



News Digest

October 2013, Issue No.3

President's Message

Welcome to the third edition of the OASIS News Digest.

The next meeting of the OASIS Board of Directors will take place in Toronto on October 30-31, where the Executive team will take part in media training prior to the Board meeting. Members are always welcome at the 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 tjcoris@execulink.com or by phone at 519-786-2151 ext. 5502.

On November 13th, Board representatives will meet with Karen Chan, the newly appointed Assistant Deputy Minister of the Community & Developmental Services Division of the Ministry, where we will talk about our Operating Pressures Survey report.

The OASIS Labour Relations Committee will hold an Information Session on November 21st in Toronto. For details, go to <http://oasisonline.ca/labour-relations/information-sessions/>

Earlier this month OASIS was given the opportunity to share input with the Minister of Finance on the creation of plans for Ontario's Path to Jobs and Growth. Five key recommendations from OASIS to the Government of Ontario were:

- Consider how the Developmental Sector can be included within an integrated strategy to address Poverty and the need for Accessible and Affordable Housing
- Continue discussions that will commit funding to address the recommendations of Brighter Prospects: Transforming Social Assistance in Ontario.
- Make changes to the Proxy Pay Equity legislation or amend Proxy Regulation 396/93 to allow for in-sector comparators, placing a moratorium on Proxy Pay Equity liabilities until changes are put in place, and commit to funding pay equity adjustments to completion once the changes are in place to prevent the loss of 3600 Full-time positions and 7.2 million hours of services for people with developmental disabilities and their families
- Make a commitment to invest in the Developmental Services Sector to ensure that by April 1st, 2020, and thereafter, every person who has a developmental disability and their family has access to the support they need to live in the community, free from poverty and in a manner of their choosing.
- Allow for the creation of Reserves to provide greater flexibility in planning and the use of resources.

To read the full presentation go to: <http://oasisonline.ca/wp-content/uploads/OASIS-Finance-Presentation-October-2013.pdf>

The OASIS Board of Directors met in Cambridge on September 11-12 where we discussed the need for consistent, clear messaging to the Government of Ontario. To help develop

Key Messages, OASIS will be sending out a short survey to members in the coming weeks that will identify and prioritize which topics are of the highest concern and interest to members.

At the end of September, the Ontario Liberal and Progressive Conservative parties reached a deal to fast-track eight bills before the end of the year. Included in the eight bills is the establishment of the Select Committee on Developmental Services.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the two new members to OASIS: Community Living Manitoulin and Valoris for Children and Adults for Prescott-Russell. This brings our current membership to 173.

Finally, I would like to congratulate John Bedell on his retirement as a Supporting ED on the OASIS Board of Directors and as Executive Director of Woodstock and District Developmental Services. He will be missed!

Sincerely,
Jane Joris
President, OASIS

2014 Conference

The Conference Committee is looking for presenters at the 2014 OASIS Conference in London. To view the "Call for Presentations" package go to <http://oasisonline.ca/top-stories/call-for-presentations/>

Discussion Board

As always, we encourage members to add their questions and comments to the Discussion Board on the OASIS website. Current topics of discussion include DNR Policy and the Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act. Services. <http://oasisonline.ca/forums/forum/oasis-discussion-board/>