

Subject: [Fwd: Trail usage on the North Shore]

Date: Fri, 04 Mar 2005 23:30:50 -0800

From: Brian Platts <bplatts@shaw.ca>

To: Corrie Kost <kost@triumf.ca>

Subject: Trail usage on the North Shore

Date: Fri, 04 Mar 2005 11:23:35 -0500

From: "Drouin, Garry" <Garry.Drouin@phh.com>

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Mr. Crist

I felt compelled to write and express my concerns regarding your proposed ban of mountain biking on the Shore.

I am a 40 year old father of 2 teenage boys. We live in Burlington Ontario a middle class city in the GTA. We are regular folks with regular lives. Over the past 5 years I have worked closely with area Conservation Authorities, local Municipalities, Interest groups, the IMBA and I am an ardent trail builder and keeper. I subscribe to every Mountain Bike forum on the internet, and feel I have a good pulse on our MTB community.

A few years ago I announced to my wife that one of my main goals in life is to ride the WORLD FAMOUS NORTH SHORE by the age of 40. She rolled her eyes! You see I have never ridden your beloved Shore, but have dreamed of doing so for so long now. After watching so many movies and trading stories with local riders for years, this fall I will achieve my goal and will be coming to visit you. I sure hope the trails are still there to utilize!

The point I am trying to make is Freeriding or extreme mountain biking (stunt riding) is my passion, the focal point of my life. My social life, friends, holidays, spare time and money are devoted to Free riding. I suspect you fail to realize this is the case for a vast majority of the riding public.

Land usage is a concern everywhere! However if you simply ban MTB on Fromme you will inadvertently force more ridership on other Mountains, this is plain to see. Free riding is here to stay like it or not ! You will likely cost your citizens millions in lost revenue by pushing tourists (like myself) to other destinations. You will certainly run the risk of more illegal trails and structures being created if not on Fromme, elsewhere.

I spend a lot of my time in the woods and on the trails. I see a large cross section of users and let me be blunt. We have riders that behave poorly and build illegally, sure, however the same applies to joggers, hikers, horseback riders and the remaining general users.

We have issues, however lets work together in partnership to satisfy all users, now and for future generations.

Garry Drouin
Free-Rider / Father / Concerned citizen

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