

# **Presentation to The Bruce County Planning Committee In Kincardine Ontario**

Prepared by Inverhuron and District Ratepayers Association  
March 14, 2007.

## **Introduction**

This presentation is in response to a notice concerning a Bruce County Planning Board recommendation to Kincardine Council that Victoria Street in the village of Inverhuron be linked with Upper Lorne Beach Road.

The Inverhuron and District Ratepayers Association is a not-for-profit volunteer community organization that has 50 year operating history in the unincorporated village of Inverhuron, Ontario.

## **IDRA Recommendation**

The Inverhuron and District Ratepayers Association (IDRA) today is asking Kincardine Council for two Recommendations

### **Recommendation 1.1**

That the Kincardine Council at this time not approve that portion of the County Planning Board recommendation “to link Victoria Street with Upper Lorne Beach Road”.

### **Recommendation 1.2**

That Kincardine Council undertake a thorough review of traffic patterns that currently exist in the community of Inverhuron and the impact that might occur with the proposed Victoria Street / Lorne beach linkage.

These traffic issues relate to both existing traffic to and from – The Bruce Plant, The Provincial Park. The Bruce Energy Centre and the proposed low and intermediate waste facility.

## **Rationale for the IDRA Recommendation**

### **Recommendation 1.1**

## **That Kincardine Council not approve the extension of Victoria Street with Upper Lorne Beach Road.**

- Limitations of the County Planning Board Recommendation.

The Planning Board Recommendation was limited in its scale to the proposed 24 lot development. Its boundaries were inclusive to limited size of this development. ( see letter D Threndyle to David Smith)

- The County Planning Board Recommendation was made without any traffic study what so ever.

The County Planning Board Recommendation did not require a traffic study of any kind as the scale of the recommendation was limited to 24 lots. The County Planning Board did not take into account the impact of this link either within the Inverhuron/ Kinhuron Communities or in the Inverhuron Community by commuters and vacationers to and from points south of Inverhuron and the above mentioned destinations located north of the community.

Technically, the County Planning Board is following its development guidelines and in many instances a development of this size could be approved without a traffic study.

The residents of Inverhuron and this ratepayers association believe that the scale of this recommendation is significantly more than the impact of 24 lots to the existing community.

This is why we are asking for a traffic study so that this can be analyzed in a thorough and well thought out manner.

## **Recommendation 1.2**

### **That Kincardine Council undertake a thorough review of traffic patterns that currently exist in the community of Inverhuron and the impact that might occur with the proposed Victoria Street / Lorne Beach linkage.**

- The Current Road system in Inverhuron (at times) can not safely or adequately handle existing traffic volumes.

The major arterial Inverhuron Roads were surveyed and staked out 150 years ago when the community was founded. The 1000 acre -1.25 mile square section was basis of community development.

Since the 1850's Inverhuron has become both a seasonal cottage community and a residential community. Cars were invented.

Added to the mix is now - Bruce Power a large industrial Facility - The Provincial Park which attracts a new type of camper - The Bruce Energy Centre - A future waste facility

By 2007, the early pioneer survey trails, now known as Bruce Road 15 and Albert Road have become commuter roads to and from the above facilities.

Mixed into this traffic are more and more full and part-time residents, vacationers, children, walkers, joggers, dog walkers and bicycles riders who also use these roads.

Safety becomes an issue as there are no sidewalks on either if these two roads.

- A belief that Lorne Beach and Victoria Streets will become a Short Cut between the communities south of Inverhuron and the major destinations to the north.

The accompanying map of the area clearly shows that the shortest route between Kincardine and the major destinations north of the village is a route along the proposed linked road. We do not know how many vehicles currently use the B-Line (Bruce Road 23) and how many drivers would take advantage of a shorter 2 kilometre drive via Victoria Street and Upper Lorne Beach Road.

All of this traffic destined for the above mentioned destinations could flow through an Upper Lorne Beach Road / Victoria Street / Albert Road corridor.

- Victoria Street and Safety Issues

The IDRA members question if Victoria Street can remain safe if its traffic volume were to increase.

Like other streets in the area, this street serves vehicular and pedestrian needs. There are no sidewalks. There are a few sudden turns and hidden driveways. Along the 2.75 kilometre roadway.

Can Victoria Street remain safe for walkers, joggers, bicycles riders and resident vehicle ratepayers who currently use this road?

- Social and Historical Considerations

For 150 years, Inverhuron has existed as a community at the end of the road. Our survey shows that 88% of the home owner respondents did not agree with the County Planning Board Recommendation.

If it is a good decision to link these roads, then we will need to know why this linkage will positively benefit our community.

- An Inverhuron Traffic Study can complement the current Highway 21 upgrades.

The province recognizes that Highway 21 is in need of repair and is making the necessary steps to improve summer and winter driving conditions. As a provincial roadway Highway 21 should be the route of choice for people travelling to and from the Bruce Point destinations.

We do not believe that Bruce road 15 or Albert Road should be major arterial roads servicing the province's Parks, Electrical Generation facilities and Nuclear waste facilities.

## Conclusions and Summaries

The Inverhuron residents are asking council to change one portion of this development recommendation. We have no issue with the balance of the development

We are also asking that Council at this time initiate a traffic study of the Inverhuron region so that Inverhuron remains a safe community for all of its residents.

In doing so, the traffic issues in the Inverhuron region can be addressed and resolved in a long term solution.

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