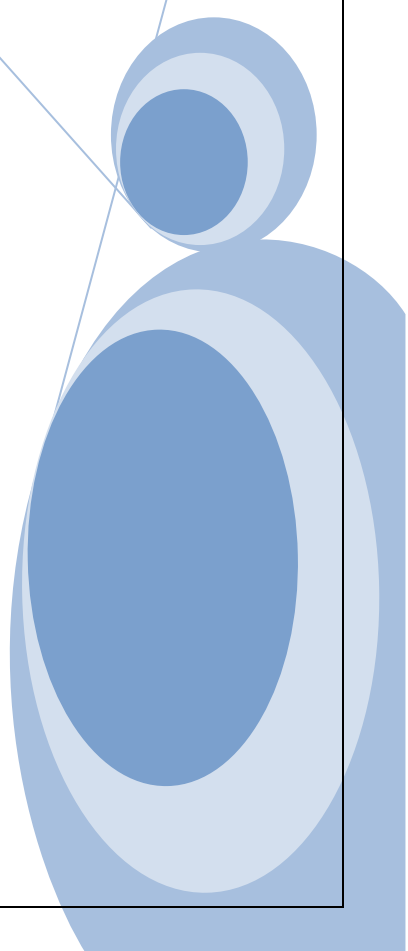




Annual Report
2016 - 2017



Family Supports Institute Ontario

Board of Directors

2016 - 2017

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Cindy Smith, Co-Chair

Catherine Moher, Treasurer

Ellie Murphy, Secretary

REGIONAL DIRECTORS

Caroline Cote, South East

Priscilla Dutt, Toronto

Valerie Kenny, Toronto

Elizabeth Moffat, Toronto

Catherine Moher, Toronto

Ellie Murphy, Toronto

Erin O'Dacre, South West

Nick Petten, Toronto

Cindy Smith, Central

Chanel Tsang, South Central

Mission Statement:

The purpose of FSIO is: to promote and enhance the practice of family support practitioners; to increase professional recognition and capacity; to participate in research activities; to connect colleagues across the province and to influence the development of family-friendly policies and programs.

How do we accomplish our mission?

Our mission will be accomplished through innovative research, public policy dialogue, capacity building and parent engagement. We believe all members of early learning and care sector provide family support through their programs. Members act as catalysts, connectors and collaborators in the early learning and care system.

The goal of all of the work that FSIO engages in centers around one basic belief, that all of our programs work with families and children in local communities and these programs are committed to finding what works best for each family in their community, providing support how they need it, when they need it, in a manner in which they can access effective support.

Our members include Ontario Early Years Programs, Family Resource Programs, Parenting and Family Literacy Centres, CAP-C/CPNP programs, Child Care Programs, Home Child Care Agencies, Child Welfare Agencies, organizations that support children and their families with special needs, school boards, municipalities and individuals that believe in the strength of families in their communities.

FSIO continues to reach out to post-secondary students, apprenticeship programs, municipalities, provincial ministries and organizations that are interested in community-based programs and believe in the strength of collaboration.

Message from the Board of Directors

The FSIO Board began our year by meeting with Cindy Himelstein from Toronto Children's Aid Society. Cindy is a long-time supporter and friend of FSIO and we knew she was the right person to help us shape our Strategic Plan for 2017 to 2020. In the first stages of our planning we celebrated our accomplishments over the past 10 years and then looked forward. An important outcome of this planning was our commitment to the creation of designing, coordinating and facilitating professional learning entitled *The Seven Essentials of Family Support*. We believe this professional learning will contribute to the quality and consistency in Child and Family Centres across Ontario.

FSIO continues to have representation on the Minister Early Years Advisory Committee. Consequently, we were privileged to be present when Ministers Mitzi Hunter and Indira Naidoo-Harris announced the launch of *Ontario's Renewed Early Years and child Care Policy Framework* on June 6, 2017. After 15 consultations with stakeholders like Family Supports Institute Ontario at our last AGM, and partners in Early Learning and Care, community partners and parents, the government announced their commitment to bring "real, positive change to the early Years sector and make it easier for Ontario families across the province to raise their children in high-quality and responsive environments that are affordable and accessible".

One of the commitments in this document is focused on "Establishing an early years workforce strategy". To this end, a number of board members from FSIO met with Shannon Fuller, Assistant Deputy Minister of the Early Years Division at the MOE to provide our recommendations and also recommend the use of the *Seven Essentials of Family Support* as an addition to training and professional learning proposed by the MOE. Our proposal was met favourably and it was suggested that the Innovation Fund might be an appropriate venue in which FSIO might secure the funds necessary to take this professional learning across the province. As the Innovation Fund has yet to be announced, FSIO is pursuing different ways in which we can pilot the Seven Essentials to ensure that builds capacity, is relevant and timely. The MOE was also committed to developing a workforce strategy to support recruitment and retention of early years and child care professionals. As a result, FSIO was invited to participate on the Minister's Technical Advisory Group on Ontario's Early Years & Child Care Workforce Strategy. This provides both the board and our membership a vehicle through which we as a sector can bring our issues forward in regards to the workforce. At the same time, FSIO board members have had preliminary discussion with EarlyOn program staff who do not have their RECE and the challenges this brings for the sector. Also on our agenda is convincing the MOE to bring about Provincial Wage Enhancement to the family supports sector. The work is never done!

One of our primary goals in our Strategic Plan was ensuring the growth and retention of our membership. To that end, FSIO invested in the redesign and rebuilding of our website to become a tool for outreach, professional learning, and engagement amongst our members. FSIO with the

support of technically savvy board members like Chanel Tsang, Ellie Murphy and Liz Moffat, we have been able to augment our online presence through our website, facebook and twitter handle. Our Facebook and Twitter Handle are receiving rave reviews! Another important goal was ongoing communication with our members and we have accomplished this through monthly e-blasts that focus on policy, practice and research. To remain on top of all of this important work, we hired a part-time Executive Assistant, Sara Lewicki who responds to membership requests, creates our e-blasts and monitors our website. We are most grateful for Sara for her many talents that she brings and her ability to keep all of us at FSIO on track!

On October 24, 2017, we learned that all family support organizations would be rebranded ***EarlyON Child and Family Centre***. This is yet another change for those of us working in the Family Supports sector. Be assured that no matter the name that we will continue to advocate that the Guiding Principles of Family Support are upheld and the dual focus of our work centering on the well-being of families and children is at the forefront as we strive to create an integrated system for families and their children across Ontario.

At this time, we wish to acknowledge the tremendous contribution of Valerie Kenny and Elizabeth Moffat who are finishing their terms. Much of what we have accomplished could not have been done without them. Elizabeth has brought her vast knowledge of the system and expertise in the organizational and policy development. Valerie has shared her extensive frontline experience to help us develop the ***Seven Essentials of Family Support*** that was launched today. Valerie's ability to lead and mentor is surpassed by no one. As ever, we could not accomplish all of this without the many others members of our Board who bring a terrific mix of talents, expertise and passion to the work.

Sincerely,

Cindy Smith

Cindy Smith

Family Supports Institute Ontario
Statement of Financial Position
As at March 31

	2017		2016
Assets			
Current			
Cash and cash equivalents (Note 1)	\$ 18,651	\$	29,389
Accounts receivable	905		1,594
Prepaid expenses	746		696
	\$ 20,302	\$	31,679

Liabilities

Current

Accounts payable and accruals	\$ 1,785	\$	4,050
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Net assets

Unrestricted net assets	18,517		27,629
	\$ 20,302	\$	31,679

See accompanying notes to financial statements

On behalf of the Board:

_____ Director _____ Director

Family Supports Institute Ontario
Statement of Operations and Changes in Unrestricted Net Assets
Year Ended March 31

	2017	2016
Revenue		
Membership fees	\$ 4,370	\$ 4,320
Interest income	63	92
	<hr/> 4,433	<hr/> 4,412
Expenses		
Programs and volunteer	9,021	1,908
Travel	975	31
Office and general	1,229	846
Professional fees	878	3,896
Insurance	1,442	1,382
	<hr/> 13,545	<hr/> 8,063
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses for the year	(9,112)	(3,651)
Unrestricted net assets, beginning of year	27,629	31,280
Unrestricted net assets, end of year	\$ 18,517	\$ 27,629

See accompanying notes to financial statements