

## **Correspondence sent to the ATV Taskforce regarding: Omemee**

### **Omemee**

- 1) Terry and Bonnie Spier, March 5, 2021
- 2) James Caton, March 12, 2021
- 3) Lucas Hickey, March 12, 2021
- 4) Chris Harris, March 13, 2021
- 5) Terry Mattiussi, March 15, 2021
- 6) Malcolm Cook, March 19, 2021
- 7) Dale Taylor, April 6, 2021
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- 11) Sharon and Paul O'Connell, October 18, 2021
- 12) Glenn Reynolds, October 18, 2021

**From:** Bonnie Spier < >  
**Sent:** Friday, March 5, 2021 10:08 AM  
**To:** Brianne Harrison < >  
**Subject:** ATV/OVR Task Force

Good Morning Brianne

Would you please be sure that each member of the ATV/OVR Task Force receives a copy of this attached letter. I have sent a copy to Mayor Letham and all City of Kawartha Lakes Council via their email portal.

Thank you!

March 4, 2021

TO: Chair Councillor Dunn, Vice-Chair Richards, Councillor Seymour-Fagan, Councillor Richardson, Mr. Lane, Mr. Ramsay, Mr. Mitchell, Mayor Andy Letham, Emmett Yeo, Doug Elmslie, Andrew Veale, Ron Ashmore, Patrick O'Reilly

**Subject:** Off Road Vehicle Use

Dear Members:

First off, thank you for your participation on this task force!

I would like to give my consent in allowing ATV's/ORV's (Off Road Vehicles) permission to use the roads to access the ATV trail system. Many other areas in Ontario have adopted this practice.

Vehicles using the trail system are licensed and insured, why would they not be considered another vehicle on the roadway? Bicycles, scooters, e bikes have access to the highway/road system, and they are not licensed nor insured, as they move from the road to sidewalk in-order to bypass traffic lights.

After this past year, I would think most of the local communities would welcome the extra business, once travel is safe of course. This would help boost their local economy and possible enable some of the smaller businesses to survive and become better known - stopping for gas, having a coffee, lunch, etc.

I hope everyone on this committee can see that a positive outcome can happen from road to trail access, allowing families and friend to get together and enjoy a day trip or even overnight to some of the hidden treasures in the City of Kawartha Lakes.

Thank You

Terry and Bonnie Spier  
Residents of Omemee, Ontario

**Sent:** Friday, March 12, 2021 12:11 PM

I would like to know if council is going to pass a by law to ride atv's on the side of the road and trails in Omemee and area. I hope we can get it done shortly to at least help some bussiness in the village.

James Caton

**Sent:** Friday, March 12, 2021 1:19:55 PM

As a resident of the Omemee area I support the use of ATV's and side by sides operating on local roads to gain access to local trail systems.

Lucas Hickey

From: Chris Harris < >  
Sent: Saturday, March 13, 2021 2:37 PM  
To: ORVTaskForce <orvtaskforce@kawarthalakes.ca>  
Subject: I like to see atv a loud for the roads Chris Harris  
Omemee Ont

**From:** Terry Mattiussi  
**Sent:** Monday, March 15, 2021 8:40 AM  
**To:** ORVTaskForce <orvtaskforce@kawarthalakes.ca>  
**Subject:** open roads

I live north of Omemee i believe the roads should open so people can get from south to north trails also get into town for gas and food . and maybe people that live in town could ride to the trails thanks

**From:** Malcolm Cook < >  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 11:37 AM  
**To:** ORVTaskForce <orvtaskforce@kawarthalakes.ca>  
**Subject:** In Support of Opening Roads

Hello all,

First off, thanks for what you're doing and thank you Council for having the open mindedness to have these discussions!

I'm sure the outreach has attracted more contrarians than it has supporters, as is the nature of asking for feedback, so I thought it would be important that some positive voices representing the thousands who are in support in a common-sense and reasonable approach to ORVs.

I'm a relatively new resident to Kawartha Lakes, living in Omemee where I purchased my first home about a year ago. This community has a bright future and I think the opening of roads to trail access is a wise step in promoting this community as one that boasts a good quality of life and economic well being. Opening of roads would advance the cause of making this community a desirable place to live and a desirable community for young new residents to settle down and start a family like myself and partner.

Frankly, the truth is that ORVs are licensed and insured means of recreation and transportation, and are no more dangerous than motorcycles, bicycles and ebikes that share our roads. Many Ontario communities understand this and allow ORV use on their roads, and it works! The fear mongering is blown way out of proportion and just doesn't stand up to reason.

Connecting routes to the trails makes sense. ORV use on rural roads makes sense. I sincerely hope for the benefit of this beautiful community we can make this happen!

Thank you,

**From:** Dale E. Taylor <  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 7:22 PM  
**To:** ORVTaskForce <orvtaskforce@kawarthalakes.ca>  
**Subject:** Task Force....

Councillor Dunn,

Further to the recent posting (embedded herein), it would seem that a \*conclusion has in effect been ascertained before the consultative process has commenced.

Off Road Vehicles (ORVs) such as All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) are becoming more and more of a popular activity in and around Kawartha Lakes. With recent changes made to provincial legislation around ORV use on highways, Kawartha Lakes Council decided that it was time to review the municipality's current by-laws. The Off Road Vehicle Task Force, a team composed of members of Council, Kawartha Lakes Staff and members of the public, will work together over the next few months to take a closer look at the current rules around ORV use, focusing on approved roads and restricted areas. The goal is to provide Council with recommendations based on research and public consultation that will **\*help expand and enhance ORV use activity across the municipality.**

The missive's language is clear assuming the English verbiage written here is to be taken as both whole and complete. One can only pray that the Townline Road Allowance (Hoggsback) between my property and the Buddhist Temple is a miss - as it currently is a hit for the seemingly never-ending ATV traffic currently using it, not to mention motorbikes, snowmobiles, Jeeps, trucks, cars, SUV's etc.

In my estimation, quiet, non-obtrusive pedestrian traffic, horse riders and the like are beyond the noted "popular" activity - AND they are respectful of the serenity and ambient charms of rural living.

The absence of trail walkers or horse riders is a reflection of the Hoggsback being too busy with motorized ATVs!

**1. I think you should have recordings done of ATV noise levels & decibel checks - randomly & not contrived and certainly not minimized. Hire a non-biased pro recording technician.**



**2. Then play those recordings to your Steering Committee during your consultative meetings at FULL THROTTLING LEVELS. Not turned down so you can speak - but as the ear hears it.**

**3. As well, play these "daytime/nighttime" recordings via audio playback at Full Audio Recorded levels at the residences of all of the Committee members and the ATV Executives during both DAY and NIGHT times in their front yards or within close proximity of the residences.**

**IF this were to be implemented, it would be an interesting process as it truly would shine the light on a side of the equation that is never tabled or contemplated.**

Respectfully, Dale E. Taylor

**From:** DEREK Anderson

**Sent:** September 22, 2021 2:26 PM

**To:** [aletham@kawarthalakes.ca](mailto:aletham@kawarthalakes.ca); [pdunn@kawarthalakes.ca](mailto:pdunn@kawarthalakes.ca); [poreilly@kawarthalakes.ca](mailto:poreilly@kawarthalakes.ca); [kseymourfagan@kawarthalakes.ca](mailto:kseymourfagan@kawarthalakes.ca); [rashmore@kawarthalakes.ca](mailto:rashmore@kawarthalakes.ca); [aveale@kawarthalakes.ca](mailto:aveale@kawarthalakes.ca); [delmslie@kawarthalakes.ca](mailto:delmslie@kawarthalakes.ca); [eyeo@kawarthalakes.ca](mailto:eyeo@kawarthalakes.ca); [trichardson@kawarthalakes.ca](mailto:trichardson@kawarthalakes.ca); ORVTaskForce <[orvtaskforce@kawarthalakes.ca](mailto:orvtaskforce@kawarthalakes.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: ORV in Lindsay

Good afternoon Mayor and Council.

It was very disappointing to see Pat Dunn eviscerate item 9.3.29 at Council yesterday.

***Item 9.3.29***

**[CW2021-216](#)**

- **That** Report PW2021-004, **Off Road Vehicle Task Force Recommendations**, be received;  
**That** the linkage route for ATV's through the urban area of Lindsay proposed by the Off Road Vehicle Use of City Roads Task Force not be approved;  
**That** the Off Road Vehicle Use of City Roads Task Force review and report back on by-pass options for an ATV route around Lindsay to link the north and south trails; and  
**That** the by-pass option(s) include a bridge crossing at Thunderbridge Road.

The component of this item was: "**That** the linkage route for ATV's through the urban area of Lindsay proposed by the Off Road Vehicle Use of City Roads Task Force not be approved"

Council voted to eliminate that part of the recommendation from the modified motion set forth by Pat Dunn, when that part of the motion was in fact the key issue discussed at the

Committee of the Whole. Kudos to Pat Dunn for this sly maneuvering , but Mr Mayor and Council, please don't lose sight of the fact that 66.4% of those responding to the survey said NO TO ATVS ON LINDSAY STREETS"

I Would hope that one of you councillors would re-introduce a motion at the next Committee of the Whole to cover the removed clause : **That the linkage route for ATV's through the urban area of Lindsay proposed by the Off Road Vehicle Use of City Roads Task Force not be approve.**

I have no idea why Pat Dunn is so bound and determined to get a road access through Lindsay when he hasn't taken the time to go door to door and ask his constituents what they feel about his recommendation, after all, these are the people who will either vote for him in November or vote for anyone else to runs against him. When Pat Dunn was asked what his constituent wanted, his reply was "I have no idea". Instead, he continues to cozy up to KATVA , I wonder what the driving force there could really be.

Not sure how many of you got a chance to look at the ORV Task Force meeting video, but it's obvious that the Task Force has one objective in mind. That is to open all roads in the CKL to the ATV crowd.

At one point in that meeting Councillor Richardson admitted that residence in her ward and also Councillor Ashmore's ward are already flaunty the current by-laws and riding their units on area roads.

I actually saw this 1<sup>st</sup> hand in Omemee on Saturday Sept 11, 2021, with someone who admitted to me he didn't have a drivers license and when I looked at his unit it didn't have a license plate so obviously he would have insurance. This gentlemen got on his unit rode to Mary Street West and than turned right onto Hwy 7 and headed east on Hwy 7.

Is the council going to reward these ATV users for bad behaviour.

Councillor Dunn stresses that it's only a 2 year trial period, but lets all be honest with each other. The trail period will never be reviewed and we will just open up the CKL south of HWY 8 to all ATV users. How about we try this: have a 2 year trail period as it is and provided there are no reported infractions of the current by-law or accidents in the area , then we reconsider whether to open roads for ATV riders.

In my opinion Mr Stuart Bothwell had it right, it's time to cancel the ATV Task Force and stop wasting CKL resources.

One last point, did you notice that the 2 new members of the Task Force are also ATV users, I am sure that goes against the instructions issue by council on June 14,2021, but is another example of Pat Dunn's push to have ATVs on city streets. Again I have to ask. Pat Dunn, what's in it for you? What's motivating you to go against the will of your constituents?

I look forward to hearing from all of you.

Derek Anderson CD

**From:** Rebecca Spencer <  
**Date:** October 16, 2021 at 8:15:42 AM EDT  
**To:** Council <[Council@kawarthalakes.ca](mailto:Council@kawarthalakes.ca)>  
**Subject:** Atv link thru Lindsay

Hello Council members,

10 years of Trying to get this road link for ATV's thru Lindsay .

Please approve it As being an ATV owner for the past 10 years I would like to be able to Do to Bethany without trailer .

All the smaller out lying communities also , oak wood, omemee, bobcayeon, Janesville.

Don't forget about them !

This will bring more people to town and help local businesses !!

Please again approve the road link .

**From:**  
**Date:** October 17, 2021 at 7:00:14 AM EDT  
**To:** Council <[Council@kawarthalakes.ca](mailto:Council@kawarthalakes.ca)>  
**Subject:** Trial route through Lindsay

I am writing to day to ask that you decide to go forward with the connection trail through Lindsay.

I moved into Omemee two years ago and my boyfriend and I love this area. We are working to renovate an old farm house and bring the acreage back to a working farm.

We made the choice to stay at home with our farm but we regularly ride the trails. My girlfriend lost her husband last November and has recently joined us on several rides. She loves it so much she has purchased a bike of her own and joins us often. The beauty of our area and the solitude of a ride are calming to her as she works through her grief. There is nothing better than the view from the bike – we have seen so much of our area that can't be seen from a car.

We have friends in Bridgenorth, Fenlon Falls, Lindsay and Omemee. We would love to be able to ride the bikes to visit. Currently we drive to Fenlon and ride from there. Our meals after the ride and any purchases made is money spent in Fenlon not in Lindsay.

I ask that you allow the trial to go ahead. I believe those in Lindsay that are against the trail will find that those who ride are respectful and are just looking to enjoy the outdoors. More money spent in Lindsay can only help our local economy.

Please vote yes!

Thanks for your time

Judy Hawksworth

**From:** Paul O'Connell <  
**Date:** October 18, 2021 at 3:05:26 PM EDT  
**To:** Council <[Council@kawarthalakes.ca](mailto:Council@kawarthalakes.ca)>  
**Subject:** Trails through Lindsay

Councillors'

We live on the east side of Lindsay love riding our atv's. It would be so nice to have a trail from Omemee to Bethany and through Lindsay. We are in our 70"s and love to get out and meet people and get exercise. Also we could fill up with gas and get a bite to eat. It would be nice to contribute to our area. As it is now we have to trailer our atv's across to Goldenmile Rd. or Kenrie Park. Most times we go through Fenelon Falls as there is more there for us. So Councillors please keep money in our area.

Sharon and Paul

**From:** Glenn Reynolds  
**Date:** October 18, 2021 at 7:58:39 PM EDT  
**To:** Council <[Council@kawarthalakes.ca](mailto:Council@kawarthalakes.ca)>  
**Cc:** Katva <  
**Subject:** **ATV route through Lindsay.**

To the councillors who oppose the trail link through Lindsay.  
This is the chance to make an exciting change in the City of Kawartha Lakes.  
Being a resident here since 1976 and going to high school in Lindsay, I have seen the erosion of a once prosperous town.  
Today, tourism is an integral part of fueling a struggling rural economy.  
Imagine a trail system from the Ganaraska forest to the Haliburton highlands and beyond with this missing link through Lindsay. Something to brag about I would say.  
The trail link through Fenelon Falls has been a great success! Why not take this idea and put it in motion. It's a on a trial basis. What have we got to lose.  
ATVs operating in town at 20 kph is very safe  
As an ATV enthusiast, riding with family and friends is the kind of social enjoyment that is needed, especially right now.  
With the possibility of the Lindsay trail link and links from our other Kawartha Lakes communities, this is something we can all be proud of.  
Please let's give this a try.

Thanks.

Glenn Reynolds.  
Omemee.