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Liberal MHA Calls for Changes to ATV Regulations



The MHA for Port de Grave is upset there have not been changes in ATV regulations. Roland Butler is urging the provincial government to speed up the review process to help mitigate the problem of ATV accidents. Butler was responding to the fact that there have already been six fatal ATV crashes this year alone, the most recent claiming the life of a 31 year-old man near Lethbridge over the weekend. Butler says Government Services Minister Kevin O'Brien asked for a review of the policy surrounding ATV use back in 2007, and three years later the issue remains in government limbo. Butler says the health and safety of Newfoundlanders and Labradorians has to become more of a concern for government, including the ATV regulations and the issue of moose-vehicle accidents.

The Environment Department says it is waiting to hear from Conception Bay South on the the T'Railway issue. Minister Charlene Johnson says the province has funded the initial work towards creating a bypass route for ATVs to get them away from the town's streets and turn the existing section into a non-motorized trail area. Johnson says she is expecting to hear from the town soon. CBS Mayor Woody French says they have been working with the Environment Department but are waiting on ministerial approval to get the situation under control. He says the town is waiting to hear from the Minister on the issue of banning ATV traffic in certain areas of the town. French says although the town owns the sidewalks, the province owns the trail land and the right to

enforce any ban is one that has to be legislated.