

LEARNING DISABILITIES ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, June 23, 2008 at 5:30 PM at the LDAO Offices, Toronto, Ontario

Present (in person): Howard, Chaban, DiPasquale, Greco, Handley-Derry, Hasold-Schilter, Kennedy, Pawlett, Waxman

Present (by phone): Bogie, Lyons, Michaelidis, Todd

Regrets: Lee, Mandarino

Staff: Wygant, Quinn, Wagner

Agenda Item	Heading	Discussion	Action Item/Task	Key Contact/Lead	Completion target date
1	Call to Order	Meeting called to Order at 5:35 PM. Pam Howard in the Chair. Several members are participating by phone so Ms Howard did a roll call. Ms. Howard welcomed Hellen Bogie to her first board meeting.			
2	Approval of Consent Agenda	Ms. Howard called for the motion.	MMS: Kennedy/Greco Approved		
	2.1 Agenda (and/or additions)	Ms. Howard called for the motion.	MMS: Kennedy/Greco Approved as amended		
	2.2 Board Minutes	Minutes of the Board Meeting March 26, 2008	MMS: Kennedy/Greco Approved.		
	2.3 Committee Minutes	Minutes of the Adult Advocacy Committee April 19, 2008	MMS: Kennedy/Greco Approved.		
	2.4 Committee Minutes	Minutes of the Chapter Support & Development Committee, March 26, 2008	MMS: Kennedy/Greco Approved.		

	2.5 Committee Minutes	Minutes of the Legislation and Public Policy Committee, March 28, 2008	MMS: Kennedy/Greco Approved.		
	2.6 Committee Minutes	Minutes of the Scientific Advisory Committee, April 24, 2008	MMS: Kennedy/Greco Approved.		
3	Financial Update a) LDAO Draft Audited Statement for Fiscal 2007-2008	<p>In the absence of Treasurer Steve Lee, Don Pawlett, presented the draft audited statement. LDAO will show a profit of \$244,844 for this fiscal. Part of this is due to the increase in fund development activities.</p> <p>He took the directors through the important parts of the statements – The Auditor’s Report to the Board, the Statement of Revenues and Expenses, the Statement of our Financial Position and the Notes to the Financial Statement. He invited questions from the Board. The summary of questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarification in Note 6 re the Web-Based Teaching Tool Grant Revenue – due to the start and finish dates of the current 3 year contract, the dates that appear in the notes reflect that the current contract expires in August, 2008, which is part way through our current fiscal year 2008-09.. • In that same note, clarification was requested about the IEP project Commitment from the same Ministry – they are two separate grants that have nothing to do with each other (WBTT and IEP) but it is confusing in this way. The Board requested that the note be changed to address this confusion 	<p>MMS: Pawlett/Handley - Derry Approval of the 2007 – 2008 audited financial statement as it will be amended</p> <p>Based on the discussions, Ms. Wygant would meet with Ms. Zone to outline the changes necessary to the draft as per the discussions of the board. The final report will be signed by the Chair and the Treasurer</p>	Wygant/Zone	Immediately

4	<p>Committee Reports/ Updates/ Discussion</p> <p>a) Adult Advocacy Committee</p>	<p>Mr. Todd provided an update of activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Speaker's Bureau Project has grown such that it is now beyond the ability of the Committee to manage. The issues of funding the project and managing and certifying the training process and schedule will be turned over to the LDAO staff as of this time. Suggestions were offered for potential funding sources – ODSP, Ontario Works, HRSDC, etc. • Ms. Howard and Ms. Wygant advised the Board that through earlier discussions at the Chapter Support and Development Committee meeting, it was decided that the entire Saturday morning workshop sessions of the 2008 Annual General Meeting would focus on adult services and issues. The AAC will be asked to put on a presentation about the Speakers Bureau for Chapter delegates 	<p>LDAO Staff to invite Randolph Sealy to be the plenary speaker on the Saturday morning, that the ACC be invited to present on the Speaker's Bureau project immediately following, and a chapter (or several) will be invited to present a workshop on effective practices and programs to deliver adult services at the local level</p>	<p>Wygant/Quinn</p>	<p>By July 31/08</p>
	<p>b) Chapter Support and Development Committee</p>	<p>Ms Howard provided an overview of the discussions of this Committee at its meeting held earlier in the day. A summary follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LDAO sees the AGM as a reasonable means for chapters to exchange ideas and concerns and to develop new skills sets – the budget for Chapter support in 2008-09 is based on LDAO covering the costs for all chapters to attend the AGM in October 2008 			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The second of the quarterly Chapter conference calls was held June 18, 2008. The entire call was dedicated to having the Chapters provide input to the type of training and information they would like to receive at the workshop sessions for the AGM. The participants were engaged and offered ideas for training and format of the AGM. A number of chapters were unable to participate in this call and the Committee has set out a process to keep those chapters advised of decisions that will be made re the AGM by the end of July 2008. <p>As part of the AGM, time has been set before the Business Meeting at the AGM on Friday night for the old Board to meet and then after the Business Meeting, the new board will meet briefly.</p>	<p>An email is to go out to all chapters summarizing the discussion of the conference call re workshop ideas and format for the AGM to all chapters to solicit any further information before final decisions are made re the format and workshop sessions for the AGM.</p> <p>Information on both these meetings will be sent to directors prior to the AGM which is October 17th and 18th in Toronto.</p>	<p>Quinn/Wygant/ Howard</p> <p>Howard/ Wygant</p>	<p>June 27, 2008</p> <p>September 2008</p>
c) Legislation and Public Policy Committee	<p>This Committee met earlier in the day and the following is a summary of those discussions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Minister's Advisory Council of Special Education (MACSE) board positions will be opened for nominations as current terms come to an end March 31, 2009. Current Peter Chaban represents the community of Learning Disabilities on this Council. All nominations must be approved by the Minister of Education, and no person is guaranteed that they will be accepted. LDAO will need to make a very selective choice in nominating a delegate The Committee needs to recruit 	<p>Maggie and Diane need to keep an eye out for the nominations request and LDAO needs to be discussing possible nominations for the LD seat at MACSE</p>	<p>Wagner/ Wygant</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

		<p>new members to this group with an eye to balancing the need for professional skills vs parental interests. The Committee will look at having an ad hoc reference group outside of the Committee that supports the work necessary but does not sit directly on the Committee, due to other commitments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Special Education Branch always provides an update on its activities to the Committee and these are discussed at the meeting. <p>From some of the information passed along from this Committee, the Board got into an active discussion about Section 23 of the Special Education Bill that deals with School Board responsibilities for maintaining IEP recommendations and plans once Section 23 is invoked. It is very important for LDAO to know how this is impacting students with LD in the school system</p>	<p>This is a very complex issue and there is considerable expertise on our Board re this issue. Diane Wagner requested that any Board members with experience with Section 23 stories please contact her to discuss further.</p>	<p>Wagner</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
	<p>d) Fund Development Committee</p>	<p>The report of activities re fundraising to May 31, 2008 was circulated prior to the meeting. It outlines each of the target areas for fundraising and what the current status of each is.</p> <p>LDAO will be looking to run one significant special event this fiscal year in order to best utilize our volunteer resources and contacts.</p> <p>Our Speaker's Workshop Series has proven to be very popular and profitable thanks to our partnership with the Hospital for Sick Children for</p>			

		<p>free space and sponsorships to cover some speaker expenses. We will continue to offer a number of workshops per year.</p> <p>Corporate and foundation requests are very slow this year as they are being inundated with requests.</p>			
	e) Nominating Committee	The Committee has met several times and has put out invitations to select people to submit an application form to become an LDAO Board member. The Committee is making its approaches based on a skills assessment of current needs on the Board that will support the strategic goals and plans of LDAO. They will have their slate ready for submission to the delegates at the AGM in October.			
	f) Scientific Advisory Committee	As an outcome of the discussion above during the Legislation and Public Policy report, the Board engaged in an active discussion about evidence- based strategies for learning and intervention programs. There is no real consensus within the various professional bodies as to what constitutes “evidence-based strategies” or “what works” as what works for some won’t necessarily work for others. The Committee will consider whether or not this issue needs to be dealt with in more detail in this fiscal year.			
5	New Business Item/Additions to the Agenda a) Dates for Future Board Meetings 2008	Due to the busy schedules of Board members, it is important to set the board meetings for the next year so	LDAO Staff to look at the dates we had this past year and set a draft schedule for	Wygant/Quinn	At earliest convenience

	-09	that people can block off these dates. Ms. Howard requested that the November 2008 meeting be held earlier than last year in order to accommodate a personal matter.	distribution to board members for approval		
	b) New LDAO Staff	Two new staff have been hired to replace staff who have resigned – Carolyn Gregoire replaces Jeff Clayton in the WBTT project and Laura Hoddinott replaces Mara Kates as the full time LDAO Administrative Assistant.			
	c) New HR Committee for LDAO	LDAO would like to create an Ad Hoc Human Resources Committee. Currently LDAO has no clear HR Policy document other than the Personnel Policy introduced by Chris Carew in 2006. The changing face of employees in LDAO necessitates a more formalized process for HR issues. Ms. Wygant did speak to the board about an employee request received for which LDAO currently has no policy re issues with maternity leave. The board had a short discussion and agreed in principle to considering the specific request,	LDAO to create an Ad Hoc Human Resources Committee comprised of several LDAO Board members, select LDAO staff and perhaps some interested not-for-profit HR people from outside the organization – Ms. Hasold-Schilter and Ms. Michaelidis are interested in this committee LDAO staff to investigate this particular issues raised by the employee and ensure that the request falls within the requirements of EI benefits.	Wygant Wygant/Zone	At earliest convenience Immediately
7	Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM	MMS: Waxman/DiPasquale		