

Mayor Jeff Lehman Elected Chair of Large Urban Mayors' Caucus of Ontario

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jeff Lehman, Mayor of Barrie, will succeed Hazel McCallion, Mayor of Mississauga as Chair of the Large Urban Mayors' Caucus of Ontario (LUMCO). Mayor Lehman was elected at the group's meeting in Oakville, Ontario on February 7. The position has been previously held by Mayor McCallion. Karen Farbridge, Mayor of Guelph, was elected Vice-Chair.

"I'm honoured to be elected as Chair of LUMCO," said Mayor Lehman. "While following Mayor McCallion is a tall order, I look forward to continuing her work in advancing the issues most important to Ontario's largest cities."

LUMCO is made up of 26 mayors representing cities with populations of over 100,000 residents and represents 67% of Ontario's population. Mayor McCallion will retire this fall, after serving as the Chair of LUMCO and as Mayor of Mississauga for 35 years.

"It has been a privilege to work with Mayor's across Ontario on issues we have in common," said Mayor McCallion. "I'm sure Mayor Lehman will carry on with the important work LUMCO does on behalf of all Ontario's large municipalities."

LUMCO works to advance the standards of municipal government through public policy development, advocacy and discussion. LUMCO ultimately represents the large urban municipal viewpoint within the Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO) and to other authorities and levels of government. LUMCO's key priorities for 2014 include:

- Gridlock and transit
- The rising cost of emergency services
- Job creation

As the Chair, Mayor Jeff Lehman will provide leadership on advocacy plans and be the spokesperson for LUMCO. A Chair and Vice-Chair are elected by the LUMCO members each for a two year term.

Mayor Lehman, 38, has served on Barrie City Council since 2006, and was previously an economist who worked with cities across Canada to manage growth and invest in their urban infrastructure. A graduate of Queen's University and the UK's London School of Economics, Mayor Lehman lectured at the LSE in urban economics before leaving academics for a successful career as a consultant.

-30-

For More Information Contact:

Mayor Jeff Lehman
705-792-7900