



Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus MINUTES

**Thursday, January 14, 2016
Delta Waterfront Hotel
Kingston, Ontario
9:00 a.m.**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. with the following individuals in attendance.

Present		
County	Head of Council	Staff
County of Frontenac	Warden Frances Smith Past-Warden Denis Doyle	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 Past-Warden Keith Kerr	Kurt Greaves, CAO
United Counties of Leeds and Grenville	Warden David Gordon	Andy Brown, CAO
County of Lennox & Addington	Warden Clarence Kennedy	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 (12 p.m.)	Jim Hutton, CAO
United Counties of Prescott and Russell	Warden Guy Desjardins Past-Warden Robert Kirby	Stéphane P. Parisien, CAO
United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry	Warden Jamie MacDonald Past-Warden Eric Duncan	Tim Simpson, CAO

Regrets		
None		

Others Present	
Delegation/Guests	Organization
Justin Bromberg	Executive Coordinator and Communications
David Fell	Chief Executive Officer, Eastern Ontario Regional Network
Lisa Severson	Communications Stakeholder and Relations Officer, EORN
Warren Sleeth	Local Government Manager, Ministry of Municipal Affairs

1. Call Meeting to Order/Welcome

The meeting was called to order and Chair Eric Duncan welcomed everyone. Members were asked to introduce themselves.

2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest - Nil

3. Approval of Agenda

**Moved by Warden Doyle
Seconded by Warden Kirby**

THAT the Agenda of the January 14, 2016 meeting be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

4. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the EOWC Inc. meeting of October 8, 2015 were presented.

**Moved by Warden Phillips
Seconded by Warden Gordon**

THAT the Minutes of the EOWC Inc. meeting of October 8, 2015 be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

5. Orientation Review – Tim Simpson

Tim Simpson briefly explained the contents of the EOWC Orientation Binder and invited members to ask any questions. A historical overview was then presented outlining the EOWC's past success and accomplishments, including the Eastern Ontario Regional Network, as well as current projects and advocacy. He also explained the Terms of Reference and the EOWC and EORN By-Laws.

6. Reports for Review/Discussion

6.1 Economic Development Strategy/ Leadership Council – Tim Simpson

Tim Simpson provided some historical background on the Economic Development Strategy and the subsequent creation of the Leadership Council in September 2015. A meeting was held yesterday with the City of Kingston (as EOMC Chair) to discuss the implementation of the Council's priorities. Kathy Wood has been hired to begin preparing that document.

6.2 Meetings with Federal MPs and Provincial MPPs – Tim Simpson

Tim Simpson noted that the EOWC had success last year meeting with federal MPs and provincial MPPs outside of the usual conference setting. Warden Doyle echoed such sentiments, noting it provided an opportunity for Wardens to meet with a variety of representatives from both parties. Chair Duncan noted that the Parliament Hill meeting was useful, adding that the majority of newly-elected MPs in Eastern Ontario sit on the ruling government's side. This is an opportunity to inform these new MPs of the EOWC's role and priorities before the budget passes in the spring.

6.3 Discussion on Eastern Ontario Growth Plan – Tim Simpson

Tim Simpson explained that the Province recently distributed letters to Counties regarding the RFP process for the proposed Growth Plan. There was much discussion on this subject in the second half of 2015, as well as several concerns expressed by the EOWC. Jim Hutton provided some history, noting the proposal is a new layer of planning for Eastern Ontario initiated by the City of Ottawa. The growth rate in rural Eastern Ontario is 25,000 people per year, whereas Ottawa is growing rapidly. Chair Duncan suggested listening to the presentation from the Growth Secretariat this afternoon and recalled that there was a good conversation at Queen's Park in October. It was further noted that a working committee was established last September, including the Chair, Jim Pine, Gary King, Tim Simpson and Jim Hutton, to meet with a number of groups such as the Growth Secretariat and the City of Ottawa. Gary King and Jim Pine reiterated that the EOWC has been quite vocal up to this point, in advance of the upcoming consultations from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs. It was decided to defer any decisions until after the presentation this afternoon.

6.4 Rural Mayors Forum of Eastern Ontario – Jim Pine

Jim Pine noted that the Rural Mayors Forum of Eastern Ontario invited EORN to a meeting last week to speak about the project. The group is a newly-formed group of 14 municipalities representing small rural areas in Eastern Ontario.

6.5 Update on Hydro Mapping Project – Lisa Severson

Lisa Severson presented the mapping project for hydroelectricity, propane and natural gas improvements in the region. She explained the history of the project and that EORN has started mapping locations that require improvements or expansions. Many of these businesses are at capacity levels and this has affected business retention and additional growth, as well as local employment, agriculture, spinoff opportunities, and so forth. There is about \$20 million in investment required from Hydro One. She provided examples of major businesses that have struggled to expand due to the high cost of any hydroelectricity expansion. As a result, the CAOs have suggested a task force to work on this issue with the Province and are asking to make this issue a priority for 2016. Discussion ensued.

6.6 Appointment of Auditors – Tim Simpson

It was recommended that the EOWC appoint Collins Barrows Chartered Accountants, being the same accounting firm as in previous years. Jim Pine explained how the accounting works through the County of Hastings.

**Moved by Warden Jones
Seconded by Warden Smith**

THAT the EOWC Inc. appoint the auditors for the County of Hastings, Collins Barrows Chartered Accountants, for the 2016 fiscal year.

CARRIED

6.7 Incorporation Documentation (Form 1) – Tim Simpson

It was explained that Corporations must complete and submit a Notice of Change to the Companies and Personal Property Security Branch within

15 days after any change takes place (e.g. new Wardens becoming new directors). Wardens were asked to fill out the distributed forms.

**Moved by Mayor Quaiff
Seconded by Warden Gordon**

THAT the EOWC Inc. appoint the incoming Wardens as new Directors of the Corporation and submit the Notice of Change to the CPPSB as required.

CARRIED

6.8 Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN) Reports – David Fell

6.8.1 EORN CEO Report

David Fell provided a general update, noting among other things that EORN recently signed an memorandum of understanding with Ryerson University and Prince Edward / Lennox & Addington Community Futures Development Corporation to conduct the Innovation and Entrepreneurship ecosystem mapping of Eastern Ontario including the economic and social impact of the financing distributed in the region. Finally, EORN has been negotiating on behalf of all of the EOWC members as well as the lower tier municipalities for a regional volume purchasing of municipal broadband. A more detailed updated will be provided this morning in closed session.

6.8.2 Magnet Workforce Development Report – David Fell

David Fell provided the history of the Magnet project and also explained some of the discoveries that EORN has made this past year in terms of workforce development and job creation opportunities. The Magnet project offers EORN the possibility of sharing a wealth of information on regional employers. Furthermore, as of April 1, EORN will encourage employers to use Magnet to search and hire employees.

For this reason, EORN has started making presentations to Counties to encourage them to share this information at the local level. The objective is to use this information to develop a strategy for workforce development across Eastern Ontario. Lisa Severson noted that EORN will be contacting Counties to arrange dates for these presentations, if not already done.

6.8.3 CRTC Report – David Fell

David Fell noted the need for high-speed internet is constantly increasing, and capacity is being used very quickly. Demands and expectations are also increasing, and this requires help from other levels of government. The CRTC is currently holding consultations on basic services to gauge whether internet should be considered a basic service. The major telecom companies do not want any additional regulation. EORN has hired Dr. Reza Rajabiun from Ryerson University to lobby the government for an increase in high-speed service and making internet an essential service for Canadians, particularly in rural areas. Furthermore, EORN will ask that spectrum funding be used to expand the infrastructure for rural areas. The next step is a public hearing in Ottawa beginning on April 11. As the EORN Chair and two board members already plan to present at these hearings, Mr. Fell asked for the presence of two EOWC members.

**Moved by Warden Doyle
Seconded by Warden Phillips**

**THAT the Chair of the EOWC Inc. and Warden Smith be the
EOWC representatives at the upcoming CRTC hearings.**

CARRIED

6.8.4 EORN Board Membership Report – Jim Pine

Jim Pine noted that the EOWC approves the appointment of five EORN board members every year, which can include members from the EOWC, the EOMC as well as the public. At the EORN board meeting yesterday, the need for continuity was discussed and board members requested the reappointment of Warden Burton, Warden Jones, Warden Gordon, Jo-Anne Albert and Bob Sweet. It was also requested that the four-year limit (since members were last an EOWC member) be extended to eight years.

**Moved by Warden Phillips
Seconded by Warden Smith**

**THAT David Burton, J. Murray Jones, David Gordon, Jo-Anne
Albert and Bob Sweet be reappointed to the EORN Board of
Directors for the 2016 year.**

CARRIED

6.8.5 Cell Gap Report – Jim Pine / Lisa Severson

Jim Pine provided some historical background on the cellular network gap analysis and stressed the importance of closing the many existing gaps across Eastern Ontario. He explained the analysis that EORN performed and its objectives for the eventual project. The estimated cost is currently \$180 million to \$200 million, comparable to the broadband project. The goal is to have a concrete partnership in place with the wireless carriers and the federal and provincial governments by the end of the year, and to eventually secure the funding without having to contribute any property tax dollars. Chair Duncan noted the federal government is supporting long-term benefit investments as part of its early pre-budget consultations, and stressed the importance of sending this message to federal MPs.

7. Closed Session

7.1 Eastern Ontario Regional Network, Municipal Broadband RFP Report – David Fell

**Moved by Warden MacDonald
Seconded by Warden Kerr**

THAT the EOWC Inc. move into Closed Session to discuss the Municipal Broadband RFP Report.

CARRIED

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

THAT the EOWC Inc. accept the recommendation regarding the Municipal Broadband RFP Report and move out of Closed Session.

CARRIED

**Moved by Warden Kerr
Seconded by Warden Smith**

THAT staff be directed to follow the next steps and financial recommendations provided during the closed session.

CARRIED

LUNCH BREAK

The meeting resumed at 1 p.m. following a lunch break. Members welcomed Warden Emon to the meeting as well as the group of the Ontario Growth Secretariat.

8. Delegations

8.1 Jim Pine – Onward Project

Jim Pine noted that along with Tony Haddad, much attention has been paid to the upcoming changes in municipal leadership. Almost half of all current municipal employees are between the ages of 55 and 65, while very few young people are entering the municipal domain (less than 7% are under 30 years old). Furthermore, municipal sector jobs rank third after the federal and provincial sectors. The Onward project has been working closely with OMERS, which has 267,000 active members and whose average age is 46. Within its membership, 65,000 employees are eligible to retire today and 118,000 members will be eligible by 2020. Mr. Pine noted the keys to success are entry-level jobs and permanent internships. He reminded Wardens that this issue is not going away.

8.2 Larry Clay – Ontario Growth Secretariat

Larry Clay presented a brief background of the Eastern Ontario Growth Plan and how it came to be included in the 2015 Provincial Budget. He noted, as an aside, that the Secretariat is presently quite occupied with existing growth plans in other regions of Ontario and explained the differences between those plans and this one. The first step in the process was the distribution of a letter to Counties in December, announcing the forthcoming consultation with regional Wardens, CAOs and Mayors. He noted that the purpose of the RFP is to select someone with knowledge and familiarity of the region. This person or group will meet stakeholders for an hour and go through a list of questions. This process does include the City of Ottawa and Mayor Jim Watson, and will result in a public report to summarize the feedback received and form the basis for the next steps. Key questions include: What tools are available to advance the issues in each community? Is it a growth exercise or an economic development exercise? This should begin in March or April, with a report available by late spring or early summer.

Mr. Clay noted that the Ontario Growth Secretariat is working closely with several other ministries, including MEDEI, OMAFRA and MTO. He replied to questions, noting that this exercise began with the introduction of the growth planning exercise in the provincial budget and that it will have to include all the work being done by the EOWC to date, such as the Economic Development Strategy and the Leadership Council. This has no regularly or statutory consequences, but is solely a fact-finding mission. The definition of Eastern Ontario includes the westerly portion, such as Peterborough and Kawartha Lakes.

Mr. Clay also acknowledged that the consultations may help determine whether a growth plan is an appropriate tool in this particular case. As examples, the Golden Horseshoe plan was a growth control document, while in Northern Ontario it was an economic development tool. Further discussion ensued. Gary King provided a summary of what the EOWC has done to date. The OGS will also be meeting with the EOMC tomorrow to deliver this same presentation.

9. Annual Planning

9.1 2016 Proposed Priorities – Tim Simpson

Tim Simpson presented an overview of the 2015 priorities and the proposed 2016 priorities, being advocacy on energy costs, advancing the cellular network gap project, monitoring the proposed Growth Plan for Eastern Ontario, and supporting the Leadership Council as it implements the objectives of the Economic Development Strategy.

Discussion ensued between Wardens, particularly on whether to include policing costs in the priorities. It was decided to include it as a fifth priority.

Chair Duncan provided some background on Multi-Minister Delegations that have been held in recent years, which culminated in more informal conversations at ROMA/OGRA and AMO in 2015. This proved to be more constructive as a dialogue. He opened the floor to Wardens' suggested topics for the Multi-Ministers Delegation at the ROMA/OGRA Conference. In addition to the five annual priorities, the topics of infrastructure funding and joint and several liability should be included. It was further suggested to retain the same format as at AMO 2015.

**Moved by Warden Phillips
Seconded by Warden Desjardins**

That the EOWC Inc. approve the 2016 priorities as presented, with the proposed amendments, and approve the topics for the Multi-Ministers Delegation at the ROMA/OGRA Conference.

CARRIED

9.2 2016 Proposed Budget – Tim Simpson

Tim Simpson presented the 2016 budget to Wardens and explained the breakdown of various costs for the year. Justin Bromberg was asked to leave the meeting and return following discussion on this item.

**Moved by Mayor Quaiff
Seconded by Warden Phillips**

That the EOWC Inc. approve the 2016 draft budget as amended by the addition of \$10,000 for an expense to be paid to Justin Bromberg, subject to review after one year.

CARRIED

**Moved by Warden Emon
Seconded by Warden Gordon**

That the EOWC Inc. prepare a Memorandum of Understanding regarding the payment of the honorarium to Justin Bromberg.

CARRIED

9.3 Ministerial Delegations at 2016 ROMA/OGRA Conference

Discussed under item 9.1.

9.4 Other Meetings at 2016 ROMA/OGRA Conference

Chair Duncan reminded Wardens that the EOWC has the opportunity to meet with Opposition Parties at the ROMA/OGRA Conference. Wardens were favourable to requesting these meetings again this year.

Tim Simpson also noted that the EOWC usually meets with the WOWC and the EOMC at the conference. This year, the WOWC has proposed a presentation from John Hannam, Clerk for the City of Thunder Bay, regarding consultation with Aboriginal communities. It was decided that Wardens could attend that on a voluntary basis. It was also decided to set up a meeting with the EOMC, perhaps at an off-site location.

10. Correspondence

Moved by Warden Moffatt

Seconded by Warden Brocanier

THAT the incoming and outgoing correspondence be received.

CARRIED

10.1 Outgoing

10.1.1 Letter to the Assistant Deputy Attorney General regarding proposed increases in the *Provincial Offences Act*, dated October 13, 2015

10.1.2 Letters to Ministers Bob Chiarelli, Jeff Leal and Ted McMeekin regarding Queen's Park Breakfast meeting, dated October 13, 2015

10.1.3 Letter to Eastern Ontario MPPs regarding the EOWC Queen's Park Breakfast meeting, dated October 14, 2015

10.1.4 Letter to the Honourable Ted McMeekin regarding an EOWC request for a Multi-Minister delegation at the ROMA/OGRA Conference, dated December 8, 2015

10.2 Incoming

10.2.1 Letter from Minister Bob Chiarelli regarding the EOWC Queen's Park Breakfast meeting, dated November 5, 2015

10.2.2 Letters from the County of Renfrew regarding the expansion of Highway 17, dated November 25, 2015

10.2.3 Letter from Kawartha Lakes CFDC regarding Eastern Ontario Transportation Needs Analysis, dated December 23, 2015

11. By-laws

11.1 By-law #16-01

**Moved by Warden Gordon
Seconded by Warden Desjardins**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the EOWC Inc. authorize the Chair and CEO of the Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN) to execute the Master Business Internet Agreement between EORN and Bell Canada for RFP-01-2015 – Municipal Services for the provision of municipal broadband services.

CARRIED

11.2 By-law #16-02

**Moved by Warden Smith
Seconded by Warden Moffatt**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the EOWC Inc. authorize the Chair and CEO of the Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN) to execute the Master Business Internet Agreement between EORN and Nexicom Inc. for RFP-01-2015 – Municipal Services for the provision of municipal broadband services.

CARRIED

12. Notice of Motions

Jim Pine advised members that the EOWC had previously discussed the option of hiring a Regional Ombudsman, pending the forthcoming permanent hiring of the Provincial Ombudsman. Wardens agreed to pursue this proposal as an option for the coming year, and discussion will be brought forward as necessary.

13. Nominations and Elections for EOWC Chair and Vice-Chair – Gary King

Members were invited to put their name forward for the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair. It was decided to hold the election process immediately and Mr. King opened the call for nominations.

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

THAT Warden Peter Emon be nominated for the position of Chair of EOWC Inc. for the year 2016.

CARRIED

Warden Emon accepted the nomination.

Mr. King called for further nominations a first, second and third time and after receiving no further nominations, called for a motion to close the nominations.

**Moved by Warden Smith
Seconded by Warden Desjardins**

THAT nominations for the position of EOWC Chair be closed.

CARRIED

Gary King declared Warden Peter Emon elected as Chair of the EOWC.

**Moved by Warden Gordon
Seconded by Warden MacDonald**

THAT Warden J. Murray Jones be nominated for the position of Vice-Chair of EOWC Inc. for the year 2016.

CARRIED

Warden Jones accepted the nomination.

Mr. King called for further nominations a first, second and third time and after receiving no further nominations, called for a motion to close the nominations.

**Moved by Warden Gordon
Seconded by Warden Kerr**

THAT nominations for the position of EOWC Vice-Chair be closed.

CARRIED

Gary King declared Warden J. Murray Jones elected as Vice-Chair of the EOWC.

14. Confirmation By-law #16-03

**Moved by Warden Moffatt
Seconded by Mayor Letham**

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

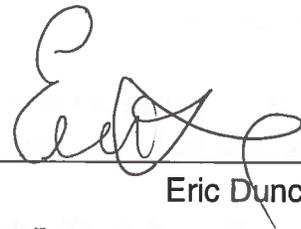
1. THAT the action of the Board of Directors at its meeting held the 14th day of January, 2016 in respect of each motion, resolution, by-law and other action passed and taken by the Board of Directors at its said meeting, except where prior approval of any other body or agency is required, is hereby 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.

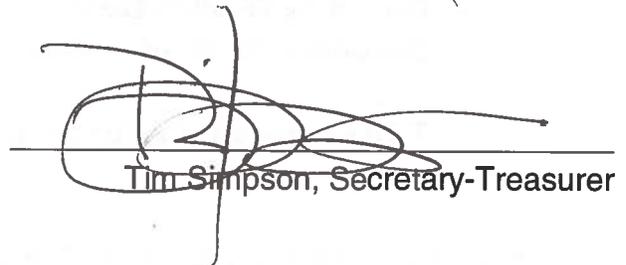
11. Adjournment

**Moved by Warden Kerr
Seconded by Warden Jones**

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 3:24 p.m.



Eric Duncan, Chair



Tim Simpson, Secretary-Treasurer