



Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus MINUTES

**Friday, May 24, 2019
8:30 a.m.**

**Waring House Restaurant and Inn
Waring Hall Meeting Room
395 Sandy Hook Road
Picton ON**

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 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	Warden John Logel	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
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
David Fell	Chief Executive Officer, EORN
Lisa Severson	Communications Stakeholder and Relations Officer, EORN
Maddison Ellis	Administration and Policy Coordinator, EOWC
Annette Keogh	Social Housing Manager, County of Lennox and Addington

1. Call Meeting to Order / Welcome

The meeting was called to order and Chair Andy Letham welcomed everyone.

2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest – NIL

3. Approval of Agenda

Moved by John Logel

Seconded by Ron Higgins

THAT the Agenda of the May 24, 2019 meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

4. Approval of Minutes

Moved by Rick Phillips

Seconded by Eric Smith

THAT the Minutes of the EOWC Inc. meeting of March 22, 2019 and the closed meeting of March 22, 2019 be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

5. Delegations (n/a)

6. Closed Session

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

Chair Letham informed the members of the need to move into closed session to discuss an update regarding the EORN Cellular Network and Mobile Broadband Improvement Project.

Moved by Ron Higgins

Seconded by John Logel

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

CARRIED

An update was provided in closed session.

Moved by Ron Higgins

Seconded by Liz Danielsen

THAT the EOWC Inc. move out of Closed Session.

CARRIED

7. Reports for Review/Discussion

7.1 Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN)

David Fell and Lisa Severson thanked EOWC Members who attended the provincial funding announcements for the Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN) project on May 17, 2019. Warden Phillips indicated that Hastings County recently passed a special County Council resolution regarding the urgent need for Federal Government support of the EORN Mobile Broadband Project. EOWC Members agreed to reach out directly to their local Member of Parliament regarding Federal funding for the EORN project.

Moved by Rick Phillips

Seconded by Pat Sayeau

WHEREAS on May 17, 2019 the Honourable Monte McNaughton, Minister of Infrastructure for the Province of Ontario officially announced confirmation of Ontario's \$71-million contribution to the Eastern Ontario Regional Networks Mobile Broadband project;

WHEREAS nine separated municipalities including the cities of Kingston, Peterborough, Belleville, Cornwall and Quinte West who represent a further 378,000 urban residents are supporting the project and have agreed to pay their portion of the \$10-million local contribution;

AND WHEREAS the Eastern Ontario Wardens Caucus who represent 110 municipalities and 750,000 rural residents of the region have committed \$10 million as a local contribution towards the project;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus calls upon the Federal Government to formally commit \$71million dollars towards the Project and instruct Federal staff to begin discussions on the necessary contribution agreement(s), before the House of Commons rises in June;

AND FINALLY THAT our local Federal Members of Parliament be copied with this resolution and seek their support to work with the EOWC and its partner municipalities to secure the Federal contribution.

CARRIED

7.2 Eastern Ontario Leadership Council (EOLC)

Kelly Pender provided an update on the EOLC funding and indicated that working groups are meeting to review priority areas and to develop an implementation plan. An EOLC update will be provided at the upcoming Wardens' meeting.

7.3 Discussion on Affordable / Attainable Housing

Annette Keogh, Manager of Social Housing at the County of Lennox and Addington shared information on the affordable housing continuum. Ms. Keogh outlined key concepts and provided an overview of affordable housing funding opportunities and challenges.

An update was also provided on the EOWC Housing Session that took place on April 25, 2019.

7.4 Ontario Health Teams / Local Health Service Delivery Impacts

Long-Term Care

Ron Taylor explained that CAOs recently had a conference call with the individual leading the health care reform portfolio for the Province, Peter Fenwick, Deputy

Minister and Strategic Transformation Advisor. CAOs had an opportunity to discuss Ontario Health Teams and the role of municipal long-term care homes in this new model of integrated care delivery. Mr. Taylor explained that Mr. Fenwick expressed a willingness to meet with EOWC Members at a later date and that CAOs will arrange a future meeting to seek further clarification on governance and funding models.

Mr. Taylor also informed Members that he has not heard back from the office of Ellie Triantafilopoulos, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, regarding the teleconference consultation that the CAOs participated in on March 1, 2019.

Land Ambulance

Mr. Taylor provided an update on recent provincial announcements regarding changes to ambulance services funding. The CAOs highlighted the need for a comprehensive study to examine governance/operation models. The collection of data and key background information would help to better inform the ongoing provincial discussions on health care reform. Members acknowledged the importance of undertaking a study on Eastern Ontario ambulance services and authorized the development of the study.

Moved by Ron Higgins

Seconded by Liz Danielsen

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the EOWC authorize the development of a two-part Request for Proposals (RFP) to engage a consultant to undertake a comprehensive study of Eastern Ontario Paramedic Services in order to better inform the ongoing Provincial discussions on health care reform;

AND THAT the first phase of the study will be to collect data and key background information and will be funded through the existing EOWC budget, including any reserves;

AND FURTHER THAT the second phase of the study will be to examine governance/operation models, if deemed necessary after the completion of the first phase, and will be funded through additional financial contributions from each EOWC member municipality.

CARRIED

Health Units

Mr. Taylor provided an update on the provincial announcement regarding the restructuring of public health units in Ontario and changes to the provincial-

municipal cost share formula. EOWC Members discussed how the public health needs of rural and small urban municipalities are distinctly different from large urban centers. The importance of being involved in ongoing discussions with the Province in order to ensure that boundaries reflect the unique issues and needs of rural and small urban municipalities in Eastern Ontario was also discussed. EOWC Members agreed to seek the support of the Eastern Ontario Mayors' Caucus in ongoing discussion with the Province regarding the need for an Eastern Ontario Public Health unit.

Moved by Rick Phillips

Seconded by Richard Kidd

WHEREAS the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC) recognizes the importance of being involved in ongoing provincial discussions regarding the restructuring of Public Health Units in Ontario;

AND WHEREAS the EOWC firmly believes that the Public Health issues and needs of rural and small urban municipalities are unique and distinct from those of large urban municipalities;

AND WHEREAS the EOWC believes that grouping rural and small urban municipalities in Public Health Units along with large urban municipalities will draw resources and attention away from, and be detrimental to, the Public Health needs of rural and small urban municipalities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the EOWC call upon the Province of Ontario to establish boundaries for Public Health Units, in order to ensure that those boundaries respect and reflect the share and unique issues and needs of rural and small urban municipalities;

AND THAT the EOWC send correspondence and a proposal to the Province of Ontario outlining the opportunity for an Eastern Ontario Public Health Unit which is defined as the geographical area of the EOWC and the 10 separated municipalities in Eastern Ontario;

AND THAT the EOWC request the support of the Eastern Ontario Mayors' Caucus as part of these discussions with the Province of Ontario;

AND FURTHER THAT that a copy of this resolution be sent to Premier Doug Ford, Minister Christine Elliott, Minister Steve Clark, MPPs representing rural Eastern Ontario, the Eastern Ontario Mayors' Caucus,

the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and the Public Health Units representing Eastern Ontario.

CARRIED

EOWC Members instructed CAOs to continue developing formal position on priority areas in advance of the 2019 AMO Conference.

7.5 Municipal Financial Impacts from Funding Cuts and Downloads

Kurt Greaves spoke about the impact of the Provincial budget on the EOWC in terms of funding changes to public health, child care, Ontario Works and Paramedic services.

7.6 Next Steps and Preparation for AMO Conference

Chair Letham highlighted the need for a Special EOWC Wardens' meeting on July 18 in order to prepare for the AMO Conference. EOWC Members agreed that it would be worthwhile to invite John Matheson from StrategyCorp to attend the upcoming meeting to provide an update on the provincial landscape.

8. New Business – For Future Discussion

8.1 ROMA/OGRA Conference Reunification – Jamie MacDonald

This item will be discussed at the next EOWC Wardens' meeting.

8.2 Eastern Ontario Amalgamation – Ron Higgins

This item will be discussed at the next EOWC Wardens' meeting.

9. Reports from Wardens (n/a)

10. Correspondence

10.1 Outgoing

10.1.1 Letter to Solicitor General Sylvia Jones regarding Community Safety and Well-Being Plans, dated April 9, 2019

10.1.2 Letter to MP Francis Drouin regarding support for the Cellular and Mobile Broadband Improvement Project, dated May 21, 2019

10.2 Incoming

10.2.1 Letter from Parliamentary Assistant Michael Parsa regarding impacts facing Eastern Ontario, dated April 3, 2019

10.2.2 Letter from United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry re: Community Safety and Well-Being Plans, dated April 16, 2019

10.2.3 Letter from the Ontario Federation of Agriculture regarding Provincially Significant Employment Zones, dated May 16, 2019

10.2.4 Letter from MPP Steven Del Duca regarding proposals relating to transit and transportation, dated May 22, 2019

Moved by Ron Higgins

Seconded by Richard Kidd

THAT the outgoing and incoming correspondence be received.

CARRIED

11. By-laws

12. Notice of Motions

13. Confirmation By-law #19-06

Moved by Eric Smith

Seconded by 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 24th day of May, 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.

14. Adjournment

Moved by Jamie MacDonald

Seconded by John Logel

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

CARRIED

15. Next Meetings

Special Meeting – Thursday, July 18

AMO Conference – Sunday, August 18



Andy Letham, Chair



Ron Taylor, Secretary-Treasurer