



Ontario Agencies Supporting Individuals with Special Needs
Agences ontariennes de soutien pour les personnes qui ont des besoins spéciaux

December 7, 2012

Mr. Sal Marrello
Manager, Information Policy and Integration Unit
Policy Research and Analysis Branch
Ministry of Community and Social Services
3rd Floor, Hepburn Block, 80 Grosvenor St.
Toronto, ON, M7A 1E9

Dear Mr. Marrello:

Recently developmental service agencies received a letter from the Ministry of Community and Social Services advising them of the research being completed by R.A. Malatest & Associates Ltd. on behalf of the Ministry to gather information about the people who receive MCSS-funded non-residential supports from developmental services agencies. Today at the Provincial Network meeting you extended the deadline to March 31st. We appreciate this recognition of the work involved and thank you for your flexibility on the deadline.

However, our members have shared with us their concern, not just about the deadline, but about the volume of work to complete this task. Speaking on behalf of the 166 OASIS member agencies, we need the Ministry to acknowledge the additional strain this will place on existing agency resources. Agencies are already facing significant cost pressures as a result of inflationary cost increases, labour unrest, unfunded pay equity obligations and a four year funding freeze. We have already articulated these pressures through the OASIS Operating Pressures Survey report which was shared with the Ministry in October. This additional administrative demand from the Ministry just adds to those pressures.

Additional fiscal resources would help agencies address the Ministry's request.

Please feel free to contact me at tjoris@execulink.ca or at 519-786-2151 x5502.

Sincerely,

S. Jane Joris
President, OASIS

cc: David Carter-Whitney, Assistant Deputy Minister
Social Policy Development



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