



Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus

**Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus  
MINUTES  
Sunday, August 16, 2009**

**AMO CONFERENCE  
2:00 pm - Renaissance Room  
The Chateau Laurier Hotel, Ottawa, Ontario**

**In Attendance:**

<b>County</b>	<b>HEAD OF COUNCIL</b>	<b>CAO</b>
County of Frontenac	Janet Gutowski	Elizabeth Savill
County of Haliburton	Dave Burton	Jim Wilson
County of Hastings	Ron Emond	Jim Pine Cathy Monzon-Bradley (Support)
City of Kawartha Lakes	Ric McGee (Mayor)	Jane Reynolds
County of Lanark	Paul Dulmage	Peter Wagland
United Counties of Leeds and Grenville	Mel Campbell	Steven Silver
County of Lennox and Addington	Gordon Schermerhorn	
County of Northumberland	Linda Thompson	
County of Peterborough	Ron Gerow	Gary King
United Counties of Prescott and Russell	M. Robert Kirby	Stéphane P. Parisien
County of Prince Edward	Leo Finnegan (Mayor)	Dick Shannon
County of Renfrew	Donald Rathwell	Norm Lemke
United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry	Chris McDonell	Michael Waddell
Other guests:		Steve Sellers, MMAH EOWC Broadband Team Members: Lisa Severson, United Counties of Leeds and Grenville Sheridan Graham, County of Peterborough Laura Bradley, Consultant
Regrets:		
County of Lennox and Addington County of Northumberland		Larry Keech Bill Pyatt

## **1. Call Meeting to Order/Welcome**

Chair Emond welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. Chair Emond introduced guests to the meeting Warren Sleeth, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing and Matthew Wilson, AMO Senior Policy Advisor. Chair Emond advised that Minister Baird, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities has been invited to drop into the meeting as well as Minister Watson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. He also advised that AMO President Peter Hume and Executive Director of AMO Pat Vanini will also attend the meeting to provide a brief update.

## **2. Additions to the Agenda**

Chair Emond advised there was a couple of additions to the agenda that will be addressed under New Business: Warden Gerow will speak to the issue of OPP Costing as well there is a report on the Proposed Changes to the Underserviced Area Program brought forward by Mayor McGee. Warden Gutowski requested to give a brief update regarding the Monieson Centre.

## **3. Approval of Agenda - August 16, 2009**

**Moved by: Warden Gerow**  
**Seconded by: Warden Gutowski**

**THAT the agenda for the August 16, 2009 meeting of the EOWC be approved as amended. Carried.**

## **4. Approval of Minutes**

**Moved by: Warden Schmerhorn**  
**Seconded by: Mayor Finnegan**

**THAT the minutes of the June 19, 2009 EOWC meeting and the Closed Session minutes of the same date are approved as presented. Carried.**

## **5. Chairman's Update – Chair Emond**

Chair Emond provided an update of his recent activities as Chair of the Eastern Ontario Wardens Caucus. He advised that on June 25-26 he attended an AMO meeting in Gananoque, Ontario hosted by President Peter Hume. On June 29<sup>th</sup> Chair Emond and Jim Pine attended a meeting in Bancroft with Renfrew County with Warden Don

Rathwell, CAO Norm Lemke and staff with the purpose of strategizing an approach to the Algonquin Land Claim.

Chair Emond congratulated the entire Caucus on the recent announcement on July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009 of 110 million dollars to the EOWC Broadband Project by the Federal and Provincial governments. He applauded the efforts of the Wardens' Caucus in having the vision for this project and to pursue the funding and support for it. He also congratulated the broadband team for their tireless work and effort on the project.

On August 14<sup>th</sup> Warden Emond and Jim Pine attended a meeting with the Chief Negotiator on the Algonquin Land Claim, Brian Crane, as well as, Renfrew County Warden Don Rathwell and Norm Lemke CAO in connection with the negotiation process with the Algonquin's and when the actual resolution process will begin. It has been decided that the EOWC will request a meeting with the Federal Government negotiating team as well.

## **6. Future Directions Update**

Mr. Gary King briefed the members on the results of the Future Directions 2009 Update that was recently received, as well as, reviewing the Briefing Note prepared for the Ministers' on the report. He advised that the report prepared by Allan & Partners continues to express concern over the fiscal difficulties that the Eastern Ontario Counties continue to face. The report recognizes that over time the provincial initiative to upload assistance costs will provide some relief to Eastern Ontario but the increased costs for programs such as child care, ambulance housing, property assessment, public health and policing are offsetting the gains.

Mr. King advised that with limited assessment growth of 2%, the municipal levy is increasing taxes per household beyond inflation. The total levy for the 13 EOWC members in 2009 was \$348 million. This represents a 4% increase over the 2008 levy and a 54% increase over the 2002 levy.

## **7. AMO Conference**

Mr. Jim Pine reviewed the Briefing Books prepared for the All Minister's meeting and the meeting with Mr. Tim Hudak. He advised that each subject being addressed by the Warden has been assigned to an EOWC member for presentation during the meetings. If a Warden/Mayor has been assigned a subject that is being presented during an individual delegation (Long-term Care New Regulations or Algonquin land Claim) then they will present during the other meetings as well.

It was also agreed that the EOWC will address the following topics during the Bear Pit session on Tuesday afternoon:

Mitigation Funding – Warden Emond

Roads and Bridges Review – Warden Mel Campbell

Doctor Recruitment Underserviced area Designation – Warden Gutowski

## **8. Minister Baird – Ministry of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities**

Minister Baird dropped into the meeting and provided an update to the Wardens' Caucus. He congratulated the Caucus on the advocacy work they have done and continue to do to promote the needs of Eastern Ontario. He also congratulated the EOWC on their broadband initiative and added that he was excited to have been able to approve the Federal Government's financial support of \$ 55 million dollars for the project. He added that Economic benefit that the broadband project will bring to Eastern Ontario is immeasurable.

Minister Baird also spoke about the impact the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus had in the creation of SODA. It is a strong example of the success of the advocacy work that the EOWC has had.

Minster Baird spoke to the change in philosophy and the improved relationship between the Provincial and Federal Governments and stated that working together on the quick approvals of Infrastructure project applications allowed for all levels of government to contribute to the work of creating jobs.

Chair Emond thanked Minister Baird for the funding and endorsement of the broadband project and for speaking to the Wardens' Caucus.

## **9. Day with MP's & MPP's**

Mayor McGee advised that a conference call took place on July 22, 2009 to discuss the merit of the idea of Eastern Ontario MP's and MPP's to meet with Wardens and CAO's. Further discussion and planning will take place while at AMO at a meeting on Monday August 17<sup>th</sup>.

## **10. Minister Jim Watson – Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing**

Minster Watson joined the meeting and provided a brief update to the Wardens' Caucus. He congratulated the EOWC on the recent funding announcement for the Eastern Ontario Regional Network, recognizing the incredible amount of work and foresight the Wardens' have displayed with this type of project. Minister Watson also spoke about the substantial investment being made by both levels of government through the Infrastructure money that has been announced in past few months. He spoke positively about the improved working relationships of all three levels of government. He praised the work of the EOWC and their continued advocacy work for change in the region. He cited success stories such as the EODF, recognizing the Wardens' proposed this type of initiative and saw it through to fruition. Minister Watson also spoke of to the success of the Provincial Municipal Fiscal Service Delivery Review, in particular, the upload of the ODSP, Ontario Works upload and the prisoner transport and court security that will save municipalities \$1.5 billion dollars next year.

Minster Watson also spoke about the recent funding announcements to build 4500 housing units at a cost allocation of \$140,000 per unit raised from the previous \$70,000.

Mayor McGee requested that the Government review the application guidelines for single tiers under the various funding programs recognizing that in an Upper tier, several

projects could be applied for by the various municipalities and with single tier only one application is accepted. Minster Watson acknowledged the issue.

Chair Emond thank Minister Watson for speaking to the group and thanked him for all of his previous support of the EOWC.

## **11. Regional Broadband Project Update**

Jim Pine advised the Warden's that the draft RFP has been forwarded to a solicitor, Mr. Harold Van Winssen of Templeman Menninga, as agreed at the CAO meeting in July. Mr. VanWinssen has extensive experience in telecommunications and with the Request for Proposal process. Mr. Van Winssen has been working with the broadband team to refine the RFP. Mr. Pine briefly reviewed the RFP Communication Plan that sets out the principles of the RFP.

Mr. Pine also advised that a meeting to discuss the Cost Sharing Formula to allocate the EOWC's commitment of \$10 million to the project has been scheduled for September 16<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 pm in the Lisbon Room at the Ambassador Hotel. Mr. Pine advised that an invitation will go out to all EOWC members and their Council members to attend that meeting to receive information on the project as well as be advised of the cost sharing formulas being considered.

Warden Dulmage inquired as to the timing of the issuance of the RFP and questioned when the EOWC would have the opportunity to review it in advance of it going out as per a previous motion passed. Mr. Pine advised that as it is still in draft form a meeting could be set once finalized for the Wardens to approve its issuance. It was agreed that the RFP would be reviewed and approved by the Wardens at the September 16<sup>th</sup> meeting or sooner, at a meeting called by the chair, if the RFP is finalized earlier than September 16<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Pine advised that it was the intention to release the RFP as soon as possible after the Wardens approve its release.

Gary King advised that 6 – 8 methods of cost sharing are being reviewed by the CAOs. It is the intention of the CAOs to bring forward a preferred option of cost sharing at the September 16<sup>th</sup> meeting and seek approval. Mr. Pine advised that the costs being incurred currently, to complete the work of the RFP preparation and project office setup, are being borne by the County of Hastings, County of Peterborough and the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville and that consideration will have to be given to these counties when the cost sharing formula is decided upon.

## **12. AMO Update – President Peter Hume and Executive Director Pat Vanini**

Present Hume joined the meeting and congratulated the EOWC on its advocacy work for the region. He also offered his congratulations of the recent funding announcement for the Eastern Ontario Regional network. He commented on the positive approach the EOWC takes with the issues they address and he personally thanked Chair Emond for his involvement with the AMO Board of Directors.

President Hume highlighted many of the interesting sessions at the AMO Conference and encouraged the Wardens to attend as many as possible.

Executive Pat Vanini provided a brief presentation on the Provincial Municipal Fiscal & Service Delivery Review and the ongoing work with the implementation of the recommendations. She reviewed the key outcomes and reviewed the work and membership of the various committees and working groups created to assist with the implantation of recommendations contained in the report. Warden Emond thanked both President Hume and Ms. Vanini for attending the meeting and providing an update on the activities of AMO and for their hard work on behalf of Ontario Municipalities.

### **13. New Business**

#### **OPP Costing**

Warden Gerow advised that a working group has been comprised of 8 municipalities in Peterborough County to deal with their new OPP contract. Warden Gerow advised that Minister Bartolucci has proposed that if the working group agrees to the costing put forth currently, that the new costs will not be retroactive to January 2009 as previously stated and take effect when the contract is signed. Warden Gerow introduced a resolution to petition the Province of Ontario to consider uploading OPP service delivery responsibility and cost, and asked for the support of the EOWC.

There was some discussion around the specific wording of the resolution and it was amended to reflect the changes.

**Moved by: Warden Gerow**  
**Seconded by: Warden Campbell**

**THAT the following resolution be approved. Carried.**

**WHEREAS** the Townships within the County of Peterborough were engaged in the negotiations of Police Service contracts with the Ontario Provincial Police for an extended time period of 9 months;

**AND WHEREAS** the reasons for this protracted negotiation relate to significant cost increases and the lack of a clear and transparent costing methodology that can demonstrate a direct relationship between the amount being charged and the services being delivered;

**AND WHEREAS** the requirements of the Police Services Act does not provide Municipal Councils with any control or discretion in relation to service levels or the cost which must be recouped through municipal property taxes;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Township of Havelock-Belmont-Methuen petition the Province of Ontario to consider uploading of the service delivery responsibility and cost,

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this request be advanced to the Ministry of the Attorney General, the Minister of Finance and the Premier, MPP Jeff Leal and MPP Rick

Johnson, and further be circulated to the Townships within the County of Peterborough, the County of Peterborough, the Eastern Wardens Caucus and AMO for consideration of support.

### **Proposed Changes to the Underserviced Area Program**

Mayor McGee advised that the City of Kawartha Lakes was advised about this new funding formula just a few weeks before. He advised that because of the new funding formula some municipalities will no longer qualify under the Underserviced Area Program and this will have a huge impact on their ability to attract physicians. Jane Reynolds, CAO advised that there is also concern that the new funding formula that will see municipalities exempted from this program may be brought forward and applied to other programs. Ms. Reynolds advised that the deadline for comments on the funding formula change is August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009. It was agreed that Jane Reynolds would assist in the preparation of the question posed at the Bear Pit session on this issue.

**Moved by: Mayor McGee**

**Seconded by: Warden Gerow**

**THAT the EOWC supports the City of Kawartha Lakes recommendations to the Minister of Long-term Care on the issue. Carried.**

**1) THAT** the Minister consider the negative implications to the proposed changes to the Underserviced Area Program (UAP) described in the Ministry of Health and Long-term Care consultation paper.

**2) THAT** the Minister direct Ministry staff to make further refinements to the UAP so that such negative implications as those generated for the City of Kawartha Lakes by the proposed model are eliminated.

**3) THAT** the Minister require that further development of a new UAP model be carried out jointly and in consultation with the MOHLTC, the Ontario Medical Association and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario to foster greater transparency.

## **Monieson Centre - Community-University Research Partnerships to Revitalize Rural Economies**

Warden Gutowski advised the Monieson Centre has made the decision to reframe their funding proposal for the new project Community-University Research Partnerships to Revitalize Rural Economies (CURA). "The proposed project will result in practical tools that communities can use to enhance economic and social well-being in rural Eastern Ontario." The areas prioritized through KIS project are identified as; Improving the environment, infrastructure, and opportunities for business in rural areas. Warden Gutowski advised that the work and analysis of the project is important to the efforts of Economic Development of Eastern Ontario. Warden Gutowski asked for a letter of support to be sent on behalf of the EOWC.

**Moved by: Warden Gutowski**  
**Seconded by: Warden Thompson**

**THAT the EOWC send a letter of support for continued funding of the KISS Project.**

### **Regional Data Set Update**

Jim Pine advised that the application for a RED grant to fund the Regional Data Set Update has been denied. He was advised that the denial is based on a lack of partnership with other agencies and asked to submit a revised proposal. Mr. Pine will follow-up with Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs staff on the application and report back to the Caucus.

## **14. Correspondence**

### **14.1 Incoming Correspondence**

- 14.1.1 From the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs the Honourable Leona Dombrowsky (May 27, 2009)  
Re: Rural Connections broadband program
- 14.1.2 From the Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services the Honourable Rick Bartolucci (June 10, 2009)  
Re: Meeting at ROMA or OPP Costing
- 14.1.3 From the Minister of Finance the Honourable Dwight Duncan (June 16, 2009)  
Re: Decision of the Assessment Review Board (ARB)
- 14.1.4 From the Minister of Finance the Honourable James Flaherty (June 26, 2009)  
Re: Pre-Budget Submission to the Federal Government
- 14.1.5 From the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry (June 26, 2009)  
Re: Loss of Combined Benefit Stable Funding Guarantee

- 14.1.6 From the Corporation of the Township of Lanark Highlands (June 30, 2009)  
Re: Advocating the Provincial Government on behalf of Small Urban and Rural Municipalities to Secure Funding
- 14.1.7 From Andrew Barrett and Yolande Chan - Moneison Centre (July 6, 2009)  
Re: the EOWC's continued involvement in the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada/Community-University Research Alliances Program research project
- 14.1.8 From Enza Ragone, Ministry of Community and Social Services (July 30, 2009)  
Acknowledging receipt of letter re: Social Assistance Restructuring Reinvestment Program

**Moved by: Mayor Finnegan**  
**Seconded by: Mayor McGee**

**THAT the Information Correspondence be received. Carried.**

#### **14.2 Outgoing Correspondence**

- 14.2.1 Letter from Chair Emond to the Honourable Michael Gravelle (June 25, 2009)  
Re: Resolution approved concerning Bill 173 Mining Amendment Act, 2009
- 14.2.2 Letter from Chair Emond to the Honourable Madeleine Meilleur (July 3, 2009)  
Re: Resolution approved concerning Social Assistance Restructuring Reinvestment Program
- 14.2.3 Letter from Chair Emond to Rural Economic Development (RED) program (July 22, 2009)  
Re: Submitting application for RED funding for Regional Data Set Update
- 14.2.4 Letter from Chair Emond to the Honourable Dwight Duncan (July 13, 2009)  
Re: Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund Stable Funding Guarantee
- 14.2.5 Letter from Chair Emond to the Honourable Brad Duguid (July 13, 2009)  
Re: Algonquin Land Claim
- 14.2.6 Letter from Chair Emond to the Honourable Donna Cansfield (July 13, 2009)

Re: Algonquin Land Claim

14.2.7 Letter to the Honourable George Smitherman (July 27, 2009)  
Re: Port of Prescott – Stimulus Application – Grain Storage Bins

14.2.8 Letter to the Honourable John Baird (July 27, 2009)  
Re: Port of Prescott – Stimulus Application – Grain Storage Bins

## **15. Next Meeting**

September 16, 2009 Lisbon Room Ambassador Hotel Kingston, Ontario 4:30 pm

## **16. Confirmatory By-Law # 09-06**

### **Motion**

**Moved by: Warden Burton**

**Seconded by: Mayor Finnegan**

**The Board of Directors of the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus hereby enacts as follows:**

- 1. THAT the action of the Board of Directors at its meeting held on the 16th day of August 2009 in respect to each motion, resolution, by-law and other action passed and taken by the Board of Directors at its said meeting, except where prior approval of any other body or agency is required, is hereby adopted, ratified and confirmed.**
- 2. THAT the Chair and the proper officers of the Corporation of the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus Inc. are hereby authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to the said action or to obtain approvals where required, and to execute all documents as may be necessary in that behalf and the Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to affix the Corporate Seal to all such documents. Carried.**

## **17. Adjournment**