

Tasha Buchanan

Subject: Highways and traffic.

From: mark and diana bergey <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, March 3, 2023 7:25 AM
To: Inquiry <inquiry@barriere.ca>
Subject: Highways and traffic.

Good morning to all,

I wish to applaud Honorable Mayor Stamer and council for their heartfelt efforts in the ongoing traffic issues plaguing the local people. As a Kamloops commercial driver, I wish to offer a few points and comment on what I believe are some reasons and a couple of possible resolutions which may be worthy for your consideration.

First, as a local commercial driver, I do see speeding Commercial trucks everyday. It really bothers me that there are so many transport trucks operating this way. I believe the vast amount of these units are not from this area. Variable speed corridors won't stop any vehicle who intentionally speeds.

For this problem, I suggest bringing in a program of " Mobile Photo Radar units". This can be labelled a special program, a temporary program with funding from many arms of government as well as other vested companies. Operating these mobile units, would be persons with the ability to setup and move the equipment to different locations. As well, they would be mandated to report violators that speed over a prearranged limit directly to CVSE or RCMP, so that they can respond face to face with the driver. This would also allow them to further investigate reasons why violation has occurred, check log books etc.,. The people operating the radar need not be RCMP or CVSE, thus creating jobs and not taking officers away from other duties. Soon the word will spread to outside traffic locations and speed limits will be respected.

So why are so many people speeding on this route?

First, the pipeline project is a main issue. As you know, the amount of traffic control locations from Valemont to Barriere is excessive. A loaded Commercial Unit takes time to get up to posted speed limits as well as slowing down for controls. With posted construction slow down signage every few kilometers, it's extremely difficult for smaller traffic to pass, or get around the commercial traffic. Thus causing impatience, frustrations to smaller vehicles that accelerate much quicker and make poor passing decisions. Also of concern are the construction slow downs that have no activity, further adding to the frustration of drivers.

So my suggestion for this issue would be to ask or demand SMJV or TMP to alternate the sites. Odd days - odd sites, even days- even sites, and so on. The work is slowing down, so they should have no issue spreading out the delays. This is a manageable idea. It would allow traffic flow to be smoother and less frustrating taking away a lot of the urgency feeling of making miles. It may also allow the public to make better driving decisions, such as passing or tailgating. It may also help the new ELD enforcement for the commercials from out of province or lower mainland not feel so pressured to arriving safely.

Second concern I see is TMP workers from Alberta aggressively driving. I know that some employees start out after a long shift in a hurry to get home to make the most of their time off. As well they speed back to start their shift. This behaviour needs to be addressed by the employer. I'm curious if the Alberta driver in the latest accident is an employee, direct or indirect of the pipeline project.

A Mobile Photo Radar would also help this corridor in this type of situation. I believe it would save lives. It could also be an "experiment" with data collected which would further help address other causes.

Thank you for your time.

Mark Bergey

1 250 [REDACTED]