

CHAIR/S:		Nathalie Lafrenière, Regional Director for the CSS Shared Resources, Ontario East		NOTE TAKER:	Reem Haddad
ITEM#		ITEM DESCRIPTION		ITEM NOTES / ACTION / OUTCOME	
1.0	WELCOME		Nathalie Lafrenière, Regional Director for the CSS Shared Resources, Ontario East		
	1.1	Review of Agenda			
2.0	LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT		Tina Montgomery, Executive Director, Seniors Support Services -LLG		
3.0	UPDATE FROM HEALTH SYSTEM PARTNERS (30 MIN)				
	3.1	<p>Ontario Community Support Association (OCSA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Patrick Boily -Director of Policy 		<p>Patrick will be on parental leave, Adrienne Scott, to cover, recently worked at Canadian Red Cross on social prescribing. Over 20 years in Ontario government (Policy & Communications) and significant experience at Cabinet Office support the Premier’s Office.</p> <p><u>Vulnerable Sector Check Update:</u></p> <p>The new <i>Keeping Criminals Behind Bars Act</i> includes changes to the VSC process. Province introducing standards, including timelines. Submission developed with Volunteer Ontario, ONN, and Home Care Ontario. Finalizing submission by the end of this week / early next week. Will share the submission with members once complete. Members are invited to send any comments before it’s submitted.</p> <p>For more info check the link: https://news.ontario.ca/en/release/1006770/protecting-ontario-by-keeping-criminals-behind-bars</p> <p><u>Pre-Budget Advocacy Update:</u></p> <p>Earlier this year: toolkit + pre-budget submission calling for increased funding in home care and CSS. Fall economic statement: \$1.1B over 3 years for home</p>	

			<p>care expansion (including hospital-at-home), not base funding. Many organizations reporting service cuts in the second half of the year. Member survey: 1/3 planning cuts, 1/3 unsure if they can finish the year without cuts. Now seeing cuts happening across the province.</p> <p><u>Next Steps</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey going to members this week/early next week to capture scale, scope, and impact of cuts. • Over the holidays: analyze results + prepare advocacy materials. • Planning a public relations campaign (local media) on the impact of cuts. • Organizations encouraged to share stories or participate in the campaign.
3.2		<p><i>Ontario Health East (OHE)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>Kasia Luebke – Director System Strategy, Planning, Design & Implementation Ontario Health East.</i> ➤ <i>Shannon Gesualdo- Lead, Planning & Implementation Ontario Health East.</i> ➤ <i>Navid Nabavi- Lead, Performance, Accountability, and Funding Allocation Ontario Health East.</i> 	<p><u>ADP Respite Funding Announcement:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FAQ shared via Dec newsletter by Nathalie and team. • Call for proposals sent to selected health service providers (HSPs) in provincial “hotspots” aligned with the ministry. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Initial hotspots (OH East Region, Eastern Champlain, Rural Hastings, Peterborough City & County, Quinte) targeted for Adult Day Program (ADP) expansion or respite services. • The second invitation was sent last Friday to three new hotspot areas for respite or caregiver support funding: Western Champlain, Kingston, and Durham Northeast. • Adult Day Program funding exhausted; remaining funding is for respite programs. • Eligible HSPs: programs providing respite, caregiver support, or related transportation (excluding day services and ABI day services). • Proposal submission deadline: this Friday. • Provincial strategy determined by provincial team; Shannon and Kash participated and advocated on behalf of the sector. • Funding rollout was confidential until the end of November.

			<p><u>One-Time Expression of Interest (Eoi) Funding:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Similar to the past two years: one-time funds available via Eoi. • Proposal limit: maximum \$150,000. • Any capital purchases or infrastructure repairs must be completed within the specified timeframe (details in FAQ). • Proposal submission deadline: End of day December 16th <p>Please refer to the OH email and EOI Proposal.</p> <p><u>Q2 Reports Update:</u> Thanked HSPs for submitting Q2 reports; high completion rate achieved. Some HSPs still have outstanding reports, mainly on finance, budget, or performance measures. Leads are actively following up with these HSPs. Organizations approaching escalation if reports aren't submitted. Encouraged HSPs to contact leads for support to complete submissions.</p>
4.0	Provider Updates Opportunity		

Community Care Northumberland Update: Trish Baird announced her retirement on Jan 16th, and introduced new CEO, Jordan Prosper, starting December 22nd.

Community Care Durham Update: Jennifer Hammond shared the new CEO, , Jim Cressos, who will start in the new year as of Jan 5th.


The Perley and Rideau Veteran’s Health Center Update: Tanya MacDonald shared that the center is launching CSS evaluation with Centre of Excellence using mixed methods. Focus: ALS client satisfaction, hospital admissions, LTC transfers, placement waitlists, length of stay, client complexity. Includes focus groups and admin data to track client pathways. Exploring support from University of Ottawa researchers. Goal: demonstrate sector impact and share findings with other providers.

CCSN Champlain Systemic Strength Network – Monique Doolittle-Romas-CEO, Dementia Society; Co-chair, Champlain Community Support Network. Shared that at the October 28th meeting: discussed pressures, opportunities, strengths, and challenges in the CSS sector. Working groups created to address priorities:

- Sector visibility & strategic advocacy – raise profile, increase understanding of CSS.
- Workforce capacity & retention – hiring and retaining staff.
- Integrated service models & system alignment – e.g., Home First initiative, bundled services (Ontario Health at Home).
- Data, measurement & impact – demonstrate outcomes, units of service, keeping clients safe at home.

Open to sharing plans and working group activities with interested members and partners.

4.0 REGIONAL SERVICE NETWORK TABLES (5 MIN)

		<p>ADP: Preliminary results shared; detailed slide review in late January. Exploring topics like frailty scale program to help implement practice standards. Discussion of work plans to guide where providers invest efforts.</p> <p>Assisted Living: Apples to Apples project shows a structured program with consistent service delivery and data reporting. Operational procedures under discussion to enhance consistency.</p> <p>Homemaking: No group meeting yet; will reconvene in the new year.</p> <p>Meals on Wheels: Developing a program self-assessment tool to complement best practice guidelines.</p> <p>Respite & Attendant Care: The group will meet in the new year.</p> <p>Transportation: Reviewing common issues within the group. Planning future meeting structures. Discussing refresh/rebranding of online training modules.</p>
5.0	CSS Shared Resources, Ontario East (30 MIN)	<p>Operational Update 2025-2026 Q2</p> <p>Please refer to the slides for more info.</p>
6.0	CSS Collaborative, Ontario East (5 MIN)	<i>The Collaborative Members shared the best wishes for Christmas & New Year and best for the holiday season.</i>
7.0		
	GENERAL FEEDBACK	
	NEXT MEETING Date: Feb 11 th , 2026 @ 10:00a.m.	