



# COMMUNICATION



2021-03-08

Dear Valued Community Stakeholders,

We are pleased to announce that on March 4, 2021 a decision to move forward with the amalgamation planning of Brant Family and Children's Services (Brant FACS) and The Children's Aid Society of Haldimand and Norfolk (CASHN) was confirmed.

Over the last month, CASHN and Brant FACS have been undertaking a comprehensive comparative analysis between the two organizations to help inform the amalgamation decision making process. The Joint Amalgamation Steering Committee has worked diligently to complete this work and present it to the Board of Directors of Haldimand and Norfolk CAS and the designated Ministry Supervisor for Brant FACS, Ms. Sally Johnson.

After reviewing and considering the information provided by both the analysis and the feedback from staff focus groups, the CASHN Board and Ms. Johnson, made the decision to move forward with amalgamation planning, on behalf of their respective agencies. This signifies the completion of our first milestone and advancing to the next.

While both agencies have agreed to continue with amalgamation activities, there is still much work to be done before a final amalgamation approval is complete. However, with this decision, the path forward to becoming one new agency becomes clearer.

One of the next steps along this path is engagement with our community stakeholders to receive feedback, gather information, share information, and answer questions where possible. The Osborne Group, consultants to the organizations, will be developing an outreach plan and engaging directly with the communities served by CASHN and Brant FACS.

As we move forward through this very complex process, please be assured that both agencies will keep children, youth and families as a touchstone and continue to support service excellence for the communities of Brantford, Brant, Haldimand, Norfolk and Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation.

We are thankful for the ongoing support of our community partners, as we move along this journey to amalgamation.

Sincerely,

Sally Johnson  
Ministry Appointed Supervisor  
Brant Family and Children Services

Shannon Chevrier, MSW, RSW  
Executive Director  
The Children's Aid Society of Haldimand and Norfolk