

Report from the October Meeting of Provincial Council

October 12, 2012

1. 2012 Summer Leadership Conference Report

The 2012 Leadership debriefing meeting was held on October 3 at Provincial Office. The initial feedback from the conference was extremely positive, with the facilities, training, and organization of events all receiving high reviews. The Provincial Executive wishes to thank everyone involved in making Leadership 2012 a success. A particularly special thank you should be given to Anne Marie Sutton, Jeanne Kwok, and Jennifer Huber for their extraordinary work. Expense vouchers for reimbursement from the provincial office continue to be received and processed. Please ensure that the completed and signed form with the required receipts is sent to Dave Russell's attention as soon as possible.

2. OMERS October Update

OMERS 2012 Review: On May 15 Kathleen Wynne, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, appointed Tony Dean as the Reviewer for the OMERS 2012 Review. The Review is focusing on the governance and administration of OMERS since the 2006 OMERS Act was proclaimed. It will address matters that include: the efficiency and effectiveness of decision-making by the Sponsors Corporation; the governance model's effectiveness in ensuring overall fairness and financial stability; the governance model's effectiveness and fairness for employers, members and former members and in ensuring OMERS' accountability. Status reports on the OMERS Review are being posted on the Ministry website under News and Events at <http://www.mah.gov.on.ca/Page316.aspx> (ou en français at <http://www.mah.gov.on.ca/Page2422.aspx>). The second status report was posted on September 12 and in that status report Mr. Dean committed to make every effort to consider the information presented to him through the lens of plan members.

Joint OAC/SC Strategic Planning Session: On September 26 and 27 directors from both the OMERS Administration Corporation and the OMERS Sponsors Corporation met together for the first time. Discussions included an overview of OMERS strategic plan, investment strategies, risk appetite and growth.

Fall Information Meeting: OMERS Fall Information Meeting will be held at 10:30 am on Tuesday October 16 on the 16th floor of One University. Registration is by phone at (416) 350-6708 or online at stakeholdermeeting@omers.com. Those unable to attend in person may preregister and listen to the live audio webcast on the website. If members would like to submit questions in advance for the question and answer portion of the meeting, they can send an email to stakeholdermeeting@omers.com. If time allows, questions submitted will be read aloud during the Q&A segment.

OMERS INVESTMENT UPDATE

OMERS Private Equity – Purchase of Lifeways: In June 2012 OMERS Private Equity acquired Lifeways for \$329 million. Lifeways is a leading U.K. provider of supported living services for adults with learning disabilities, including those with autism and brain injuries.

OMERS Private Equity – Sale of Funds: In July 2012 OMERS Private Equity sold a portfolio of 11 North American and Global private equity fund investments to AXA Private Equity for approximately \$850 million.

Oxford Properties – RBC WaterPark Place’s LEED Platinum Certification: In June 2012 Oxford Properties announced design plans with investment partner CPP Investment Board (CPPIB) to achieve LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Platinum Certification for its new development in downtown Toronto known as RBC WaterPark Place.

Borealis Infrastructure – Purchase of Midland Cogeneration Venture: In October 2012 Borealis Infrastructure announced that EQT Infrastructure and Fortistar signed an agreement to sell Midland Cogeneration Venture (MCV) to Borealis Infrastructure.

OMERS Ventures: In the last few months OMERS Ventures has made investments in BuildDirect.com, North America’s largest online destination for heavy weight building materials, Hopper, an online travel planning company, and Vision Critical, a global technology-based research solutions firm.

3. Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities – Discussion Paper on Strengthening Ontario’s Centres of Creativity, Innovation and Knowledge

The Ministry of Training, Colleges, and Universities has begun a consultation process with stakeholder groups on making the Ontario University and College system stronger by innovation. A discussion paper titled, *Strengthening Ontario’s Centres of Creativity, Innovation and Knowledge*, was released in late June 2012 and can be accessed through the following link:

<http://www.tcu.gov.on.ca/pepg/publications/DiscussionStrengtheningOntarioPSE.pdf>.

OSSTF/FEESO made a written submission on behalf of the members.

4. Announced Changes to Employment Insurance While Working on Claim Pilot Project

On Friday October 5, Human Resources Minister Diane Finley issued a release detailing adjustments to the Employment Insurance While Working on Claim pilot project. The Provincial Executive passed a motion at their October 10 meeting directing the General Secretary to assign staff to examine the changes to Employment Insurance announced by the Human Resources Minister on Friday October 5, and the impact that these changes may/will have on OSSTF/FEESO members. This information will be shared with local leaders through a D/BU once received.

5. MAC 204-11 – Constitution, Bylaws, Policies & Procedures Review Workgroup

In this, the 2nd of its two-year mandate, the workgroup intends to finish the task of identifying bylaws, policies and procedures and ensuring they are appropriately housed in the correct OSSTF/FEESO document. Specifically remaining for review are the bylaws related to Judicial Council and Provincial Council both of which were not reviewed last year as they were under review by other bodies. The work group will also review the language in our bylaws, policies and procedures for contradiction, redundancy and clarity. Where language being reviewed is related to a specific Committee or Council, the work group will continue to consult with the appropriate personnel. Draft recommendations from the work group will be brought to January Provincial Council for input.

6. Committee to Review Committees and Councils

The Committee to Review Committees/Councils membership this year is Leslie Wolfe, Chairperson, Cindy Dubue and Scott Marshall, Executive Officers. This year the rotation includes ARM Council, Certification Council/Certification Appeal Board and the Human Rights Committee. In addition, by motion of the Provincial Executive the Finance Committee and the Scholarship Committee were added to the list for review this year.

7. Annual Designated Charities 2012-2013

Both Kids Help Phone and Campaign 2000 will continue to be OSSTF/FEESO's Designated Charities for the 2012-2013 year and a donation of \$5,000.00 be made to each of these organizations.

8. Coalitions and Charities 2012-2013

The following coalitions and organizations will receive donations from OSSTF/FEESO during the 2012-2013 year:

- ACORN \$1,000.00
- Canadian Women's Foundation \$2,500.00
- Coalition of Black Trade Unionists \$850.00
- Coalition for Children and Youth Mental Health \$6,000.00
- Equal Pay Coalition \$1,000.00
- Learning Disabilities Organization of Ontario \$2,500.00
- Ontario Association of Interval and Transition Houses \$3,000.00
- Ontario Coalition for Better Childcare \$9,000.00
- Ontario Federation of Home and Schools \$150.00
- Ontario Health Coalition \$25,000.00
- People for Education \$15,000.00
- Workers Art and Heritage Centre \$7,000.00
- Women's Legal Education and Action Fund \$5,000.00

9. Colombian Human Rights Lawyer Tour

During an educator's human rights tour to Colombia in December 2010, an important meeting was held with Eduardo Matyas who has been defending our colleague Lilianny Obando in Bogota. Lilianny was released from prison in March following three and a half years incarceration for "rebellion". She is awaiting a final trial and is at home on bail preparing her case. Eduardo is now requesting that he meet with those individuals in Canada and the United States who are willing to provide deputations on Lilianny's behalf. He hopes to prepare witnesses for their call from the Colombian Embassy. They include three representatives of our federation (Paul Elliott; Domenic Bellissimo and Roger Langen), UFCW Canada, CUPE and a number of academic faculty associations. During his visit, Eduardo is also interested in meeting with our OSSTF Human Rights Committee, which meets on September 29. OSSTF/FEESO has donated \$2000.

10. Policy Motion

The following policy motion was carried, and will be interim policy of OSSTF/FEESO until it is considered at AMPA 2013:

BIRT it is the policy of OSSTF/FEESO that no legislation proposed by any provincial or federal government should limit the ability of citizens to exercise their constitutional right to free and peaceful assembly.

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