

Economic Development

- The Howe Island survey respondents are supportive of a number of economic development initiatives. Support (i.e., more than 40% of survey respondents) exists for: increased permanent residential development, a retirement/lifestyle (50+) community, a golf course/resort, a marina and a nature reserve. Strong negative sentiments (i.e., more than 50% of survey respondents) were expressed against permitting: prison, boot camp, waste disposal site, casino, theme park, duty free zone and manufacturing.

Wolfe Island

Survey Status

- Survey was sent/delivered to 1,039 addresses; each address received 2 surveys with additional surveys available at the Township office. Total completed surveys received: 497.

Respondents

- Some 61% of survey respondents from Wolfe Island are permanent residents and the remaining 39% are seasonal residents.

Usage

- On average, Wolfe Island survey respondents take 7.2 one-way trips per week on the ferries serving the island.

Ferry Fares

- Some 79% of survey respondents are willing to pay a fare on the ferry serving Wolfe Island.
- There is strong support for differentiated fares on the Wolfe Islander III. Some 82% of survey respondents indicated that they are in favour of separate fares for passengers and vehicles and 75% noted that they are in favour of different passenger fare categories.
- A reasonable one-way fare for an adult was suggested in the \$1.00 to \$2.00 range based on the lower and upper limits of the two middle quartiles, averaging \$1.58. For a car, the suggested one-way fare ranged from \$1.75 to \$4.00 based on the two middle quartile limits, averaging \$3.25.
- Some 78% of Wolfe Islanders are in favour of higher fares for non-residents.
- There is strong support (94%) for a bulk pass/ticket which incorporates a discount.
- Fares should not vary by time of day (78%) nor by season (72%).
- Reducing the number of crossings over the course of a day (41%), changing the route to Dawson Point/Vimy (53%) and reducing the times during which the ferry operates (31%) were identified as being acceptable methods of reducing ferry operating costs. Survey respondents also suggested reduction in crew size (22%), building a bridge (18%) as other means of reducing operating costs. Concession stands were identified as a means of revenue generation to offset operating costs.

Property Tax/Household Levy

- There is not strong support for an increase in property taxes or the implementation of a household levy. However, where respondents noted that an increase or levy was appropriate, the average increase was on the order of \$293.

Fixed Link/Bridge

- Some 85% of survey respondents support the construction of a toll bridge as a means of access to Wolfe Island. There is a preference for a direct link (65%) from Wolfe Island to the mainland.
- A toll in the range of \$2.00 to \$5.00 was identified through an analysis of the two middle quartile limits; an average toll is estimated at just over \$4.
- Some 57% of respondents noted that a fixed link to the United States was important.

Economic Development

- The Wolfe Island survey respondents are supportive of a number of economic development initiatives. Relatively strong support (i.e., more than 50% of survey respondents) exists for: increased permanent and/or seasonal residential development, a retirement/lifestyle (50+) community, education/training