

**For Immediate Release
August 13, 2009**

Critical Manners Ride to Promote a Peaceful Alternative to Critical Mass

(Vancouver, BC)- A group of local cyclists will take to the streets this Friday, August 14th, 2009 as a part of Vancouver's first ever Critical Manners ride. The Critical Manners event aims to be a peaceful alternative to Critical Mass, with a goal to promote a safe coexistence between cyclists and drivers. Critical Manners cyclists will meet at 5:45pm on the 14th at the David Lam Park in Yaletown with the first riders leaving the site at 6:00pm. The ride will end at Vanier Park at approximately 7:30pm.

"As someone who often commutes to work by bicycle, I have a personal interest in maintaining good relations between cyclists and drivers," said event organizer, Jen Watkiss, "After the public backlash regarding the last Critical Mass event, I thought that a peaceful, purposeful and above-all, respectful bike event was what we all needed."

The route that will be traveled by Critical Manners cyclists has been reviewed and received approval from both the City of Vancouver and the Vancouver Police Department. Members of the general public will likely not notice the Critical Manners cyclists as they will be staying in bike lanes or on the far right side of the road, obeying all traffic signals and otherwise doing their best to share the road effectively with all other vehicles and pedestrians. For more information, please visit:

www.criticalmanners.wordpress.com. To view a map of the route, please see this link: <http://www.gmap-pedometer.com/?r=3090806>

About Critical Manners:

Critical Manners originated in San Francisco in 2007 as a response to the controversial Critical Mass rides occurring in that city. More recently, Critical Manners rides have occurred in many cities on the second Friday of each month including: Indianapolis, Illinois, Topeka, Kansas and Little Rock, Arkansas. Similar rides in other cities include: Ride Civil in Seattle, Washington and Courteous Mass in Atlanta, Georgia and Dayton, Ohio.

About Critical Mass:

Critical Mass cycling events typically occur on the last Friday of each month and are held in over 300 cities around the world. To prepare for the last Critical Mass event, the Vancouver Police issued a warning to the public to avoid the downtown area on the evening of the event.

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Critical Manners organizer, Jen Watkiss will arrive at David Lam Park at 5:15pm and will be available for media interviews at that time.

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