize annual repairs for people facing financial barriers. This program distributes over 100 bikes every year and subsidizes thousands of dollars in repairs annually.

[More information here](#)

Gear-Up

This free 13-week program, coordinated in cooperation with YWCA Metro Vancouver, equips youth ages 15–30 with the skills, certification and employer connections necessary to work as a bike mechanic.

[More information here](#)



Access and DIY Nights

Access Nights welcome specific groups of people who are interested to learn with, and from, their peers.

Winter hours (Sep-Apr) 6:30pm - 9:30pm
Summer hours (May-August) 7:30pm - 9:30pm

[More information here](#)



Workshops

We are available to host small workshops or repair clinics for organizations, businesses, and events. We provide tools, stands, and a mechanic. These workshops cover a wide variety of topics from basic mechanics, to road safety and route mapping.

[More information here](#)



Youth Programs

We run programs such as Youth Bike Club, which offer free drop-in bicycle mechanics sessions aimed at getting more youth riding by removing barriers! We also deliver more structured training programs for youth.

[More information here](#)

And more keep coming!

We continually update our programs to serve our community in a structured and targeted way. We rely on the generous donations we receive from our supporters, grants and partnerships, and expand and update these programs according to our capacities.



Donating bikes to those in need

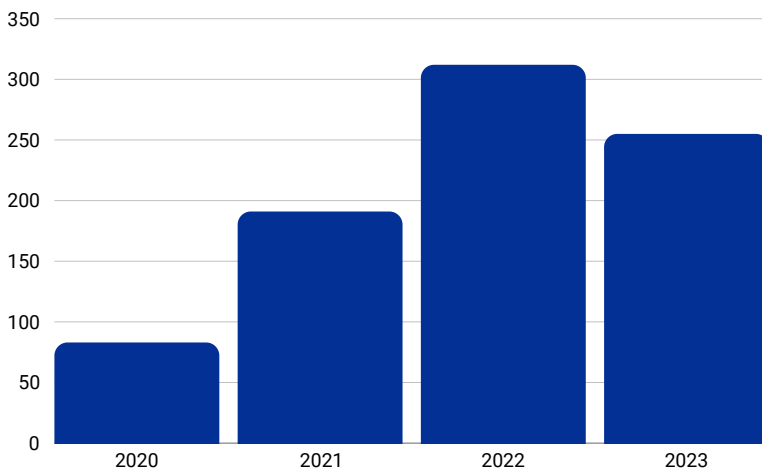
OCB strives to combat transportation poverty by making biking for everybody, regardless of income.



As many communities struggle to find affordable, safe and reliable transportation, OCB's Pedals for the People program provides free bicycles for those most in need.

We provide affordable, sustainable transportation to members of our community who would otherwise be without it. We target people who are experiencing severe or ongoing financial crises or hardship in their lives that affects their overall wellbeing and their ability to obtain a bicycle. We actively reach out to the Vancouver community to match those in need with a bike which will suit their requirements.

Number of bicycle recipients each year



What customers and partners said

"Since receiving this bike, my client has secured a part time job, has friends, his addiction issue is in remission and he has secured housing. This client is truly a success story and in a big part to being granted a bike."- **Raven Song Primary Care Social Worker**

"Thank you for the bike! The 12 year old girl has been frequently using the bike and has talked about how many adventures she has been on, all thanks to this generous donation! The child has many younger siblings who will also benefit from this for years to come."- **Big Sisters Case Worker**

"I have had two of my clients acquire a bicycle through the Pedals for the people program. In both cases a youth was struggling with mental illness and poverty. Gaining access to a bicycle made a very positive impact on both these individuals"- **Occupational Therapist at Gastown Vocational Services**



Boosting the circular cycling economy

We are supporting the biking industry to improve its sustainability practices by refurbishing and reusing materials, while educating consumer and partners in doing the same.

Biking's unsustainable secret

Confronting the cycling sector's own environmental impact is a growing concern, particularly amidst the proliferation of e-bike sales.

It is estimated that almost 48,000 bikes are sold each day around the globe, with 15 million discarded each year. In the USA alone each year, 10 million inner tubes end up in landfill.

Find out more [HERE](#)

How we propel change

By encouraging reuse and repairs of materials and products (which are often simply discarded), OCB is curtailing landfill waste, while simultaneously shifting popular understanding of products' lifespan.

We were able to save 72 tonnes of CO2 in 2023 with potential further reduction of 1163 tonnes. This is the equivalent of 5.5 million kilometres of driving saved each year.

Refurbishing and donating



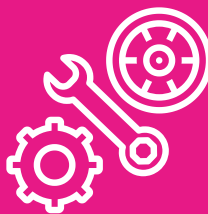
We receive donated bikes, refurbish them, and donate them to members of the community.

Education



We train others to understand the importance of reuse, and contribute to research and studies on improving sustainability.

2nd hand parts



We sell refurbished parts, from pedals to fenders, to the local community, ensuring that even if a full bike is not operational, the parts receive a second life!

Dedicated refurb projects

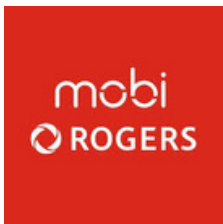


We work with local municipalities to refurbish discarded bikes and donate them to people in need.



People and Partnerships

We could not complete our work without the valuable support of our staff, volunteers and partners from across the cycling and transportation industry, who we collaborate with to develop and fund our programs.



Come and join us!

We always welcome new volunteers and supporters, so come down to our shop and find out how you can get involved!





Work with us today!

We work with a growing volume of organizations to coordinate our programs and work. Every year we expand and develop these partnerships, working closely with the biking community to align sustainable and inclusive transportation goals.

[More information here](#)

Contact Information

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