

Committee recommends dam rehabilitation in Wingham

By Denny Scott
The Citizen

While the Howson Bridge and Dam Committee has suggested rehabilitating the structure to North

Huron Council, or demolition if funding can't be secured, the committee's work is far from over according to chair and North Huron Councillor Kevin Falconer.

Last month the committee decided

that rehabilitating the dam was the preferred option, but suggested that, if that couldn't occur due to funding, demolition should happen.

Falconer has continuously reminded the committee that fundraising for any project chosen by council was not the purview of the Howson Bridge and Dam Committee. Multiple council members, including Reeve Bernie Bailey, have also said there aren't enough tax dollars in the budget to support the project.

In an interview with *The Citizen* on Monday night, Falconer said the committee needs to come up with a work plan as to how the project will go forward.

"That will give a framework for what the final project would look like," he said.

That framework will include allowing council to set a sensible timeframe depending on the financial realities around the dam, Falconer said, adding that financial reality needs to be "favourable to both residents and the council".

The recommendation, however, is just that, Falconer said. "Ultimately, council has the final say."

Falconer estimates that the framework and recommendation will come to council in late May or early June alongside a presentation to council by the committee.

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