

For those who don't know me my name is Barry Barnet and I am here today representing the All-Terrain Vehicle Association of Nova Scotia. I have been the executive director for ATVANS for nearly ten years and before that I served as MLA for Sackville Beaver Bank holding various cabinet positions.

ATVANS represents the organized responsible ATV sector in Nova Scotia through 42 member clubs with nearly 5000 individual members. ATVANS is the third largest ATV federation in Canada. Our clubs and members ride on, manage develop and maintain multi use trail on both public and private lands in all areas of Nova Scotia.

Our association, through our clubs, hosts nearly 100 riding events annually, facilitates rider training, builds and maintain trails, helps to promote safe responsible ATV use through our volunteer trail patrol program and providing safe/responsible use information to all riders.

ATVANS has a multi-year strategic framework that helps guide our future direction. A key feature embedded within our framework is to support the development of an interconnected trail system. To this end we have worked closely with various government departments to assist us in this endeavour. The provisions in this bill will help us move toward achieving our goal. Together with government and our partners we have made great progress and we fully expect to complete our system in the not so distant future.

We believe in and support the government's goal of 13 percent protected wilderness land in Nova Scotia however, we also believe this can be achieved without drastically impacting existing trail use where appropriate. We believe government has listened to our members and others when adding candidate wilderness protected areas in recent years. We thank staff at the Department of Environment for their support and understanding.

The provisions within in this bill that allow for ministerial approval to support connectivity through the Ogden Round Lake wilderness area has been a long standing local concern in Guysborough County. The Partipique River Wilderness area will provide north south access between Colchester and Cumberland County on a long established trail. Although I don't speak on behalf of the snowmobile federation I know this is seen as great news by their members.

Our members are concerned about the ecology of Nova Scotia and understand and respect the fact that we cannot ride everywhere. It is important to point out that because of mobility issues many of our members would never be able to enjoy much of the beauty of our great province if it were not for ATV use.

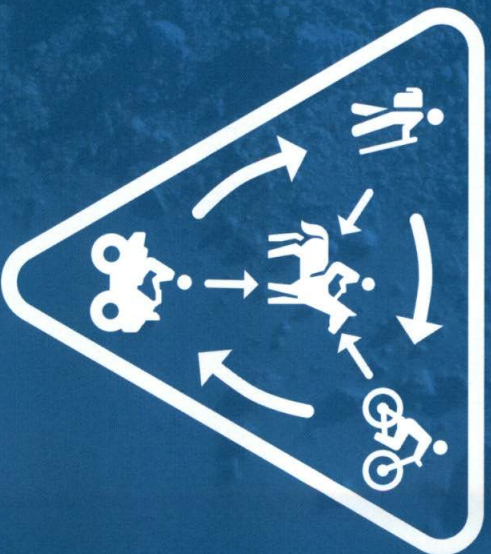
The sport of ATVing in Nova Scotia is an important economic driver in our economy. A study published by Nova Insights Inc. in 2015 indicates that \$160, 000,000 dollars in direct spending annually comes from our sport alone.

Much of this in rural Nova Scotia.

We encourage the committee and legislature to support this bill not just because of the impact on the economy and mobility concerns but also and most importantly to support the way of life in Nova Scotia while protecting the environment. We believe this bill has the ability to provide the correct balance needed to achieve both.

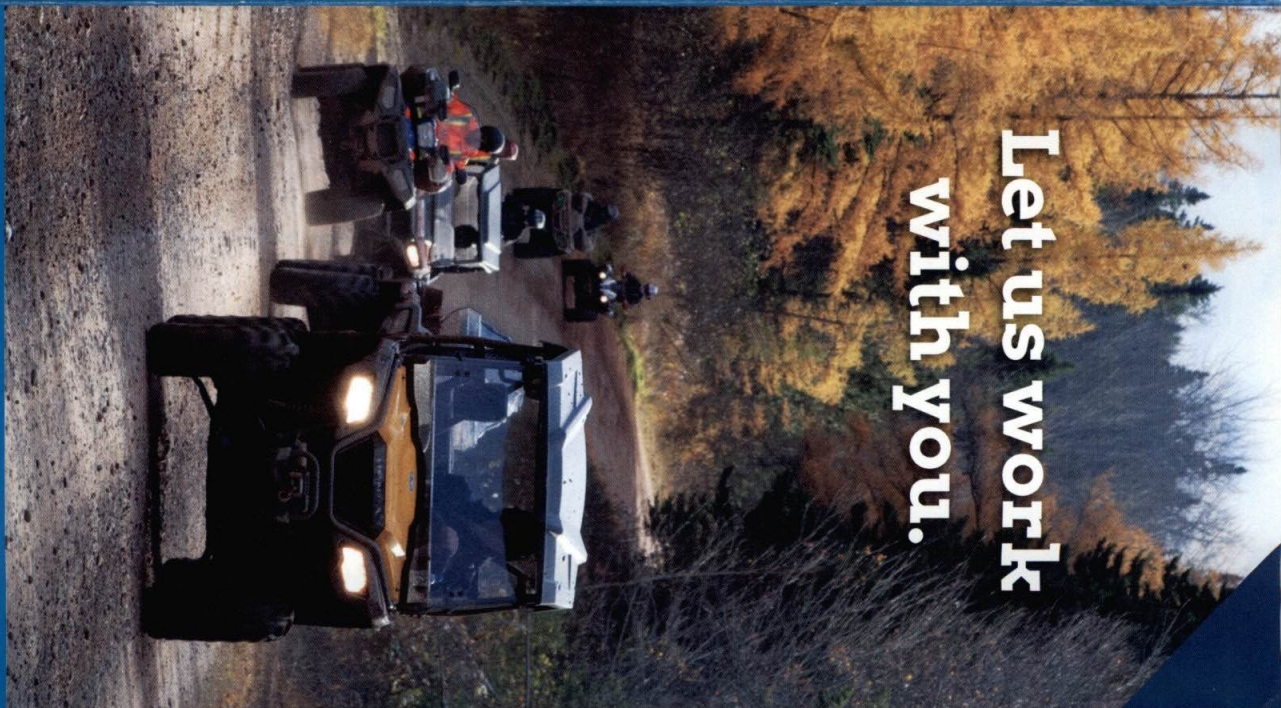
IT IS NOT JUST  
ABOUT OUR SPORT.  
IT IS ABOUT THE  
TRAIL AND THOSE  
THAT USE IT.

Be part of the trails community.  
Let everyone enjoy the trail using  
the method of their choice.



A first rate trail system can only  
be created by people who care  
for each other.

Let us work  
with you.



TRAIL ETIQUETTE

IT'S ALL ABOUT  
RESPECT



ATV Association of Nova Scotia

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ATV ASSOCIATION OF NOVA SCOTIA

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## RESPECT THE COMMUNITY

- Respect others' property. Ride quietly when around houses, campgrounds, and other non-riders. Keep the rpms and speed low and steady. ATVs must have approved spark arrestors.
- Keep speed below 20 K.P.H. when traveling within 30 m (100') of a non motorized user or a home and in particular watch for Kids and animals.
- Avoid creating excessive dust and noise when riding in a community or Camping area.
- Do not operate vehicle in a careless way that may endanger people or property.
- Always be courteous to other people.
- Stay on the trail. Respect private property.
- Be a "steward" of the sport, the way you portray yourself is the way you portray the sport.

**IF YOU CAN PACK  
IT IN, PACK IT OUT.**

## RESPECT THE TRAIL

- Be part of the Trails Community; respect the experience of other users if you want them to respect yours.
- Yield the right of way to hikers, bikers, and horses. When passing horses stop your vehicle. Take off your helmet and calmly say hello. Avoid any sudden movements. Let the horse pass. Or if passing a horseback rider, alert the rider to your presence by calmly calling out you wish to pass.
- Keep your speed down to avoid making dust when passing other trails users.
- When in a group, make sure you are not blocking the trail for other users.
- People traveling downhill should yield to those traveling uphill.
- Let others know you are approaching them, especially if from behind.
- If people announce themselves from behind you, move over to the right to make sure they have enough room to get by.
- Keep to the right side of the trail to avoid oncoming trail users.
- If you take your dog, make sure you can control them.
- Keep to marked trails and tracks and resist the urge to establish new ones without proper planning and authority.
- Park ATV and walk to sensitive, historic, scenic, and cultural areas.
- Participate in trail maintenance.  
Give back to your trails.

## RESPECT THE ENVIRONMENT

- Respect all wildlife; after all, it is their home.
- Respect the Environment as a whole. We want the next generation to be able to enjoy it as we do.
- As should everyone, clean up after yourself. Don't litter.
- Clean-up the mess left by others who have no respect for the environment.
- Get out of sight of the trail and use proper sanitary procedures when needed.
- Avoid damage to the environment. Protect both the land and the water.
- Stay on the established trail, no shortcuts and avoid trail braiding and widening.
- Be aware, our wetlands are important and sensitive areas benefit both wildlife and people.
- Use existing bridges and structures to cross streams.
- Do not spin your tires as it dislocates the soil and can cause drainage issues.
- Follow the Environmental Stewardship Guidelines.

Promote our sport. Take time to talk to the people you meet about your outdoors experiences. Know your limits. Ride within your abilities, in a controlled manner using common sense. Treat others the way you would like to be treated if the situation were reversed. But most of all, have fun!

**IT'S ALL ABOUT RESPECT  
RESPECT OUR SPORT**