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## CHAIR / CEO ANNUAL REPORT



**F**or several years, OACRS has been transforming itself into an effective voice for the children it serves and this year was no exception. Despite large challenges and much change, members, Board and staff combined to turn our challenges into opportunities and our change into progress.

Together, we:

- Built on the momentum of previous years, particularly in relations with the Ministry of Children and Youth Services;
- Devised a pre-election strategy and implemented a communications plan to ensure the needs of our children remain on the political agenda;
- Instituted a new Family Advisory Council to enhance the voice of families and to advise the OACRS Board of Directors on system-wide issues;
- Realigned OACRS to provide the resources for a full-time CEO;
- Turned a projected budget deficit into a surplus;
- Organized “Partnering for Quality” - OACRS most successful conference to date;
- Applauded the moratorium placed on managed competition for the provision of specialized services and supports for school aged children.

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At a planning retreat held in October, Board members, Administrators and families endorsed two strategic priorities to guide the work of OACRS: To be leaders in the children's services system and to secure a commitment to multi-year, annual increases to serve the clients of Children's Treatment Centres (CTCs).

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CTC leaders accomplished important progress on Best Practices, Standards and Benchmarks, information management systems and funding formulas. As we strive to achieve leadership, accountability and outcomes for the children and families we represent, this work will continue.

The transition from pre-school to school is an anxious time for parents and children. Our kids are no exception when their treat-

ment moves correspondingly from CTC to SHSS (School Health Support Services). Depending on where they live in the province, that transition may be a smooth and seamless one or it may be a time of significant stress and even trauma. The former Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, George Smitherman, provided a window of opportunity in January when he announced a moratorium (and ultimately a halt) on the managed competition method of awarding contracts through CCACs (Community Care Access Centres). OACRS and its member CTCs have long advocated that this practice was not in the interest of children best served by CTCs as they transition to schools. OACRS continues to advocate for a more child and family friendly approach to school health support services. CTCs and OACRS have signalled their interest and intent to work with MCYS, MOHLTC and Ministry of Education in the interest of children.

January's provincial budget provided one time funding for the capital needs of some of our Centres, but, in the end, new

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operational funds for children served by CTCs failed to become a 2008 government priority. Nevertheless, OACRS will continue to advocate for the resources necessary to meet the current and emerging needs of our clients and their families.

For our progress and support, we can thank:

- the previous Minister of Children and Youth Services,
- the Honourable Mary Anne Chambers, the present Minister,
- the Honourable Deb Matthews and her Ministry for their obvious support,
- our previous chair, Doreen Hume McKenna and
- our previous CEO, Vicky Earle, under whose leadership our transition began and flourished,
- the Structure Task Force which began the OACRS transformation,
- Mary Anne McLean for agreeing to serve as Interim CEO and conducting a study on the need for a full-time CEO,
- the CEO Selection Committee, chaired by, Diane Pick,
- the Governance Policy Committee, chaired by Caroline Stone,
- the Board Development Committee, chaired by Elaine Whitmore,
- the Finance Committee, chaired by Rod Richmond,
- the Conference Workgroup, chaired by Jenny Greensmith for the Conference success,
- KidsAbility in Waterloo, our hosts for the conference,
- the Families Advisory Council, chaired by Heather Graystone,
- the Administrators Council for its competence and common sense,
- the dedication of our staff and our board members,
- particularly those to whom we are saying good-bye: Elaine Whitmore (John McGivney), Rod Richmond (Pathways), Don Watson (George Jeffrey), Linda Rothney (ErinoakKids) and Joan Ferguson and Lynn Guerriero (Bloorview Kids Rehab), whose help has been much appreciated.

Finally we note our sadness at the loss of former Administrative Services Co-ordinator, Wendy Moyle, recognise the hugely positive presence that she brought to OACRS and express condolences to her family on behalf of every member of our community.

The LHIN structure of health care delivery will provide

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new opportunities for CTCs to bring attention to the needs of children. It will also present a challenge in attempting to cooperate with partners from the Health jurisdiction while working with the policy and funding of the children's services jurisdiction.

During the 2008-2009 fiscal year, OACRS will embark on a new strategic plan. Its foundation will guide our work for the next several years to come.

As we look ahead to the upcoming year, we know that other new challenges and opportunities will present themselves. We will welcome new Board members, we will benefit from new faces on our Administrators' Council, Family Advisory Council, Committees and Work Groups. We will continue to rely on and appreciate the dedicated and professional service provided by our OACRS office staff.

Respectfully Submitted

**Don Watson**  
*Chair, Board of Directors*

**Linda Kenny**  
*Chief Executive Officer*



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## REPORT FROM THE BOARD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE 2008



These are challenging yet exciting times for OACRS and its member CTCs as we continue to undertake not only the business of delivering services to the children and families who rely on us but also advocate for the necessary operational and capital resources.

In light of all these critical activities taking place it becomes a challenge to find the necessary time and resources for the important work of board development. I am pleased to report that the committee has achieved its key responsibilities throughout the course of the last year with the assistance of dedicated committee members and the support of the OACRS staff.

As the Board undertakes future strategic planning activities the necessary board education required to ensure achievement of the identified goals and objectives will be critical. The work done to date related to board orientation, evaluation, governance and policy development will serve as a solid foundation upon which to build.

As I conclude my term as a member of the Board of Directors and my time with the Board Development Committee I look back with great satisfaction on the work achieved by both during these times of constant change that surround us.

My sincere thanks to my fellow committee members who have made my role as committee chair a pleasure and to the OACRS staff whose highly skilled assistance has allowed the committee to accomplish as much as it has over this past year.

I offer my sincere best wishes to the Board and the Board Development Committee in the upcoming year as we all continue to work on behalf of the children and families who require the services of children's treatment centres across the province.

Respectfully submitted,

**Elaine M. Whitmore**

*Chair, Board Development Committee*



## OACRS TREASURER'S REPORT

**S**ilver and Goren, CA's have audited the statement of financial position of OACRS as at March 31, 2008. As we move forward with new auditors for 2008/2009 we would like to express our gratitude to Anita Goren and the staff of Silver and Goren.

We would like to pay special tribute to our friend and colleague Wendy Moyle who was instrumental in ensuring the financial diligence of the association and will surely be missed.

Effective 2008/2009 the financial operations of OACRS have been integrated with Bloorview (BKR) who will complete the day-to-day accounting and reporting.

OACRS continues to demonstrate financial diligence by operating within budget expenditure levels and have maintained the objective of a 6-month operating reserve.

I would like to give special thanks to committee members Dave Adams, Jeff Williams, Barb Olsen, Peter Chirico, Lynn Guerriero and Vicki Johnson as well as dedicated staff members Carolyn Hicks and Linda Kenny.

**Rod Richmond**

*Treasurer*

# ONTARIO ASSOCIATION OF CHILDREN'S REHABILITATION SERVICES

## Statement of Operations

For the year Ended March 31, 2008

<b>Revenues</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
Memberships	<b>\$ 237,966</b>	\$ 232,207
OACRS Annual Conference	<b>117,800</b>	98,456
Adapted Music Collaborative - Trillium Grant	-	6,945
Donations	-	867
Interest income	<b>9,033</b>	7,543
Miscellaneous	-	49
Outcome Measures - Grants	-	50,000
	<b>364,799</b>	396,067
<b>Expenditures</b>		
Salaries and benefits	<b>\$ 147,359</b>	\$ 124,987
OACRS Annual Conference	<b>79,807</b>	87,545
Website	<b>34,858</b>	41,441
Office	<b>22,195</b>	16,484
Consultants	<b>12,784</b>	-
Professional Development	<b>8,172</b>	9,743
Board	<b>5,290</b>	4,123
Public Education	<b>4,741</b>	7,927
Audit	<b>3,178</b>	3,399
Committees	<b>3,109</b>	7,852
Amortization	<b>2,411</b>	2,316
Public Relations	<b>444</b>	2,259
Outcome Measures expenses	<b>21</b>	50,721
Annual General Meeting	-	4,394
Adapted Music Collaborative	-	6,945
Legal Fees	-	1,818
Bad debts	-	7,383
	<b>324,369</b>	379,337
<b>Excess of revenue over expenses</b>	<b>\$ 40,430</b>	\$ 16,730