

Friends of the Pretty River Valley

Good afternoon to the Committee of the Whole Meeting. My name is Bryan Pady, and I'm a proud resident of Gibraltar – my address is [REDACTED] 6th side road – we are on the south side of the road between the proposed pit expansion and the only stop sign in town. Our driveway is 30 feet long and our home is 40 feet from the road. My wife Heather and I bought our house in 2007, and we've since had two kids, [REDACTED]

When we bought our house, we were well aware of the two active pits in Gibraltar. Our budget was small and we had no kids, our priority was proximity to Collingwood while still being in the country, we are active people, we ski, we bike, we hike, we like nature. Since having our kids, we find ourselves looking for creative ways to burn energy and be outside. I blame my wife's side of the family. When we were going through the pros and cons of buying in Gibraltar, the quarry was a big concern but the proximity to the Pretty River Valley, 3 Stage Mountain Biking & the Bruce Trail at the end of our road made our decision easy.

I've worked as a sales agent for the past 20 years, I have represented brands that are committed to the environment, consumers growing interest in the outdoor lifestyle and all that it celebrates. I've been fortunate enough to travel extensively with my job, it has taken me to places like Whistler & Tremblant, and a long list of coastal and resort towns in the US. Many of these towns have developed responsibly and appeal to tourists while providing opportunities for residents, year round and seasonally. Collingwood and the Town of Blue Mountains is the outdoor mecca of Ontario, we have incredible skiing, the best biking...mountain/road/gravel, we have the Bruce Trail and all on the shores of the amazing Georgian Bay. This area is rich in natural beauty and we are all incredibly fortunate to have such a bounty to enjoy.

Having said all that, I'm for gravel, I'm for roads and I'm for development. I'm also about balance. Gibraltar has 3 active pits, Bates with 2 and now the Gibraltar Sand and Gravel pit has started hauling again after a short hiatus. Last summer was the busiest I've ever seen, our road turned into a hauling highway, we had trucks going past at a high rate of 5 trucks a minute and slow rate of 2 trucks a minute.....try to imagine that. This isn't a highway, this is a residential hamlet with people, kids and pets. Try to picture our porch, spans the 40 feet away, and finally imagine with two kids riding bikes around in perpetual motion. Now I'm selfishly painting a picture of my own, I want to take a minute and talk about Grey road 19. Being a cyclist, Grey road 19 is a known treasure, even non cyclists no Grey Road 19.....the main artery going over the mountain. Two years ago, 19 was resurfaced and some additional space was added to make room for cyclists. Watching our two worlds exist on this highway is terrifying, it's terrifying driving and watching others on bikes steer clear of the trucks and it's terrifying being on a bike and being passed by a truck doing 90kms - 2017 was outrageous with the cadence of trucksbikes and trucks are a bad mix....we all know that.

Question: What is going to happen if you add more trucks to our roads, you can't stop the swell of cyclists from coming?

"You can't suck and blow at the same time" this expression is used a lot in my business, brands who are looking to grow too quickly and want to sustain rapid growth for a long time can be accused of this. Try it... it's not possible, or I've yet to see it anyway. In my opinion we are trying to suck and blow at the same time.....we want tourism, we want hiking and biking, the best of that is in the PRV.....but we also want to expand a quarry to border on the Park boundary. With the Bates 2 pits, the current size Gibraltar Sand and Gravel pit and the expanded monster quarry in Duntroon.....do we not have enough to sustain our roads and infrastructure goals for the future?

Water:

Home Value:

Recapping - Collingwood should be the next Tremblant or Whistler