



Off-highway Vehicle Ministerial Advisory Committee

Wednesday, October 3, 2007
Halifax, NS

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- Attendees:** Laurie Cranton (Chair), Glenn Joudrey (Vice Chair), Raymond Plourde (Environment), Paul D'Eon (Safety/Training), Robert Connell (Enforcement/Police), Charles Atkinson (OHV Industry), Lloyd Wallis (for Roger King, Member at Large), Judith Cabrita (Tourism), Peter Doucet (ORRA), James Vance (NSTF), Laura Barkhouse (Member at Large), Jamie Wolverton (SANS), Corey Robar (ATVANS)
Ex-officio: Peter Labor (DEL), Bernie Clancey (DTPW), Derick Stoddard (for John Mombourquette, OHV Enforcement/Conservation Officer), Hugh Gillis & Patricia MacNeil (DNR), Ted Scrutton (DHPP), Jennifer Annett (Secretariat)
- Guests:** Minister David Morse (DNR), Minister Barry Barnet (DHPP), Lucas Wide (DHPP communications), Diane LeBlanc (DNR Communications)
- Regrets:** Roger King (Member at Large), David Barrett (Landowner), Pat Hicks (OHV Manufacturers), Vacant (Municipal), Vacant (Municipal), Vacant (Health)

----- Agenda Topics -----

Wednesday, October 3, 2007 - 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

8:30 AM Arrival, Coffee, Muffins		30 min
9:00 AM - Welcome, Review of Action Items, Approval of Minutes, Reports (Chair, Secretariat, Fund, Others)	Laurie Cranton, Jennifer Annett, Hugh Gillis	30 min
9:30 AM - Key Issues	Laurie Cranton	30 min
10:00 AM - Subcommittee Updates: Enforcement, Education, Trails	Robert Connell, Paul D'Eon Laura Barkhouse	30 min
10:30 Policy Development	Patricia MacNeil	1 hour
11:30 AM EARLY LUNCH		30 min
12:00 PM - Minister's Visit	Minister Morse, Minister Barnet	1 hour
1:00 PM - Policy Development (continued)	Patricia MacNeil	1 hour
2:00 PM - Issues in Trail Development	Ted Scrutton	1 hour
3:00 PM - Summary of New Recommendation(s) NSORRA Update, Manufacturer's Update, Communications Messages, Future Meeting Schedule, Next Agenda	Laurie Cranton, Diane LeBlanc and/or Lucas Wide, Peter Doucet, Charles Atkinson	1 hour
4:00 PM Adjournment for the day	Laurie Cranton	

MINUTES – Wednesday, October 3, 2007

Welcome, Review of Action Items, Minutes, Reports

Laurie Cranton,
Jennifer Annett, Hugh Gillis

Discussion: Chair welcomed members and guests.
 Chair provided his report. Response letter received from Ministers regarding crown land access.
 No response yet regarding Wilderness Areas Protection Act.
 Chair noted a presentation was made to UNSM.
 OHV Conference postponed until Spring 2008 due to no available venue.
 Secretariat reviewed minutes. Minutes were approved.
 DNR - No Fund report this month.

Action items:

NONE

Person responsible:

Deadline:

Key Issues

Laurie Cranton

Discussion: The MAC discussed current issues:

- Trail development policy on crown land
- Education/school curriculum initiatives
- Permit sticker change through Service Nova Scotia – interim remedy if needed
- “Where to Ride”
- Federal/Provincial communications for permitting
- Municipal representation
- Protected Areas response
- Action Plan evaluation
- Terms of Reference
- Trail Development Guidelines/Policies (e.g. Abandoned Railines Policy)
- Enforcement concerns/priorities
- Legislative changes/process

Action items:

NONE

Person Responsible:

Deadline:

Subcommittee Updates: Enforcement, Education, Trails

Robert Connell, Paul D’Eon,
Laura Barkhouse

Discussion: No new updates from the Enforcement or Trails Subcommittees. The Education Subcommittee is finalizing the SNSMR renewal insert to OHV riders. Changes to the draft copy were discussed. On future renewal inserts, SANS would like to add information on trail permits.

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<p>Action items: Final draft to DHPP for printing.</p>	<p>Person responsible: Paul</p>	<p>Deadline: Oct.9/07</p>
<p>Policy Development Patricia MacNeil</p> <p>Discussion: Notes from policy discussion at September meeting were reviewed. Additions and changes were made particularly around the definition of traditional use.</p> <p>An adhoc subcommittee will evaluate potential solutions and help develop a first draft of the policy. Members will include Patricia, Laurie, Derick, Glenn, and Floyd (if available). The subcommittee will utilize written notes to guide the first draft of the policy. They will consider advocates for landowners in the solutions proposed.</p>		
<p>Action items: Meet as a subcommittee. Determine legality of removing signs on private land.</p>	<p>Person Responsible: Patricia, Laurie, Derick, Glenn, Floyd Derick</p>	<p>Deadline: Nov.13/07 Nov.13/07</p>
<p>Ministers' Visit Minister David Morse, Minister Barry Barnet</p> <p>Discussion: Members introduced themselves to the Ministers. Ministers shared their remarks. They are looking forward to the establishment of an OHV trail system. They are pleased with the Committee's work to date.</p> <p>Land use was discussed. There are opportunities for change but challenges will be ongoing. One key goal is to be the province most connected by trails. The Ministers would like a vision for trails right across NS (Sydney to Yarmouth). To assist with future trail development, newly constructed highways will ideally consider trail connectivity at the design stages. Refining of established trails and traditional use definitions can be further discussed with Ministers to assist with moving forward. Options should be considered.</p> <p>Regarding future decision making - the Ministers would like input from the Committee before moving forward. The Ministers also suggested an interim resource person until the health position is filled.</p>		
<p>Action items: Trails Subcommittee to begin working on a community conflict/consultation policy.</p>	<p>Person responsible: Laura</p>	<p>Deadline: ASAP</p>
<p>Issues in Trail Development Ted Scrutton</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <p>A Provincial Policy for Rails to Trails in Nova Scotia (July 1997) was circulated.</p> <p>Different community trail issues were illustrated for the Committee. Each location is unique as far as proponents, interests, trail location, encroachment issues and potential re-routing options, economic impacts (such as residential/commercial development within crown land without permission) and potential hardship to adjacent landowners. Concern was expressed around precedence setting when compromise and solutions are being considered.</p>		

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Action items:	Person responsible:	Deadline:
NONE		
<p>Summary of New Recommendation(s) Laurie Cranton, Diane LeBlanc and/or Lucas Wide, Peter Doucet, Charles Atkinson</p> <p>Communications Messages, NSORRA Update, Manufacturer's Update, Future Meeting Schedule, Next Agenda</p> <p>Discussion: No new recommendations.</p> <p>Communications – 9 newspapers fairly evenly distributed across NS wrote full stories on the trails grants approval press release.</p> <p>NSORRA Update - NSORRA is disappointed in the approval of funding to groups not allowing access by off road motorcycles without discussion with NSORRA throughout the process. Some trail groups reconsidering appropriate uses and re-entering into the public consultation process. NSORRA & DHPP will be meeting to help move forward on trail access and planning.</p> <p>Manufacturer's Update – The Committee reviewed a sample advertisement the Manufacturers will be using in the near future.</p> <p>The 2008 meeting schedule was discussed. The fourth Tuesday-Wednesday of each month was confirmed.</p>		
<p>Action Items:</p> <p>Letter to Trails Association regarding trail access by currently non permitted uses.</p> <p>Further feedback on the advertisement can go to the Manufacturers (if applicable).</p>	<p>Person Responsible:</p> <p>Laura</p> <p>All</p>	<p>Deadline:</p> <p>ASAP</p> <p>ASAP</p>

Other Information

Meeting Adjourned: 4:15 pm

Next Meeting: November 13-14, 2007 in Halifax (9:00 am – 4:00 pm).

2007-2008 Meeting Schedule – Location Halifax/Bedford

December 11-12 (2007)

January 22-23 (2008)

March 25-26

May 27-28

July 22-23

September 23-24

November 25-26

February 26-27

April 22-23

June 24-25

August 26-27

October 28-29

December 23-24 (rescheduling likely)