



2015-2016 ANNUAL REPORT

The Ontario Municipal Social Services Association
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Message from the President **Keith Palmer**

It has been my pleasure to have served OMSSA members during my first year of the President's new two-year term. Over the last twelve months, the Association has endured changes that reinforced the importance of the decision to extend the term of OMSSA presidents. In the months to come, OMSSA will continue to refresh, evolve and fortify its place in Ontario's human services sector.

OMSSA continues to invest, promote and champion human services integration with its members and partners. By enhancing communication and improving OMSSA's operations and relationships with all stakeholders, the Association continues to lead and support members through transformation.

A strong OMSSA is only as strong as its membership. A strong and committed membership can better influence decisions and promote sustainability that shares in the future design of social programs in Ontario. It can be said that stability drives productivity! OMSSA's board and staff have remained dedicated to the business of the Association and passionately continue to forge a path to a bright future, not just for the Association, but for all Ontarians.

We've made significant gains, and we will continue to strengthen relationships with the newly aligned federal and provincial governments. With recent commitments to increase investment in social capital, OMSSA remains nimble and ready to partner and support both its members and government in creating an inclusive Ontario that values and respects its residents.

OMSSA continues to provide a venue to work in partnership with provincial ministries and officials on new approaches to social policy and service delivery. By collaborating on accessibility projects, informing child care modernization and engaging ministry staff on the Long Term Affordable Housing Strategy (LTAHS) update, OMSSA has been productive in a time of transformation.

As I look back on past achievements and forward to continued change, OMSSA's key challenge will be to ensure that it continues to keep pace with the diverse and evolving needs and realities of its members. I can say with confidence that we are positioning ourselves to continue to effectively support you in an ever-changing world.

I want to thank all of you who work tirelessly on behalf of the residents of your communities. And finally, I want to thank the team at OMSSA, without whom our 2015 achievements would not have been possible!

Engage and enable... everyone... every day!

OMSSA Operations: 2015 in Review

For OMSSA, 2015 was a year of change. Similar to our membership, we found ourselves looking ahead to a new way of doing things and a new value proposition for our members. As an organization, we understand that more than ever, we need to evolve to find new ways to support our members in planning for a new human services reality.

This included strengthening our foundations to be able to focus on members' needs, to support you in your critical work of providing opportunities and hope in communities across Ontario. It also meant strengthening our accountability, professionalism, responsiveness and fiscal sustainability.

OMSSA has worked to position itself to represent its members' interests with provincial partners and key stakeholders in effective and meaningful ways. OMSSA also continued to provide learning and networking opportunities that support and enhance local thinking, capacity and responsiveness when new policy and programs make their way into your organizations.

Policy and Government Relations

OMSSA's focus remains firm. As your Association, we believe in the importance of individual and collective advocacy – in strength in numbers. Our policy and advocacy is founded in the belief that as an Association, we have a role in:

- Working for the greater good, while achieving individual and local success
- Providing a collective voice – working together is powerful in bringing about positive change
- Providing support and leadership for partners such as the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

In 2015, OMSSA participated in numerous provincial tables and working groups, including:

- Provincial-Municipal Housing Partnership Table
- Provincial-Municipal Social Assistance and Employment Committee
- Minister's Early Years Advisory Group
- Ministry of Education Regulation Working Group
- Provincial-Municipal Early Years Reference Group
- Technical Working Group (on social assistance reform)
- Provincial-Municipal Common Assessment Working Group (in a co-chair role)
- Performance Indicators Working Group
- Director Administrator Reference Group (DARG)
- Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI) Technical Advisory Groups
- Minister's Working Group on the Settlement of Syrian Refugees
- AMO's Affordable Housing Task Group

OMSSA also engaged with the Province on time-limited efforts, such as: the technical advisory group on poverty reduction; and the Province's Long Term Affordable Housing Strategy (LTAHS) renewal.

OMSSA also continued to work in partnership with the Ministry of Community and Social Services (MCSS) on SAMS implementation, through operational analysis and recommendations in the Business Recovery Work Group report, and numerous working groups and partner-to-partner discussions. The Work Group report's recommendations were accepted and implemented by MCSS.

We also continued to build formal and informal partnerships with:

- Ontario Nonprofit Network (ONN)
- Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres (OFIFC)
- Northern Ontario Service Deliverers Association (NOSDA)
- Tamarack Institute
- The Rural Ontario Institute's (ROI) research project on homelessness enumerations
- Parks and Recreation Ontario

Education and Training

In addition to OMSSA's 2015 Learning Symposium and Annual General Meeting in Chatham-Kent, OMSSA held a series of sector-focused forums, including:

- Children's Services Forum
- Emergency Social Services Forum
- Affordable Housing and Homelessness Prevention Forum

OMSSA has also:

- Partnered with the Ontario Nonprofit Network (ONN) on a one-day forum, *Partnering to Plan and Enhance Community Impact*
- Partnered with Finance for Good on a one-day *Summit on Social Impact Finance at the Municipal Level*
- Offered new and continued professional development courses, including *Social Housing in Ontario* and *Political Acuity*, and customized *Ontario Works Directives* and *Eligibility Review Officer* training

OMSSA worked to refocus its professional development offerings by partnering with:

- The Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) on a joint *Executive Municipal Management Diploma in Human Services* (to be offered later in 2016)
- The Accessibility Directorate of Ontario on an *EnAbling Change* partnership to host a provincial forum on inclusion in 2016

Finally, OMSSA has continued to develop its *Human Services Leadership Program* (HSLP), currently being offered to members as a pilot program.

Financial Report 2015

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2015

2015

2014

ASSETS

Current Assets

Cash	\$ 115,063	–
Marketable Securities	–	\$ 136,698
Accounts Receivable	79,132	224,274
Prepaid Expenses	23,054	33,865
	217,249	394,837
Capital Assets	4,985	11,411
	<u>\$ 222,234</u>	<u>\$ 406,248</u>

LIABILITIES AND NET DEFICIT

Current Liabilities

Bank Indebtedness	–	\$ 39,418
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	\$ 348,048	227,286
Deferred Revenue	193,103	279,550
	541,151	546,254

Net Deficit

Unrestricted	(318,917)	(140,006)
	<u>\$ 222,234</u>	<u>\$ 406,248</u>

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2015

2015

2014

REVENUE

Membership Dues	\$ 595,726	\$ 605,558
Training	427,157	334,775
Conference Fees	303,429	354,972
Forums	115,070	13,910
Project Grants	66,463	110,091
Job Board	16,475	8,635
Investment Income	1,416	20,740
Total Revenue	<u>\$ 1,525,736</u>	<u>\$ 1,448,681</u>

EXPENSES

Personnel	\$ 703,476	\$ 821,367
Education	494,486	476,079
Office and Administration	267,653	229,041
Policy and Member Services	71,547	71,841
Governance	24,659	39,154
Amortization	6,426	6,426
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 1,568,247</u>	<u>\$ 1,643,908</u>

Excess of Expenses over Revenue from Operations (42,511) (195,227)

One-time salary charges (note 1) (136,400) –

Excess of Expenses over Revenue for the Year **\$ (178,911)** **\$ (195,227)**

Note 1: The Association incurred one-time salary charges in 2015 as a result of staff reductions and turnover.

The financial report is based on the audit conducted by the firm Cowperthwaite Mehta.
The audited financial statements are available at the OMSSA office.

Who is OMSSA

Established in 1950, the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA) is a non-profit organization whose members are the Consolidated Municipal Service Managers (CMSMs) and District Social Services Administration Boards (DSSABs) across Ontario. Our members' interests are represented to OMSSA by the senior human services staff of the CMSMs and DSSABs.

OMSSA vision: An inclusive Ontario that values and respects people by serving them in the communities where they live.

OMSSA mission: Supporting leadership in integrated human services.

Board of Directors:

Keith Palmer

President

*Director, Community Services
County of Dufferin*

Elaine Baxter-Trahair

Vice-President

*General Manager, Children's
Services
City of Toronto*

Anne Comtois-Lalonde

Secretary-Treasurer

*Director, Social Services
Counties (U/C) of Prescott-Russell*

Catherine Matheson

Immediate Past-President

*Senior Director, Health System
Transformation and Implementation,
North East LHIN (secondment),
and General Manager, Community
Development Department
City of Greater Sudbury*

Eddie Alton

*Administrator, Social Services
County of Wellington*

Greg Bishop

*General Manager, Social and
Community Services
County of Simcoe*

Stella Danos-Papaconstantinou

*Director of Human Services,
Community Access Division
Regional Municipality of Peel*

Dennis Holmes

*Director, Business Affairs and
Financial Management and Acting
Director, Family Services
Regional Municipality of Durham*

Kerry Lubrick

*Director, Employment and Income
Support
City of Hamilton*

Dan McCormick

*Chief Administrative Officer
District of Rainy River (DSSAB)*

Louise Stevens

*Director, Municipal Housing
City of London
(Retired October 2015)*

Staff, 2015-2016:

Kira Heineck: Executive Director (to November 2015); **Petra Wolfbeiss:** Acting Executive Director and Director, Policy and Public Affairs; **Christie Herrington:** Manager, Education; **Diya Gill:** Manager, Human Services Leadership Program (to June 2015); **Chantille Davis:** Executive Assistant; **Éilis Karry:** Policy Coordinator (to March 2016); **Cortney Proctor:** Coordinator, Education; **Meagan Shepherd:** Coordinator, Education (to February 2016).