

February 11, 2018

Dear City of Kawartha Lakes Council,

I am writing to you in regard to report PRC-2018-004 to amend By-Law 2007-107 which will be before council on February 13th 2018. Unfortunately due to work commitments I will not be able to attend to speak.

I would like to express my support of allowing side by side type vehicles on the Victoria Rail Trail. I believe this will work to everyone's advantage and increase tourism dollars in the community.

I would however object to KATVA - the Kawartha ATV Association in anyway administering the program or being responsible for collecting money for the use of a public resource.

As a former member of KATVA I found they refuse to be accountable to anyone for the revenue they collected. As the Victoria Rail Trail is the only area they have authority over and the ability to collect fees to ride, I believe council should be aware of their actions and their use of the funds.

From my understanding KATVA collects around \$110,000 annually in permit sales for the use of the VRT, but in most years only provides \$5,000 to the City for the use of this resource. I do not feel this is a fair balance. The taxpayers are responsible for the majority of the expenses related to the trail, while KATVA profits greatly from the permit sales.

In 2015 KATVA used the VTR for the Telus Ride For Dad. A charity ride raising funds for prostate cancer. With the generosity of the ATV community over \$20,000 in pledges were raised for the cause. However after KATVA's in the words of the Telus Ride For Dad representative "excessive" expenses only \$6,116 remained to be was donated! Expensive prizes were awarded to director's family and "excessive" expenses from businesses of directors ate up most of the money raised. Telus Ride For Dad removed this event from KATVA as soon as these facts were revealed.

I believe KATVA's directors and executive are using both the riders of the VRT and the City to their own financial advantage.

I would ask that council look into both the finances and the moral character of KATVA as an organization before continuing and in this case expanding your relationship with KATVA.

Sincerely,  
Ross Evans  
Peterborough Ontario