



## Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus MINUTES

**Sunday, February 21, 2016  
Royal York Hotel  
Toronto, Ontario  
1:00 p.m.**

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. with the following individuals in attendance.

<b>Present</b>		
<b>County</b>	<b>Head of Council</b>	<b>Staff</b>
County of Frontenac	Warden Frances Smith	Kelly Pender, CAO
County of Haliburton	Warden Carol Moffatt	Mike Rutter, CAO
County of Hastings	Warden Rick Phillips	Jim Pine, CAO
City of Kawartha Lakes	Mayor Andy Letham	Ron Taylor, CAO
County of Lanark	Warden Gail Code	Kurt Greaves, CAO
United Counties of Leeds and Grenville	Warden David Gordon	Andy Brown, CAO
County of Lennox & Addington	Past-Warden Gord Schermerhorn	Larry Keech, CAO
County of Northumberland	Warden Gil Brocanier	Jennifer Moore, CAO
County of Peterborough	Warden J. Murray Jones	Gary King, CAO
County of Prince Edward	Mayor Robert Quaiff	James Hepburn, CAO
County of Renfrew	Warden Peter Emon	Jim Hutton, CAO
United Counties of Prescott and Russell	Warden Guy Desjardins	Stéphane P. Parisien, CAO
United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry	Warden Jamie MacDonald Past-Chair Eric Duncan	Tim Simpson, CAO

<b>Regrets</b>		
County of Lennox & Addington	Warden Clarence Kennedy	

<b>Others Present</b>	
<b>Delegation/Guests</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Justin Bromberg	Communications and Policy Coordinator, EOWC
David Fell	Chief Executive Officer, Eastern Ontario Regional Network
Lisa Severson	Communications Stakeholder and Relations Officer, EORN
Cathy Bradley	Executive Assistant, County of Hastings
Karla Sampson	Executive Assistant, County of Peterborough
Ron Holman	Chair, Rural Ontario Municipal Association
Gary McNamara	President, Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Pat Vanini	Executive Director, Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Bob Sweet	Chair, County Caucus, Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Monika Turner	Senior Policy Advisor, Association of Municipalities of Ontario

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

The meeting was called to order and Chair Peter Emon welcomed everyone.

**2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest - Nil**

**3. Approval of Agenda**

**Moved by Warden Gordon  
Seconded by Warden Code**

**THAT the Agenda of the February 21, 2016 meeting be adopted as presented.**

**CARRIED**

**4. Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the EOWC Inc. meetings of January 14 and 15, 2016, and the closed session meeting of January 14, 2016 were presented.

**Moved by Warden Phillips  
Seconded by Warden Jones**

**THAT the Minutes of the EOWC Inc. meetings of January 14 and 15, 2016, and the closed session meeting of January 14, 2016, be approved as circulated.**

**CARRIED**

## **5. Delegations**

### **5.1 Gary McNamara, President, Association of Municipalities of Ontario**

Gary McNamara noted that the Provincial Budget was being presented on Thursday, and that AMO would be preparing a media release. He noted that AMO has lobbied for an OMPF increase of at least \$11 million in 2017, and that the OCIF envelope should also increase for municipalities. As the Province recently introduced PTSD legislation for first responders, AMO has asked the Province to pay the costs for the OPP and not pass these costs to municipalities. He thanked the EOWC for being a strong united voice for the municipal sector. Jim Pine raised the issue of hospitals asking municipalities for infrastructure funding, whereas this should be a provincial responsibility. Discussion ensued.

### **5.2 Bob Sweet, County Caucus Chair, Association of Municipalities of Ontario**

Bob Sweet addressed members briefly on his role as Chair of the AMO County Caucus, which includes six members. Among them are the Chairs of the EOWC and the WOWC.

### **5.3 Peter Hume and Monika Turner – Bill 151, *Waste Free Ontario Act***

Peter Hume noted that Bill 151 could be problematic for municipalities. The new legislation is very high-level, and municipalities will be forced to negotiate with producers. There needs to be a formal recognition of the municipal role to avoid being at a disadvantage. Monika Turner noted that AMO will be doing a full court press on this issue. Municipalities are responsible under Ontario Regulation 101/94 for blue box and waste diversion, yet municipalities have no say in this new legislation.

AMO is therefore advocating for full producer responsibility. Ms. Turner also noted that municipalities have lost \$220 million due to “inefficiencies”. AMO has asked for a wider range of options, including 50% as a floor, and not a ceiling. In Ontario, every municipality over 5,000 must do blue-box recycling; AMO will request that producers take more responsibility – if they can bring the product to the municipality, they should be responsible for its return. Changes to the legislation are essential for cost containment.

AMO is asking that the legislation be fair and balanced. Mr. Hume asked that Wardens convey the message of “fairness” to Ministers and MPPs of all parties, but cautioned that Stewardship Ontario may react negatively. Wardens shared their thoughts on the issue. AMO has been clear that municipalities don’t want to have stranded assets, and Mr. Hume advised municipalities to be prudent in making their long-term capital investment decisions. AMO will advise the EOWC in two months’ time as to any further requests, or support in accessing funds from Stewardship Ontario.

#### **5.4 Tim Saunders, G4S Securities – Changes to the *Policing Act***

Tim Saunders addressed the rising costs of policing for municipalities, and noted that G4S Securities can provide the same service for court security and prisoner transfers as is being offered to municipalities, at a lesser rate. G4S is aware of the current rates being paid by municipalities, as it involves unionized positions. As a private security company, it would like to hold the status of special constable, as is the case in other provinces. The company would also ensure a fair wage to its employees that is relative to the municipality in question. Some brief discussion ensued.

### **6. Reports from Wardens**

#### **6.1 Chair’s Update – Peter Emon**

Chair Emon thanked Past-Chair Eric Duncan for attending the Ontario Pre-Budget Consultation in Kingston on January 19, as well as doing an interview with CBC Radio regarding hydroelectricity costs and expansion issues. Chair Emon attended the AMO Board meeting in late January and participated in briefing sessions on the Moving Ontario Forward plan.

#### **6.2 Updates from Wardens**

Wardens provided updates from their Counties, including delegations that they will have with Ministers at the ROMA/OGRA Conference. Among the major announcements was the construction of a new \$2.7-million public works garage in Perth and the recent approval of several County budgets. Warden Jamie MacDonald noted SD&G has decided to no longer accept delegations from hospitals and schools related to funding, and that it is in the process of negotiating shared service agreements with Cornwall.

Warden Moffatt noted that several lower-tier municipalities have signed agreements for municipal broadband. Several municipalities have created a partnership with Haliburton County, known as the Coalition for Equitable Water Flow, to address the problem of draining lakes in the Trent-Severn Waterway. Warden J. Murray Jones noted that Peterborough County has decided to tear down its 1824 jail, as the cost of repair was too prohibitive.

## **7. Reports for Review/Discussion**

### **7.1 OGRA/ROMA 2016 Meeting Schedule – Jim Hutton**

Jim Hutton presented the meeting schedule for the conference.

### **7.2 Provincial Infrastructure Funding Update – Jim Hutton**

Jim Hutton provided an update from the County and Single-Tier (CoST) Roads Group on funding under the Ontario Community Infrastructure Funding (OCIF) program. None of the upper-tier municipalities were successful in their applications. This relates to the resolution from the Town of Carleton Place, which is calling on the Province to discontinue the use of current scoring and evaluation criteria and instead distribute funding using a fair and equitable formula. Chair Emon suggested sending a letter to the Province or endorsing a motion, or asking CAOs to examine this next month and take action at the next Wardens' meeting. Jim Hutton suggested that Warden Rick Phillips could expand on this issue at the Multi-Ministers meeting. It was also suggested that the CAOs discuss this at the March meeting and return to the Wardens with an update in April.

### **7.3 EOWC Energy Priority Update – Jim Pine / Lisa Severson**

Jim Pine noted that an interesting session was held earlier this month with economic development officers during the Ontario East AGM in Brockville. There was significant discussion on the urgent need for hydroelectricity expansion for the industrial and commercial sector. Lisa Severson noted that energy was the number one priority at that session. Accordingly, the EOWC's advocacy role was highlighted. Warden Desjardins noted there are three companies in his region alone. Warden Duncan suggested that one solution could be that the EODF program include eligibility for hydro expansion projects. The EOWC will continue its advocacy on this file.

#### **7.4 Review of Multi-Ministerial Delegation Topics – Jim Hutton**

Jim Hutton reviewed the talking points for the Multi-Ministerial delegation being held Tuesday morning. Chair Emon noted that these should be used as a guideline and that the dialogue should remain open and less scripted. Jim Hutton inquired as to whether the Wardens should include Waste Diversion as an additional subject, and Gary King offered to prepare a briefing note for Vice-Chair Jones to address the issue on Tuesday.

**Moved by Warden Jones  
Seconded by Warden Gordon**

**THAT the EOWC Inc. include the subject of Waste Diversion on the agenda for the Multi-Ministerial Delegation.**

**CARRIED**

#### **7.5 Ambulance Service Agreements with Ottawa – Jim Hutton**

Jim Hutton noted that the *Ambulance Act* was modified several years ago, and that the inter-municipal agreements between several Counties and the City of Ottawa expired on December 31, 2015. As a result, several Counties are responding to excess calls in Ottawa but no longer being reimbursed. County Emergency Services Directors are meeting shortly to discuss the issue. Warden Code suggested a motion for the continuation of inter-municipal billing and having the EOWC negotiate a contract for 2016-2025, and that the EOWC send a letter to the City of Ottawa requesting good faith negotiations with its neighbouring Counties.

**Moved by Warden Code  
Seconded by Warden Desjardins**

**WHEREAS the inter-municipal agreements regarding the provision of cross-border ambulance services expired on December 31, 2015;**

**AND WHEREAS Ontario Regulation 129/99 under the *Ambulance Act* was modified on November 24, 2008 to remove Section IV, “Charges as Between Delivery Agents and Upper-**

**Tier Municipalities,” thereby affecting municipalities’ ability to determine and charge for compensation to a recipient municipality for the costs of land ambulance services provided during the previous year in the recipient municipality;**

**AND WHEREAS the Eastern Ontario Wardens’ Caucus supports the continuation of inter-municipal cross-border ambulance billing;**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Eastern Ontario Wardens’ Caucus direct staff to renegotiate the renewal of such agreements for the 2016-2025 period;**

**AND BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Eastern Ontario Wardens’ Caucus send a letter to the City of Ottawa requesting that it enter into negotiations in good faith with its neighbouring upper-tier municipalities (Counties) in order to renew cross-border ambulance agreements.**

**CARRIED**

#### **7.6 Appointment of New Provincial Ombudsman – Jim Hutton**

Jim Hutton advised Wardens that the Province has appointed Paul Dubé as the new Ontario Ombudsman, effective April 1. He recalled that the EOWC had considered hiring its own Regional Ombudsman, pending this outcome, and noted that this item would be brought back to the CAOs for a recommendation to the Wardens in April.

#### **7.7 Ontario Energy Board Hearings on Natural Gas – Jim Hutton**

Jim Hutton advised Wardens that the Ontario Energy Board will be conducting a hearing regarding an application from Union Gas to expand natural gas services to rural areas. He asked if the Wardens would prefer intervenor status or to simply send a brief. Tim Simpson suggested that the EOWC hire a consultant with expertise to prepare a briefing note. Warden Schermerhorn expressed some concerns. Jim Hutton suggested that the CAOs find out more about the hearing and discuss the proposal before making any financial commitments.

**Moved by Warden Jones  
Seconded by Warden Phillips**

**THAT the EOWC Inc. mandate the CAOs to discuss this in  
March and bring forward a recommendation in April.**

**CARRIED**

## **7.8 Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN) Reports – David Fell**

### **7.8.1 EORN CEO Report**

David Fell provided an update on the municipal broadband RFP, noting it is moving forward and some contracts have already been released. EORN is also working on a Wi-Fi White Paper as well as an e-business toolkit for how municipalities can take advantage of higher broadband speeds.

Mr. Fell also noted that Ryerson University was awarded the \$7.5-million contract over three years to become a centre for workforce innovation. An office will be established in Eastern Ontario and there will be funding available to work on some of EORN's strategies. An official announcement is being made tomorrow and representatives from EOWC and EORN will attend. He noted that Eastern Ontario will see a tangible benefit from this.

The Leadership Council is hosting a workforce development follow-up session in Kingston on March 4. EORN has not received a decision from the Province regarding the immigration strategy proposal, but the Province hasn't yet finalized the process. Mr. Fell noted that Ryerson University is mapping out the innovation ecosystem in an effort to find ways of working closer together as a region. CAOs are being asked to contribute to this development and have something prepared by the end of March. Lastly, Mr. Fell noted that the CRTC hearings on basic service have been scheduled for the 10 days following April 11, 2016. EORN will keep the EOWC posted on whether it is accepted for intervenor status.

### **7.8.2 Cell Gap Update**

Jim Pine provided an update on the cell gap project, noting that OMAFRA and MEDEI staff were briefed on the project two weeks ago in Guelph. The detailed briefing was very well received and as a result, EORN is now

being asked to brief a group of Assistant Deputy Ministers and eventually several Deputy Ministers. On the federal side, EORN will host a briefing in Ottawa with some of the newly-elected MPs. The Provincial side asked specifically that EORN push the federal side for its involvement.

Mr. Pine noted that EORN also attended the National Association of Counties meeting in Washington, D.C., to speak about cyber security and a public safety broadcast network. This is a first responders' network that could become a feature of the cell gap project. EORN would like the federal and provincial governments to support Eastern Ontario as a pilot project, a proposal that is also generating interest. The goal would then be to close the gaps in coverage and capacity, as well as create a public safety broadcast network for first responders. Mr. Pine noted that EOWC is once again poised to be a leader across the Province.

Lisa Severson distributed copies of a one-pager about what EORN has accomplished to date and the projects it is currently working on. Counties are encouraged to use and distribute this as an educational tool.

**8. Closed Session**

**9. Correspondence**

**9.1 Outgoing**

9.1.1 Letter to Minister Ted McMeekin regarding the Multi-Ministers Delegation at ROMA/OGRA, dated January 19, 2016

9.1.2 Letters to EOWC Counties regarding the service of Outgoing 2015 Wardens, dated January 26, 2016

**Moved by Mayor Quaiff**

**Seconded by Warden MacDonald**

**THAT the outgoing correspondence be received.**

**CARRIED**

**9.2 Incoming**

9.2.1 Letter from the Ministry of Transportation regarding the twinning of Highway 17, dated January 4, 2016

9.2.2 Letter from the County of Lanark regarding the Social Assistance Management System, dated January 28, 2016

9.2.3 Letter from the County of Lanark regarding Rural Youth Homelessness, dated January 28, 2016

9.2.4 Letter from Union Gas regarding Renewable Natural Gas and Combined Heat and Power, dated January 28, 2016

**Moved by Warden Moffatt  
Seconded by Mayor Quaiff**

**THAT the incoming correspondence be received.**

**CARRIED**

**10. By-laws**

**11. Notice of Motions**

**12. Confirmation By-law #16-06**

**Moved by Warden Jones  
Seconded by Warden Gordon**

**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 the 21st day of February, 2016 in respect of 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 the things necessary to give effect to the said action or to obtain any approvals where required, and to execute all documents as may be necessary, and the Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to affix the Corporate Seal to all such documents.**

**13. Adjournment**

**Moved by Warden MacDonald  
Seconded by Warden Phillips**

**THAT the meeting be adjourned at 3:30 p.m.**

  
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Peter Emon, Chair

  
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Jim Hutton, Secretary-Treasurer