September 6, 2021

Doug Elmslie, Councilor, City of Kawartha Lakes

Councilor Elmslie,

This letter is from two former Councilors for the Village of Sturgeon Point, Phil Robertson and Tom Anders concerning the issue of "Assumed Roads" in Sturgeon Point.

Prior to amalgamation into the City of Kawartha Lakes, The Village of Sturgeon Point paved and maintained all roads all in the Village except for Graham Lane. These roads include Lake Avenue west of Irene Avenue and Henry Street from Lake Avenue west to the intersection of Henry Street and Forest Road. Although these sections of Lake Ave and Henry Street were not plowed in the winter, they were and always have been assumed roads.

Since amalgamation with the City of Kawartha Lakes, these roads have had little or no maintenance and the asphalt in many areas has crumbled to a dangerous state. These roads run along the edge of Sturgeon Lake and the condition of these roads could cause a cyclist or vehicle operator to lose control and cause a serious accident. In fact, on June 28, 2021, the adult son of a Sturgeon Point resident, riding a standard (not a high-performance road bike) at a very modest speed lost control on the broken asphalt or a pothole on Lake Avenue and had a serious crash in front of the property addressed as 87 Forest Road. The injured party was unconscious for about ten minutes and had to be transported by ambulance to Ross Memorial hospital.

Over the years since amalgamation, there have been some periods that the roads department have filled some potholes, but, on many occasions, the roads supervisors have stated that they do not maintain these roads because the are not assumed roads.

We need to establish once and for all that these sections of Lake Avenue and Henry Street, although not plowed in the winter, were maintained assumed roads in the Village of Sturgeon Point and with amalgamation are now the responsibility of the City of Kawartha Lakes roads department to maintain and keep these roads safe.

We would appreciate it if you could present this situation to Council to inform the roads department that it is their responsibility to maintain these roads.

Thank you for your assistance.

Phil Robertson

Tom Anders