

# Great Waterfront Trail Adventure cyclists hosted in Bruce Mines overnight

BY LORY PATERI

BRUCE MINES - On Monday, July 29, approximately 150 cyclists and their support staff and vehicles arrived in Bruce Mines for their overnight stay.



Some of the 150 bicycles parked in front of the Bruce Mines Community Hall.

The group is part of the Great Waterfront Trail Adventure and their ride this year launched the newly-mapped and signed Lake Huron North Channel extension of the Great Lakes Waterfront Trail system.

About 90 tents were set up in our campground and it looked fantastic!

Thank you to Henry Pieters for organizing all these campers and for ensuring their comfort. Other cyclists and staff opted to stay at local accommodations throughout Town.

The group booked our hall for dinner that evening and we all had a lovely meal

catered by Fred Falls and his team. Thank you to Legion Branch 211, as well, for hosting the bar.



Mayor Lory Patteri, left, and MPP Mike Mantha with a member of the group.

Algoma-Manitoulin MPP Mike Mantha joined us for supper and, from there, many from the group walked or biked over to the pavilion to listen to the band *Drive*, before settling in for the night.

The morning started early with a 7 a.m. breakfast at the hall and then the cyclists were on their way, continuing on with the next leg of their trip.

When speaking with the cyclists and staff who organized the ride, we heard nothing but positive comments.

Most were surprised that a town as small as ours was able to accommodate

so many, that everyone they spoke to was so friendly, and that individuals and businesses all worked together as a team to meet their needs.



Members of the cycling group enjoy the band *Drive* at the pavillion.

We also heard so many positive comments about the painted bikes in Town, so I really need to offer a special shout-out to all the local business owners who wanted to get involved and used their imagination and creativity to brighten up our Town.

Thank you, as well, for putting out the

welcome mat when the cyclists visited your establishments and for absolutely helping to make their experience here a very positive one.



The band *Drive* performs at the pavillion in Bruce Mines for the cyclists and locals.

Although I doubt we will ever have a cycling group this size visit us again, my hope is that many of the cyclists that we invited to return do so and that they tell all their friends about the wonderful experience they had travelling the north and, specifically, here in Bruce Mines.

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Tuesday, July 23,  
Jere Devlin drove Evelyn  
Romberg, Rosemary Juby,