

## Funding received for Wollaston 'Ridge to Bridge' project

**By Jim Eadie**

Wollaston Township has begun to prepare tender documents for the road repair known as 'The Ridge to Bridge' project.

The project has just had provincial funding approved from the Ontario Community Infrastructure fund, to the tune of almost \$1.4 million.

This project is for the rehabilitation of The Ridge Road from Highway 620 to the North Steenburg Road, and North Steenburg Lake Road from there to beyond Henderson Road.

It includes the rehabilitation of the Nicholson bridge, as well as replacement of culverts, guide rails or flex-beam barriers, new reflective signage, ditching and brushing, and upgraded or new surfacing.

The municipality noted in its funding application that this would improve traffic safety and flow, improve road drainage, increase support for heavy goods traffic, and reduce the risk of collapse or complete asset failure.

In December, a municipal snowplow accidentally struck the bridge, and an engineering report, which is expected shortly, will determine if that will change the cost of the bridge rehabilitation.

The township plans to circulate the tender for the bridge first, followed by the tender for the roadway once the bridge costs are known.

A copy of the grant application, along with the proposed budget and details of the scope of the work to be done, is available on the municipal website, or by contacting the township office.