

COUNCIL REPORT

July 20, 2010

To: Mayor & Council

From: Bill Preisentanz, CAO

**Re: Council Representation – Lake of the Woods
Development Commission**

Recommendation:

That Council of the City of Kenora hereby indicate the level of Council involvement on the Board of Directors of the Lake of the Woods Development Commission; and further

That the resignation of Mayor Len Compton from the Board of Directors at the Annual General Meeting of the Lake of the Woods Development Commission be acknowledged.

Background:

In April 2007 Council ratified Bylaw #46-2007 authorizing an application pursuant to the Corporation Act to incorporate the Lake of the Woods Development Commission. Subsequently, Bylaw No. 1 of the LOWDC established a Board of Directors comprised of 3 to 11 directors, and at the May 28, 2007 Council meeting 12 directors were appointed including three Council members, Mayor Len Compton, Councillor Wendy Cuthbert and Councillor Rory McMillan. While there have been various resignations and re-appointments, the term for the Board of Directors is November 30, 2010 to coincide with the term of Council.

Bruce Strapp, CEO of the Sault Ste Marie Economic Development Corporation, was recently invited to Kenora and provided some insight into the successful economic development model in place in Sault Ste Marie. Some of the key points raised by Mr. Strapp concerning governance was:

- the Corporation was autonomous**
- the Corporation was non-political**
- the Board of Directors governs the Corporation**
- Political involvement and participation is at the Council level with regular and frequent reporting**

Since that time, the LOWDC has commenced monthly reporting at the Committee level and quarterly reporting at the Council level. As well, Mayor Len Compton tendered his resignation as a Board of Director at the annual AGM meeting last month.

In the Sault Ste Marie model, Council was kept updated and informed by the Board on a monthly basis, however, there was only one Council member on the Board of Directors.