



NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

To review the current fare schedule for the Amherst Island Ferry.

Notice is hereby given that the Council of The Corporation of Loyalist Township will consider amending the current by-law imposing ferry fares at a Regular Council Meeting to be held:

Monday, April 11, 2011 at 7:00 pm.
Loyalist Township Council Chambers
263 Main Street, Odessa

Any person may attend the public meeting and/or make written representation either in support of or in opposition to the proposal. Written submissions should be addressed to and received by the undersigned by Wednesday, April 6, 2011 at 4:30 p.m.

Further information, including the staff report which provides the background to the recommended fare increase, is available on the municipal website at www.loyalist.ca or by contacting the municipal offices at 613-386-7351, ext. 100.

Brenda J. Hamilton, CMO
Director of Administrative Services
263 Main Street, P.O. Box 70
Odessa, Ontario K0H 2H0
bhamilton@loyalist.ca

If you are a person with a disability and need Loyalist Township information in another format, please contact 613-386-7351 ext 100 between 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. or e-mail info@loyalist.ca

NOTICE OF FARE INCREASE FOR AMHERST ISLAND FERRY EFFECTIVE MAY 1, 2011

This notice will be of interest to users of the Amherst Island Ferry (Frontenac II). Ferry revenue based on the fare schedule last revised in February, 2007, can no longer generate the Township's share of the Ferry operating expenses or offset the projected shortfall in the Ferry's 2011 operating budget. Despite encouraging signals from the Minister of Transportation in 2008, that the subsidy agreement between the Ministry and the Township would be reviewed to provide a more favourable funding formula for the Township, the agreement has remained unopened. (See excerpts from correspondence from (then) Minister Bradley below.)

July, 2008

- Then Minister Bradley makes a written commitment to – *“review the present legal agreement with a view to developing a subsidy arrangement to ensure a ferry service that is safe, convenient and as reasonably priced as possible.”*

August, 2009

- Minister Bradley wrote *“Regarding the proposed revisions to the Amherst Island Ferry Agreement, since our discussions in August 2008, the economic situation in the province has changed drastically. As a result, we are not in a position to incur any additional operating costs and we cannot reopen the legal agreement.”*

Since August, 2009

- There has been no further movement on the part of the Ministry of Transportation to review the subsidy agreement or re-open the legal agreement.

With no changes to the subsidy agreement or fare increases since February 2007, coupled with increasing fuel and other operating costs and, in 2010, declining ferry traffic, the Township's operating budget shows a \$37,500 short-fall that must be generated through a fare increase. **Township Council views the 2011 fare increase, which is effective May 1, 2011, as an effort to reduce the shortfall.** Council recognizes that a longer-term solution will be needed to balance the operating budget in subsequent years. The new fare schedule is shown below.

Car/Truck (under 1 Ton)	\$ 9.00
Motorcycle	\$ 2.00
RV, or car/trailer	\$ 18.00
Bicycle	\$ 1.50
Large vehicles (requiring more than 2 spaces)	\$ 27.00
Bulk Tickets (25 tickets @ \$4.00 per ticket)	\$100.00

For information, contact Ed Adams, Transportation and Solid Waste Manager (613)386-7351, Ext.117 or eadams@loyalist.ca or view the information on our website: www.loyalist.ca .

Note: On Monday, April 4, 2011, at a Special Administration Committee meeting, Council will be receiving a staff report recommending ferry fare increases as part of the final budget review. This meeting is open to the public.