

Example MOU: National Capital Commission and IMBA Canada Memorandum of Understanding

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL COMMISSION AND THE INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAIN BICYCLING ASSOCIATION - CANADA

WHERE AS the mission of the NCC is to create pride and unity through Canada's Capital Region. The Mandate of the NCC is as defined in the National Capital Act of 1958—amended in 1988—is to build a great Capital for Canadians;

AND WHERE AS the Gatineau Park's mission is to welcome Canadians and other visitors, to allow them to discover Canada's natural environment, to visit sites that bear witness to the country's history and to engage in outdoor activities;

AND WHERE AS Gatineau Park is Canada's capital conservation Park. The central management principle is to preserve the health and integrity of the Park for future generations while offering environmentally respectful recreational experiences to the public. The Park is one of many green spaces and parks in Canada's Capital Region and as such, is one of the locations where mountain biking can be practiced;

AND WHERE AS one of the Gatineau Park Master Plan's objective is to work with interest group and park user representatives to solve issues relating to Park access, protection of heritage and conservation zones, user control, safety, maintenance and promotion of Park services;

AND WHERE AS IMBA is a non profit organization and its mission is to protect, create and enhance quality trail experience for mountain bikers worldwide, including Canada. In addition, IMBA actively promote responsible mountain biking, support volunteer trail work, assist land managers with trail management issues, and promote ways of improving relations among diversified trail user groups;

AND WHERE AS IMBA endorses the principles of sustainable development as described in its Mission Statement and its publications;

AND WHERE AS mountain biking has been a recognized recreational activity in Gatineau Park since the early nineties. Ninety kilometers of shared trails are presently available. These shared trails have been laid out according to the principles of sustainable development;

AND WHERE AS the quality of the visitor experience is important to both organizations through the promotion of responsible mountain biking;

AND WHERE AS both parties wish to work together in order to collaborate on issues related to mountain bicycling in Gatineau Park.

NOW THEREFORE, the Parties agree as follows:

1. Objective

The objective of this MOU is to enable further collaboration between NCC and IMBA to improve sustainable multiple-use trail planning, trail rehabilitation and management and encourage responsible use of trails in Gatineau Park. Collaboration could include mutually beneficial projects, programs and other opportunities related to trail planning, design, rehabilitation, maintenance, safety, communications and education. There is no financial obligation to either party as a result of this project. If individual initiatives require funding, separate agreements will be established.

2. NCC and IMBA will:

- Work cooperatively to identify, develop, and implement mutually beneficial projects, programs, and other opportunities related to trail planning, design, rehabilitation, maintenance, safety, communications and education, subject to the available of funds and personnel;
- Foster strategic alliances between NCC staff and IMBA's staff, membership and network of volunteers;
- Share related information (as appropriate to the normal protocols of NCC and IMBA);
- Meet annually to discuss ongoing activities and new collaborative opportunities; and
- Complete an annual work plan that identifies and prioritizes potential projects, programs and other opportunities.

3. NCC and IMBA also agree that:

- This MOU is not intended to create a partnership between NCC and IMBA.
- This MOU is not an exclusive collaboration—either party can collaborate with others at their own discretion.
- Any materials prepared by either party for informing the public about this collaboration will be submitted to the other party for formal review and approval prior to its release.

4. The principal contacts for this project are:

NCC: Renee Bellehumeur
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IMBA: Mark Schmidt
IMBA Canada Director and Trails Specialist
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IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties have duly executed this Agreement of the date set-out below:

NATIONAL CAPITAL COMMISSION

Marie Boulet, Director, Gatineau Park and Greenbelt

Dec 8, 2009

INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAIN BICYCLING ASSOCIATION

Mark Schmidt, IMBA Director and Trails Specialist

Oct 19, 2009

** As of Jan 2010, the Principal contact for IMBA Canada has changed to Lora Woolner, executive director.