

JUNE 8, 2021

Dear All,

Perhaps you've been wondering what I've been doing for My Tour at Home in support of the Kids With Cancer Society this year; I have no doubt that you've been missing the descriptions after my rides. 😊

This journal entry is a bit lengthy so feel free to read on or cut to the pictures.

I had four rides in April, six in May, and today was my first ride in June, totaling 655.92 km. = 656 km.



The same support group as last year: Wayne in front, to the left, Hope, behind her Rick, Steve, Dwight, George, Ken, me, and Doug in the center.



I had a birthday in May and for whatever reason, we stopped for a picture at 69 kms. 🎂

Again this year, the schedule is loose because most Tour participants are doing their own thing, on their own time with Alberta COVID restrictions in mind. Soon we'll be able to ride together in small groups and I'll be sure to keep all of you in the loop when those rides take place and I'll introduce you to the Kids that we're riding for.

Today I rode 75.64 km. with the three women that I met when I first joined the Tour of Hope five years ago. Debbie has ridden The Tour six times, Andree, seven times, and Jane, eight times. These women inspire me.

We started our ride at the Olympiette Centre in Strathcona County at 9 and were barely out of the gate when Jane got a flat. We are four women who have rarely if ever, had to change a tire. On the actual Tour of Hope, when someone flats, the support crew, or the male riders, practically knock themselves out to get to you to change your tire and the entire process may take 3 minutes - you hand over your bike, move to the side, and let the experts do their thing; it makes one's head spin it's so fast. Picture the four of us...the first thing we do is burst into fits of laughter, someone, who will be nameless, offers to bring up a Youtube video on their phone but NO, we can do this. Okay, who has a tube, a pump, a cartridge, gloves, know-how, and a cell phone to capture it all?? The four of us participated in the changing of the tire but Andree was the head mechanic. Women work together, ask each other for advice, cheer each other on and congratulate each other on a job well done. We were amazing!! Well, Andree was amazing and the rest of us need to practice at home.

Map attached, route explained:

We rode South on RRd. 520, East on 223, North on 221, West on 512, North on 232 (fabulous little gold course on Range Road 232 called Country Side Golf Club), East on 520, Right on 224, and back to the Olympiette to drop Jane off because she had an afternoon meeting. Continuing... East on 520, and North to Wye Road, 218 took us South to 522 and we continued all the way to Half Moon Lake. Back up to 512, West on 223, South on 520, and then East to the Olympiette. The roads were fantastic, one had fairly new asphalt which was a dream, no rain, and not much wind. Great success!





Thanks for your continued support!

Diane

Bonus pictures of a mare and foal, attached.

**"Life Begins and Ends With Family" Melanie Alyson Callan**

