

January 2018 FPSO Month End Corporate Update

Hello everyone; new year, new plans, new beginnings. As the FPSO leadership looks forward to the 2018 year we are aware of the continuation of change that is happening in Child Welfare. We do not know exactly what changes will be revealed or when they will come; but we do know we will make every effort to remain connected, informed and educated as changes happen. We are very aware of the upcoming Provincial election scheduled for June 7, 2018. The outcome of this election is sure to bear weight on the Child Welfare System.

Whatever changes come, FPSO is committed to remain a voice for the foster parents of Ontario, and we are counting on you our members and local leadership to help inform the board of what is happening in your local area, and what changes you are seeing.

This month end report covers the month of January 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.
 - 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.

Meetings Attended:

- 👤 January 31, Executive Officers and committee chairpersons work group meeting.
- 👤 Work Group prepared:
 - DRAFT Business plan for 2018
 - DRAFT Proposal for an FPSO Foundation – the foundation would create an opportunity for the charitable work of FPSO to continue.
 - These documents will be distributed to all foster parent leadership along with the December month end report – which will be a year in review; and the 2016 financial statements.

Events FPSO was represented at

- 👤 Residential Reference Group – attended by: Cecile Brookes
- 👤 CCYC – attended by Cecile Brookes

Connections to our members

- 👤 January 16, an email was sent containing the Winter Zone meeting schedule
- 👤 January 21, a memo was distributed to all members with information pertaining to the FPSO charitable status process.
- 👤 January 31, an email was sent containing the years meeting plans.

Update on last months documented New Projects

- 👤 There were no new projects initiated in the month of December 2017

New projects for January 2018

- 🔧 Work has begun for the gathering and booking of workshop presenters and plenary speakers for Conference 2018.
- 🔧 Planning meetings with the Conference site are in process.

Dues Update

- 🔧 During the month of January; 8 FPA/FFA's have submitted their Annual FPSO Dues.

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