



Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus MINUTES

**Friday, October 18, 2019
9:00 a.m.**

**City of Kawartha Lakes
Days Inn & Suites – Ross Room
134 Angeline Street South
Lindsay ON**

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 Ron Higgins	Kelly Pender, CAO
County of Haliburton	Warden Liz Danielsen	Mike Rutter, CAO
County of Hastings	Warden Rick Phillips	Jim Pine, CAO
City of Kawartha Lakes	Mayor Andy Letham, Chair	Ron Taylor, CAO
County of Lanark	Warden Richard Kidd	Kurt Greaves, CAO
United Counties of Leeds and Grenville	Warden Pat Sayeau	Andy Brown, CAO
County of Lennox and Addington	Warden Eric Smith	Brenda Orchard, CAO
County of Northumberland	Acting Warden Bob Sanderson	Jennifer Moore, CAO
County of Peterborough	Warden J. Murray Jones	Troy Speck, CAO
United Counties of Prescott and Russell	Warden Robert Kirby	Stéphane P. Parisien, CAO
County of Prince Edward	Mayor Steve Ferguson	Robert McAuley, Acting CAO
County of Renfrew	Warden Jennifer Murphy	Paul Moreau, CAO

Regrets		
United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry	Warden Jamie MacDonald	Tim Simpson, CAO

Others Present	
Delegation/Guests	Organization
Justin Bromberg	Manager of Government Relations, EOWC
Maddison Ellis	Administration and Policy Coordinator, EOWC
David Fell	Chief Executive Officer, EORN
Lisa Severson	Communications Stakeholder and Relations Officer, EORN
Stephen Seller	Municipal Advisor, Local Government and Housing, MMAH
François St-Amour	Past-Warden, United Counties of Prescott and Russell

1. Call Meeting to Order / Welcome

The meeting was called to order and Chair Andy Letham welcomed everyone. Chair Letham introduced Robert Sanderson, Acting Warden of Northumberland County. Additionally, EOWC members congratulated Jim Pine on his appointment by the Province as the advisor who will lead renewed consultations on the modernization of Public Health and Emergency Health Services in Ontario.

2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest – NIL

3. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Jennifer Murphy

Seconded by Liz Danielsen

THAT the Agenda of the October 18, 2019 meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

4. Approval of Minutes

Moved by J. Murray Jones

Seconded by Rick Phillips

THAT the Minutes of the EOWC Inc. meeting of August 18, 2019 be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

5. Delegations

5.1 Richard Steinginga, CPA, CA, Baker Tilly KDN LLP – Presentation of EOWC Audited Financial Statements

Richard Steinginga presented and reviewed the EOWC financial statements, noting there were no significant changes in 2018 for financial reporting and that the statements were consistent with the prior year. Mr. Steinginga discussed the EOWC's financial position.

Moved by Rick Phillips

Seconded by J. Murray Jones

THAT the EOWC Inc. approve the EOWC Financial Statements, dated December 31, 2018, as presented, and that the Chair be authorized to sign the audit letter.

CARRIED

5.2 Howie Wong, CEO, Housing Services Corporation – Discussion on HSC Programs, Program Design and Service Offering

Howie Wong shared information on the Housing Services Corporation (HSC) programs and service offerings. Mr. Wong explained that HSC is working with the Province to expand affordable housing in Ontario. He referenced the EOWC member municipalities' commitment to expanding the supply of affordable housing in rural Eastern Ontario and outlined how HSC services and programs could assist with achieving objectives.

Moved by Pat Sayeau

Seconded by Liz Danielsen

THAT the EOWC Inc. receive the presentation from the Housing Services Corporation, for information purposes.

CARRIED

5.3 François St-Amour, Past-Warden, United Counties of Prescott and Russell – Ransomware Incident in The Nation Municipality

Francois St-Amour discussed a ransomware incident that occurred in The Nation Municipality in July 2019. He encouraged Caucus members to be aware of cybersecurity risks and protections, including proper IT security controls, staff training, and involving the police immediately in an attack.

Moved by Robert Sanderson

Seconded by Eric Smith

THAT the EOWC Inc. receive the presentation regarding the recent ransomware incident in The Nation Municipality, for information purposes.

CARRIED

5.4 Marvin Rubinstein, ApexPro Consulting – Review of Eastern Ontario Paramedic Services (Phase One) and Situational Overview

Marvin Rubinstein provided EOWC members with an overview of the information collected as part of the review of Eastern Ontario Paramedic Services. He highlighted challenges such as the provincial dispatch system, ambulance offload delays, and the lack of available funding for community paramedicine programs.

Moved by Pat Sayeau

Seconded by Richard Kidd

THAT the EOWC Inc. receive the presentation regarding the review of Eastern Ontario Paramedic services, for information purposes.

CARRIED

The members recessed for a break at 10:35 a.m. and the meeting resumed at 10:45 a.m.

6. Reports for Review/Discussion

6.1 Overview of AMO Conference and Delegation Protocol – Chair Letham

EOWC members provided feedback on the Multi-Ministerial Delegation at the 2019 AMO Conference. EOWC members discussed the size of the delegation and the importance of the Chair to be aware of those in attendance, in order to inform the Province. Members agreed that future delegations would only include EOWC Wardens and CAOs. However, non-EOWC members may be invited, if first approved by the Caucus.

EOWC members also agreed that information discussed in delegations would not be shared with the public until a formal EOWC media release or other communication is issued.

Moved by Ron Higgins
Seconded by Robert Kirby

THAT the EOWC Inc. and its membership agree to adhere to the delegation protocol when attending future delegations, including Multi-Ministerial Delegations, with other levels of government.

CARRIED

6.2 Looking Ahead to 2020 – Chair Letham

Chair Letham highlighted the proximity of the EOWC Inaugural Meeting to the ROMA Conference and outlined how this can make priority setting difficult due to tight timelines. EOWC members agreed that the 2019 Caucus would bring forward recommendations regarding priority areas to the incoming Caucus, in advance of the ROMA Conference.

There was further agreement that the incoming Caucus would focus on priority setting for the 2020 AMO Conference and the 2021 ROMA Conference. After discussion, members decided to hold a special meeting on Friday, December 6 to begin discussing the EOWC's priorities for 2020.

6.3 Budget 2020 – Chair Letham

Ron Taylor explained that the EOWC Review of Paramedic Services has depleted the EOWC's reserves and that there has been no annual strategy to replenish them. In order to ensure funding sources for future studies and initiatives, the CAOs have recommended a one-time reserve replenishment.

Moved by Eric Smith
Seconded by Liz Danielsen

WHEREAS the EOWC's reserves are used to fund studies, reviews or major initiatives that are approved by EOWC members, but which are not typically included in the EOWC's annual operational budget; and

WHEREAS the proposed EOWC 2020 budget will be presented to the incoming Caucus at the Inaugural EOWC meeting in January 2020;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the EOWC recommend that the 2020 budget include considerations for a one-time \$10,000 contribution per EOWC member municipality, in order to replenish the EOWC reserves.

CARRIED

Warden Higgins discussed the recent progress of the Eastern Ontario Leadership Council (EOLC), including a \$400,000 grant from the Ontario Labour Market Program, and highlighted how the EOWC has no funding commitment to the EOLC beyond 2019.

Moved by Ron Higgins

Seconded by J. Murray Jones

WHEREAS in 2015, the EOWC committed to funding the Eastern Ontario Leadership Council (EOLC) in the amount of \$25,000 per year, for three years;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Ontario through the Communities in Transition Program, the Eastern Ontario Mayors' Caucus (EOMC), and the Community Futures Development Corporations (CFDCs) also contributed funding towards the original EOLC strategy;

AND WHEREAS the EOWC subsequently approved additional contributions in 2018 and 2019, based on the EOLC's progress and evolution, as well as its ability to secure external sources of funding from the Province of Ontario;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT EOWC Wardens recommend that the EOLC funding be continued for an additional year, and that the 2020 EOWC budget include considerations for a \$25,000 contribution to the EOLC;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the EOLC Co-Chairs.

CARRIED

6.4 Working Group Updates – Ron Taylor

Paramedic Review

Ron Taylor explained that ApexPro Consulting is in the final stages of completing Phase 1 of the Eastern Ontario Paramedic Services Review. Mr. Taylor indicated that a profile of each paramedic service in Eastern Ontario has been developed and will be distributed for further review, following which the final report will be brought forward for approval at the December meeting.

Moved by J. Murray Jones

Seconded by Jennifer Murphy

BE IT RESOLVED THAT EOWC Members receive the draft report "Review of Eastern Ontario Paramedic Services" for information purposes, and direct the Paramedic Working Group to continue working with ApexPro Consulting in order to finalize the report

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Working Group be directed to develop key messaging to accompany the final report;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the final report be brought forward to the December 6, 2019 EOWC meeting for review and approval.

CARRIED

Affordable Housing

Brenda Orchard indicated that the Affordable Housing Working Group is in the process of organizing a meeting on Thursday, November 21 with the Eastern Ontario Home Builders Associations and the Ontario Home Builders' Association to discuss the development of affordable housing. Ms. Orchard committed to providing an update at the December 6, 2019 EOWC meeting.

ADM Meeting – EOWC and EOMC

Ron Taylor stated that a meeting is being arranged in November between the CAOs and several Assistant Deputy Ministers (ADMs) from the Province to discuss key priorities for Eastern Ontario.

6.5 Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN) – David Fell / Lisa Severson

Lisa Severson provided an update on the EORN Cellular Network and Mobile Broadband Improvement Project, noting that staff continue to work closely with the Provincial and Federal governments in order to advance the project.

6.6 Eastern Ontario Leadership Council (EOLC) – Warden Higgins

Warden Higgins highlighted to EOWC members that the EOLC is currently reviewing its governance structure.

7. New Business – For Future Discussion

7.1 Regional Trail Linkages – Warden Higgins

Warden Higgins discussed trail linkages and the possibility of the EOWC or the EOLC reviewing the feasibility of a one-window maintenance system for Eastern Ontario. Chair Letham committed to sharing information on this topic with Warden Higgins, but no further action or motion was approved.

7.2 Lake Ontario Water Levels – Warden Phillips

Warden Phillips discussed a recent meeting that took place regarding water levels in Lake Ontario. Mayor Ferguson spoke about flooding in Prince Edward County and the impacts it has on the local community. Chair Letham indicated that the CAOs will review the issue and bring forward further information to the December 6, 2019 EOWC meeting.

8. Closed Session

8.1 Paramedic Service Review – Future Work

8.2 Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN)

Chair Letham informed EOWC members of the need to move into closed session to discuss the Paramedic Service Review and receive an update on the EORN Cellular Network and Mobile Broadband Improvement Project.

Jim Pine left the meeting for the Paramedic Service Review Closed Session item.

Moved by Jennifer Murphy

Seconded by Liz Danielsen

THAT the EOWC Inc. move into Closed Session to discuss the Paramedic Service Review and receive an update on the EORN Cellular Network and Mobile Broadband Improvement Project.

CARRIED

An update was provided in closed session.

Moved by Liz Danielsen

Seconded by Eric Smith

THAT the EOWC Inc. move out of Closed Session.

CARRIED

Moved by Rick Phillips

Seconded by J. Murray Jones

THAT the EOWC Inc. receive the update that was provided in Closed Session and direct EOWC CAOs to proceed as per the discussion.

CARRIED

9. Reports from Wardens

9.1 Consultations on the Modernization of Public Health and Emergency Health Services in Ontario

Warden Phillips discussed provincial consultations on the Modernization of Public Health and Emergency Health Services in Ontario.

Moved by Rick Phillips

Seconded by Richard Kidd

WHEREAS Jim Pine was appointed by the Province as the Advisor to lead renewed consultations on the modernization of Public Health and Emergency Health Services in Ontario;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the EOWC invites Jim Pine, Advisor to the Government of Ontario, to the December 6, 2019 EOWC meeting to discuss Public Health and Emergency Health Services in Ontario.

CARRIED

10. Correspondence

10.1 Outgoing

10.1.1 Letters to Provincial Ministers regarding the Multi-Ministers Delegation held at the AMO Conference, dated September 6, 2019

10.1.2 EOWC Submission to the Ministry of the Attorney General regarding Joint and Several Liability consultations, dated September 27, 2019

10.1.3 EOWC Submission to the Ministry of Health regarding new models of care under the *Ambulance Act*, dated October 6, 2019

10.2 Incoming

- 10.2.1 Letter from MPP Randy Hillier regarding Hydro One pole attachment policy, dated August 7, 2019
- 10.2.2 Letter from the County of Renfrew to Minister Merrilee Fullerton regarding long-term care recommendations, dated August 28, 2019
- 10.2.3 Letter from Minister Laurie Scott to EORN regarding Cell Gap Project funding, dated September 20, 2019

Moved by J. Murray Jones

Seconded by Eric Smith

THAT the outgoing and incoming correspondence be received.

CARRIED

11. By-laws

12. Notice of Motions

13. Confirmation By-law #19-09

Moved by Eric Smith

Seconded Jennifer Murphy

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 18th day of October, 2019 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.

CARRIED

14. Adjournment

Moved by Robert Sanderson

Seconded by Ron Higgins

That the meeting be adjourned at 12:19 p.m.

CARRIED

15. Next Meeting

Friday, December 6, 2019

County of Frontenac



Andy Letham, Chair



Ron Taylor, Secretary-Treasurer