

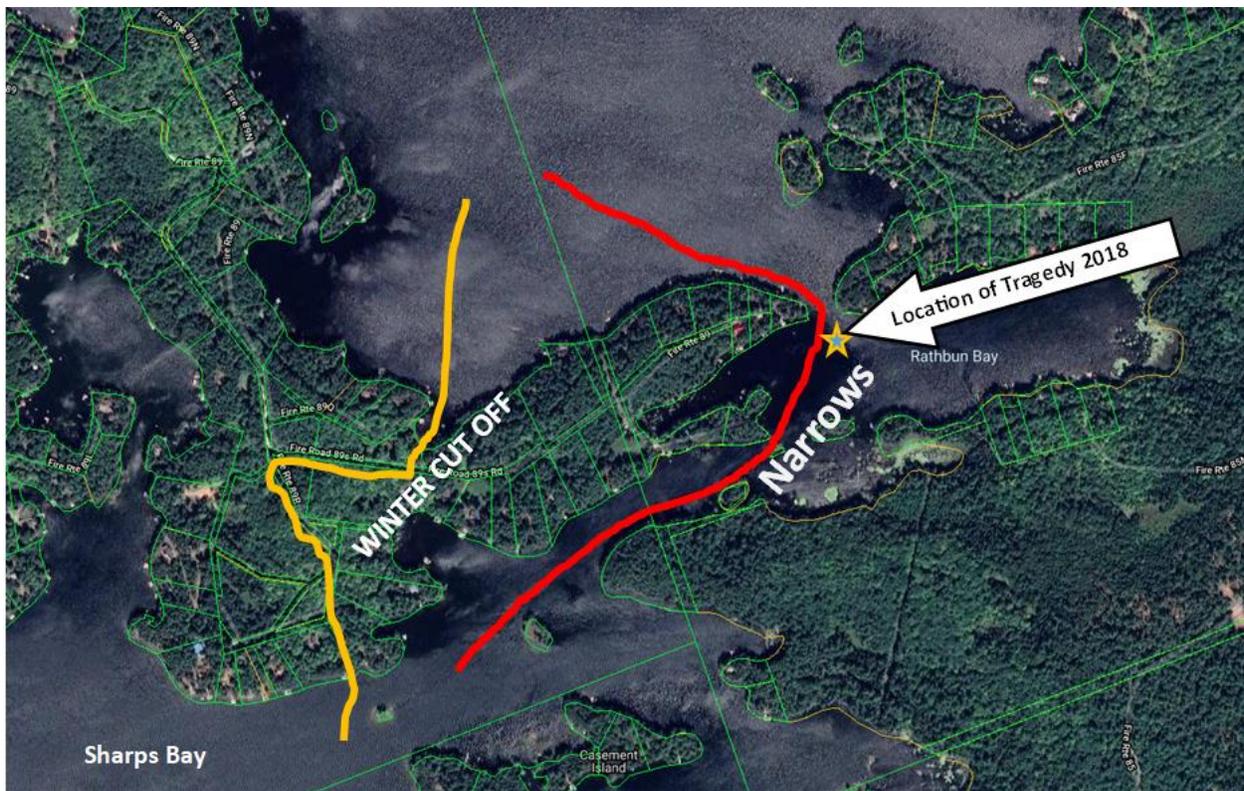
January 27, 2022

Township of Havelock Belmont Methuen

For urgent attention of Members of Council

Regarding Winter Safety Concern on Jack Lake

Since at least the mid 1800's, winter access between the North and South basin of Jack Lake has been via what is known as the Winter Cutoff which has been traditionally used to avoid the dangerous thin ice conditions in part of the Narrows.



Till about 2007, a direct long established winter cut off trail was use prior to blockage of the south part of the trail by a private owner which result is an alternative route on private property shown as yellow line.

Late last Fall, a property owner decided to block the winter cut off passage with a gate across the access



eliminating any safe alternative around the use of the dangerous option of using the Narrows. The winter use of the Narrows has over the years has resulted in several near tragic incidents and then unfortunately on Dec 26, 2018 we lost two dear friends Gerry and Patty White from Jack Lake attempting to use the Narrows on snowmobile.

The recent closure of the winter cut off has resulted in diverting this winter's snowmobile traffic to the **very dangerous risky option of using the Narrows.**

Another tragedy with loss of life is likely to happen any day as those unfamiliar with the risk of this route follow the new track through the Narrows which sometime crosses beside of over open water.

There is a real need for urgent action. **I feel strongly the Township should move quickly to install warning signs approaching the Narrows from both directions.**



Also, I would welcome the Municipality working with myself and others, including private landowners, to find a practical winter cut off bypass of the Narrows establishing a safe long term winter solution.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ambrose Moran', with a large, sweeping initial 'A'.

Ambrose Moran

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