



**OFATV**  
Ontario Federation of All Terrain Vehicle Clubs

# MEDIA RELEASE

**- For Immediate Release -**

## **Upon the completion of a 2 day strategy meeting OFATV Board of Directors announces official position**

**(Barrie, Ontario November 9, 2011)** – With the end of another business year quickly coming to a close, the OFATV board of directors met in Barrie the last weekend in October for a two day strategy meeting to solidify the future of the OFATV in 2012 and beyond, as the provincial voice for ATVing in Ontario.

During the summit the OFATV defined its position on the consolidation of the provincial ATV groups:

- ATVing in Ontario needs to be represented by **ONE VOICE** to act on the ATVers behalf to government, industry leaders, and to the public at large; as a world class trail network will require more resources than member support alone.
- ATVing in Ontario needs to have **ONE PERMIT** allowing ATVers to freely access all organized provincial ATV trails without confusion.
- ATVing in Ontario needs to have **ONE ORGANISATION** with fair representation empowering a volunteer board of directors to make decisions based on what is best for ATVing in Ontario.

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This past Sunday results from a provincial consolidation committee meeting required the OFATV to proclaim a further steadfast position:

After four years, and three whole hearted attempts to find a solution that will bring the fractured ATV organizations of Ontario together as one, the OFATV finds itself **alone** in the plight to create **ONE ORGANIZATION** with **ONE PASS** and **ONE VOICE**.

The representatives of the organizations have once again reached a stalemate and have voted against moving in to a new, all encompassing, single permit federation, against all pleas from the OFATV representatives. While they seemingly still wish to move ahead with a continued committee structure, as yet another layer of beaurocracy to represent the ATVers to government, the OFATV has instead decided to carry on and follow our mandate; **To be the lead "voice" on ALL interests affecting ATV riders in the Province of Ontario**, with the clear understanding that ATVing does not need yet another layer to do the job that OFATV has already been performing for the past 12 years.

With this statement comes an open invitation to all clubs, and club members to learn about what the OFATV is, does, and stands for. In the recent months the OFATV has created a number of committees to rework important structures such as bylaws and membership permits, with a focus on province wide acceptance. OFATV President Bruce Murphy has said *"This has been a long struggle, but is not entirely fruitless. We have learned so much about the unique needs of the other organizations, and wish all ATVers to know that our DOOR is OPEN, and that the OFATV can, and will be, what we all make of it."*

The OFATV views this as a new beginning, as it moves into this next era of building the provincial federation up to new heights and meeting the needs of ATVing in all of Ontario.

**For further information, please contact the OFATV office at: 705 797-0797**