

OCSI Mission: The promotion of "Safe and Sustainable Infrastructure".	
Goals	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To provide professional advice relating to public infrastructure in Ontario, and promote reasonable, workable legislation relating to that subject. 2. To facilitate the sharing of information among member organizations and coordinate their approaches to common issues. 3. To be an authoritative, consolidated professional voice on infrastructure matters in Ontario. 4. To be a resource partner that government can count on for sound advice. 5. To promote sustainable funding.
Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. OUTREACH: Be well known to MEDEI and other appropriate external stakeholders (e.g. MOECC, MMAH, other professional organizations, other supporters) B. AWARENESS: Raise profile of OCSI within member organizations C. ACTION: Deliver external projects, identify funding D. ADMIN: Well-run organization (administration)

STRATEGY FOR 2015-2016

The Work Plan for 2015-2016 is a continuation of the accomplishments of 2014, building momentum as we look to more effective and efficient ways to meet our goals and objectives. This will include a review and possible new governance structure, investigating new funding opportunities and initiatives that focus on our core business. As we build momentum in the near term, we will be focusing our efforts on delivering value for our member associations and the members they serve. This is a term of advancing maturity of the coalition.

1. Focus on actions and projects that OCSI can do as a coalition better than individual member organizations can do individually by drawing upon expertise of member organisations.
2. Continue to build connections with government at MEDEI and other related ministries.
3. Increase engagement of members at the “grassroots” level (for example, encouraging organizations to make their membership more aware of OCSI).
4. Identify the gap(s) in the marketplace/knowledge base related to infrastructure and determine which projects OCSI can deliver to narrow (or fill) the gap.

Ontario Coalition for Sustainable Infrastructure

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KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2015

Signature Event: Infrastructure Forum *Eco-Fiscal Challenges to Building Resilient Communities*



On May 26th, 2015, leaders from 20 organizations within the municipal and public works sectors in Ontario met in Toronto along with representatives from the province to discuss some of the funding and fiscal challenges to building resilient communities. The second annual OCSI Infrastructure Forum was hosted by OCSI and created an opportunity for delegates to share courageous conversations on the critical infrastructure challenges facing the province. Provocateurs included Minister Glen Murray (MOECC), Gerry Lashley from Intact Insurance and Mel Cappe representing Canada's Ecofiscal Commission.

The outcome of the day was four “big ideas” that can help Ontario build resilient communities by:

- #1 – Identifying the economic benefit of climate change mitigation and adaptation
- #2 – Encouraging innovation by municipalities
- #3 – Supporting leadership by the Province
- #4 – Planning and funding for resiliency



The news release and outcome statement from the event was issued on Aug 20th, to coincide with the AMO conference. The Planning Committee is already working on the 2016 event, scheduled for May 26, 2016 in Toronto.

Thought Leader on Sustainable Funding for Municipal Infrastructure

During this two-year work plan, OCSI has selected sustainable funding for municipal infrastructure as an area of focus, with the goal of being recognized as a “thought leader” on this topic. Discussion paper was drafted and reviewed by the board, with a proposed plan for implementation. A working group will be tasked with implementation of the plan in 2016.

New Governance Model

In 2015 we reviewed, discussed and developed a new governance model for the coalition. The new governance model will be approved early in 2016. It is anticipated that the new governance approach will improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the coalition.

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Communication During Federal Election

In September we sent a letter to each of the federal party leaders, addressing the importance of infrastructure in this federal election. We asked two specific questions.

Q1. What is your party's approach and commitment to supporting the infrastructure challenges faced by municipalities in building sustainable communities that are resilient to potential impacts of climate change?

Q2. What is your party's funding commitment for (municipal) infrastructure?

Three of the four parties responded and their responses were published in full on our election website <https://ocsiorg.wordpress.com/>. On October 16th, OCSI issued a news release with highlights of the responses: *Federal Parties Show Varying Levels of Support for Municipal Infrastructure and Climate Change (Oct 16)*.

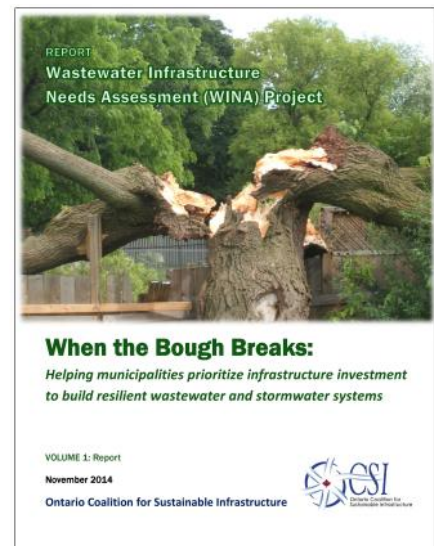
OCSI reviewed the subsequent federal mandate letter and compared it to the party's response on infrastructure during the election. The result is published in the quarterly article: *Infrastructure a Higher Priority for the New Liberal Government (Dec 4)*.

Promoting the WINA Report and Recommendations

OCSI published the report of the Wastewater Infrastructure Needs Assessment (WINA) project at the end of 2014. Included in our work plan is to promote the completion of the WINA report and recommendations (with survey results in the appendix). We are looking to identify champions to support the recommendations and move them forward.

On January 13th OCSI issued a news release with quote from Minister Murray on the report being completed.

A possible project to implement recommendation 4 (pilot a risk-based prioritization tool), being considered by the City of Burlington and Brantford, did not move forward in 2015.



Darla Campbell was invited to speak at the following conferences:

- March 10: Canadian Water Resources 2015, national conference hosted by Canadian Water Network; spoke on the panel Small and Aboriginal Communities, Ottawa
- April 21: presented a technical paper that was published as part of the proceedings of the WEAO conference, Toronto
- May 12: presented at the national conference of the Canadian Network of Asset Managers, Vancouver

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- May 21: presented at a climate change conference called: *Building Municipal Resiliency in Central Ontario*, Barrie.

Each conference had a different area of interest to focus on. For the March 10th event, the interest was on what small communities in Ontario are doing in wastewater/stormwater management. The presentation drilled down on the data in the survey and compared the general results with what small communities said.

The small communities focus was carried through to the WEAO presentation on April 21st and expanded to include data on asset management plans (as the session focus was asset management). The presentation on May 12th focused on similar information for small communities and asset management plans.

The presentation on May 21st focused on what we learned about responses to climate change during the report preparation. (As attendee mentioned that he has quoted one of our recommendations in the work that he is doing: Recommendation 10 on integrated water resource management.)

Then, when OCSI hosted its second annual Infrastructure Forum on May 26th, we took the opportunity to highlight some of the data from the survey on climate change and included that in a printed format at each of the tables. In the submission to the province on the infrastructure consultation (Sept 18), we included data from the WINA survey.

Outreach and Networking

Outreach to MEDEI and other Provincial Stakeholders

OCSI was invited by MEDEI to participate on an Advisory Group related to a municipal water supply issue with meetings on March 12th and March 31st. The meetings included representatives from MOECC, OMAFRA and MEDEI as well as other organizations such as MFOA, OCWA, OMWA, OWWA and WaterTAP.

OCSI participated in the province-wide consultation sessions related to *Moving Ontario Forward: Infrastructure consultation outside the GTHA* and submitted a response on Sept 18th. OCSI also participated in the province-wide consultation sessions on the planning act, but did not submit a response.

OCSI made a submission on the EBR for cap and trade on Dec 15th.

As a follow-up to the WINA Report, connected with ministry reps who participated on the project's Technical Advisory Team: MMAH, MOECC and MEDEI.

OCSI has been invited by MEDEI to participate on a project in 2016.

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Outreach to Others

OCSI was invited to participate in a new procurement advisory group to the City of Toronto, called the Broader Construction Association Consultation Group (BCACG). OCSI is represented by Carl Bodimeade and Brian Gage.

In delivering our second Infrastructure Forum this year, we reached out to many associations who agreed to be a supporter of the event (cross-promote to their membership), including Ontario Environment Industry Association (ONEIA) and Consulting Engineers Ontario (CEO). Our sponsors for the event are possible partners for collaboration in other areas: ReNew, Residential & Civil Constructors Alliance of Ontario (RCCAO), Ontario Society of Professional Engineers (OSPE), Ontario Clean Water Agency (OCWA) and the Insurance Bureau of Canada.

During the year we also liaised with:

- Asset Management Alberta *and* Asset Management BC
- Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
- Canadian Council for Public-Private Partnerships (CCPPP)
- Canadian Network of Asset Managers (CNAM)
- Canadian Urban Institute (CUI)
- Canadian Water Network (CWN)
- Construction Design Alliance of Ontario (CDAO)
- Credit Valley Conservation (CVC)
- Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
- Green Infrastructure Ontario Coalition
- Office of the Chief Planner (City of Toronto)
- Ontario Association of Landscape Architects (OALA)
- Ontario General Contractors Association (OGCA)
- Ontario Municipal Benchmarking Initiative (OMBI)
- Ontario Municipal Water Association (OMWA)
- Ontario Professional Planners Institute (OPPI)
- Ontario Sewer and Water Contractors Association (OSWCA)

Awareness with Members

Darla Campbell, OCSI Executive Director, attended the following annual conferences of our Member Associations: OPWA (January), OGRA (February), WEAO (April), OWWA (April) and MFOA (September) and MEA (November 2014).

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ARTICLES AND SUBMISSIONS

News release: *OCSI releases report on Wastewater Infrastructure Needs Assessment Project (Jan 13).*

Courageous Conversations: An Outcome Statement from OCSI's 2014 Infrastructure Forum.

Quarterly article: *OCSI Releases Report on Wastewater Infrastructure Needs Assessment Project (April 2014).*

Technical paper: *When the Bough Breaks: Wastewater Infrastructure Needs Assessment Project.* Technical paper submitted to WEAO for Asset Management session on April 21, 2015.

Incorporating Innovation into Climate Change Adaptation. Op-Ed article written by Carl Bodimeade for Water Canada publication discussing outcome of Infrastructure Forum.

Submission to MEDEI on the "Moving Ontario Forward – Outside GTHA" consultation (Sept 18)

Quarterly article: *OCSI Releases Outcome Statement on Eco-Fiscal Challenges to Building Resilient Communities (Aug/Sept 2015).*

Letter to Federal Party Leaders during federal election with questions on infrastructure (Sept 18)

News release: *Federal Parties Show Varying Levels of Support for Municipal Infrastructure and Climate Change (Oct 16)*

Article/Interview: *OCSI sets strategic plan to become province's guiding voice for environmentally and fiscally sustainable infrastructure – Ontario Construction Report (Nov 2015) <http://ontarioconstructionreport.com/PageFlips/2015/ocrnov2015/>*

Quarterly article: *Infrastructure a Higher Priority for the New Liberal Government (Dec 4)*

Submission: *EBR Submission on Cap and Trade (Dec 15)*

Report: *OCSI 2015 Annual Report*