

## EBC President's Report June 2012.

The **Edmonton Bike Swap** (May 12) was less well-attended than the Calgary-based organizers hoped, but it has potential to be a very useful event for Edmonton cyclists and a profitable association for EBC. Buyers out-numbered sellers, so promoting it as a place to sell bikes would be critical for next year. We should continue to support the organizers as much as we can.

**The Spoke** seems to be running successfully in terms of participant and volunteer experience. Curriculum of the sessions is still casual and relies on the experience and leadership of returning volunteers. Availability of used parts has been an issue, as has policy around participants using new parts.

The **volunteer meeting** called by Chris last Thursday (June 7) reached a fair level of consensus around changes to the running of Bikeworks' public hours, the main change being a cap on the number of bikes allowed in the shop at one time, after which folks will have to line up. There will be a designated shop host to greet, enforce the cap, sell bikes, do rentals, answer questions, etc. The clipboard idea was mostly rejected by volunteers, who felt it would add an unnecessary layer of complexity and that other changes would do more for loss prevention.

The meeting was also a useful chance for volunteers who don't often see each other to compare ideas about bike pricing, shop cleanliness, training of new volunteers, bike stripping, unruly costumers, the rental program, etc. There seemed to be **a bit of a backlog** of such issues, so more on-going discussion amongst volunteers might be something we should find a way to encourage.

We received a few e-mails stemming from a [thread on Reddit](#) complaining about **women and trans day**. The complaints were not from EBC clients, and they were not well-informed about how we operate-- it was largely an abstract discussion about "discrimination" and "segregation." Alex C engaged in some discussion with them (thank you), which seems to be all they were looking for-- one wrote, "I would be disappointed if you stopped a policy simply because someone else chose to be offended by it." The kerfuffle seems to be over, although one poster threatened to show up at women and trans day in a dress to prove his point.

Alex H noted in his email update that we need to step up **promotion of the North Shop**. I will try to speak to Justin before the board meeting to find out what he has planned for the next few weeks.