

Road Issues Survey

February 2011

Have you ever wondered how other associations are structured and how they pay their road costs? In December 2010, FOCA invited member associations to participate in an online survey to enhance our understanding of how road associations operate. **Thank you to the more than 170 people who responded.** Over 80% of responses came from associations at least ten years old; that's a great knowledge base! We are sharing these summarized results in order to help our members learn from each other's experiences.

Remember, there is a wealth of information about road issues on the FOCA website (see: [Programs – Roads](#)). As stated there, **FOCA cannot provide specific advice on individual road problems**, but can act as a sounding board and clearinghouse for general questions.

SUMMARY HIGHLIGHTS:

- Most respondents' roads service **11-50 properties** for predominantly **seasonal** residents
- **90%** of the roads are gravel, nearly all are dead-ends, with few gated-communities
- **3/4** rely upon **contractors** to perform necessary road work, but only half have remembered to require Proof of Insurance from their contractor
- **Snow Removal** Cost Averages: On shorter roads & roads of less than 30 properties, respondents pay **\$400-500 per kilometre** per season for snow removal; on the longest roads that service more than 75 properties, costs are considerably higher (\$1500-2000 or more per km) but these charges are split between more people
- **2/3** keep **maintenance costs** down by separating out snow-clearing costs and only charging them to those who use the road in winter
- more than 30% admit they currently lack **road liability insurance** coverage
- **How to collect the money?: 1/3** have either threatened, or have actually ended up in, **Small Claims Court** trying to get payment on annual road dues or related costs

Please contact the FOCA office directly for more detailed survey results.