

NOTE: this is NOT the survey -it is online at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FOCAroad25>  
These questions are for reference only, so you can compile your materials and decide who should complete the survey.

## FOCA Road Association Survey 2025

**Please help FOCA update our information about Ontario road associations.**

**This survey was last conducted in 2019 and is primarily a benchmarking tool to enable you to compare what occurs on your road to others. It may provide some planning tips for your association, and the results could provide some contextual information for the residents on your road.**

**The survey results will be released in an anonymous summarized format, available to all FOCA member road associations.**

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**Note: While there may be several people who contribute to answering the questions, please collaborate to ensure you submit only one response for your road.**

**There are over 40 questions, and it will take some time to answer them. You can download a copy of the questions by clicking here before beginning, to help you gather the information requested.**

**You can return to this survey at any time using the link in the email provided. Use the PREVIOUS and NEXT buttons to continue with your responses.**

**\*Due to the formatting of some survey questions, it may be difficult to read on a mobile phone; if possible, please complete this survey on a tablet or computer monitor.**

**Responses are being received until December 19, 2025 and a summary of the results will be shared at the FOCA Spring Seminar & AGM on March 7, 2026.**

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**\* 1. What is your association called, and where is it located?**

*This information helps us identify and resolve multiple responses per association. It will not be released in the summary report.*

Association Name:

Lake/Waterbody Name:

Township(s), County/Region:

**2. Contact information of the person submitting this response:**

*This information will NOT be released in the summary report, but may be used by FOCA for follow-up in case of multiple responses per association.*

Your Name (First and Last):

Your Title with the Association:

Preferred Email Address:

**FOCA Road Association Survey 2025****3. Type of Association:**

- road only
- combined activity (e.g. road and lake/ cottage/ camp/ conservation association)

**4. Structure of Association:**

- Incorporated in Ontario
- Not incorporated
- Federally incorporated
- I don't know
- Charitable status

**5. Which of the following apply to your road association? (select ALL THAT APPLY)**

- We have a set of written bylaws that provide guidance on governance
- We have a multi-year capital improvement plan for the road
- We have a private road maintenance agreement signed by owners along the road
- We have an Annual General Meeting for member communication and voting on items like the budget for the year
- We use a condominium-style structure (with capital reserve & agreement to share expenses for common areas) to encourage compliance in paying costs
- We have an elected executive to manage the road on a volunteer basis
- We have an annual work plan for the road
- We have an unwritten/handshake agreement only

Optional comments/notes on the above (NOTE: survey may not save with over 300 characters in this field):

**6. What is the total number of properties on the road system that the association manages?**

- 10 or fewer properties
- 51 to 99 properties
- 11 to 30 properties
- 100 or more properties
- 31 to 50 properties

While the checkboxes above captured ranges, please enter actual total here in numerals only (e.g., 41):

**7. How many of the properties are waterfront lots, versus backlots? Enter numerals only to total 100 (%) - e.g., waterfront: 80 and forest/backlots: 20**

% waterfront

% forest/backlots

**8. Approximately what percentage of property owners along your road are in each of the following groups? Enter numerals only: 0 to 100 for each group, to total 100 (%).**

% SEASONAL residents (primarily summer only)

% PERMANENT residents

% non-permanent but YEAR-ROUND access (may come up in the winter)

% COMMERCIAL or OTHER interests

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**9. Approximately how many properties along the road are known short term rental accommodations?**

0

6-10

1-2

11 or more

3-5

Optional comments/notes on the above (NOTE: survey may not save with over 300 characters in this field):

10. **Road Ownership:** indicate (in numerals only) the approximate percentage of your road that matches any of the conditions below, to total 100% (e.g., privately-maintained municipally unassumed road 70; over Crown land 20; deeded access over a private property 10)

% Municipally-maintained road

% Privately-maintained municipally unassumed road

% Privately-maintained road over Crown land

% Current logging or 'forest road' maintained under a Forest Management Plan (FMP)

% Previous logging or 'forest road' no longer in use for an FMP

% First Nations-owned/maintained road

% Privately-maintained road on land owned by the Association/all property owners

% Privately-maintained road with deeded access over private land owned by one of the property owners, or someone else

% Privately-maintained road with a prescriptive easement (20 year+ historical precedent recognized by the courts, that enables access over privately-owned land)

% Unknown or other ownership (provide details in the next question comment field)

11. (Optional) If needed, to clarify your responses to the previous question - particularly about the percentage of "Unknown" or "Other" ownership/maintenance arrangements - provide comments below (limit: 300 characters):

12. **If some or all of your road is municipally owned but privately maintained, have you approached the municipality about assumption of the road?**

- Yes, and they agreed to assume it in part or in whole (add notes below)
- Yes we asked, and they are currently considering the request
- Yes we asked, but they declined to assume the road
- No, we haven't asked yet, but are interested in this option
- No, we aren't interested in this option
- This doesn't apply to us (not municipally owned)

Please provide details about your answer including costs (e.g., on tax bills), timelines, and other information if your road was municipally assumed, or further information if it was declined or you are not interested in this option. (limit: 300 characters):

**13. What is the total road length in kilometres of the MAIN/PRIMARY road your association oversees?**

<input type="radio"/> Under 1 km	<input type="radio"/> 4-5 km
<input type="radio"/> 1-2 km	<input type="radio"/> 5-10 km
<input type="radio"/> 2-3 km	<input type="radio"/> Over 10 km
<input type="radio"/> 3-4 km	

While the checkboxes above captured ranges, please enter below (in numerals only) the exact number of kilometres:

**14. If applicable, what is the total road length in kilometres of all additional SECONDARY/BRANCH roads that your association oversees?**

<input type="radio"/> Under 1 km	<input type="radio"/> 4-5 km
<input type="radio"/> 1-2 km	<input type="radio"/> 5-10 km
<input type="radio"/> 2-3 km	<input type="radio"/> Over 10 km
<input type="radio"/> 3-4 km	<input type="radio"/> We have no secondary/branch roads

While the checkboxes above captured ranges, please enter below (in numerals only) the exact number of kilometres of each secondary/branch road, separated by commas (e.g., 5, 2, 1.2):

15. What is the effective **width** (in numerals only, in metres), of:

the main/primary road width in metres (m):

secondary/branch road(s) width (m), if applicable:

**16. Do you know if your road is in compliance with local standards for emergency service vehicles (EMS)? (i.e., it meets the corridor width, height, and turn-around requirements set by fire services in your Municipality/County)**

- Yes, it is in compliance
- No, some or all parts of the road are not in compliance
- We haven't checked or don't know the local standards for EMS vehicles
- Our road may not meet the standards, but we have an alternate solution (such as a medivac landing site for helicopters, water / boat access transfer plan, etc. - please provide details below)

Optional comments/notes about local standards (NOTE: survey may not save with over 300 characters in this field):

**17. Is your road used as an OFFICIAL snowmobile trail as defined by government regulations?** If yes, please specify in "Comments" if you receive any road financial support or grooming services during winter - amounts, types of support, from whom?

- Yes, at least part of the road is an official snowmobile trail
- No, but it gets used as a snowmobile trail unofficially
- Neither of the above

Optional comments/notes on the above (NOTE: survey may not save with over 300 characters in this field):

**18. Topography and elevation:** which of the following most closely describes your road?

- Essentially flat, or a long gentle slope to the lake
- Some minor hills with less than 3 metres of elevation change
- Some hills between 3 and 5 metres of elevation change
- Considerably hilly with some in excess of 5 metres of elevation change

**19. Roadside vegetation:** estimate the percentage (in numerals only, to total 100%) of the road that matches these conditions. (e.g., grassy 25; wetland 10; bush/forest overhanging 65)

Roadsides are sandy

Roadsides are grassy and/or flanked by fields

Roadsides are wetlands

Roadsides are bushes and/or forest, cleared well back from the road

Roadsides are bushes and/or forest, quite close to the road

Bushes and/or forest overhang the road

**20. Road surface:** estimate the percentage (in numerals only, to total 100%) of the road that is each of the following surface materials?

% Granular gravel surface

% Asphalt

% Reclaimed asphalt/chip seal (tar & chip)

% Concrete

% Dirt or sand road

% Corduroy (log) cover

**21. How many bridges and culverts are along the road system?**

# of Bridges:

# of Culverts under 5 ft diameter:

# of Culverts over 5 ft diameter:

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**22. To what extent has drainage traditionally been an issue for your road? (skip this question if the road is less than 5 years old)**

- Not an issue
- A minor issue
- An occasional or seasonal issue
- A regular issue
- A significant issue

**23. How much damage has been caused along the road over the past 5 years from high water levels or sudden heavy rain or downbursts?**

- No noticeable damage
- Some limited damage (e.g., in a few low lying areas)
- Significant damage (e.g., requiring re-grading, re-surfacing, etc.)
- Critical damage (e.g., road, bridge, or culvert failure)

Optional comments/notes on the above (NOTE: survey may not save with over 300 characters in this field):

**24. How much have trees and power lines along the road been negatively impacted by heavy wind and/or ice storms in the past 5 years?**

- No noticeable damage
- Some occasional or slight damage
- Significant damage has happened in select areas
- Significant damage has happened along much of the road

Optional comments on the above (e.g., association paid for tree management; municipality offered free brush pick up or dumping; volunteers cleared essential access; challenges with hydro/phone restoration times...) - limit of 300 characters:

**25. What annual dues/fees did the association most recently charge to property owners? (enter numerals only, representing dollars; put "N/A" for any categories not offered by your association)**

Everyone pays the same. The most recent annual fee was:

PERMANENT residents paid this fee:

Non-permanent but YEAR-ROUND access/users paid this fee:

SEASONAL-only users paid this fee:

Residents paid by distance (e.g., road branch/by km). Fee range is:

COMMERCIAL or Industrial properties paid this fee:

Other (enter fee or range here, and describe categories below):

*26. Optional clarifications or comments on the last question (limit of 300 characters):*

**27. What % of properties paid their road dues/fees in the most recent year?**

- 100%
- Over 90%
- 75% - 90%
- Less than 75%
- Less than 50%

**28. What actions has the association taken in the past 3 years to get compliance on dues/fees payment? (select ALL THAT APPLY)**

<input type="checkbox"/> Providing incentives/discounts for prompt/early payment	<input type="checkbox"/> Registered letter threatening small claims court
<input type="checkbox"/> Providing incentives/discounts for multi-year payments	<input type="checkbox"/> Going to small claims court (to claim up to 2 past years of unpaid dues, under the principle of "Unjust enrichment")
<input type="checkbox"/> Charging interest beyond a certain date	<input type="checkbox"/> Stop road work until all dues are paid
<input type="checkbox"/> Informing the property owner that they may lose eligibility for liability insurance coverage	<input type="checkbox"/> None

Other, or optional notes on the above (NOTE: survey may not save with over 300 characters in this field):

**29. What are the association's annual expenses by category? (enter "0" if not applicable)**

**NOTES:** Road Repair & Maintenance Costs = gravel, grading, dust suppressant, maintaining culverts & bridges, signage, guard rails, ditching, sightline clearing; Snow Clearing Costs = snow plowing, sanding, salting; Administration Costs = PO Box, bank charges, FOCA membership dues, communication costs (website, newsletter...); Insurance Costs = premium paid for liability insurance held in the name of the road association.

Road Repair & Maintenance:

Snow Clearing &/or Deicing:

Administration:

Insurance:

Other: (enter amount here, and category description below)

**30. (Optional) Include any clarifications of 'Other' costs, or additional comments on the last question, here (e.g., one-time storm damage clean up; contingency fund; culvert collapse...) limit of 300 characters in this field:**

**31. How have your operating expenses changed in the last three years?**

- Annual costs have reduced
- Costs have grown by inflation (estimated at an annual average of 3.9% over past 3 years)
- Costs have grown significantly (e.g., by 5% - 30% annually, over past 3 years)
- Costs have grown substantially (more than 30%)
- Costs have varied yearly, based on conditions and maintenance undertaken

If costs reduced or grew by more than the rate of inflation, please indicate why/what caused this (limit of 300 characters in this field):

**32. Road repair and maintenance work is primarily done by:**

- Association volunteers
- Contractor(s)
- Municipality(ies)
- A combination of the above
- Not applicable to our road

Other, or comments on the above (particularly if work is done by a combination of these groups - who does what?) - limit of 300 characters:

**33. Do you share maintenance costs/services with other roads in your area?**

- Yes
- No

If yes, how many roads, and how do you arrange this (memorandum of understanding, or other)? - limit of 300 characters in this field:

**34. Are there Municipal or Crown maintenance agreements in place for all or parts of the road? (click all that apply)**

- yes, ongoing (ANNUAL) road grants
- yes, limited service agreements
- yes, Crown maintenance agreements and/or easements (e.g., on forest/logging roads)
- no, or I don't know

If yes, please provide details (amounts; what services; indicate if municipal grants previously existed but have been stopped)? - limit of 300 characters in this field:

**35. Has the association ever received a ONE TIME (or occasional, but not annual) grant from a Municipality for capital repairs to the road?**

- Yes
- No

If yes, how much, and what was the grant for? (limit of 300 characters in this field):

**36. Regardless of who does the work, how frequently are the main or primary road(s) graded?**

- More than once per year
- Rarely
- Once per year
- It varies, depending on conditions
- Every two to three years
- Not applicable to our road

**37. How frequently are secondary roads/branches graded, if applicable?**

- More than once per year
- Rarely
- Once per year
- It varies, depending upon conditions
- Every two to three years
- Not applicable to our road

**38. How does the association typically pay for grading?**

- Fixed contract
- Per hour
- Per kilometre
- Not applicable to our road
- Per occurrence
- Other (add notes in the comment field below)

HOW MUCH DID IT COST the last time the road was graded? (and/or "Other" comments):

**39. How does the association typically pay for aggregate?**

- Fixed contract
- Not applicable to our road
- Per kilometre
- Other (add notes in the comment field below)
- Per load/weight

HOW MUCH DID IT COST the last time you paid for aggregate? (include the load size and/or "Other" comments)

**40. How is snow clearing, sanding/de-icing of the road typically arranged/paid for?:**

- Not applicable to our road / seasonal-use only
- Association pays a Contractor a fixed rate per plow
- Snow clearing is done by association volunteers
- Association pays a Contractor per hour
- Snow clearing is done by Municipality
- Association pays a Contractor per kilometre
- Association pays a Contractor under a fixed seasonal contract

HOW MUCH DID IT COST when you last paid for snow clearing (amount in dollars and indicate: for the season, or per occurrence, property, or kilometres); do you sand/de-ice or not)? - limit of 300 characters in this field:

**41. Is your road association a FOCA member group?**

- Yes, in the name of the Road Association
- Not in the name of the Road Association, but our overarching Lake/Residents' Association is part of FOCA
- We used to be members, but are not at the moment (please specify why in "Comments")
- No
- I don't know

(Optional) Comments:

**42. Does the road association carry liability insurance?**

- Yes, through the FOCA Association Liability program administered by Cade Associates Insurance Brokers, with the member discount
- Yes, from a different insurance provider
- No
- I don't know

Please indicate the limit of insurance provided by the policy (e.g., \$3-million), or use this space to explain why the road association does not carry insurance? (limit of 300 characters in this field):

**43. If contractors are doing maintenance, grading or snow-clearing work on your road, are they asked to show a certificate of insurance which clearly identifies the Association as an Additional Insured on the contractor's policy?**

- Yes, and they have provided it
- We have asked, but they have not yet provided it
- We cannot find anyone who provides this
- No
- I don't know

Optional comments (limit of 300 characters):

**44. To what extent do you try to control access and/or speed of vehicles on the road?**

- No formal control
- Signage is used to indicate "Private Road" or "No trespassing" at the entry point(s)
- Signage is used along the road to suggest speed limit and/or mark areas of caution (e.g., steep, curve)
- Access to the road is gated and/or locked
- We try to "police" speed by communicating with regular offenders
- We report recurring incidents of speeding to the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP)

Optional comments on any of the above (limit 300 characters):

**45. Is there an OPP presence on your road?**

- Fairly regularly
- Occasionally, but no regular schedule
- Upon request / to deal with complaints
- Rarely / never
- No - they have indicated it is not within their mandate
- No - they have been asked to stay out

Optional or other comments (limit of 300 characters):

**46. To what extent are each of the following an issue for your road?**

	not an issue	a minor issue	a significant issue	a major issue
Trespassers (by car, foot, ATV, etc.) on a private road	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Dangerous, speeding, or uncourteous drivers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Heavy construction, forestry, or commercial vehicles using the road	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Parked cars blocking water access or infringing on the road right of way	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Changes in usage with increased road traffic due to rental properties	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Changes in ownership with new-to-rural owners unaware of the road costs and commitments	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lack of volunteers to run the association	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
High cost of insurance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Difficulty finding contractors to do the work at a reasonable price	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Difficulty getting everyone to pay their fair share	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Optional: What other issues are you facing on your road? (limit of 300 characters in this field)

**47. Optional: Do you have any general comments, success stories to share, questions or suggestions for FOCA, related to road associations? (limit of 300 characters in this field)**

Thank you for completing FOCA's 2025 Roads Survey! We look forward to sharing the results with members at the 2026 FOCA Spring Seminar on March 7, 2026.

We appreciate your input, and will use this information to improve resources for FOCA members. If you have any immediate questions for FOCA, call the office at 705-749-3622 or email [info@foca.on.ca](mailto:info@foca.on.ca) for assistance during business hours.

Click **DONE** to submit your answers to FOCA.