

Melinda Reith, Head, Clara & Maria

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2018 12:24 PM
To: hcmclerkmreith@gmail.com
Subject: Algonquin Trail Stakeholder Consultation

I am unsure if I can get to any of the open consultation sessions but if there is a large enough turnout on the May 5th one i may try to attend.

i have a number of concerns surrounding the current use of the trail especially where it causes excessive traffic on the water side of my property. i have [REDACTED] acres [REDACTED] in Clara townships. [REDACTED] the removal of the railway has already lead to increased crime and vandalism on my property so I have little interest in further development of the trail through my property.

Question 1- I see that the trail will be started with good intentions but the overall maintenance and liability associated with the trail will lead to increased taxes on my property with little benefit. There is enough other crown land and right of ways available for snowmobiling and ATV trails that this trail does not need to be developed further.

Question 2- Tourism in this area is limited because of the market and proximity to the other wilderness areas for the big markets like Ottawa. we are seeing more boats on the river for example but the shallow channels and hazards will limit this as well. new business will be unlikely to develop as a result of this trail. i think [REDACTED] might see some benefit but i think they already have access to the trails surrounding the area that are not part of the railway trail.

Question 3. I do not think the townships or municipal corporations should be investing in new businesses with the idea of revenue generation. if the market is there to support a new business or cause existing ones to expand then they will. The municipality should look to trying to improve tourism by perhaps looking for support to improve the waterways,create and create more awareness to support existing tourism. i can appreciate the difficulty in covering the costs of the services with the existing tax base but the growth of this area has been limited because of of its location.Until all the recreation areas are full and we see the improvements to the highways to get people to the top of the Valley we are going to see little growth.

Question 4 & 5. The increase in noise and traffic along these trailways has a direct impact on the enjoyment of my property and impact on the ecology of this area. I have nesting boxes and floating nest built in the bay area to support waterfowl and these will be at risk. The [REDACTED] is an example of a huge maintenance issue on my property line. The liability has this begins to deteriorate would be great and the costs to maintain it extensive. I have already had to put no trespass signs up and additional gates on all the access roads to my property which are torn down and run over and garbage is left everywhere. The additional traffic of tourists in the area will lead to more crime and property damage because it provides increased access to hunt camps and cottages that did not have access to before.

My [REDACTED] owned this property and it was an original homestead property before the Dam and railway were put in. The original right of way was granted through the property to the railway and was only in place as long as a railway operated on the land. Once the dam came and the railway was moved ,more land or right of

way was granted. I tried to purchase the land from the CPR that ran on my property with no success before the county bought it to avoid the problems we are already seeing.

Sincerely,

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