ITEMS OF INFORMATION - ADDENDUM COUNCIL AGENDA - December 11, 2017

Communications	
 Email dated December 8, 2017 and attached correspondence from Ernie Hardeman, MPP Oxford dated December 7, 2017 RE: Snow Plow Operators and Other Public Utility Employees and Contractors to Use Two- Way Radios While Operating a Vehicle 	1

Monica Hawkins

From:

Antoine Boucher

Sent:

Friday, December 8, 2017 9:24 AM

To:

Monica Hawkins

Subject:

FW: Extension of two-way radio exemption - Letter to the Minister

FYI

Antoine C. Boucher, P. Eng
Director of Public Works and Engineering / Directeur des Travaux Publics et ingénierie
Municipality of East Ferris / Municipalité d'East Ferris
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From: Bill Vrebosch [mailto:vrebosch@efni.com]
Sent: Thursday, December 07, 2017 7:43 PM

To: Antoine Boucher

Subject: Fw: Extension of two-way radio exemption - Letter to the Minister

From: Hardeman, Ernie

Sent: Thursday, December 07, 2017 4:09 PM

To: mailto:vrebosch@efni.com

Subject: Extension of two-way radio exemption — Letter to the Minister

I've heard from a number of municipalities who are concerned that the exemption which allows snow plow operators and other public utilities employees to use two way radios is set to expire on January 1, 2018.

Today I sent a letter to the Minister of Transportation supporting an extension of this exemption and urging him to act quickly given that we are now only about three weeks away from the exemption ending.

For your information I have included the text of my letter below. If you would like a copy of the original letter please let me know.

As always if I can be of assistance on this or any other issue please let me know.

Sincerely, Ernie Hardeman, MPP Oxford PC Critic for Municipal Affairs and Housing

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December 7, 2017

Hon. Steven Del Duca Minister of Transportation Ferguson Block 3rd Flr, 77 Wellesley St W, Toronto, ON M7A 1Z8

Dear Minister Del Duça,

I am writing to support the requests from numerous municipalities to continue their exemption which allows snow plow operators and other public utility employees and contractors to use two-way radios while operating a vehicle as provided under section 11 of regulation 366/09.

As you know this exemption is set to expire in just over three weeks. Municipalities have repeatedly contacted your Ministry to request that the exemption be extended and yet we have not seen any action. It is unfair to them that we are now only days away from the exemption expiring and they are still waiting.

These radios are an important tool as these employees work to ensure public safety, allowing communications about safety priorities and emergencies. Replacing this equipment while it is still functioning would be an additional financial burden on municipalities, many of whom are already facing financial constraints.

I ask you to respond to municipalities quickly to ensure they are able to plan for communications equipment to ensure the safety of their employees and the public.

Sincerely,

Ernie Hardeman, MPP Oxford PC Critic for Municipal Affairs and Housing