

OASIS Business Resource Committee (OBRC)
Annual Report
April 2013– March 2014

The OBRC focused on two major areas:

1. Agency networking and information sharing and
2. Ministry Networking and providing information/constructive feedback through OASIS

As part of agency networking and information sharing, OBRC sponsored and engaged with Developmental services Finance Group (DSFG) which is a provincial grass roots finance and administration group for agencies in the DS sector. Through Christian Horizon's generous donation of a free meeting space OBRC was again able to donate funds to DSFG to assist with meeting costs. Members were also asked to contribute \$100.00 on a volunteer basis to cover the shortfall. The DSFG provided information for OBRC projects and received feedback in return.

OBRC, through DSFG, promoted sound business practices and gathered information to provide constructive feedback to the ministry through OASIS on both finance and administrative issues.

Some of the practices promoted related to:

- Ongoing updates and additions to the Policy Options Manual
- Collected information from the DSFG to identify indicators. These indicators will be tracked on a quarterly basis to develop consistency in reporting across the sector and improve data quality
- Development of collective strategies to manage cost pressures – The Ministry of Government Services has approved the business case to fund a resource housed at OECM for two years. This resource will work with the DS sector to develop VOR for our sector with OBRC will acting as the control group. OECM is waiting for the ministry to sign the Transfer Payment Agreement.

To share information, OBRC posts information it collects and that provided by presenters at the DSFG meetings on the OASIS website on the open section under OBRC resources.

As part of networking with the ministry and providing constructive feedback, OBRC met with MCSS representatives to provide information and clarify several items in the budget package: NOC Codes, Replacement of items over \$1,000, Materials versus Services, Compensated Absences, Statutory Benefits, Taxes, Capital Leases, and Mortgage Interest. The group also provided feedback to the ministry on TPAR's and Training on the changes to Budget Package. Discussion is ongoing.

In the previous year a group from the DSFG and OBRC began a project attempting to resolve issues of access and administration of RDSP's for individuals in the sector. At the invitation of the Law Commission the RDSP group forwarded a document outlining our issues. The Commission then requested a follow-up, face-to-face meeting to hear the issues. A group consisting of a multidisciplinary group of lawyers and senior managers of agencies (RDSP Group of OASIS) prepared a series of recommendations and presented them to the Law Commission.

A joint effort between OBRC and DSFG to develop a process for supported banking was started in 2013-14 and will continue through 2014-15.

OBRC tracks the various financial and legislative changes that apply to the DS sector and analyzes their financial and administrative impact. It then works with the ED representatives to turn this information into constructive feedback that OASIS can take to the senior ministry and government officials.

One member left the committee in October and a new person was appointed in their place. Two members resigned at the end of March 2014.

Zull Chaggan of Kerry's Place was replaced by Sally Ginter, also of Kerry's Place. Darlene Ryan of Community Living Prince Edward will take over the chair, and Flavian Pinto of Community Living Toronto and Linda Karnas of Community Living Chatham-Kent have resigned from the committee effective March 31, 2014. Many thanks to Zull, Flavian and Linda for their many years of service!

A committee structure in line with the new MCSS regions is proposed for 2014-15. The list below represents the structure and its members for the 2013-14 year.

2013-2014 Business Resource Committee Members

REGION	MEMBER	AGENCY
North	Lynn Brandt	Community living Manitoulin
North East	Rick Van der Ley	Community Living South Muskoka
Central East	Margaret Patrowicz	New Leaf
Central west/Provincial	Angelica McKay	Christian Horizons
Eastern/Provincial	Sally Ginter	Kerry's Place Autism Services
Hamilton Niagara	April Papineau	Community Living Haldimand
Toronto	Flavian Pinto	Community Living Toronto
South East	Darlene Ryan	Community Living Prince Edward
South West	Linda Karnas (Chair)	Community Living Chatham-Kent
OASIS Board	Lu-Ann Cowell	Community Living Chatham-Kent

OBRC has developing its work plan for 2014-15 and looks forward to another year of supporting OASIS and the Developmental Services sector.

Linda Karnas, CGA
Chair