

**News Digest**  
**July 2017, Issue No. 43**

***Message from the President***

Gone are the days where the work slowed down over the summer months while the Government was on hiatus. This summer is no exception and OASIS has been busy to keep current with what is happening in the sector.

OASIS, Community Living Ontario and the Provincial Network have been working in partnership over several issues this year. Thanks to all the members who were able to attend the July 5, OASIS Labour Relations and Provincial Network information session to provide your input into the position paper being developed over the summer regarding a sector in crisis. Janet Noel-Annable, Provincial Network Chair, and Ann Bilodeau recently met with Liz Sandals, President of the Treasury Board, this summer. They were able to highlight the issues regarding Bill 148 and the Pay Equity legislation as well as the impact of no base funding increases for the past nine years. OASIS, with the assistance of Hicks Morley, has developed a [submission on Bill 148](#) which Dave Ferguson has recently shared with member agencies and our community partners. Unfortunately, no representatives from the Developmental Services sector were selected to make a presentation at the consultations on Bill 148, while unions and supporters of the bill were disproportionately represented. Janet Noel-Annable made a request to the Minister's office to see if they could intercede in getting us heard by the committee as well as the staff from the President of the Treasury Board's office. The Provincial Network, Community Living Ontario and OASIS are also hoping to have a meeting with Ministry of Labour staff regarding Bill 148.

OASIS 2020 Strategic Plan is in its final stages of development and will be completed at the August 2 board meeting. A communication strategy will be initiated in September to share our new plan with member agencies and external partners. Phase 2 of the testing of the Go Local Advocacy Toolkit is underway and I would like to thank the members agencies selected to participate for sharing their feedback and stories. Based on the feedback received the Board of Directors will be considering a change to our key messaging and reducing from four to three pillars during our final strategic planning session in August. This campaign will be paramount and we want to ensure we capture the diverse needs of the entire sector. Watch for the release of the toolkit and training webinars later this fall. I have also reached out to Chris Beesley at Community Living Ontario, to participate in the advocacy with OASIS when the document is finalized. Chris and I will be meeting later this fall to explore how we can partner on this initiative.

Our continued partnership with Public Services Health and Safety Association (PSHSA) has provided opportunities for member agencies to participate in web tutorials on a number of topics. The most popular web tutorials from April to June 2017, were workplace violence with 562 participants, safe driving with 416 participants and slips, trips and falls with 336 participants. In total 1,597 people accessed the training available through the OASIS website. The PSHSA has announced the launch of their new Online Resource Management Tool, so check it today if you are not already registered.

The Developmental Services Finance Group (DSFG) met on June 29 and the focus of the meetings covered the two projects the sector has been involved in: Financial Accountability

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and Individualized Budgeting with a glimpse into how Individualized budgeting will come together to improve user experience for individuals receiving direct funding. To review meeting and presentation materials, click [here](#).

The next meeting of the OASIS Board of Directors will take place on August 2, 2017 in Gravenhurst. Members are welcome to attend Board meetings, please contact Amanda Brown at [administrativesupport@oasisonline.ca](mailto:administrativesupport@oasisonline.ca) to let us know you will be in attendance or we will provide you with the meeting details. 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 [president@oasisonline.ca](mailto:president@oasisonline.ca) or phone at 705-645-6290.

Ann  
N. Ann Kenney  
OASIS President

**List Serve Etiquette**

- Information posted should not be for personal gain of the individual posting the information.
- Post questions on the OASIS Discussion Board and send out email to members letting them know you have posted a question and that responses are to be made on the Discussion Board. This will enable responses to be gathered in one place including attachments if policies, etc., are provided and is available on a permanent basis.
- If offering congratulations for accreditations, or agency achievements please REPLY ONLY TO THE PERSON who provided the information, not to the entire list serve.
- If you would like to reference OASIS material please contact Amanda at [administrativesupport@oasisonline.ca](mailto:administrativesupport@oasisonline.ca) for the link to the website rather than redistributing material.

**Links Included in this Issue...**

Developmental Services Finance Group (DSFG): [Meeting and presentation materials from the DSFG](#)

PSHSA OASIS Affiliate: [Quarterly report detailing page performance for April-June, 2017](#)

OASIS May Board Meeting Minutes: [May 2 2017 Board Meeting Minutes](#) & [May 5 2017 Board Meeting Minutes](#)

OASIS Four Pillars: [Four Pillars](#)

OASIS Board and Executive Meeting Schedule for 2017-2018: [Board Meeting Schedule 2017-2018](#)

OASIS Strategic Work Plan 2013-2016, Updated May 17, 2016: [OASIS Strategic Work Plan 2013-2016](#)

OASIS 2016-2017 Board of Directors Contact Information: [Board of Directors Contact Information](#)

Current OASIS Membership List: [OASIS Member Listing](#)

Provincial Network March Meeting Minutes - [April 2017 PN Meeting Minutes](#)