



Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus

**Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus  
MINUTES  
Friday, January 15, 2010  
9:00 am  
Four Points by Sheraton Hotel – Limestone City Ballroom  
Kingston, ON**

In Attendance:

<b>County</b>	<b>EOWC CURRENT MEMBERS AND INCOMING MEMBERS</b>	<b>STAFF</b>
County of Frontenac	Janet Gutowski-Past Warden Gary Davison-Warden	Liz Savill-CAO
County of Haliburton	Dave Burton-Warden	Jim Wilson-CAO
County of Hastings	Ron Emond-Chair Jo-Anne Albert - Warden	Cathy Monzon-Bradley - Support
City of Kawartha Lakes	Ric McGee- Mayor	Jane Reynolds - CAO
County of Lanark	Paul Dulmage-Past Warden John Fenik- Warden	Peter Wagland-CAO
United Counties of Leeds and Grenville	Mel Campbell-Past Warden Bill Thake-Warden	Steven Silver-CAO
County of Lennox and Addington	Gord Schermerhorn-Past Warden Henry Hogg - Warden	Larry Keech-CAO
County of Northumberland	Linda Thompson-Past Warden Peter Delanty-Warden	Bill Pyatt-CAO
County of Peterborough	J. Murray Jones-Warden	Gary King-CAO
United Counties of Prescott and Russell	M. Robert Kirby-Past Warden Conrad Lamadeleine- Warden	Stéphane P. Parisien-CAO
County of Prince Edward	Leo Finnegan- Mayor	Dick Shannon-CAO
County of Renfrew	Donald Rathwell-Warden	
United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry	Chris McDonnell-Past Warden Bryan McGillis-Warden	Michael Waddell-CAO

Other guests:		Vince Fabilli, Warren Sleeth and Steve Seller – MMAH
Regrets:		
County of Peterborough	Ron Gerow–Past Warden	
County of Hastings	Jim Pine – CAO, Secretary-Treasurer	
County of Renfrew	Norm Lemke -CAO	

## 1. Call Meeting to Order/Welcome

Chair Emond called the meeting to order and welcomed special guests Vince Fabilli, Warren Sleeth and Steve Seller from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing and thanked them for attending. Gary King advised that there was a business item from the previous day that they would like to have addressed prior to the election of chair and vice-chair. Gary advised that a motion was required for the preparation and submission of the Provincial Pre Budget submissions.

**Moved by: Mayor McGee**  
**Seconded by: Paul Dulmage**

**THAT a Provincial Pre-budget Submission be prepared and submitted on behalf of the EOWC Inc. Carried.**

Chair Emond addressed the group and thanked them for their support and confidence during his past year as Chair of the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus. He stated that he enjoyed his year as Chair immensely and enjoyed getting to know the members of the Caucus. He thanked the CAO's for their support and dedication to the work of the Caucus. He added that he has great respect for the work that they do on behalf of Eastern Ontario and added that the success of the broadband project is a testament to the group's ability to tackle major issues and be successful. He wished the new Warden's great success in the coming year and promised his continued support where required as Past Chair.

Mayor Finnegan spoke on behalf of the Caucus and thanked Chair Emond for his leadership and all of his work this past year on behalf of the Caucus. Chair Emond was presented a gift on behalf of the EOWC in appreciation of his work as Chair for 2009. Gary King also advised that a gift had been purchased for Vice-Chair Ron Gerow, who was not able to attend the inaugural meeting and that his dedication and work to the Caucus would be recognized when he returned to Peterborough.

## 2. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

Mike Waddell reviewed the ground rules for the election procedure of Chair and Vice-Chair. He advised that the election, if required would be by secret ballot. Any member standing for office must be nominated by a mover and seconder that is an EOWC 2010 member. Any nominee may withdraw at any time prior to the vote being taken. Each

nominee will have the opportunity to speak immediately following the resolution to close nominations.

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

**THAT nominations be opened for the office of President/Chair of the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus Inc. for 2010. Carried.**

First call for nominations for the office of President/Chair of the EOWC.

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

**THAT Warden Dave Burton of Haliburton County be nominated as President/Chair of EOWC Inc. for 2010.**

There was a second and third call for nominations for the position of President/Chair with no further nominations being received.

**Moved by: Warden Thake**  
**Seconded by: Mayor McGee**

**THAT the nominations for the position of President/Chair of the EOWC Inc. be closed. Carried.**

Warden Dave Burton was declared President/Chair of the EOWC Inc. for the year 2010 by acclamation.

**Moved by: Warden Hogg**  
**Seconded by: Warden Fenik**

**THAT nominations be opened for the office of Vice President/Chair of the EOWC Inc. Carried.**

First call for nominations for the office of Vice-President/Chair of the EOWC for 2010.

**Moved by: Mayor McGee**  
**Seconded by: Warden Davison**

**THAT Warden Bill Thake of the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville be nominated as Vice-President/Chair for the EOWC Inc. for 2010. Carried.**

There was a second and third call for nominations for the position of Vice-President/Chair with no further nominations being received.

Warden Bill Thake was declared Vice-President/Chair of the EOWC Inc. for the year 2010 by acclamation.

Warden Rathwell advised the Caucus that he was pleased to be able to nominate Warden Burton as Chair. He added that he is confident that he will lead the Caucus well during 2010 adding that his proven leadership skills will assist him throughout the year.

Mayor McGee added that he considered it to be a privilege to nominate Warden Thake as Vice-Chair for the 2010. His 49 years in politics provides the experience that few will ever achieve. He offered his congratulations and support to both gentlemen during their terms of office.

Mike Waddell added that according to the by-laws the Secretary-treasurer shall be the CAO of the County that the Chair is Warden/Mayor of.

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

**THAT the EOWC appoint Jim Wilson as Secretary-Treasurer for the 2010 year. Carried.**

Chair Burton took the chair and thanked everyone for their support.

After a five minute break Chair Burton called the meeting back to order.

### **3. Arrival of Federal and Provincial Members of Parliament and Honoured Guests**

Chair Burton welcomed special guests:

Lou Rinaldi, MPP Northumberland Quinte West and Chair of the Eastern Ontario Caucus

Rick Norlock, MP Northumberland-Quinte West and Chair of the Northern and Eastern Ontario Caucus

Minster John Gerretsen MPP, Kingston and the Islands, Acting Minster of Municipal Affairs and Housing and Minster of the Environment

Minister Leona Dombrowsky, MPP Prince Edward – Hastings, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

Rick Johnson, MPP Haliburton, Kawartha Lakes – Brock, Lindsay

At this time Chair Burton asked Ron Emond to read a letter received today from the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. The letter indicated that an additional \$190,000 was being provided to the EOWC to help fund some of the expenses that are being incurred during the RFP review and contract negotiations. The announcement was much appreciated by the Caucus and Ron Emond thanked Minster Dombrowsky for her strong support of the project and the EOWC. Chair Burton also thanked Minister Dombrowsky for her continued support of the Caucus.

**4. Presentation on 2010 Provincial Government Priorities and Directions –  
Mr. Lou Rinaldi, MPP**

MP Lou Rinaldi congratulated the EOWC on the work they do for Eastern Ontario and in particular the success of the broadband project noting that it is the most significant investment ever made in Eastern Ontario. He congratulated Chair Burton on his recent election and thanked Past Chair Ron Emond for all of his work over the past year and added that it had been a great pleasure to work with him. Mr. Rinaldi advised the group that the Eastern Ontario Development Fund to date has awarded 12.8 million dollars to assist 33 economic development opportunities in Eastern Ontario. As the Provincial Government moves into 2010, focus will be placed on the 25 billion dollar provincial deficit and with creating new jobs. The Ministry of Finance and cabinet are currently working to identify priorities and the plan to address the deficit.

Consultations have ended on the affordable housing strategy and staff are working on the plan with the hopes to have it presented later this year. He added that the commitment to upload social service costs by the Province is on track.

Mr. Rinaldi ended his comments by recognizing the huge asset that the EOWC Inc. is to Eastern Ontario and urged the group to keep up the good work they do for the constituents in the region. Chair Burton thanked Mr. Rinaldi for his attendance and his report.

**5. Presentation on 2010 Federal Government Priorities and Directions –  
Mr. Rick Norlock, MP**

Mr. Norlock congratulated Chair Burton on his election and thanked past Chair Emond for his work on behalf of the EOWC over the past year. Mr. Norlock provided an update on the priorities of the Federal Government advising that the focus of the Canadian government is the recovery of the economy. He advised that as year two of the economic action plan gets underway, 8,000 of the 12,000 projects awarded through the stimulus funding program are underway. The work associated with these projects has adding much needed jobs and revenue into the system. He added that the government's investment in the Canadian Forces has put Canada in a position to host events like the Olympics and the G8 Summit, as well as, be one of the first countries to respond to the urgent situation in Haiti. He advised that over the next five years an estimated investment of over a billion dollars into CFB Trenton will yield employment opportunities and revenue generation for much of Eastern Ontario.

Mr. Norlock spoke about the SODA investment which is now the Fed Dev initiative and the five-year one billion dollar investment that will assist communities in Southern Ontario. Mr. Norlock added that Canada is well positioned to pay off the deficit and promised that transfer payments to the provinces will not be reduced in the process. He pledged his continued co-operation with the EOWC and stated that he looks forward to working with the Caucus to strengthen Eastern Ontario.

## 6. EOWC Presentation to the Federal and Provincial Members of Parliament

Gary King provided a PowerPoint presentation to review the priorities of 2009 and present the priorities of the EOWC for 2010. The review included work done on the 2009 priorities and presentation of the priorities of the Caucus for 2010. The top three priorities for 2010 are: Economic Development (which encompasses the Growth Plan for Eastern Ontario), Eastern Ontario Regional Network and Mitigation Funding. Bill Pyatt assisted with the presentation of the economic development priority advising that economic development sub-committee's (Bill Pyatt, Jim Wilson and Stéphane Parisien) work is on-going and that items discussed included;

- hosting an economic development summit,
- obtaining a commitment to begin work on a growth plan for Eastern Ontario,
- updating the regional data set and
- improving EODF eligibility requirements.

Another issue discussed was the FedDev Ontario program. The EOWC would like to request a meeting with the directors of FedDev and extended the invitation to Mr. Norlock to accompany the group on a visit to meet the representatives to discuss the EOWC and issues affecting Eastern Ontario municipalities.

The second priority of the Caucus will be the continuing work on the Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN). 2010 will see the project build begin on the backbone/truck portion of the project as well as the satellite component.. An Access RFP will be issued in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2010 and work will continue to establish EORN Inc and appoint members to the EORN board.

The third priority is to establish the financial impact on EOWC of the loss of Mitigation funding and report the findings to the Provincial Government.

Other items that the EOWC have identified as issues that will be monitored over the course of the year include:

- Ambulance Dispatch system, (MPDS)
- Algonquin Land Claim and
- Long Term Care Regulations

In addition to this, ongoing work by the group will include:

- Provincial Pre-Budget Submission
- Federal Pre-Budget Submission
- Report Card on recommendations of the Prosperity Plan
- Crown Lands
- Endangered Species Act
- Loss of Best Start
- Co-ordinated Collective Bargaining Initiative

## **7. Question and Answer Period**

Chair Burton asked for questions from the floor. Ron Emond inquired about the recent letter sent by the Caucus on the issue of dead stock collection in Ontario and asked Minister Dombrowsky if she had any comments on the issue. Minister Dombrowsky congratulated Chair Burton on his election and congratulated the EOWC on their continued work advocating on issues that affect Eastern Ontario. She also congratulated the Caucus on the success of the Broadband Project. She advised that the funding announcement made today of a further \$190,000 is to help offset some of the ongoing costs the EOWC is incurring in advance of the Contribution Agreement being signed. She added that as Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs she recognized the need for funding to assist with contracting expertise to allow the project to move forward. She advised that she is pleased to be able to continue to help support the EOWC in its work to improve Eastern Ontario.

Minster Dombrowsky addressed the letter recently sent on the issue of dead stock collection in Eastern Ontario. She advised that her Ministry has contributed 19 million dollars towards the dead stock industry in Ontario and it continues to be a service that the Government of Ontario subsidizes. She also advised that dead stock providers have to abide by regulations and that the system in place is consistent to ways that the product is dealt with in many parts of Canada.

Minister Gerretsen addressed the group and congratulated Chair Burton on his election. He commented on the success of the EODF adding that \$12.5 million dollars has been awarded, adding that he looks forward to the continued success of a program like this. He advised that we all have to be aware of the Provincial and Federal government's fiscal situations and that we will all have to look for ways of paying back the deficits.

MPP Rick Johnson offered his congratulations to Chair Burton and added that he looks forward to the continuing to work with the Caucus during 2010.

## **8. Confirmatory By-Law # 10-02**

### **Motion**

**Moved by:                   Warden McGillis**  
**Seconded by:               Warden Fenik**

**THAT 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 15th day of January 2010 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

9. Adjournment

Moved by: Warden Thake  
Seconded by: Warden Jones

THAT the meeting of January 15, 2010 be adjourned. Carried

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Dave Burton - Chair/President

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Jim Wilson - Secretary-Treasurer

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Date

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Date