

Peter Petrosoniak

October 14, 2021

Mayor and Council
c/o Office of the City Clerk
26 Francis Street
P.O. Box 9000
Lindsay, Ontario K9V 5R8

Dear Mr Mayor and Members of Council,

There were some statements made at the last Council meeting about the safety of ATV's on city streets that need to be corrected.

A statement was made by one of the councillors that the health unit statistics are out of context and do not accurately reflect recreational ATV riders because they include dirt bike statistics including injuries at racetracks. There is no evidence for this statement.

In fact, Dr N Bocking, in her report had said this about ORV-related ED visits: "almost all are related to recreational use of ORV's. It is also important to note that accidents involving ORV's are classified as non-traffic accidents unless the contrary is stated, which may under-report ATV related traffic accidents." She also said: "Research indicates that there are higher rates of fatalities and serious injuries for ORV riders on roadways compared to off-roadways" and "being on roadways increases the risk of collisions with other motor vehicles."

Inspector Tim Tatchell of the OPP reported: "for all ORV collisions that have been investigated by my detachment between 2016-2021 YTD, 47% have occurred on the highway..."

The important point here is that statistics from the Health Unit and from the police support the dangers of ORV's on highways, roads and streets. Statements about dirt bikes on racetracks are a distraction and do not reflect reality.

Sincerely yours,

Peter Petrosoniak