

Subject: [Fwd: [Fwd: Re: FW: BC Mountain bike trauma statistics!]]

Date: Thu, 15 Jul 2004 15:43:21 -0700

From: Brian Platts <bplatts@shaw.ca>

To: Corrie Kost <kost@triumf.ca>

Subject: [Fwd: Re: FW: BC Mountain bike trauma statistics!]

Date: Thu, 15 Jul 2004 14:40:52 -0700

From: M E Craver <mecraver@shaw.ca>

To: Mayor and Council - DNV <Council@dnv.org>, Senior Management Committee <managecomm@dnv.org>

CC: James Ridge <James_Ridge@dnv.org>, "FONVCA (E-mail)" <fonvca@fonvca.org>

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Re: FW: BC Mountain bike trauma statistics!

Date: Thu, 15 Jul 2004 14:10:43 -0700

From: M E Craver <mecraver@shaw.ca>

To: Irwin Torry <Irwin_Torry@dnv.org>

CC: Susan Rogers <Susan_Rogers@dnv.org>

References: <52819DEA9F2ED74FBF51B612D0E5A01C020669E2@mail2k.cdnv.dnv.ca>

Dear Mr. Torry:

Thanks for the reply. Whistler Bike Park is about as managed as you can get! A friend who lives up near the Whistler Bike Park tells me about the constant injuries happening there. Let's face it, it is a very expensive and very "dumb" sport. There will always be the percentage of risk takers. I am on the side of the doctors. My cousin in Toronto is a surgeon, and he has told me of some really nasty things he has had to deal with mountain bike injuries, there. That is Ontario. BC, of course has tougher terrain. I do not wish to have a portion of my taxes used for rescuing these injured eco-vandals riding in our forests and natural parks, period. Give them Inter-River Bike Park, and tell them to go to Whistler. If we cannot do this, in a few years we will be facing off-road motor vehicles. They are a much more nastier breed (as seen in recent Nova Scotia problems on the Trans Canada Trail). Then what?

If we cannot say "No" to mountain biking in our wild places, then the next fad will be harder to rid of. Just because they ride it, or build it, does not mean we have to go along with it. Like I said before, opening Mountain View Park to "official" mountain biking via a bike trail and "multi-use" trail, in light of the Alpine plan, is like putting the cart before the horse. I keep hearing that this is a temporary thing. From what I see, it is far from temporary, and too much money invested, for temporary. I have also heard that the RPO zone in our neighbourhood is a temporary thing. It is just as "temporary" as Mountain View Park's mountain bike trail, as far as I and the neighbours are concerned. The RPO has had the positive effect of keeping all the commercial dog-walking companies out of Mountain View Park. Thanks to that. But the lack of RPO bylaw enforcement recently has got me worried (due to shortage of staffing, I've heard).

You have to live here on the front lines of mountain biking in residential areas in order to comprehend it. Hearsay just doesn't give you the picture. We need community-sensitive planning for Upper Lynn. Encouraging mountain biking in Mountain View Park does not cut it. People here are doing three things. They either complain by letters to Mayor and Council, etc. They just ignore it, and hope it will go away (fearing retaliation, complacency, or giving up). They are putting their homes up for sale and moving out of the area. One family on Mill Street moved in a couple years ago. Since the mountain bike traffic and parking has been moved down the hill, and onto their street, they feel unsafe, and are moving out of the area soon.

Many of us do not feel safe, and suspect the recent crime wave in our neighbourhood to be the result of the unsavory bunch the mountain biking "sport" has brought in from the outside. There is night and day separating the biker and the hiker, by far. Years ago, we had a lot of hikers, and cars parked along the street, in front of our house, and the park, etc. No problem. We never met a "bad" hiker. The result of the complaints in the past few years has been because of "bad" bikers. Extreme sports bring in extreme behaviour-- best kept from the frontlines of residential communities! We need real "buffer zones" separating us from any extreme sport. That is "community-sensitive planning". When families begin to move away because they do not feel safe, then it is time to put community safety and well-being first before trying to appease extreme sports groups (most of which come from outside the North Shore). The concerns of this Upper Lynn Community is a valid one, and must be considered first in determining the outcome of the Alpine Strategic Plan. Thank you.

Sincerely, Monica Craver

Irwin Torry wrote:

Monica: Thank you for the information. Again, this is another reason why we are working on a strategic plan that regulates and manages where different types of activities are going to occur in the alpine area.

-----Original Message-----

From: Richard Zerr

Sent: July 15, 2004 11:29 AM

To: Susan Rogers; Irwin Torry

Subject: FW: BC Mountain bike trauma statistics!

-----Original Message-----

From: M E Craver [<mailto:mecraver@shaw.ca>]

Sent: July 7, 2004 4:20 PM

To: Mayor and Council - DNV; Senior Management Committee

Cc: James Ridge; FONVCA (E-mail)

Subject: BC Mountain bike trauma statistics!

Dear Mayor Council and Staff: Please take a look at these statistics. Especially emphasized is the final statement in the Conclusion : "Dangerous or reckless styles of riding **should be discouraged** and **not glorified as currently**." It isn't *just* Monica Craver saying this. There are lot of overworked doctors and nurses, with shortage of beds, in our hospitals saying this. Pay attention! The ambulances are constantly going up and down the mountain, especially in Whistler, picking up foolish injured mountain bikers. There is nothing to glorify in this sport, at all.

Monica Craver (the copy of the statistics was given in the handout at Monday's meeting) I apologize. I did not know the e-mail attachment sent previously had a virus :-[--probably placed by a mountain biker, as a lot of opposing info is being tampered with, in their "war" against the opposition.