

ROAD COMMITTEE REPORT

The Transportation Ministry and its contracting firm continue to help us keep the road in workable condition. Surface material was provided early in the year and we are now transitioning to annual delivery rather than a supply every two years. We have been promised a replacement culvert for the depression (or reverse speed bump) that has developed in the road below the lower reservoir. There will be some temporary disruption once the new culvert is available for installation.

With the latest delivery of road material we were able to renew our emergency stockpile next to the old Fire Hall. This is essential to the work that goes on year-round, but especially during wet weather, repairing inevitable potholes. With the help of the Monday Morning Crew steps have been taken to cut back recent roadside growth to improve visibility on potential blind corners. We have a bit of road salt in hand from last year to help quell dust. We also plan some further experiments to try and work out a process by which we could regularly spray the road with sea water during the driest times.

I thank the PIID trustees for giving the road their continuing attention during the year. While the Letters Patent give them no formal responsibility for the road, its condition is essential to the delivery of emergency services on the island in the context of both the Fire Department and the water system. Despite our winter storms and two snowfalls, a crew headed by Derek Morrison quickly deal with downed trees and used the island tractor and our long-neglected plow to keep the road open not only for walking but clear enough that our golf-cart ambulance could get around the island!

Whether walking, bicycling or driving a vehicle on the road we all need to be considerate of others. We need to keep dust to a minimum and remember that golf carts and bicycles are quiet and capable of startling the unaware. There are good reasons why young people can't legally drive a motor vehicle and we all face considerable personal liability when a vehicle we own is involved in an accident, regardless of who might be driving. We must all accept personal responsibility for use of the road.

Gerry Kristianson
On behalf of the Road Committee