

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM THE
MAY 6 & JUNE 10, 2015 OASBO BOARD
MEETINGS

Greetings to Everyone,

The Board met prior to the Annual Conference at the Blue Mountain Conference Centre in Collingwood and received the report on the **School Board Administrative Staff Conference** recently held in Niagara Falls. The event was a success with 143 delegates in attendance. Topics such as time management, mentoring, privacy protection, records and information management, mental health awareness and social media were presented. It was agreed that the conference would move forward for next year (2016) and that publicity would be expanded to include school principals (via the office of the Superintendent of Business) and also to the Staff Development Officer at each school board.

Reference was made to the upcoming 10th Anniversary of the **Community Use of Schools (CUS)**. Representatives from provincial non-profit organizations will speak to the positive impact of the CUS initiative funding. Ellen Warling will represent the OASBO Board of Directors at this event.

The new Board of Directors met via teleconference on June 10 to discuss the emphasis for 2015-16 and to start planning for the upcoming school year. From the base of the last 2 years' focus (i.e. 'Creativity & Innovation' and 'Mentoring') the possibility of *Sustaining our Future* or *Fostering our Future* was considered. Board members will submit further suggestions and once feedback is received, next year's theme will be shared with the membership.

The Board reviewed the various areas where OASBO has made gains in raising its public profile. Recent examples include collaborative response developed by 10 of the 17 OASBO Standing Committees on the Child Care Modernization Act Regulatory Posting, better communication established with CODE (Council of Directors of Education) in the area of its support of board employee participation in OASBO, and the acceptance of an invitation to participate on the new Adult Education Strategy Provincial Advisory Committee. Currently the OASBO Past President and Executive Director are the named representatives.



The 2015 Annual Conference was well attended and based on the feedback from a recent survey, needs and expectations were well met. Planning for the May 11-13, 2016 Conference (to be held at Caesar's Windsor Conference Centre) will begin in the early fall chaired by Vice-President Peter Derochie. The OASBO Executive will be seeking speakers for the keynote address and plenary session.

Advisory Directors for Standing Committees were assigned. The Advisory Director provides updates to Chairs on pertinent items and also obtain feedback from Committees regarding any concerns.

Directors agreed that OASBO's relationship with **CODE** be strengthened and that communication gaps be overcome. The CODE Executive Director agreed to forward information to Directors of Education in areas such as succession planning and also to raise awareness of OASBO's function.

An update on the work of **Child Care Modernization Act** Task Force was presented. A number of OASBO Standing Committees met collaboratively in late April to develop a response to the Regulatory Posting. Items such as licensing standards, health and safety standards, personal information and OEN's child care occupancy fees, children with special needs and school board responsibility for 6 to 12 year olds were addressed.

PRESIDENT'S COMMUNIQUÉ DU PRÉSIDENT JUNE-JUIN 2015

One concern was that the Regulatory Posting was not written in the form of a regulation but seems to be more of a discussion paper. It also lacks specifics as to requirements for school-base child care. OASBO's position is that public consultations should be held before each new regulation is proposed. OASBO submitted a formal response in May.

The Board approved the renewal of the contract for a 3-year term with Naylor Canada that publishes *The Advocate* magazines and the OASBO Membership Directory.

It was noted that all the publications are produced at no cost to OASBO and a certain percentage of advertising fees are shared with OASBO. A survey has been distributed to the membership to obtain feedback on receiving digital copies only of the June newsletter. Currently, hard copies of all publications are sent to members.

Discussions will be held with the Municipal Retirees Organization of Ontario (MROO) related to further relationship building and establishing closer ties. MROO deals with benefit packages for retirees and provision of retirement seminars. MROO would like to make this information available to OASBO members.

Work continues on seeking representation on the OMERS Sponsor Corporation. A joint letter has been developed by the 6 provincial associations (AMCO, COTAPSA, MFOA, OMAA, OMHRA and OASBO) regarding representation of non-union management employees under the OMERS By-Law review and submitted in late May.

OASBO would like to work toward a single website presence by combining the NING site and the main website www.oasbo.org. While NING has been useful for internal information sharing, it may not be ideal for document sharing and storage. The OASBO ICT Committee will offer assistance in moving toward a single website with a private members only area and a public viewing area.

The Joint Meeting of Directors and Committee Chairs will continue to be held twice yearly (Oct. and February). The next Joint Meeting is scheduled for October 1-2, 2015 in Mississauga.

We say Thank You to dedicated members whose term ended on the Board:
Russ Coles (Past President), Wendy Dobson (Director) and Steve Fujimura (Director).

A warm Welcome is extended to Peter Derochie as the new Vice-President and to new Directors Chris Demers and Sandra Vieira and best wishes are extended to Nancy Tallevi in her role as Past President.

If you have any concerns or information you would like to share, please feel free to contact any member of the Board.

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Wishing everyone an enjoyable and safe summer.

Paul McMahon,
OASBO President