## 387/22 July 25 - Correspondence - REDACTED

South Central Snowmobile Region,

District 4, OFSC,

## Township of Brock,

1 Cameron Street East, P. O. Box 10,

Cannington, Ontario, LOE 1E0

Good afternoon:

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Heart of Ontario Snowmobile Club, (HOO), of the Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs, District 4, I am the District 4 Administrator.

The purpose of this letter is to ask the Township of Brock Council's support with the snowmobile club's land use negotiations with the Ministry of Transportation, Ontario (MTO), for the use of the Highway 12 right of way on the west side of Hwy 12 from Thorah Concession 1 north to the Concession Road 8/ County Road 23 intersection with Hwy 12. The club has maintained a trail, (H9), along this stretch of Hwy 12 for over twenty-five years, giving snowmobile traffic access to amenities in the Beaverton area, facilities such as restaurants, fuel and parking for vehicles and trailers by Highway 12 and County Road 15. As side trail, (H11), branching west from Hwy 12 at Concession Road 4 leading to Side Road 17 and County Road 23 brings traffic into the south end of Beaverton and gives access to the businesses in this area. This trail, (H9), is now in danger of being shut down as the MTO prefers to not have snowmobile trails running beside the highway on the right of way.

The trail along Hwy 12, (H9), continues south from Beaverton to connect to the main trail running from Uxbridge north-east through Cannington and on to Fenelon Falls; H9 also runs north from Beaverton to connect to the trails of District 8 in Bolsover. This allows local snowmobilers in the Beaverton area access to the extensive OFSC trail system in Ontario, some 30,000 km of groomed and maintained trails; it also allows access for snowmobilers from other areas to the Beaverton area and to all the businesses on and near the trails.

Club maintained snowmobile trails allow snowmobilers to have safe corridors on which to ride their snow machines; these trails are cleared of hazards, signed to the OFSC's Risk Management Sign Guidelines for safety, groomed as required, or at least weekly, and patrolled by club Trail Patrol members to check for, and have corrected, any new hazards or issues that may develop. Where maintained trails are not available some snowmobile operators tend to run their machines wherever there is snow, not mindful of land owners concerns or of possible safety issues under the snow. The trails are also a much safer alternative to riding on the ice of Lake Simcoe to go north or south from the Beaverton area.

Would the Township of Brock Council be willing to supply a letter to the Heart of Ontario Snowmobile Club indicating that the Council supports the club in its efforts to have these trails available for the residents' access and the positive economic impact that snowmobile tourism has on the local businesses. Touring snowmobilers may require food, fuel, accommodation and, in some cases, repairs; the local club's trails can help to bring these tourist dollars to the Beaverton area.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you should require any further information please contact me by email or by phone at the address or number below.

Mike Kuechler,

Administrator, District 4,