



# **‘Too Young to Drive Too Young to Ride’ ATV Safety Campaign Summary Report**

Submitted by: Kidsafe Connection, Stollery Children’s Hospital



*Generously funded by the Northern Lights Regional Health Foundation and  
the Stollery Children’s Hospital Foundation*

### ***Injury Background:***

Most injuries are not accidents. They are predictable and preventable and one of the most significant health issues facing children and teens in this country. Injuries are responsible for more childhood deaths than all other childhood diseases combined.<sup>1</sup> According to Safe Communities Canada, 53% of deaths to children 1 – 19 years of age are a result of an injury event.<sup>2</sup>

### ***ATV Injury:***

Since 1999, all terrain vehicle (ATV) related incidents are one of the top three leading causes of serious injuries to children and teens resulting from sport and recreational activities in Alberta.<sup>3</sup>

In 2006, there were 22 deaths in Alberta related to ATVs. Of those deaths, six were under the age of 19.<sup>4</sup>

That same year, Capital Health's emergency departments saw 385 patients under the age of 20 with various injuries related to ATVs. This is an increase of almost 10% from the year before.<sup>5</sup> During the same timeframe, Northern Lights saw 118 patients under the age of 20 which is an increase of 57% from 2005.<sup>5</sup>

### ***Objectives:***

Northern Lights Health Region (NLHR) partnered with Kidsafe Connection, Stollery Children's Hospital on an ATV safety campaign, 'Too Young to Drive, Too Young to Ride', aimed at:

- increasing public awareness of injuries related to the use of ATVs,
- increasing public knowledge of the risks associated with children using all-terrain vehicles, and
- directing the target audience to the partner websites.

### ***Creatives:***

The campaign was launched May 29, 2008 and ran throughout the summer ending the September long weekend of 2008. This campaign used various methods to raise public awareness in both the Northern Lights and Capital Health regions.

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<sup>1</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2000). [Injury mortality: National summary of injury mortality data.](#)

<sup>2</sup> Safe Communities Canada (Sept 30, 2008). [Safe communities Canada well positioned to face emerging crisis affecting Canada's children.](#)

<sup>3</sup> Alberta Trauma Registry and Kidsafe Connection (June 2006). [Alberta child and teen trauma report.](#)

<sup>4</sup> Office of the Medical Examiner, Government of Alberta (2008). Unpublished data, Edmonton, Alberta

<sup>5</sup> Alberta Centre for Injury Control and Research (2008). Unpublished data, Edmonton, Alberta

The campaign consisted of a radio ad, print ad, and posters (see Appendices A and B). In addition, a website, [www.capitalhealth.ca/safeATV](http://www.capitalhealth.ca/safeATV), was created featuring additional ATV safety information with links to this site being hosted by the Northern Lights Health Region's website. The website remains active as an ongoing strategy to increase the public's awareness of the risks associated with ATV use and to provide ongoing accessibility to ATV information.

## **Activities:**

### **Campaign Launch**

The Stollery Children's Hospital Public Affairs department provided ongoing support to this campaign and coordinated the campaign launch on May 29, 2008 in Edmonton and Fort McMurray. The Northern Lights Health Region Communications department provided local support for the project and coordinated the project launch in Fort McMurray.

On May 29, 2008 the 'Too Young to Drive, Too Young to Ride' ATV safety campaign was launched at the Stollery Children's Hospital with a live feed via videoconference to Fort McMurray. Dr. Bill Sevcik – Stollery Children's Hospital Emergency, Dr. Daniel Garros – Stollery Children's Hospital Pediatric Intensive Care, Dr. Brian Dufresne – Northern Lights Emergency, and Dr. Don Voaklander – Alberta Centre for Injury Control and Research were all on hand to support this initiative.

### **Creative Distribution**

A radio ad, print ad, and poster were created as part of this campaign. The radio ads were aired on Mix 103.7, Country 93, and Rock 97 in the Northern Lights region and on K-Rock 97.3, CISN 103.9, and Joe FM 92.5 in the Capital Health region. The radio ads were played for three days prior to each long weekend during the campaign.

The print ads were placed in rural community newspapers. These included Fort McMurray Today and Fort Chipewyan/Slave Lake Journal in the Northern Lights region and the following community newspapers in the Capital Health region – Fort Saskatchewan/Sturgeon, Leduc Representative, Morinville Mirror, Redwater Tribute, Stony Plain Reporter/Spruce Grove Examiner, Thorsby Target, and Warburg Bugle.

Posters were distributed to interested parties and key stakeholders. Approximately 650 large (18 x 24) and 350 small (8½ x 11) posters were sent throughout Alberta. In addition, posters were distributed at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Child Health Injury Symposium at the Stollery Children's Hospital.

### **Website**

A website, [www.capitalhealth.ca/safeATV](http://www.capitalhealth.ca/safeATV), was created to provide the public with additional information regarding ATV safety. The site includes the following sections: data and research, for parents, multimedia, personal stories, and relevant links. Throughout the campaign, this site has had 4,500 visits with over 82,600 pages viewed. This website remains active.

## **Promotion**

In addition to distribution of the creatives as discussed earlier, the 'Too Young to Drive, Too Young to Ride' campaign was promoted through various other venues. These included Capital Health Notes – an e-mail distribution system to Capital Health employees; Kidsafe Connection's Topic of the Month distribution list – an e-mail list of injury prevention key stakeholders throughout the province of Alberta; campaign listing on the Safe Communities Canada listserv; and posting on the Health In Action website and e-bulletin. As well, on June 11 and 12, 2008 in partnership with the Stollery Children's Hospital Foundation and the Northern Lights Regional Health Foundation, Rock 97.8 FM and Country 93.3 FM took to the air to raise funds to enhance local pediatric care in Fort McMurray, during the first Caring For Kids broadcast. The radiothon highlighted the ATV safety campaign throughout.

## **Presentations**

Recognizing that ATV safety is a priority issue in many health regions and provinces, the messaging and process is being shared across Canada. Presentations were given at the Alberta Regional Health Authority and Community Coalition Safety Promotion Network meeting on May 8, 2008 and at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Child Health Injury Symposium on May 29, 2008 in Edmonton, Alberta. In addition, Kidsafe Connection has been invited to present in Toronto at the Ontario Injury Prevention Conference in November 2008.

## **Other**

Parkland County, a county within Capital Health, referenced the 'Too Young to Drive, Too Young to Ride' campaign in their media release regarding the strengthening of their Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) Bylaw to require OHV operators be 16 years of age and in possession of a Class 5 Driver License.

<b>Media</b>
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## **Newsletters**

To further spread the message that children and teens under the age of 16 do not have the strength, skills, or judgment to safely operate an ATV; articles were published in the Alberta Centre for Injury Control and Research newsletter in August 2008 and in the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association newsletter in September 2008.

## **Launch**

A media release was distributed prior to the May 29, 2008 campaign launch (see Appendix C). Response to the campaign was well received with radio, print, and television coverage. Media outlets represented in Edmonton included CTV Edmonton, Global TV, CBC TV, City TV, 630 CHED, Cool 880, Edmonton Journal, Edmonton Sun, Metro, and 24 Hours. In Fort McMurray reporters from the Fort McMurray Today newspaper, CTV news, and Mix 103.7 radio station attended the event.

## **Other**

Interest continued after the launch was complete with articles on and/or references to the campaign appearing in the Edmonton Examiner, Edson Leader, the Spruce Grove Examiner/Stony Plain Reporter and Fort McMurray Today. In addition, an editorial was done by Yukon Jack which appeared in the Edmonton Sun and live on the radio station the Bear 100.3. Edmonton's City TV Edmonton Breakfast Television also interviewed Dawn Vallet-MacDonald (Program Manager, Kidsafe Connection) and Dr. Daniel Garros (Pediatric Intensive Care Specialist, Stollery Children's Hospital). Local coverage in Fort McMurray also included reporting on the Mix 103 radio news and a CTV News segment.

## **Evaluation**

### **Omnibus Survey**

Leger Marketing was contracted by the campaign partners to include five questions on ATV safety in the September OmniAlberta survey. Leger surveyed 900 Alberta residents, including 300 in Edmonton census metropolitan area (CMA), 300 in Calgary CMA and 300 other Alberta regions aged 18 years and older, between September 18th and 29th, 2008 (see Appendix D for complete results).

#### **Highlights:**

One third of respondents (37%) were familiar with the 'Too Young to Drive, Too Young to Ride' campaign.

One-quarter (25%) of respondents state their awareness of the injuries and risks related to the use of ATVs for children and teens increased after seeing the campaign.

On average, respondents' state the minimum age at which children can safely operate an ATV is 14.8 years.

### **On-line Survey**

An on-line survey was hosted on the campaign website, [www.capitalhealth.ca/safeATV](http://www.capitalhealth.ca/safeATV), in an attempt to gain insight into the sites' visitors' opinions on ATV use. The survey was available from May 28, 2008 to September 15, 2008. During this time, 161 people completed the survey (see Appendix E for complete results).

#### **Highlights:**

Of all the respondents, over 50% indicated they owned an ATV with almost 60% indicating they had children between 0-16 years of age. Over 45% of respondents indicated they allowed their child(ren) to ride ATVs.

When asked how they had heard of the safe ATV website, the most common method was some form of internet access (i.e. Capital Health website, web searches, e-mail) followed by print materials.

Of the 161 visitors who took this survey, 88% (n=141) shared where they live with over 40 communities represented.

## ***Funding***

The 'Too Young to Drive, Too Young to Ride' campaign was generously funded by the Northern Lights Regional Health Foundation and the Stollery Children's Hospital Foundation.

## ***Looking Forward***

As a result of the 'Too Young to Drive, Too Young to Ride' campaign, additional initiatives and opportunities have developed.

Representatives of the Chinook Health Region have obtained the artwork from the campaign posters with plans to reproduce the materials for distribution and promotion in the region. Interest in the campaign and the creative products has also been expressed on behalf of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo who are developing an Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) master plan.

As part of an overall marketing strategy to promote injury prevention throughout the Edmonton area, Kidsafe Connection designs and arranges to have bookmarks distributed through the public library system. The 'Too Young to Drive, Too Young to Ride' campaign messaging and 'safe ATV' website will be featured in the spring 2009 design and distribution of these bookmarks. Approximately 24,000 bookmarks will be distributed through the libraries with an additional 6,000 distributed by Kidsafe Connection to key stakeholders.

With public awareness rising regarding the risks of ATV use, the Government of Alberta has formed an OHV Committee to review regulations in reference to the use of OHV in Alberta. Kidsafe Connection was invited to be a member of this committee and regularly attends these meetings.

As follow-up to the 'Too Young to Drive, Too Young to Ride' campaign, Kidsafe Connection is in the initial stages of planning the 2009 Campaign. Campaign messaging will be consistent with recommendations determined through the OHV Committee.

Currently, in the Edmonton region, there are 'Helmet Safety' resource kits that are available for schools and community groups to borrow free of charge. These kits contain lesson plans and supplemental resources to teach children and teens risk management strategies for a variety of sports (i.e. cycling, snowboarding). Kidsafe Connection is planning to expand these kits to contain information regarding off highway vehicle safety, including ATVs. The information contained within the kit will be available provincially via Kidsafe Connection's website. Kidsafe Connection is also developing a powerpoint presentation containing ATV related injury information and risk management strategies. This presentation will be available electronically to key stakeholders throughout Alberta free of charge.

## Appendix A

### Radio Ad

TEEN ATV SAFETY  
RADIO 30 SECOND  
"PLACES"

SFX:           ATV STORMS OFF INTO DISTANCE

ANNC'R:       An all terrain vehicle can show you places you can only imagine. Put a kid on an ATV and his sense of adventure will take him over hills

SFX:           EST. DISTANCE SIREN

ANNC'R:       across streams, between boulders, through forests and who-knows where else?

SFX:           SIREN PASSES

ANNC'R:       ATV's also take hundred of kids to emergency departments all across the Province, giving their parents the adventure of their lives.

DOCTOR:      All we can do now is wait.

ANNC'R:       Every year in Alberta, kids are killed riding ATV's. Hundreds more are injured.

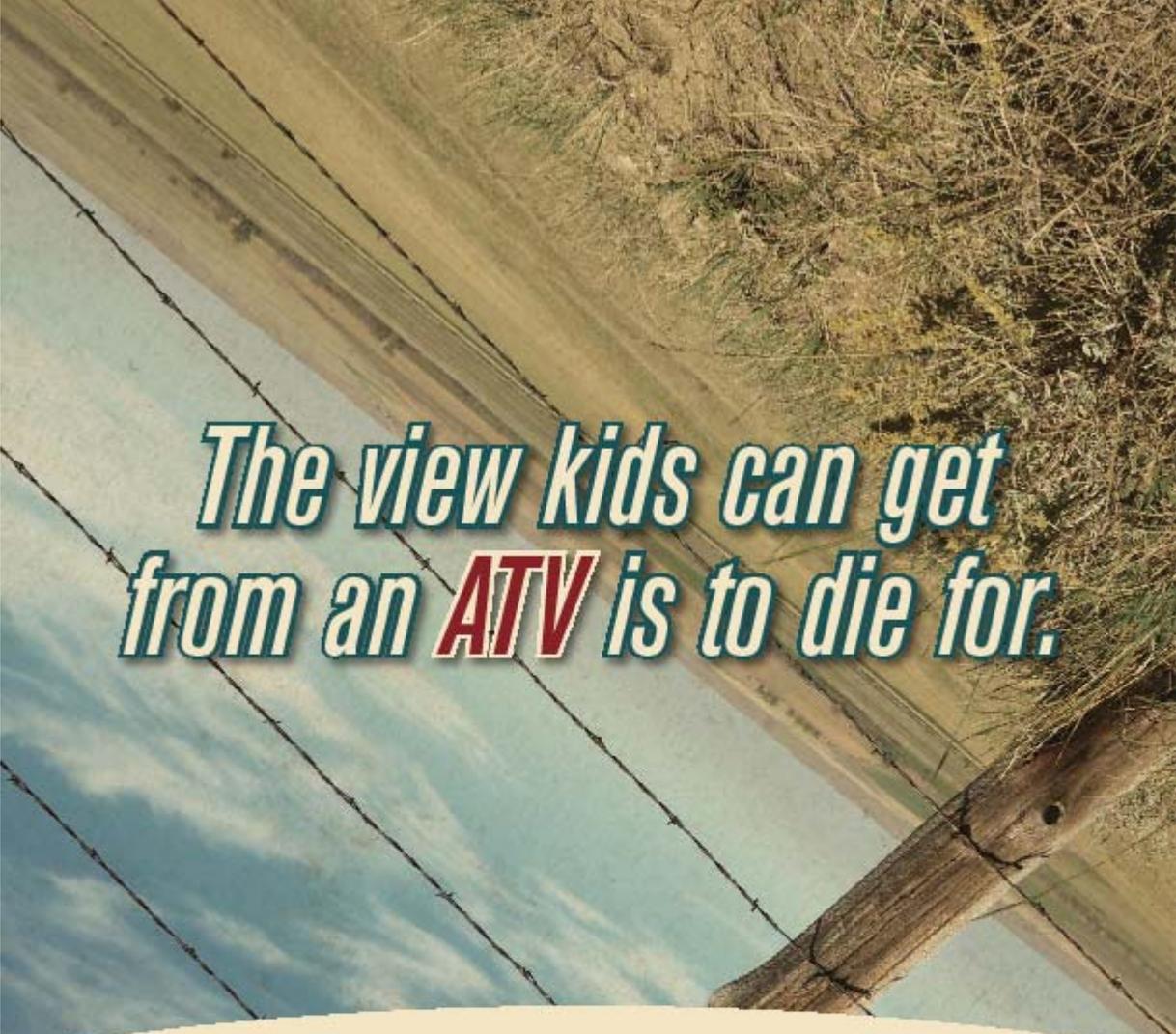
*Too young to drive is too young to ride.*

Brought to you by Capital Health Stollery Children's Hospital/Northern Lights Regional Health Foundation.

*To hear this radio ad go to [www.capitalhealth.ca/SafeATV](http://www.capitalhealth.ca/SafeATV)*

Appendix B

Capital Health Print Ad/Poster



*The view kids can get  
from an **ATV** is to die for.*

Every year in Alberta kids are killed riding all terrain vehicles. Hundreds more are injured. The reality is that kids under sixteen years of age don't have the strength, skills or judgement to ride an ATV.

[www.capitalhealth.ca/safeATV](http://www.capitalhealth.ca/safeATV)

*Too Young to Drive*

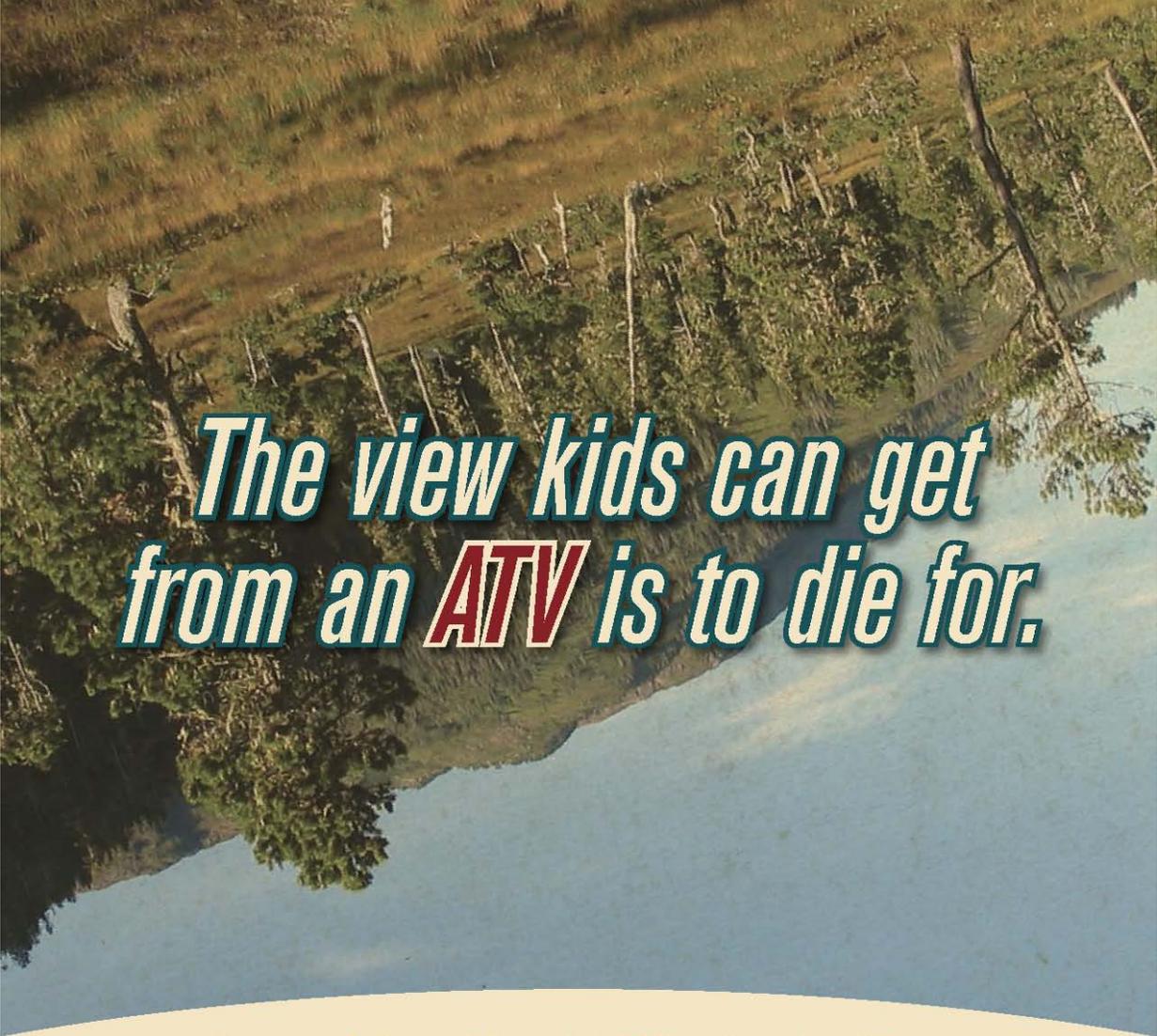


*Too Young to Ride*



Appendix B

Northern Lights Print Ad/Poster



*The view kids can get  
from an **ATV** is to die for.*

Every year in Alberta kids are killed riding all terrain vehicles. Hundreds more are injured. The reality is that kids under sixteen years of age don't have the strength, skills or judgement to ride an ATV.

[www.nlhr.ca/safeATV](http://www.nlhr.ca/safeATV)

*Too Young to Drive*



*Too Young to Ride*



## Appendix C

### Campaign Media Release



## NEWS RELEASE

May 29, 2008

[www.capitalhealth.ca](http://www.capitalhealth.ca)

### **Too Young To Drive Too Young To Ride *Capital Health and Northern Lights Health Region launch ad campaign urging parents to keep kids off ATVs***

**Edmonton, Canada** – Every year in Alberta kids are killed riding all terrain vehicles. Hundreds more are injured. In recent years, ATVs have become a leading cause of serious pediatric injuries relating to sport and recreation activities in this province. Capital Health and Northern Lights Health Region’s injury prevention groups have partnered to address this escalating situation.

“Parents need to understand that children are not sustaining bumps and bruises when they are involved in an incident with an ATV. When things go wrong with an ATV, they go very wrong,” said Dr. Bill Sevcik. “To witness so many perfectly healthy children ending up in the emergency department with life-threatening injuries in the name of fun or recreation is distressing, particularly since these injuries are perfectly preventable.”

In 2007, there were 18 pediatric major traumas related to ATVs in Alberta. This past Victoria Day long weekend, the Stollery Children’s Hospital Emergency Department saw a total of twelve patients with ATV injuries, six of them major traumas and three more just shy of being classified as a major trauma.

“The numbers are alarming but more than that, these families are enduring unnecessary heartbreak and loss,” said Sevcik.

Thanks to contributions from the Stollery Children’s Hospital Foundation and the Northern Lights Health Region Foundation, a radio, print ad and poster campaign is now underway urging parents to keep their kids off ATVs.

“Kids can wear the safety gear but it doesn’t protect them from the reality that they do not have the strength skills or judgment to be riding these vehicles,” said Dr. Brian Dufresne with Northern Lights Health Region. “If you’re too young to drive, you’re too young to ride.”

Kidsafe Connection strives to reduce the number of unintentional injuries sustained by children and teens. More children die annually from injuries than all other childhood disease combined. Injuries are not accidents. They are predictable and preventable.

-30-

*Capital Health in Edmonton is Canada's largest health region and is affiliated with the University of Alberta, providing integrated health services to one million residents in Edmonton and the surrounding area. Capital Health acts as a referral centre to Central and Northern Alberta, the North and the Prairies, providing specialized services such as trauma and burn treatment, organ transplants and high-risk obstetrics.*

**Contact:** Holly Budd, Public Affairs: Phone (780) 407-1567; Pager (780) 445-5838

## Appendix D

### Omnibus Results (Leger Marketing)

1. Recently, Capital Health and the Northern Lights Health Region undertook an All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) safety awareness campaign called "Too Young to Drive, Too Young to Ride". Are you familiar with this campaign?

All Respondents	Total (n=900)	Driven ATV (n=321)	Have Not Driven ATV (n=576)
Recall campaign	37%	<b>47%</b>	31%
Do not recall campaign	63%	53%	<b>69%</b>

*Bold figures denote significant difference*

2. Considering how much you knew about the injuries and risks related to the use of ATV's for children and teens before and after seeing or hearing the advertising, would you say the advertising

All Respondents	Total (n=900)	Driven ATV (n=321)	Have Not Driven ATV (n=576)
Recall campaign	37%	<b>47%</b>	31%
<i>Increased awareness of injury and risks</i>	25%	<b>31%</b>	21%
<i>Increased awareness a lot</i>	8%	9%	7%
<i>Increased awareness a little</i>	17%	<b>21%</b>	14%
Did not increase awareness	11%	<b>15%</b>	9%
Don't know	1%	1%	1%
Do not recall campaign	63%	53%	<b>69%</b>

*Bold figures denote significant difference*

3. Where did you see or hear of the campaign?

All Respondents	Total (n=900)	Driven ATV (n=321)	Have Not Driven ATV (n=576)
Recall campaign	37%	<b>47%</b>	31%
<i>TV advertisement/commercial</i>	14%	15%	13%
<i>Newspaper/poster</i>	14%	17%	12%
<i>Radio</i>	11%	<b>17%</b>	8%
<i>Word of mouth</i>	2%	<b>4%</b>	1%
<i>News</i>	1%	2%	1%
<i>Website</i>	1%	1%	1%
<i>Magazine</i>	*	*	*
<i>Billboards</i>	*	-	*
<i>Other</i>	*	*	-
<i>Don't know</i>	*	-	*
Do not recall campaign	63%	53%	<b>69%</b>

*Bold figures denote significant difference; \*less than 1% of respondents*

## Appendix D

### Omnibus Results (Leger Marketing)

4. Have you or any others in your family operated an ATV in the past 12 months?

All respondents	(n=900)
Operated ATV in the past 12 months	38%
Have not operated ATV in the past 12 months	62%
Don't know	*

*\*less than 1% of respondents*

5. At what minimum age, if any, do you think children can safely operate an ATV?

All Respondents	Total (n=900)	Driven ATV (n=321)	Have Not Driven ATV (n=576)
Less than 10 years of age	4%	<b>8%</b>	1%
10 to 11 years	3%	<b>6%</b>	2%
12 to 13 years	9%	<b>13%</b>	7%
14 to 15 years	23%	25%	21%
16 to 17 years	40%	32%	<b>45%</b>
18 years	12%	5%	<b>16%</b>
Any age	2%	4%	2%
AVERAGE	14.8	<b>13.8</b>	<b>15.5</b>
Don't know	8%	7%	8%

*Bold figures denote significant differences*

### Sub-segment Analysis

1. Higher proportions of respondents who state they or others in their family have driven an ATV in the past 12 months, compared to those who have not:
  - are familiar with the campaign (47% vs. 31% have not driven an ATV before)
  - heard about the campaign on the radio (17% vs. 8%) or through word of mouth (4% vs. 1%)
  - state the following minimum age ranges for safely operating an ATV:
    - less than 10 years (8% vs. 1%)
    - 10 to 11 years (6% vs. 2%)
    - 12 to 13 years (13% vs. 7%)
  
2. A higher proportion of respondents who have not driven an ATV compared to those who have:
  - state the minimum age that children can safely operate an ATV is:
    - 16 to 17 years (45% vs. 32%)
    - 18 years (16% vs. 5%)

## Appendix D

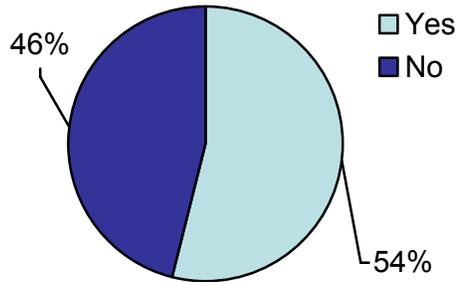
### Omnibus Results (Leger Marketing)

3. A higher proportion of respondents in Edmonton (49%) compared to those in other regions in Alberta (36%) and in Calgary (26%) are familiar with the campaign.
4. Higher proportions of respondents in other regions in Alberta compared to respondents in Edmonton or Calgary indicate:
  - they or members of their family have operated an ATV in the past 12 months (60% vs. 35% Edmonton, 18% Calgary)
  - the minimum age that children can safely operate an ATV is
    - less than 10 years of age (7% vs. 1% Edmonton, 2% Calgary)
    - 12 to 13 years of age (14% vs. 8% Edmonton, 5% Calgary)
5. A higher proportion of respondents in Edmonton (12%) and Calgary (18%) than respondents in other regions in Alberta (7%) state the minimum age that children can safely operate an ATV is 18 years of age.
6. The average minimum age stated by respondents in other regions in Alberta (14.2) is lower than that stated by respondents in Edmonton (15.1) and Calgary (15.3).

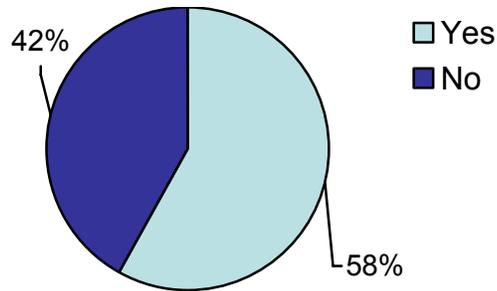
## Appendix E

### On-line Survey Results

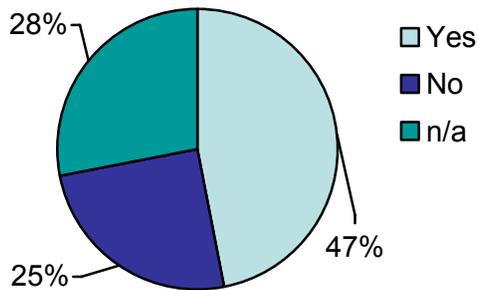
1. Do you own an ATV?



2. Do you have children 0-16 years of age?



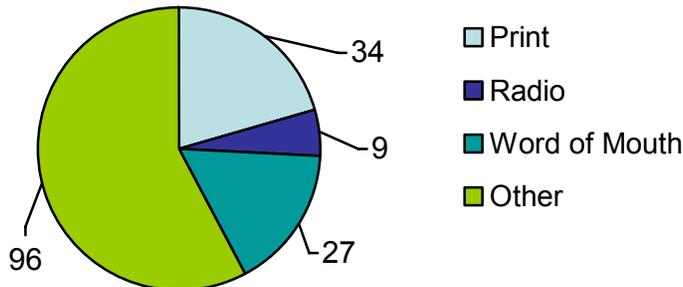
3. Do your children ride ATVs?



## Appendix E

### On-line Survey Results

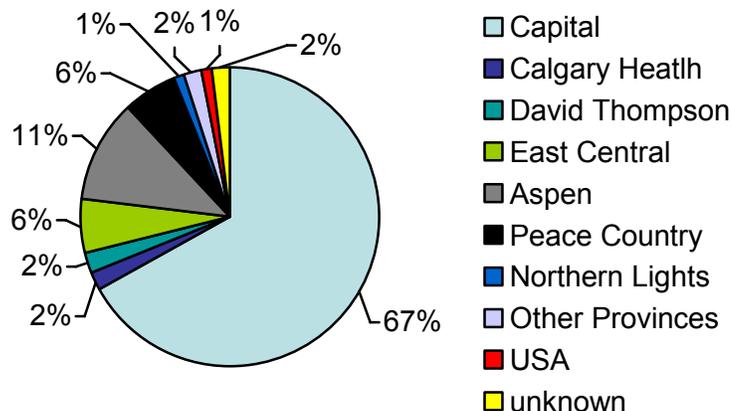
4. How did you hear about the safe ATV website? (*more than one response could be entered*)



Of the 96 responses listing 'other' as how they heard about the safe ATV website, 67% (n=64) listed some form of internet access as the source (either through the Capital Health website, web searches, e-mail, etc.)

5. Where do you live?

Of the 161 visitors who took this survey, 88% (n=141) shared where they live with over 40 communities represented. The graph below shows the breakdown by Alberta health regions (boundaries as of January 2008).



Of interest to note is that of the visitors who completed the survey and where in the Capital Health region (67% of total), 56% listed Edmonton as their place of residence.