

**Daily Briefing Note**  
**May 1, 2020**

**Attendees:** Michelle Brooks; Ann Bilodeau; Ann-Marie Binetti; Bryan Keshen; Carolynn Morrison; David Ferguson; Dean Johnson; David Cohen; Eugene Versteeg; Helene Fournier; Don Walker; James Duncan; Janet Noel-Annable; Lisa Holmes; Lorrie Heffernan; Geoff McMullen; Jo-Anne Demick; Jonathan Bradshaw; Peter Sproul; Christine Dubyk

**Opening remarks:**

- Michelle thanked Chris B., Brad and Jonathan for assisting with writing the letter to the Minister around the Wage Enhancement Announcement and seeking clarity on some items. Much appreciated.

**Updates on take-aways from the Committee Members:**

- Compensation Details and Implementation Plans re: Frontline Workers Increase
  - ✓ Letter shared with Minister Smith from the three Provincial Groups on April 30<sup>th</sup>. Content of the letter stressed the significance of having more clear and specific information on definition of 'frontline' as well as how this will roll out and the importance of having this information sooner than later.
  - ✓ Lorrie had a conversation with Minister Smith and informed him of the same as well as thanking for their efforts around this.
  - ✓ Members agree that PN should not be the ones to communicate to the broader sector around how they proceed during this time of uncertainty and feel the Regional offices are communicating what is needed. PN does not need to share anything further as we ourselves have no further information.
  - ✓ ***Is there an opportunity for Chris B. to include something in the 'weekly' summary around this? Stating that we too are uncertain and awaiting direction on how to proceed and that people should be directing their questions to the Regional offices.***
  - ✓ Lorrie shared that OPSEU informed her this week that they are considering all covid-19 positive employees to have caught the virus at work and it is therefore a workplace illness and WSIB. Unsure how this will be done.
  - ✓ CUPE is still to confirm dues and how this will be gauged on the \$4.00 wage increase.

Next steps regarding implementation: Formula; Stabilization, Etc. – Roll Out

- ✓ Do we make recommendations or wait to hear back on this?
- ✓ Members feel that the Ministry is probably well into how this will roll out, however hoping this will be kept simple and have the money provided to agencies to administer at their discretion.
- ✓ Joanne shared that Respiratory Therapists are now included as a professional recognized as eligible.
- ✓ Eugene said at EOC there are broad groups that seem to be overlooked and do not believe that any of this was intentional and do not see this as limited to people only in group home

settings. It is getting our local Regional offices and MCCSS to understand this. This is where the conversation with Rupert Gordon and Janet Menard is required.

#### EOC Update - Eugene

- Eugene will be doing a follow up email on the status of the Guidance Document
- Raised a question around supporting individuals when hospitalized and shared information with David R. re: William Osler. Keen to hear how this is progressing and inquired with Chris B. to see if this is still a concern.
- Michelle referenced the **COVID-19 Hospital Transfer Form for Patients with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities** documents shared by Terri H. prior to this meeting.
- Bryan stressed the importance of thinking about how clearing people at the end of an 'outbreak' situation will roll out. Unsure if EOC is looking at this already and will need clarity and could this fall under the '**open for business**' discussions at EOC? **Eugene said that PHSFA reached out on this as well and he shared information with JB and other OASIS members. If there is meaningful information to share, the goal is to have this as one of the OASIS webinars, possibly the next week.**
- Michelle shared that a question came forward to her around whether there had been discussion of the use of DSO/Navigators as being part of the 'SWAT Teams' that were being looked at through the Workforce Stability Committee. Ann B. said at the time this came up, we were asked 'where can we be looking for people to help stabilize the workforce so that it could meet demands' the list was extremely broad and included many potential thoughts such as navigators, assessors, families, teachers, educational assistants, APSW's, Nurses, etc. and inquiries as to whether they could be deployed.

#### Collecting DS Statistics via OBRC – Janet

- Janet shared that CLT has a Dashboard that is terrific for self-reporting and this could be shared with member organizations. OBRC is currently doing some research around this and **Janet will report back on Wednesday for further discussion.**

#### Frontline Experiences – All

- Don W. - survey and results conducted by SPPI are ready to be distributed in the next day or so. Don will circulate via Christine D.
- Don W. – SPPI received feedback on language used in some of the recent releases and has taken this back to the steering committee and will continue to work hard on this.

#### Other

- Janet – Saskatchewan Government came out today with a stipend for employees that included DS; Health, etc. Anyone making under \$2500/mth qualify for this stipend.
- Dave F. was in conversation with an OPSEU representative today, and she referenced that rumour has it that staff will have to apply directly with the government for this money.

#### Significant Decisions: *Based on Recommendations from Take-Aways & Today's Conversations*

- Put on your 'radar' how we are going to start looking at best practices to slowly start opening up again around protocols, etc. **It would benefit the group to once again look at key areas that we will need to tackle to help prepare and promote how things proceed when we begin to move forward i.e opening and accessing community programs, having visitors, etc. and will put on the agenda for Monday May 4<sup>th</sup>.**