

# HIRA

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## Howe Island Ratepayers Association

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, August 5, 2008

7:00pm

St. Philomena Parish Hall

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**1. Call to Order**

**2. Opening Remarks**

**3. Membership Report**

**Treasurer's Report**

**4. 2007/2008 Recap**

**A. Transportation**

- with support from HIRA members, worked with County to ensure island commuters weren't inconvenienced during rush hours following the Township's decision to lift the heavy truck restrictions during rush hours
- with support from HIRA members, worked with Township to keep the Township ferry operating year-round
- with support from HIRA members, worked with Township to ensure an inventory of spare parts for the Township ferry was kept on the island

**B. HIFR patient emergency transfer guidelines**

- with support from HIRA members, worked with Chief Mike Quinn to detail the guidelines that are now published on [www.howeisland.org](http://www.howeisland.org) under 'Health, Safety, Security and Emergency Services'

**C. Sale of Township property**

- there was little support from HIRA members to follow up with the Township with regard to the sale of Lot 5

**D. Incorporation**

- the Application for Incorporation of a Corporation without Share Capital with the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services was filed with the Letters Patent being issued on May 9, 2008. The documentation now resides with the Secretary of HIRA

**E. Website**

- [www.howeisland.org](http://www.howeisland.org) continues to attract visitors in ever-increasing numbers, particularly if there is an issue that needs a response from members. Additional links have been added. Gerry Ross is tireless in making our site one of the best sites within the Federation of Ratepayers Associations.

## **5. 2008/2009 Board of Directors**

- stepping down are Lisa Webb, Geoff Hobbs and David Jones. We thank these board members for their contributions during the 2007/2008 year
- joining the board is Bob Staples, welcome

## **6. 2008/2009 Community Interests, Consensus and Direction**

### **A. Official Plan**

- Brian Humphrys will guide us through the process...see hand-out
- HIRA Official Plan Mission Statement: To support the orderly development of Howe Island in such a manner as to preserve and enhance the value of the residential, rural and agricultural properties and aspects of the island

### **B. Transportation**

- continue to work with both County and Township with regard to maintaining or improving the ferry services
- to work with the Township on road improvements in 2008, 2009, 2010

### **C. Do we have a deer problem?**

- HIRA members have asked this question. HIRA board has been in contact with Emily Gonzales, PhD, Ecosystem Scientist/Park Ecologist, St. Lawrence Islands Nation Park...see hand-out. Next steps being developed with HIRA members, Township and Dr. Gonzales

### **D. Website**

- ongoing education on how to use the site
- continued improvements to the site

### **E. Any other business**

## **7. Conclusion**