



Rideau Lakes

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Highway 15 speeding in Lombardy addressed with new Community Safety Zone

Chantry, Ontario, May 3, 2022 – Drivers along Highway 15 in Lombardy take note – a new Community Safety Zone (CSZ) has been implemented. The CSZ means that fines for speeding and related offences are doubled under the Highway Traffic Act.

Rideau Lakes has been working in partnership with the Upper Canada District School Board, and with the support of the Lombardy Public School Parent Council, Lombardy Agricultural Society, Blessed Sacrament Church, the East Region Ministry of Transportation, and the Rideau Lakes O.P.P. Detachment to get the CSZ established.

The CSZ stretches from 200m north of Kellys Road to 500m south of County Road 1. This segment of Highway 15 is home to the Lombardy Public School, the Lombardy Agricultural Society, the Blessed Sacrament Church, the offset 'T' intersection of County Road 1 and a number of farms, homes and businesses. The segment has witnessed a number of accidents in the last few years, including a six-vehicle collision in 2019 that sent 7 people to hospital. Many in the area also reported numerous 'near misses'.

The CSZ also supports the Township's ongoing efforts to better define the Lombardy area as a *settlement area*. Long-term planning suggests the area will host future commercial and residential development as an extension of the popular Bay Road and Golf Club Road areas. While outside the CSZ, the Township's recently-opened library branch as a part of the wider community hub plan at the Ronald E Holman Municipal Complex, which will eventually include a family-focused recreation area, further recognizes this objective and reality.

The CSZ also affirms Rideau Lakes' commitment to road safety and speed reduction. It follows on other initiatives such as the procurement and deployment of a mobile speed radar detector and sign, enhanced coordination and communication with the Rideau Lakes O.P.P. detachment, the posting of rural roads at 60km/h, and the restriction of heavy trucks on Golf Club Road.

Mayor Hoogenboom remarked, "The Lombardy Community Safety Zone will act as an important deterrent to unsafe driving on Highway 15 in Lombardy. We applaud the Rideau Lakes O.P.P. detachment for their diligent work to implement the zone. It stands as another example of Council's commitment to road safety and community building. I would like to thank all our community partners that helped make the CSZ possible."

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