

## **Road Committee Report, AGM 2018**

The road remained in decent shape during the winter thanks to everyone's cooperation in avoiding use by heavy vehicles when things were wet, as was often the case.

We are due for a supply of surface material this year. Suggestions as to places where it will do the most good are always welcome.

Our MLA, Adam Olsen, has agreed to visit the island in July, along with the local Transportation Ministry manager and a representative of the maintenance contractor. I have asked Olsen to try and help us persuade the Ministry to add our road to the official inventory of public roads for which the government accepts responsibility. The problem is that we have been caught in a sort of "Catch 22" in which it is argued that the province has no responsibility until "the developer" brings the road to provincial standard. This may be logical in a new subdivision where the cost of infrastructure can be charged as a development cost, but makes no sense in the context of our island, where the province originally accepted responsibility but abandoned us in the 1980s until I complained to the Ombudsman.

The basic problem is that our road needs some remedial work beyond the spreading of crushed material every couple of years. One culvert near the lower reservoir is collapsing, and drainage needs to be improved in several places. If you read the "Important Information" on the back of your recent Property Tax Notice you will have been reminded that amongst other things, the government collects the Rural Property Tax to support "public road maintenance". We are not asking for a favour but for the public service to which we are entitled.

Unfortunately, aside from the occasional spreading of road salt, there is nothing we can do about dust. Be respectful of your neighbors when driving your golf cart!



Gerry Kristianson  
Road Committee Chair