



Current Systems Upgrade...

November 2006

OACAS has contracted with Chartwell, Inc. to manage and coordinate the Current Systems Transformation Project (CSTP), which will upgrade current technology systems in use across the province. Presently, CASs are using seven different systems - CWIS, Frontline, Matrix, three AS400 based systems and IFRS. The focus of the project is on changes that need to be made to the current CAS client database systems that will enable them to reflect the changes implemented as part of the Transformation Agenda.

Since February 2006, Chartwell Inc. has been working with the respective User Groups and the Vendors of the seven existing database systems and the OACAS

- To gain a more detailed understanding of the Transformation Agenda items
- To gain a more detailed understanding of the state of the current systems relative to the Transformation Agenda items
- To gain a better understanding of the readiness of the current system vendors to support changes to their systems relative to the Transformation agenda items

Two phases are planned...

Phase 1 will respond to the permanency aspects of the Transformation Agenda... these changes will be delivered by November 30, 2006

Phase 2 will respond to the differential response aspects of the Transformation Agenda...these changes will be delivered by April 1, 2007.

The Permanency Changes to the current systems will provide agencies the capacity to document information and capture reports on the following services included in the Transformation Agenda and in the reporting to MCYS in the budget submission and the Multi Year Based Results Planning Document. Changes will also be made to include reporting on

- Kinship Out of Care
- Kinship in Care
- PRIDE
- SAFE
- OnLAC
- Child Death Reporting
- Customary Care
- Alternate Dispute Resolution
- Complaints
- Openness in Adoption

A "minimalist approach" as defined below is being taken to upgrade the systems...

- Transformation items which are changes to existing processes, forms, etc. should be accommodated in current systems without reducing the functionality each system currently provides, if possible
- Transformation items which are new should be accommodated in current systems by providing the same level of functionality provided for similar equivalent items in each of the current systems
- Agencies will not be provided with more functionality in the current systems for the treatment of transformation items than is applied to those or similar/equivalent items currently (i.e. more elaborate documentation requirements, longer data history maintenance etc.) unless the Ministry explicitly specifies such requirements in transformation regulations, standards, etc. or implicitly requires such functionality in reporting requirements (MYRBP, budget submissions etc.)

Contracts with the vendors Coyote, Penlieu and VSI and the agencies Toronto CAS, Toronto Catholic CAS and Ottawa CAS were signed in September for the Permanency and MYRBP deliverables.

Current Systems Transformation Project

What is Chartwell's Role?

Chartwell is coordinating the Project

- Assisting User Groups and Vendors in interpreting Transformation Agenda items
- Monitoring progress and adherence to Ministry and OACAS guidelines
- Communicating status to all stakeholders
- Identifying barriers to successful completion and initiating actions to overcome them

Is Phase 1 of this Project on Target?

The ability of the vendors to deliver the improved software changes by November 30, 2006 is on target even with the changes recently delivered to the vendors related to the Eligibility Spectrum. We still anticipate the final product will be delivered by November 30th. Relevant User Groups and vendors are currently conducting user testing and feedback and will provide support to the User Groups and End Users in training staff in using the "transformation ready" systems.

The Current Systems Working Group (CSWG) is the day to day advisory group for the Project. The group is comprised of the following persons who are representatives of each of the systems

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|--------------------|-----------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| • Ron Martens | Frontline for Windows | • Rene deLint | Ottawa CAS/IFRS |
| • Chris Smout | CWIS/Eforms | • Kenneth Chan | Toronto Catholic CAS/IFRS |
| • Jason Rainsforth | Matrix | • Zachy Lahav | Jewish F&CS/Lotus Notes |
| • Samuel Lee | Toronto CAS | • George Leck | OACAS |

Jacquie Wakabayashi/ Bill Babichuk

Chartwell

Funding for the Project

The Ministry is providing funding for the changes being made to the current systems—this funding is directed to the Vendor/Owner of the system, such as Coyote Corp. for CWIS, Penlieu for Frontline, or VSI for Matrix. For those agencies whose own internal staff support their systems (Toronto CAS, Toronto CCAS and Ottawa CAS) alternative arrangements have been made.

Phase 2 Differential Response

The vendors have all submitted their proposals for Differential Response. A review will follow by Chartwell with all of the vendors.

Once the vendors have completed work on Phase 1—Permanency and MYRBP, they will dedicate more of their resources to completing Phase 2 Differential Response (much work is underway at this time).

The Differential Response Module will be available to agencies on April 1, 2007.

For more information...

- User Group Members above
- George Leck at gleck@oacas.org

Stay tuned for future developments in the next newsletter...