

Soyers Lake Ratepayers' Association

Township of Minden Hills
7 Milne Street
PO Box 359
Minden, Ontario
K0M 2K0

Attn: Brent Devolin, Mayor, Township of Minden Hills
Kevin Hill, Road Superintendent

Friday, October 30, 2020

Subject: **Road Conditions;** Roads around Soyers Lake.

Gentlemen,

Soyers Lake Ratepayers Association Inc. represents over two hundred property owners, both cottagers and year round residents on Soyers Lake. We, their representatives, have been asked to bring to your attention the poor condition of sections of the paved roads surrounding Soyers Lake. (While the worst problems are on Soyers Lake Road, the other tributary roads and Blairhampton Road would also benefit from your attention.) There are multiple concerns including safety and potential liability that may arise.

Roads are unsafe for two way traffic. Road users have been observed to drive on the wrong side of the road to miss the raised, uneven road surface and potholes. These road conditions endanger the safety of all users. Some areas require road bed reconstruction, others require smoothing of the surface.

Several years ago, at the SLRA annual meeting we were advised by Mayor Devolin that the Minden Roads Department was experimenting with different materials and surfacing equipment to make road repairs smooth. He also added that repairs will be durable, not just temporary fixes. As the attached photos illustrate, we have not seen the benefits of these commitments. The asphalt is crumbling and badly deteriorated. Regrettably, two dimensional photographs don't show the three dimensional unevenness of the surfaces.

Road repairs when made tend to be late, at the end of the summer season, and "repairs" entail overfilling of potholes without any attempt to create a smooth surface, thereby replacing holes with bumps.

Smooth roads decrease accidents and personal injury, improve the safety of emergency vehicles which may need to insert needles during transport, decrease wear and tear on vehicles, improve the pleasure of driving and cycling, (tourism), and overall improve property values and tax base.

Please inspect and assess our roads with attention to addressing our residents' concerns.

Please advise us what we can expect with respect to timely (early in the season), smooth repair of uneven surfaces and overall improvements to our roads around Soyars Lake.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

Greg Freeman
Acting President of Soyars Lake Ratepayers' Association



