



ANNUAL REPORT TO MEMBERS 2016-2017

AND ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Friday, May 12, 2017

North Bay, Ontario

FONOM ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

A G E N D A

Friday, May 12, 2017 – 8:30 am

Nipissing University
100 College Drive
North Bay, ON

1. Approval of / Additions to Agenda
2. Introduction of Executive
3. President's Report (verbal)
4. Financial Report (**resolution required**)
5. Approval of Minutes of Meeting Friday, May 13, 2016 (**resolution required**)
6. Resolutions
7. Adjourn

Appendix A: 2016-2017 Media Releases

Appendix B: 2016-2017 Correspondence

Appendix C: 2016-2017 Presentations and Submissions

FONOM BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

Mayor Alan Spacek
Town of Kapuskasing
88 Riverside Drive
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Email: alan.spacek@kapuskasing.ca

TELEPHONE (705)

Mun Tel 337-4250
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REPRESENTING

District of
Cochrane

PAST PRESIDENT

Councillor S. Mac Bain
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City of North Bay

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Councillor Danny Whalen
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District of
Timiskaming

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

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City of Greater
Sudbury

DIRECTORS (in alphabetical order by surname)

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City of Timmins

Mayor Austin Hunt
Billings Township
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a](mailto:billingsadmin@billingstwp.ca)

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District of
Manitoulin

DIRECTORS (in alphabetical order by surname)

Councillor Terry Kelly
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Mun Fax 752-2452 Nipissing

Mayor Hector Lavigne
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Mun Tel 752-1410 District of Parry
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Mayor Paul Schoppmann
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Mun Tel 867-2032 District of
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Councillor Matthew Shoemaker
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Mayor Lynn Watson
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Mun Tel 248-2441 District of Algoma
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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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FEDERATION OF NORTHERN ONTARIO MUNICIPALITIES

FINANCIAL REPORT 2016-2017 (UNAUDITED)

	Actual 2015-16	Budget 2016-17	Actual 2016-17	Budget 2017-18
<u>REVENUES</u>				
Membership	\$ 35,522	\$ 33,000	\$ 31,563	\$ 33,000
MNDM	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Conference Revenue	68,549	60,000	55,588	60,000
Conference Sponsors	21,500	15,000	10,000	12,000
NOHFC (Intern)	16,113	-	-	-
Other Revenue:	8,152	-	15,800	25,000
Growing Ontario	26,291	70,000	-	-
<i>Total Revenues</i>	\$ 226,127	\$ 228,000	\$ 162,951	\$ 180,000
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>				
Board & AMO Meetings	\$ 59,049	\$ 65,000	\$ 81,164	\$ 75,000
General & Administration Expense	12,181	12,000	4,317	10,000
Consulting Fees	701	2,000	1,189	2,000
Staff Wages/Benefits	40,206	40,948	43,828	45,000
Staff Travel	3,785	15,000	6,817	10,000
Directors' Honorarium	3,000	3,000	5,000	5,000
Conference Expenses	961	4,000	6,261	8,000
Growing Ontario/Forestry	6,291	80,000	3,298	-
<i>Total Expenditures</i>	\$ 126,174	\$ 221,948	\$ 151,874	\$ 155,000
<i>Year End Surplus/Deficit</i>	\$ 99,953	\$ 6,052	\$ 11,077	\$ 25,000
Prior Year Surplus	\$ 213,464	\$ 313,417	\$ 313,417	\$ 324,494
End of Year	\$ 313,417	\$ 319,469	\$ 324,494	\$ 349,494

**FEDERATION OF NORTHERN ONTARIO MUNICIPALITIES
MINUTES
56th Annual Conference and Business Meeting
May 11, 12 & 13, 2016
Timmins, Ontario**

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 2016

- 1:00 pm Official Opening
 Al Spacek, President, FONOM
 Steve Black, Mayor, City of Timmins
 Lynn Buckham, Regional Director, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- 1:30 pm **Bob Rae, Ontario's 21st Premier and former Liberal Party of Canada Leader**
- 2:30 pm Refreshment Break
- 3:00 pm **Overview of Northern Ontario's Forest Economy**
 Dean Caron, *Forestry and Forest Operations Specialist, FPInnovations*
 Dave Canfield, *Mayor, City of Kenora*
 Sarah Hicks, *Communications Manager, Ontario WoodWORKS!*
- 3:30 pm **Growing Opportunities for Agriculture and Aquaculture in Northern Ontario**
 Thom Hagerty, *Director, Economic Development Policy, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs*
- 4:15 pm **Association of Municipalities of Ontario**

 President's Update
 Gary McNamara, *Mayor, Town of Tecumseh*

 Policy Update
 Monika Turner, *Director of Policy, AMO*
- 5:00 pm *Greetings from Andrea Horwath, Leader of the New Democratic Party of Ontario*

 Welcome Reception
- 7:00 pm Tradeshow Adjourns

THURSDAY, MAY 12, 2016

- 8:15 am **Keynote Speaker**
 Honourable Kathleen Wynne, *Premier of Ontario*
- 9:00 am **Expanded Oversight: Taking Complaints from Ontario Municipalities**
 Paul Dubé, *Ombudsman of Ontario*
- 9:45 am **Update from Municipal Property Assessment Corporation**
 Carla Nell, *Vice-President Municipal and Stakeholder Relations, MPAC*

10:15 am	Refreshment Break
10:45 am	New Initiatives to Address Housing Needs and Homelessness Janet Hope, <i>Assistant Deputy Minister, Housing Division, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing</i>
11:30 am	Current Initiatives at FedNor Aime Dimatteo, <i>Director General, FedNor</i>
12:00 pm	Lunch
1:00 pm	On the Leading Edge: Timmins' Hollinger Open Pit Mine Steve Black, <i>Mayor, City of Timmins</i> Cindy Welsh, <i>Manager of Planning, City of Timmins</i>
1:30 pm	Community Hubs: Updates on Recent Activities Karen Pitre, <i>Premier's Special Advisor on Community Hubs</i>
2:00 pm	Concurrent Sessions Sign-Posts for Responsible Councillors: Tools to Help You Get It Right Jody Johnson, <i>LL.B, Aird & Berlis LLP</i> Tripping Over a Dollar to Save a Dime: Tips to Refining Your Budget Process Jamie McGarvey, <i>Mayor, Town of Parry Sound</i> Trevor Pinn, <i>Director of Finance, Town of Parry Sound</i> Partnerships: A Key to Addressing Housing Needs in the North Leading Examples from the Cochrane DSSAB Brian Marks, <i>Director of Housing, Cochrane District Social Services Administration Board</i>
3:00 pm	Refreshment Break
3:30 pm	Concurrent Sessions Asset Management: So You've Got a Plan, Now What? Kathy Horgan, <i>Senior Municipal Finance Advisor, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Sudbury</i> Chas Anselmo, <i>Senior Manager, KPMG</i> Planning Policy: A Roadmap for Decision-making Christopher Brown, <i>Planner, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing</i> Dave Welwood, <i>Planner, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing</i> Ontario's New Municipal Disaster Recovery Assistance Program: Helping Communities Hit by Natural Disasters David King, <i>Manager, Local Government Unit, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing</i>
4:30 pm	Sessions Adjourn
6:00 pm	Pre-Banquet Reception – City of North Bay, 2016 Conference Host
6:30 pm	Banquet and Program
9:00 pm	Entertainment

10:00 pm Adjourn

FRIDAY, MAY 13, 2016

8:50 am *Greetings from Patrick Brown, Leader of the Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario*

9:00 am **FONOM Annual Business Meeting**

Resolution: That the agenda be approved and presented to the membership
P. Schoppmann/H. Lavigne CARRIED.

Introduction of FONOM Board of Directors

President's Report

Resolution: That the FONOM Financial Report for the year ending March 31, 2016 be
accepted as presented.
M. Doody/M. Forster CARRIED.

Resolution: That the minutes of the Annual Meeting in Greater Sudbury on May 8, 2015
be accepted as presented.
L. Watson/C. Bouffard CARRIED.

Resolutions # 2016-01 to #2016-08

Resolution No/Year	Resolution Name	Therefore Be It Resolved That ...	Outcome
2016-01	Yearly Honorarium	"...the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) recommends increasing the President's yearly honorarium to \$4,000; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to member municipalities."	Carried.
2016-02	Northern Travel Grant	"...the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) requests the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care to consider amending the qualifying criteria so that all roundtrips exceeding 100 km in total travelled distance be eligible for the Northern Health Travel Grant thus ensuring fair and equitable reimbursement for all Northern Ontario residents who must travel outside of their community for specialized health care services; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, the Minister of Northern Development and Mines, the	Carried

		Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Northeastern MPs and MPPs, and the Leaders of the Opposition Parties.”	
2016-03	Fuel Price Regulation	“... the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) requests the Provincial Government to investigate the benefits of such regulation for Ontario to ensure stable and fair fuel prices in Northern Ontario, while encouraging competition; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Northern Development and Mines, the Minister of Energy, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Northeastern MPs and MPPs, and the Leaders of the Opposition Parties.”	Carried.
2016-04	Broader Investment Powers	“...the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) requests that Ontario Regulation 438/97 (as amended) of the Municipal Act, 2001, be amended to allow municipalities to invest consistent with the Prudent Investor Standard, if such investments are through the One Investment Program; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Northern Development and Mines, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Northeastern MPs and MPPs, and the Leaders of the Opposition Parties.”	Carried.
2016-05	Winter Highway Re-Classification	“...the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) requests the Ministry of Transportation to expedite its re-classification of all winter highway classes in Northern Ontario to ensure that each one receives the appropriate level of maintenance required during the winter months thus ensuring the safety and security of all Northern travelers; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Transportation, the Minister of Northern Development and Mines, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Northeastern MPs and MPPs, and the Leaders of the Opposition Parties.”	Carried.
2016-06	Public Health Funding and Governance	“...the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) requests the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care provide assurances that funding for public health will remain for that purpose and that municipal	Carried.

		representation on Local Boards of Health will be sustained; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, the Association of Public Health Agencies (alPHa), Northern Public Health Units, Northeastern MPs and MPPs, and the Leaders of the Opposition Parties."	
2016-07	Hospital Funding	"...the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) requests that the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care provide one time transitional funding to all hospitals in Northern Ontario and for the Province of Ontario to commit to inflationary funding adjustments for hospitals to match the inflationary cost increases over which the hospitals have no control; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, Northeastern MPs and MPPs, and the Leaders of the Opposition Parties."	Carried.
2016-08	Broadband Expansion	"...the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) requests that internet be designated as an essential service and that efforts are undertaken to ensure all municipalities have access to affordable, fast and reliable broadband; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Federal Minister of Science, Innovation and Economic Development, the Provincial Minister of Economic Development, Employment and Infrastructure, the Provincial Minister of Northern Development and Mines, the Canadian Radio-television Telecommunications Commission (CRTC), Northeastern MPs and MPPs, and the Leaders of the Opposition Parties."	Carried.

- 10:00 am **Update from Ontario Northland**
Corina Moore, *President and CEO, Ontario Northland Transportation Commission*
- 10:30 am Refreshment Break
- 11:00 am **Bill 151: Waste-Free Ontario Act**
Robert Fleming, *Assistant Deputy Minister, Climate Change and Environmental Policy Division, Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change*

11:45 am

Ministers' Forum

Hon. Ted McMeekin

Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Hon. Bill Mauro

Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry

Hon. David Orazietti

Minister of Government and Consumer Services

Glenn Thibeault

Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change

12:45 pm

Wrap-up and Adjournment

FEDERATION OF NORTHERN ONTARIO MUNICIPALITIES
2016-2017 Resolutions
57th Annual Conference and Business Meeting
May 10, 11 & 12, 2017
North Bay, Ontario

This year, there are 9 policy resolutions for discussion and voting on at the Annual General Meeting of the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities.

- | | |
|---------|--|
| 2017-01 | FONOM Board Term Length |
| 2017-02 | Proposed Building Code Change – Septic Tank Inspections |
| 2017-03 | Residential Rental Maintenance Standards |
| 2017-04 | Municipal Facilities Hydro Exemption |
| 2017-05 | Municipal Election Requirements – 25 Signatures |
| 2017-06 | Fire Services Infrastructure Funding |
| 2017-07 | Local and Regional Airports Definition in New Building Canada Fund |
| 2017-08 | Provincial Offences Act Fine Collection |
| 2017-09 | Railway Rights-of-Way Property Taxation |



MOVED BY:

SECONDED BY:

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-01

FONOM Board Term Length

“WHEREAS the Constitution of the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) currently states that the term of office of the Executive shall commence with the first meeting following general municipal elections; and

WHEREAS at the expiration of the two-year term that started with the first meeting following general municipal elections, a new term of office of the Executive shall commence with the first meeting following the two-year anniversary of the most recent general municipal elections; and

WHEREAS requiring municipalities and the district municipal associations to pass resolutions to appoint a representative to the FONOM Board of Directors every two years is administratively burdensome; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) recommends extending the term of office to a four year term to follow the general municipal election cycle; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to all member municipalities.”



MOVED BY:

SECONDED BY:

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-02

Proposed Building Code Change – Septic Tank Inspections

“WHEREAS the Ministry of Municipal Affairs has proposed a change to the Building Code as outlined in the Overview Summary Document – Potential Changes to Ontario’s Building Code: Fall 2016 Consultation; and

WHEREAS the proposed change, B-08-09-03, would require regular pumping out of septic tanks and the keeping of maintenance records; and

WHEREAS this requirement would lead to unnecessary costs that will unfairly target small and rural communities; and

WHEREAS this change would be burdensome for residents as they would be required to pump out their septic tanks every five years and municipal governments as they would be required to administer the change and be responsible for enforcement; and

WHEREAS many municipalities already have by-laws to regulate septic systems, especially near waterways; and

WHEREAS adequate legislation already exists to address malfunctioning systems; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) requests the Ministry of Municipal Affairs to reconsider the proposed change to the Building Code that would require regular pumping out of septic tanks and the keeping of maintenance records; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to all member municipalities, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, northeastern MPs and MPPs and Leaders of the Opposition Parties.”



MOVED BY:

SECONDED BY:

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-03

Residential Rental Maintenance Standards

“WHEREAS the Provincial Government passed Bill 7, Promoting Affordable Housing Act, 2016, which included amendments to the Residential Tenancies Act, 2006; and

WHEREAS Schedule 5 of Bill 7 prescribes that municipalities shall assume enforcement responsibility for residential rental maintenance standards (O. Reg. 517/06) of the Residential Tenancies Act on July 1, 2018; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of Housing currently enforces residential rental maintenance standards in municipalities that do not have a property standards by-law or a partial by-law that does not address the interior of rental building on an as needed basis; and

WHEREAS downloading this responsibility and enforcement onto municipalities with no attached funding would put additional financial strain on municipal budgets and resources; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) urges the Ministry of Housing to reconsider changes to the Residential Tenancies Act that would require municipalities who do not have a property standards by-law or by-law that does not address the interior of rental buildings to assume enforcement responsibility for residential rental maintenance standards; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to all member municipalities, the Minister of Housing, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, northeastern MPs and MPPs and Leaders of the Opposition Parties.”



MOVED BY:

SECONDED BY:

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-04

Municipal Facilities Hydro Exemption

“WHEREAS the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) continues to raise energy costs to the Province of Ontario as a major concern that is negatively affecting residents, small businesses, the industrial sector as well as municipal governments; and

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario announced that they plan to reduce electricity bills for residential customers as well as some small businesses and farms; and

WHEREAS municipalities also require assistance in reducing the cost of electricity; and

WHEREAS it is becoming increasingly difficult to manage and fund essential services to residents; and

WHEREAS the cost of electricity has become a significant burden to operate municipal facilities in many communities, particularly those with limited energy alternatives; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) requests that all municipal facilities be exempted from hydro charges including delivery, global adjustment, debt retirement, regulatory charges and the Harmonized Sales Tax.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to all member municipalities, the Minister of Energy, northeastern MPs and MPPs and Leaders of the Oppositions Parties.”



MOVED BY:

SECONDED BY:

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-05

Municipal Election Requirements – 25 Signatures

“WHEREAS the Ministry of Municipal Affairs has implemented a new requirement under the Municipal Elections Act, 1996 that anyone wishing to run for municipal office must submit the signatures of 15 voters supporting the nomination; and

WHEREAS this new requirement will create a barrier for those wishing to serve their communities by running for Council; and

WHEREAS it has become increasingly difficult to attract candidates to run for municipal office in many rural communities; and

WHEREAS the requirement is also an accessibility concern for potential candidates that have mobility issues; and

WHEREAS we need to have a system in place that encourages people to run for municipal office; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) requests the Ministry of Municipal Affairs to reconsider requiring anyone wishing to run for municipal office to submit the signatures of 25 voters to support a nomination; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to all member municipalities, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, northeastern MPs and MPPs and Leaders of the Opposition Parties.”



MOVED BY:

SECONDED BY:

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-06

Fire Services Infrastructure Funding

“WHEREAS the Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997, legislates that fire prevention, public education and fire protection services are a mandatory municipal responsibility; and

WHEREAS there are a total of 449 Fire Departments operating in the province comprised of 32 Full-Time Departments, 191 Composite Departments and 226 Volunteer Departments with 11,376 Full-Time Firefighters, 19,347 Volunteer Firefighters and 343 Part-Time Firefighters staffing these departments; and

WHEREAS fire services represent a significant percentage of northern municipalities’ managed capital assets; and

WHEREAS there are currently no funding opportunities available from the provincial or federal governments for the equipment, training, maintenance, operating or capital requirements of local fire departments; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) requests the provincial government to recognize municipal fire services as critical infrastructure and be eligible for infrastructure funding; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to all member municipalities, the Minister of Infrastructure, the Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services, northeastern MPs and MPPs, and Leaders of the Opposition Parties.”



MOVED BY:

SECONDED BY:

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-07

Local and Regional Airports Definition in New Building Canada Fund

“WHEREAS many local and regional airports in Ontario are owned and operated by a local municipality with some being operated by a commission, authority or board; and

WHEREAS the New Building Canada Fund provides funding to new construction, additional capacity, rehabilitation, or safety-related improvements to aeronautical and/or non-aeronautical infrastructure for local and regional airports; and

WHEREAS local and regional airports are defined as those having scheduled passenger traffic; and

WHEREAS many local and regional airports located in northern Ontario do not have scheduled passenger traffic but are critical to providing a number of other services such as emergency and medical services, aerial policing, and aerial resource management; and

WHEREAS based on survey results reported through the Northern Ontario Multimodal Transportation Strategy, the majority of local and regional airports are listed as not self-sustaining; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) requests the Government of Canada review the definition of local and regional airports as it pertains to the New Building Canada Fund and should local and regional airports become eligible under the New Building Canada Fund, those that are not owned or operated by a municipality must require municipal support by way of resolution when applying for financial support; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to all member municipalities, the federal Minister of Infrastructure and Communities, northeastern MPs and MPPs, and Leaders of the Opposition Parties.”



MOVED BY:

SECONDED BY:

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-08

Provincial Offences Act Fine Collection

“WHEREAS the Province of Ontario transferred the responsibility of the Provincial Offences Act (POA) administration to municipalities in 1997, which included courts and fine collection; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of the Attorney General regulates how municipal partners may collect outstanding fines; and

WHEREAS municipal governments have come increasingly challenged with collecting outstanding fines; and

WHEREAS while the Province of Ontario has taken efforts to improve the ability of municipalities to collect fines, further reforms are needed to improve the system; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) requests the provincial government to implement regulations that would ensure outstanding fines are paid first and subsequent fines are paid in order, allowing the tax rolling of fines onto property taxes regardless of the number of property owners, introduce changes to the Municipal Act so that inter-municipal agreements are not required to collect fines from other municipalities, and that POA fines are treated as priority lien similar to waste and waste water fees to ensure enforceability; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to all member municipalities, the Attorney General of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, northeastern MPs and MPPs, and Leaders of the Opposition Parties.”



MOVED BY:

SECONDED BY:

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-09

Railway Rights-of-Way Property Taxation

“WHEREAS railway companies in the Province of Ontario do not pay a proportionate share of municipal property tax as compared to other properties in their class or compared to other municipal tax classes; and

WHEREAS in other provinces and jurisdictions, railway companies remit a more equitable share of taxes to the local tax base; and

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has not updated the railway rights-of-way since 1998; and

WHEREAS other jurisdictions utilize alternate approaches to railway rights-of-way taxation that more accurately reflect the true assessment and/or cost of maintaining the right-of-way; and

WHEREAS short line rail be exempted to ensure its protection as it is an important part of a sustainable transportation system; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) requests that the Ministry of Finance implement a new system of municipal taxation for railway rights-of-way that is based on assessed values and tonnage and that any new tax system implemented be reviewed on a regular basis; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to all member municipalities, the Minister of Finance, northeastern MPs and MPPs, and the Leaders of the Opposition Parties.”

Appendix A:

2016-2017 Media Releases



2016-2017 Media Releases

#	Topic
1	FONOM Urging Members to Support Ontario Farmers
2	FONOM Pleased that Northern Liberal MPPs will Hold Cabinet Positions
3	FONOM Encouraged TransCanada's Energy East Project Has Reached New Milestone
4	FONOM Focused on Energy Commitments Made in Throne Speech
5	FONOM Travels to Greater Sudbury for Board of Directors Meeting
6	Energy Costs Continue to be a Concern Across the North
7	FONOM Travels to North Bay for Board of Directors' Meeting
8	FONOM Attends Rural Ontario Municipal Association Conference
9	FONOM Pleased with Renewal of the Rural Economic Development Program
10	FONOM Commends the Provincial Government for Addressing Electricity Costs
11	FONOM Board of Directors Tours House of Kin
12	FONOM Board of Directors' Holds March Meeting in Sudbury



For immediate release:

FONOM Urging Members to Support Ontario Farmers

April 6, 2015 – Kapuskasing, ON - The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) is encouraging its membership to use their influence within their communities to support and promote Ontario farmers by purchasing French's ketchup.

In 2015, French's began to focus on using locally sourced ingredients with no preservatives in their ketchup line. They have promised to use only tomatoes grown in Ontario and have demonstrated a history of working with Canadian farmers through the use of mustard seeds from Saskatchewan in their famous mustard line.

The shift to promoting and using local ingredients and has resulted in overwhelming support through the public with the use of social media to push for people to purchase French's ketchup. The volume of sales has skyrocketed which has increased the number of contracts for local tomato growers.

"Buying local supports both Ontario farmers and our communities. We are encouraging our members to support and promote the French's brand when possible," says Mayor Alan Spacek of Kapuskasing and President of FONOM.

With local food week around the corner from June 1st to June 7th, it is a great opportunity to promote Ontario's farmers.

-30-

For More Information:

Mayor Alan Spacek
President of FONOM
705 335 0001

Pour diffusion immédiate

On exhorte les membres de la FMNO à soutenir les agriculteurs de l'Ontario

(Kapuskasing, Ontario – le 6 avril 2015) – À la Fédération des municipalités du Nord de l'Ontario (FMNO), on encourage les membres à user de leur influence au sein de leurs communautés pour soutenir et promouvoir les agriculteurs de l'Ontario en achetant du ketchup French's.

En 2015, les dirigeants de la société French's ont porté leur attention sur l'utilisation d'ingrédients locaux sans agents de conservation dans leur ligne de ketchup. Ils ont promis de n'utiliser que des tomates produites en Ontario et, par le passé, ils ont fait preuve de leur collaboration avec les producteurs canadiens en utilisant des graines de moutarde en provenance de la Saskatchewan dans leur célèbre gamme de moutarde.

Cette réorientation vers la promotion et l'utilisation d'ingrédients locaux a donné lieu à un impressionnant appui de la part du public, par l'entremise des médias sociaux, qui incite les gens à acheter le ketchup French's. Le volume des ventes a grimpé en flèche, ce qui a multiplié le nombre de contrats pour les producteurs de tomates locaux.

« Lorsque nous achetons des produits locaux, nous appuyons à la fois les producteurs de l'Ontario et nos collectivités. J'encourage donc nos membres à soutenir et à promouvoir autant que possible la marque French's » a déclaré M. Alan Spacek, maire de Kapuskasing et président de la FMNO.

L'approche de la Semaine des aliments locaux, qui se tiendra du 1^{er} au 7 juin, est une excellente occasion de promouvoir les agriculteurs de l'Ontario.

-30-

Renseignements :

M. Alan Spacek, maire de Kapuskasing
Président de la FONOM
705 335-0001



For immediate release:

FONOM Pleased that Northern Liberal MPPs will Hold Cabinet Positions

June 14, 2016 – Kapuskasing, ON - The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) is pleased that all four Northern Liberal MPPs will hold important Cabinet portfolios as announced yesterday by Premier Kathleen Wynne at Queen's Park.

The massive midterm Cabinet shuffle saw the addition of seven new members of the Executive Council, Ministries reconstructed and renamed, and a push for gender parity, with 40 percent of Cabinet now being represented by women.

The Honourable Michael Gravelle will remain as the Minister of Northern Development and Mines, a portfolio he has held for several years. As an MPP from Thunder Bay – Superior North, he knows the issues inside and out. "We are pleased to have the continuity of leadership within this portfolio. Minister Gravelle is a true champion for Northern Ontario and is always available to listen to our issues and concerns," said Mayor Alan Spacek of Kapuskasing and President of FONOM.

"While we are disappointed that Minister Mauro will no longer be the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, a portfolio which is of utmost importance to FONOM and one that Mauro truly understands, we are pleased to have him as the Minister of Municipal Affairs," said Spacek. The MPP for Thunder Bay – Atikokan held the portfolio for a short time in 2014 and is also a former Thunder Bay City Councillor. "We are confident he can appreciate the challenges facing municipalities, particularly in the North," continued Spacek.

Minister David Orazietti who represents the riding of Sault Ste. Marie moves into his new role with the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services. This will be a critical file moving forward as the Province has been consulting extensively in an effort to modernize the Police Services Act to reflect the current nature of policing. Policing has changed significantly since the Act was written more than two decades ago. In 2015, the Policing Modernization Task Force of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) released a report with key recommendations to update the Police Services Act. As Chair of the Task Force, President Spacek, along with AMO, are looking forward to further discussion with the Ministry on the implementation of the recommendations.



Sudbury MPP, Glenn Thibeault, was promoted to the Executive Council with the title of Minister of Energy. Energy costs continue to hurt municipalities, families and resource based industries. “We are pleased that this portfolio will be led by a Northerner that truly understands the energy costs in our region,” says Spacek.

There were several Ministers that retained their portfolios including Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, Hon. Eric Hoskins; Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, Hon. Jeff Leal; Minister of Transportation, Hon. Steven Del Duca; Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Hon. Glen Murray; and the rebranded Ministry of Economic Development and Growth, Hon. Brad Duguid.

We are looking forward to continuing to work with Cabinet to ensure that Northern Ontario is prosperous for generations to come.

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For More Information:

Mayor Alan Spacek
President of FONOM
705 335 0001



For immediate release:

À la FMNO, on se réjouit que des députés libéraux du Nord siègent au Cabinet

Kapuskasing (Ontario), le 14 juin 2016 – À la Fédération des municipalités du Nord de l'Ontario (FMNO), on se réjouit que les quatre députés libéraux du Nord soient responsables d'importants portefeuilles du cabinet, comme l'a annoncé aujourd'hui, à Queen's Park, Mme Kathleen Wynne, première ministre de l'Ontario.

Cet important remaniement de mi-parcours a permis d'ajouter sept nouveaux membres au conseil exécutif, de reconstruire et de renommer des ministères, et de faire place à une plus grande parité des sexes, alors que les femmes occupent maintenant 40 % des postes du cabinet.

M. Michael Gravelle demeure ministre du Développement du Nord et des Mines, un portefeuille dont ils est responsable depuis plusieurs années. À titre de député provincial de la circonscription de Thunder Bay – Supérieur Nord, il connaît les dossiers à fond. « Nous sommes heureux d'avoir une continuité de leadership au sein de ce portefeuille. Le ministre Gravelle est un véritable défenseur du Nord de l'Ontario et il est toujours prêt à prendre connaissance de nos problèmes et de nos préoccupations » a déclaré M. Alan Spacek, maire de Kapuskasing et président de la FMNO.

« Bien que nous soyons déçus que M. Mauro ne soit plus le ministre des Richesses naturelles et des Forêts, un portefeuille de la plus grande importance pour la FMNO, que M. Mauro comprenait à fond, nous sommes heureux qu'il ait été nommé ministre des Affaires municipales » a ajouté M. Spacek. En 2014, le député de Thunder Bay – Atikokan a été responsable de ce portefeuille pendant une courte période de temps. Il est aussi un ancien conseiller de la Ville de Thunder Bay. « Nous sommes confiants qu'il peut apprécier pleinement les défis auxquels font face les municipalités, en particulier celles du Nord » a poursuivi M. Spacek.

M. David Oraziotti, qui représente la circonscription de Sault-Sainte-Marie, occupe maintenant un nouveau rôle, celui de ministre de la Sécurité communautaire et du Logement. Ce dossier sera essentiel pour aller de l'avant alors que le gouvernement provincial a effectué des consultations intensives dans un effort de moderniser la *Loi sur les services policiers de l'Ontario* pour qu'elle reflète la nature actuelle des activités policières. En effet, le travail policier a beaucoup changé depuis l'adoption de cette loi, il y a plus de deux décennies.

En 2015, le Groupe de travail sur la modernisation des services policiers de l'Association des municipalités de l'Ontario (AMO) a publié un rapport contenant des recommandations clés pour la mise à jour de la *Loi sur les services policiers*. En tant que président de ce groupe de travail, le président Spacek ainsi que l'AMO ont bien hâte de poursuivre les discussions avec le ministère pour la mise en œuvre de ces recommandations.

Le député de Sudbury, M. Glenn Thibeault, a été promu au conseil exécutif à titre de ministre de l'Énergie. Les municipalités, les familles et les industries d'exploitation des richesses naturelles continuent de souffrir des coûts énergétiques. « Nous sommes heureux que ce portefeuille soit dirigé par un homme du Nord qui comprend très bien le défi des coûts énergétiques pour notre région » a déclaré M. Spacek.

Plusieurs ministres ont conservé leur portefeuille, y compris le ministre de la Santé et des Soins de longue durée, M. Eric Hoskins; le ministre de l'Agriculture, de l'Alimentation et des Affaires rurales, M. Jeff Heal; le ministre du Transport, M. Steven Del Duca; le ministre de l'Environnement et de l'Action en matière de changement climatique, M. Glen Murray; et le ministre du Développement et de la Croissance économiques, un nouveau nom pour ce ministère, M. Brad Duguid.

À la FMNO, on a hâte de poursuivre le travail avec les membres du cabinet afin d'assurer la prospérité du Nord de l'Ontario pour les générations à venir.

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Renseignements :

M. Alan Spacek, maire de Kapuskasing
Président de la FMNO
705 335-0001



For immediate release:

FONOM Encouraged TransCanada's Energy East Project Has Reached New Milestone

June 17, 2016 – Kapuskasing, ON - The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) is encouraged that on June 16, 2016, the National Energy Board (NEB) determined that TransCanada's Energy East project applications are complete and it will now enter a 21 month review process before it goes to the Federal Government for a final decision.

For the past three years, TransCanada has demonstrated its commitment to keep municipalities, indigenous communities, first responders and individual Canadians informed throughout the process and available to address any concerns that they may have about Energy East.

FONOM has previously extended its support of the Energy East project due to the environmental and socioeconomic impacts it will have on Northern Ontario. "We are confident that TransCanada will adhere to the highest safety standards," says Mayor Alan Spacek of Kapuskasing and President of FONOM. "The proposed pipeline would be rigourously regulated and evaluated by both provincial and federal bodies and would reduce the amount of oil being transported through our communities by rail and truck significantly," continued Spacek.

Additionally, the socioeconomic impacts will be felt along the proposed route. According to the Conference Board of Canada, Ontario will see the largest share of economic benefits during the development and construction of Energy East as well as the ongoing operations including an estimated 3,889 full time jobs during development and construction and 1,523 jobs annually once in operation.

"We know that the Energy East will be subjected to an extensive evaluation by the NEB. They have committed to engaging with Canadians along the route and we look forward to being part of that discussion," says Spacek.

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For More Information:

Mayor Alan Spacek
President of FONOM
705 335 0001

Pour diffusion immédiate

Le projet Énergie Est de TransCanada, appuyé par la FMNO, franchit une nouvelle étape

Kapuskasing (Ontario), le 17 juin 2016 – La Fédération des municipalités du Nord de l'Ontario (FMNO) est encouragée du fait que, le 16 juin 2016, l'Office national de l'énergie (ONE) a déterminé que les demandes pour le projet Énergie Est de TransCanada sont maintenant complètes. On entamera maintenant un processus de révision d'une durée de 21 mois avant de soumettre le projet au gouvernement fédéral qui rendra sa décision finale.

Au cours des trois dernières années, TransCanada a tenu son engagement à tenir les municipalités, les communautés indigènes, les premiers intervenants et la population du Canada informée tout au long du processus et s'est montrée disponible pour répondre à d'éventuelles préoccupations que ceux-ci pourraient avoir au sujet du projet Énergie Est.

La FMNO a précédemment offert son soutien au projet Énergie Est en raison des retombées environnementales et socioéconomiques qu'il aura sur le Nord de l'Ontario. « Nous sommes confiants que TransCanada se conformera aux normes de sécurité les plus élevées » a déclaré M. Alan Spacek, maire de Kapuskasing et président de la FMNO. « Le pipeline proposé serait rigoureusement réglementé et évalué à la fois par des organismes provinciaux et fédéraux, en plus de réduire considérablement la quantité de pétrole transportée dans nos collectivités par chemin de fer et par route » a poursuivi M. Spacek.

De plus, les retombées socioéconomiques du projet se feront ressentir le long du parcours proposé. Selon le Conference Board of Canada, l'Ontario aura la plus grande part des retombées économiques pendant la conception et la construction d'Énergie Est ainsi que pendant les opérations en cours, y compris un nombre estimatif de 3889 emplois à plein temps pendant la conception et la construction, et 1523 emplois par année une fois que le pipeline sera en service.

« Nous savons que le projet Énergie Est sera soumis à une évaluation approfondie par l'ONE. Ils se sont engagés à discuter avec les Canadiens le long de la route et nous avons hâte de prendre part à cette discussion » a ajouté M. Spacek.

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Renseignements :

M. Alan Spacek, maire de Kapuskasing
Président de la FMNO
705 335-0001



For immediate release:

FONOM Focused on Energy Commitments Made in Throne Speech

September 13, 2016 – Kapuskasing, ON - The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) is pleased that the Throne Speech, which was delivered by Lieutenant Governor Elizabeth Dowdeswell at Queen's Park yesterday focused on the need to reduce energy costs.

The speech, "A Balanced Plan to Build Ontario Up for Everyone," reaffirmed previous commitments and highlighted new approaches to addressing concerning issues within the second half of the provincial government's term. Previous commitments included investments into infrastructure, healthcare and education, along with a policy direction of ensuring a greener economy and promoting business growth. The acknowledgement of Northern Ontario was appreciated, specifically with the commitment that nearly half of the infrastructure projects for roads and 200 bridges in the province will be in Northern Ontario.

"FONOM has repeatedly raised the issue of increasing energy costs for Northerners, including residents, small businesses and industry," says Mayor Alan Spacek of Kapuskasing and President of FONOM, "we are pleased that the government has committed to assisting these groups with their energy costs by introducing legislation that would rebate the province's share of the Harmonized Sales Tax from residential and small business electricity bills as well as supporting industry by expanding and lowering the threshold of eligibility for the Industrial Conservation Initiative (ICI)," continued Spacek.

The province also committed to further reductions for rural residents by significantly enhancing existing rural support programs. While the details are limited, we look forward to further clarification on the actual benefits that rural residents will experience.

Though efforts to implement measures to lower electricity bills is welcomed, FONOM maintains that the government should also be working towards a long-term solution to stop overall energy costs from rising.

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For More Information:

Mayor Alan Spacek
President of FONOM
705 335 0001

Pour diffusion immédiate

**La FMNO s'intéresse aux engagements en matière d'énergie
présentés dans le discours du Trône**

Kapuskasing, Ontario – le 13 septembre 2016 – À la Fédération des municipalités du Nord de l'Ontario (FMNO), on est heureux que le discours du Trône présenté hier, à Queen's Park, par Mme Elizabeth Dowdeswell, lieutenant-gouverneure de l'Ontario, ait porté sur le besoin de réduire les coûts énergétiques.

Le discours, intitulé *Un plan équilibré pour favoriser l'essor de l'Ontario*, réaffirme des engagements antérieurs et souligne de nouvelles approches pour traiter de sujets préoccupants au cours de la deuxième session du mandat du gouvernement provincial. Les engagements antérieurs comprenaient des investissements dans l'infrastructure, dans les soins de santé et dans l'éducation, ainsi qu'une orientation politique visant à assurer une économie plus verte et à faire la promotion de la croissance des entreprises. On a apprécié la reconnaissance du Nord de l'Ontario, plus particulièrement l'engagement que près de la moitié des projets d'infrastructure pour des routes et 200 ponts de la province se feront dans le Nord de l'Ontario.

« À maintes reprises, la FMNO a soulevé la question de la hausse des coûts énergétiques pour la population du Nord, y compris les habitants, les petites entreprises et les industries » a déclaré M. Alan Spacek, maire de Kapuskasing et président de la FMNO. « Nous sommes heureux de voir le gouvernement s'engager à aider ces groupes à faire face aux coûts énergétiques en présentant une mesure législative qui réduirait, sur les factures d'électricité des consommateurs résidentiels et des petites entreprises, la part de la province de la taxe de vente harmonisée. Le gouvernement ontarien appuiera aussi l'industrie en élargissant et en abaissant le seuil d'admissibilité à l'Initiative d'économies d'énergie en milieu industriel » a poursuivi M. Spacek.

La province s'est également engagée à de nouvelles réductions pour les résidents ruraux en améliorant considérablement ses programmes existants de soutien aux régions rurales. Comme les détails sont limités, nous avons hâte d'obtenir des précisions supplémentaires au sujet des retombées concrètes pour les résidents de ces régions.

À la FMNO, même si on apprécie les efforts pour mettre en place des mesures visant à réduire les factures d'électricité, on maintient que le gouvernement devrait également travailler à la recherche d'une solution à long terme pour empêcher la hausse de l'ensemble des coûts énergétiques.

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Renseignements :

M. Alan Spacek, maire de Kapuskasing
Président de la FMNO
705 335-0001



For immediate release:

FONOM Travels to Greater Sudbury for Board of Directors Meeting

October 12, 2016 – Kapuskasing, ON - The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) travelled to the City of Greater Sudbury for the regular meeting of the Board of Directors which was held on October 7, 2016 at the Holiday Inn.

The meeting was held following the Northern Ontario Business Awards so that the Board of Directors could attend the ceremony and extend support for the business community across the North. "Northern Ontario Business President, Michael Atkins, has put on a successful event for thirty years, recognizing the small, medium and large businesses of Northern Ontario and the contributions that they make," says Mayor Alan Spacek of Kapuskasing and President of FONOM.

The Board discussed a number of key issues affecting the region including unaffordable electricity rates, implications of the Province's recent announcements of an 8 percent reduction on electricity bills and further reductions for customers in the low density category, as well as concerns that the Federal Economic Development Initiative for Northern Ontario (FedNor) is not receiving the financial resources that it should.

The Directors also provided local updates from the Districts or Cities that they represent on the Board. "It is important to have an opportunity to come together, hear the concerns from across the Northeast and find a common position to unite the region," said Mayor Spacek.

The Northern Policy Institute's President and CEO, Charles Cirtwill, provided an update on policy issues and research being undertaken in Northern Ontario. The presentation also focused on a number of the Institute's initiatives including the Northern Ontario Data Consortium which seeks to combine resources to share data purchase costs and ultimately lowering barriers in accessing data. "FONOM sees the value of the Northern Policy Institute and committed to a closer working relationship as well as promoting their programs to our membership," stated Spacek.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will take place in the New Year.

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For More Information:

Mayor Alan Spacek
President of FONOM
705 335 0001



Pour diffusion immédiate

Les membres du conseil d'administration de la FMNO se réunissent à Sudbury

Kapuskasing (Ontario), le 12 octobre 2016 – Le 7 octobre 2016, les membres du conseil d'administration de la Fédération des municipalités du Nord de l'Ontario (FMNO) se sont rendus à la Ville du Grand Sudbury pour y tenir leur réunion ordinaire au Holiday Inn.

Cette rencontre s'est tenue suite à la cérémonie de remise des Prix d'excellence en affaires du Nord de l'Ontario à laquelle les membres du conseil ont pu assister et ainsi avoir l'occasion d'apporter leur soutien à la communauté des affaires de partout dans le Nord. « Depuis 30 ans, M. Michael Atkins, président du Prix des affaires du Nord de l'Ontario, a su faire un succès de cet événement au cours duquel on reconnaît les petites, les moyennes et les grandes entreprises du Nord de l'Ontario ainsi que leurs contributions » a déclaré M. Alan Spacek, maire de Kapuskasing et président de la FMNO.

Les membres du conseil ont discuté de plusieurs dossiers clés qui touchent la région, y compris les tarifs d'électricité inabordables, les répercussions de la récente annonce du gouvernement provincial d'une réduction de 8 % sur les factures d'électricité et des réductions supplémentaires pour la clientèle de la catégorie à faible densité, ainsi que des inquiétudes que l'Initiative fédérale de développement économique pour le Nord de l'Ontario (FedNor) ne reçoive pas les ressources financières qu'elle devrait recevoir.

Les membres du conseil ont également fourni à leurs homologues des mises à jour au sujet des districts et des villes que chacun représente. « Il est important d'avoir l'occasion de nous réunir, d'entendre les préoccupations de partout dans le nord-est ontarien et de trouver une position commune pour unir la région » a ajouté le maire Spacek.

Le PDG de l'Institut des politiques du Nord, M. Charles Cirtwill, a fait le point sur les questions de politique et sur la recherche entreprise dans le Nord de l'Ontario. Dans sa présentation, il a également abordé un nombre d'initiatives de l'Institut, y compris le Consortium de données sur le Nord de l'Ontario qui cherche à combiner les ressources pour partager les coûts d'achat des données et, au final, éliminer les obstacles pour l'accès aux données. « À la FMNO, nous voyons la valeur de l'Institut des politiques du Nord et nous sommes engagés à resserrer nos relations de travail ainsi qu'à promouvoir ses programmes auprès de nos membres » a indiqué M. Spacek.

La prochaine réunion du conseil d'administration aura lieu dans la nouvelle année.

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Renseignements :

M. Alan Spacek, maire de Kapuskasing
Président de la FMNO
705 335-0001



For immediate release:

Energy Costs Continue to be a Concern Across the North

January 17, 2017 – Kapuskasing, ON - The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) continues to be concerned about the impacts of energy costs on the Northern Ontario economy. The issue was heavily discussed at the recent meeting of the Board of Directors' on January 12, 2017 in North Bay.

Whether it be high and volatile fuel prices, the soaring costs on electricity bills or increased natural gas bills as a result of the cap and trade program that took effect on January 1, 2017, energy costs continue to be one of the most pressing issues to municipalities. FONOM currently receives more municipal resolutions with respect to energy than any other issue.

"We were hearing about energy costs from industry and businesses struggling to remain competitive, then we were hearing about the impacts on costs of living to residents and now we are hearing it from municipalities gravely concerned with escalating energy costs to operate municipal facilities," said Mayor Alan Spacek of Kapuskasing and President of FONOM.

While the province announced various measures to address the energy crisis, Ontarians continue to see a rise in costs with the implementation of the cap and trade program. "We will continue to press the provincial government and voice the concerns of municipalities and Northerners," stated Spacek.

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For More Information:

Mayor Alan Spacek
President of FONOM
705 335 0001

Pour diffusion immédiate

Les coûts énergétiques demeurent une préoccupation partout dans le Nord

Kapuskasing (Ontario), le 17 janvier 2017 – À la Fédération des municipalités du Nord de l'Ontario (FMNO), on continue de se préoccuper de l'impact des coûts énergétiques sur l'économie du Nord de l'Ontario. Les membres du conseil d'administration, réunis à North Bay le 12 janvier courant, ont discuté en profondeur de ce dossier.

Que ce soit les prix élevés et volatiles des combustibles, la montée en flèche des coûts d'électricité ou la hausse des factures de gaz naturel, tous des résultats du programme de plafonnement et d'échange entré en vigueur le 1^{er} janvier 2017, les coûts énergétiques demeurent l'un des problèmes les plus pressants auxquels doivent faire face les municipalités. Actuellement, on reçoit à la FMNO plus de résolutions municipales liées à l'énergie qu'à tout autre sujet.

« Nous avons d'abord entendu parler des coûts énergétiques de la part des industries et des entreprises qui luttent pour demeurer concurrentielles. Puis, nous avons entendu parler de leur impact sur le coût de la vie de la population du Nord. C'est au tour des administrations municipales d'être vivement préoccupées par la montée croissante des coûts énergétiques pour l'exploitation des installations municipales » a déclaré M. Alan Spacek, maire de Kapuskasing et président de la FMNO.

Bien que la province ait annoncé diverses mesures pour contrer la crise énergétique, la population ontarienne constate toujours une hausse des prix depuis la mise en œuvre du programme de plafonnement et d'échange. « Nous continuerons d'insister auprès du gouvernement provincial et d'exprimer les préoccupations des municipalités et des habitants du Nord » a précisé M. Spacek.

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Renseignements :

M. Alan Spacek
Maire de Kapuskasing
Président de la FMNO
705 335-0001



For immediate release:

FONOM Travels to North Bay for Board of Directors' Meeting

January 17, 2017 – Kapuskasing, ON - The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) Board of Directors' travelled to the City of North Bay for the regular meeting of the Board which was held on January 12, 2017 at Nipissing University.

The Board discussed a number of key topics including the upcoming conference in partnership with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs, rising costs of energy, infrastructure funding for municipal fire services, municipal election requirements, as well as Ontario Northland Transportation Commission (ONTC) and its role in the future of Northern Ontario transportation, to name a few.

"The meeting was a great opportunity to hear the concerns from across the region, many of which are of concern to all of us, large and small municipalities" said Mayor Alan Spacek of Kapuskasing and President of FONOM.

The Board of Directors' also discussed the upcoming Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) conference and added to the list of issues that will be raised with the Ontario government including, interest arbitration, bear management, railway rights-of-way property taxes, energy costs, and the inequitable taxation rates for those living in unorganized territory.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will take place in March.

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For More Information:

Mayor Alan Spacek
President of FONOM
705 335 0001

Pour diffusion immédiate

Rencontre à North Bay des membres du conseil d'administration de la FMNO

Kapuskasing (Ontario), le 17 janvier 2017 – Les membres du conseil d'administration de la Fédération des municipalités du Nord de l'Ontario (FMNO) se sont rendus à North Bay pour y tenir, le 12 janvier 2017, à l'Université du Nipissing, leur réunion ordinaire.

Les membres du conseil ont discuté d'un certain nombre de dossiers importants, y compris de la prochaine conférence présentée en partenariat avec le ministère des Affaires municipales, de la hausse des coûts de l'énergie, des fonds d'infrastructure pour les services d'incendie municipaux, des exigences pour les élections municipales, de la Commission de transport Ontario Northland (CTON) et son rôle dans l'avenir du transport dans le Nord de l'Ontario.

« Cette réunion a fourni une occasion privilégiée de se pencher sur les préoccupations des quatre coins de la région. Plusieurs de ces préoccupations nous concernent toutes les municipalités, grandes ou petites » a déclaré M. Alan Spacek, maire de Kapuskasing et président de la FMNO.

Au cours de cette rencontre, les administrateurs ont également discuté de la prochaine conférence de l'Association des municipalités rurales de l'Ontario (AMRO) et ajouté à leur liste des questions à traiter avec le gouvernement de l'Ontario, y compris l'arbitrage de différends, la gestion de la population d'ours, l'imposition foncière relative aux emprises ferroviaires, les coûts de l'énergie et les taux d'imposition inéquitables pour ceux qui vivent en territoire non organisé.

La prochaine rencontre des membres du conseil d'administration aura lieu au mois de mars.

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Renseignements :

M. Alan Spacek
Maire de Kapuskasing
Président de la FMNO
705 335-0001



For immediate release:

FONOM Attends Rural Ontario Municipal Association Conference

February 1, 2017 – Kapuskasing, ON - The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) attended the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) Conference, which was held as a standalone conference, the first in many years, on January 29-31, 2017 in Toronto.

FONOM met with members of the Provincial Cabinet to address several issues including the need to ensure Ontario Northland is considered a prominent partner within the Province's future transportation plans for Northern Ontario. FONOM once again raised concerns that energy costs have become unaffordable for residents, industry and municipalities. In addition to Ontario Northland and energy, railway rights-of-way property taxation, bear management, the non-urgent patient transfer system, the delivery of emergency services, and others were discussed.

FONOM also met with members of the PC Caucus and NDP Caucus as well as the Ontario Medical Association.

Delegates also attended information sessions and workshops on a number of important topics such as collaborative community partnerships, active transportation planning, and water and wastewater innovation.

"Municipal conferences such as ROMA provide an opportunity to meet with Ministers and MPPs and raise new issues as well as outstanding issues that we believe have not yet been appropriately addressed," says Mayor Alan Spacek of Kapuskasing and President of FONOM. "We received overall positive feedback and will hold the government to their commitments," continued Spacek.

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For More Information:

Mayor Alan Spacek
President of FONOM
705 335 0001

Pour diffusion immédiate

Délégation de la FMNO à la conférence de l'AMRO

Kapuskasing (Ontario), le 1^{er} février 2017 – Une délégation de la Fédération des municipalités du Nord de l'Ontario (FMNO) a assisté à la conférence de l'Association des municipalités rurales de l'Ontario (AMRO). Cette conférence, présentée de façon autonome pour la première depuis des années, a eu lieu à Toronto du 29 au 31 janvier 2017.

Les délégués de la FMNO ont rencontré des membres du cabinet provincial pour discuter avec eux de plusieurs dossiers, y compris de la nécessité de faire en sorte qu'Ontario Northland soit considéré comme un important partenaire dans le cadre des futurs projets de transport pour le Nord de l'Ontario. Les délégués de la FMNO ont à nouveau soulevé des préoccupations quant aux coûts énergétiques devenus inabordables pour la population, pour l'industrie et pour les municipalités. En plus des discussions au sujet d'Ontario Northland et des coûts énergétiques, on a également abordé les dossiers suivants : l'imposition foncière des emprises de chemins de fer, la gestion des ours, le système de transfert non urgent des patients, la prestation des services d'urgence, et d'autres encore.

La délégation de la FMNO a également rencontré des membres du caucus du PC et de celui du NPD, ainsi que des représentants de l'Association médicale de l'Ontario.

Par ailleurs, les délégués ont participé à des séances d'information et à des ateliers consacrés à un certain nombre de sujets importants, comme les partenariats communautaires de collaboration, la planification du transport actif, et des innovations en matière d'eau potable et d'eaux usées.

« Des conférences municipales comme celle de l'AMRO constituent une occasion de rencontrer les ministres et les députés, de soulever de nouvelles questions et de discuter de problèmes qui subsistent et qui, de notre point de vue, n'ont pas encore été dûment traités » a déclaré M. Alan Spacek, maire de Kapuskasing et président de la FMNO. « Nous avons reçu des commentaires généralement positifs et nous veillerons à ce que le gouvernement donne suite à son engagement » a-t-il poursuivi.

-30-

Renseignements :

M. Alan Spacek, maire de Kapuskasing
Président de la FMNO
705 335-0001



For immediate release:

FONOM Pleased with Renewal of the Rural Economic Development Program

February 6, 2017 – Kapuskasing, ON - The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) is pleased with provincial announcement on January 30, 2017 to renew the Rural Economic Development (RED) program.

Announced in the 2016 Budget, the RED program was to be suspended and integrated into the Jobs and Prosperity Fund. While we appreciated the government examining ways to improve service delivery and create efficiencies, we were concerned that it would create an environment that would see rural capacity building projects competing for funding against larger projects in urban centres.

“Our rural members have highlighted that there is a continued need for a program that is designed specifically for their geographic and demographic realities,” says Mayor Alan Spacek of Kapuskasing and President of FONOM.

The RED Program is focused solely on rural community economic development projects that will attract investment, create jobs and boost economic growth in rural communities.

“FONOM, along with member communities, requested that the program continue and we thank the government for listening,” said Mayor Alan Spacek. “We look forward to hearing how more communities are benefitting from this funding.”

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For More Information:

Mayor Alan Spacek
President of FONOM
705 335 0001

Pour diffusion immédiate

À la FMNO, on se réjouit du renouvellement du Programme de développement économique des collectivités rurales de l'Ontario (DECOR)

Kapuskasing (Ontario), le 3 février 2017 – À la Fédération des municipalités du Nord de l'Ontario (FMNO), on se réjouit de ce que le gouvernement provincial a annoncé, le 30 janvier 2017, le renouvellement du Programme de développement économique des collectivités rurales de l'Ontario (DECOR).

Annoncé dans le budget de 2016, le programme DECOR devait être interrompu et intégré au Fonds pour l'emploi et la prospérité. Bien qu'à la FMNO on appréciait le fait que le gouvernement étudiait des façons d'améliorer la prestation des services et de réaliser des gains d'efficacité, on craignait que cette intégration ne crée un environnement où des projets de renforcement des capacités de collectivités rurales ne se retrouvent en concurrence avec de plus grands projets de centres urbains pour obtenir du financement.

« Nos membres des régions rurales ont insisté sur la nécessité permanente d'un programme conçu spécialement en fonction de leurs réalités géographiques et démographiques » a déclaré M. Alan Spacek, maire de Kapuskasing et président de la FMNO.

Le programme DECOR appuie exclusivement des projets de développement économique en région rurale qui peuvent attirer des investissements, créer de l'emploi et stimuler la croissance économique des collectivités rurales.

« La FMNO, ainsi que les collectivités membres, ont demandé que le programme soit poursuivi et ils remercient le gouvernement de les avoir écoutés », a déclaré M. Spacek. « C'est avec intérêt que nous attendons de savoir comment un plus grand nombre de collectivités bénéficient de ce financement ».

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Renseignements :

M. Alan Spacek, maire de Kapuskasing
Président de la FMNO
705 335-0001



For immediate release:

FONOM Commends the Provincial Government for Addressing Electricity Costs

March 2, 2017 – Kapuskasing, ON - The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) would like to commend the Minister of Energy, Glenn Thibeault and the provincial government for announcing today that they will lower electricity bills by 25 percent on average this summer for all residential customers.

Ontario's Fair Hydro Plan consisting of the 25 percent reduction includes the 8 percent rebate on the provincial portion of the HST that was announced in January of this year. FONOM supports the initiative of broadening and increasing the relief to all ratepayers while continuing to provide enhanced relief for rural and low-income customers.

These latest steps demonstrate that the province is committed to addressing the issue of unaffordable electricity costs which impacts all of Ontario, including families, small businesses, industry and municipalities.

"We are pleased that electricity ratepayers will see the positive benefits of this announcement in the near future and for the commitment that rates will not increase beyond the rate of inflation for the next four years," said Mayor Alan Spacek of Kapuskasing and President of FONOM. "FONOM has raised this issue repeatedly, pressing upon the government to take immediate action to provide relief to ratepayers."

"We look forward to seeing this initiative implemented and learning more details to ensure all sectors of our economy see electricity bill relief," said Spacek.

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For More Information:

Mayor Alan Spacek
President of FONOM
705 335 0001

Pour diffusion immédiate

**À la FMNO, on félicite le gouvernement provincial pour
ses mesures relatives aux tarifs d'électricité**

Le 2 mars 2017 – Kapuskasing, Ontario – À la Fédération des municipalités du Nord de l'Ontario, on désire féliciter le ministre de l'Énergie, M. Glenn Thibeault, ainsi que le gouvernement provincial pour l'annonce faite aujourd'hui à l'effet que tous les consommateurs résidentiels verront cet été leur facture d'électricité réduite en moyenne de 25 pour cent.

Le plan *Électricité Prix Équitable* de l'Ontario, qui consiste en cette réduction de 25 pourcent, comprend le rabais de 8 pourcent sur la portion provinciale de la TVH annoncée en janvier de cette année. À la FMNO, on appuie cette initiative d'élargissement et d'augmentation du soulagement de tous les contribuables tout en continuant d'offrir un soulagement additionnel aux gens à faible revenu ou qui habitent dans les communautés rurales admissibles.

Ces récentes mesures montrent que le gouvernement provincial s'est engagée à résoudre le problème du coût exorbitant de l'électricité dont l'impact se fait ressentir partout en Ontario, y compris sur les familles, sur les petites entreprises, sur l'industrie et sur les municipalités.

« Nous sommes ravis de ce que les consommateurs d'électricité pourront prochainement constater les avantages liés à cette annonce et à cet engagement qui fait en sorte que les tarifs d'électricité n'augmenteront pas au-delà du taux d'inflation au cours des quatre prochaines années » a déclaré M. Alan Spacek, maire de Kapuskasing et président de la FMNO. « À la FMNO, nous avons soulevé ce problème de nombreuses fois, pressant le gouvernement de prendre des mesures immédiates pour soulager les contribuables. »

« Nous serons heureux de voir la mise en œuvre de cette initiative et d'apprendre plus de détails à ce sujet afin de nous assurer que tous les secteurs de notre économie bénéficient de cette réduction des factures d'électricité » a ajouté M. Spacek.

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Renseignements

M. Alan Spacek, maire de Kapuskasing
Président de la FMNO
705 335-0001



For immediate release:

FONOM Board of Directors Tours House of Kin

March 29, 2017 – Kapuskasing, ON – The Board of Directors’ of the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) was hosted by the House of Kin at their facilities on March 23, 2017 in the City of Greater Sudbury.

The House of Kin is celebrating its twentieth anniversary of operating from the 1889 Regent Street location as a not for profit registered charity, providing low cost accommodations to individuals and families travelling to Greater Sudbury for specialized medical care.

FONOM was given a tour of the facility and accommodations by staff, Board members along with the organization’s founder, Chris Sheridan. FONOM was provided information on their organization, accommodations and discussed future services that they could offer as the nature of healthcare delivery continues to evolve.

“It was a great opportunity to visit the House of Kin and see the upgrades that they have made to their accommodations. It provides a great service as a home away from home for residents across northeastern Ontario in their time of need who need to travel to Sudbury for medical care,” says Mayor Alan Spacek of Kapuskasing and President of FONOM.

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For more information:

Mayor Alan Spacek
FONOM President
705-335-0001

Pour diffusion immédiate

Les membres du CA de la FMNO visitent la maison House of Kin

Kapuskasing, Ontario – le 29 mars 2017 – Le jeudi 23 mars 2017, les membres du conseil d'administration de la Fédération des municipalités du Nord de l'Ontario ont été accueillis à la maison House of Kin de la Ville du Grand Sudbury.

La maison House of Kin célèbre cette année son vingtième anniversaire d'exploitation. Située au 1889 de la rue Regent, la maison House of Kin est un organisme de bienfaisance enregistré, sans but lucratif, qui offre aux personnes et aux familles qui se rendent dans la ville du Grand Sudbury pour des soins médicaux spécialisés de l'hébergement à prix modique.

Les membres du CA de la FMNO ont eu l'occasion de faire une visite guidée de l'établissement et des logements en compagnie du personnel, des membres du conseil d'administration de l'organisme, ainsi que du fondateur, M. Chris Sheridan. Les membres de la FMNO ont reçu de l'information au sujet de l'organisme et des logements, en plus de discuter des services qui pourraient être offerts à l'avenir alors que la nature de la prestation de soins de santé continue d'évoluer.

« Cette visite de la maison House of Kin fut une occasion unique qui nous a permis de voir les améliorations apportées aux logements. Les gens du Nord-Est de l'Ontario qui doivent se rendre à Sudbury pour y recevoir des soins médicaux trouvent là un excellent service, comme un second chez-soi » a commenté M. Alan Spacek, maire de Kapuskasing et président de la FMNO.

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Renseignements :

M. Alan Spacek
Maire de Kapuskasing
Président de la FMNO
705 335-0001



For immediate release:

FONOM Board of Directors' Holds March Meeting in Sudbury

March 29, 2017 – Kapuskasing, ON – The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) held their regular meeting of the Board of Directors' on March 24, 2017 in the City of Greater Sudbury.

The Board discussed a number of issues including changes to residential rental maintenance standards, proposed changes to the Building Code with respect to septic tank inspections, and the development of a woodstove exchange/replacement program as part of Ontario's Climate Change Action Plan to help homeowners to reduce emissions from fossil fuel use.

The provincial government's planned approach to engage municipalities during the upcoming District Social Services Administration Board (DSSAB) review was also discussed as well as the 2017 FONOM/MMA Northeastern Municipal Conference being held in the City of North Bay, May 10, 11 and 12 which will feature keynote speaker Steve Paikin, host of TVO's The Agenda with Steve Paikin.

The recent provincial announcement to reduce hydro costs for residents was addressed at the meeting, including ongoing financial pressures of operating municipal facilities that are not subject to hydro cost reductions. "As the Province continues to shift to a carbon free economy, we will be watching closely on how the cap and trade system will be used to assist municipalities increase their energy efficiency and lower costs," says Mayor Alan Spacek of Kapuskasing, FONOM President.

The next meeting of the Board will be held prior to the annual conference in North Bay on May 10, 2017 at Nipissing University.

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For more information:

Mayor Alan Spacek
FONOM President
705-335-0001

Pour diffusion immédiate

Réunion de mars à Sudbury pour le CA de la FMNO

Kapuskasing, Ontario – le 29 mars 2017 – Les membres du conseil d'administration de la Fédération des municipalités du Nord de l'Ontario (FMNO) se sont rendus dans la Ville du Grand Sudbury pour y tenir leur réunion ordinaire du 24 mars 2017.

Au cours de cette rencontre, les membres du CA ont discuté d'un certain nombre de questions, y compris de changements aux normes d'entretien des logements de location résidentiels, de propositions de modification du code du bâtiment en rapport avec l'inspection des réservoirs septiques, et la mise sur pied d'un programme d'échange/de remplacement de poêles à bois dans le cadre du Plan d'action de l'Ontario contre le changement climatique afin d'aider les propriétaires à réduire les émissions dues aux combustibles fossiles.

On a également discuté de l'approche planifiée du gouvernement provincial pour inciter la population des municipalités à participer à la révision prochaine du Conseil d'administration des services sociaux de district (CASSD) ainsi que de la Conférence de 2017 de la FMNO et du MAML pour les municipalités du Nord-Est qui se tiendra les 10, 11 et 12 mai prochains dans la ville de North Bay. Le conférencier d'honneur sera M. Steve Paikin, l'animateur de l'émission *The Agenda with Steve Paikin*, diffusée sur les ondes de la chaîne TVO.

Enfin, les membres du conseil ont discuté de la récente annonce du gouvernement provincial qu'il comptait réduire les coûts d'électricité pour les abonnés résidentiels. Ils ont également soulevé les continuelles pressions financières exercées pour exploiter les installations municipales dont la facture d'électricité n'est pas réduite. « Alors que le gouvernement provincial poursuit sa transition vers une économie sans carbone, nous surveillerons de près l'utilisation du système de plafonnement et d'échange de droits d'émission pour aider les municipalités à améliorer leur efficacité énergétique et à réduire leurs coûts », a déclaré M. Alan Spacek, maire de Kapuskasing et président de la FMNO.

La prochaine réunion du CA de la FMNO aura lieu le 10 mai 2017, à l'Université Nipissing, à North Bay.

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Renseignements :

M. Alan Spacek
Maire de Kapuskasing
Président de la FMNO
705 335-0001

Appendix B:

2016-2017 Correspondence



The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities

2016-2017 Correspondence

Item #	Topic	Correspondence
1	Infrastructure Funding for Fire Services	Letter to Hon. Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario
2	Expanding Medical Services for Firefighters	Letter to Hon. Eric Hoskins, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care
3	Healthcare (Hospitals, NUPT)	Letter to Hon. Eric Hoskins, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care
4	Softwood Lumber Agreement	- Letter to Hon. Jim Carr, Minister of Natural Resources and Hon. Chrystia Freeland, Minister of International Trade - Response from Hon. Jim Carr, Minister of Natural Resources - Response from Hon. Chrystia Freeland, Minister of International Trade
5	Proposed Changes to Forest Management Planning Manual	- Letter to Hon. Kathryn McGarry, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry (3) - Letter to Northern Ontario Caucus - Response from Hon. Glenn Thibeault, Minister of Energy - Response from Hon. Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario
6	Wildlife Fencing	Letter to Hon. Steven Del Duca, Minister of Transportation
7	Northern Ontario Multi-modal Transportation Strategy	Letter to Hon. Michael Gravelle, Minister of Northern Development and Mines
8	Intercommunity Bus Modernization	Letter to Hon. Steven Del Duca, Minister of Transportation
9	Railway Rights-of-Way Property Taxation	Letter to Parliamentary Assistant Yvan Baker, Ministry of Finance
10	Energy Costs	Letter to Hon. Glenn Thibeault, Minister of Energy
11	Fuel Price Regulation	Letter to Hon. Glenn Thibeault, Minister of Energy
12	FIT Program	Letter to Hon. Glenn Thibeault, Minister of Energy
13	Cap and Trade	- Letter to Hon. Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario - Response from Hon. Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario (2) - Letter to Hon. Glen Murray, Minister of Environment and Climate Change (2) - Response from Hon. Glen Murray, Minister of Environment and Climate Change
14	Provincial Offences Act Fine Collection	Letter to Hon. Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario
15	Policing	Letter to Hon. David Orazietti, Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services (2)

FONOM

The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities

		• Response from Hon. David Orazietti, Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services
16	FedNor	• Letter to Hon. Navdeep Bains, Minister of Science, Innovation, and Economic Development
17	Ontario Trillium Foundation	• Letter to Hon. Michael Coteau, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport • Letter from Hon. Eleanor McMahon, Minister of Tourism Culture and Sport
18	RED Program	• Letter to Hon. Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario
19	Airport Services	• Letter to NAV CANADA
20	Local and Regional Airports	• Response to Hon. Amarjeet Sohi, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities
21	Canada Post	• Letter to Hon. Judy Foote, Minister of Public Services and Procurement
22	Municipal Election Requirements (25 Signatures)	• Letter to Hon. Bill Mauro, Minister of Municipal Affairs • Response from Hon. Bill Mauro, Minister of Municipal Affairs



The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities

February 1, 2017

Honourable Kathleen Wynne
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Room 281, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1
SENT VIA EMAIL:
premier@ontario.ca

Dear Premier,

The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) recently supported a resolution received from many of our member municipalities with respect to petitioning the provincial government to recognize municipal fire services as critical infrastructure.

The Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997, legislates that fire prevention, public education and fire protection services are a mandatory municipal responsibility. There are a total of 449 Fire Departments operating in the province, with a variety of full-time, composite and volunteer departments. Not surprisingly, municipal fire services represent a significant percentage of a municipal capital assets

Currently, there are no funding opportunities available from the provincial or federal government for the equipment, training, maintenance, operating or capital requirements of local fire departments.

Therefore, we ask that the province include this critical infrastructure as part of the government's *Moving Ontario Forward* infrastructure strategy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Alan Spacek". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Alan" being more prominent than the last name "Spacek".

Alan Spacek
President

cc: Minister of Infrastructure, Honourable Bob Chiarelli
Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services, Honourable Marie-France Lalonde



The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities

Furthermore, we are struggling to comprehend why the Ministry is focusing their efforts on expanding medical services to improve patient outcomes when there are other areas that require modernization and improvements that municipal governments have been asking for years to address, including land ambulance and ambulance dispatch issues.

Minister, we ask that this proposal not move forward and that Ministry efforts be focused on addressing other important health care issues such as land ambulance. The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) looks forward to working with you and your Ministry on improving the health care system for northern communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Alan Spacek". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "A" and a long, sweeping underline.

Alan Spacek
FONOM President

cc: Premier of Ontario, Honourable Kathleen Wynne
Minister of Municipal Affairs, Honourable Bill Mauro
Association of Municipalities of Ontario, President Lynn Dollin



The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities

Minister, we look forward to working with you and your Ministry on healthcare issues that affect Northern Ontario. Once again, thank you for meeting with our organization.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Alan Spacek". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

Alan Spacek
President

FONOM

The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities

Reports that the U.S. industry wants Canada's share of U.S. lumber consumption permanently capped at 25 percent would hurt Canadian industries significantly. A quota or cap system would constrain Canadian producers particularly as the housing market in the U.S. grows.

The forestry industry, Northern communities and families cannot afford to have thousands of jobs lost as was the case when the 2006 Softwood Lumber Agreement was signed. Therefore, we ask that the Government of Canada make every effort to ensure that Canadian producers have market access to support a strong forestry industry for years to come.

Sincerely,



Alan Spacek
President

cc: The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada

MP Marc Serré, Chair, Federal Northern Ontario Liberal Caucus

Our goal is to reach an appropriate negotiated settlement and avoid litigation altogether. We recognize however the need to prepare for all eventualities, and federal officials are working closely with provincial governments, including Ontario.

Forestry is an important part of Canada's economy from coast-to-coast and supports thousands of middle class families. I appreciate the contributions of the forestry sector and the challenges our forest exports face. Minister Freeland and I are dedicated to finding the best possible outcome on softwood lumber.

Thank you for your letter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Jim Carr', with a stylized, cursive script.

The Honourable Jim Carr, P.C., M.P.

c.c.: The Honourable Chrystia Freeland, P.C., M.P.
Minister of International Trade

Once again, thank you for writing and sharing your views.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'C' followed by a horizontal line and a small loop at the end.

The Honourable Chrystia Freeland, P.C., M.P.
Minister of International Trade



January 25, 2017

Hon. Kathryn McGarry
Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
Suite 6630, 6th Floor, Whitney Block
99 Wellesley Street West
Toronto, ON M7A 1W3
SENT VIA EMAIL:
minister.mnrf@ontario.ca

Dear Minister McGarry,

On behalf of the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) and the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA), we are writing to express our disappointment regarding the invitation to participate in the meeting with stakeholders scheduled for February 9, 2017.

In 2013, the government acknowledged the need to create a panel to address the Endangered Species Act (ESA) that we have yet to see created much less actually addressing the language around endangered species as it pertains to the Forest Management Planning Manual.

While the invitation for February 9 will provide an opportunity to share perspectives and experiences on protecting species at risk in Crown forest management, it does little to address our repeated requests to establish a meaningful working panel that will hear and understand other perspectives and experiences as options for moving forward together.

Given the short notice for a meeting that has such magnitude on an industry that is the economic backbone for many of our member communities, we question the integrity of this meeting. From our perspective, it is evident that the province is pushing forward on integrating the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Crown Forest Sustainability Act (CFSA), and that this meeting will only serve as an opportunity for the Ministry to state that they did consult with stakeholders.

We believe this attempt at establishing a stakeholder working group is insincere. A one-day session where stakeholders are allotted fifteen minutes to present their concerns will not allow for a meaningful discussion to develop workable solutions to a complex issue.

FONOM

The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities

February 7, 2017

Hon. Kathryn McGarry
Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry
Suite 6630, 6th Floor, Whitney Block
99 Wellesley Street West
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1W3
SENT VIA EMAIL:
kathryn.mcgarry@ontario.ca

Dear Minister McGarry,

Kathryn!

On behalf of the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), we would like to express our sincere gratitude for meeting with our organization during the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) conference on January 30, 2017.

FONOM addressed ongoing concerns about the proposed changes to the Forest Management Planning Manual that would see an integration of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Crown Forest Sustainability Act (CFSA). This direction signals that the protection of wildlife will outweigh ensuring the future sustainability of the forest industry - the economic driver in communities across the province. We appreciated your commitment to working with stakeholders to address the linkages between the ESA and CFSA.

Extending and expanding the spring bear hunt pilot project was welcomed news to FONOM and its member municipalities as it sought to address public safety concerns and provide economic and tourism activity in the region. However, we are concerned with the Ministry's process for issuing non-resident bear hunt allocations and the lack of consultation with stakeholders. FONOM strongly encourages the Ministry to consult with affected stakeholders and local associations to ensure the success of the pilot project and achieve intended outcomes.

Once again, thank you for meeting with our organization and we look forward to working with you and your Ministry.

Sincerely,

Alan

Alan Spacek
President

Municipal governments, the OFIA and affected stakeholders have been working on this initiative with the Government since 2007. In the almost 10 years of participation, OFIA's professional forest managers have, in conjunction with the MNRF, evaluated all linkages between the ESA and CFSA. The solution continues to be the same; the CFSA and forest management plans can only be an equivalent process which manages for all species, including species at risk.

Given the current government's number one priority being jobs and the economy, we urge MNRF to extend the timelines to develop a comprehensive approach and a more complete understanding of the potential impacts of these policy decisions.

Due to the urgency of this request, we ask that you call to coordinate a meeting or provide us with an individual that can organize the meeting for November 23rd or 24th. We look forward to meeting with you and the Northern Caucus to discuss how we can work together to keep people working and ensure that forestry, Ontario's renewable natural resource sector, remains a major contributor to the social, economic and environmental well-being of this great province.

Sincerely,



Jamie Lim
President & CEO
Ontario Forest Industries
Association

Alan Spacek
Mayor of Kapuskasing



David Canfield
Mayor of Kenora

cc. Honourable Kathryn McGarry, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry
OFIA Board of Directors

The Premier of Ontario

Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1A1



La première ministre de l'Ontario

Édifice de l'Assemblée législative, Queen's Park
Toronto (Ontario) M7A 1A1

June 6, 2016

His Worship Alan Spacek
President
Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM)
His Worship David Canfield
President
Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA)
88 Riverside Drive
Kapuskasing, Ontario
P5N 1B3

Dear Mayors  Spacek and  Canfield:

Thank you for your correspondence in which you share your organizations' concerns about proposed revisions to the Forest Management Planning Manual, particularly with regard to the insertion of language from the *Endangered Species Act*. I appreciate the opportunity to hear from FONOM and NOMA on this important issue.

I note that you have sent a copy of your correspondence to my colleague the Honourable Bill Mauro, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry. Either he or a member of his ministry staff will respond to you directly.

Once again, thank you for writing to me. Please accept my best wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Kathleen'.

Kathleen Wynne
Premier

c: The Honourable Bill Mauro

FONOM

The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities

7

February 7, 2017

Hon. Michael Gravelle
Minister of Northern Development and Mines
Whitney Block, 5th Floor, Room 5630
99 Wellesley Street West
Toronto, ON M7A 1W3
SENT VIA EMAIL:
ndmminister@ontario.ca

Dear Minister Gravelle,

Michael!

On behalf of the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), we would like to express our sincere gratitude for meeting with our organization during the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) conference on January 30, 2017. As the Northern representative at the table, we appreciate your vocal support and continued efforts to ensure that the Northern voice is heard within government.

We were, however, concerned with the lack of recognition of Ontario Northland within the draft Northern Ontario Multi-modal Transportation Strategy (NOMTS). In addition to being part of any long-term transportation strategy, Ontario Northland also requires the appropriate resources to be able to provide reliable and affordable transportation options for Northern Ontario.

Other issues that FONOM addressed were the need to review railway rights-of-way property taxation, eliminate the inequity between municipalities and unorganized territories, forest industry, bear management, energy costs, the delivery of emergency services, and interest arbitration.

Once again, thank you for meeting with our organization and we look forward to continuing to work with your Ministry.

Sincerely,



Alan Spacek
President

cc: MPP Joe Dickson, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Northern Development and Mines



The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities

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February 7, 2017

Mr. Yvan Baker
Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Finance
7th Floor, Frost Building South
7 Queen's Park Crescent
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1Y7
SENT VIA EMAIL:
Yvan.Baker@ontario.ca

Dear Mr. Baker,

On behalf of the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), we would like to express our sincere gratitude for meeting with our organization during the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) conference on January 30, 2017.

FONOM is pleased a review is currently being undertaken on railway rights-of-way property taxation in response to concerns raised by the municipal sector. The vast regional differences are unfair to Northern Ontario, a region which is subject to much lower municipal tax rates per acre. The municipal sector supports an assessment based approach which includes tonnage.

While we recognize the work of the Ministry of Finance to increase the Provincial Land Tax, we remain concerned that the Province does not operate on a full cost recovery model. This is unfair to municipalities, who are consistently being required to do more and more with less while the Province provides services to those in unorganized territories at a loss. It is important that the Province move towards a full cost recovery model and reduce the inequity between organized and unorganized territories.

Once again, thank you for meeting with our organization and taking our concerns into consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Alan Spacek", written in a cursive style.

Alan Spacek
President

cc: Honourable Charles Sousa, Minister of Finance

FONOM

The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities

11

September 12, 2016

Hon. Glenn Thibeault
Ministry of Energy
4th Floor, Hearst Block
900 Bay Street
Toronto, Ontario M7A 2E1
SENT VIA EMAIL:
Glenn.Thibeault@ontario.ca

Dear Minister Thibeault,

Glenn!

The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) would like to extend to you and your Cabinet colleagues, our sincere gratitude in meeting with the FONOM Board of Directors on August 16, 2016 during the AMO Conference in Windsor.

We appreciated your comments that several Ministries are making the case that there is a need to expand programs such as the Northern Industrial Electricity Rate (NIER) program in the next Budget. These programs provide much needed support to industry in lowering their electricity costs.

While FONOM recognizes that the province does not have any plans to direct the Ontario Energy Board to implement a regulation on fuel prices, we continue to hold the belief that it must be examined further. As you are aware, the current system of volatile and unfair regional price difference is hurting Northern communities and businesses.

Minister, we value your leadership in voicing the Northern perspective within the government and look forward to continuing to work with you and your Ministry. Once again, thank you for meeting with our organization.

Sincerely,

Alan

Alan Spacek
President

88 Riverside Drive, Kapuskasing ON P5N 1B3 Tel: (705) 337-4454 Fax: (705) 337-1741
Email: fonom.info@gmail.com Website: www.fonom.org



The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities

Therefore, we believe moving forward, any community wishing to apply for the FIT 5 competitive process should be eligible and subsequently considered on an individual project to project basis. Minister, we value your leadership in voicing the Northern perspective within the government and hope that you will provide direction to the IESO with respect to the concerns listed above. Once again, thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Alan", followed by a period.

Alan Spacek
President

The Premier of Ontario

Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1A1



La première ministre de l'Ontario

Édifice de l'Assemblée législative, Queen's Park
Toronto (Ontario) M7A 1A1

November 25, 2016

His Worship Alan Spacek
President
Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM)
88 Riverside Drive
Kapuskasing, Ontario
P5N 1B3

Dear Mayor Spacek:

Thank you for your letter regarding increased energy costs to Northern Ontario as a result of the cap and trade system. The views of FONOM are important to me.

My colleagues the Honourable Glen Murray, Minister of the Environment and Climate Change, and the Honourable Glenn Thibeault, Minister of Energy, would also be interested in this issue. I note that the ministers have been copied on the letter and I trust that the ministers will give the federation's views careful consideration.

Once again, thank you for writing to share this information with me. Please accept my best wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Kathleen Wynne'.

Kathleen Wynne
Premier

c: The Honourable Glen Murray
The Honourable Glenn Thibeault



The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities

June 21, 2016

Hon. Glen Murray
Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change
11th Floor, Ferguson Block
77 Wellesley Street West
Toronto, ON
M7A 2T5
SENT VIA EMAIL:
minister.moecc@ontario.ca

Dear Minister Murray,

Glen!

On behalf of the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), we would like to address concerns arising from Ontario's cap and trade system and the potential effects on municipalities and industries.

First and foremost, FONOM is supportive of the government's goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions in Ontario and addressing climate change to ensure a clean environment for generations to come. We are also supportive of a system that will allow for investments into climate change resilient infrastructure in our communities.

However, we are concerned that the system will come at a great cost to the economy and sustainability of Northern Ontario.

While the North continues to work towards diversification, much of the region remains dependent upon the resource sector as economic drivers in our communities. Industries such as forestry and mining support thousands of jobs across the North and they are, as you are aware, heavily reliant on energy to operate.

Electricity costs in particular, continue to be a major challenge in the North and we fear that the cap and trade system will result in increases to these already high costs. This could have the potential to create a significant burden on industries and their ability to compete.

FONOM

The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities

September 12, 2016

Hon. Glen Murray
Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change
11th Floor, Ferguson Block
77 Wellesley Street West
Toronto, ON M7A 2T5
SENT VIA EMAIL:
minister.moecc@ontario.ca

Dear Minister ~~Murray~~, *Glen!*

The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) would like to extend to you our sincere gratitude in meeting with the FONOM Board of Directors on August 16, 2016 during the AMO Conference in Windsor.

We appreciated the opportunity to bring forward concerns with Ontario's Climate Change Action Plan, specifically the cap and trade system that will result in increases to energy costs. As you know, electricity costs in particular continue to be a major challenge in the North, for residents as well as industry.

Furthermore, FONOM believes that local governments should have access to revenues generated from a cap and trade system for the purpose of investing in infrastructure. Municipalities are at the forefront of building climate change resilient infrastructure and should be given greater financial capacity to achieve the goals outlined in the Climate Change Action Plan.

We look forward to working with you and your Ministry. Once again, thank you for meeting with our organization.

Sincerely,



Alan Spacek
President

The electricity we consume every day is already largely carbon-free thanks in a large part to early action to close coal-fired power generation. As a result of cap and trade, ongoing investments in energy efficiency will help lower average electricity bills for all customers. The net impact will, on average, not result in an overall increase in electricity costs for commercial and industrial consumers. Based on past carbon price forecasts, the retail price of gasoline is estimated to increase 4.3 cents a litre and the retail price of diesel is expected to rise about 4.7 cents a litre in 2017. It is important to note that recent trends in gasoline prices have decreased fuel costs. Ontario gasoline pump prices in January 2016 were, on average, 34.4 cents per litre lower than they were in 2014.

Based on the past carbon price forecasts, the average monthly retail cost of natural gas for households is estimated to increase about \$5 in 2017. We are investing cap and trade proceeds to fund retrofit programs to help homeowners use less energy and save more money. In fact, current natural gas conservation programs can help save households \$7-\$11 per month.

The *Climate Change Mitigation and Low-carbon Economy Act, 2016* also ensures the government is accountable for responsibly and transparently investing proceeds from Ontario's cap and trade program into actions that reduce GHG pollution, create jobs and help people and businesses shift to a low-carbon economy. The money raised by putting a price on carbon in Ontario will be invested in ways that benefit all Ontarians, such as energy retrofits to help households and businesses use less fuel and electricity.

Limiting GHG pollution is the right thing to do for the planet, for Ontario and for future generations. Good climate policy is also good economic policy. Together, we are building a greener, more prosperous Ontario.

Once again, thank you for contacting me with your concerns, and please accept my best wishes.

Sincerely,

Glen Murray

Minister



The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities

We believe the above mentioned reforms will provide municipalities with greater and enhanced tools to collected POA fines. We kindly request that your government take our concerns into consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Alan Spacek". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Alan" and last name "Spacek" clearly distinguishable.

Alan Spacek
President

cc: Honourable Yasir Naqvi, Ministry of the Attorney General
Honourable Bill Mauro, Ministry of Municipal Affairs
Honourable Michael Gravelle, Ministry of Northern Development and Mines

FONOM

The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities

Once again, congratulations and we look forward to working with you in your new role.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Alan".

Alan Spacek
President

Ministry of Community Safety
and Correctional Services

Office of the Minister

25 Grosvenor Street
18th Floor
Toronto ON M7A 1Y6
Tel: 416-325-0408
Fax: 416-325-6067

Ministère de la Sécurité communautaire
et des Services correctionnels

Bureau du ministre

25, rue Grosvenor
18^e étage
Toronto ON M7A 1Y6
Tél. : 416-325-0408
Télec. : 416-325-6067



MC-2016-2404

SEP 08 2016

His Worship Alan Spacek
Mayor of Town of Kapuskasing
President of the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM)
88 Riverside Drive
Kapuskasing ON P5N 1B3

Dear Mayor Spacek:

Thank you for your correspondence congratulating me on my appointment as Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services. I appreciate your words of support.

I am honoured to take on my new role, and look forward to engaging and working together with all ministry partners, including FONOM, as our government continues to deliver on its commitment to ensuring the safety of Ontario's communities and the transformation of correctional services.

Thank you again for your kind words.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David Oraziotti".

David Oraziotti
Minister

FONOM

The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities

While FONOM supports the intent to provide greater flexibility, we want to ensure that projects from Northern Ontario will not be competing against projects from other regions of the country. Minister, we respectfully seek confirmation that Northern Ontario projects will have the same opportunities as projects from other regions of the country.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Alan Spacek". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Alan" and the last name "Spacek" clearly distinguishable.

Alan Spacek
President



The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities

Minister, we are asking that the number of grant catchment areas remain at sixteen and to confirm that the budget will remain at \$115 million beyond the 2016-2017 fiscal year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Alan Spacek". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Alan" and last name "Spacek" clearly distinguishable.

Alan Spacek
President

cc: Ms. Janet Yale, Chair, Ontario Trillium Foundation

at www.otf.ca. Once posted, I encourage you to visit the OTF's website to review the guidelines.

With regard to your concerns about the reduction of grant catchment areas, please rest assured that local communities, staff and volunteers will continue to play an integral role in decision making and support the delivery of OTF programming across the province. We will continue to work collaboratively to create a lasting legacy in Ontario communities.

Thank you again for writing. The efforts of organizations like yours help to strengthen communities across Northern Ontario.

Sincerely,

Eleanor McMahon

Minister

June 20, 2016

Mr. Marc Courtois, Chairman
NAV CANADA
P.O. Box 3411 Station T
Ottawa, ON K1P 5L6
SENT VIA EMAIL:
service@navcanada.ca

Dear Mr. Courtois,

On behalf of the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), we would like to express our concern with changes to NAV CANADA's Level of Service Policy for Aeronautical Information Management Services that was brought to our attention by one of our members.

We have been advised that NAV CANADA will no longer be providing maintenance services to an airport that does not fit any of the four eligibility criteria listed within the policy document and be decommissioning the non-directional beacon (NDB). These changes will result in the airport having to hire an outside organization to perform the required cyclical reviews as well as the purchase of a satellite instrument to replace the NDB.

The airports that will no longer be receiving NAV CANADA's services remain integral to the transportation system of Northern Ontario and are critical to emergency and medical services, aerial resource management, aerial policing and to the movement of goods and people.

In addition to the airports be greatly impacted, the communities that rely on the continued operation of the airport will also be affected. While it is unclear the exact cost of these changes, we know there will be a one-time fee for the satellite instrument as well as costs every four years for the cyclical reviews.

While we appreciate that NAV CANADA has implemented a transition period, with the earliest being impacted in June 2017, we also believe that this provides sufficient time to find an alternate solution to cutting the maintenance service for airports.

Minister of Infrastructure
and Communities



Ministre de l'Infrastructure
et des Collectivités

Ottawa, Canada K1P 0B6

MAR 13 2017

Ms. Alison Stanley
Information and Communications Officer
Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities
88 Riverside Drive
Kapuskasing, Ontario P5N 1B3

Dear Ms. Stanley:

Thank you for your correspondence of October 20, 2016, regarding the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities resolution on the proposal that the Government of Canada review the definition and eligibility of local and regional airports as it pertains to the New Building Canada Fund. Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding.

Our government has announced a historic plan to invest more than \$180 billion in infrastructure over 12 years. Our priority is to promote infrastructure that will contribute to long-term economic growth, build inclusive communities, and support a low carbon, green economy. Key areas for investment will include public transit, green and social infrastructure, transportation infrastructure that supports trade, and infrastructure in rural and northern communities. In terms of transportation infrastructure, our government will invest \$10.1 billion to support projects that will help keep people and goods moving as efficiently as possible at gateways, along corridors and across the wide expanse of our country.

Currently, funding for airports under Infrastructure Canada programs is limited to local and regional airports with scheduled passenger traffic that are not located in the national capital or in a provincial/territorial capital, and that are not federally owned. I am aware, however, that small local and regional airports face ongoing financial challenges as a result of their market size. I recognize that these airports are capital intensive and costly to operate. I will continue to work with my colleague the Honourable Marc Garneau, Minister of Transport, and with key stakeholders such as yourself, to consider this important issue.

...2

June 15, 2016

Honourable Judy Foote
Ministry of Public Services and Procurement
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6
SENT VIA EMAIL:
Judy.Foote@parl.gc.ca

Canada Post Review
CP 2200
Matante, QC G4W 0K8
SENT VIA EMAIL:
TPSGC.ExamendeSPC-CPCReview.PWGSC@pwgsc-tpsgc.gc.ca

Dear Minister Foote,

On behalf of the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), we extend our support for postal banking to be included within the review of Canada Post that was launched on May 5, 2016.

As you are aware, Canadian post offices have historically provided banking services until 1968 and we believe there is an opportunity to for Canada Post to provide financial services once again. Postal banking is argued to increase financial inclusion, promote economic development and generate revenue to preserve public postal service and jobs.

Banks and credit unions across the country are closing. Particularly in rural communities, residents are left without a bank or become forced to travel significant distances to obtain financial services. The membership of FONOM consists of 110 municipalities across the vast region of Northeastern Ontario, with 85 percent of our member municipalities having a population of less than 5,000.

FONOM is also concerned with the growing number of payday lenders, business that provide cheque-cashing services for short-term loans, normally for small amounts of money. There is no question that they target the unbanked, vulnerable and low-income groups within our society.

FONOM

The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities

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February 5, 2017

Honourable Minister Bill Mauro
Ministry of Municipal Affairs
777 Bay Street, 17th Floor
Toronto, ON M5G 2E5
SENT VIA EMAIL:
minister.mma@ontario.ca

Dear Minister Mauro, *Bill!*

The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) has received numerous municipal resolutions regarding a new requirement under the Municipal Elections Act, 1996 that requires anyone wishing to run for office on council must submit the signatures of 25 voters to support the nomination. We echo the concerns of our members as we believe the new requirement will create a barrier for those wishing to run for municipal office.

The majority of FONOM's 110 members are small in population. More specifically, 28 communities have a population under 500. Obtaining 25 signatures from eligible voters could prove challenging to support a nomination and will likely discourage potential candidates from running.

Requiring the signatures of 25 voters to support a nomination is also an accessibility issue as it may discourage potential candidates with mobility challenges. Should a potential candidate be interested in running, travelling from house to house to obtain 25 signatures may not be possible, particularly in some communities where your closest neighbor is kilometres away.

We need an environment that encourages people to run for municipal office. Minister, as you can imagine, people are not lining up to run for municipal office in many of our communities. Therefore, we ask that your Ministry review and reconsider this requirement for the next election.

Sincerely,



Alan Spacek
President

Appendix C:

2016-2017 Presentations and Submissions

2016-2017 Presentations and Submissions

Presentations

- Presentation to Provincial Cabinet during the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Conference
- Presentation to Provincial Cabinet during the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) Conference
- Crown Forest Sustainability Act (CFSA) / Endangered Species Act (ESA) Stakeholder Meeting
- Community Futures Northeast Network AGM
- 2017 Pre Budget Talks and Pre Budget Consultation

Submission

- Ontario Standing Committee on Social Policy – Bill 68, Modernizing Municipal Legislation Act
- Environmental Bill of Rights Registry No. 012-5973, Proposed Revisions to the Forest Management Planning Manual for Crown Forests in Ontario, Forest Information Manual and Forest Operations and Silviculture Manual
- Environmental Bill of Rights Registry No. 012-8890, Towards a Northern Ontario Multimodal Transportation Strategy Discussion Paper
- Budget Secretariat 2017 Ontario Budget