**TBN History Highlights**

**1982**

In the summer of 1982 Richard developed the vision of creating a network through which cyclists could communicate. He established a newsletter called *The Toronto Bicycling Network* (TBN), which reported on cycling rides taking place in and around the city of Toronto. Subscribers to this newsletter shared contact information.

**1983**

March: First issue of the TBN newsletter was published.

July: Richard Aaron met Anne and Norm Myshok and together they formulated the concept of TBN become a bicycling club.

Sept: With route mapping input from William Coffman TBN organized it first formal club ride called the Tour de Toronto.

Nov: Responding to the success and demand from this ride iTBN evolved into a formal bicycling club known as The Toronto Bicycling Network and the news letter became knows and the Network Newsletter.

Over the winter Richard, Norm and a few others developed a set of It was such a success that people demanded more rides so the fall and winter were spent developing more rides.

**1984**

Spring TBN had a paid membership of 100. Several members formed a club executive committee.

Summer: TBN established club logo. Held a club BBQ preceded be a series of rides. About 200 people participated. Several people were identified as demonstrating both advanced riding skills and leadership qualitied. These became TBN’s first forma ride leaders.

**1985**

The riding season opened with 30 identified rider leaders and four levels of rides.

Oct: TBN held its first Annual General Meeting and established its first elelcted Board of Director. Conflicting sources indicate TBN now boasted a membership varied btween 450 – 610 members.

Winter: TBN also began offering off-season activities such as skiing and skating activities.

**1986**

Spring: Over the winter the BoD established a formal TBN Constitution and registered as The Toronto Bicycling Network Incorporated.

Nov: TBN elected 7 members to its Board of Directors. There were now about 850 members about 40 of who took on various volunteer duties such as Touring Coordinators and Ride Leaders, education workshops and other administrative duties.

**1987**

Spring: TBN had a formal mission statement – to provide economical, non-competitive, year around recreational activities.

May: The cycling season opened with 80 planned cycling touring events.

Jul: TBN held its first Cyclon based out of Brock University Student residence. About 210 people attended.

**1988**

TBN took over sponsorship of the Hairshirt riding event. A one day 330 something km ride from Toronto to Niagara and back.

**1998**

Jun: 40 TBN members participated in the opening ceremonies of the Toronto Skydome

Aug: 15 TBN members participated in the opening ceremonies of the Special Olympis

Sep: TBN had a paid membership of 791. Annual membership fees increased to $36 individual and $55 family.

**1990-1999**

TBN introduced a serious of rural based rides known a Country Cruises

TBN began offering multi-day, overnight and weekend cycling activities

TBN’s established a permanent registered business address as Bpx79. 131 Bloor Street, Suite 200 Toronto Ontario.

Spring 1991 TBN opened the season offering 130 riding tours.

TBN became a major supporter of the Ride for Heart charity event by supplying ambassadors and ride leaders.

To recognize the volume of work done by the volunteers who made TBN function and to encourage more volunteer participated a complementary membership system was introduced.

1994 The TNT Toronto-Niagara-Toronto overnight ride event was introduced

1995 Leisure Wheeler was added to the existing ride categories of Easy Roller, Tourist, Sportif and Country Cruises. This was to accommodate the 50+ demographic of TBN’s membership.

1995 Roller blading was introduced as a new activity

1995 the first edition of the Quick Release Magazine was published

1997 TBN joined the on-line crowed introducing its new web domain – wwe.tbn.on.ca

1998 TBN celebrated its 15th anniversary introducing a new motto: Meet People, Ride, Have Fun.

**2000-2009**

TBN took advantage of it access to the new website by automating its membership registration system.

2001 Cyclon celebrated its 15th anniversary. Registrants now including people from Montreal, Ottawa, USA and event a couple from England.

TBN introduced an on-line newsletter Chain of Events

2008 TBN celebrated its 25th anniversary by introducing a TBN riding jersey.

2008 Based on the original TNT ride concept, TBN introduced a new, one-day ride where participant would ride Toronto to Niagara then catch the GO train home.

2009 both the In-Line Skating and the Mountain Bike ride programs were discontinued. Although they continued to be popular, the couldn’t operate when no-one to stepped forward to coordinate them.

**2010 - 2018**

2012 Cyclon celebrated it 25th anniversary by going to Peterborough for the first time. Activities were based at the Trent University campus.

2012 TBN expanded its social network profile by joining Facebook and Twitter.

2013 TBN launched a new website www.tbn.ca, using Wild Apricot as its host.

2013 TBN published its first colour edition of the Quick Release magazine.

2013 TBN marked its 20th anniversary of the TNT overnight ride event, its 5th anniversary of the TNTGoHome event and its 27th anniversary of sponsoring the Hairshirt ride.

2014 TBN offered a new riding jersey, the winning design was created by Robin Silverstein.

2015 TBN went mobile, introducing smart-phone compatible version of the TBN website.

2015 TBN opened a club account with RWGPS (Ride with GPS) allowing riders to download ride route maps and instructions onto with their Garmin bike computers and smartphones to save having to fumble with hard copy paper while riding.

2016 TBN published its final edition of the Quick Release magazine.

2016 TBN eliminated its original ‘no-drop’ policy for the Leisure Wheeler, Easy Roller and advanced Easy Roller ride categories. Now, ride leaders were permitted to leave behind riders that were operating so slowly that they were interfering with overall enjoyment of others on the ride. Before dropping a rider, the ride leader must ensure the rider had clear instructions and maps to either (a) complete the ride alone or (b) to get to the nearest public transit station.

2018, following much research and development by a dedicated committee, TBN launched a new, more contemporary logo and motto – ‘More Rides, More Friends, More Fun’. The new logo and motto soon appeared on the revamped website, banners, and a newly-designed TBN club jersey.