

## **ALGONQUIN TRAIL RENFREW BRAESIDE REPORT MAY 2020**

**MUNICIPALITIES: Town of Renfrew, Twp Horton, Twp McNab/Braeside**

### **PREPARED BY OVCATA**

Saturday May 23 late morning this report covers Algonquin Trail from the Algonquin/K&P Trails near the Bonnechere River bridge in Renfrew to Usborne St in Braeside on Algonquin Trail (25 km, and return).

The weather was great for getting out with 25 deg temperature, slightly cloudy with strong winds developing for the ride home.

The following trail participants were manually counted:

7 walkers 12%

31 cyclists 56%

17 atvers (mostly side by sides) 31%

2 trail bikes without a licence plate and 1 plated motorcycle.

**TOTAL users 58**

### **TRAIL CONDITION**

The trail surface was hard and smooth. At several gravel roads crossing the trail motorized vehicles have created ruts.

With the recent dry weather, slight dust was encountered when motorized vehicles passed by as the atvers slowed down considerably. When complaints are received by the County of Renfrew their staff apply calcium after a rainfall event.

Thru rural areas 50 km/hr speed signs, 25km/hr and 20 km/hr speed signs are posted thru residential areas were observed as well as trail rules signs. In the Sand Point area a working digital speed radar has been set up.

A cycle counter has been installed near Usborne St by Discovery Routes Trails Organization and will remain there until late October.

### **COMPLAINTS**

The few people on the trail spoken to had no complaints.

PICTURES – solar powered speed radar device



## RECOMMENDATIONS

Suggested improvements that apply to the Algonquin Trail in the **Town of Renfrew** are as follows:

1. All street crossings appear to be unsafe. A review of all crossings is suggested with consideration for safe crossing of pedestrians and cyclists of all ages.
2. Crushed limestone material is required to complete the surface of the trail between Hall Ave and the K&P trail connection.
3. The Hall Ave west sidewalk requires a dropped curb for safe access from the paved street to the Trail.
4. Place Garbage and recycle containers in convenient locations.

### WISH LIST

1. Designated parking and access to trail for trailer and vehicles transporting atvs and for out of town vehicles transporting bicycles.
2. Shelter and washroom facilities are suggested preferably near the parking area.
3. Wayfinding boards having downtown attractions and local commercial outlet locations, events and trail wayfinding map.
4. Enhance trail access parking and washrooms with landscaping vegetation, flowers, shrubs etc.
5. Posted distance markers along Algonquin Trail. Former CPR had mileage markers posted with starting point being in Smiths Falls.

Suggested improvements that apply to the Algonquin Trail in the **Townships of Horton and McNab Braeside** are as follows:

1. Most road crossings are unsafe in reference to crossing visibility.
2. Place Garbage and recycle containers in convenient locations.

### WISH LIST

1. Designated parking and access to trail for trailer and vehicles transporting atvs and for out of town vehicles transporting bicycles.
2. Shelter, rest and washroom facilities are suggested preferably near the parking area.
3. Wayfinding boards having downtown attractions and local commercial outlet locations, events and trail wayfinding map.
4. Enhance trail access parking, rest areas and washrooms with landscaping vegetation, flowers, shrubs etc.
5. Post intersecting road name signs and distance markers along Algonquin Trail. (Former CPR had mileage markers posted every mile with starting point being in Smiths Falls.)
6. Points of interest need to be identified.