



Nova Scotia Off Road Riders Questionnaire

2009 Provincial Election

Leaders' Questionnaire

Background,

The Nova Scotia Off Road Riders Association is the unified voice promoting and expanding the privileges and image of all Off Road Motorcyclists in Nova Scotia. We are a volunteer-based organization focused on promoting Off Road Motorcycling as a healthy recreational and competitive sport; promoting safety and responsible riding; increasing riding opportunities through trail development and access to existing trails; and elevating awareness and respect for the environment.

Nova Scotia has a well-established tradition of multi-use trail planning, development and maintenance. Organizations including the Snowmobilers Association of NS (SANS), All Terrain Vehicle Association of NS (ATVANS), NS Off Road Riders Association (NSORRA), and the NS Trails Federation (NSTF) work together to monitor and advise government on trail-related issues. Representatives from the non-motorized and motorized trail user groups work together to implement safe, high quality and environmentally responsible infrastructure that works for trail users while meeting provincial guidelines for recreational trails.

The Nova Scotia experience has confirmed that trail building and trail enjoyment are community activities. A broad range of expertise, financial contribution, volunteer effort, and co-operation is required in order to accommodate everyone who wants to enjoy Nova Scotia's great outdoors.

In fact, what makes trail building truly a community effort is that everyone brings something to the table. Motorized groups contribute funding, trail development expertise, and the volunteer manpower required to do the physical work on the trails. This is complemented by the individuals associated with non-motorized groups who bring the necessary organizational skills, advice and community contacts who can help to move these projects forward.

With health and physical fitness being top of mind for most families and for the health care system in Nova Scotia and in Canada, we believe that being out on the trails, whether through non-motorized or motorized recreational use, is not only fun but contributes to individual and family well-being. Motorbike riding requires considerable exertion and is great exercise for young people to enjoy with their parents.

Questions

Q1: Currently trail building in Nova Scotia is seen by the National Trail Coalition as a model example of how organizations such as SANS, ATVANS, NSORRA, and NSTF can work together with government to be a leader in collaborative trail building to benefit all stakeholders. The OHV Ministerial Advisory Committee has been very effective in bringing these stakeholder together and supporting them financially.

If elected will you continue support of the OHV MAC as it stands today?

Yes

No

Comments

Q2: By establishing trail-building priorities for non-motorized trail users only, the Trans Canada Trail system will work against our efforts in Nova Scotia to promote co-operation and community amongst motorized and non-motorized trail groups. It is also contrary to Nova Scotia's tremendous potential for trails-based recreation and tourism, and is a lost opportunity for promoting an important form of active enjoyment of Nova Scotia's great outdoors.

If elected will you support non-motorized (anti access) groups with respect to Trans Canada Trails?

Yes

No

Comments

Q3: Off Road Motorcyclist are looking for a slightly different type of trail experience than ATV and snowmobile operators. It is a desire of NSORRA to have sections of “single track” trail in distributed locations across the province that would allow Off Road Riders, mountain bikers, hikers and back wood skiers to have this alternate experience. In addition we would like to have specific training areas to facilitate the “Dirt Bike School” program that we are currently using to train Off Road Riders in Nova Scotia to meet the OHV regulations.

If elected will you support the idea of having “single track” trails and off road training areas for motorcycle use?

Yes

No

Comments

Q4: If elected will you commit to a meeting with NSORRA leadership within your first 100 days in office?

Yes

No

Comments

Thank you for participating in this survey. Responses received from the party leaders before June 5th will be shared with all NSORRA members via email and published on the NSORRA web page on June 6th in time for the membership to make an informed decision on June 9th

Completed questionnaires can be emailed to:
mtraves@ns.sympatico.ca

Yours sincerely,
Michael Traves, President
Nova Scotia Off Road Riders
Association

Neil Jennings
NSORRA Representative
Nova Scotia Trails Federation