

From:
To: [Lindsey Green](#)
Subject: FW: Watra Road or snowmobile trail!
Date: February 10, 2020 4:07:20 PM

From: Sandra Mothersell
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2020 4:05:48 PM
To: John Woodbury <jwoodbury@southgate.ca>; Brian Milne <bmilne@southgate.ca>; Barbara Dobreen <bdobreen@southgate.ca>; jfrew@southgate.ca <jfrew@southgate.ca>; jrice@southgate.ca <jrice@southgate.ca>; msherson@southgate.ca <msherson@southgate.ca>; mshipston@southgate.ca <mshipston@southgate.ca>; dmiller@southgate.ca <dmiller@southgate.ca>;
Subject: Watra Road or snowmobile trail!

To – Southgate Township local government representatives

We are sending this email out of concern for the residents of Watra Road and also concern for the snowmobilers that use the trail on Watra Road.

Recently, our family had a near miss that could have resulted in a life threatening accident at the corner of Sideroad 49 and Watra Road. Our family had just turned on to Watra Road and a snowmobile travelling on the snowmobile trail that crosses Watra Road zoomed past without stopping or visually checking for traffic. It was horrifying how close this snowmobiler was to the front of our truck.

This is only one the many dangerous driving instances that we experience, see or hear along the snowmobile trail on Watra Road. We have serious concerns about this snowmobile trail that runs down Watra Road. It is difficult to comprehend the thinking that went behind allowing a snowmobile trail to run down a residential street. Especially now that we have families with young children living on Watra Road.

We cannot go out for walks when the conditions are suitable for the snowmobilers. While some snowmobilers abide by the speed limit, many snowmobilers break the speed limit on an hourly basis. One resident of Watra Road was told to get off the ' [REDACTED] trail' while out for a walk. We moved to Watra Road in 2012. It seems that over the past 5 years the snowmobilers are

becoming less respectful towards the residents and less concerned for their own safety. Prior to 2012, we lived on Concession 24 for over 20 years. The snowmobile trail crossed our property. I think it is wonderful that people have the opportunity to enjoy the beauty of our area along the trails. Each year, Mr. Matthews paid us a visit to represent the snowmobile club and we never had a problem.

We have a few question –

1. If a resident is walking on Watra Road, does the resident or the snowmobiler have the right of way? Most snowmobilers respect those walking on the street but others would run us down if we didn't get out of the way and those who are not respectful are usually travelling at high speeds.
2. What are the noise restrictions for the hours that most people are sleeping?

Those speeding down Watra Road know that our road is not policed. At one time police went down our road occasionally, but not over the past few years. The presence of police on a regular basis may ensure that our road is safer in all seasons.

I have looked at the OPP self-reporting process on the Southgate Township website and I am thinking that this process should only be used for incidents. I would appreciate your forwarding of this email to the Southgate Township representatives on the Police Services Board. From a google search I see that Dale Pallister and Allen Dobreen are the non-council representatives. I do not have their emails.

Yours sincerely,

Sandra, Gary and Jillian Mothersell