Re: ASD-North Upper Elementary Mountain Bike Fun Races April 24th, 2015

To whom it may concern,

My name is Paul Mackinnon. I currently serve students of the Anglophone School District North as the Physical Education Lead – Outdoor Education Focused. In that capacity, I have been able to support and develop an assortment of adventure based programs, outside the traditional realm of Physical Education, in an effort to hook kids onto activities that would promote self-esteem and more active living; skateboarding, canoeing, climbing, etc. To that end, I have been supporting several local schools in the creation of a mountain biking unit within the Grade 5 Phys Ed Curriculum and Mountain Bike Clubs within schools equipped with mountain bikes.

We began three years ago, celebrating these accomplishments with a final year-end “Mountain Bike Fun Race”, hosted by Gretna Green Elementary. For the past two school years, both Croft and NSEE schools planned and hosted separate race day events, leading up to our finale at Gretna Green. Thanks to some vested interest of those educators involved, parent volunteers and a great group of 4th and 5th grade participants, we pulled off some impressive events!

Based on last year’s success, we decided to re-extend an invitation to all 4th and 5th grade students in the Miramichi Region of the ASD-Northto **consider representing their school based on the following:**

1. **“Fun Racers” should commit to at least 2 of our 3 events, as spots are very limited!** (Please find the dates/locations below.)
2. There is a cost of **$3 to participate for each of the events-payable on race day** to the assigned person at the respective hosting school.
3. **Students need to be accompanied by an adult**, as it is not up to the hosting school to provide supervision.
4. Students “fun racing” require **a mountain bike in safe working order** {brakes work, no kick stands please! (remove)- poses a danger to both the rider and racers when off road riding}
5. Students must wear a suitable **bicycle helmet that properly fits** the rider.

The events: 1) **May 12th at Croft 2) May 20th at North & South Esk 3) June 3rd at Gretna Green**

We will have a **“ride through” scheduled for 4pm at each event**, allowing students to experience the moderate trails/course, prior to the **3 separates race categories: gr. 4 boys, gr. 4/5 girls and gr. 5 boys –In each category, a set number of participants will move on from heats, to the final in each category or simply 3 separate races –depending on the # of participants.**

We are expecting between 60-80 students at each of the three **rain or shine events**. Students “fun racing” will have their names entered into an event draw for several prizes provided by our generous local community sponsors, whom will be recognized on race days. As well, we will have 9 trophies up for grabs at each event. Each event that a student “fun races” in will give them a ballot for the mountain bike to be drawn at our final Gretna Green Event on June 3rd!

Sincerely yours,

Paul Mackinnon; Physical Education Lead- Outdoor Education Focused, ASD-North