



OASIS Board Highlights

The Board Highlights covers some of the key items and presentations made at its meetings. If you are interested in or have questions about these items, please contact a Board Member (see Board list) or Monica Zeballos-Quiben, Executive Coordinator Consultant.

The functions of the Board of Directors are as follows:

- To articulate the mission, vision, values, principles, strategic priorities and overall direction of OASIS
 - To develop policies to establish a framework for the actions and decisions of OASIS
 - To monitor the effectiveness, quality, efficiency and financial stability of OASIS as a means of ensuring accountability to the OASIS members
 - To promote the needs of its member agencies and the developmentally disabled
 - To promote effective governance through board recruitment, orientation, development and evaluation
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The Board of Directors met on:
February 28 – March 1, 2018 in Hamilton, ON

Next meeting:
April 4-5, 2018 in Hamilton, ON

Emerging Issues & Collective Bargaining

Rupert Gordon, ADM, MCSS and Christine Kuepfer, MCSS attended the Board meeting on March 1, 2018. The Board addressed various topics as follows:

Coordinated Bargaining:

The Board, Rupert Gordon and Christine Kuepfer had an exploratory discussion concerning coordinated bargaining. The ADM had initiated a similar discussion with the Provincial Network the previous week. The Ministry is of the opinion that some form of coordinated bargaining would improve the sector going forward. The Board raised initial concerns as follows:

- What is driving this initiative? Political (election) vs supporting the sector by fixing the DS model of bargaining
- Short term gaps and risks vs long term solution
- Picketing of people's homes

David Ferguson will continue discussions with the Ministry concerning this topic. The Board will advise members as we proceed with this issue. There was consensus to explore the topic, in a gradual, thoughtful manner that engaged the sector in a consultative manner.

Bill 148 Funding/Budget Submissions:

The Board discussed concerns with the lack of clear information concerning Bill 148 funding, and that agencies are feeling the pressures in more ways than cutting budget lines since it will affect service delivery. As a result, the Board sought clearer messaging that they can provide to member agencies on how to best manage the cost pressures of Bill 148 and budget submissions that are due at the end of

the fiscal year. In particular, they questioned whether agencies should be putting forward 'deficit' budgets or whether they should delay putting forward their budgets. Rupert confirmed that the current funding received for Bill 148 would be annualized at four times the fiscal allotment provided to agencies this past month. Rupert also acknowledged the struggle regarding deficit budget submissions and the timing of the Provincial Budget. He suggested that Executive Directors should have a conversation with their Program Supervisor regarding budget submissions and asked that the Board to advise him on OASIS' recommendations regarding this issue. Rupert was not able to approve the recommendation of OASIS and is to provide further clarity on which can be done.

Pay Equity

The Pay Equity Committee and Christine Kuepfer, MCSS met on Feb 27th. Discussions were productive and they agreed to meet again. The Ministry acknowledged that there had been a moratorium on speaking about Pay Equity but that it was now lifted.

Social Media Campaign/ Go Local Campaign

The final social media graphic from our 2rd series will be posted on Monday March 26. Currently the Communications Committee has begun consultations with Edelman Public Relations to develop content for the 3rd series of graphics. These graphics that will run through the month of April and up until the June election. Visit our Twitter and Facebook pages SHARE our posts.

Thank you to the many agencies that have met with their MPP's and participated in pre-budget discussions. Your efforts have helped to increase awareness and understanding of the four critical issues impacting the developmental services and what this means for the MPP's constituents, their communities and the health of Ontario. The impact related to this is clearly set out within the [OASIS 2017 Operating Pressure survey](#).

Not sure who your MPP is just click [here](#) and look them up, call now and book an appointment better yet get all your board members to call.

When communicating with your local MPPs use our [GO Local Campaign Kit](#) to help coordinate your meeting and be sure to take along as a leave behind package: [template letter](#), [Q and A document](#) [Operating Pressure Survey](#) and the [Pre Budget Consultation Paper](#) these documents will strengthen your messages and help align our conversations across the province.

To ensure that the sector seizes opportunities gained through your interactions with your MPPs we are asking agencies to continue to provide updates on their activities and progress. This can be done by copying OASIS at executivecoordinator@oasionline.ca on your written submissions, updates provided by your local planning tables that summarize your local collaborative and individual efforts, and use the list serves to quickly share and receive feedback/support from your peers.

If at any time you have questions with this initiative, please do not hesitate to contact Michelle Marshall at mmarshall@phdurham.com.

Below are some updates on member agency activities and progress:

- [Community Living South Muskoka](#), [Community Living Parry Sound](#), [Community Living Huntsville](#) and [Almaguin Highlands Community Living](#) met with MPP Norm Miller
- [Community Living Chatham-Kent](#)'s Executive Director, Ron Coristine met with MPP Rick Nicholls
- On April 26 from 6:30-9:00 pm at the Holiday Inn Kitchener, there will be a discourse with the elected representatives of Waterloo Region. MPP Catherine Fife, MPP Michael Harris, MPP Kathryn McGarry and MPP Daiene Vernile have been invited to attend. The organizations hosting this event are: [Aldaview Services](#), [Bridges to Belonging](#), [Christian Horizons](#), [Community Living Cambridge](#), [Elmira District Community Living](#), [Extend-A-Family](#), [KW Habilitation](#), [Parents for Community Living](#), [Sunbeam Centre](#) and [Waterloo Region Family Network](#).
- [Community Living Durham North](#) met with MPP Granville Anderson
- [Community Living Glengarry](#) met MPP Grant Crack

Please check out our discussion board for more detail information that was shared with OASIS about these meetings and other events that members participated in.

Education Committee

The Committee will be meeting in March to analyze the completed surveys. A Rotman series has started and another series will start in the summer. Stay tuned for details.

Budget 2018/19

The Board approved its budget for 2018/19 following an informative discussion. For the second time in our 20 year history the Board of Directors approved increasing our annual dues to \$2000 effective April 1, 2018. This increase will enable OASIS to continue the valuable work we have done on advocating for our members this past year and to implement the strategic priorities and goals identified in OASIS 2020.

An Introduction to the Federal Housing Framework: A Place to Call Home

OASIS and Toronto Developmental Services Alliance (TDSA) co-hosted a WEBINAR on the National Housing Strategy framework on March 8, 2018. Interest was high with a total of 88 registered participants. Click [here](#) to view the webinar was recorded. For a copy of the webinar slides click [here](#). Further details will be shared in our April board highlights.

Every Canadian Counts (ECC): CALLING ALL WHO WANT IMPROVED SUPPORTS FOR PERSONS WITH CHRONIC DISABILITIES

We spend a lot of time fighting to keep what services and supports we have for persons with developmental and other disabilities. Now is the time to ask for more. Much more. Please look for additional details in our upcoming Digest Newsletter and support this valuable cause.

Changes at Queens's Park

We would like to thank Minister Jaczek for her leadership and commitment to families and people with developmental disabilities. We wish her the best as she continues to pursue her public service career in her new role as Minister of Health.

OASIS sends congratulations to Minister Coteau on his appointment as Minister of Community and Social Services, Minister of Children and Youth Services and the Minister Responsible for Anti-Racism. We look forward to working with you.

WE ARE EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE THAT THE SEARCH FOR EMERGING PRACTICES IN OASIS MEMBER AGENCIES HAS BEGUN!!

We believe that there are examples of successful and innovative solutions you have created to cope with the challenging issues we are all facing. The Emerging Practices Sub-Committee of the OASIS Board has been established to identify, celebrate and share 'Best Practices' and innovations under three main themes: Funding and Financial Pressures, Agency Transformation and Complex Needs. We will be launching our collection of data at the OASIS conference this year and look forward to hearing from you regarding the exceptional work being done at your agency (big or small!).



REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

Game Changer is the theme for OASIS 2018 and co-hosts, Community Living Essex County and Community Living Windsor are asking that you pack your jeans and jerseys! **OASIS Game Changer 2018 will be held at Caesars Windsor, May 2-4, 2018. Click here to register.**

We hope you find this issue useful. As we continue to develop and grow the newsletter, your continued support and feedback is welcome. Feedback can be provided through this

link: <https://goo.gl/forms/75FzMQsNUffZECAC2>



2017-2018 Board of Directors

We have Board Representatives in your community and invite you to contact us if you have any further questions

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Vice-President Executive Director: Michelle Marshall

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