

north shore news

LETTER: License cyclists and you'll see better behaviour by road users

North Shore News

July 24, 2015 12:00 AM

Dear Editor:

Re: Cyclists, it's time to grow up and learn the rules of the road

, July 1

I sympathize with letter-writer Peter Black on the behaviour of, in my opinion, the majority of cyclists ignoring red lights, stop signs, and so on. I ride a bike from time to time and do not behave much better, if at all.

Why do we differ when riding our bikes versus our cars? I think a big reason is that we have no licence plate on the bike.

We know nobody can identify us, call the police on us, or trace us if we scrape their car.

If we acted like that in our cars (or the incident Mr. Black describes), lots of drivers would call the police. Secondly, the police could identify us.

When I was a kid in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, in the 1950s, every bike had a licence plate.

Why can't the District of North Vancouver and other municipalities do the same on a cost recovery basis?

There are some complexities, but I believe it would resolve some of the issues. To avoid the obvious issues of visitors, perhaps a Metro Vancouver approach might make sense.

I am not as negative on biker behaviour (including mine) as my letter probably sounds, but something needs to be done. We celebrate the increase in biking but do nothing to address its negatives.

John Hunter

North Vancouver

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