



## **Director's Message**

November 8, 2010

Dear Colleagues,

With the 2010 election season now mostly behind us, we want to thank all of you for continuing to keep focused on OYA's mission of promoting public safety by reforming youth offenders. We know these past few weeks have offered many opportunities for distraction and debate, so we very much appreciate your continued dedication to the youth we manage.

One of the changes state agencies will see as a result of this election is the move from biennial legislative sessions to annual sessions. Rather than beginning in January 2011 as would have been the case under the previous system, the Legislature will hold some ceremonial events in January and then begin the working 2011 Legislative Session in February, with a targeted ending date in June. Then, the Legislature will meet again for approximately one month in early 2012.

This new schedule offers the state the ability to respond more quickly to changing economic conditions and other emerging issues. As you know, Oregon has been one of the very few states that did not hold annual sessions. We look forward to the additional opportunities this new schedule creates for holding ongoing conversations about public safety and juvenile justice issues.

As we move forward, we know that we continue to face budget challenges that may result in service and capacity reductions. We will be working with legislators, Governor Ted Kulongoski and Governor-Elect John Kitzhaber to discuss how to address those challenges and provide Oregonians with the public safety system they desire.

We will keep you up to date as these conversations unfold. In the meantime, we encourage you to stay focused on working with the youth we manage. Whatever our budget future holds, our mission must continue to remain the focus of what we do.

Thank you for your continued good work on behalf of the state of Oregon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Colette S. Peters".

Colette S. Peters  
Director

*Fariborz Pakseresht*

Fariborz Pakseresht  
Deputy Director