

**Full Authority**  
**16 September 2021**  
**Agenda Item: 10**

**The Gut Road Maintenance**

**Background**

Please review The Gut Conservation Area – Access Road report submitted to the Board for the 25 February 2021 Meeting. It has been provided in this agenda package for your convenience should you not have the original report easily accessible.

**Current Status**

Further to the above noted report, the following has taken place.

A meeting was held with road staff representatives from the Township of North Kawartha, Wollaston Township and the Municipality of Marmora and Lake.

At the meeting, municipal staff indicated:

- a. That the road repairs would be considerable to bring the access road The Gut Conservation Area up to a reasonable standard.
- b. That using municipal equipment would be a liability issue, both for working on site and any future issues causing damage to personal property or causing harm to visitors,
- c. That their respective Councils would not approve the expenses involved or a partnership to improve and maintain the road for the long term.
- d. That according to M&L, the access road is an unmaintained road owned by the municipality and is “essentially a trail travelled along the road allowance” (Mr. Dylan Adams, Marmora and Lake Road Superintendent). Mr. Adams went on to further state “we have left it with the conservation authority to determine their options as the municipalities pay into the levy for CVCA for required upgrades as they deem necessary”. Essentially, the CVCA would be responsible for the maintenance of the road using current levy funding provided to the CVCA.
- e. And that the municipal staff at the meeting would provide the CVCA an estimate of the cost to make the immediate necessary repairs to the road.

Subsequently, an estimated cost was provided by Road Superintendent Dylan Adams to the CVCA with the following details:

The Gut Trail is approximately L=800m, W=6m

3456T Gravel @\$20.00T = \$69,120.00 + HST

3 Culvert installations (300mm x 12m Plastic) = \$1,020.00 + HST (just pipe cost)

Bulldozer @\$110.00/hr x 50hr = \$5,500.00 + HST

Total = \$75,640.00 + HST

This estimate includes placing one (1) foot of gravel on the entire length of the road.

### **Additional Factors/Considerations**

Also involved in the situation are permanent residents (1 household) who live along the access road. The residents are claiming damage to their vehicle and further degradation of the road will result in it becoming impassable from a safety perspective.

The CVCA has leased the property to a group of hunters for many years and a draft long term (10 year) lease has been prepared. This would ensure funding for the CVCA and provide security for the hunters knowing their hunting lease will remain in their hands. Equally important is the consideration that any improvements to their hunt camp will not be at risk.

CVCA staff have discussed the issue with our solicitor and are anticipating an answer regarding road ownership, responsibilities for road maintenance if the ownership is with M&L and options moving forward. Recommendations will be brought forward for the Board at the next meeting.

Added significance is placed on this decision due to changes in the CA Act and the possibility for the requirement of an MOU.