

**ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM THE  
DECEMBER 2015 OASBO BOARD MEETING**

Season's Greetings to Everyone,

The OASBO Board of Directors met on December 3, 2015.

Some highlights from the meeting include:

A demonstration on the use of **Office 365/Skype for Business** was made and a round table camera was used to connect to the OASBO ICT Committee meeting occurring simultaneously. The demo illustrated how interactive a remotely connected meeting could be and how this would be possible for OASBO committee meetings hosted by those boards with this capability. During the connection to the ICT meeting, the ICT Mentorship Project was reviewed. The model would support succession plan but funding would be necessary to develop the template and perhaps have other Standing Committees share in the discussions. It was suggested that a proposal be prepared and submitted as an E & E Project led by Chris Demers (Board member) and Chris Marvell (ICT Committee Chair) and sponsored by Waterloo Catholic DSB.

Frank Kelly, Executive Director of CODE attended as a guest at the meeting. He provided a history of that the group which was formed in 1990 and focused on meeting regularly with the Ministry to discuss items of concern to Directors of Education. Rekindling the **CODE/COSBO** relationship was discussed as well as with OASBO as a whole. A suggestion was made that the Strategic Planning Session at the upcoming January 2016 CEO/CFO Conference would be a good place to start with this. The Board felt that there is a greater need to recognize the expertise of OASBO and its Standing Committees amongst Directors of Education. Current topics for collaboration between OASBO and CODE include Succession Planning, Orphan Benefit Plans, Community Hubs and Regulation 444. It was suggested that an OASBO information brochure be developed which would be shared with new Directors of Education.



The **Financial Statements** ending August 31, 2015 were presented by Sean Riley of Gilmore & Co. A few minor changes were made to the wording contained in the statements and the notes thereto. The statements with the amendments will be posted on the OASBO website. OASBO continues to be in a solid financial position.

An update was made on the **Community Hubs Task Force**, led by the Planning Committee. It was noted that the Municipalities seem to be driving the process. It was identified at the November 30th meeting that changes will be needed for Regulation 444 under the Education Act. A separate response to the Ministry proposed changes to this Regulation has been prepared by the Planning Committee for review by the Board.

Discussion took place on the **Supply Chain Management (SCM) Procurement project**. This process of ECNO/OASBO/ICT/SCM is testing a tool for collaborative buys and vendors who want to bid will be required to pay a fee. It was suggested that the Finance Committee be involved and that a repository of bids and contracts be set up as well, using the OASBO website.

Some of the changes and value added functionality of the new software (YourMembership.com) which underlies the OASBO website (www.oasbo.org) were reviewed, with the assistance of Chris Demers. The program is an association management tool, which allows for forums, voting and information repositories. The goal is to move OASBO to a single web presence and once fully implemented, Committee Chairs will be able to post documents in their particular areas and do what the NING site does currently and more. Ongoing training for Committee Chairs will be needed regarding the website and this will be included in the Chairs' Operating Manual at the appropriate time. As part of the transition plan, the ICT Committee and the Board of Directors will be the first groups to be moved from the NING site to the oasbo.org site. Other Committees will be transitioned, once the two groups are comfortable using the YourMembership.com tool.

A brief update on the May 2016 Annual Conference was made. The logo for this year's conference was presented and supported. The event will be held at the Caesar's Convention Centre in Windsor. The keynote address will be made by Dr. Mark DeVolder, an expert in the dynamics of organizational change.

**OASBO**

***is an organization of professionals that works collaboratively to support learning by developing and promoting excellence in business practices.***

**L'OASBO**

***est un regroupement de professionnelles et professionnels oeuvrant collectivement au soutien de l'apprentissage par le développement et la promotion de l'excellence en affaires.***



Discussion took place on conference and workshop expenditures as there does not seem to be a consistent practice in place. A study group, chaired by OASBO Director Steve Shaw, will review and make recommendations on how best to handle these issues.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, best wishes for a **Merry Christmas and Happy Holiday Season.**

Paul McMahon  
OASBO President