



Highlights from the Board of Directors Board President – Michelle Holbrook

Hello everyone,

The Board of Directors met on March 27th, 2018 and I am pleased to share with you the following highlights from our meeting:

- The Board approved the consent agenda which contained minutes from the previous meeting, Executive Director report and Committee reports.
- Board members watched the video that OACAS arranged to have created from the Provincial Apology to Indigenous people and communities. It was very impactful to watch and reminded us of the continued responsibilities we all have to educate ourselves, learn from the painful past and be part of changing the injustices and inequities that continue to exist.
- Board members were encouraged to participate in local training that is being delivered by Circles and hosted by the Social Services Network. It is experiential and important learning on what it is like to live in poverty.
- Ryan Bell and Dawn Flegel provided a summary of the provincial leadership meetings they attended March 4-6th, 2018. Ryan did a very good job presenting on a Governance Panel and shared Sarnia-Lambton CASS' experience. Topics covered at the provincial meetings included Part X of the new Child Youth and Family Services Act; the Provincial Indigenous Commitments and a panel of the three political parties including Minister Coteau.
- OACAS has material prepared regarding the upcoming provincial election. All Children's Aid Societies are being encouraged to meet with candidates of the three main political parties regarding child welfare work. The intent is to build/maintain relationships and make child welfare a political and fiscal priority. A Board member representative will be asked to attend the meetings once they are arranged.
- Several motions were passed including the approval of the Performance Indicators for 15/16; approval of the Internal Budget for the 18/19 fiscal year and approval of Human Resources and Health and Safety Policies.
- Additional motions that were discussed and passed by the Board included:
 - The approval of the purchase of additional laptop computers to continue to help staff be mobile in their jobs.
 - The approval of the purchase of additional software to improve the functionality of our work.
 - The approval of a \$30,000 contribution to the Hub given the benefits that have been identified and the feedback from youth.
 - The approval of a \$500 contribution to each employee's Health Spending Account in support of the priority identified on wellness in the workplace.

- A response was received from the Ministry regarding the Board's letter on CPIN. A half hour phone call has been scheduled with Assistant Deputy Minister Nadia Cornacchia for discussion about the Board's concerns and Sarnia's experience with CPIN.
 - There was an in camera session where five items were reviewed – related to a specific family situation and personnel matters.
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