



Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus

Minutes – September 30, 2005
Picton, Prince Edward County

In attendance:

UPPER TIER	STAFF
County of Frontenac	Elizabeth Fulton, CAO
County of Hastings	Jim Pine, CAO
City of Kawartha Lakes	Jane Lunn, CAO
County of Lanark	Peter Wagland, CAO
County of Lennox and Addington	Larry Keech, CAO
County of Northumberland	Bill Pyatt, CAO
County of Peterborough	Gary King, CAO
United Counties of Prescott and Russell	Stéphane P. Parisien, CAO
County of Prince Edward	Dick Shannon, CAO
County of Renfrew	Norm Lemke, CAO Lorna Knight
United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry	Mike S. Waddell, CAO
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing	Warren Sleeth
	Kathy Woods
	Dan Borowec Andrew Wallen Garrit DeBruin
	Catherine Lyons-King

Regrets:

UPPER TIER	STAFF
County of Haliburton	Jim Wilson, CAO
United Counties of Leeds and Grenville	Stephen Fournier, CAO

1. Adoption of July 22nd, 2005 Minutes

Moved by: Jane Lunn

Seconded by: Stéphane Parisien

THAT the minutes for July 22, 2005 be approved.

2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Jane Lunn

Seconded by: Gary King

THAT the agenda for July 22, 2005 be approved.

3. Representatives Meeting with CFDC's

Dan Borowec, Andrew Wallen and Garrit DeBruin, representatives of the Community Futures Development Corporation (CFDC) attended the meeting along with Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC) contracted Kathy Woods to discuss the Terms of Reference to outline the scope of responsibilities of the Steering Committee for the Eastern Ontario Opportunities Action Plan (EOOAP). Dan, Andrew and Garrit want to get an idea of where the EOWC is at this time and also to start the process of how the plan will work.

The CFDC's have made a request for additional funding of 10 million dollars to support the fund through until March 2006 (in addition to the 8.2 million provided) and an additional request for funding of 20 million dollars, per year, for the next 5 years (of which, a set percentage will go directly to regional projects). A review-in-term of the CFDC program has been completed and the resulting report will be finished sometime next week. The report indicated that the vast majority of the CFDC's did an excellent job, given the time frame and it is anticipated that these results will serve as justification for further funding. Further justification would be realized by the anticipated \$65 million that would be leveraged from the \$18.2 million federal contribution. It was noted that the survey did not include responses from any non-recipients. One specific area that may require closer review has been identified as the regional process and how these specific funds are allocated. There is some general confusion as to what the definition of regional projects are and a mechanism will need to be developed to differentiate between local and regional activities. Currently, any project over a certain dollar value is referred to Federal Economic Development Initiative for Northern Ontario (FEDNOR) for approval and some CAO's expressed that it would be desirable to go straight to FEDNOR for approval for these large funding projects.

One of the overall goals is to ensure that the Committee has decision-making power on fund distribution to projects and that the committee not be purely a "policy committee".

In terms of proceeding forward, the subcommittee will have the draft terms of reference as starting point for discussion, with the committee composed of CF representatives, EOWC members and other outside stakeholders (Ontario East).

In terms of creating a draft terms of reference for the EOOAP, the plan is to have this completed by the October meeting. Jim Pine, Elizabeth Fulton, Larry Keech and Gary King will head up this initiative. Gary will also contact Dan Borowec and Kathy Woods to suggest tentative dates to have a draft for the EOWC for the October meeting.

4. OMPF Communications Strategy (Catherine Lyons-King)

It was acknowledged that there is difficulty in taking the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF) issue to the media as it is a complicated and involved issue.

5. OMPF Review Committee/Dombrowsky Letter

The issue of the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF) has become more unsettled recently with the comments made by Minister Leona Dombrowsky in the Belleville Intelligencer and the comments made by Minister Gerretsen at the recent Ontario East Conference. For clarification Warren Sleeth stated that the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund comes under the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing and Canada-Ontario Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund is run by the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. There is the suggestion that it may be time to meet with Allan Doheny to compare numbers and ensure that everyone is working with the same data. It is the suggestion from the Chair of the EOWC that himself, his CAO and treasurer and the vice-chair, his CAO and treasurer and Jim Pine meet with Allan Doheny in Kingston on October 6, 2005. This meeting is to go over the past several years in Community Reinvestment Fund (CRF) and Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund payments taking into consideration the reconciliations and advancements.

6. EODC Fund Application

The funding application was submitted for the development of a Rural Plan (under the Opportunities Action Plan) within the time frame and it is being given a high priority for consideration. At the provincial level, Minister Leona Dombrowski expressed her support for the creation of the Rural Plan at the AMO conference. If the application is approved, then contact needs to be made with the province and the consensus is that Kathy can take the lead on this. The next steps would be to convene with the stakeholders. Due to the importance of this issue, all CAO's will be on the working committee.

7. Aggregate Royalties- Gary King

Currently there are three issues within aggregate royalties;

- 1) The desire to increase areas in province that would fall under legislative requirements of the Aggregate Act. (Some of this land may or may not be in Crown Lands)
- 2) Municipalities attempting to secure royalties from operations on crown lands
- 3) Royalties applying to transportation and tailings

There are to be no new additional aggregate royalties. This decision is quite recent and perhaps has not been passed along through AMO to the Counties as of yet. In terms of allocating Aggregate Royalties from Crown Land to municipalities, they are not moving in that direction right now and if it were to happen it would require legislative amendments. Ministry of Natural Resources indicated that it would not be supportive to including royalties on tailings under the aggregate policy..

8. Affordable Housing-Jim Pine

Jim Pine inquired of the EOWC whom was intending on taking the allocation, four counties responded yes, five counties were unsure and two counties were not at this time. There is also the issue of the facility by-law in which the tax-rate remains at the residential rate instead of the multi-residential rate.

9. OMERS Pension

There are a multitude of implications as a result of the Proposed OMERS Reform (Bill 206) for all municipalities and Counties. The CAO' s proposed that a letter be sent to AMO detailing that AMO should be pushing the memorandum of understanding for municipal legislative input before any legislation is passed. The CAO' s directed that this letter should come from the Chair in response to this issue.

10. Land Ambulance

i. Meal Break Issue (proposed regulation)

There was a meeting scheduled yesterday with Minister Peters, although he was not able to attend this meeting, the meeting went ahead with Tim Tehan as a representative of the Minister. Another meeting has been scheduled to meet with Minister Peters on October 20th.

The proposed resolution from the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care may in fact create more problems than it will solve and may create a double pay situation. A letter with the feedback on the proposed resolution will come from AMO, EOWC, WOWC and AMENSO putting forth one resolution concluding that a full exemption is the only feasible option.

ii. Cross-Boarder Billing

The CAO' s suggested that a more formal Eastern Ontario Treasurer's group be created and it was suggested that they could have meetings four to six times a year.

The Treasurer's would discuss/research issues mandated by the CAO's or the Warden's and then put forth possible resolutions or a course of action. The general consensus is that the treasurer's meet a week or two in advance of the Caucus meetings to ensure that any required items are addressed and financial items that are pertinent have input before the Caucus meeting. The CAO's determined that it would be easiest to align the treasurer with the CAO and the Warden's County- even if this individual is not leading the group, at least they would be directing it. At this time, Lanark's Treasurer will head up the cross-boarder billing issue. Minutes will be recorded at these sessions and sent to Lorna for distribution to the EOWC.

11. Future Directions-Comparison to WOWC

The CAO's suggested that Howard Allan be invited to attend the October session and take the Warden's through the comparison document. Therefore, any questions or observations can be put forth at that time. In addition, it was requested if this material could be sent to Industry Canada, the CAO's determined that it could be distributed.

12. Meeting Dates and 2006 Schedule of Meetings (October Joint Meetings and November/December Meeting Date)

- *October 17, 2005*- Joint CAO Breakfast Meeting at ACRO
- *October 28, 2005*- Proposed Joint EOWC and WOWC Meeting at Kawartha Lakes-suggested arrival for "Casual Meeting" October 27, 2005
- *November 25, 2006*-CAO's Meeting in Lanark County
- Treasurers will also be directed to meet up to 6 times a year (preferably shortly after each Caucus meeting, as requested)
- 2006 Schedule- remove the December Meeting

Moved By: Stéphane Parisien

Seconded By: Peter Wagland

THAT the revised 2006 Schedule of Meetings be adopted.

CARRIED

Moved By: Stéphane Parisien

Seconded By: Dick Shannon

THAT the November 25th CAO's meeting be held in Lanark County.

CARRIED

13. Correspondence:

- i. Letter to Minister Greg Sorbara re: AMO Conference dated August 29, 2005
- ii. Letter to Warren Sleeth re: AMO Conference dated August 22, 2005

- iii. Letter to Minister John Gerretsen re: AMO Conference dated August 29, 2005
- iv. Letter to Wayne Arthurs re: AMO Conference dated August 29, 2005
- v. Letter to Leona Dombrowsky re: AMO Conference dated August 22, 2005 with attachment.
- vi. Letter to Honourable John Gerretsen re: Funding for Long Term Care dated September 8, 2005.

Moved by: Elizabeth Fulton

Seconded By: Jim Pine

THAT the correspondence be accepted as information.

CARRIED

14. New/Old Business

- Jim Pine would like to invite everyone to the MPAC meeting.
- Bill Pyatt- Northumberland County is currently undertaking a policing study. They are starting the terms of reference and collecting data at this point.
- Bill Pyatt-(Waste Management)- Northumberland County is currently on their second trial on landfill mining, which appears that it would be able to extend the life of the current site for about 30 years. If any other municipalities want to come see the process, it will be occurring over the next month.
- In regards to the Long-Term Care Letter as part of the correspondence, it was suggested that the Chair pattern a letter on this issue and send it out on behalf of the EOWC with a copy to Finance.
- Warren Sleeth (MMAH)- Vince Fabiilli has been speaking to Regional Directors about what the EOWC is doing. There is the suggestion the Regional Directors and the EOWC meet two or three times a year. The Directors would use this opportunity to hear concerns, with the general understanding that they would not be able to change potential problems in programs or policies. The goal of these meetings is to create a greater awareness therefore, a better opportunity to work collectively.

15. Adjournment

Moved By: Stéphane Parisien

Seconded By: Peter Wagland

CARRIED

Secretary/Treasurer
Norm Lemke