

**FEDERATION OF NORTHERN ONTARIO MUNICIPALITIES**

**MINUTES**

**Friday, March 15, 2024  
West Nipissing Municipal Office  
225 Holditch St. Suite 101  
Sturgeon Falls, Ontario**

**Present**

**D. Whalen, President  
D. Plourde, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
L. Watson, 2nd Vice President  
A. MacNevin, Director  
L. Carleton, Director  
T. Kelly, Director  
J. Curley, Director  
R. Carriere, Director  
M. Horsfield**

**Zoom**

**S. Hollingsworth, Director**

**Regrets**

**P. Lefebvre, Director**

**Staff**

**M. Bain, Executive Director**

## FONOM Board Meeting

Friday, March 15, 2024

**President D. Whalen welcomed everyone to the meeting and called the meeting to order at 8:36 am**

### **1.0 Welcome and President's Report**

FONOM October Board Meeting

- Danny thanked Mayor Rochon and the staff of West Nipissing for the hospitality and assistance was very much appreciated.
- February has been a bit slower on my end. I had a pre op on Feb 20th then went to Toronto and flew to the Dominican for a week. My surgery to correct my hand is set for March 6th so that ties up another three days with travel.

### **1.0 Welcome and President's Report**

Meetings

January 25 - AMO Executive Meeting

January 25 - AMO Committee of the Whole Meeting

January 26 - AMO Board Meeting

February 02 - AMO - FONOM Exotic Animals and Municipal By Laws

February 08 - FONOM Executive and Minister Tibollo

February 09 - Zoom meeting with Alan Carter - FONOM Conference

February 13 - Zoom meeting - AMO - NDP Short-Term Rentals

February 15 - AMO - MOU Pre-meet and meet - CANCELED.

It was **MOVED** by **A. MacNevin**, **SECONDED** by **D. Plourde**, that the President's Report be received.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

### **2.0 ADDITIONS TO/APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

It was **MOVED** by **R. Carriere**, **SECONDED** by **M. Horsfield**, that the Agenda be approved with additions.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

### 3.0 Timed Delegations

#### Ministry of Transportations

Kristin Franks, Manager of Regional Services and Relationships  
Herb Villneff, Northern Operations Branch  
Junaid Asghar, Manager of Highway Operations  
Jaclyn Lytle, Stakeholder Relations Advisor

#### Ontario Provincial Police

Mike Pilon, Chief Superintendent,  
Regional Commander North East Region Headquarters

Management for the Regional Office of the MTO and the North East Regional Commander combined to discuss with the Board the current process for year-round maintenance on Ontario Highways. The main focus was on winter maintenance and the Highway closure process.

#### Continuity of Control

- increasing the proactive use of anti-icing liquids to make it easier and faster to clear highways
- Pre-wetted salt is regular road salt with anti-icing liquid applied before it is spread on the highway. It helps the salt stick to the highway surface and helps melt ice and snow faster to reduce the total amount of salt needed
- installing more Road Weather Information System (RWIS) stations to provide forecasts to help maintenance crews prepare for a storm
- 24 new stations, with 14 of the new RWIS stations in Northern Ontario
- we have also added 16 solar-powered mini-stations in remote locations across Northern Ontario
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Chief Superintendent Mike Pilon walked the board through the reasons and methodology for why the OPP would close a highway. Mike's presentation was quite thorough. He provided statistics that showed, by region, the number of accidents and results from 2019-2023. Due to the nature of the data, the slide Deck was not shared outside the Board.

#### 4.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 21<sup>ST</sup> BOARD MEETING

It was **MOVED** by **J. Curley**, **SECONDED** by **L. Watson** that the Minutes be accepted with correction.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

#### 5.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

5.1 M. Bain updated the Board on the recent announcement from the Federal Government on the Rural & Northern Immigration Pilot.. Mac shared the avenues being taken to clarify the announcement.

#### 6.0 NEW BUSINESS

##### 6.1 Resolutions Received – Financial Support for Fire Apparatus

Town of Thessalon	Town of Hearst
Township of Strong	Township of Hornepayne

Following a discussion by the Board.

It was **MOVED** by **T. Kelly** **SECONDED** by **R. Carrier** that

*Be it resolved that The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities supports the submission of requests for financial support to municipalities to fund fire department trucks, required apparatus and equipment to meet standards, compliance and mandated directive requirements that are current and forthcoming, and further that, this letter be sent to the Provincial Government including the Premier, the Ontario Fire Marshall Office via the Solicitor General, the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs Provincial Advisory Committee, the Canadian Fire Safety Association, and Ontario Municipalities.*

**MOTION CARRIED.**

##### 6.2 Resolutions Received – AMO Social and Economic Prosperity Review

FONOM had drafted and circulated a resolution to our members asking the Province of Ontario to commit to undertaking a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario. Below are the resolutions received. D. Whalen, if the review is successful, shared that FONOM has advocated for strong representation on the review team. Mac shared with the Board a 2009 analyze of the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund

Township of Evanturel	Township of Macdonald, Meredith & Aberdeen Additional	
Municipality of Mattawan	Township of Machar	Municipality of Wawa
Ville de Kapuskasing	Municipality Huron Shores	NEMI
Municipality of Magnetawan	Township of Plummer	Township of Perry
Township of the Archipelago	Township of Coleman	City of Temiskaming Shores
Municipality of East Ferris	City of North Bay	Town of Hearst
Prince Township	Township of Papineau	

## 6.0 NEW BUSINESS - continued

- 6.3 Resolution Received – Additional Northern Ontario Rest Areas  
Town of Hearst

Following a discussion by the Board.

It was MOVED by **D. Plourde** SECONDED by **R. Carrie, that**

*Be it resolved that The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities hereby calls on the Ministry of Transportation to improve the **year-round** sanitary conditions and cleanliness of the rest area facilities located along the Trans-Canada Highway, including the regular pumping/ emptying of rustic pit-type facilities*

**MOTION CARRIED.**

- 6.4 Letter Received as Information – Support return of one-third fed-prov-mun funding  
Town of Parry Sound

- 6.5 Resolution Received as Information – Municipal Equipment Operators Course  
Town of Kirkland Lake                      Township of Calvin

- 6.6 Resolutions Received as Information – P3's Senior Government Policy Change  
Town of Kirkland Lake

- 6.7 Resolution Received as Information – 911 Emergency Challenges  
Township of Plummer

- 6.8 Resolution Received as Information – Support for Enbridge  
Township of Thessalon

- 6.9 Resolution Received – Closure of Medical Lab  
Township of St. Joseph

Following a discussion by the Board.

It was MOVED by **D. Plourde** SECONDED by **R. Carrie, that**

*Be it resolved that The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities advise the Ontario's Minister of Health that it is opposed to the closure of the Sault Ste. Marie PHO lab, and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that The Township of St. Joseph requests that the PHO be directed to review past decisions to remove the Sault Ste. Marie PHO lab's ability to test samples, and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to Ontario's Minister of Health, municipalities across Algoma, the Algoma District Municipal Association (ADMA), the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), Algoma-Manitoulin's Member of Provincial Parliament Michael Mantha, Sault Ste. Marie's Member of Provincial Parliament, Ross Romano, the Leader of Ontario's Official Opposition (Marit Stiles) and the Official Opposition's Health Critic (France Gelinas).*

- 6.10 Letter to Premier Ford – Request for Cabinet Committee re. Ontario Homes

## 7.0 CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATION ITEMS

It was MOVED by **S. Hollingsworth**, **SECONDED** by **A. McNevin** all the correspondence items are received for information purposes.

- 7.1 Resolutions Received – Support Resolution re Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of Employer
- 7.2 Resolutions Received – Support Rural Northern Immigration Pilot (RNIP)
- 7.3 Resolutions Received – Guaranteed Livable Income Program
- 7.4 Letter & Resolution Received – Algoma Health Merger
- 7.5 Policy Received – Fill the Gaps Closer to Home
- 7.6 Paper Received – 2024-Canada Budget Consultation
- 7.7 Resolution Received – Funding for Northern School of Medicine
- 7.8 Resolution Received – Conservation Officer Reclassification
- 7.9 Resolution Received – Support for Cemetery Administration
- 7.10 Paper Received – 2024 Ontario Budget Consultation
- 7.11 Resolution Received – Fixing the Long-Term Care Act
- 7.12 Resolution Received – Legislation changes to the meeting notice requirements
- 7.13 Resolution Received – Housing Dollars from Federal Government
- 7.14 Resolution Received – disqualify of elected officials with Criminal Record
- 7.15 Resolution Received – Cost of Operation Small W & WW systems
- 7.16 Resolution Received – Intimate Partner Violence
- 7.17 Letter Received – Regional Connectivity Concern
- 7.18 Letter Received – Bill 152 Chad’s Law (Enforcing Safer Passing)

**MOTION CARRIED.**

## 8.0 ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- 8.1 **L. Carleton** moved, seconded by **A. MacNevin**, that the Board receive the list of Expenditures (*Attached Page 10*) for January and February 2024

**MOTION CARRIED.**

- 8.2 **L. Watson** moved, seconded by **J. Curley**, that the Board receive the Financial Report (*Attached Page 11*) ending March 6, 2024

**MOTION CARRIED.**

- 8.3 M. Bain shared that the Membership renewals have been prepared and will be sent out over the weekend of March 31<sup>st</sup>. The Board clarified that the fees have not increased from the prior year.
- 8.4 M. Bain shared that the application for the Conference, the third round of GoNorth Videos, industry Videos, and the Sustainable Northern Ontario Economic Development, has entered stage two. Also, Mac shared that he was meeting with Candice Flannigan and Ron Begin later in the day to discuss the projects.

## **8.0 ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS (continued)**

- 8.5 M. Bain updated the Board on the 2024 FONOM Conference, sharing the great support from the team in Sudbury. Mac noted that he had 4 days of content and was trying to fit as much as possible into 2 and a half days. This means that some remarkably interesting content will not be presented this May. Sponsorship has met its mark, the tradeshow is full again this year, and delegate registration is progressing well. The Board clarified the conference week schedule, including Board meetings and their roles at the conference.
- 8.6 M. Bain shared with the Board the need for names for the Executive Award recipient. Several members shared ideas of individuals who would be worthy nominees.

## **9.0 REGIONAL REPORTS**

### **City of North Bay**

M. Horsfield noted that the City is discussing the potential impact of Ontario Homes on the municipality moving forward. This likely involves considerations such as zoning, infrastructure, and community services planning to accommodate any changes brought by the development. The review of how the occupational health of staff is handled indicates a commitment to employee well-being, which is essential for maintaining a healthy and productive workforce. Additionally, the city's focus on staff retention suggests a proactive approach to professional development and employee satisfaction. Investing in enhancing staff skills and networking opportunities while prioritizing staff retention helps maintain institutional knowledge and continuity in service delivery. These efforts can contribute to a more resilient and efficient municipal workforce.

### **District of Nipissing**

T. Kelly noted that a new veterinary hospital is being built, which is great news for pet owners, providing them with more accessible and possibly advanced care for their furry friends. Adding a third doctor to the medical clinic is excellent for local healthcare access, especially with young families moving into the area. The influx of young families is a promising sign of community vitality, and it's good to hear that those working in mining operations are benefiting the local economy and community.

### **District of Algoma**

L. Watson shared that the ADMA has a new Executive Director, Pam Walsh, who is also the Clerk in Wawa. Lynn also noted that the Agenda for the upcoming ADMA meeting will be very informative.

## **9.0 REGIONAL REPORTS - continued**

### **City of Timmins**

J. Curley shared that the City of Timmins is asking the ABC's to review their budgets, which for some will be a significant task. Additionally, there's an issue with the Safe Injections site potentially closing on March 31st, but there's a resolution to extend its operation. John noted that the Province should fund the site, as it's essential to ensure that critical services like safe injection sites are adequately funded and maintained to support public health and safety.

### **District of Parry Sound**

L. Carleton mentioned that Danny will attend the May PSMA meeting. Many municipalities are concerned about succession planning, given the importance of ensuring smooth transitions and continuity of services.

Docks accommodating float planes, especially those with air bubble features, are a concern. Lastly, the issue of hospitals double billing municipalities is complex. Municipalities must advocate for fair and transparent billing practices to avoid financial strain on local governments while ensuring residents' access to essential healthcare services.

### **District of Timiskaming**

D. Whalen noted that in the interest of time, he would only share that he was saddened by the recent passing of Merrill Bond (Charlton & Dack), he was the recipient of the FONOM Executive Award in 2020.

### **District of Sudbury**

R. Carrier's observation that Algoma HU declined the Sudbury-Algoma merger indicates a shift in regional dynamics. On a positive note, Descon's construction of a 30-unit senior housing facility addresses the growing need for senior living options. French River's celebration of 25 years as a bilingual community highlights its commitment to cultural diversity and inclusivity. However, the closure of the mill in Espanola is concerning, as it's likely impacting local communities and the broader economy, potentially affecting other mills in the area as well.

### **City of Timmins**

J. Curley shared that the City of Timmins is asking the ABC's to review their budgets, which for some will be a significant task. Additionally, there's an issue with the Safe Injections site potentially closing on March 31st, but there's a resolution to extend its operation. John noted that the Province should fund the site, as it's essential to ensure that critical services like safe injection sites are adequately funded and maintained to support public health and safety.



## 9.0 REGIONAL REPORTS - continued

### District of Manitoulin

A. MacNevin noted the hour and provided no report in the interest of time.

### District of Cochrane

D. Plourde shared that the District has not been active since the last meeting.

### City of Sault Ste Marie

S. Hollingsworth due to an intermediate internet connection. No update was able to be provided.

### City of Greater Sudbury

None Provided

## 10.0 OTHER BUSINESS

None

## 11:0 IN CAMERA

J. Curley moved, seconded by M. Horsfield, that the Board move in Camera

M. Horsfield moved, seconded by T. Kelly, that the Board move out of in Camera,

## 12.0 NEXT MEETING

Sudbury, Ontario, on Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am or the Call of the Chair.

## 13.0 ADJOURNMENT at 12:35 pm

## ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF May 5, 2024

It was **MOVED** by **J. Curley** **SECONDED** by **L. Carleton** that the Minutes be accepted as presented on March 15, 2024.

**MOTION CARRIED.**



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President Danny Whalen

# 8.1

<b>List of Expenditures</b>				
January 1st, 2024 - March 6th, 2024				
2024-01-16	CMG Computering Services - System Monitoring	500	\$	203.40
2024-01-19	Mac Bain Statement 50	501	\$	2,786.70
2024-01-21	Dave Plourde - January Board	502	\$	1,630.06
2024-01-24	Mac Bain - Jan Board and ROMA	503	\$	2,247.27
2024-01-25	Lynda Carleton - January Board	504	\$	200.00
2024-01-28	Danny Whalen - Board - AMO - ROMA	505	\$	4,701.16
2024-01-29	John Curley - January Board	506	\$	1,397.01
2024-01-31	Lynn Watson - Board	507	\$	1,257.54
2024-01-31	Service Charges		\$	13.00
	void	508		
2024-01-31	NEMI - Al's Hotel room in Toronto	509	\$	245.00
2024-01-31	Al MacNevin - January Board meeting	510	\$	800.51
2024-02-05	Danny Whalen - ROMA Hotel	511	\$	761.80
	VOID	512		
2024-02-06	Maggie Horsefield - Board	513	\$	734.90
2024-02-16	Mac Bain - Statement 51	514	\$	6,676.74
2024-02-24	Good Gauley Production	515	\$	11,441.25
			\$	35,096.34

# 8.2

FONOM			
Financial Summary			
April 1, 2023 - March 31, 2024			
as of August 6, 2023			
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Variance</u>
<b>Revenue</b>			
Membership	32,555.00	28,056.88	4,498.12
AMO Reimbursements	4,000.00	-	4,000.00
NOHFC	45,000.00	31,431.90	13,568.10
Northern Suite at AMO	7,500.00	-	5,500.00
Investment Interest + RevCan	-	-	-
Conference	30,000.00	31,649.95	(1,649.95)
Donations	5,000.00	-	5,000.00
FedNor - Promote the North		(14,179.00)	14,179.00
	<u>124,055.00</u>	<u>76,959.73</u>	<u>45,095.27</u>
Service Fees	225.00	69.00	156.00
Board Meetings	42,000.00	11,491.56	30,508.44
Amo Board Meeting & Mou	16,500.00	-	16,500.00
	300.00	1,283.52	9,716.48
	571.00	5,463.83	(892.83)
Insurance	700.00	-	700.00
General & Admin	9,300.00	1,684.34	7,615.66
Audit And Legal Fees	6,000.00	-	6,000.00
Staff Wages	34,000.00	13,000.00	21,000.00
Staff Travel	1,500.00	295.80	1,204.20
Executive Honorarium	5,000.00	-	5,000.00
Northern Hospitality Amo	9,500.00	2,476.67	7,023.33
Conference Expense	14,000.00	12,937.15	1,062.85
GoNorth Campaign	50,000.00	25,599.01	24,400.99
Catch n Release	10,000.00	2,394.98	7,605.02
Other	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-
	<u>214,296.00</u>	<u>76,695.86</u>	<u>137,600.14</u>
	<u>(90,241.00)</u>	<u>263.87</u>	<u>(92,504.87)</u>