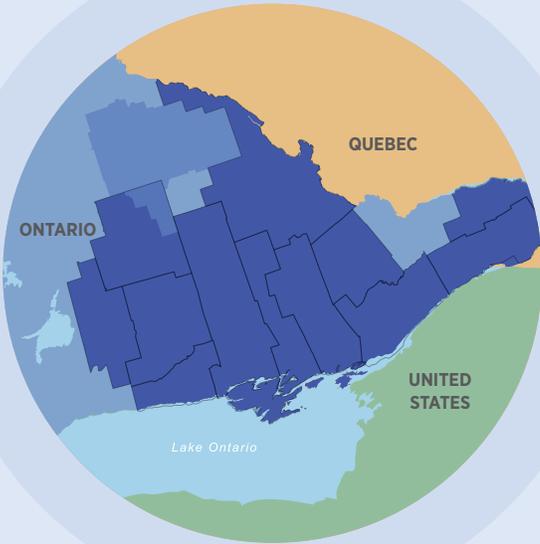




Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus



## Success through partnership

The Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC) represents **750,000** people in **103** rural municipalities.

The EOWC is proactive, with a proven track record of working together on solutions that make life better for people in all of our communities.

The EOWC, in collaboration with its members, can be an active and valuable partner to help the province achieve its goals to reduce costs and focus on frontline services that work better for people.

## RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS

**Eastern Ontario Regional Network Project:** The EOWC thanks the Province of Ontario for funding this project, along with federal and municipal partners. We are now ready to proceed with the \$213 million public-private partnership to expand cellular services, including mobile broadband connectivity. It builds on previous infrastructure investments by EORN that significantly improved broadband access. The project is the perfect example of what we can achieve when municipal and provincial governments work together.



Create **3,000** full-time equivalent jobs over 10 years.



Spur **\$420 million** in new business revenue.



Prepare for **5G** driven technologies.

**Eastern Ontario Leadership Council:** Brings together local leaders from economic development, municipal government and regional broadband network to implement a region-wide economic development strategy around three key priorities:



1

Skilled Workforce



2

Technology Innovation



3

Intelligent Transportation Systems

**CURRENT STATUS:** The EOLC is releasing its 2019 Refreshed Economic Development Strategy at the Ontario East Municipal Conference (OEMC) this September in Cornwall.

# LOOKING FORWARD: INNOVATIVE, EFFICIENT FRONTLINE SERVICES

The EOWC understands that change is coming and needed. It has already begun to work proactively to meet provincial objectives. As changes are made, it is critical that municipalities, with their local knowledge and expertise, have a say. Our communities have been innovating and making frontline improvements for years.

## PRIORITIES

**Public health:** Rural communities face different risks and challenges than urban centres, meaning that services to prevent disease, illness and injury must be delivered differently across rural eastern Ontario, which is roughly the same size as Nova Scotia.



There are currently **7** public health units serving **one million** rural residents.

**Land ambulance:** Many paramedic services in eastern Ontario are innovative leaders in community paramedicine and other health care collaborations that improve health and reduce costs/demands on the health care system overall.



**12** paramedic services across rural eastern Ontario answer more than **268,000** calls in 2018 – an increase of **6%** from 2017. In other words, 2 in 10 residents will call 911 this year for paramedic services to receive critical treatment and support.

**Long-term care:** The EOWC can be strong partner to inform how to improve service delivery and find efficiencies in long-term care. The EOWC has provided input to the government’s consultation on red-tape reductions and efficiencies in long-term care.



Municipal governments in eastern Ontario spend more than **\$38 million** every year to operate **2,200 LTC beds**.

**Housing:** Municipalities are the largest government financial contributors to housing costs in Ontario. EOWC has provided recommendations into provincial consultations related to housing affordability.



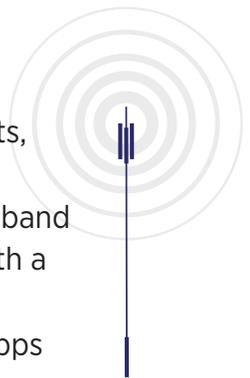
- **14,000** social housing units, including **9,000** municipal units
- Wait list of **7,500 to 9,000** people
- **\$71 million** annual shortfall in municipal spending on capital needs

### **Joint and several liability:**

The EOWC looks forward to providing input into the provincial review of municipal liability. The principle of joint and several drives up insurance premiums and reduces the services and amenities that municipal governments can provide, through “liability chill.” Nearly all other provinces take a more balanced approach that protects taxpayers.

### **Continuing better broadband:**

The EOWC and EORN will continue to improve connectivity for residents, businesses and visitors through the building of its mobile cellular broadband project. It will also push forward with a plan to ensure access to the CRTC minimum service level of 50 / 10 Mbps across eastern Ontario.



The EOWC is a critical partner, delivering and co-funding many frontline services. Having “say for pay” for the services we provide ensures better outcomes and service delivery. We want to work with the province to make informed changes that improve the lives of the people of Ontario.