

News Digest

March 2014, Issue No.10

President's Message

Welcome to Issue No. 10 of the OASIS News Digest. In January you received a formal Call for Nominations to the OASIS Board of Directors. If you are interested in joining the Board, you are encouraged to complete and submit the Nomination Form, which can be found on the OASIS website at <http://oasisonline.ca/top-stories/call-for-nominations-to-the-oasis-board-of-directors/>. At this time, there are two Volunteer and one Executive Director vacancies. The deadline for nominations is **Friday, March 21, 2014**.

On March 5, 2014, the Chair of the Select Committee on Developmental Services presented the Committee's Interim Report to the Legislature. To read the report go to <http://ontla.on.ca/web/committee-proceedings/committee-reports.do?ParlCommID=8976&locale=en>. On March 7th OASIS issued a press release over the Canada Newswire CNW expressing thanks and appreciation to the Select Committee on the release of its interim report. To read the full press release go to <http://oasisonline.ca/wp-content/uploads/Press-Release-March-2014-OASIS-Thanks-Government-Select-Committee.pdf>

The OASIS Labour Relations Committee hosted another successful Information Session on March 6, 2014 in Toronto. The Session sold out with 125 attendees representing 65 agencies, including 2 non-member agencies. The evaluation results and presentation materials from the Session have been posted on the Secure Labour Relation portion of the OASIS website.

In anticipation of a Spring election the OASIS Board of Directors continues to work on an election readiness campaign with government and public relations firm, the Devon Group. Look for more information in the coming weeks.

The next meeting of the OASIS Board of Directors will take place on April 2-3, 2014 at Harmony in Action in Windsor. As always, Members are welcome to attend Board meetings. We welcome you to join us or contact me prior to the meeting to share your ideas and concerns. I can be reached by email at tjoris@execulink.com or by phone at 519-786-2151 ext. 5502.

Sincerely,
Jane Joris
President, OASIS

Annie Oliver Award

This award is presented at the Annual OASIS Conference with the objective to recognize and honour an individual or organization:

- who/which demonstrates excellence, innovation and leadership in the developmental services sector and best exemplifies the interests and mission of OASIS;
- who/which demonstrates the highest administrative competence and professionalism and in so-doing has provided an inspiration to others; and
- who, by a combination of perseverance, determination and positive attitude has assisted OASIS in achieving the goals inherent in its Mission Statement.

For further information and the nomination form, go to <http://oasisonline.ca/top-stories/an-opportunity-to-recognize-an-outstanding-individual-or-organization/>. Nominations must be submitted to the Secretary of the OASIS Board of Directors by **Friday, March 21, 2014**.

2014-2015 OASIS Annual Membership Renewal

On March 7th, OASIS Annual Membership Renewal packages were sent out over the ED Listserve. Included in the package was the Membership Agreement, Membership Fee invoice, and two new documents, a Brighter Future Pledge Form and Brief Member Assets Survey. Please complete the Pledge and Survey and send to OASIS Treasurer, Michelle Marshall, at mmarshall@phdurham.com. Membership Agreements and annual fees can be sent to Amanda Brown, OASIS Administrative Support, c/o Community Living South Muskoka, 15 Depot Drive, Bracebridge, ON P1L 0A1.

OASIS Conference 2014

May 7-9, 2014

London Convention Centre

Register online today at www.oasisonline.ca. Go to <http://oasisonline.ca/top-stories/hotel-accommodations-for-the-2014-oasis-conference/> to book your hotel accommodations. We look forward to seeing you in London!

Social Media

OASIS has both Twitter and Facebook accounts. The Communications and Public Relations Committee invites Members with a passion for social media to participate in our social media campaign. If you are interested, please contact OASIS President, Jane Joris at tjjoris@execulink.com. For Members who use social media, we encourage you to click the links below and follow and/or friend us. It will help us to share information and raise interest from media centres, especially leading up to elections etc.



OASIS Website

The agency information on the OASIS website is extremely useful in the advocacy work of OASIS on behalf of our member agencies, their employees, and the people they support. It is particularly important that data regarding annual budgets, number of people using services and number of employees is accurate. It would be appreciated if you would take a

moment to verify your agency's information by logging in to the site and clicking the "Edit Your Agency Listing" on the right side of the page.

Discussion Board

In response to feedback from members the OASIS Discussion Board now has the capacity to include attachments. As always, we encourage members to add their questions and comments by logging in at <http://oasisonline.ca/login-page/> and clicking the Discussion Board link on the right side of the page.