



July 2019 Month End Report

This report covers the month of July.

During the month of July FPSO is very focused on the upcoming annual educational conference and ensuring all of the details are in place.

Alone we can each do so little; together we can all do much.

Ongoing Initiatives & Projects

This item has been moved to the end of the report.

Letters and proposals

- 🧑‍🚒 Mail out to the private sector is complete.
- 🧑‍🚒 Mail out to the CAS ED's including the Conference edition of the HILITES is complete.

Meetings Attended:

- 🧑‍🚒 July 18 – meeting with Dianna Cook from the Ombudsman's office – attended by Vanessa Milley and Cecile Brookes. The meeting was very helpful in clarifying the scope and role of the Ombudsman's office as it pertains to child welfare. We have scheduled Dianna to attend the PAD meeting scheduled at conference to share information with foster parent leadership. The Office of the Ombudsman's office can be involved in any situation that is regarding the service to a child.

Pending meetings

- 🧑‍🚒 CFSRB – contact has been initiated, dates for this meeting have yet to be confirmed; this is presently on hold as connecting over the spring summer has proven challenging.
- 🧑‍🚒 Evergreen – contact has been made; we are waiting for meeting confirmation.
- 🧑‍🚒 Private sector leadership
 - ORCA – meeting pending.
- 🧑‍🚒 Officers continue to attend hotel meetings regarding conference.

Connections to our members

- 👤 July 2 – Question to the Field regarding gathering information and perspective from members pertaining to local area practises for opening foster homes where the foster parents have physical disabilities. Thank you for all of those who responded. The responses all helped shed light on the potential for persons with physical disabilities to be included in the foster parent population. It was clear that as long as the medical reference letter did not site any parenting challenges connected to the disability and the CAS had no reason to believe the disability would negatively affect the ability to parent; that a physical disability was not an obstacle to fostering.
- 👤 July 11 – Conference reminder and confirmation the HILITES were posted on the website.
- 👤 July 13 – Article – ASD: it is a spectrum.
- 👤 July 23 – May month end report.

Conference

- 👤 Registrations are coming in, presently the registrations that have come in will be claiming approximately 37% of our rooming block. Please get your registrations in as soon as possible especially if you are coming in from a distance. This will help ensure you will be rooming in the hotel the conference is being held at.
- 👤 We are pleased to let you all know we have confirmed Dianna Cook from the Ombudsman’s office to make a presentation to the PAD group on Thursday September 19th. This presentation will shed light on how the Ombudsman’s office is to function pertaining to Child Welfare.
- 👤 We are also pleased to confirm an entertainer for Saturday night. We have a foster parent comedian coming. We hope you will all be there to have a laugh and enjoy the company of others. You will receive more information on this in your Conference registration packages that you will each receive following your registrations arriving at the FPSO Office.

Charitable status

- 👤 Following the **positive** response from the CRA regarding our charitable status, FPSO this month transacted the process of a membership vote regarding the Letters of Patent.
- 👤 The CRA has called to confirm they have received notification of our package arriving at the Service Ontario department of corporation management.
- 👤 Once we have our application for the changes to the letters of patent back from Service Ontario. We will be able to forward back the approved application and new letters of patent to the CRA so they can complete the process of reinstating our Charitable Status.

Private membership

- 👤 FPSO continues to pursue members in the private sector, this month the work in this area was mainly the mail out to all private operators with all membership and conference information.

- ✚ In the last week of July prior to the mail out one of the private operators reached out to FPSO through the website requesting membership information. They received an advance email of the package that was getting ready for the mail out.
- ✚ Following the mail out the website will have an adjustment in the membership section to make it easier for those seeking information to find it and apply for membership.

Website

- ✚ Much of the website traffic this month has been conference related.

FPSO Foundation Proposal

- ✚ No volunteers have come forward in this past year to work on this initiative. This proposal will be discussed at the upcoming PAD meeting so members can determine the direction for this project.

Upcoming Meetings Events

- ✚ Conference September 18-22.

Fundraisers

- ✚ No new fundraisers at this time, the officers of FPSO invite all members to offer suggestions of fundraising opportunities that could help increase funding.
- ✚ FPSO will be running a Silent Auction at conference. We will be counting on all members to bring donations for the Silent Auction.
- ✚ A letter is prepared and will be sent following this month end report to help each of you gather donations.

*****Note to members, if you are one of the few whose dues are not in yet, please submit them. Dues confirm your membership and your rights to participate in voting and to have director representation. Reminder – according to the FPSO Bylaws all dues are to be in prior to the AGM in order for each member to confirm voting delegates. *****

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Ongoing Initiatives & Projects

These items remain a constant focus of the FPSO, and will be forwarded at every opportunity.

- ✚ 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.

Acronyms:

FPSO – Foster Parents Society of Ontario

AGM – Annual General Meeting

PACY – Provincial Advocate for Children and Youth

PAD – Presidents’ Advocates’ & Directors

OARTY – Ontario Association of Residential Treatment for Youth

ORCA – Ontario Residential Care Association

CAST – Children’s Aid Society of Toronto

CPIN – Child Protection Information Network

SAFE – Structured Analysis Family Evaluation