

December 8, 2021

Mr. J. Fernandez, Chief Administrative Officer
and Members of Lake Cowichan Town Council

Re: Traffic usage on Oak Lane, Lake Cowichan

With the construction of the Gas 'N Go, the traffic flow on our "lane" has changed since we purchased our home 3 years ago. Once a very quiet street, we now see semi trucks, delivery trucks, and many more trucks pulling large boats or RV's. Some of this traffic increase is a direct result of the mini mall at Neva and South Shore.

Oak Lane is very narrow - not at all like Neva or Macdonald. We have no sidewalks, so people with small children walk on the roadway and the kids ride their bikes on the roadway.

Our concern is for not only the safety of the people on the "lane" but also for the crumbling of our "lane." While some potholes were filled in the summer of 2021, there are others. The "lane" condition has deteriorated over the past few years.

Semi trucks and large delivery trucks do not belong on Oak Lane (which is not a street at all). There should be no commercial traffic on Oak Lane, but there is no signage to that effect. Commercial drivers come out of the Coop gas station, turn up Macdonald and right onto Oak Lane to exit on Neva to the Youbou area of the highway. Commercial drivers often park on the street in front of the Lake Cowichan Lumber Store (Irly's) and in order to turn around, they come up Neva and turn onto Oak Lane and then Macdonald to get back onto the South Shore.

With the possible potential of another laneway (back of the lumber store onto Macdonald, via a side yard), our concerns are that a "truck loop" potential is there for yet more commercial traffic on Oak Lane.

Something must be done about this safety issue. It is deteriorating our "lane" and deteriorating our quality of living in a safe neighborhood having only residential traffic (and service trucks providing a service to a residence on Oak Lane).

Nadine Reeves & David Taylor

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