



Inter-Governmental Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes

**Wednesday, October 11, 2023, 4:00 p.m.
McNaughton Room**

1. Inter-Governmental Affairs Committee Meeting 07-2023

Chair: Councillor Kristen Oliver

2. Members

Mayor Ken Boshcoff
Councillor Shelby Ch'ng
Councillor Kasey Etreni
Councillor Kristen Oliver
Councillor Dominic Pasqualino

3. Officials

Norm Gale, City Manager
Krista Power, City Clerk
Erin Nadon, Executive Administrator to the City Manager

4. Resource Persons

Larry Joy, Policy Assistant to the Mayor
Stacey Levanen, Supervisor, Corporate Communications & Community Engagement

5. Guests

Jamie Taylor, CEO – CEDC
Lise Vaugeois, MPP Thunder Bay – Superior North

6. Disclosures of Interest

None.

7. Agenda Approval

WITH RESPECT to the October 11, 2023 meeting of the Inter-Governmental Affairs Committee, we recommend that the agenda as printed, including any additional information and new business, to be confirmed.

MOVED BY: Councillor Kasey Etrene

SECONDED BY: Councillor Dominic Pasqualino

WITH RESPECT to the October 11, 2023 meeting of the Inter-Governmental Affairs Committee, we recommend that the agenda as printed, including any additional information and new business, be confirmed.

CARRIED

8. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

The Minutes of Meeting 06-2023 of the Inter-Governmental Affairs Committee, held on September 6, 2023, to be confirmed.

MOVED BY: Councillor Kasey Etrene

SECONDED BY: Councillor Shelby Ch'ng

THAT the Minutes of Meeting 06-2023 Inter-Governmental Affairs Committee, held on September 6, 2023, be confirmed.

CARRIED

9. Discussion with MPP Lise Vaugeois

9.1 Highway Safety

A discussion was held regarding the number of accidents on Northwestern Ontario highways and potential causes. Identified concerns with the Province of Ontario instituting regulations on driver training when other provinces do not have similar regulation. Work is being done on a strategy that would provide conditions for change. A new MTO inspection station will be opening in November 2023.

It was the consensus of the committee that Clerk Power draft a letter on behalf of the committee of support relative to the above-noted.

9.2 Support for People in Crisis

A discussion was held relative to the above-noted. Additional support is required from the province and the federal government.

Clerk Power confirmed that the work on the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) does not receive government funding with the exception of funding programs where application is required, generally there is specific criteria. There is currently no dedicated government support to meet the standards (Information and Communication, Employment, Transportation, Design of Public Spaces and Customer Service).

A discussion was held relative to how short-term rentals are affecting the municipality both financially and with a short of rental accommodations.

MPP Vaugeois committed to investigate if the province has any vacant buildings in Thunder Bay that could be utilized to support people in crisis.

9.3 Building Homes Faster

Held a discussion around the kind and type of housing that applies for the housing target.

MPP Lise Vaugeois left the meeting.

10. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

10.1 Thunder Bay Pulp and Paper

Policy Assistant Larry Joy provided an update on the Power Purchase Agreement.

10.2 Short Term Rentals

A discussion was held relative to the above-noted.

MOVED: Councillor Shelby Ch'ng

SECONDED: Councillor Kasey Etreni

WITH RESPECT to Short Term Rentals, we recommend that a memo be shared with Committee of the Whole to request the Government of Ontario to establish a regulatory framework for short term rentals;

AND THAT the memo be signed by Vice-Chair Councillor Shelby Ch'ng.

CARRIED

11. Connections

Opportunity for committee members to share individual discussions held with Members of Parliament and Members of Provincial Parliament.

- City Manager Norm Gale met with MP Marcus Powlowski - funding for active transportation will be announced shortly
- Mayor Ken Boshcoff attended Premier Doug Ford's fundraiser - discussion focused on competition with the Ring of Fire and infrastructure
- Mayor Ken Boshcoff shared feedback on the recent Mining Conference held in Thunder Bay
- CEO Jamie Taylor met with Premier Doug Ford and highlighted the forestry sector, the importance of Alstom to our community and opportunities with mining and lithium processing. General support was received
- Policy Assistant Larry Joy met with Minister Sylvie Jones - confirmed that the Ministry of Health has received the application for 15 withdrawal management service beds, the application has been received well internally and is currently being evaluated

12. Air Passenger Protection Regulations

Copy of letter from President Charla Robinson, Thunder Bay Chamber of Commerce to Minister Patty Hajdu, Member of Parliament for Thunder Bay-Superior North and Marcus Powlowski, Member of Parliament for Thunder Bay-Rainy River, dated October 4, 2023, relative to the above-noted, for information.

Copy of draft letter, relative to the above-noted, for information.

A discussion was held relative to the above noted. The proposed changes to the Air Passenger Protection Regulations will have a significant impact on secondary airports including the Thunder Bay International Airport.

MOVED: Councillor Kasey Etreni
SECONDED: Councillor Dominic Pasqualino

WITH RESPECT to the proposed changes to the Air Passenger Protection Regulations (APPR), we recommend that a letter be drafted to the Federal Government outlining the significant negative impacts the proposed changes to the APPR will have on small markets and rural communities across Canada.

AND THAT the letter be directed to The Honourable Patty Hajdu and MP Marcus Powlowski;

AND THAT a copy of the letter be shared with our Tourism partners.

CARRIED

13. Correspondence

13.1 Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) - 2023 AMO Conference

Copy of news release, dated September 12, 2023, relative to the above-noted, for information.

Copy of the NOMA 2023 Delegation Package, for information.

Copy of NOMA, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities and Northern Ontario Service Deliverers Association Multi-Ministry notes, for information.

13.2 Highway Traffic Act Amendments

Copy of resolution from City Clerk Danielle Manton, City of Cambridge, dated May 10, 2023, relative to the above-noted, for information.

Copy of resolution from Municipal Deputy Clerk Nicole Hamilton, Cramahe Township, dated June 29, 2023, relative to the above-noted, for information.

MOVED: Councillor Kasey Etreni
SECONDED: Councillor Shelby Ch'ng

WITH RESPECT to the Highway Traffic Act Amendments, we recommend that a letter of support for Automated Speed Enforcement systems to be placed permanently or temporarily on any roadway under the jurisdiction

of municipalities as determined by municipalities and not be restricted to only community safety zones and school safety zones be drafted;

AND THAT copies of the letter be directed the Ontario Minister of Transportation, the Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local area MPPs, the association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) and all Ontario municipalities.

CARRIED

13.3 Funding for National Housing Strategy

Copy of resolution from Clerk Christine Goulet, Municipality of Red Lake, dated August 28, 2023, relative to the above-noted, for information.

13.4 Guaranteed Livable Income

Copy of resolution from Town Clerk Bonnie Nistico-Dunk, Town of Grimsby, dated September 8, 2023, relative to the above-noted, for information.

Copy of resolution from Director of Legislative Services/Clerk Jamie Eckenswiller, Municipality of West Grey, dated September 22, 2023, relative to the above-noted, for information.

13.5 Responding to the Recommendations by the Housing Affordability Task Force

Copy of letter from Minister Paul Calandra, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, to Mayor Ken Boshcoff, City of Thunder Bay dated September 15, 2023, relative to the above-noted, for information.

City Manager Norm Gale shared that administration is currently working to support the Mayor in response to the recommendations by the Housing Affordability Task Force.

A discussion was held relative to the above noted.

13.6 Short Term Rentals

Copy of resolution from Mayor Jamie McGarvey, Town of Parry Sound, dated September 19, 2023, relative to the above-noted, for information.

13.7 Long-Term Electricity Procurement Update

Copy of email from the Independent Electricity System Operator, dated September 29, 2023, relative to the above-noted, for information.

13.8 Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) Board Meeting

Copy of NOMA board meeting summary report, dated October 6, 2023, relative to the above noted, for information.

13.9 Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM) Funding

Copy of resolution from President Wendy Landry, NOMA, dated October 4, 2023, relative to the above noted, for information.

Copy of letter to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario from President Wendy Landry, NOMA, dated October 4, 2023, relative to the above noted, for information.

14. Outstanding Items

Outstanding List for the Inter-Governmental Affairs Committee as of October 6, 2023.

Memorandum from Executive Administrator Erin Nadon, dated October 6, 2023 providing the Inter-Governmental Affairs Committee Outstanding Items List, for information.

A discussion was held on advocacy for the city of Thunder Bay, lobbying successes, funding based on geographic size rather than population, service area and winter and summer populations.

It was the consensus of the committee that a list of advocacy items for the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) conference be developed and shared with the committee in advance of the November 8, 2023 meeting.

15. Next Meeting

The next regular Inter-Governmental Affairs Committee meeting is scheduled for November 8, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. via Microsoft Teams.

16. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:47 pm.