



# On the Trail

## SATVA Newsletter

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*Volume 3, Issue #1, January 2015*

### 2014 – Year in Review

Overall 2014 was good year for ATV (which includes quads and side by sides) enthusiasts. Spring was a bit wet which caused some issues with the rallies, but most rallies were held and everyone attending had a good time. A late fall and reasonable weather also meant the riding season was extended into November and low snowfall made it possible for many riders to continue riding into the winter months.



The safety situation in Saskatchewan improved from 2013 with a major reduction in fatalities. Unfortunately we still saw 5 people die as a result of ATV accidents. This was down from 8 deaths in 2013. Not wearing a helmet and/or alcohol played a major factor in these fatalities. In two of the accidents, having a second rider on a one up quad was identified as a

cause. Five deaths is still way too many and our goal is to have no deaths or serious injuries this year. SATVA ran an awareness campaign in 2014 dealing with the importance of wearing helmets and we feel this raised significant awareness to this issue. We also encourage all riders, especially those new to ATV'ing to take training. Quads and side by sides have a different dynamic than any other vehicle and it is critical to ensure that the rider understands how the machine will operate and react to the terrain and obstacles.

Although we were unable to convince government to move on ATV registration and other safety concerns we addressed, we are at least keeping the dialogue going. At our last meeting with Minister McMorris (who is responsible for SGI), he was up front and honest with us in stating that there wasn't enough support in the Sask Party caucus for ATV registration. He suggested that we need to be more active in contacting our MLA's and discussing ATV issues with them. This is where you can help. Please talk with you MLA about ATV issues. It is important that they know your concerns. They are your representative in government.



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In the upcoming year, SATVA will continue to work to improve rider safety and opportunities for ATV riders in the province. We will be attending a meeting with Moose Mountain Park officials in the near future to ensure that the ATV trails stay open in the park and offer any assistance we can.

### Membership

Club memberships are due for 2015 and shortly clubs will be getting notices to that effect. Our member clubs are the backbone of the association. We need your support in order to be successful. We are working on an option to allow members to join their respective club online using our website. We hope this will help with some of the administrative burden on the clubs. If you're interested in forming a club please contact me.

The poster features a red header with the following text and logos: "909 INJURIES • 50 DEATHS" (in Saskatchewan since 2000-08) and "(in Saskatchewan since 2000)". Logos for "Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation" and "SG LOTTERIES" are also present. Below the header are two photographs: one of a yellow and black utility vehicle stuck in tall grass with two people standing nearby, and another of three people riding ATVs on a trail. The bottom section has a yellow background with the text "Don't become an ATV statistic..." and "WEAR A HELMET" in large red letters. The SATVA logo is in the bottom right corner.



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### Rallies

In a few short months we'll start to see ATV rallies being posted around the province. Sask Hardcore ATV forums <http://saskhardcoreatv.proboards.com/> does a good job of recording these and has an interactive map on where the rallies are being held.

### Dealer/Manufacture Members

A number of ATV dealers are members of SATVA, along with several of their dealers. Check the SATVA website for their names and locations. Their support is greatly appreciated.



The dynamic is changing somewhat in the ATV market place. Many of our dealer members are telling us that side by side sales are either matching or exceeding quad sales. This is evident at many of the rallies where side by sides are becoming more and more present. None the less they still require a skill set to safely operate and helmet use is important and is a legal requirement with both quads and side by sides.



### CASI ATV Training



As always we'd like to remind riders that Saskatchewan has 6 certified CASI ATV instructors in the province. ATV training is required, by law, for anyone 12 to 15 years old (and anyone who doesn't have a driver's license), when operating on public property. As well this training is valuable for anyone to improve their safety and riding skills. To sign up for an ATV Safety Course, visit [www.satva.ca](http://www.satva.ca) where you'll find a link on the main page to register online.

### Discounts

Don't forget as a SATVA member you are offered a 10% discount on personal ATV Insurance through OASIS insurance, and a 10% discount on purchases at Mark's Work Warehouse. We will continue to explore more opportunities to help our members with savings.

### Social Media

SATVA's social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter offer ATV users a quick reference to things that are happening in the ATV world. We try to keep the sites updated with the most current information. Please take a moment to check out our sites and provide comments.

**Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/175643119160177/>



**Twitter** <https://twitter.com/InfoSatva>





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As always I welcome your comments, suggestions and am willing to debate the issues with you. Contact me directly by email at [info@satva.ca](mailto:info@satva.ca), or comment on our Facebook group. We also follow the Saskatchewan ATV Hardcore forums so feel free to voice your opinions there as well.

*John*

John Meed, General Manager/Newsletter Editor



Courtesy of Sask Trail Riders



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*'Ride Safe. Wear your Helmet,  
and Don't Drink and Quad'*

*Thanks to our Sponsors*

