



CONCORDIA
UNIVERSITY

November 30, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

I have been asked to write a letter explaining the impact of the “iCan Shine Inc.” bicycle training program on gymnasium floors. I have served at Concordia University for over 30 years and currently serve as the Director of Physical Plant Services. During this time I have worked directly with the contractors who installed our maple floor and employees and/or contractors who maintain the floor on a daily and annual basis.

Over seven years ago Concordia University was approached by Lose the Wheels now iCan Shine Inc., to host a bicycle camp in our gymnasium. Initially, I had concerns about the impact the training bicycles would have on the wood floor surface. However, after careful observation I can attest to the fact that the bicycle camp does not have a significant negative impact on the gymnasium floor. During the bicycle camp extra precautions are taken to cover high traffic areas with protective carpets. The area where adjustments are made to the bicycles and minor maintenance is performed is have been covered with thicker carpets and protective mats. In addition, during the training sessions trained volunteers accompany the riders to assure their safety and make sure no injury occurs to the riders and no damage is done to the floor.

Furthermore, the bikes are designed for the early stages of learning; their wide base of support provides stability and security. This feature, while designed for optimal motor learning, also provides a protective element in that bikes do not tip over easily. Having seen the negative impact of intramural activities or indoor baseball practices, I also had these concerns about skid marks from the tires. The tires used by the camp staff does not leave any marks on the gym floor! The benefits of hosting a bicycle camp for individuals with disabilities at Concordia University far outweigh any negative impact this use may have on the facilities. If you have any further questions or would like to speak with me in person, I may be reached by email at: dmeyer@cu-portland.edu or by phone at 503-493-6470.

Sincerely,

Doug Meyer
Director of Physical Plant Services