ONTARIO NONPROFIT NETWORK

Open for Business DASHBOARD – 2nd Quarterly Progress Report
March 2013

Progress Indicators

✔ Proceeding well, progress towards commitment
♦ Proceeding with caution, some progress on commitment
⊙ No activities in this quarter, and/or no progress on commitment
✱ Activities accomplished, commitment met

	Commitments - June 4, 2012	Status	Progress Indicators	Planned Next Steps
1.0	**THEME 1: Streamlining & modernizing government funding and strengthening the funding relationship**			
1.1	Establish a cross-Ministry/ nonprofit sector Joint Funding Reform Working Group, supported by the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration (MCI) in collaboration with Ontario Trillium Foundation, to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the sector/government funding relationship.	Joint Funding reform Steering Committee established. Three meetings held to date.	✔	Steering Committee to continue to meet; ensure ongoing cross-Ministerial support and attendance; increase support for the Steering Committee.
	Short-term reform initiatives (by April 2014)			
1.2	Provide clear and timely notification by Ministry(ies) to nonprofit sector transfer payment recipients of any changes to transfer payment terms and conditions.	First three short-term initiatives (1.2 - 1.4) referred to longer-term working groups (See 1.8 below).	♦	Decision made to integrate first three short-term initiatives referred to longer-term working groups (See 1.8 below).
1.3	Allow for budget flexibility within acceptable funding agreement transfer payment categories (e.g. a salary category).	As above.	♦	

1.4	Promote access to and transparency in government grant management and approval processes with related service standards.	As above.	◈	
1.5	Provide consistent advance notice to Ministry transfer payment recipients of funding changes.	No activity during this period.	◉	These recommendations may be dealt with by the Standard Contract working group; to be determined.
1.6	Integrate one-time reporting of organizations' basic information for use by all Ministries.	No activity during this period.	◉	
1.7	Build on existing IT models/ platforms (e.g. Grants Ontario) that contribute to standardization and simplification of the government/ sector funding investment relationship.	No activity during this period; awaiting next steps for Grants Ontario.	◉	
	Long-term reform initiatives			
1.8	Simplify and streamline the overall administration of the government's granting cycle.	Discussed by Steering Committee; two joint working groups established in January 2013: Proportional Risk Management and Standard Contract; both have begun work.	◈	Joint working groups established with the intent to address these objectives.

MCI to raise awareness of funding reform work and contract issues by attending cross-Ministerial meetings with Councils of Financial Managers, Assistant Deputy Ministers and Financial Administrators. |
1.9	Develop a common understanding and cross-government approach for proportional Risk Assessment, Mitigation and Management (RAMM).	As above.	◈	
1.10	Improve (simplify and streamline) nonprofit reporting of Ministries' funded activities.	As above.	◈	
1.11	Implement innovative practices for cash flow and transfer payment renewal to enable sustainable community services.	As above.	◈	
2.0	**THEME 2: Police Records Checks**			
2.1	Develop a clear language Statement referencing provincial legislation and regulatory requirements for police records checks (drafting by Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services (MCSCS), other ministries and ONN).	Statement (report) completed December 2012.	☀	

2.2	Post the approved Statement on the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration (MCI)'s website as part of the Partnership Project office.	Report posted on website(s) January 2013 and distributed to ONN network.	☀	
2.3	Develop other plain language materials to support the Statement: frequently asked questions; checklist of good practices; links to key references; and resource materials (development by MCSCS/ MCI/ ONN).	A list of resources, links and references are included in the report.	☀	
2.4	Develop a communications strategy to disseminate the key references and resource materials (development by MCI).	Completed. Report distributed by all partners (MCI, ONN, PAVR-O, etc.).	☀	
3.0	THEME 3: Expansion of the Infrastructure Ontario Loan Program (IOLP)			
3.1	Establish a Joint Working Group (establishment by Ministry of Ontario Infrastructure (MIO) and ONN).	Established June 29th, 2012; Joint Working Group (JWG) held regular meetings to date.	☀	Continuing to meet on commitments made at the Open for Business Final Roundtable on a monthly basis.
3.2	Address challenges faced by currently eligible borrowers from the nonprofit sector in successfully accessing the Infrastructure Ontario Loan Program (IOLP) and propose solutions (the Joint Working Group (JWG) to address these challenges).	Challenges being documented by the working group and solutions are being proposed and reviewed.	◆	Some early success in dealing with challenges includes: Three applications for the loan program for Community Health and Social Services Hub are being assessed; Ministry of Health / LHINS clarified that rent can be diverted to mortgage payments so organizations with this funding model can be a borrower.

3.3	Develop a nonprofit facilitator/ intermediary role to assist eligible borrowers from the sector with: how to qualify for a loan; application requirements; preparations of business cases; capital project management; expertise and capacity building with support from Infrastructure Ontario (IO).	ONN tabled a discussion paper on October 24, 2012 with the JWG. JWG reviewed the ONN Discussion Paper on Intermediary/Facilitator Organization(s) roles and responsibilities on January 18, 2013. It appears that no further progress at the JWG on this recommendation is likely to occur.	◉	ONN has identified a need for support in the sector. Further consultation with the sector on this will be required to determine other approaches and strategies.
3.4	Develop recommendations for expansion of IOLP to specific new sub-segments of the nonprofit sector through business case proposals for the government's consideration.	On September 21, 2012 ONN tabled (with JWG) four proposed expansion areas in the sector for the IOLP as eligible borrowers. They were: Child care; Arts and Culture; Community Services Hubs; and Community Energy. Progress on expansion is proceeding with two new sector areas - Arts and Daycare.	✔	More detailed work on both new expansion areas is required for final approvals. Other proposed areas by ONN for consideration (community energy and community services hubs) still need to be discussed at JWG with MOI/ IO and relevant line ministries.
4.0	**THEME 4: Maximizing public investment returns from government surplus lands**			
4.1	Subject to government direction, include not-for-profit corporations without share capital that provide a public benefit purpose in the list of entities that receive the information on surplus government lands prior to the lands being placed on the open market for sale at market value (other entities may include: municipalities, utilities, conservation authorities and the government of Canada). Inclusion to be undertaken by Ministry of Ontario Infrastructure (MOI).	Positive verbal direction on this item was received by ONN in August 2012 from MOI officials.	☀	Approved.

4.2	Provide MOI with the definition of eligible not-for-profit corporations without share capital that provide a public benefit purpose as per IO's Realty Directives policy (ONN to provide definition).	IO and MOI Real Estate have incorporated ONN definition of eligible organization into joint memorandum of understanding.	✔	Share definition broadly with the sector once memorandum of understanding is approved in March 2013.
4.3	Create and maintain a registry of eligible not-for-profit corporations based on 4.2 and specific criteria that will receive the list of, and be able to purchase, surplus government lands prior to being placed on the open market (creation and maintenance of registry and criteria by ONN, with support from MOI).	ONN and MOI/ IO have agreement in principle on governance arrangements, and a draft contract is under review. Work on the registry is underway.	✔	The working group is still reviewing the process for accessing the list of surplus Government of Ontario properties through ONN. The intent is to have the Registry available by April 1, 2013.
5.0	**THEME 5: Broader public sector access to provincial Vendor of Records (VOR)**			
5.1	Approve and implement the recommendations that, "major transfer payment recipients" will no longer be used as the definition in determining transfer payment entities' (nonprofit organizations') access to provincial Vendor of Record (VOR) arrangements (government to approve and implement).	The policy has been approved; the term "major transfer payment recipient" removed from definition.	☀	Ministries to communicate with their nonprofit partners (transfer payment agencies) between November 2012 and March 2013, led by the Ministry of Government Services. Communication in progress.
5.2	Review and assess access to enterprise-wide VOR arrangements with access being restricted on an exceptional basis only for formerly defined transfer payment entities (now: nonprofit organizations). Ministries, led by the Ministry of Government Services (MGS), will undertake review and assessment.	MGS has drafted background documents, FAQs, instructions for Ministries and nonprofit organizations, reviewed by the ONN working group in Fall 2012. They	◆	Individual ministries will identify eligibility for access amongst their funded nonprofit partners; MGS and ONN will share background

		have not yet been shared broadly with the sector.		documents once approved. Pending final documents from MGS (anticipated by March 31, 2013).
5.3	Communicate VOR access to Ministries' transfer payment recipients (nonprofit organizations) in writing, primarily through annual contribution agreement renewals or other appropriate means (Ministries will communicate).	MGS to communicate process and background documents to ministries.	◆	All ministries required to notify their funded agencies of VOR access and instructions. Pending.
5.4	Meet on a regular basis to review progress on access and use of VOR arrangements within the nonprofit sector, as well as identify appropriate opportunities to promote awareness of VOR arrangement and good practices in their use (ONN, MGS and other relevant ministries to meet).	In progress; awaiting final documents and approvals from MGS.	◆	Plans for promotion, education (e.g. webinars) and tracking progress to be developed.

March 11, 2013