

From: [Martina Chait-Hartwig](#)
To: [Anu Mundahar](#)
Subject: FW: EOWC SPEAKING NOTES - Council Meeting
Date: Tuesday, November 19, 2024 1:23:53 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[EOWC Letter - Addressing the Impact of Rising OPP Costs - November 19, 2024.pdf](#)
[EOWC News Release - EOWC Response to the 2024 Fall Economic Statement - October 30, 2024 .docx](#)
[EOWC Letter - EOWC Support for Licensing Framework for Rideshare - Oct 24, 2024.pdf](#)
[DRAFT-Resolution-Template-for-Municipalities-Calling-for-Investment-in-Municipal-Infrastructure-for-Eastern-Ontarios-Small-and-Rural-Communities-June-27-2024 \(1\).docx](#)

Please add to next agenda.

Thank you!

Martina

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Martina Chait-Hartwig, AOMC, Dipl. M.A.
Clerk - Deputy CAO

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Township of
Douro-Dummer
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From: Todd Davis <tdavis@dourodummer.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, November 19, 2024 12:59 PM
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FYI

From: Graham, Sheridan <SGraham@ptbocounty.ca>
Sent: November 19, 2024 12:04 PM
To: Township CAOs <TownshipCAOs@ptbocounty.ca>
Subject: FW: EOWC SPEAKING NOTES - Council Meeting

Good morning all

Please see attached (specific to OPP costs) from EOWC. Feel free to share with your council members.

Thanks

Sheridan Graham, CMO
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Subject: EOWC SPEAKING NOTES - Council Meeting

Good morning EOWC members,

I want to share the below DRAFT speaking notes below with you should you choose to use them during your upcoming council meeting.

Please read them over to make any personal changes. As always, please reach out if you have questions.

Thank you,

Meredith Staveley-Watson

Director of Government Relations and Policy

647-545-8324

Meredith.Staveley-Watson@eowc.org | eowc.org



EOWC advocacy update:

Ontario Government's Fall Economic Statement *EOWC news release attached

- On behalf of the EOWC, I thank Minister Bethlenfalvy for the increased investment in the **Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund** highlighted in the Fall Economic Statement.
- This \$100 million boost signifies the government's recognition of the unique challenges faced by our 103 rural and small-urban communities.
- The funding will bolster essential services and foster growth and resilience across our region.
- We are also pleased to see investment in the **Learn and Stay program** to help communities attract and retain health care workers.

Municipal Infrastructure *draft resolution for municipal councils attached

- As municipalities are working through the budget process, municipal infrastructure remains a top priority. Our region's municipal councils have to make tough decisions.
- The EOWC's *Mind The Gap Municipal Infrastructure Policy Paper* shows that our region is facing a \$6 billion deficit.
- Municipalities are putting our 'skin in the game' and using every financial tool we can, but the reality is that we need help from our government partners to fill the gap.
- We need to find a long-term sustainable path forward, together, to ensure we can keep our communities whole.
- **I encourage all my council colleagues to review the Mind The Gap paper and join the EOWC in our advocacy by passing the resolution.**
- We look forward to speaking with the Minister Surma and Minister Calandra in January.

OPP Costs to Municipalities *letter attached

- **On average, the increased cost is 21% to municipalities across the region for OPP in 2025.** This increase represents a very significant portion of a municipality's overall budget and impacts levy increases.
- The EOWC has sent a letter to the Solicitor General and Minister of Finance to ask for support. We also are looking for further transparency around how municipalities are billed by the OPP.
- Municipalities are committed to supporting safe communities, but need financial predictability.

Province-wide rideshare licensing legislation *letter attached

- The EOWC is advocating that the Province pass province-wide rideshare licensing legislation that would allow rideshare programs to operate across municipal borders across Ontario.
- It will help encourage people to come visit and work in our communities, and offers an alternative and safe mode of transportation.

Upcoming events

EOWC Inaugural Meeting

- The EOWC will welcome new members, and host regional MPs and MPPS, and our partners at the Eastern Ontario Mayors' Caucus in Kingston on January 10th to discuss our priorities and advocacy moving forward.

ROMA 2025 Conference

- The EOWC will be heading to Toronto in January for the Rural Ontario Municipal Association 2025 Conference to talk about our three key priorities: infrastructure, housing and health care.
- We are pleased to be working alongside ROMA Chair, Christa Lowry, from Lanark County. Chair Lowry understand issues we are facing across Eastern Ontario and is a strong and steady voice for our communities.