

Vancouver Coastal Health reports 100 mountain bikers needed major emergency surgery last season

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by [Charlie Smith](#) on May 28th, 2016 at 3:40 AM



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- Some trails offer advance warning to mountain bikers. Stephen Hui

This week, the *Georgia Straight* published a [feature article](#) highlighting how the roads are becoming safer for commuter cyclists in the City of Vancouver.

It appeared in advance of Bike to Work Week, which starts on Monday (May 30).

However, things aren't quite so rosy on the mountains of the North Shore and along other trails in the region.

Vancouver Coastal Health has published an infographic (see below) showing that 65 percent of mountain-bike riders who visit emergency rooms require surgery.

Last season, 100 riders needed "major emergency surgery". The average age was 33 for those who suffered "severe injuries".



Vancouver Coastal Health

One of those injured was North Shore Mountain Bike Association member Lisa Powers. A [gofundme page](#) has raised more than \$5,000 toward a specially equipped bike that will enable her to continue riding.

North Shore resident Monica Craver has often raised concerns about the safety of mountain biking. In a recent tweet, she suggested that the District of North Vancouver might face liability claims in the future because of the state of one of its trails.