

AGENDA

TWIN SAULTS – JOINT COUNCIL/COMMISSION MEETING

2008 02 27 – 2:00 p.m.

COUNCIL CHAMBERS
99 FOSTER DRIVE
SAULT STE. MARIE, ONTARIO

1. **Opening Comments**

Mayor Tony Bosbous
Call to Order
Roll Call
Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor John Rowswell
Introduction of City Council

Mover - Councillor S. Myers
Seconder - Councillor F. Fata

Resolved that City Council now proceed into the Committee of the Whole to consider the following matter referred to it for consideration – Twin Saults – Joint Council/Commission Meeting.

Spencer Nebel, City Manager, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan - Introduction of Staff
Joe Fratesi, Chief Administrative Officer, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario - Introduction of Staff

2. **Joint International Bridge Authority - Presentation (2:10 - 2:50 p.m.)**

Phil Becker, General Manager, International Bridge Authority will be in attendance.

3. **U.S. Customs and Border Protection - Canada Border Services Agency - A Review of Current Travel Requirements (2:50 - 3:05 p.m.)**

Devin Chamberlain, Port Director U.S. Customs and Border Protection and Patricia DeVincenzo, Senior Officer Trade Compliance Canada Border Services Agency will be in attendance.

4. **Sault International Arts Festival (3:05 - 3:20 p.m.)**

Dr. Rodney Lowman, President and Bill Crawford, Vice President of Marketing, Lake Superior State University; and Sandra Houston, Executive Director Arts Council of Sault Ste. Marie and District will be in attendance.

5. **(a) New Wastewater Treatment Plant (3:20 – 3:50 p.m.) and** **(b) Future Efforts in Cleaning St. Mary's River - A Discussion (3:50 - 4:00 p.m.)**

(a) Don Elliott, Director of Engineering Services; and (b) Jason Hamilton, St. Mary's River Remedial Action Plan Coordinator, Ministry of Environment will be in attendance.

6. **General Discussion Topics as Suggested by Various Elected and Staff Representatives (4:00 - 4:50 p.m.)**

- (a) Sharing of fire services
- (b) Update on Super Lock Project
- (c) Joint initiatives in building relationships/events
- (d) Sault Ste. Marie International City initiatives
- (e) Multi-Modal Transportation initiative – Bill Therriault, Chair/Coordinator, Multi-Modal Task Force will be in attendance.

7. **City Flag Exchange (4:50 p.m.)**

Mayor John Rowsell and Mayor Tony Bosbous to exchange flags of their respective cities.

Mover - Councillor S. Myers

Seconder - Councillor D. Celetti

Resolved that the Committee of the Whole now rise and report on the matter referred to it by City Council - Twin Saults – Joint Council/Commission Meeting.

The following resolution is for consideration by the Mayor and City Commission of Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan and the Mayor and City Council of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario; each in accordance with the respective rules and regulations which govern their actions.

Mover - Councillor T. Sheehan

Seconder - Councillor F. Fata

Whereas the Mayors and members of Sault Ste. Marie Ontario City Council and Sault Ste. Marie Michigan City Commission concur that there are mutual benefits derived from the meeting of the Twin Saults Joint Council/Commission held on this date, February 27, 2008;
Be it resolved that an annual meeting of the Twin Saults - Joint Council/Commission to discuss issues of mutual interest be endorsed.

8. **Adjournment (5:00 p.m.)**

Mover - Councillor T. Sheehan

Seconder - Councillor D. Celetti

Resolved that this Twin Saults Joint Council/Commission meeting shall now adjourn.



**MIKE BRADLEY
MAYOR**

CITY of SARNIA

255 N. Christina Street P.O. Box 3018

Sarnia, ON Canada N7T 7N2

519 - 332-0330 Ext. 312 519 - 332-3995 (fax)

519 - 332-2664 (TTY)

www.sarnia.ca

mayor@sarnia.ca

February 8th, 2008

VIA FAX:

Mayor Eddie Francis, City of Windsor
Mayor Douglas G. Martin, Town of Fort Erie
Mayor John Rowswell, City of Sault Ste. Marie
Mayor Ted Salci, City of Niagara Falls

Gentlemen:

**RE: SARNIA/PORT HURON MUTUAL AID FIREFIGHTER AGREEMENT/NEW
AMERICAN PASSPORT LAW - LETTER FROM HON. STOCKWELL DAY**

I have forwarded to you the letter dated January 25th, 2008 from Hon. Stockwell Day, Minister of Public Safety, in response to my letter of October 9th, 2007 with respect to the difficulties being encountered at border crossings.

Mr. Day's letter, in my view, is unacceptable as it simply downloads to the local level for individual emergency services and communities to negotiate with the American government issues that are the direct responsibility of the Federal Government.

There is little in all likelihood that the Homeland Security organization will deal directly with municipal governments on this issue.

The question is where do we go from here? Are you, as a border city Mayor and community, willing to pursue this matter further and request that the Federal Government take the appropriate action to ensure there is conformity in the same type of agreements and access for emergency services across the country?

Let me know of your thoughts on this matter. If there is enough support for a broad-based border city Mayor's approach to the Federal Government once again, I would be pleased to organize such an effort. I would appreciate receiving your reply prior to February 20th, 2008.

Yours sincerely,

Mike Bradley
Mayor of Sarnia

*COPY: COUNCIL
MEDIA*

Minister of Public Safety



Ministre de la Sécurité publique

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0P8

JAN 25 2008

RECEIVED

FEB - 4 2008

His Worship Mike Bradley
Mayor of Sarnia
P.O. Box 3018
255 North Christina Street
Sarnia, Ontario N7T 7N2

Dear Mayor Bradley:

Thank you for your correspondence of October 9, 2007, concerning emergency workers crossing the Canada-United States (U.S.) border. I apologize for the delay in responding.

The Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) has a pivotal role in maintaining an efficient and secure border administration, and takes seriously its mandate to provide integrated border services that support national security and public safety priorities, and facilitates the free flow of persons and goods.

Canada and the U.S. enjoy a unique, historical and economic relationship in the world, and it is important that concerns such as yours be heard. I have received similar comments from other jurisdictions concerned about the provision of essential emergency first responder medical and fire services in border communities. The Government of Canada remains committed to working with U.S. authorities to ensure that the shared goal of increased security does not compromise the important cooperation that exists between the Canadian and U.S. governments and between first responder organizations that enter into mutual aid agreements, such as the Sarnia/Port Huron region.

Canada

- 2 -

Currently, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) has given officials at U.S. ports of entry the authority to waive the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI) requirements for first responders involved in emergency situations. CBP has advised that this authority will continue when the WHTI rules for crossing the land border come into effect. To ensure that there are no unexpected delays in the provision of emergency services, CBSA officials advise fire departments and emergency medical services units to contact in advance U.S. officials at the border crossings they intend to use, so as to obtain written assurances that they will continue to experience expedited clearances at these ports in times of emergency, post-WHTI implementation.

First responders being able to cross the border without delay in emergency situations is paramount. The Government of Canada will continue to pursue this issue with U.S. authorities to ensure that U.S. WHTI requirements do not adversely impact on first responders' ability to provide essential emergency services to citizens on both sides of the border.

Thank you again for taking the time to write.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stockwell Day', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Stockwell Day, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Public Safety



**MIKE BRADLEY
MAYOR**

CITY of SARNIA

255 N. Christina Street P.O. Box 3018

Sarnia, ON Canada N7T 7N2

519 - 332-0330 Ext. 312 519 - 332-3995 (fax)

519 - 332-2664 (TTY)

www.sarnia.ca

mayor@sarnia.ca

October 9th, 2007

VIA FAX: 613 - 995 - 1154

Honourable Stockwell Day
Minister of Public Safety
House of Commons
OTTAWA, ON K1A 0A6

Dear Mr. Minister:

**RE: SARNIA/PORT HURON MUTUAL AID FIREFIGHTER
AGREEMENT/NEW AMERICAN PASSPORT LAW**

A recent national media report has raised significant issues as it relates to border cities and their mutual aid pacts and the new American passport law to be implemented in 2008.

In your capacity as Minister of Public Safety and as a known advocate for first-responders a strict interpretation of the law would indicate that any Canadian firefighter crossing the border to assist their American counterparts would need to have a passport and be able to produce that passport. This creates a number of significant issues about requiring firefighters to carry passports while on duty and the delays that could ensue as those vehicles are checked in emergency situations when going to assist their counterparts.

The Mutual Aid Pact between Sarnia and Port Huron has been in place for over 100 years. We have assisted each other on both sides of the border in times of emergencies and this has helped bond the relationships between our communities and between our two countries.

Cont'd....

Page 2


Given that we are only months away from the implementation of this law at the U.S. border, I would appreciate any efforts you can make on this urgent and serious situation.

I have copied other border city Mayors in Ontario to bring this matter to their attention.

At the very least there needs to be an exemption or an understanding by the United States of how this rule, if strictly enforced, will not be in the best interests of the safety of their citizens in border communities.

Thanking you in advance for your assistance in this matter.

Yours sincerely,



Mike Bradley
Mayor of Sarnia

:jmoore

Copy: Mayor Alan D. Cutchner, City of Port Huron
Mayor Eddie Francis, City of Windsor
Mayor Douglas G. Martin, Town of Fort Erie
Mayor John Rowswell, City of Sault Ste. Marie
Mayor Ted Salci, City of Niagara Falls
Sarnia City Council
Mr. Garry McDonald, President, Sarnia Lambton Chamber of
Commerce
Ms. Ann Tuplin, City Manager, City of Sarnia
Mr. Pat Cayen, Fire Chief, City of Sarnia