



MIRAMICHI



Hon. Paul Dawson
Minister of Social Assistance
249 Dalton Avenue
Newcastle, N. B.

16 April 1986

Dear Mr. Dawson:

I am writing to you on behalf of the members of the Miramichi Cross Country Ski Club to request your assistance in obtaining a tunnel under McKinnon Road to allow skiers access to club trails without having to cross the road.

McKinnon Road was opened to traffic during this past ski season and has presented numerous problems for the safe operation of the club. The most serious problems are as follows:

- because of the downhill incline when returning to the club skiers are not always able to stop and there have been a couple of close calls already with vehicles travelling the road. One elderly member of the club broke her hip as a result of falling onto the road.
- CSA standards will not allow the club to hold a provincial race, such as the Fraser Cup, where skiers must cross a road. (The club constructed a five kilometer race circuit of provincial standards in 1985 with the help of a federal grant.)
- because of the difficulty and danger of crossing the road many members choose not to go to the club, and instead, drive elsewhere to ski. This is seriously affecting the membership and the viability of the club.

A few years ago the Charlo ski club was faced with the same problem when the bypass cut through their main trail. A tunnel was placed under the road to allow skiers to pass and it has worked very well. We are hoping that the same may be possible at the Miramichi Club.

We would appreciate any assistance you can provide in this matter as the future of the ski club at this location depends on our ability in solving the problem.

Yours truly,

Norman Brown
Norman Brown
Publicity Chairman

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