

**FEDERATION OF NORTHERN ONTARIO MUNICIPALITIES**

**MINUTES**

**Sunday, May 8, 2024  
Holiday Inn & Convention Centre  
1696 Regent St,  
Sudbury, 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, Director  
S. Hollingsworth, Director  
M. Signoretti, Alternate Director**

**Regrets**

**P. Lefebvre, Director**

**Staff**

**M. Bain, Executive Director**

## FONOM Board Meeting

Sunday, May 8, 2024

**President D. Whalen welcomed everyone to the meeting and called the meeting to order at 3:01 pm.**

### **1.0 Welcome and President's Report (Page 8)**

Danny shared with the Board his activities since the last meeting, noting the ministerial and media attention FONOM is receiving.

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

**MOTION CARRIED.**

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

It was **MOVED** by **R. Carriere**, **SECONDED** by **L. Watson**, that the Agenda be approved as circulated.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

### **3.0 Timed Delegations – None**

### **4.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF THE MARCH 15<sup>TH</sup>, BOARD MEETING**

It was **MOVED** by **J. Curley**, **SECONDED** by **L. Carleton**, that the Minutes be accepted as circulated.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

### **5.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

#### **6.0 NEW BUSINESS**

6.1 Resolutions Received – Appointment as the lead entity for evacuation purposes

Town of Kapuskasing

6.2 Resolutions Received – Municipal Equipment Operator Course

Town of Kirkland Lake Township of Gauthier

6.3 Report Received – Report Received – GoNorth Final

Baker Consulting

Jennifer

6.4 Letter Received as Information – Nation Firefighting Strategy

Town of Thessalon

## **6.0 NEW BUSINESS – continued**

- 6.5 Resolution Received – Exotic Animals  
Town of Kirkland Lake
- 6.6 Letter Received – Intimate Partner Violence and Coercive Control  
City of Sault Ste Marie
- 6.7 Resolution Received – International Bridge between Fort Frances and International Falls  
Township of Hoynepayne
- 6.8 Resolution Received – Objection to the Highway 400-69 Extension  
Municipality of Wawa
- 6.9 Resolution Received – Life Mobile Cancer Screening Coach  
Municipality of Wawa
- 6.10 Resolutions Received – Declaration of Hope Air Day  
Township of Evanturel      City of Timmins      The Township of St. Joseph
- 6.11 Resolution - Support: Tile Drain Loan  
Township of Armstrong

## **7.0 CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATION ITEMS**

**L. Carleton** moved and was seconded by **A. MacNevin**, that all the correspondence items were received for information purposes.

- 7.1 Resolutions Received – Closures of the Public Health Ontario Lab
- 7.2 Resolution Received – Federal Policy Change for Colleges
- 7.3 Letter Received – Solutions to Canada's Housing Crisis can be found in the Forest
- 7.4 Letter Received – Reducing Wildfire Risk Through Forest Management
- 7.5 Letter Sent by FONOM – Premier Ford - Mental Health Act & the Controlled Drugs & Substances Act
- 7.6 Resolutions Received – AMO Social and Economic Prosperity Review
- 7.7 Resolution Received – Clarification of Employer Definition OHSA
- 7.8 Resolution Received – Declare Intimate Partner Violence and Epidemic
- 7.9 Letter Received – Thank you for meeting at ROMA - Minister Krezner
- 7.10 Resolution Received – Operational Budget Financing
- 7.11 Resolution Received – Permit Digital Notice
- 7.12 Resolution Received – International Student Program
- 7.13 Resolution Received – Northern Ontario Transportation Taskforce
- 7.14 Resolution Received – Supporting Northern College Request
- 7.15 Letter Received - End of Operating Agreements & COCHI-OPHI Funding

**MOTION CARRIED.**

## 8.0 ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- 8.1 **S. Hollingsworth** moved, seconded by **M. Horsfield**, that the Board receive the list of Expenditures (*Attached Page 10*) for March & April 2024

**MOTION CARRIED.**

- 8.2 **L. Watson** moved, seconded by **D. Plourde**, that the Board receive the Financial Report (*Attached Page 11*) ending May 1, 2024

**MOTION CARRIED.**

- 8.3 M. Bain shared that the Membership renewals were successfully sent out on time and that many Municipalities have already processed their payment.
- 8.4 M. Bain shared that after the last board meeting, he met with our project managers, Candice Flannigan and Ron Begin from FedNor, to discuss our application. The application was for the Conference, the third round of GoNorth Videos, industry Videos, and the Sustainable Northern Ontario Economic Development. To date, we have not heard anything but have called Candice.
- 8.5 M. Bain updated the Board on the 2024 FONOM Conference, sharing the tremendous support from the team in Sudbury. Mac noted Sponsorship has met its mark, the tradeshow is full again this year, and delegate registration is progressing well. The Board discussed the activities of the Conference and reviewed the Agenda.
- 8.6 M. Bain shared with the Board that some office work has been deferred to focus on the Conference but will be back to normal once by the end of May. Also, Mac shared that the July meeting was cancelled due to Holiday schedules.

## 9.0 REGIONAL REPORTS

### District of Nipissing

T. Kelly shared that in 2022, East Ferris saw a significant increase in housing construction, with 50 new homes built. However, the trend shifted in 2023, with only 28 new homes constructed. Notably, all the new homes were large residences, indicating a preference for larger housing options. Despite the construction boom, there's a notable absence of new small or multi-residence buildings. On the positive side, Terry noted that the new health center is set to welcome a third doctor, which could improve residents' access to healthcare services and potentially attract more people to the area.

### District of Cochrane

D. Plourde's council in Kapuskasing has approved an 11.25% tax increase. This substantial increase suggests financial challenges or the need for additional revenue to support municipal services and infrastructure. Dave commented on the recent closures of Northern Mills, particularly what those impacts will be on KapPaper. Closing mills can have significant economic implications for communities reliant on the forestry industry. In Kapuskasing, the KapPaper Mill is specifically concerned about the supply of wood waste for its biomass project.

## **9.0 REGIONAL REPORTS continued**

### **District of Sudbury**

R. Carrier shared that French River is set to witness the commencement of a significant senior housing project in June. This \$11 million, 30-unit development addresses the growing need for senior living accommodations in the area. The presence of a waitlist with 100 people indicates strong demand for such housing options, reflecting the aging demographic in the region. Several municipalities, including French River, are grappling with flooding issues. In French River specifically, three roads have been impacted by flooding. Renée noted that they received sandbagging assistance from a Retired Veterans Group. The proliferation of Airbnb rentals is becoming increasingly prevalent in the region. French River has issued 35 Airbnb licenses, indicating a growing trend in short-term rental accommodations. However, this may be the "tip of the iceberg." Nearby, Killarney is considering implementing a rental bylaw for bed and breakfast establishments and a trailer bylaw. This indicates a proactive approach to managing the impact of short-term rentals on the local housing market and ensuring that regulations align with community needs and priorities.

### **City of Greater Sudbury**

M. Signoretti commented that the City is preparing for a planning meeting regarding the redevelopment of the old St. Joseph's Hospital site. The current plan includes ambitious proposals, such as constructing three towers, a condominium building and a 340-unit apartment building. Mark noted that the plans for an event center in the downtown area had been announced, signalling efforts to revitalize the urban core and enhance cultural and entertainment offerings. Introducing an event center could attract tourism, boost local businesses, and provide residents access to diverse events and activities. The relocation of a Cultural Centre to the Davy Centre suggests a strategic move to centralize cultural amenities and create a hub for artistic expression and community engagement. The City is considering a resolution opposing renovictions, which refers to evicting tenants under the guise of renovation or redevelopment. This initiative underscores the City's commitment to protecting tenants' rights, promoting housing stability, and addressing affordability challenges in the rental market.

### **City of North Bay**

M. Horsfield noted that the City of North Bay has received the findings of an operational review, suggesting efforts to improve efficiency and effectiveness in municipal operations. This could lead to implementing comparators, better reporting mechanisms, and an updated City Business Plan, all aimed at enhancing transparency and accountability in governance. Maggie and the city council are collaborating with regional partners to address social services and welfare issues, highlighting a commitment to supporting vulnerable populations within the community. The City is purchasing Airbnb software for local community hosts, indicating efforts to regulate and manage short-term rentals. DNSSAB is working on a housing and homeless study that reflects a commitment to understanding and addressing homelessness and housing insecurity within the region. Maggie noted the City's 100-Year Celebration: Planning is underway for North Bay to celebrate its 100th year as a city, suggesting opportunities for community engagement and celebration of its history and achievements. Lastly, the city council will vote on a new Community Centre on Tuesday to house a twin ice pad.

## **9.0 REGIONAL REPORTS continued**

### **District of Algoma**

L. Watson shared that the ADMA's spring meeting was postponed until the fall due to the lack of quorum. The Association Executive has been struck, with the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice being the Mayor of Wawa and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice being the Mayor of Blind River.

### **City of Timmins**

J. Curley shared that the City is experiencing significant construction activity, indicating growth and development. There are concerns within the City about cutbacks in federal funding for social housing. John voiced concern that members of the public are encountering used needles in public spaces, highlighting concerns about public safety and health. The process of amalgamating the District Health Unit is progressing well, indicating efforts to streamline healthcare services and improve efficiency in the delivery of public health programs. Lastly, he noted that the City has appointed a new Police Chief, signalling leadership, potentially leading to improvements in public safety strategies and community policing initiatives.

### **District of Parry Sound**

L. Carleton mentioned that she and others are actively organizing the Parry Sound Municipalities Association (PSMA) meeting. Minister Suma and Smith's presence indicates the importance of the gathering, suggesting discussions on various topics relevant to small municipalities in the region. Municipalities are expressing concerns about succession planning, focusing on ensuring continuity and effective leadership transitions within local government structures. Lynda noted that a Northlander Station in South River will play a crucial role in connecting communities and facilitating economic activity in the region. Small businesses are set up in many communities, indicating growth and entrepreneurial activity. Area municipalities are still concerned about the impact of short-term rentals.

### **District of Manitoulin**

A. MacNevin noted the island is now experiencing open homelessness, indicating a growing concern regarding housing insecurity and homelessness within communities. Four municipalities on the island have implemented Airbnb bylaws. Establishing these bylaws was tense, reflecting a balance between economic interests and community concerns. Al commented that Healthcare recruitment is becoming more challenging on the island, highlighting concerns about access to healthcare services and the retention of healthcare professionals in rural areas.

### **City of Sault Ste Marie**

S. Hollingsworth shared that the City is implementing a vacant housing tax, indicating efforts to address housing vacancy issues and encourage the utilization of vacant properties. With 80 identified vacant homes (excluding snowbirds), the City is working on a bylaw to regulate and enforce this tax. Queen Street is slated for upgrades, suggesting investments in infrastructure improvements. With the nice weather, Sandra mentioned that tents are showing up in parks and bush areas, indicating concerns about homelessness and housing insecurity. Sault Ste. Marie has surpassed its provincial housing quota, and a new housing partnership between the Legion and a developer has been established, highlighting innovative approaches to address housing challenges.

### **District of Timiskaming**

D. Whalen commented that the district has 35 washed-out roads, noting that none are primary.

**10.0 OTHER BUSINESS**

Danny shared that the Conference's keynote presenter is Alan Carter, and that he is not charging a fee. He is presenting as an employee of Global News. We will be donating in Alan's name to a charity he selected.

Danny is investigating the number of Doctors and Nurses lost in Northern Ontario.

**11:0 IN CAMERA**

None

**12.0 NEXT MEETING**

\_\_\_\_\_ or the Call of the Chair.

**13.0 ADJOURNMENT** at 4:40 pm

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF MAY 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

It was **MOVED** by **L. Watson**, and **SECONDED** by **M. Horsfield**,  
that the Minutes be accepted as presented on Sunday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**MOTION CARRIED.**



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President Danny Whalen

## Welcome and President's Report

From 15 March 2024

21 March - AMO Executive meeting

21 March - AMO C of W meeting

22 March- AMO Board meeting

26 March - Ontario 2024 Budget Embargo

26 March - REDC - NTTF Final Report discussions

09 April - Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters

10 April - AMO - Transportation Report discussions

11 April - AMO - MOU

17 April - AMO Executive

18 April AMO Executive

19 April - Ministry of Transportation

21 April - OGRA

22 April - OGRA

23 April - OGRA - Session at Queens Park

24 April - OGRA



Again, we received a lot of attention from the various ministries. I had many calls with Minister Smith of MNRF regarding programs and funding within the 2024 budget.

I also had lengthy and impactful discussions with the Ministry of Transportation staff regarding the Northern Ontario Transportation Task Force's recommendations and highlights in the 2024 budget.

I was asked to do an interview with Northern Ontario Business regarding our Go North Video program. Lindsay Kelly is the reporter and has heard of our videos from numerous sources. Any media is good media!

A group of Economic Development individuals from across the north held a Zoom meeting and asked me to give an overview of the Northern Ontario Transportation Task Force Report. I was disappointed, as there were 25 participants, and only two asked questions.

I was asked to attend a Zoom meeting with individuals from Ducks Unlimited and Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters regarding Boreal Forest Medieval Villages. Both groups have had previous discussions but wanted a full explanation of what was going on, the issues from a municipal point of view and what actions have taken place to date.

I attended the Ontario Good Roads conference. Registration was free. I met and spoke with various Ministers during the conference. I was also invited to represent FONOM at Queens Park during a Question Period and the following.

While in Toronto and attending OGRA, I reached out to organizations that currently support FONOM and others that could in the future. I spoke with Forest Ontario, Enbridge, Ontario Clean Water, the Canadian Automobile Association, Uber, and StreetScan, to name a few.

<b>List of Expenditures</b>				
January 1st, 2024 - March 6th, 2024				
2024-02-16	Mac Bain - Statement 51		514	\$ 6,676.74
2024-02-24	Good Gauley Production		515	\$ 11,441.25
	void		516	\$ -
2024-03-02	Danny Whalen - February meetings		517	\$ 900.00
2024-03-15	Mac Bain Statement 52		518	\$ 3,093.84
2024-03-15	Renée Carrier - March Board meeting		519	\$ 487.50
2024-03-15	Al MacNevin - March Board meeting		520	\$ 691.20
2024-03-15	Maggie Horsfield - March Board meeting		521	\$ 452.00
2024-03-15	Dave Plourde - March Board meeting		522	\$ 1,154.60
2024-03-15	Terry Kelly - March Board meeting		523	\$ 299.40
2024-03-15	Lynn Watson - March Board meeting		524	\$ 975.00
2024-03-15	John Curley - March Board meeting		525	\$ 914.60
2024-03-15	Lynda Carleton - March Board meeting		526	\$ 572.00
2024-03-15	Mac Bain - Board meeting Expenses		527	\$ 1,738.45
2024-03-22	Deb Bain - Office Rent - Jan-March		528	\$ 900.00
2024-03-22	Mac Bain		529	\$ 882.90
2024-03-28	Lynn Watson - Vice President Honourariu		530	\$ 417.00
2024-03-28	Dave Plourde - Vice President Honourariu		531	\$ 583.00
2024-03-28	Danny Walen - President Honourarium		532	\$ 4,000.00
2024-03-28	Danny Whalen - March Meetings		533	\$ 3,188.38
2024-03-31	Banking Fees			\$ 25.50
2024-04-12	Mac Bain - Statement 53		534	\$ 6,668.84
				\$ 46,062.20

# 8.2

FONOM			
Financial Summary			
April 1, 2024 - March 31, 2025			
as of May 1, 2024			
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Variance</u>
<b>Revenue</b>			
Membership	32,555.00	20,964.58	11,590.42
AMO Reimbursements	4,000.00	3,237.65	762.35
NOHFC	45,000.00	-	45,000.00
Northern Suite at AMO	14,000.00	-	5,500.00
Investment Interest + Misc	-	-	-
Conference	55,000.00	16,261.70	38,738.30
Donations	5,000.00	-	5,000.00
FedNor - Promote the North	99,098.00	-	99,098.00
	<u>254,653.00</u>	<u>40,463.93</u>	<u>205,689.07</u>
Service Fees	225.00	18.00	207.00
Board Meetings	55,000.00	-	55,000.00
Amo Board Meeting & Mou	12,000.00	-	12,000.00
Provincial Committee Meetings	8,500.00	-	8,500.00
Advertising - Clark Communications	1,000.00	-	1,000.00
Insurance	700.00	-	700.00
General & Admin	9,300.00	534.53	8,765.47
Audit And Legal Fees	7,000.00	-	7,000.00
Staff Wages	34,000.00	2,600.00	31,400.00
Staff Travel	2,000.00	-	2,000.00
Executive Honorarium	5,000.00	-	5,000.00
Northern Hospitality Amo	14,000.00	-	14,000.00
Conference Expense	14,000.00	3,534.31	10,465.69
GoNorth Campaign	114,635.20	-	114,635.20
Catch n Release	5,000.00	-	5,000.00
Other	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-
	<u>282,360.20</u>	<u>6,686.84</u>	<u>275,673.36</u>
	<u>(27,707.20)</u>	<u>33,777.09</u>	<u>(69,984.29)</u>