

**ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM THE
OCTOBER 1-2, 2015 OASBO BOARD & JOINT
MEETING**

Greetings to Everyone,

The OASBO Board of Directors and Committee Chairs held their semi-annual Joint Meeting. It was a very engaging and informative gathering with representation from all of OASBO's 17 Standing Committees.

This year's theme is **Adapt-Innovate-Engage****S'adapter – Innover – S'engager**. The focus will be on helping our membership navigate change and transition in the workplace.

Discussion took place on the possibility of seeking CODE's assistance in bringing more visibility to OASBO and making Directors of Education more aware of the business function and expertise of members. An invitation will be extended to the Executive Director of **CODE** to attend an OASBO Board meeting to discuss strengthening the connection between the academic and business areas at school boards.

The Board discussed the matter of localizing all OASBO material on one website (combining data from the NING website onto the main **OASBO website** www.oasbo.org). The NING is good for discussion groups but it does not have a filing capability and other needed functionality. Consideration will be given to including social media capability like Twitter and Facebook on the main website. A suggestion was made that "Skype for Business" could be used by Committee Chairs for meetings in place of Adobe Connect and this will be investigated as well.

The determination of Standing Committee budget amounts will also be reviewed in order to develop a formula that is consistent across all Committees and provide incentive for increased attendance and participation at Committee meetings.



**PAUL MCMAHON
OASBO PRESIDENT**

The Board received an update on the **Privacy & Information Management (PIM) Network**. It was agreed that Committee Chairs would be asked to participate on a sub-committee on refreshing the network in the areas of information management and privacy. The Board also authorized PIM to start a Twitter account as there is a need to have a social media presence.

During the course of the Joint Meeting, there was a positive exchange of information among Directors and Committee Chairs. **Strategic Planning for 2016 and beyond** was emphasized. This year, OASBO needs to focus on the why's and how's of the association and reference was made to the three strategic directions: 1) pursuing PD at any opportunity; 2) enhancing communications and new technologies and 3) developing new partnerships and nurturing existing ones.

The release of the document **Community Hubs in Ontario** was discussed. OASBO (HUBS Task Force) will be preparing a response and participation by Standing Committees is needed. Representatives will be asked to review the current action plans and provide input on the recommendations. The first meeting of the Task Force will be held October 22.

Discussion on current OASBO publications was held (the Advocate twice yearly, and an annual Newsletter). The publisher (Naylor Canada) is having challenges in obtaining sufficient advertising, and as a result is suggesting the reduction of the three publications to one, which would be a digital version only. Based on a recent survey, it seems that many members prefer both hard copies and digital versions of The Advocate. This item will be included in the Communications Plan RFI which OASBO intends to send out shortly.

Plans are well underway for the **May 2016 Annual Conference** at the Caesar's Conference Centre in Windsor. Dr. Mark DeVolder has been engaged to deliver the keynote address based on the theme "Adapt-Innovate-Engage". Dr. Linda Duxbury from Carleton University will present the closing plenary session focusing on the changing workplace.

It was pointed out that the **Education Funding Consultations** was started by the Ministry three years ago. OASBO has not been invited to the last two rounds of discussions, including this year. OASBO will prepare a response regardless and help is being sought from Committee Chairs to submit comments on the Education Funding Consultation Guide by October 23. Concern was also expressed to the Ministry at a recent COSBO Executive meeting that OASBO was not invited to the consultations. The full response will be sent to the Ministry by November 6.

An update was presented regarding **OMERS**. It was noted that the Non-Union Management group from numerous provincial associations like our own, is not represented on either the OMERS Administration or Sponsors Corporation. OASBO is continuing to work with OMERS to obtain representation on the Sponsor Corporation as this group has the most significant impact on OASBO members' pensions.

Initial discussions have also taken place with the Municipal Retirees Organization of Ontario (MROO), to formalize a relationship with OASBO. MROO provides retirement planning advice through employer sponsored seminars and also offers post-retirement benefit packages that could be made available to our membership.

Paul McMahan
OASBO President

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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.