

## March 2017 FPSO Month End Corporate Update

Hello Everyone,

2017 has continued to be very busy for FPSO; if our first quarter work is any indication of the rest of the year it should prove to be an interesting year of change. We hope you are finding these monthly updates to be a valuable tool for sharing and highlighting the ongoing work of the FPSO month to month.

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

- 🚩 The Bursary/Conference edition of the HILITES is complete and will be distributed to all members very soon.
- 🚩 Conference planning has continued to progress, a preview and some details will be included in the Bursary edition of the HILITES.
- 🚩 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 UN. \*
  - 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;
    - Host Family Policy
    - Bill 89\*

- 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

- 🔥 Letter pending regarding CPIN; collaborate on a new letter regarding CPIN (SAFE). Last month (February) we have shared with ORCA and OARTY the letter FPSO previously sent out regarding CPIN. We followed this up in a meeting with ORCA on March 6<sup>th</sup>, and subsequent phone conversations. We have now developed an action plan. We along with three (3) other provincial associations will draft a letter for each organization to do a provincial mail out to all MP and MPPs regarding our collective concerns. We hope the collaboration will strengthen each of our voices, and ideally bring some of the changes we are lobbying for.
- 🔥 We are also making efforts to follow up on the HOST Policy letters noted last month with regard to the meeting suggested by the Ministry of Social Services (MCSS). - ongoing

#### Meetings Attended:

- 🔥 March 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting with ORCA regarding CPIN/SAFE attended by Cecile Brookes, Vanessa Milley
- 🔥 March 6<sup>th</sup> stakeholders meeting, OACAS/PACY, regarding Bill 89 submission planning, attended by Cecile Brookes & Vanessa Milley
- 🔥 March 13<sup>th</sup>, Communication Plan meeting with Niagara College Students regarding the FPSO Media campaign, attended by Cecile Brookes, Mary Burnett, John MacMahon (Project lead), Vanessa Milley
- 🔥 March 29<sup>th</sup>, Presentation to the Standing Committee, at the Legislature building, attended by Cecile Brookes, Elaine Pratt & Vanessa Milley.

#### Events FPSO was represented at

- 🔥 March 28<sup>th</sup>, End to End review Windsor – Attended by John MacMahon
- 🔥 CTV Television Interview March 7<sup>th</sup> – Participated in by Cecile Brookes

#### Connections to our members

- 🔥 No meetings with Directors or Members this month all connection was electronic

- Advocacy One package was distributed
- September PAD Meeting minutes – voted on & distributed
- Presentation to the Standing Committee on Bill89 – Distributed & posted on website.
- February corporate update

## New Projects

- 🔧 Presentation to Bill 89 Standing Committee:
  - The announcement of the invitation and a copy of the documentation was distributed to all members.

## Update on last months documented New Projects

- 🔧 The Strategic Plan 2017 DRAFT was distributed to all Directors for an electronic vote, and if passed by the Directors will be shared with all Presidents in preparation of the AGM vote to pass the 2017 Strategic Plan.
- 🔧 The Bylaw #6 DRAFT is complete following a final review it will be sent to the lawyer for review, then distributed to all Directors for an electronic vote, in preparation for distribution prior to the AGM for a members vote to amend the bylaws.
- 🔧 Advocacy One, the dates for the training are set;
  - South West Zone may 13<sup>th</sup>
  - Eastern Zone May 6<sup>th</sup>
  - Central may 27<sup>th</sup>
    - Registration forms have been distributed. \*\*\*PLEASE NOTE SCHEDULING CHANGE\*\*\*
- 🔧 Public Relations Media Campaign, The Niagara College Media Studies students have been working on our media campaign for most of the last year, they have met with our leadership, interviewed the members we have provided, , and planned a media strategy; are ready to share with us their recommendations and plans. March meeting was attended, and John MacMahon continues to work with the students to support the continuance of the planning. John is also going to follow-up with the computer department regarding whether the college would design our website with the recommendations made from the media department.
- 🔧 Television Segment, FPSO continues to work with the production company regarding a television show episode focused on foster parents. More details will follow as information is able to be made publicly available. There have been many changes within the planning, the taping of the special will transpire in April. More information to follow.

## Announcements

- 👤 The Spring Directors meeting & Presidents, Advocates', and Directors' meeting is scheduled for June 29<sup>th</sup> through July 2 – This meeting will include the AGM, voting delegate packages are due to go out at the end of April, early May.
- 👤 The fall Conference is scheduled for September 21<sup>st</sup> -24<sup>th</sup>.