

APPENDIX D

SURVEY & OVERVIEW OF RESULTS





Haliburton Highlands Cycling Coalition Survey

Do you cycle? Would you like to cycle more? Here is your chance to help shape the future of cycling in Haliburton County. The Haliburton Highlands Cycling Coalition is creating a Cycling Master Plan for Haliburton County. It will outline a vision and plan for cycling over the next 20 years. As part of developing the plan, we are surveying people for their opinions of cycling conditions and facilities. Survey results will be incorporated into the plan and will help determine future directions for cycling in the county. All information will be kept strictly confidential. Thank you for participating!

1. Gender: Male Female
2. Age: 18 and under 19-24 25-44 45-54 55-64 65 and older
3. Household Income: less than 25,000 \$25,000-50,000 over \$50 000
4. How many bikes are in your household? _____
5. Are you a: full-time resident seasonal resident tourist/visitor
6. If you are a resident, where do you live/cottage?
 - Highlands East Minden Hills
 - Dysart et al Algonquin Highlands
7. How would you classify yourself as a cyclist?
 - basic/novice skills intermediate skills
 - expert/highly experienced skills non-cyclist
8. Would you like to cycle more than you currently do? Yes No
- 9.. What discourages you from cycling more? (check all that apply)
 - Lack of time Climate/weather
 - Not comfortable riding with traffic Lack of cycling routes (all kinds)
 - Long travel distance Lack of secure bike parking
 - Other travel duties (e.g. work, dropping off children etc)
 - Other: _____

If you answered “non-cyclist” to question 7, please skip to question 16.

10. From April to November, **about** how often do you use your bicycle for the following purposes (check as many as apply):

	(4-5 days per week)	(1-3 days per week)	(1-2 days per month)	Never	Not applicable
Commuting to work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commuting to school	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commuting to other destinations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fitness/health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

11. Generally, **in one month**, about how many of your cycling trips are the following distance:

_____	less than 2km
_____	2 – 5 km
_____	5 – 10 km
_____	10 – 30 km
_____	more than 30 km

12. What are the main reasons you choose to cycle? (check all that apply)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exercise/health/fitness | <input type="checkbox"/> Less stressful than driving |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental benefits | <input type="checkbox"/> To reduce car traffic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cheaper | <input type="checkbox"/> Fun/recreation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family leisure activity | <input type="checkbox"/> Social leisure activity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No other way to get around | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | |

13. Generally, how safe do you feel cycling in Haliburton County?

- Generally safe Safe on certain roads Generally unsafe n/a

14. What do you like about cycling in Haliburton County? n/a

15. What do you dislike about cycling in Haliburton County? n/a

16. As a cyclist or a driver, can you identify any specific problem areas or concerns along potential cycling routes in Haliburton County?

17. What improvements could be made to make Haliburton County a better place to cycle?

18. How important do you think it is for Haliburton County to make improving cycling conditions and opportunities a budget priority?

- Not important Somewhat important Very important

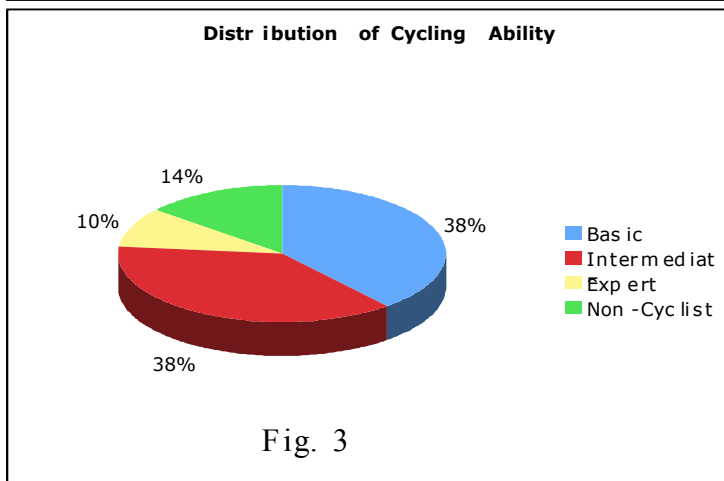
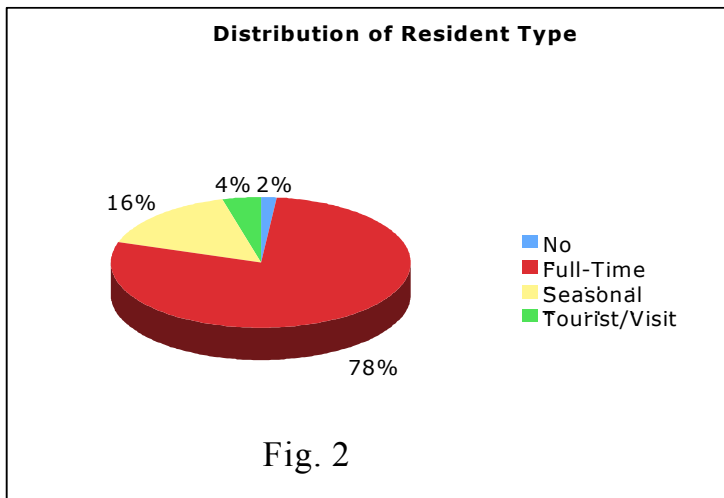
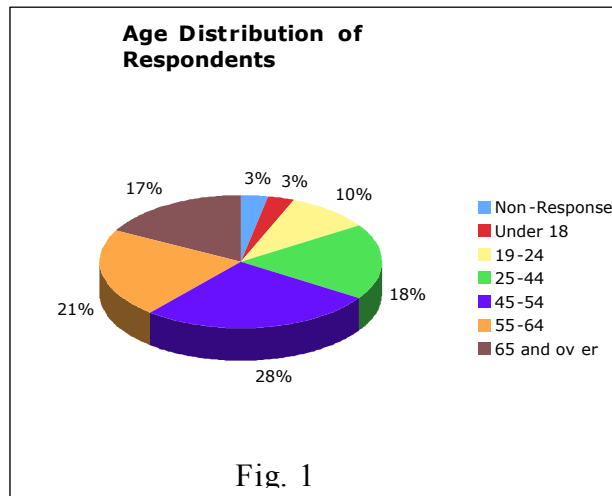
19. Any other comments?

Thank you for taking the time to fill out this survey!

Survey Data Overview
Total Number of surveys 196

Distribution

Overall, there is a good distribution of survey respondents in age, income and residence location. However, one identified gap is the low representation of youth, with 13% of the respondents under 24 years of age and only 3% under 18 years of age. Students make up a key market niche for cycling due to their lower income and inability to drive before age 16.



The geographic distributions of survey respondents were skewed in favour of Minden Hills (45% of responses) and Dysart (31% of responses). Highlands East and Algonquin Highlands were severely under-represented at 7% and 8% respectively. Another distribution issue to consider is that only 12% of respondents family income was less than \$25 000. Since residents that cannot afford a car could be more likely to cycle this may be another key niche group that was excluded from the data. However, 17% of respondents did not answer this question so, in essence this distribution could be misrepresented and cannot be used to accurately determine income distribution. Another distribution to consider is type of resident. 78% of respondents are full-time residents of Haliburton County. The timing of survey

distribution limited the access to seasonal residents, so their needs are not accurately expressed in the data. Distribution of respondent’s cycling ability was well distributed with the large majority of respondents labelling themselves as “basic” (38%) or “intermediate” (38%). A smaller proportion of respondents labelled themselves as Non-Cyclist (14%) or Expert (10%).

Results

Assets

The survey data clearly show an interest in cycling in Haliburton County. 78% of respondents reported they would like to cycle more than they currently do. The primary reason respondents cycle is for fitness followed by recreation. Other top reasons respondents cycle include for leisure and for environmental reasons. The top reason respondents enjoy cycling in Haliburton was the scenery (75%). Other responses included that it is peaceful, and enjoyment of the challenging topography, trails and exercise gained.

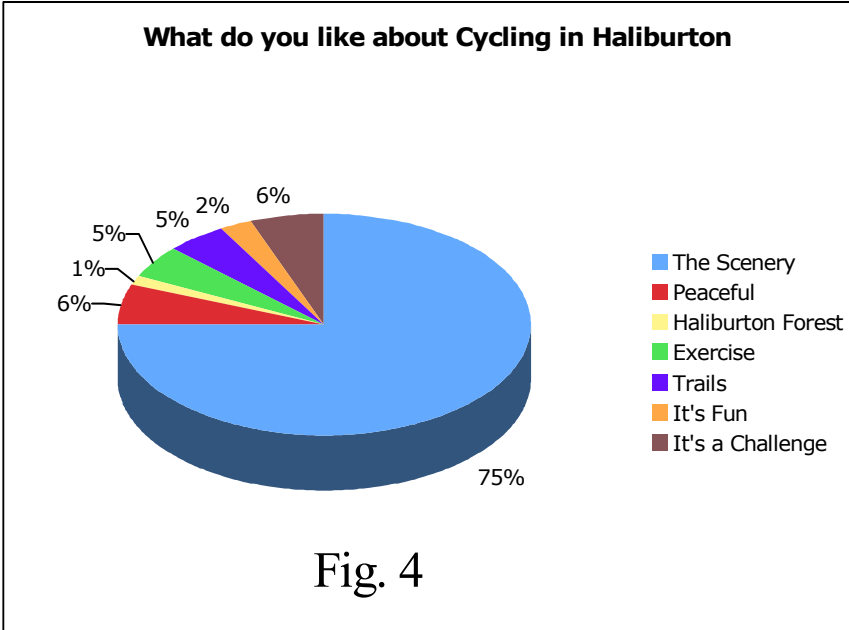
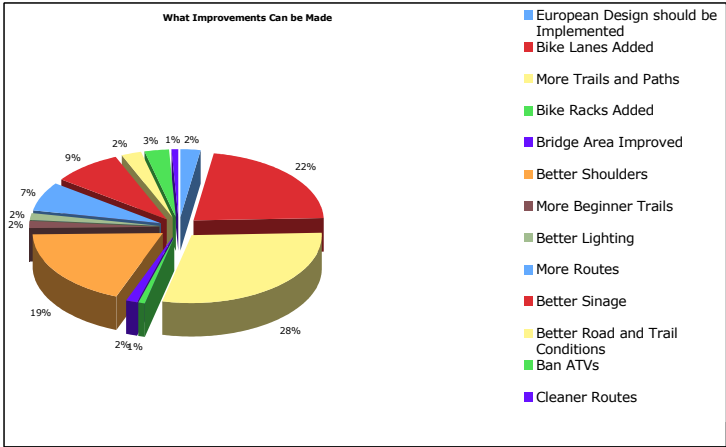


Fig. 4

Challenges

The majority of respondents feel that cycling in Haliburton County is safe. 26% feel that it is “Generally Safe” and 58% feel safe on certain roads. Only 16% felt that cycling was “Generally Unsafe” in the county. However, 32% of respondents felt that the lack of paved shoulders was a problem regarding cycling in traffic. A similar problem identified was the lack of bike lanes (15%). Other problems surrounding traffic included poor road conditions (5%) and poor visibility due to hills (4%). Improvements to cycling in Haliburton identified by respondents were similarly themed and



almost evenly split between the addition of bike lanes (22%), more trails and paths (28%), and improved road shoulders (19%). Other answers included improving signage (9%) and more routes (7%). Furthermore dislikes surrounding cycling in Haliburton County identified included traffic (28%), similarly the lack of shoulders (19%), not enough trails (14%) and hilly topography (12%). This concern over traffic is also reflected by traffic (21%) being second only to time restraints (54%) in barriers to cycling. Other significant barriers included the lack of routes (40%) and climate (29%).

Types of Cyclists

The types and frequency of trips taken by respondents reflect a non-utilitarian, or recreation-based, cycling society. The large majority of trips taken (72%) were for fitness and recreational purposes. This trend is consistent with North American data. The vast majority of respondents (76%) reported they felt they had basic or intermediate cycling skills. 10% of respondents felt they had expert skills while 14% reported they were non-cyclists. This large portion of basic and intermediate cyclists illustrates the great potential for cycling in Haliburton County, and the need to develop facilities to accommodate a range of cycling skills. Further emphasizing this potential is that 78% of respondents state they would like to cycle more than they currently do.

Making Cycling a Priority

55% of respondents feel that making cycling a budget priority is very important, and 42% feel that it is somewhat important. Only 3% of respondents feel that cycling is not important as a budget priority.

