

## ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM THE JUNE 10, 2011 BOARD MEETING

The Board of Directors held its first meeting for the 2011-12 year on June 10 at the Toronto DSB (Etobicoke) offices. A special welcome was extended to the new members of the Board: **Wendy Dobson** ((Student Transportation of Peel Region) and **Tim Robins** (Durham Catholic DSB). Congratulations also goes to **Nancy Tallevi** for her appointment to serve a second term on the Board.

At that meeting the Board approved the request from the **Risk Management & Insurance sub-committee** for full Standing Committee status effective Fall 2011. The group has met the criteria as outlined in OASBO Policy BCA7, and has been holding meetings since 2002. The Board felt that one of the benefits of establishing this Committee was the sharing of best practices related to risk management with all school boards in the Province.

In June, the Board discussed objectives for the coming year and it was agreed that Communications should continue to be the main focus. This year the Board will continue to strengthen the relationships and communication with the Committee Chairs, to ensure committees have the support they need to thrive. Our web site as a main communication tool requires some additional enhancements and functionality. These challenges continue to be addressed. This past year the Ministry of Education assigned Ministry representatives to our Standing Committees. At this point almost all committees have an identified Ministry contact which will enhance our communication and sharing of best practices with the Ministry.

**Advisory Directors** were identified for 2011-12. Advisory Directors act as a link to Committees and keeps members informed on OASBO issues. The following Directors agreed to take on this role:

**Nancy Tallevi** (Dufferin Peel Catholic) – Admissions/Enrolment;



**TOM PECHKOVSKY**  
**OASBO PRESIDENT**

**Shesh Maharaj** (Waterloo Catholic) – COSBO and Supply Chain Management;

**Karen Fox** (Hastings Prince Edward DSB) – Disability Management and Professional Development;

**Lorie Bissonette** (Ont. Teachers' Pension Plan Board) - Health & Safety and Payroll/Benefits;

**Paul McMahan** (Halton Catholic) – Finance and Internal Audit;

**Debra McFadden** (Dufferin Peel Catholic) – Human Resources;

**Russ Coles** (York Region) – Information & Communication Technology and Information Management/ Privacy Access;

**Tom Pechkovsky** (York Catholic) – Planning;

**Tim Robins** (Durham Catholic) – Operations, Maintenance & Construction and Risk Management & Insurance;

**Wendy Dobson** (Student Transportation of Peel Region) – Transportation



## PRESIDENT'S COMMUNIQUÉ DU PRÉSIDENT - June 2011

On September 29-30 there will be a Joint Meeting of Directors and Chairs to review our goals and objectives for the year, investigate opportunities for joint committee meetings, and to plan for some of the major annual events such as the GSN consultation with the Ministry of Education and various workshops.

As a result of feedback from the February joint meeting, September's meeting will be taking on a slightly different format with a greater focus on support to chairs and assisting in coordination of the committees and joint meetings between committees on common issues.

At our June meeting, the Board reviewed the evaluations resulting from the 2011 Annual Conference held in Niagara Falls. Thank you for your feedback and participating in the survey. Some of the highlights of the feedback were

- to re-introduce a third time-slot for workshop sessions for Thursday,
- duplicate some sessions,
- to offer a one-day registration fee,
- Seek out alternative facilities which can accommodate growing attendance of over 360 delegates.

These and the many other suggestions will be very helpful for the 2012 conference planning committee who will be meeting in the fall.

The **2012 Annual Conference** will be held May 9 to 11 at the **Ottawa** Congress Centre. Program Coordinators whose task will be to collect and consolidate information related to the workshops sessions will be Karen Fox (Hastings prince Edward DSB), Tim Robins (Durham Catholic DSB) and Wendy Dobson

(Student Transportation of Peel Region). A request for assistance once again goes out to the members of the Professional Development Committee and Supply Chain Management Committee for their specialized assistance with the conference.

There was a lengthy discussion at the recent Board meeting regarding the impact of the **BPS Procurement & Expenses Directives** and the ethical and possible legal responsibilities of OASBO, particularly where it applies to meals and gift certificates to speakers/presenters. This is an area of concern and the board will be seeking further clarification.

The future of the **OASBO Support Staff Conference** was discussed. While the event did not realize a financial profit, the Board agreed to continue the event since it is well received by attendees. Some suggestions were made to improve attendance through increased advertising, seeking support from a 'host board' to provide the AV equipment, and perhaps change the date to avoid direct competition with a similar event offered by an affiliate association. Karen Fox and Debra McFadden agreed to help in researching options for next year's event.

The next issue of the President's Communiqué will be available in September. Until then, I wish everyone a very safe and relaxing summer.

Tom Pechkovsky  
OASBO President