

# BMX way to be active

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"This is a pile of dirt on a man's land who wants to help amateur sport," she said.

The OCA would like to see the track reopen and be used for a weekly race series for kids and an annual provincial series, said Pearson.

She stressed BMX bikes are non-motorized and provide a great way for kids to become more active, fit and spend time with their families.

Megan Krueger of Halton Place said, "The family and the Ontario Cycling Association are leading the effort to keep the track alive. We as Halton Place are supporting their efforts."

Krueger said the provincial government is encouraging children and adults to become more active and the BMX track at Halton Place provides a great opportunity for that.

She added the track "is a way to keep them (BMX cyclists) out of the natural landscape."

When asked why Halton Place didn't apply for a permit for the track, Krueger said, "It's not always clear what an agricultural landowner is able to do or not allowed to do." She said they believed the track was no different than a riding rink.

Krueger said their intention, if the family continues to want the track to remain, is to apply for a Niagara Escarpment Plan Amendment to permit the track.


NEC planner David Johnston said NEC staff doesn't believe a BMX track is related to an equestrian or agricultural use and staff wouldn't have recommended approval of the track if an application for a permit had come in, however, the decision would have been up to the NEC. In a staff report written by Johnston and accepted by the NEC at its April 17 meeting, it's stated the commission isn't prepared to deal with the development permit application for an addition to the existing residence at Halton Place until the BMX bike track issue is resolved to its satisfaction.

Johnston said the NEC has said, "Enough's enough."


"It's out there without a permit. It's a concern to the neighbours, it's a concern to the Niagara Escarpment Commission. Let's do something about it," said Johnston.

The report also says the NEC wouldn't object to the installation of a memorial cairn or other marker after the track is taken down and the site rehabilitated.

The report also recommends approval of Halton Place's application for six equestrian events at the farm this summer, subject to several conditions, including site plan approval from the Town of Halton Hills, before a development permit is issued and prior to any of the events being held.




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