



Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus MINUTES

**Thursday, April 19, 2018 – 2:00 p.m.
Friday, April 20, 2018 – 8:30 a.m.**

**Calabogie Peaks
Madawaska Room
30 Barrett Chute Road
Calabogie, Ontario**

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.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 Suzanne Partridge	Mike Rutter, CAO
County of Hastings	Warden Rodney Cooney	Jim Pine, CAO
City of Kawartha Lakes		Ron Taylor, CAO
County of Lanark	Warden John Fenik	Kurt Greaves, CAO
United Counties of Leeds and Grenville	Warden Robin Jones, Chair	Andy Brown, CAO
County of Lennox & Addington	Warden Bill Lowry	Brenda Orchard, CAO
County of Northumberland	Warden Mark Lovshin	Jennifer Moore, CAO
County of Peterborough	Warden Joe Taylor	Troy Speck, CAO
United Counties of Prescott and Russell	Warden François St-Amour	Stéphane P. Parisien, CAO
County of Prince Edward	Mayor Robert Quaiff	James Hepburn, CAO
County of Renfrew	Warden Jennifer Murphy	Jim Hutton, CAO
United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry	Warden Ian McLeod	Tim Simpson, CAO

Regrets		
City of Kawartha Lakes	Mayor Andy Letham	

Others Present	
Delegation/Guests	Organization
Justin Bromberg	Communications and Policy Coordinator, EOWC
David Fell	Chief Executive Officer, Eastern Ontario Regional Network
Lisa Severson	Communications Stakeholder and Relations Officer, EORN
Dianne O'Brien	Deputy Mayor, Prince Edward County

1. Call Meeting to Order/Welcome

The meeting was called to order and Chair Robin Jones welcomed everyone.

2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest - Nil

3. Approval of Agenda

The Chair requested the addition of two items: "EOWC Procurement Policy," to be inserted at item 6.5, and a discussion in closed session regarding the Eastern Ontario Leadership Council Co-Chair, at item 7, following the delegations.

Moved by Warden Murphy

Seconded by Warden Lowry

THAT the Agenda of the EOWC Inc. meeting of April 19 and 20, 2018 be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

4. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the EOWC Inc. meetings of January 21, 2018, were presented.

Moved by Warden Higgins

Seconded by Warden Cooney

THAT the Minutes of the EOWC Inc. meeting of January 21, 2018 be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

5. Delegations

5.1 Chief Dave Murphy, Bonnechere Valley Fire Department

Chief Dave Murphy explained the proposed regulatory changes under the *Fire Protection and Prevention Act* (FPPA), including the mandatory certification requirement for new hires. He noted that the Province's proposed model for imposed certification on new recruits – and the financial and logistical implications associated with this – would be an undue burden to both the recruit and to municipalities, particularly small and rural ones with limited resources and volunteer fire departments. Furthermore, there was a significant lack of consultation with the small, rural municipal sector; the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services (MCSCS) established a technical table in January 2017, which consisted a few major cities, several firefighters' associations, Ministry staff, one AMO staff member, and one lower-tier fire chief. The majority of departments represented have very large tax bases and large budgets, administering their own in-house training facilities. The proposed regulation will not affect their day-to-day operations.

It was widely felt that the consultation period was far too short for Councils and fire departments to realize the implications of the proposed regulation. Fire departments in the Province were not privy to the work at the technical table and were only contacted via survey regarding their dispatching situation. Among other things, the proposed regulation requires that all new hires after January 1, 2019, be enrolled into a supervised internship program approved by the Fire Marshal. The internship shall last no longer than 24 months. Chief Murphy presented a number of alternative, viable options, if certification were to proceed. The imposed certification on new recruits – and the financial and logistical implications that come with it – will also be a burden to new recruits and many municipalities across Ontario.

5.2 Neil Currie and Ben Lefort, Ontario Federation of Agriculture

Neil Currie and Ben Lefort presented an overview of the OFA's Producing Prosperity campaign for the upcoming Provincial election. It began with a launch event at Queen's Park last October along with the EOWC, the WOWC and the Ontario Chamber of Commerce. The campaign includes

social media posts, videos, direct messaging to candidates, and regular commentaries and interviews in the media. Following the election, the campaign will continue with an OFA Field Day in August and a Farm Day at Queen's Park in October. Members were encouraged to visit and share the campaign's website at www.producingprosperity.ca.

5.3 Gary Couture, OPP Deputy Commissioner (Friday)

Deputy Commissioner Couture spoke about some of the changes coming to police services in Ontario, including to the Special Investigations Unit and the Independent Police Review Director. Some of these changes could take up to two years before implementation. The adequacy and effectiveness of the service, and delivering it to a certain standard within the community, are essential. He discussed the support for front-line police officers, and costs related to salaries and unions, noting that 85% are related to officers' salaries.

Under the new *Safer Ontario Act*, there will be some major changes to municipal police services boards, including additional opportunities for communities to decide who is going to police. Every community policed by the OPP, including First Nations communities, will have police services boards. This will create more boards: 200 across the province. Regarding the community safety and well-being plans, the Deputy Commissioner provided assurances that detachment commanders will be directed to be a part of those groups. The OPP has asked for this to be clarified in the *Act*. However, communities must have such plans in order to reduce police involvement in many of the community and social issues. Warden Fenik noted that the County of Lanark's plan has prevented community agencies from working in silos. Discussion ensued on Ministry funding for regions serviced by the OPP compared to those with municipal police forces. Members asked questions related to revenues from traffic infractions as well as the upcoming legalization of cannabis.

6. Reports for Review/Discussion

6.1 EOWC Breakfasts with MPs and MPPs – Chair Jones

Justin Bromberg noted that the date for the MPP breakfast at Queen's Park has been changed to Wednesday, October 3.

6.2 Proposed EOWC Communications Plan – Andy Brown

Andy Brown recalled that the CAOs were directed at the last meeting to examine a potential communications plan for the EOWC, based in part on the example provided by Warden Higgins. The CAOs discussed the idea last month, and in the meantime, Justin Bromberg initiated a quarterly newsletter. This letter is provided to all Counties who are then expected to share it with both the regional and local Councils. Twitter is also used during conferences and larger events. Although the CAOs felt that the communications plan would be beneficial, it would require a fair bit of resources and staff time. It was determined to reexamine the possibility for 2019 and then allocate the appropriate financial resources. The newsletter will continue throughout 2018. Warden Higgins agreed, noting the main concern was addressing the EOWC's visibility in the community at large.

6.3 Increased Involvement with the EOMC – Chair Jones

Chair Jones explained that she recently met with the EOMC Chair Leslie O'Shaughnessy and Vice-Chair Brett Todd to discuss opportunities for increased involvement between both groups. Options included a breakfast or dinner during the AMO Conference, or attending each other's meetings. The Wardens agreed that if the Mayors wish to be organized, they should communicate with their CAOs to be more involved with the EOWC. Jim Pine noted that while the EOWC members similar in terms of structure, the EOMC does not necessarily share many commonalities. The EOLC has become a good forum for collaboration and should continue that way. Chair Jones concluded that the EOWC would work with the EOMC when there are common issues of interest or advocacy. She will convey the EOWC's message to Vice-Chair Todd.

6.4 Workgroup on Transport of Hazardous Goods – Chair Jones

Chair Jones provided an update on the working group, noting that a report should be released in June. The Ministry of Transportation has placed significant effort into this initiative, including organizing several meetings with multiple stakeholders. A discussion ensued on emergency detour retours. The Chair will provide an update in June and ask Kathryn Moore from the MTO's Kingston office to attend a future meeting.

7. Closed Session

Moved by Warden Murphy

Seconded by Warden St-Amour

THAT the EOWC Inc. move into Closed Session at 3:10 p.m. to discuss the Co-Chair's position on the Eastern Ontario Leadership Council.

CARRIED

Moved by Warden Murphy

Seconded by Warden Higgins

THAT the EOWC Inc. move out of Closed Session at 3:28 p.m.

CARRIED

8. Reports from Wardens

8.1 Chair's Report

Chair Jones invited the Wardens to attend an event in Leeds and Grenville regarding human trafficking. She spoke about the recent passing of former mayor, warden and EORN board member Gary Davison.

8.2 Reports from Wardens

The Wardens discussed the adoption of Official Plans; the federal income tax changes to elected officials' salaries; the increased costs in long-term care facilities due to Bill 148; the County of Prince Edward's project with the FCM in South Africa; fire dispatch radio communications; safety issues on Highway 401; workforce development; ambulances being diverted to Ottawa; and the County of Peterborough's agricultural heritage museum.

The Thursday portion of the meeting was paused at 5:00 p.m., to be resumed on Friday morning at 8:30 a.m. The minutes continue below:

6.5 EOWC Procurement Policy – Andy Brown

Andy Brown presented his report on the adoption of a procurement policy for the EOWC, and explained its importance for any upcoming projects or funding opportunities. The EOWC's policy would be based on that of the County of Hastings, as the latter provides financial management services for the EOWC. David Fell added that through EORN, the EOWC board is covered for \$25 million in errors and omissions insurance.

Moved by Warden Cooney

Seconded by Warden Lovshin

THAT the EOWC Board of Directors adopt the Procurement Policy of the County of Hastings; and

THAT when using the Procurement Policy, the EOWC Board, Chair and Secretary-Treasurer be used in place of Council, Warden, and the Chief Administrative Officer, respectively.

CARRIED

6.5 Election of EOLC Co-Chair – Chair Jones

Chair Jones explained that an election for the position of EOLC Co-Chair should be held following the proposed resignation of Warden Fenik.

Moved by Warden McLeod

Seconded by Warden Higgins

THAT the nomination process be opened for the position of Chair.

CARRIED

Moved by Mayor Higgins

Seconded by Warden McLeod

THAT Warden John Fenik be nominated for the position of Co-Chair of the Eastern Ontario Leadership Council.

CARRIED

Warden Fenik accepted the nomination. CAO Stéphane P. Parisien 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 Cooney

Seconded by Warden Lowry

THAT nominations for the position of EOLC Co-Chair be closed; and

THAT Warden John Fenik be appointed as EOLC Co-Chair.

CARRIED

6.6 Eastern Ontario Leadership Council – Andy Brown / Kelly Pender

Andy Brown explained the process of the EOLC board in deciding to sole source a portion of the regional economic development strategy refresh with the MDB Insight firm. One legal opinion indicated that because the EOLC had been working with MDB on the project since November 2017, there was a risk and liability if the board were to proceed with an RFP. The portion of work with MDB, valued at \$58,000, is only part of the \$135,000 received for the project through the Ministry of Economic Development and Growth (MEDG). A work plan is being prepared for the Province's approval next month. The EOLC board has asked, for the time being, that the refresh project be handled in accordance with the EOWC's direction.

Moved by Warden Taylor

Seconded by Warden Murphy

THAT MDB Insight Inc. be awarded the Eastern Ontario Economic Development Strategy Review and Refresh work for a total cost of \$58,000, plus HST, as outlined in its Proposal of Services dated January 15, 2018, and pursuant to Section 3.7 of the County of Hastings Procurement Policy – Single Source Justification.

CARRIED

Moved by Mayor Quaiff

Seconded by Warden Lovshin

THAT the EOWC Inc. direct the Eastern Ontario Leadership Council (EOLC) to proceed with the complete Regional Economic Development Strategy Refresh and Implementation project, as described in the funding application and budget for \$135,000 to the Ministry of Economic Development and Growth (MEDG), and in accordance with the aforementioned Procurement Policy.

CARRIED

Chair Jones highlighted the importance of further discussion on the EOLC's eventual incorporation and would like the EOWC Chair to be involved, in support of the EOLC Co-Chair and the CAOs involved with the EOLC board. Discussion ensued.

Moved by Warden Murphy

Seconded by Warden Partridge

THAT the EOWC Chair be involved in future discussions about the incorporation of the EOLC.

CARRIED

6.7 Eastern Ontario Regional Network – David Fell / Lisa Severson

Jim Pine recalled that the \$71-million share from the Province of Ontario, for the cell gap project, was included in the recent provincial budget. It represents one-third of the \$213 million required to close the capacity and coverage gaps, but it does not include the public safety broadband network (PSBN). The Ministry of Infrastructure will lead the project with OMAFRA providing support. OMAFRA Minister Jeff Leal will be making the funding announcement in Belleville next Monday. All are invited.

Mr. Pine noted that discussions continue with the federal government, as it needs to confirm financial support for the project in order to make it work. He added that federal and provincial staff appear to be convinced that the project should moving forward regardless of a change in government.

David Fell explained that the \$14-million municipal contribution has been lowered to \$10 million due to the project cost reduction from \$299 million to \$213 million. The EOWC and EOMC CAOs have worked out a formula for municipal contribution and participation. Contributions will not start until 2019. Meetings will continue over the coming weeks and months. The contribution amount for each County will be based on all of the separated cities contributing to the overall cost. This time, the cities can be excluded from the build if they do not contribute, adding a further incentive. Mr. Fell added that municipalities could pay in annual instalments over four years, or pay the total cost up front and receive 5% semi-annually on the declining balance over three years.

Moved by Warden Quaiff

Seconded by Warden Murphy

THAT the EOWC Inc. accept the EORN Cell Gap Municipal Contribution Report as presented, and

THAT the EOWC Inc. support the Cell Gap and Capacity Expansion Project for the Eastern Ontario region; and

THAT the EOWC Inc. support the funding level, subject to receipt of upper-level government funding, and finalization of the municipal funding distribution formulae; and

THAT the respective councils of the EOWC receive a report and presentation from Eastern Ontario Regional Network for the decision on the respective local municipal contributions.

CARRIED

Mr. Fell presented a proposal for EORN to prepare an engineering and economic analysis study, similar to one provided for Nova Scotia, to examine the cost of securing a wired solution to as many homes as possible in Eastern Ontario. The cost would likely be around \$1 billion, using the CRTC's 50/10 guidelines. He asked if each of the 13 members would contribute \$40,000, to enable EORN to proceed with an RFP to hire an engineering firm to conduct this study. Lisa Severson noted that the data analysis would provide exact numbers on a county-by-county basis, to provide exact numbers for your local needs.

Moved by Warden Quaiff

Seconded by Warden Fenik

THAT the EOWC Inc. accept the EORN Report on the CRTC Broadband Analysis project, as presented, with each EOWC member contributing \$40,000 to the analysis.

CARRIED

6.8 Third Priority for the EOWC in 2018 – Chair Jones

Chair Jones asked the members to work in groups and determine a third priority for the remainder of the 2018 year. After discussion, suggestions included social and affordable housing; the expansion of natural gas; the

upload of paramedic services; funding for long-term care, and a provincial gas tax. Following further discussion, the Wardens agreed that social and affordable housing would become the third priority. The EOWC will examine this with a rural lens, in the context of the National Housing Strategy and the funding from both levels of government.

In terms of next steps, the EOWC White Paper on Social Housing will be circulated to the group for review; the CAOs and Housing Managers will initiate discussion on some options; a quote will be requested from Kathryn Wood on updating the White Paper; and the Wardens will discuss an update at the June meeting.

6.9 Provincial Election Strategy for EOWC – Chair Jones

Discussion ensued on the possibility of developing a series of questions for provincial candidates in each riding. The questions could focus on the priorities and suggestions that were discussed previously, as well as existing topics like the EORN cell gap project. The CAOs will examine the options and communicate with the Chair and Vice-Chair.

9. Correspondence

9.1 Outgoing

- 9.1.1 Letters to Premier Kathleen Wynne and Cabinet Ministers on Delegations at the ROMA Conference, dated February 12, 2018
- 9.1.2 EOWC Submission to the Standing Committee on Justice Policy regarding Bill 175, dated March 1, 2017
- 9.1.3 EOWC Newsletter (Winter 2018), dated March 5, 2018
- 9.1.4 EOWC Letter to PC Leader Doug Ford regarding Priority for Eastern Ontario, dated March 15, 2018
- 9.1.5 EOWC Submission to Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care regarding draft regulations on LTC homes, dated March 28, 2018

9.2 Incoming

- 9.2.1 Letter from Premier Kathleen Wynne on the Multi-Ministers Delegation at the ROMA Conference, dated February 20, 2018
- 9.2.2 Letter from the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit to Minister Dr. Helena Jaczek, dated March 13, 2018
- 9.2.3 Resolution from the County of Northumberland regarding the HKPR District Health Unit, dated March 21, 2018
- 9.2.4 Resolution from the County of Northumberland regarding MOHLTC draft regulations on LTC homes, dated March 21, 2018
- 9.2.5 Letter from Minister Steven Del Duca regarding the Eastern Ontario Economic Development Strategy, dated March 21, 2018
- 9.2.6 Letter from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care confirming the EOWC's submission, dated April 11, 2018

Moved by Warden Lowry

Seconded by Warden Higgins

THAT the outgoing correspondence be received.

CARRIED

Moved by Warden Lovshin

Seconded by Warden Murphy

THAT the incoming correspondence be received.

CARRIED

10. By-laws

11. Notice of Motions

12. Confirmation By-law #18-05

Moved by Warden Cooney

Seconded by Warden McLeod

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 19th and 20th days of April, 2018 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

Moved by Warden Cooney

Seconded by Warden McLeod

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

CARRIED



Robin Jones, Chair



Andy Brown, Secretary-Treasurer