

# HIRA      HOWE ISLAND RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

## A HIRA BRIEFING NOTE

MARCH 12, 2018

This is a brief report to HIRA members on the Township of Frontenac Islands Council meeting which took place on March 12, 2018 at the Township Offices on Wolfe Island. Two directors of HIRA attended the meeting. Only matters with particular relevance to Howe Island or of general relevance are highlighted here.

- 1) Health Unit---Representatives from the Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox and Addington Health Unit gave an overview of some of the areas of their responsibility and in particular their responsibility for septic systems. The Health Unit administers the approval and inspection of septic systems on behalf of the Township of Frontenac Islands. There are a number of new regulations respecting septic systems. These new regulations require the Health Unit to review all new construction and any renovations. They recommend that a homeowner review any proposal they have with the Health Unit when contemplating any new construction or renovation on their property. The Health Unit is concerned not only with works that put additional loads on the septic system but also where such works infringe on the actual system itself.
- 2) North Shore Road---Staff advised Council that the timing of remedial works to the North Shore Road and the Spithead Road is awaiting confirmation of the Budget. Works also cannot begin prior to the lifting of half-load limits on Howe Island roads estimated to be lifted on or about May 1st.
- 3) Howe Island Township Foot Ferry--- Council approved a contract with Tom Wroe Boat Building of Wolfe Island to refurbish the deck and a few other repairs to the foot ferry. (By way of background, according to the Council meeting material, three bids were submitted in response to a tender request. The tenders submitted were \$204,978 from Wroe, \$233,389 from Ocean Naval & Industrial Repair and \$454,552 from Heddle Marine Service.) It is anticipated the work will begin early April, 2018. The ferry will be out of service for up as long as 3 months. The majority of work will be completed at the Metalcraft location in Kingston with some prefabricating work being done at Wroe's Wolfe Island shop. Council was informed that certain concerns respecting the safety of the Wroe's Wolfe Island shop have been addressed.