

February 2018 FPSO Month End Corporate Update

Hello all; as the new year is rolling forward the work of the board is increasing; as it generally does in spring. You may notice in the upcoming section notes on a few pending meetings. There is also much work being done to put in place all the various details for the spring session of full meetings and conference.

This month end report covers the month of February 2018.

Ongoing Initiatives & Projects (*Items noted with an asterisk are further noted within the update*)

Provincial Advocacy in the areas of;

- Raising the Image of foster parents.*
- Standardizing the foster care per diem rates for foster parents and reimbursable amounts for the children in care across the Province based on the Toronto CAST model.
 - If you were unable to attend your zone meeting please forward your agencies per diem rates, a copy reimbursable amounts and mileage. Could you also send the rates for stay at home school policy. Are you receiving the same rates as prior to 18 years of age, does amount include allowance, or is it agency paid, do you receive experience and skill amounts in addition to per diem amount. Also is clothing allowance excluded from the contract and if different than your normal reimbursement amount please indicate. Please send to milley17@sympatico.ca
- Advocating for a child welfare system that is centered on The Best Interest of the Child. *
- The Rights of the child as designated by the United Nations.
- The rights of the caregivers*
- The Benefits and Strength of one voice*
- Collaboration with other partners in the Child Welfare field.*
- Recognition of the Skill level into Regular, Specialized and Treatment Levels of the foster parents ability to parent different children recognizing the different needs and challenges of the children coming into care.
- Protection to the foster parent specific to CPIN including:.*
 - Information written about foster parents and how it is stored.
 - Securing our financial and medical information on CPIN.
 - SAFE, financial, medical

- Foster parent privacy
- Legislation;
- Supports for Children and youth with Special Needs.
- Gathering of adoption disruption and breakdown statics – to better inform adoption practises.

FPSO advocates for the designated lobbying efforts through letters, meetings and attending events. The designated members of the FPSO board continually bring forward the specific areas of lobbying at every opportunity.

Letters written

- 🔑 The 2017 Foster Parent report that was provided to all foster parent leadership in attendance to the 2017 fall AGM; is printed and pending a full mail out to all Child Welfare Provincial leadership, including the CAS executive Directors and Ministry designates connected with each of the facets cited within the document.
- 🔑 Once full mail out is completed an electronic version will be made available for distribution to all interested foster parents. PENDING

Meetings Attended:

- 🔑 FPSO South West Zone meeting (Feb. 10, 2018)
***Please note the Feb. Central zone meeting that was scheduled for the 24th of Feb. had to be rescheduled to March 24th.

Events FPSO was represented at

- 🔑 Residential Reference Group (February)– attended by: Cecile Brookes

Connections to our members

- 🔑 Feb 9th, email to all FPSO Directors and FPA/FFA Presidents including:
 - 🔑 2016 financials
 - 🔑 December month end report - a year in review
 - 🔑 DRAFT FPSO Foundation proposal
 - 🔑 DRAFT FPSO Business Plan
- 🔑 Feb 21 announcement of Central Zone meeting rescheduling (plus follow up phone calls to ensure all members within central zone received the notification)

Update on last months documented New Projects

- 👤 Workshop presenters and conference speakers is ongoing

New projects for February 2018

- 👤 Research participation opportunity: This project has been in discussion since last September. FPSO was contacted by Morgan Gitt a Social Development Studies Student from Renison University College, University of Waterloo. Morgan has prepared a survey for foster parents. It has taken a while to formulate a plan for Morgan to be able to access foster parents as well as time for Morgan to receive ethical approval for her survey.
- 👤 The distribution of the survey will be forwarded to all foster parent leadership in March, we hope as many of you as possible will go on the link Morgan has created and participate in the survey.
- 👤 The survey's objective is to understand the motivations behind foster parents' intention to foster and continue fostering, as well as their perception of their role on the child care team in relation to caseworkers.
- 👤 We believe this is an excellent opportunity for the sharing some foster parent perspective.

Upcoming Meetings Events

- 👤 March 2nd – training day with Dr. Thom Garfat – to be attended by Elaine Pratt
- 👤 Pending Meetings with both ORCA and OARTY
- 👤 Pending Meeting with PACY
- 👤 March 10th FPSO Eastern Zone Meeting
- 👤 March 23rd FPSO Central Zone Meeting
- 👤 March 27th Residential Reference Group – Cecile Brookes
- 👤 CCYC – Cecile Brookes

Dues Update

- 👤 During the month of February no FPSO Dues have been received.

Announcements

Please save the date for these upcoming meeting

- 👤 The board meeting announcement will be released within the next couple of week (anticipating June)
- 👤 April/May zonal meetings
 - South West Zone meeting May 12
 - Eastern zone meeting May 5th
 - Central Zone Meeting April 28th

Conference – September

November Zone dates

- South West Zone Meeting Nov 10
- Eastern Zone Meeting Nov 3rd
- Central Zone November 17th.

Contact @ Milley17@sympatico.ca, 905-892-1591,

Acronyms:

FPSO – Foster Parents Society of Ontario

AGM – Annual General Meeting

MCYS – Ministry of Child and Youth Services

PACY – Provincial Advocate for Children and Youth

PAD – Presidents’ Advocates’ & Directors

LOFF - League of Foster Families

ORCA – Ontario Residential Care Association

CAST – Children’s Aid Society of Toronto

CPIN – Child Protection Information Network

SAFE – Structured Analysis Family Evaluation