



Township of North Kawartha
Carolyn Amyotte, Mayor
mayor@nothkawartha.ca
280 Burleigh Street, PO Box 550, Apsley, ON K0L 1A0
Tel: 705-931-1342 | Fax: 705-656-4446
www.northkawartha.ca

November 5, 2024

Dear Mayor,

I am reaching out to you on an important issue as you are one of 11 different municipalities that has Highway 28 within its' boundaries. For many years, I have been advocating for greater safety on this provincial roadway, and I am now asking my fellow Mayors to join in this advocacy work. I have sent you a letter that was approved at my November 5, 2024 Council meeting to be circulated to all of you. I ask that you please consider placing this on your next Council meeting agenda for consideration and endorsement. My hope is that you would pass a resolution of support that would be included with this letter and sent to the Minister of Transportation. Please share your MPP contact so we can copy them as well.

I will be attending ROMA this coming January and am requesting a delegation to speak to the Minister on this matter. If you will be attending ROMA and would like to join our delegation please let me know by Nov 25, 2024 and I will be sure to include you in the delegate list.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter in more detail please feel free to call or email me anytime. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carolyn Amyotte". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light grey background.

Carolyn Amyotte
Mayor of North Kawartha



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Honourable Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria
Minister of Transportation
Ministry of Transportation
5th Floor, 777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 1Z8

November 5, 2024

Dear Honourable Minister Sarkaria,

As Mayor of the Township of North Kawartha, I am reaching out to you on behalf of the Highway 28 Mayors Coalition. The Mayors of Highway 28 have come together to advocate for greater safety on this provincial highway. Highway 28 is a primary access route for millions of people to the cottage country regions of Central and Eastern Ontario. Over the past several years, the communities of our region have seen a rise in accidents and fatalities along this major roadway.

Since I became Mayor in 2018, North Kawartha has worked tirelessly to advocate for great safety on Highway 28. We have gathered regional data on motor vehicle collisions on Highway 28 in North Kawartha. Our Township worked with the OPP and the MTO to designate Community Safety Zones (2022) along two sections of the highway where we have seen a great number of collisions and fatalities. In 2020, we started collecting data on the traffic speeds and volumes on Highway 28 in various locations throughout our Township, during all seasons. I also worked with the Peterborough County OPP Detachment Commander Chris Galeazza to create a public service announcement titled 'Staying Safe on 28!' You can find this video here: <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=2191585030972853>

However, North Kawartha is not the only municipality impacted by this provincial highway. This past summer, the collisions, accidents and tragically, several fatalities that occurred on Highway 28 beyond our own municipal boundaries, made it clear that North Kawartha cannot address the issue of safety on Highway 28 alone. Highway 28 is approximately 160km long, is under the jurisdiction of five OPP detachments and travels through the following municipalities:

- Otonabee/South Monaghan
- Douro-Dummer
- Selwyn
- Trent Lakes
- North Kawartha
- Highlands East
- Faraday



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- Bancroft
- Carlow/Mayo
- Brundell, Lyndock and Raglan
- Addington Highlands

All of our communities are greatly impacted by what happens on this highway. Every wildlife strike, single vehicle accident or multi vehicle collision is a life-changing event for everyone involved. It not only impacts the accident victims, but our volunteer firefighters who are typically first on the scene for these accidents. It affects other first responders like our OPP and Paramedics who find themselves dealing with accidents in the same sections of this highway over and over again. It negatively affects the residents who live along the detour routes where thousands of vehicles are redirected each time an accident occurs. This redirection of traffic puts much greater stress on our County and Municipal road infrastructure, as these lower tier roads are not designed to handle the traffic volumes and types that Highway 28 handles. For many folks and visitors during these past few years, driving Highway 28 can be an anxiety-filled, 'white knuckle' experience.

The Mayors of Highway 28 would like to work with you and your Ministry to address these matters and concerns. We would like to request a comprehensive safety review of Highway 28. While we recognize that Highway 28 is a well-designed and well-maintained roadway which moves high volumes of traffic at high speeds, we must acknowledge that there is a disconnect between the good design of the road and the incidents of accidents and fatalities that occur on it. Many factors have changed since Highway 28 was first constructed and we believe that by working together we can find ways to reduce accidents and improve public safety on it.

The Mayors of Highway 28 would be happy to meet with you to discuss this matter in further detail. We all have a vested interest in making Highway 28 as safe as possible for everyone.

Sincerely,

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Carolyn Amyotte
Mayor of North Kawartha