



June 2017 FPSO Month End Corporate Update

Hello Everyone,

We hope your summer is going well, and all are safe and happy. The work of the board during the month of June focused on the spring session of meetings. We were happy to see so many of you out, and missed the input of those who could not be present. We look forward to seeing all of you in September for Conference.

Registration for conference is open, we are eager to see which workshops will be the most popular; please keep in mind a number of the workshops have a maximum number of participants. We encourage you to register as soon as you can to prevent you missing the workshop of your choice.

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

-  Conference; all workshops and presenters are in place; registration is now open.*
-  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: *
 - What is written about foster parents and how it is stored.
 - Securing our financial and medical information on CPIN.
 - SAFE, financial, medical
 - Foster parent privacy
 - Legislation; *
 - **Bill 89 has passed the third reading and is pending Royal Ascent. The portions of the Act that enable protection for young people between**

16-18 years of age is projected to be enacted in the fall of 2017. The enactment of the full bill is projected to be spring 2018. The Board will be seeking understanding and clarification of how the changes within the act will affect foster families. The board will be sharing information as it is gathered.*

- 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

- 👤 No new letters this month
- 👤 The Conference/Bursary edition of the HILITES is complete and has been distributed both electronically and through hard copy for those requesting hard copies.

Meetings Attended:

- 👤 The majority of meetings attended this month were in relation to planning and preparing for FPSO conference (Scheduled for September 27th-October 1st).
- 👤 June 20th, Cecile Brookes and Vanessa Milley attended a day training hosted by a private operator. FPSO was invited to do a presentation on our advocacy program, what FPSO has to offer and the invitation to membership FPSO has prepared for those in the private sector.
- 👤 Tele-conference call with ORCA and the MCYS Critic, Vanessa Milley participated.
- 👤 July – Cecile Brookes and Vanessa Milley attended meeting with Executive Director of OARTY – regarding membership, CPIN, Conference.

Events FPSO was represented at

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

Connections to our members


- 👤 Spring session of meetings was held June 21st -24th.
 - Included in the session:
 - Executive and committee chairpersons meeting, FPSO Directors meetings, two PAD meetings.


- The session was to include the FPSO AGM, however due to a lack of quorum; the AGM was adjourned and rescheduled for September.
- Presentation by Diana Cooke, Representing the PACY Investigation Unit.
- PAD work group focus on questions posed by the MCYS critic during tele-conference call. Compilation of results of work groups attached.

Update on last months documented New Projects

 No new projects during the month of June, July.

Announcements

 Conference September 27th-October 1st, 2017.

 The Officers of the FPSO have over the past number of years requested a meeting with the Officers of LOFF, we are interested in unifying the foster parents in the Province. We strongly believe a unified voice is in the best interest of all of Ontario's foster parents. Up until this month we had not had any success in scheduling a meeting. We are very pleased to have been able to connect with the LOFF leadership, and have a meeting set for August 12th, 2017, in Belleville Ontario. We look forward to the meeting and are hopeful.

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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