

Peter Mellish

Executive Director, PEI ATV Federation

President, Canadian Quad Council 335 Poplar Ave Summerside, PEI C1N 2B7 generalmanager@ridepei.ca www.ridepei.ca

April 14, 2025

Mr Sean Casey

Liberal Party Candidate : Charlottetown Riding

Prince Edward Island

Subject: Support for a National Powersport Trail Strategy – A Call to Action for Canada's Outdoor Economy

Dear Sean,

On behalf of the PEI ATV Federation and the thousands of responsible motorized trail users across Prince Edward Island, I am writing to introduce a critical national initiative that deserves your attention as we approach the April 28th federal election.

Canada's powersport trail network is the only self-sustaining trail system generating consistent economic impact across rural communities—and it's time our federal policies reflected that reality.

As outlined in the recent joint campaign by the **Canadian Quad Council** and **Moto Canada**, we are calling on all federal candidates to support the creation of **Canada's First National Powersport Trail Strategy**, a plan rooted in equity, reinvestment, and recognition of motorized trail organizations as true partners in community development.

Powersport users—ATV, side-by-side, motorcycle, and snowmobile riders—contribute over **\$15 billion annually** to local economies, create and sustain over **100,000 jobs**, and foster year-round rural tourism and mental well-being. Despite this, powersport trails remain significantly underrepresented in national trail policy and funding.



We are asking for your commitment to:

- V Establish a National Powersport Trail Strategy, inclusive of all trail users
- Reinvest a **fair share of the taxes we generate** into sustainable trail systems
- Recognize powersport trail organizations as leaders in economic development and domestic tourism
- Provide motorized trail representatives **a seat at the table** in federal trail policy and funding decisions

This initiative is especially relevant to **Prince Edward Island**, where the provincial government has committed to developing a **Tip-to-Tip Signature ATV Trail**—a province-wide project that will connect communities and offer new tourism and economic opportunities.

We also see an urgent need for targeted infrastructure investment through the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA) to support regional trail development. Working with partners like QuadNB and ATVANS, and inspired by the success of Newfoundland's Trailway, we envision a coordinated strategy to establish Atlantic Canada as a premier powersport tourism destination. This vision would amplify the region's economic resilience, promote rural revitalization, and support year-round outdoor access.

We need a **champion in Ottawa** who will advocate for a **fair and inclusive national trail strategy**—one that recognizes the contributions of powersport users and ensures rural Canada is not left behind in trail funding and policy decisions.

We believe it's important for our members to be informed about where their local candidates stand on this issue. We plan to share your response with our **5,000+riders**, **volunteers**, **and supporters across PEI** so they can make an informed decision on election day.



I would also welcome the opportunity to meet with you at your convenience — anywhere that works best for your schedule—to speak directly about the value our trails bring to rural communities and to show our members that you support this important initiative.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Together, we can help ensure powersport trails are part of a stronger, more connected Canada.

Sincerely,

Peter Mellish

Executive Director, PEI ATV Federation President, Canadian Quad Council generalmanager@ridepei.ca 902-439-9228 www.ridepei.ca