



Down's Syndrome Assoc. of Ontario

19 Royal Birkdale Lane, Thornhill, Ontario
L3T 1V1 Tel: 416-889-3783

AGENDA

for meeting of the Board of Directors, D.S.A.O.

DATE: Saturday, September 28, 1991

LOCATION: CNIB building, corner of McLeod and O'Connor streets,
Ottawa. Directions coming from the west: Take
Queensway East to Metcalfe. Exit onto Metcalfe going North, and
turn right at Gladstone (about 2-3 blocks). Turn right in 1
block at O'Connor, and right onto McLeod in 1 - 2 blocks. CNIB
will be on your left. You can park in back or on the street.
ENTER VIA AUDITORIUM ENTRANCE.

ACCOMMODATION and TRANSPORTATION: Please contact Margaret
Pazdzior directly at 613-234-3196 if you require assistance with
accommodation information. Margaret MAY be able to arrange a
limited number of billets and pick-ups from train station, bus
terminal or airport, but she needs to hear from you NOW.

R.S.V.P. If you will not be able to attend, please contact Lynda
at 416-889-3783 by Sunday, September 22.

FORMAT: D.S.A.O. Board Meeting	9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Lunch, courtesy of Down Syndrome Association: National Capital Region	12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
D.S.A.O. Annual General Meeting	1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Presentation by young adults from D.S.A.: N.C.R.	1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Meeting of the New Board of Directors of D.S.A.O.	2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

- 9:30 1. Getting re-acquainted, coffee.
- 9:45 2. Call to order and declaration of quorum.
- 9:46 3. Approval of agenda.
- 9:47 4. Approval of minutes of meeting of D.S.A.O. Board of Directors on May 4, 1991, in Barrie.
- 9:50 5. Business arising from the Minutes:
- a) Status of leftover newsletters (the booklets produced by Pat Dooley with the M.C.S.S. funding) - Murray
 - b) Status of language tapes: See minutes of Executive Committee Meeting on June 10/91, p.2 , attached.
 - c) C.D.S.S. Conference Report : Lynda. See report attached, and the enclosed blue booklet "Child of the World", a must for every parent of a child with D.S., available at nominal cost from C.D.S.S.
 - d) Ordinary members and new D.S. Associations: Lynda is contacting all our Ordinary Members who are eligible to request Local Association status. Also, see "Clarification of Voting Rights and Association Status", attached. There have been no requests for assistance in setting up new D.S. groups.
 - e) Jim Hansen's retirement: See Executive Committee minutes of June 10/91, p.2., attached.
- 10:00 6. Treasurer's Report - Ernie (verbal)
- 10:05 7. Committee Reports:
- a) Fund - Raising: Karen. Report attached to AGM agenda.
 - 10:15 b) Integration: Louise Bailey. Report with AGM agenda.
 - 10:25 c) Mission Statement: Roz. No report received.
 - 10:35 d) New Parent Package: Ernie. No report received.
 - 10:45 e) SEAC: Rob. No report received.
 - 10:55 f) Speech: Kathryn. See report attached.

***** REMINDER to all committee chairpersons that a motion was passed on May 4/91 requiring each of you to submit a tentative budget for the upcoming year to the Treasurer on September 28/91.

11:05 10 minute break!

- 11:15 8. Report from PAAC on SEAC (Provincial Parent Association Advisory Committee on Special Education Advisory Committees) representative: Anita Bates

Lynda attended a special meeting of PAAC on SEAC on August 6/91 that was called to address the revised funding guidelines of the Community Action Fund. Most of the money is to be directed to consumer groups, and to qualify as such, 80% of Board members must be people with disabilities. However, discussion at the meeting veered more towards the upcoming Advocay Act and away from the specific issue of CAF guidelines. As a result, PAAC on SEAC wrote to Premier Bob Rae requesting clarification of his definitions of "consumer", "consumer advocacy" and "the role of parents in the advocacy process", and advising him of the group's concern that parents may be disenfranchised by the Act. Anita will attend the Sept. 17/91 meeting and send a report to our Sept. 28 Board Meeting.

- 11:20 9. C.D.S.S. Liaison Report: Murray

- 11:25 10. Executive Committee Report: see minutes of June 10/91 meeting attached.

- 11:30 11. President's Report: Lynda. See report attached. Discussion required under last section of "Correspondence"....do we respond to any of these items? Who? By when? Should response be approved by Executive Committee?

- 11:40 12. New Business:

a) Long Range Goals of D.S.A.O.: At our May 4 meeting, we established a committee to develop a Mission Statement for D.S.A.O. We did not, however, formally decide what to do about the tentative list of goals for our 5 year plan that were devised by Executive Committee on April 5/91 and published in the Agenda for the May 4 Board Meeting. I think the general feeling was that the Mission Statement should be adopted before the establishment of any long range goals. Perhaps today we can move to defer a decision on long range planning until after the Mission Statement has been finalized.

b)

c)

- 11:55 13. Announcements. (Please bring annoucements typed and ready to hand to Janet for inclusion with the minutes.)

- 11:59 14. Adjournment.

Down East '91: Learning Together

a report on the 1991 C.D.S.S. Conference in Halifax

by Lynda Langdon

Halifax in May! It was as if the whole city conspired to ensure the success of the C.D.S.S. conference. Everyone was cheerful, friendly, helpful and upbeat..... except for the taxi driver who, when I commented on the glorious weather, proclaimed in his inimitable Haligonian way, "Well, it's not gonna last, not gonna last; we need the rain, ya know"!

The highlight of the conference for me was the opportunity to network. Not only did I learn about issues and concerns and successes in other parts of the country, but I also met people from Local Associations throughout Ontario. I was surprised and pleased that so many parents, and often entire families, made the time to travel the distance to Nova Scotia.

Although it seemed a bit strange to go to Halifax to talk to people about what was happening in Ontario, that is nevertheless what happened. Over many cups of coffee, I listened to similar concerns being raised by different Ontario parents and groups, ranging from difficulties in dealing with recalcitrant school boards to organizational problems such as recruiting new people and sharing the workload. As a result of the pre-conference workshop, several Local Associations have decided to bring in a facilitator to work with their Board on goal setting, motivation and team-building. I would encourage any group who finds a particularly adept facilitator to write up the experience in their newsletter and send it to all our members.

I will bring a copy of a detailed report on the workshops prepared by two York Region delegates to the September 28 meeting. It is too long to photocopy and include with this agenda, but I will mail copies on request.

I also attempted to get to know C.D.S.S. Board members and familiarize myself with the workings of that organization. The most memorable and moving moment of the entire conference was listening to Laurel Griffin, from Surrey, B.C. announce to the Annual General Meeting the formation of the Future Advocates' Association, a group of adults with D. S. who organized themselves in Halifax under the motto: "We are the future: learning, living and working together." Laurel received a well-deserved and lengthy standing ovation, and if there was a dry eye left in the room I didn't notice it.

The goals of F.A.A. are:

1. Speak up for our rights as self-advocates

2. Improve Quality of Life (jobs, housing, training)
3. Promote truth and honesty among ourselves
4. Create awareness about us and our needs
5. Help improve education for children with special needs

The secretary of F.A.A. is Bonnie Metcalfe, Richmond Hill, and the vice-president is Brooke Doud, Dartmouth. Laurel is Pres.

Especially in the light of the subsequent trend towards the empowerment of self-advocates in Ontario (see Agenda Item 8), the creation of F.A.A. last May strikes me as the crowning achievement of the Halifax conference.

Start planning now for the 1992 C.D.S.S. conference in Calgary, May 21-24.



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19 Royal Birkdale Lane, Thornhill, Ontario
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September, 1991

Clarification of Voting Rights and Association Status

***** Please keep this sheet for reference in future years.*****

1. Voting at the Annual General Meeting of D.S.A.O. : According to our By-Law, the AGM is a meeting of the members of D.S.A.O. Only members which have been admitted as Local Associations (that is, not Ordinary members) are entitled to vote in any proceedings of the Corporation. The exception is that Honourary Members who have been designated such for the term of their election as Directors may vote at meetings of the Board of Directors. Each Local Association is entitled to one vote at any meeting of the members, such as the AGM, and shall file with the Secretary of the meeting a proxy designating who may vote on its behalf. The person designated to vote on behalf of a Local Association does not have to be a member of that Local Association. The person may or may not also be the group's Director.

There was some confusion over the July 16/91 memo: Nominations for the D.S.A.O. Board of Directors. Bob Glass, our Past President and Legal Consultant, has advised that we may accept the nomination forms that have been received indicating the name of the voting delegate for the Sept. 28 AGM, despite the fact that the form did not require the President's signature. We may also accept the name of the person nominated as a director on the same form.

*** If your Local Association is NOT sending a voting delegate to the AGM on Sept. 28, it may nominate by proxy someone who will be there to vote on its behalf. A straightforward note giving power to your nominee to vote on all business arising at the meeting, or limiting those powers if you so specify, must be received by the President or Secretary by Sept. 26/91. It is customary to nominate the President or an Executive member to act on your behalf, but you may nominate someone else who will be in attendance. If mail delivery is interrupted again, and you have not already sent your proxy, please fax it to Lynda Langdon, c/o Ted Langdon at 416-886-0777. As of this date, proxies have been received from Durham, Toronto, Niagara, Ottawa, Peterborough and York Region.

2. Voting at Meetings of the Board of Directors:

Only Directors may vote at Board Meetings. Alternates, guests, and members of Local Associations or Ordinary Members are encouraged to attend and participate, but may not vote. When this by-law was being developed last year, we tried to make it state that alternates COULD vote in the absence of a Director, but, unfortunately, we were advised that such an action is not permitted under the Corporations Act.

3. Ordinary Members are not entitled to vote at either Board meetings or meetings of the members. However, members of these groups are welcome and encouraged to attend D.S.A.O. meetings. Furthermore, any group that is currently an Ordinary member and wishes to become a Local Association with full voting privileges is welcome to apply to the Board at any of its meetings for a change in status and to nominate a Director for a two year term. To qualify, the group's major focus must be on people with Down Syndrome and their families.



Down's Syndrome Assoc. of Ontario

August 16, 1991

Speech Committee

The committee met again by conference call 9:30 p.m. June 11, 1991.

Available were Cathy Hubbard, Alex Verdunn and Kathryn VanDorp.

It was agreed that we'd meet Aug. 19, 1991 @ 2 p.m. in Kitchener to come up with some complete recommendations and thus have an opportunity to go over everything verbally.

With everything else, this fell thru and I consulted with Cathy Hubbard Aug. 8, and then Roz Vincent Aug. 15, Alex was unable to be contacted at this point.

Recommendations:

People with Down Syndrome need access to generic services within their community for a lifetime.

All children with Down Syndrome should receive the opportunity of access to speech pathology throughout the province.

Promotional pressure needs to be applied to Universities to encourage the taking of Speech Pathology as a profession.

Action Plan

A letter to be written to the Minister of Health requesting a meeting, a survey copy included. Also for follow up would be meeting without local M.P.P.'s.

There were further recommendations brought forth but we felt these should be performed at the local levels.



Down's Syndrome Assoc. of Ontario

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE JUNE 10, 1991

Location: Roz Vincent's Home
120 Courcellette Road
Scarborough, Ontario
M1N 2T2

In Attendance: Lynda Langdon, President
Margaret Pazdzior, Vice-President
Roz Vincent, Vice President
Janet Tataryn, Secretary

Regrets: Ernie Putman, Treasurer

Guest: Julia Pazdzior

Lynda Langdon brought the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Treasurer: Ernie Putman reported that he does not have the Treasurer's books todate, but will be picking them up in the near future.

Fundraising:

1. Sports Celebrity Day - to be held in late August 1991. This is a special event hosted by the Legion in Port Credit to raise funds. Tom Henke of the Toronto Blue Jays has played an intregal part in this event in the past.

The Down Syndrome Association of Metropolitan Toronto and The Parent Connection in Mississauga have benefitted in the past from the funds raised.

Metro has offered D.S.A.O. the opportunity to take their share this year as a means of fundraising for the Ontario Association.

Tickets to this event are \$5.00 each and D.S.A.O. have been given 250 tickets to sell. The Halton Down Syndrome Association has agreed to handle all the ticket sales for D.S.A.O., under Karen Ireland's supervision. The deadline for ticket sales will be the end of June.

2. CNE - Monte Carlo - 12 volunteers will be needed at one shift, and the hours are from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. Application forms must be sent in by June 19th if the D.S.A.O. wishes to participate. The Executive Committee discussed and felt due to time constraints and the lack of volunteers we will not participate.

3. Bingo - to be held on June 30th at The Barn in Smith Township and hosted by C.H.A.N.G.E.S. in Peterborough is all set to go.
4. Civitan Club - Jo Mills from C.D.S.S. sent a letter to Lynda Langdon advising of a Mr. Ed McCleverty from Civitan wishing to have some time at one of our Board Meetings to show a film about their fundraising and their organization.
The Executive Committee decided to defer this item till the Fall and the new Board for discussion.
Lynda Langdon will advise Mr. McCleverty of this decision and make arrangements at a later date.

Committee Budgets: Margaret Pazdzior proposed, at the May 4th Board Meeting, that each Committee submit a budget to the Association. This item was discussed by the Executive Committee and it was felt that guidelines needed to be specific. As a result it was decided that Ernie Putman, Treasurer, could create a form for the Committees to include:

- a. charitable expenditures
- b. operational expenditures (i.e. telephone, faxing, etc.)

Lynda Langdon will advise Ernie Putman and discuss further.

A.L.E.X.: This is a hi-tech video text network computer being offered through Bell Canada.
The Executive Committee briefly discussed this item and decided that more information was needed. (i.e. its cost, its usefulness, its purpose and its accessibility).
Lynda Langdon will ask Mr. David Rostoker to investigate this further and she will report at a later date.

Requests for Video Tapes and Books: Murray MacDonald has reported that there are not enough video tapes to accompany the books, currently being merchandised. Murray wonders if the D.S.A.O. should go to the expense of producing more videos.

The Executive Committee felt that production of these videos was not recommended, due to the advancing age of the tapes, however, if a video was specifically requested, then Murray would be at liberty to reproduce it.

Jim Hansen's Retirement: There will be no formal retirement party before the end of the current school year, but it is being planned for October.
The Executive Committee felt a picture collage of our children would be an appropriate gift and acknowledgement of Jim's retirement. Roz Vincent will approach Sandra St. Louis about photographing some of the kids Jim would know to be used in such a collage.
The Executive Committee agreed to a maximum expense of \$100.00.

Committees:

Speech Committee: The surveys are now being updated and the new information compiled.

The Speech Committee's recommendations should be sent to Lynda Langdon by August 20th to be included in the Agenda for the September 28th Board Meeting, and for perusal by all the local associations.

New Parent Package Committee: Ernie Putman felt that 500 copies of the package could be completed by September 28th if D.S.A.O. funds were used. It was felt by the Executive Committee that D.S.A.O. could allocate some funds pending Ernie's investigation of getting funds from elsewhere. (i.e. Ministry of Health). The Committee is still urged to fundraise for most of the production of the 5,000 copies.

Ernie Putman needs to investigate the requirements of a charity to spend money on charitable causes. If we need to spend such money then the New Parent Package Committee could use some of the money raised from the Bingo or the Sports Celebrity Day.

*Inclusion of the book, "Child of the World" is approved and encouraged by the Executive Committee to be in the package.

The New Parent Package Committee has a deadline of August 20th to:

1. Recommend how much D.S.A.O. funds they need.
2. Where the rest of the money is coming from.

S.E.A.C. Committee: The S.E.A.C. surveys are due by June 15th. Lynda Langdon will call Rob Robison in Sudbury to ask for an extension until June 30th, as many S.E.A.C. reps have not received their surveys yet.

Nominating Committee: Recommendation - Margaret Pazdzior should send a letter to each local President to confirm the appointed nominee to the new board, as well as the voting representative, to be returned in writing on a form provided.

If necessary, Margaret will follow up by a telephone call to each President if form not returned.

The Nominating Committee has a deadline of August 20th to forward all the information to Lynda Langdon for inclusion in the Agenda.

NOTE: President Change for Waterloo Association submitted by Roz Vincent.

New Co-Presidents: Jim & Barbara Wise
10 Highland Crescent
Apt. 401
Kitchener, Ontario
N2M 5C2

Tel: 519-749-1796
519-747-0786 (Trailer)

Integration Committee: There have been many Press Releases published in May by the Ministry of Education.

The Consultation Paper will be released by September 1991 and all interested groups will have the opportunity to respond by December 1991.

As well as discussing integration with the Minister the Integration Committee is also discussing integration with all MPPs and education critics.

Bill 114 is an act to amend the Special Education legislation.

Motion: Margaret Pazdzior moved that the Executive Committee approve the amendment to Bill 114 as developed by the Integration Committee in consultation with ARCH.

Seconded by: Roz Vincent Carried Unanimously.

Mission Statement Committee: This Committee has not met todate.

A report will be submitted to Lynda Langdon by August 20th for inclusion in the Agenda and subsequent perusal by the local associations.

The Committee recommendations will then be sent to the Board at the AGM.

The Committee recommendations will then be voted on by the members.

"'s" & Elongation of Assoc.: Lynda Langdon has contacted Bob Glass and he is doing all the preliminary work for the name changes. However, approval must come from the membership at the AGM, not the Board.

Ottawa AGM: The sequence of events will be as follows:

- Election of new Board
- Financial Report
- President's Report
- "'s" and Elongation of Assoc.
- Committee Reports

All other arrangements are being handled by the Ottawa Association.

New Business: The Executive Committee had a general discussion as to how the Association is working so far. It was felt that the Board Meetings should continue to be run in a structured manner without overly formal constraints, in order to facilitate discussion around Agenda items. Lynda Langdon will be writing to local Presidents to remind them to discuss the Agenda items with their local Executive Committee prior to the Board Meetings and to be sure their Director brings their views to D.S.A.O. Board Meetings.

Meeting adjourned by Lynda Langdon at 9:15 p.m.



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President's Report for Sept. 28, 1991 Board Meeting

by Lynda Langdon

Although the summer provided a bit of a break, it's been a busy few months! The amount of mail directed to D.S.A.O. never ceases to amaze me, and despite our best efforts to inform everyone of our change of address, I am still receiving mail forwarded from Pat Dooley. In fact this summer I even received mail forwarded from a member of the Metro Toronto Association who used her address for the DSAMT mailing address 6 years ago....despite the fact that the letters were addressed to me and the D.S.A.O.!! Oh, well, at least I'm not getting Pat Dooley's VISA bills anymore! And perhaps the stream of Purolator vans will end now that mail delivery has resumed (we hope!).

As well as dealing with the correspondence catalogued below and the over 200 phone calls since our May meeting, I also attended several meetings:

June/91: With Louise Bailey, met with Charles Beer, Liberal Education critic re: proposed amendments to Education Act prepared in consultation with David Baker , a lawyer with ARCH (Advocacy Resource Centre for the Handicapped) (attached)

: With Louise, met with Dianne Cunninham, PC Education Critic on same issue. (Some Ministry of Education staff refer to the opposition critics as "Charles and Di"!)

: With Louise, met with Peter Ferren, Education Officer, about Phase I of the Integration Consultation, and prepared follow-up letter (attached)

August : With Louise, met with David Baker re future directions and actions to be pursued to attain passage of Integration legislation. We also took David to lunch to thank him for all his time and effort on our behalf and to wish him well in his Sept./91 - April /92 sabbatical leave from ARCH.

: With Louise, met with Gillian Sandeman, Executive Assistant to the Minister of Education and Keith Baird, Policy Advisor to the Minister. THEY invited US out to lunch!

: Attended PAAC on SEAC meeting in place of Anita Bates (see report in agenda item 8)

: Attended meeting called by Office for Disability Issues re: medical inadmissability clause in Federal Immigration laws.

Although I try to limit my activities to those directly geared towards the goals established by D.S.A.O. via its committees, I attended this meeting because the families who have had the most media coverage about being denied admission to Canada under the clause have had children with D.S., and because Louise and I had met with the Federal Government representatives 2 years ago, so I was familiar with the issues. The medical inadmissability guidelines are currently under review by the Federal government, and O. D. I. wanted input from groups who would be directly affected by changes in order to give their minister, Elaine Ziemba, background information. It was generally agreed by all in attendance that clause 19 of the Immigration Act, denying admittance to people with disabilities whose "admission would cause or might reasonably be expected to cause excessive demands on health or social services" should be removed from the Act.

Correspondence: I cannot manage to carry all this paper to Ottawa. Please call me if there is something specific you would like me to bring.

Received for Information only, Government:

- Office for Disability Issues: a list of grants of \$890,692 to improve access for disabled persons and seniors . May 7, 1991.
: notification of recipients of Community Action Awards, and invitation to Awards luncheon, which I will attend in September. Aug. 13/91
- Statement to the legislature by the Honourable Elaine Ziemba, Minister Responsible for Disability Issues and Minister of Citizenship on National Access Awareness Week. May 27/91
- "Courier", O.D.I. newsletter, Summer 1991
- Ministry of the Attorney General: Introduction of substitute Decisions Act and Guardianship for Mentally Incapable Adults. May 27/91
: News Release on Barrier-free access in Ontario courts for people with disabilities
- Office of the Premier: Appointment of Council on Economy, Quality of Life. June 3/91
: "Building a Common Sense", and address by Bob Rae to the Premier's Council on the Economy and Quality of Life and to the Premier's Council on Health, Well-being and Social Justice. June 12/91
: Appointment of Council on Health, Well-being and Social Justice. June 4/91
- Ministry of Labour: News Release on Changes to the Minimum Wage. June 27/91

- Ministry of Community and Social Services;
: Statement to the Legislature by The Honourable Zanana Akande, Minister of Community and Social Services, on the Redirection of Long- Term Care Services. June 11, 1991.
- Ontario Women's Directorate: Anne Swarbrich announces \$291,000 in community grants to 24 Ontario women's organizations. July 8/91
- Ministry of Transportation: "Action for Access" report, a summary of recommendations on increasing transportation options for disabled and elderly persons. July 16/91.

: New school bus stopping laws in
Ontario. June 25/91

- A report on proceedings of the Forum on Children's Issues, hosted by the Ontario Advisory Council on Disability Issues. May, 1991.

II Correspondence received for information only, non-government:

- many newsletters, literally from around the world, too numerous to list. I am not renewing subscriptions without Board approval.
- "Intervention", the newsletter of the Canadian Deaf-Blind and Rubella Association, summer issue.
- Metro Toronto Association for Community Living: spring and summer issues of their publication "Profile".
- Down Syndrome News, the newsletter of the National Down Syndrome Congress in the U.S.A. summer and conference issues.
- Active Living Alliance: "Access", their spring-summer newsletter
- York Support Services Network: "Network News", winter/spring 1991 issue
- Ontario Association For Community Living : "Directions", July 1991 newsletter
- Integration Action Group: "Sharing the Vision", a book designed "to help parents get through the maze of support and services offered to families with children who are disabled". by Kathy Troyer and Fran Marinic-Jaffer. Available for \$15.00 each from I.A.G., P. O. Box 10, Station "D", Etobicoke, Ont. M9A 4X1. D.S.A.O. is listed as a resource in this book.
: information on Parent Empowerment

Workshop. Contact Kathy Troyer at 416-857-3305.

- G. Allan Roeher Institute: Summer Institute in Integrated Education and Community at McGill University and Planning for Differences conference May, 1991.

- Canadian Rehabilitation Council: Press Release on charities participating in Monte Carlo at C.N.E. this summer.

- letter from A. Mangiacasle of Ottawa Citizen thanking me for assistance with her articles on Hysert's and other families.

- invitation to opening of National Access Awareness Week, May/91

III Correspondence: Replies have been sent

July 25/91: Down Syndrome Congress re: keeping our name on their resource list.

June 5/91: consented to lawyer for D.S.A.Sudbury for Sudbury to use that name for incorporation.

Aug. 20/91: verification of our address, etc. to Ontario Women's Directorate

July 26/91: replied to Sault Ste. Marie Association for the Mentally Retarded that we no longer publish Down's Syndrome News.

IV Correspondence: Replies have not been sent, pending direction from Board. I WILL bring this correspondence to Ottawa in case someone wishes to reply to any of it.

1. copy of letter to Down Syndrome Association of Sudbury from Paulette Pokonzie, outlining her reasons for resigning from the group. July 5/91

2. copy of a letter to Sudbury Down Syndrome Association and Members from John Bakker, Chairperson, Sudbury Chapter, Integration Action Group, and Paulette Pokonzie, Vice-Chairman of same, outlining why their group will not be closely associated with the local D.S. group for now, and offering to meet with them at a later date. received on July 13/91

3. June/91. spoke with Ed McCleverty of Civitan; he sent brochure on their activities. They are doing research on "mental retardation and human development", and are currently funding some small items for Surrey Place in Toronto. Civitan could be a fund-raising source in the future, but it sounds as if their money is pretty tied up right now.

4. Ministry of Education: Invitation to Respond to Computer across the Curriculum. Original deadline was Sept. 30, has just been extended to Oct. 31/91.
5. The Transition Years: guide to discussion and response. This is part of the Ministry of Education's "Restructuring of Education" plan. Transition years refers to grades 7, 8 and 9. October, 1990. There is no deadline mentioned on the booklet, but I think we've passed it!
6. Ministry of Education: Consultation Paper on The Early Years. (also part of "restructuring"). Responses due by Feb.28, 1992. I'm bringing two copies of the consultation paper and response guide, if someone wants to tackle this one.
7. Municipal/Band Employment Program+ Consolidation and Proposed Guidelines. M.C.S.S. Comments were due by July, 1991. concerns employment programs for people in receipt of social assistance.
8. Ministry of Housing: "A Housing Framework for Ontario", and "Government Land for Housing". I sent this one to Margaret earlier this summer for an opinion on whether or not we should respond, and she agreed with me... no.
9. Ministry of the Attorney General: a letter and a News Release calling for lawyers from the visible minority, racial minority and disabled communities to apply to the provincial bench. We have been asked to spread the word! Do you know anyone??
10. Ministry of Citizenship: A letter from Elaine Ziemba outlining progress of Advocay Act, Bill 74. While I would like to see us respond to this one, the issues are very complex and I don't think we have the expertise to tackle it just now, since the committee hearings are happening this fall. Deadline for written submissions is September 23/91.
11. Ontario Mathematics COordinators' Association: invitation to respond to "Ontario Focus on Renewal of Mathematics: A Consultation Paper", by Nov. 30/91.
12. "The Other Person's World", a workshop for those who make decisions that shape the world other people live in. London, Ont. Nov. 5 & 6/91. Registration: \$180.00.
13. "Challenges & Change '91", a forum on Advocacy, Substitutue Decision and Consent to Treatment.. Sept . 12/91. We did not attend.
14. "Prevention Congress V Healthy and Supportive Communities: The Promise of Change. April 27-30/92.

15. DSAMT: notice of a limited number of signed and numbered prints of "The Run" by Monette Daigle available through DSAMY at \$120.00 each.

16. C.N.E.s proposed Monte Carlo, sharing profits with charities. We did not participate as number of volunteers required was too high.



REPORT OF THE INTEGRATION COMMITTEE

to the

Annual General Meeting of Down Syndrome Association of Ontario

Sept. 19, 1992

This report will summarize the activities of the past year. This year's activities centred around:

1. responding to a change in Minister of Education (from Marion Boyd to Tony Silipo), which slowed the drive to integration and appeared to put it on the back burner. Our Association was the first official request recorded for a meeting with Tony Silipo. However, perhaps as a result of ministry disorganization, it took a very strong and lengthy letter to Bob Rae, calls to Richard Allen, Evelyn Gigantes and Marion Boyd and a personal request to David Warner for his intercession in order for Lynda and I to meet with Tony. Senior Ministry officials were also in attendance and we felt the meeting was successful in

- a) flagging integration as a central issue
- b) focusing on children with developmental disabilities as THE MAIN target group for integration
- c) getting a commitment to integration from the Minister
- d) getting the Minister to acknowledge that the discussion paper was "seriously flawed"
- e) alerting the Minister to ways in which anti-integration boards were using the discussion paper to set back progress.

The meeting ended with the Minister considering various public statements and policy directives to reinforce to school boards that integration WILL be a fact of life in education in Ontario. He has since made it clear in public forums and memoranda that he will stick to a fall 1993 implementation date, despite pressure from several public school boards to back down.

2. Response to Discussion Paper on Integration: The Committee prepared the draft response for the DSAO which focused on its basic flaws (leaving power in the hands of the school board, using an absurd definition of integration and neighbourhood school, enlarging the scope of discussion to include children other than those with developmental disabilities) and the need to enshrine the right to inclusion for children in the legislation. We circulated the draft to all locals for input before passing it at the May Board meeting and sending it to the Ministry.

In addition, Lynda and I spoke to a number of groups on how to respond to the paper and advocacy strategies to back up demands for integration.

3. Lynda and I were invited to give input into Ministry documents so as to make integration an integral part of Ontario educational goals and curriculum, as opposed to "add-ons". It appears that this avenue has been particularly effective, since the latest word from the Ministry is that changes to special education policy are likely to come prior to the completion of the consultation process. Also, the guidelines for September 1993 implementation arising from the consultation process will be out to the school boards in December, and specific legislative changes are still planned for the spring of 1993.

Even though we have seen progress in some areas (the York Region Bd. of Ed. is setting up an Integration Committee!!), we cannot be complacent until we see proper legislation and guidelines actually in place. We are anticipating that anti-integration groups will be bringing lots of pressure to bear in the next couple of months and we will need to ensure that our support in the legislature and in Cabinet is not eroded. We will be needing your help in letter writing, MPP calling, etc. within the next 6 months. This time will be crucial--we've seen victory disappear before when it seemed just within our grasp.

However, not to end on a down note, the situation looks promising and the Minister's staff guiding this process appear very enthusiastic and committed.

4. Our committee also worked in conjunction with the SEAC committee to put together the first, and we hope, annual, conference for SEAC reps from our association and O.A. C. L. The evaluations indicate that this was a most successful event.

Louise Bailey, Chairperson
DSAO Integration Committee