

Cycling for environmental awareness

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Eily Sweeney, along with two other friends is promoting environmental awareness through a cross province bike ride.

The Cochrane, Alberta native left Calgary on June 21st , heading west towards Vancouver and the island.

Her cause is labelled 'Ride the Wave', and along with fellow bikers Alex Meyer and Mandi Walters, the mission statement is to raise awareness about how local action can make a difference in creating healthy, sustainable community environments.



Eily Sweeney, centre, along with friends Alex Meyer (left) and Mandi Walters are cycling cross-province to raise environmental awareness.

“Our goal is to highlight at least 15 initiatives along the way,” Sweeney said, “we’ll investigate and document community related developments that enhance communities and add to social and environmental sustainability.”

Sweeney’s desire to advocate environmental awareness comes from a ‘huge concern for the environment’ that stemmed from a project at her high school that saw locals raise \$40,000 for wind turbines and solar panels for the school.

“It helped me to realize how local input can make a big difference,” said Sweeney, who is currently a student at Mount Royal College in Calgary, where she is taking a Bachelor’s degree in Environmental Science.

Sweeney says that the bike ride is a ‘sign of action’.

“We hope to encourage other people like ourselves to develop initiatives in their own communities,” Sweeney said.

The trio hope to be in Chilliwack on the 24th of July, and in Vancouver on the 29th.

More information can be found on Sweeney’s website, www.ridethewavecanada.com