



## Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus MINUTES

**Friday, March 13, 2020  
8:30 a.m.**

**County of Lennox and Addington  
Museum and Archives Room  
97 Thomas Street East  
Napanea ON**

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.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 Liz Danielsen	Mike Rutter, CAO
County of Hastings	Warden Rick Phillips	
City of Kawartha Lakes	Mayor Andy Letham, <b>Chair</b>	Ron Taylor, CAO
County of Lanark	Warden Brian Campbell	Kurt Greaves, CAO
United Counties of Leeds and Grenville	Warden Pat Sayeau	Andy Brown, CAO
County of Lennox & Addington	Warden Marg Isbester	Brenda Orchard, CAO
County of Northumberland	Warden Bob Sanderson	Jennifer Moore, CAO
County of Peterborough	Warden J. Murray Jones	Troy Speck, CAO
United Counties of Prescott and Russell	Warden Pierre Leroux	Stéphane P. Parisien, CAO

<b>Regrets</b>		
County of Hastings		Jim Pine, CAO
County of Prince Edward	Mayor Steve Ferguson	Marcia Wallace, CAO
County of Renfrew	Warden Debbie Robinson	Paul Moreau, CAO
United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry	Warden Frank Prevost	Tim Simpson, CAO

<b>Others Present</b>	
<b>Delegation/Guests</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Justin Bromberg	Manager of Government Relations, EOWC
David Fell	Chief Executive Officer, Eastern Ontario Regional Network
Meredith Staveley-Watson	Policy and Administration Coordinator, EOWC
Maddison Ellis	Policy and Administration Coordinator, EOWC
Shaune Lightfoot	Director of Human Resources, County of Hastings
Brenda Stonehouse	Strategy and Innovation Specialist, City of Kawartha Lakes
Emilie Leneveu	AMO Youth Fellow, Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Graham Taylor	AMO Youth Fellow, Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Raghd Al-Areibi	AMO Youth Fellow, Association of Municipalities of Ontario

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

Chair Letham called the meeting to order.

**2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest – NIL**

**3. Approval of Agenda**

**Moved by Liz Danielsen**

**Seconded by Marg Isbester**

THAT the Agenda of the March 13, 2020 meeting be adopted.

**CARRIED**

**4. Approval of Minutes**

**Moved by Brian Campbell**

**Seconded by Frances Smith**

THAT the Minutes of the EOWC Inc. meetings of January 9, January 10, and January 19, 2020, be approved as circulated.

**CARRIED**

## **5. Delegations**

### **5.1 Brock Carlton, Chief Executive Officer, Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) – Discussion on Federal-Municipal Issues**

The FCM-EOWC meeting and presentation will be postponed to a later date, due to COVID-19.

**Moved by J. Murray Jones**

**Seconded by Liz Danielson**

THAT the report titled "*FCM: We deliver for your municipalities,*" from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities be received for information purposes.

**CARRIED**

## **6. Chair's Report**

### **6.1 AMO Board Update**

Chair Letham briefed members on the latest AMO Board of Directors advocacy work. Among others, priorities shared included public health, "the slippery slope," blue box transformation, and the 2020 pre-budget submission.

### **6.2 ROMA Conference Debrief**

Chair Letham reviewed the ROMA Conference and associated meetings. He recommended that staff prepare separate EOWC speaking notes for government meetings and for opposition meetings. Discussion ensued regarding the importance of staying on time for topics during meetings.

## **7. Reports for Review**

### **7.1 2020 Priority Setting – Facilitated by Brenda Stonehouse**

Brenda Stonehouse, Strategy and Innovation Specialist with the City of Kawartha Lakes, facilitated discussion and a sorting exercise around priority setting for the upcoming year. Following discussion, it was determined that the primary priorities will include long-term care and housing affordability. Ongoing priorities will include public health and paramedic services, the cell

gap project and 50/10 broadband expansion, and infrastructure funding. Staff will organize and advance these priorities, as well as collaborate with upper levels of government and associations, such as AMO and FCM.

**All Members in Favour**

THAT the EOWC approve and adopt the 2020 priorities as presented.

**CARRIED**

**7.2 Shared Services Dispute with the County of Frontenac**

Members discussed an urgent matter regarding shared services.

**Moved by Frances Smith**

**Seconded by Pierre Leroux**

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario is promoting the establishment of shared municipal and health delivery services as a means to improve service delivery and contain costs;

WHEREAS the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus is supportive of existing and future shared service delivery options;

WHEREAS the expenditure of scarce municipal resources to resolve disputes is not in the best interest of the Province, Municipalities or our shared taxpayers;

WHEREAS the threat of disputes and cost of expensive court based solutions is recognized as an impediment to future agreements and serves to erode the level of trust required to support shared services frameworks;

WHEREAS the Province previously provided a low cost dispute resolution mechanism that served the dual purpose of increasing confidence in shared services systems and reducing costs;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the EOWC Chair send a letter to the Honourable Steven Clark, Ministry of Municipal Affairs respectfully requesting the re-instatement of a Provincial mediation process as a mechanism to resolve shared services disputes between municipal partners;

AND FURTHER that a copy of this motion be provided to the Association Municipalities of Ontario for further attention and action.

**CARRIED**

### **7.3 Eastern Ontario Paramedic Chiefs Consensus Statements – Ron Taylor**

Ron Taylor reviewed the memorandum from the Eastern Ontario Paramedic Chiefs. He spoke to the caveat in the advocacy around a requirement for 100-per-cent provincial funding, with proper legislative changes to make sure that municipal governments are not at risk. Mr. Taylor spoke to AMO's support around this work to ensure EOWC and AMO alignment.

**Moved by Rick Phillips**

**Seconded by Liz Danielsen**

THAT the EOWC support the recommendation to include 100-per-cent provincial funding with appropriate legislative powers, to the memorandum from the Eastern Ontario Paramedic Chiefs.

**CARRIED**

### **7.4 Potential EOWC Meetings with MPs and MPPs in 2020 – Chair Letham**

Justin Bromberg is in contact with MP Francis Drouin and MP Eric Duncan regarding a meeting with Federal MPs on June 2 in Ottawa. He will provide members with more information and updates in the coming weeks.

### **7.5 Eastern Ontario Leadership Council – Andy Brown / Kelly Pender**

Kelly Pender and Andy Brown provided a brief update on the EOLC's recent projects and successes.

## **8. Correspondence**

### **8.1 Outgoing**

8.1.1 Letter to Provincial Ministers regarding the Multi-Ministerial Delegation at the ROMA 2020 Conference, dates January 24, 2020

8.1.2 Letter to the Federal Telecommunications and Internet Policy Branch regarding private sector investment in broadband infrastructure, dates February 5, 2020

8.1.3 EOWC 2020 Pre-Budget Submission to the Ministry of Finance, dated February 11, 2020

## **8.2 Incoming**

8.2.1 Letter from Minister Steve Clark regarding the Multi-Ministers Delegation at the ROMA Conference, dated February 19, 2020

8.2.2 Letter from Deputy Minister Greg Meredith regarding change of Ministry from OMAFRA to MOL, dated March 3, 2020

**Moved by Marg Isbester**

**Seconded by J. Murray Jones**

THAT the outgoing and incoming correspondence be received.

**CARRIED**

## **9. Closed Session**

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

**Moved by Bob Sanderson**

**Seconded by Marg Isbester**

THAT the EOWC move into closed session to discuss the Cell Gap Project as well as the potential signing dates and finalizing of the Transfer Payment Agreement.

**CARRIED**

An update was provided in closed session.

**Moved by Brian Campbell**

**Seconded by Frances Smith**

THAT the EOWC receive the update and move out of closed session.

**CARRIED**

## **10. By-Laws – NIL**

## **11. Notice of Motions – NIL**

**12. Confirmation By-Law #20-06**

**Moved by J. Murray Jones**

**Seconded by Liz Danielsen**

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 13th day of March, 2020 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**

**13. Adjournment**

Chair Letham thanked the members for their participation.

**Moved by Pierre Leroux**

**Seconded by Marg Isbester**

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

**CARRIED**

  
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Andy Letham, Chair

  
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Ron Taylor, Secretary-Treasurer