



To whom it may concern,

Thank you very much for providing us with the opportunity to respond to your survey questions. The responses in this survey are on behalf of Premier Stephen McNeil.

This election is about which party has the best vision for the province. By providing us with the opportunity to connect with your membership, we feel we can best highlight who we are and where we stand on issues that are important to your organization's membership. Only together can we build on a stronger Nova Scotia.

Regards,

Nova Scotia Liberal Campaign

1. Would your party support bringing forward legislative and regulatory changes to modernize the OHV act and better reflect current conditions and practices including practical changes that allow families to better participate in our sport within the first 2 years of your mandate?

As a government, we have worked hard with ATVANS and off-highway vehicle operators to ensure we find the right balance for drivers and the environment. Liberals know the value of OHVs, both for recreation and the contribution made to ground search and rescue scenarios. As a government, we are always open to discussing changes to legislation and regulations, to make certain operators have the access they enjoy. We commit to further conversations with ATVANS and all OHV operators to make driving accessible, enjoyable and above all, safe.

2. Wilderness protected areas are having a greater impact on existing trail use by members and others. What would your party do to reduce or eliminate this impact, including practical changes that allow families to better participate in our sport within the first 2 years of your mandate?

Protecting our environment is important. We know there have been changes that have affected the OHV industry and we will continue to have constructive dialogue with stakeholders to allow riders to access, when it doesn't affect sensitive eco-systems. Liberals know that most often, OHV riders are the best caretakers of our environment. A re-elected Liberal Government will continue the great relationship formed between government and ATVANS to grow the OHV industry and increase ridership in Nova Scotia.

3. Government recently announced a two year pilot project to allow use of the shoulder of the road in certain and specific areas. Would our party continue this pilot program and what is your party's position on a permanent program that enable regulated use of the shoulder of the road in certain areas where trail connectivity or access to services are required?

Trail connectivity has long been an important issue, which is why we announced the pilot program to permit the use of the shoulder of the road. While the outcome of this pilot program is not yet known, we value the suggestions, concerns and comments from ATVANS and OHV riders. The Premier has always been a supporter of the industry, which is why a Liberal government initiated the pilot program in the first place. We will

need to see the results of the pilot program to ensure safety and responsible use of the shoulders of the road are exercised before moving forward with future programs.

4. ATVANS is the largest motorized sport organization in Nova Scotia. With over 40 clubs and over 4000 members we continue to grow and develop every year. Our sector contributes over 80% of the funds managed by the OHVIF yet we only have a single voice at the table where decisions are made that impact our clubs and organization. Would your party support a greater role for ATVANS at the decision table based partly on contribution to the fund by sector?

This is a great initiative and the Government of Nova Scotia relies on the knowledge and expertise at ATVANS to administer the fund. We appreciate the enormous task this is and the hard work done by your organization to manage and direct this fund. If elected, we welcome the opportunity to discuss this initiative further and would be in contact with your organization to examine it in greater detail.

5. ATVANS is the third largest ATV organization in Canada, only behind Quebec and New Brunswick. Both of these provinces have mandatory trail permits or membership on managed trails. This has enabled them to not only grow their sport but to also better manage activities. Would your party consider changes to the OHV act that would provide for mandatory trail permits on managed trails similar to the New Brunswick and Quebec model or models already used by another OHV sector in Nova Scotia within the first two years of your mandate?

The Liberal government has always been open to suggestions and changes that would better ATV riding in Nova Scotia. We recognize there is much work to do to provide the industry with the tools they need to grow riding in the province but have also worked a great deal with your organization during our mandate. A re-elected Liberal Government welcomes the opportunity to discuss further this issue further. Thousands of Nova Scotians enjoy responsible and safe ATV riding and we know the value the industry plays across the province.