



Consulate General of the Republic of the Philippines

NEW YORK

PRESS RELEASE

PR-KOT-027 2018

23 May 2018/KCP

Philippines Promotes Fitness Tourism in Gran Fondo New York



L-R: Economic Assistant Beverly Pellosis, GFNY cyclists Marvin Dimaculangan and Arland Macaseib, Vice Consul Khrystina Corpuz Popov, and Tourism Representative Susan Del Mundo work to attract more participants to the GFNY Philippine leg during the GFNY Expo in Manhattan. (PCGNY Photo)

NEW YORK, 23 May 2018 – The Philippine Department of Tourism-New York (PDOTNY) participated in the Gran Fondo New York Expo last 18-20 May 2018 at the Penn Pavillion in Manhattan. PDOTNY promoted and took registration for the Philippines' first hosting of the Gran Fondo cycling marathon which is scheduled on January 2019 in Bohol. The expo was a prelude to the GFNY Race on 20 May held in Central Park.

The Philippine booth, featuring the famed Bamboo Bike, or Bambike attracted a good share of interested racers and beginner cyclists. The Bambike is a socio-ecological enterprise based in the Philippines that hand-makes bamboo bicycles with fair trade labor and sustainable building practices. The Bamboo Bike Builders (or “Bambuilders”)

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come from Gawad Kalinga, a non-profit organization known for building sustainable communities in poverty-stricken areas.

According to Tourism Representative Ms. Susan Del Mundo, “Hosting a GFNY Philippine event will bring both short- and long-term benefits, given the number of cyclists who are keen to experience and challenge themselves on a new marathon racing course. GFNY’s events attract participants from different countries, and each GFNY is locally owned, operated and produced, and expected to bring economic benefits to the race locations.”

The Philippine Consulate General in New York was represented by Vice Consul Khrystina Corpuz Popov and Economic Assistant Beverly Pellosis. END

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