

# News

## Schratter gets bike back

Morning Star Staff

A former Vernon resident has his wheels back. Michael Schratter, the Vancouver school teacher riding around the world to raise awareness about mental illness, has his bicycle back after it went missing in Savona Oct. 19.

"I am counting my lucky stars for the kindness and generosity of everyone I've met who has not only helped spread the word about my missing bike, but also my campaign to battle the stigma against mental illness," said Schratter.

Angie Wells found the \$4,000 bike on Highway 97, where Schratter accidentally left it behind.

"I'm thankful for Angie who was thoughtful enough to make sure my bike was safe and for reporting it to the appropriate authorities so I can get it back," said Schratter.

Not knowing who the bike belonged to, Wells took it home to Kamloops and reported it to the local RCMP.

It wasn't until days later that the police connected the bike to Schratter and notified him.

He has been cycling around the world over the last year to battle the stigma and misconceptions surrounding mental illness. He expects to wrap up his adventure in Vancouver Nov. 12.

Schratter is trying to raise \$100,000 for mental health programs for young people, and he's just over halfway.

To support his ride and to learn more, please go to [www.ridedonthide.com](http://www.ridedonthide.com).



*"I am counting my lucky stars."*

— Schratter

## It's TGIF for Winter Games

Morning Star Staff

The end of the work week just got a whole lot more exciting!



Thorlakson

Organizers of the 2012 Greater Vernon B.C. Winter Games have proclaimed Fridays as Wear Your Games Gear Fridays as a way to build community spirit and excitement for the Feb. 23 to 26 event.

About 1,400 athletes, along with 500 coaches and officials will take part in 15 sports at venues in Vernon, Coldstream, Silver Star and Armstrong.

"Games apparel and accessories are on sale at a number of locations including the B.C. Games office at 3011 31st Ave. (the former Vernon Flower Shop)," said Brenda Thorlakson, operations manager.

"The items, which include all types of shirts, hoodies, sweat pants, sweat shirts and sling packs can also be purchased through

the Games website at [2012bcwintergames.ca](http://2012bcwintergames.ca)."

All profits from items purchased before the Games will stay in the Greater Vernon area for legacy funds.

For more information, contact Thorlakson at 250-550-2012.

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