
Ministry Relations Committee Terms of Reference

Committee Overview:

The Ministry Relations Committee (MRC) is responsible for supporting, overseeing, and supervising ministry relations and providing feedback and resources regarding ministry regulatory changes.

The MRC will meet on an as per needed basis to help support and review proposed changes from the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP), the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development (MLITSD), the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) and the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH). The MRC will also work with the leadership team to develop guidance documents and proposals specific to industry requirements. Those involved in the MRC is prohibited from sharing any information unless provided with proper approvals. The MRC will update the Ontario Association of Sewage Industry Services' (OASIS) Board of Directors (BODs) prior to making any decisions.

1. Purpose:

The MRC of OASIS was established to facilitate effective communication, collaboration, and advocacy between OASIS and relevant government ministries and regulatory bodies. The MRC aims to strengthen relationships with key stakeholders, monitor regulatory developments, and represent the interests of OASIS members in the context of government policies and initiatives.

2. Objectives:

The MRC shall:

- a. Foster positive relationships and open lines of communication with government ministries, agencies, and regulatory bodies.
- b. Monitor legislative and regulatory developments that impact the sewage industry in Ontario.
- c. Advocate for policies that align with the goals and priorities of OASIS and its members.
- d. Provide input to government consultations and inquiries relevant to the sewage industry.
- e. Keep OASIS members informed about government policies and regulatory changes affecting the industry.

3. Composition:

The MRC shall consist of OASIS members representing various sectors of the sewage industry, including professionals with expertise in regulatory affairs, legal matters, and government relations. The committee shall be chaired by a member appointed by the OASIS BODs.

4. Meetings:

The MRC shall meet regularly, at least quarterly, to discuss regulatory developments, plan advocacy initiatives, and strategize on government relations. Additional meetings may be scheduled as needed.

5. Responsibilities:

- Government Relations:
 - Establish and maintain relationships with key personnel in relevant government ministries and regulatory bodies.
 - Represent OASIS in meetings, consultations, and industry-related events with government officials.
- Policy Advocacy:
 - Advocate for policies that promote the interests and priorities of OASIS and its members.
 - Monitor and analyze proposed regulations and legislation, providing feedback to the BODs.
- Communication:
 - Keep OASIS members informed about government policies, regulatory changes, and advocacy efforts.
 - Collaborate with the Marketing Manager to disseminate relevant information to members and stakeholders.
- Collaboration with Stakeholders:
 - Collaborate with other committees within OASIS to ensure alignment in advocacy efforts.
 - Work with industry partners and associations on shared advocacy initiatives.
- Reporting:
 - Provide regular updates to the OASIS BODs on government relations activities and outcomes.

6. Decision-Making:

Decisions of the MRC shall be made to the OASIS Board of Directors where a Final Decision and Motion of Approval or Rejection will be made.

7. Review and Amendment:

These Terms of Reference shall be reviewed annually by the MRC and may be amended with the approval of the OASIS BODs.

Time Frame: 6- 12 Months

Initial Meeting/Method: Conference Call - Quarterly

Date of Meeting: TBD by Committee Chair

Outcomes Update: To be Completed by Committee Chair and presented to the BOD