

# 2018

# ANNUAL REPORT



ONTARIO MUNICIPAL SOCIAL  
SERVICES ASSOCIATION

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# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT Elaine Baxter-Trahair

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OMSSA and its members are no strangers to change, but with the election of a new provincial government, 2018 presented a degree of transition that our sector has not seen for some time. Resilience and flexibility are more important than ever, as we're called upon to position our role, our value and our message within a new political context.

In 2018, OMSSA has made rapid strides to become the responsive, nimble and strategic Association that our members need in a complex and evolving environment.

We've taken a targeted approach to respond quickly to specific, high-priority issues such as housing modernization, social assistance reform, and early years and child care policy. We've been successful in our efforts to build the foundations of a trust-based relationship with the new provincial government, and to position ourselves as proven leaders and natural partners in achieving better human services outcomes for Ontario's communities.

The Province has demonstrated its willingness to engage, right up to the Ministerial and Deputy Minister levels, through our Leadership Table and OMSSA's efforts to convene senior human services leaders at our issue-based Summits. Indeed, OMSSA is quickly becoming a "go-to and go-through" for the Province to discuss developing policy directions and learn from the municipal sector as they plan for changes ahead.

With the Association in a strong and sustainable financial position, OMSSA has made strategic investments to expand our capacity to meet members' changing needs. In 2018, new communications capacity and Association Management Software enabled the launch of a new website and built the foundation for new tools to facilitate the kind of knowledge-exchange that's critically important to our sector, particularly in times of change.

OMSSA also focused on enhancing the accessibility of its learning and professional development opportunities, by holding workshops in new and different Ontario communities, and laying the foundations for expanded online learning in the year ahead.

Through all of these developments, I am proud of the Association's ability to move forward in a responsive, yet sustainable way. As my term as President comes to a close, I want to thank OMSSA's staff and my fellow board members for their commitment and dedication to guiding the Association to where it is today.

I look forward to continuing on as Past-President, and to seeing our Association and sector lead through change, rise to the challenges and seize the opportunities ahead.

# OMSSA'S 2018 IN REVIEW

OMSSA entered 2018 with renewed capacity and solid financial footing, providing the foundation and momentum needed to expand and re-align our services around members' needs, provide more accessible and meaningful opportunities for professional development and knowledge-exchange, and become a more proactive, influential and trusted voice for our members.



## Policy and Government Relations

In 2018, OMSSA worked to deepen its policy engagement with members and build a strong working relationship with the incoming provincial government, in order to bring members' priorities to the table with a strong, united, and trusted voice. Key highlights included:

- Member-driven submissions on **social housing modernization**, **inclusionary zoning**, and **provincial and federal budget priorities**
- Mobilized senior housing leads to build consensus around social housing modernization at our **Housing Summit**
- Published **four Policy Briefs** highlighting the role and value of service system management
- **Met with incoming Ontario Ministers** of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Education, and Children, Community and Social Services at the AMO conference in Ottawa
- **Signed MOUs** with AMO and CMHC, held **joint OMSSA-NOSDA Board meeting** to further align our work, and continued to strengthen partnerships with key sector players
- Brought members' priorities and recommendations to the Province on **Social Assistance Reform**

## Education and Training

In 2018, OMSSA worked to bring relevant and tailored professional development to members in more communities across Ontario, and to provide valuable opportunities for members to come together with each other and other key sector players in a time of rapid change. Key highlights included:

- Welcomed **275 delegates** to Windsor for our annual **Leadership Symposium and AGM**
- Hosted **550 delegates at four Forums** on children's services, housing, employment and human services integration
- Hosted more than **160 delegates** at our annual **Policy Conference**
- Expanded access to training with **16 workshops hosted across Ontario** (Ottawa, Windsor, Sault Ste. Marie, Goderich and Toronto)

# Member Engagement and Networking

In 2018, OMSSA invested in and expanded its capacity in communications and member engagement, to keep members informed in timely, engaging ways, and to create new and enhanced opportunities for knowledge-exchange, both in-person and online. Key highlights included:

- Hosted **three Leadership Table meetings**, bringing human services leads together to convene and hear from senior provincial staff and other key sector players
- Hosted **11 Network meetings** and facilitated **100+ Requests for Information (RFIs)** for our four member networks
- Invested in communications capacity and **Association Management Software** to better serve our members
- **Launched new website** to make it easier to find out what's happening with the Association and the sector
- Provided timely updates and resources through **25 editions of the "OMSSA Today" newsletter**
- Connected members with relevant career opportunities in human services with **250+ postings featured on OMSSA's Job Board**



## What's Next

In 2019, OMSSA is looking forward to:

- Expanding and improving our professional development opportunities
- Investing in technology to make member learning more accessible
- Providing greater opportunities for dialogue and knowledge-exchange, in-person and online
- Refocusing our policy engagement to bring your priorities forward with a strong, united voice
- Reviewing and refining OMSSA's operational infrastructure to ensure long-term sustainability

## Thank You to Our 2018 Partners

### CITY OF WINDSOR

*Host Partner*, 2018 Leadership Symposium and AGM

### CANADA MORTGAGE AND HOUSING CORPORATION (CMHC)

*Education Level 1 Partner*, 2018 Leadership Symposium and AGM

### KPMG

*Gold Level Partner*, 2018 Housing Forum

# Financial Report 2018

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2018

2018

2017

### ASSETS

#### Current assets

Cash	\$ 387,706	\$ 528,614
Guaranteed investment certificates	\$ 350,000	—
Accounts receivable	36,974	14,824
Prepaid expenses	5,631	12,134
	<u>\$ 780,311</u>	<u>\$ 555,572</u>

### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

#### Current liabilities

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 26,577	\$ 90,594
Deferred revenue	210,802	59,603
	<u>237,379</u>	<u>150,197</u>

#### Net assets

Unrestricted	542,932	405,375
	<u>\$ 780,311</u>	<u>\$ 555,572</u>

## STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2018

2018

2017

### REVENUE

Membership dues	\$ 625,373	\$ 625,373
Conference fees	235,190	326,940
Training	228,332	150,191
Forums	143,676	124,713
Job board	38,560	31,480
Interest	2,831	1,014
Project grants	—	127,232
<b>Total revenue</b>	<u>\$ 1,273,962</u>	<u>\$ 1,386,943</u>

### EXPENSES

Personnel	\$ 526,672	\$ 414,830
Education	380,310	404,336
Office and administrative	173,824	109,902
Policy and member services	36,048	13,879
Governance	19,551	17,194
<b>Total expenses</b>	<u>\$ 1,136,405</u>	<u>\$ 960,141</u>

<b>Excess of revenue over expenses for the year</b>	137,557	426,802
Net assets (deficit), beginning of year	405,375	(21,427)
<b>Net assets, end of year</b>	<u>\$ 542,932</u>	<u>\$ 405,375</u>

The financial report is based on the audit conducted by the firm Pennylegion | Chung LLP.  
The audited financial statements are available at the OMSSA office.

## WHO IS OMSSA

The Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA) is a non-profit association whose members are Ontario's Consolidated Municipal Service Managers (CMSMs) and District Social Services Administration Boards (DSSABs). By supporting, connecting and advocating for our members across Ontario, we help them to achieve their collective mission of delivering the best human services outcomes for Ontario's communities.

## OMSSA VISION

To champion service system management that creates strong communities

## OMSSA MISSION

To support members in achieving the best human services outcomes

## 2018 Board of Directors

### **Elaine Baxter-Trahair** **President**

*Chief Administrative Officer  
Region of Durham*

### **Dan McCormick** **Vice-President**

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

### **Cathy Cousins** **Secretary-Treasurer**

*Director, Homelessness and  
Community Engagement,  
Community Services  
Regional Municipality of Niagara*

### **Luisa Artuso**

*Director, Children's Services  
County of Wellington*

### **Stella Danos- Papaconstantinou**

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

### **Laura LePine**

*Director, Social Services  
County of Renfrew*

### **Grace Mater**

*Director, Children's Services  
and Neighbourhood  
Development Division  
City of Hamilton*

### **Henry Wall**

*Chief Administrative Officer  
Kenora District Services Board*

### **Shelley VanBuskirk**

*Director, Housing Services  
City of Ottawa*

## 2018 Staff

**Elisa McFarlane**, Executive Director (to November 2018)

**Christie Herrington**, Manager, Education

**Darryl Wolk**, Manager, Policy Development and Public Affairs

**Chantille Davis**, Coordinator, Policy and Operations

**Lisa Timoshenko**, Communications Specialist