FEDERATION OF NORTHERN ONTARIO MUNICIPALITIES

MINUTES

Meeting of the Board of Directors

Friday, September 17, 2021

Sault Ste Marie City Hall & Thru ZOOM

Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87473704336?pwd=a1czdjFWdUVRbVRCVCs1c0FRK1RaZz09

Meeting ID: 874 7370 4336 Passcode: 367998

Present

- D. Whalen, President
- P. Schoppmann, 2nd Vice President
- L. Watson, 1st Vice President Zoom
- N. Fortier Levesque, Director
- L. Carleton, Director Zoom
- T. Kelly, Director Zoom
- A. MacNevin, Director
- J. Curley, Director
- A. Sizer, Director
- S. Hollingsworth, Director

Regrets Bill Vrebosch, Director

Guests Mayor Christian Provenzano – City of Sault Ste Marie Roxanne Gervais – BakerTilly Renée Laferrière – BakerTilly

President D. Whalen welcomed everyone to the meeting and called the meeting to order at 8:35 am

1.0 Welcome and President's Report (attached to the Agenda – Page 8 &9)

President Whalen welcomed everyone to the meeting, and thanked Sandra Hollingsworth and the Mayor's staff for all there help in coordination today's Board meeting. Danny also mentioned that Mayor Provenzano will be joining the today's meeting when his schedule allows. He asked if members of the Board had questions regarding activities in his report since our last meeting. Also, Danny referenced the Delegations during AMO, by the Board and jointly with NOMA and NOSDA.

It was **MOVED** by **J. Curley, SECONDED** by **N. Fortier Levesque** that the President's Report be received.

MOTION CARRIED.

2.0 ADDITIONS TO/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was **MOVED** by **S. Hollingsworth SECONDED** by **P. Schoppmann** that the agenda be approved with removal of MPAC presentation and with additional items.

MOTION CARRIED.

3.0 TIMED PRESENTATIONS

At 10:30 am Roxanne Gervais and Renée Laferrière from BakerTilly, joined the meeting to present Draft Audit documents for FONOM's 2020-2021 year. They commented that it was a clean audit, and they had no concerns with the record keeping processes presently being used by M. Bain. After their presentation and a conversation with the Board.

It was **MOVED** by **P. Schoppmann SECONDED** by **N. Fortier-Levesque** that the FONOM Board except and approved that 2020-2021Audit presented by BakerTilly.

Further that it be noted that FONOM has not received an annual operating grant from Northern Development and Mines for 2019-2020 (\$50,000) and 2020-2021(\$50,000).

4.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF THE May 14th, 2021 BOARD MEETING

It was **MOVED** by **A. MacNevin**, **SECONDED** by **J. Curley** that the Minutes be accepted as amended.

MOTION CARRIED.

5.0 BUSINESS ARIZING FROM THE MINUTES

5.1 M. Bain briefed the Board on the outcomes and comments received on the 2021 FONOM Annual Conference. Mac spoke to the previously shared financials for the Conference. The Board members commented on the very positive feedback they have received on the quality of the Speakers, including the Prime Minister and the Premier. A discussion was held about the 2022 Conference being held in person in North Bay in May. Different ways of monetizing the event were shared, to attract those not willing to attend the conference in person

5.2 Promote the North Campaign. The Manitoulin and Nipissing video have been released since the May Board meeting, and it has been circulated to the Board, our partners, members, media, and the four City Economic Development Departments. All agreed that Drew has created an awesome showcase as Northern Ontario as a Health place for Business. The remaining video will highlight all of our Region and will be in French. Over 300,000 people have seen the Campaign through our Social Media Specialist Jennifer Baker's efforts.

Several Board members shared they have been asked if we will be doing more District Videos. After a discussion the Board asked that Danny and M. Bain to reach out to Aime Dimatteo, Drew Gauley and the NE members of the ONEDC's to discuss the next group of Videos, and report back to the Board.

- 5.3 There had been a request during our May Board meeting for a Media outlet to attend the Board Meeting. J. Curley reminded the Board that it was a request he had received through the mayor's office, as Timmins was the Host Community of the Conference. M. Bain had researched if other Municipal Associations permit the Media to attend their Board meetings, and they all reported they do not. After a discussion on several options to aid the Media, the Board Pre-Announce the Board Meeting and will host a media scrum following each Meeting.
- 5.4 At a previous meeting Charles Cirtwell had suggested steps that our two organizations can take to become closed in the hope of making us each stronger.

It was **MOVED** by **A. MacNevin**, **SECONDED** by **S. Hollingsworth** that for the period of one year FONOM and the NPI form a closer relationship and that there are semiannually meeting between the two groups, FONOM to be NAC Gold Member (12 hours of Research annual), FONOM to have a seat on the NPI Advisory Council, NPI to be given an Observer Seat on the FONOM Board and that FONOM donates to the NPI a Booth at our Annual Conference.

MOTION CARRIED.

5.4 One of the topics discussion during the FONOM delegation at AMO was the additional Municipal Revenue tools the City of Toronto have. One example shared was Municipal Land Transfer Tax, in 2020 the City of Toronto received \$800 million from the Municipal Land Transfer Tax; this offset represents 15% of their annual revenue (page 28 of the 2021 Budget) and this revenue tool would generate nearly \$2.68 billion dollars for the other Ontario Municipalities, which would help municipalities' growing infrastructure deficit. During the following discussion all agreed that the current form of Municipal taxation, which is over century old, needs to be revamped.

It was **MOVED** by **P. Schoppmann**, **SECONDED** by **S. Hollingsworth** that the Resolution below be approved

Whereas the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) estimates the annual province-wide municipal infrastructure deficit to be \$6 billion dollars;

And Whereas the City of Toronto Act, 2006 granted Toronto broader municipal revenue tools than the other 443 municipalities;

And Whereas the AMO has long lobbied for its members the right to access the same revenue tools permitted by the City of Toronto Act;

Continued 5.4 BUSINESS ARIZING FROM THE MINUTES

And Whereas one of the revenue tools the City of Toronto charges and collects is a Municipal Land Transfer Tax (MLTT) in parallel with the Province of Ontario for all property sales, except for first-time homebuyers;

And Whereas in 2020 the City of Toronto received \$800 million from the Municipal Land Transfer Tax; this offset represents 15% of their annual revenue (page 28 of the 2021 Budget) and this revenue tool would generate nearly \$2.68 billion dollars for the other Ontario Municipalities, which would help municipalities' growing infrastructure deficit;

And Whereas Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities believes MLTT be renamed Land Transfer Infrastructure Support (LTIS);

Therefore Be It Resolved that the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities ask the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) to lobby the Premier of Ontario to grant Ontario Municipalities the same Municipal Revenue Tools as the City of Toronto.

Further Be It Resolved that an electronic copy of this Resolution be shared with the Provincial Minister of Finance Peter Bethlenfalvy, the Leaders of the Provincial

6.0 NEW BUSINESS

- 6.1) Relief of Municipal Election Expenses for Candidates Received for information
- 6.2) Support for Rent arrears program Received for information
- 6.3) Municipal Land Transfer Tax Resolution in item 5.4
- 6.4) Affordable Housing Crisis in Canada Received for information
- 6.5) Support for Agriculture Industry in Rainy River Received for information
- 6.6) Request for Proposal to Host 2023, 2024 and 2025 FONOM Conference Resolution

MOVED by **N. Fortier-Levesque**, SECONDED by **S. Hollingsworth** that FONOM seek through and RFP Host Communities for the FONOM Conference in 2023, 2024 and 2025.

MOTION CARRIED.

7.0 Correspondence/information Items

It was MOVED by L. Carleton, SECONDED by L. Watson all the correspondence items be received for information

- 7.1 Resolution received Support-Provincial Offences Part III Prosecution
- 7.2 Letter received from UtopiaVR
- 7.3 Letter received Joint and Several Liability
- 7.4 Letter Received Rent Arrears
- 7.5 Resolution Received French Public School Development Charge
- 7.6 Letter sent to Premier Ford Cabinet Shuffle
- 7.7 Letter sent to Premier Ford Support of Small Business

7.8 Letters sent to Ministers following Cabinet Shuffle

Carried: Unanimous

8.0 ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

8.1 It was **MOVED** by **N. Fortier Levesque**, **SECONDED** by **A. MacNevin**, that the Board receive the list of amended Expenditures (Attached) for May 6th, 2021 to September 8, 2021.

MOTION CARRIED.

8.2 It was **MOVED** by **L. Watson**, **SECONDED** by **S. Hollingsworth**, that The Board receive the Financial Report (Attached) ending September 3rd, 2021.

MOTION CARRIED.

8.3 Mac shared that following the AMO Delegation he has spoken with Senior Staff at the NOFHC with regard to FONOM's application. Following a discussion;

It was MOVED by A. MacNevin, SECONDED by L. Carleton,

That the Board of the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) recognize the agreement with the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund (NOHFC) and

That a letter of thanks be sent to Minister Rickford and the NOHFC Staff and

That FONOM commit to fund it's share of the expenses and

That effective with this Resolution require for expenses sheet submissions to include the submission of Meal Receipts and

Further that the Expenses Police for FONOM be updated and amended as such.

MOTION CARRIED.

8.0 ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- 8.4 M. Bain shared that positive feed back has been received following the first Quarterly Learning Mornings in August using the ZOOM platform for our membership. He shared that the next Morning will be held on October 0th with RYSE, TIAO, Mentor Works, GFD, and LAS presenting. Following a discussion the Board suggested the January Morning include sessions on Integrity Commissioners, Council – Staff Relations, and a briefing on the Municipal Election.
- 8.5 Mac shared that a committee for the 2022 conference has been created, with membership from the Municipality and Danny Whalen and Bill Vrebosch. A discussion was held about the 2022 Conference being held in person in North Bay in May. Different ways of monetizing the event were shared, to attract those not willing to attend the conference in person.

8.6 M. Bain shared with the Board a Resolution that was created following the FONOM/NOMA/NOSDA presentation to the Multi Minister Delegation during AMO. The Delegation was to address the issue of Housing, Opioid Crisis and Mental Health (H, OC & MH). Mac was asked to share the Resolution with the Board and the FONOM Membership.

9.0 REGIONAL REPORTS

District of Parry Sound

L. Carleton informed the Board that the district continues to see it's properties values increase, as more people GTHA citizen move to the area to work from home in the area. The NBPSDHU is now providing COVID tests in the district. She also shared that the attitudes and actions of those opposed to the vaccine, are losing friends and family.

District of Nipissing

T. Kelly stated that FONOM or ROMA should create a video or brochure "All you need to know about living in the Country"! He commented that new residence to the area expect the same level of service as the GTHA. He also noted that the cost of homes in the district continue to be high, as most homes sell for 15-25% over asking. Terry talked about with no social housing or services outside of the city, that Homelessness is not much of an issue

City of Timmins

J. Curley shared that the CDSSAB is waiting for 5 Ambulances, which are on back order. He informed the Board that the Province has approved only a few suppliers. There will be a Safe Injection Site will be opened in Timmins, which will have an education component also. He noted a spike in the City's vaccination rate, since the announcement of the Province Passport Policy. John spoke to the lack of housing in the City and the pressure the announced mine and its 3000 employees will have on the issue. Also, he mentioned that the volume of wood available, continues to add to the Housing issue.

District of Sudbury

P. Schoppmann shared that many new people are moving into the district. Also, advised that several of the new owners are using the properties as Airbnb's, which is becoming an issue. He noted that French River has passed a Trailer bylaw, to address the problems of multiple trailers on one lot. Paul mentioned that Natural Gas is coming to St.Chales. Broadband is still an issue in the District and St. Charles. He noted that Bell has infrastructure in St. Charles but only allows Government Building to connect.

District of Manitoulin

A. MacNevin noted that the island is seeing a large population increase, with trailers being used for some instead of houses. The Arena is open with a COVID Policy in place, and there is push back from anti vaccers. Also, that several people were protesting the Provincial COVID Passport Policy in front of the Hospital. with the entire District. The island continues to see the housing market is strong.

District of Cochrane

N. Fortier Levesque noted that COVID numbers are lower in the district than previous updates. She mentioned that 65% of people have had 2 vaccinations and there has been an increase in the past week. Nicole agreed with Terry's idea of a "*All you need to know about living in the Country*" pamphlet. She noted that Moonbeam has had an RV Bylaw, and it has been difficult to enforce. Also, she mentioned that the Town of Moonbeam will be celebrating their 100 anniversary in 2022. Nicole mentioned that the AFMO will not be hosting a Virtual Conference this year, but will have their AGM.

City of Sault Ste Marie

S. Hollingsworth was excited to share that the Sault Recovery Centre will be opening 24 Beds and the Sault Area Hospital, for withdrawal Recovery. She mentioned that most of the public seem to be positive about the vaccinations. Sandra commented that the Tourist Season has been positive with the Heritage House seeing an increase, and that the Tourist Train will start up again with precautions. Sandra also shared that the City will be working with the DIA, to create a Plaza in the Downtown with many Patios planned. C. Provenzano comment positively on the funding for Algoma Steel, that will see all of their old technology offline, to achieve better environmental outcomes. He also spoke about Noront and chromite, that it will be a very long process.

District of Parry Sound

Carleton informed the Board that the district is seeing the value of properties increase sharply and that the cost of building materials is also troubling. Connectivity is still a challenge in the district, with many cottagers are frustrated. A positive is the lower COVID numbers in Parry Sound. Also, Lynn spoke about the new skate park opening locally.

District of Timiskaming

D. Whalen shared that the District vaccination number is 80.9% with one dose and 74% with two doses. That the Temiskaming Shores Council and Union have worked together on a Mandatory vaccination Policy for all staff. He mentioned that a development has started in the district that will create 120 long-term care beds. That many are disappointed with the scope of the second intake of Greenstream funding. He touches on the conversations comparing fibro op and Starlink, that are happening in the region. Danny shared the insurance concern raised by the DSSAB, as their rates have increased by 29%. He shared that the Temiskamsing Shores Municipal Office will be open on September 30th, and they have several programs to recognize Truth and Reconciliation Day.

District of Algoma No Report Provided

City of North Bay No Report Provided

City of Greater Sudbury No Report Provided

10. OTHER BUSINESS

- 10.1 Letter from Minister of Health Resolved that FONOM include this issue in our AMO Multi Minister Delegation
- 10.2 Letter from the Northern Golf Association Received for information

11:00 IN CAMERA

No In Camera Discussion

12.0 NEXT MEETING

Friday, July 16th, 2021 by ZOOM or at the Call of the Chair

10.0 ADJOURNMENT

It was **MOVED** by **L. Watson SECONDED** by **P. Schoppman t**hat the meeting be adjourned at 11:54 am

ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF September 17, 2021

It was **MOVED** by **L. Carleton SECONDED** by **T. Kelly** that the Minutes be accepted as presented, on September 17, 2021.

MOTION CARRIED.

Emplader

President Danny Whalen

President Report May 14th, 2021- September 6th, 2021

03 May - Attended a zoom meeting regarding our 2021 conference. Included were staff from Clark Communications to verify details.

- 06 May AMO/MOU pre meeting
- 06 May- AMO/MOU meeting
- 11 May MENDM Northern Economic Recovery meeting
- 13 May NWMO Municipal Forum
- 14 May FONOM Board meeting
- 18 May FONOM Conference
- 25,26,27 May Water Power annual conference
- 26 May Lengthy call with Ministry of Transportation regarding passenger rail and next steps.
- 27 May AMO Executive meeting
- 03 June AMO / MOU meeting
- 14 June Sunday calls with Minister Scott regarding infrastructure projects
- 15 June AMO / MOU special meeting
- 17 June Media release with Minister Scott regarding infrastructure project funding
- 23 June ONTC Virtual Update on Rail
- 24 June AMO Executive meeting
- 24 June AMO Committee of the Whole meeting
- 24 June MTO Municipal Airport Consultation
- 25 June AMO Board meeting

I was able to sit in on a zoom meeting to finalize details regarding our 2021 conference. Clark Communication staff are very helpful and full of good advice. We are lucky to have them assisting us.

I have spent a great deal of time working with the Ministry of Health regarding fire services from incorporated areas being called to conduct search and rescue in unincorporated areas. This is a slow process but one that is very important and requires us to support our northern fire services.

I continue to work with the Ministry of Energy, Northern Development and Mines on a COVID recovery strategy for the north. These are lengthy but worthwhile meetings. It is nice to see the involvement of so many Chambers of Commerce individuals participating.

We have held the final meeting for the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry on an Aggregate Royalties review. I think any changes to the current legislation will be a long time in coming. I was also surprised at how little an understanding MNRF staff had with regards to the north. We had to explain that the province is the recipient of royalties on Crown lands, the north has no Regional Government and that most unincorporated areas are accessible by municipal roads and not provincial or regional roads.

There have been numerous media requests since our 14 May Board meeting and also asking about the FONOM conference.

FONOM was offered two free registrations to the Ontario Waterpower conference on 25,26,27 of May. I was able to attend the most of this agenda. This fits well into our seats on Nuclear Waste Management Ontario. Power is vital to both the mining and forestry sectors in the north as well as day to day life for our residents.

I have been contacted by the Ministry of Transportation regarding the reinstatement of passenger rail from Toronto to Cochrane. They are asking for FONOM input to build the next step of the business plan.

I have been contacted often by Ministry of Infrastructure as well as calls from Minister Scott. Also invited to sit with her, AMO, ROMA, NOMA and FONOM for an infrastructure media release

I have provided media quotes for the Ministry of Transportation, Minister of Conservation and Parks and the Ministry of Infrastructure.

I have participated in an MTO municipal airport discussion group.

July 2021

08 July - AMO/MOU meeting 29 July - AMO Executive meeting

With so many zoom meetings filling our days the executive opted to cancel the July Board meeting and allow the Directors to have a FONOM free month. The provincial wheels did not stop during this time and emails, texts and phone calls were constant. Also, regular AMO and provincial MOU meetings continued.

I had a few calls with MPAC regarding their new venture with the Republic of Ireland. MPAC was searched out and asked to bid on the proposal based on the data collection and IT capabilities of the organization. My concern was and I am assured that Ontario Municipalities are still the primary customer to MPAC.

August 2021

- 04 Aug Launch of FONOM Quarterly Learning Mornings.
- 05 Aug AMO / MOU meeting
- 14 Aug AMO Executive conference meeting
- 15 Aug AMO Board meeting
- 15 Aug FONOM Multi Minister delegation
- 15 Aug Joint NOSDA / NOMA / FONOM ministers' delegation
- 16 Aug AMO conference
- 17 Aug AMO conference
- 18 AMO conference

A huge thank you and congratulations to Mac on his creating and launching our Quarterly Learning Mornings.

The province is working toward getting as many bills cleared and passed and as such our AMO / MOU meetings are productive and have very full agendas.

Thanks to all the directors who took in our learning mornings and who participated in our AMO conference delegations.

Over the past few months, I have done many media interviews. Lots of print, radio and two television sessions. It is nice to see the media showing interest in FONOM's operations.

List of Cheques May 6, 2021 - September 8, 2021

2021-05-06	CMG Computer Services	231	\$ 339.00
2021-05-07	Clark Communications - Conference Support	232	\$ 5,819.50
2021-05-14	Mac Bain - Statement 15	233	\$ 2,950.05
2021-05-18	Lynn Watson - Board and Conference	234	\$ 300.00
2021-05-19	Timmins Youth Wellness Hub	235	\$ 250.00
2021-05-19	Anti - Hunger Coalition	236	\$ 250.00
2021-05-20	Mac Bain	237	\$ 5,000.00
2021-05-22	Lynda Carleton - Board & Conference	238	\$ 300.00
2021-05-22	Terry Kelly - Board & Conference (half)	239	\$ 150.00
2021-05-25	John Curley - Board	240	\$ 150.00
2021-05-28	Nicole Fortier Levesque (Board & Conference)	241	\$ 300.00
2021-05-28	Danny Whalen - May Meetings	242	\$ 1,218.46
2021-05-31	Service Fees		\$ 20.50
2021-06-01	Paul Schoppmann - Board and Conference	243	\$ 300.00
2021-06-01	Alan MacNevin - Board & Conference	244	\$ 300.00
2021-06-02	Bill Vrebosch	245	\$ 300.00
2021-06-11	Mac Bain	246	\$ 2,880.29
2021-06-23	Deb Bain 3 months Rent April-June	247	\$ 600.00
2021-06-25	Danny Whalen - June meetings	248	\$ 675.00
2021-06-30	Nicole AMO Committee & Board - June	249	\$ 225.00
2021-07-01	Service Fees		\$ 19.25
2021-07-04	trillys communications	250	\$ 84.75
2021-07-08	AMO - Frank Cowan Reimbursement	251	\$ 4,500.00
2021-07-09	Mac Bain - Statement 17	252	\$ 4,824.56
2021-07-20	Good Gauley Production	253	\$ 2,825.00
2021-07-20	CMG Computer Services (6 months Antivirus)	254	\$ 135.80
2021-07-31	Annual Membership fee & monthly Service Fees		\$ 23.00
2021-08-06	Mac Bain - Statement 18	255	\$ 2,562.64
2021-08-13	Lynn Watson - executive meeting Sudbury	256	\$ 457.80
2021-08-28	Danny Whalen - July and August meetings	257	\$ 1,236.48
	Nicole Fortier Levesque - AMO meetings in		
2021-08-31	August	258	\$ 225.00
2021-08-31	Service Fees		\$ 10.50
2021-09-03	Mac Bain - Statement 19	259	\$ 2,597.62

\$ 41,830.20

	FONOM		
	Financial Summary		
	1, 2021 - March 31, 2		
a	s of September 3, 202	21	
	Rudget	VTD	Marianaa
Revenue	Budget	YTD	Variance
Membership	27,000.00	29,181.50	(2,181.50
AMO Reimbursements	4,000.00	-	4,000.00
MNDM	50,000.00	-	50,000.00
Northern Suite at AMO	-	-	-
Investment Interest	-	-	-
Conference - bank transfer	7,000.00	20,500.00	(13,500.00
Donations	5,000.00	10,000.00	(5,000.00
FedNor - Promote the North	29,281.00	\$ 29,281.00	-
	122,281.00	88,962.50	33,318.50
Service Fees	200.00	96.25	103.75
Board Meetings	29,000.00	4,183.77	24,816.23
Amo Board Meeting & Mou	10,000.00	2,100.00	7,900.00
	5,000.00		4,025.00
Provincial Committee Meetings Advertising - Forest Ontario	5,000.00	975.00	4,025.00
Insurance	1,000.00	452.00	548.00
General & Admin	5,000.00	2,465.72	2,534.28
Audit And Legal Fees	4,300.00	2,260.00	2,040.00
Staff Wages	35,000.00	13,824.00	2,040.00
Staff Travel	900.00	-	900.00
Executive Honorarium	5,000.00	-	5,000.00
Northern Hospitality Amo	-	-	-
Conference Expense	6,000.00	16,619.69	(10,619.69
GoNorth Campaign Other	19,183.39	3,096.72	16,086.67
Other	_	_	_
Other	_	_	
Other	_		
	120,583.39	46,073.15	74,510.24
	1 607 61	42,000,25	- 41.191.74
	1,697.61	42,889.35	- 41,191.74
The Cheque was sent to the City of Timmins The Donation stayed in Timmins Conference Frank Cowan's Donation for the Virtual Ever returned \$4,500 to AMO for Frank Cowan.	account, for the 2021 con	ference, which later beca	me a virtual event.
Conference Revenues			
Sponsorship	\$ 10,500.00		
FedNor	\$ 10,000.00		
Note: we are still have \$2,500 sponsorship funds	coming		
Conference Expenses			
Clark Communications		\$ 5,819.50	
Mac Bain - Zoom		\$ 289.43	
Timmins Youth Wellness - Donation	1	\$ 250.00	
Anti-Hunger - Donation		\$ 250.00	
Mac Bain - Conference Honorarium		\$ 5,000.00	
Mac Bain - Zoom Frank Cowan (see note)		\$ 500.76 \$ 4,500.00	
Frank Cowan (see note)		\$ 4,500.00	
Fotal	\$ 20,500.00	\$ 16,609.69	\$ 3,890.31