



IMBA Canada TCC Program Overview

Based on the highly successful U.S. Subaru/IMBA Trail Care Crew, the newly launched Canadian Trail Care Crew (TCC) will travel across the country in a 2010 Subaru Outback, giving workshops to IMBA clubs and affiliated partners.

Fielded by a full time, two-person team, the TCC will educate Canadians on how to build sustainable trails, maintain and restore existing trails, solve trail management challenges, and to promote trails.

The Crew has have several responsibilities, including:

- Lead trailbuilding workshops for staff, members, and volunteers of IMBA-affiliated clubs and partners.
- Participate in trail events such as group hikes, group mountain bike rides, trail openings, trail conferences and summits, trailhead greetings, and pavilion parties.
- Work with kids through schools, camps, and other youth programs to promote trails and trail based recreation.
- Build community support for Canadian trails.
- Improve trail conditions and trail experiences for all users.
- Assist in basic planning and design for trails and trail events.

The Crew will kick off the 2010 building season Canada Day weekend in Ontario, then will drive out to the Maritimes, before crossing back across Quebec and Ontario in September. As the season progresses, the Crew will travel across the prairies, stopping in every province, to finish the year in British Columbia.

While the 2010 season is already booked, prospective hosts will be able to apply for 2011 visits this fall.

For more information on the program, check out www.imbacanada.com or contact the TCC coordinator at Rachael.raven@imba.com



IMBA Canada TCC Workshop Info

IMBA Canada Trail Care Crew visits are hosted by partner groups (clubs, parks, and trails), and usually take place over the weekend. If you're chosen to host a visit, our coordinator will get in touch with you to decide what workshops to schedule.

A typical visit will include some (but not all) of the following components:

1. IMBA Trailbuilding School - 1-2 days
2. Club Care Workshop - 1-2 hours
3. Meetings/ presentations
4. Social event with the IMBA Canada Trail Care Crew
5. Trail ride or hike

TRAILBUILDING SCHOOLS

A 1-2 day school teaches IMBA's trailbuilding philosophies and trains local volunteers and land managers on how to build sustainable multi-use trails. The school involves three to four hours in the classroom followed by 1/2-1 day in the field doing hands-on trailwork and field instruction. The maximum number of people we can accommodate at an IMBA Trailbuilding School is 45 .

Topics covered include:

- Sustainable trail design
- Basic construction
- Turns, drainage and bridges
- Trail Reroutes
- Trail Reclamation
- Rockwork
- Effective Use of Signage
- Fostering volunteer clubs and partnerships

(For professional trail consulting, check out IMBA Canada's Trail Solutions program.)

TRAILWORK ASSESSMENT AND LAYOUT

To lead an effective trailwork session during the IMBA Trailbuilding School, the Crew needs to have time to assess and prepare the trailwork project in advance. This can take 1/2 to 1 day, depending on the scope of the project. It is helpful to have you and/or the local land manager available for the assessment. This should not, however, be a public event. With too many people



it's hard to accomplish what is necessary to prepare for the trailwork. Once the crew is in town they can help you finalize the layout of the trail project. This will give them the chance to ensure that the project is ideal for the Trailbuilding School.

MEETINGS & PRESENTATIONS

In addition to trailbuilding schools and assessments, there may be time to address local issues during your Trail Care Crew visit. This might include:

- Meetings with land managers over access, new trail ideas, user conflict, or other issues
- Fun rides/hikes with local club members
- Trail assessments to provide advice on maintenance or routing issues
- Presentation to promote mountain biking to local community leaders (i.e. the Chamber of Commerce, mayor, county commissioners, etc.)
- Meetings with regional/local tourism boards about mountain biking tourism

CLUB CARE WORKSHOP

Is club membership stagnating? Are your best advocates feeling burned out? Do you just want your club to be capable of more? Learn how to get what you want from your club, and have FUN doing it!

A key element of building sustainable trails is ensuring that there will be a community committed to the trails' existence. During a Club Care Workshop, the IMBA Trail Care Crew will share techniques that advocacy organizations across the Canada and the US have used to reach goals, overcome challenges, and grow the mountain bike community.

SOCIAL EVENING

This can be a gathering at a pub/restaurant, bike shop, small theater, even a comfortable backyard; be creative! It is an opportunity for a fun, social event to promote trails in your community, the trailbuilding weekend, your organization, and IMBA. It has the potential to reach a wider audience than a full day IMBA Trailbuilding School.

RIDE OR HIKE

An IMBA visit without a ride or hike is like peanut butter without jelly. Depending on what other events you have planned for the visit, we can arrange a 1-2 hour ride, or an afternoon-long excursion.



IMBA Canada Trail Care Crew F.A.Q.

Q: What is the Trail Care Crew?

A: The Crew is a two-person team that drives across the country in a 2010 Subaru Outback visiting IMBA Canada partners. At each destination, they meet with clubs, land managers and volunteers to teach Trailbuilding Schools, Club Care Workshops, and host other events.

Q: When does the program run?

A: For the program's inaugural season, the Crew will visit IMBA-affiliates from Canada Day weekend to mid-December. During the winter months when trail work is not possible, the crew will be available to give education sessions and indoor workshops.

Q: If my club or organization is selected for a visit, what happens next?

A: If you are selected, the TCC coordinator will contact you via phone or email. You will receive information about choosing a trail project, scheduling workshops, promoting the visit, and booking lodgings for the crew.

Q: What are hosts responsible for?

A: Here are the main responsibilities...

- Publicizing the visit/event (this is an *extremely* important job!)
- Arranging and covering housing for the Crew for the duration of their visit (the crew is a couple, so one room is fine)
- Choosing location for trail work, and getting approval from necessary land managers
- Organizing a venue for social evening (pub, restaurant, bike shop, big backyard)
- If you are interested in a Trailbuilding School, you need to arrange:
 - An indoor space for a classroom session with electricity, chairs, at least two tables, and the ability to darken the room for a powerpoint presentation
 - Water and tools for volunteers (the Crew only carries enough tools for themselves – no spares)
 - Provide/plan lunch for volunteers (solicit donations from local business, hold BBQ, ask people to bring brown bag)