

BC Association of Social Workers



ANNUAL REPORT

2022/2023

BCASW BOARD MEMBERS 2022-2023

EXECUTIVE

President	Michael Crawford
Vice President	Cayce Laviolette
Past President	Phyllis Nash
Treasurer	Fiona Lewis
Secretary	Cheryl Ash
CASW Representative	Glen Schmidt

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Alyson Gracey, Rae Morris, Kelly Guiaya, Susan Solomon

REPRESENTATIVES TO THE BOARD

Vancouver Sea to Sky Branch	John Richmond
Richmond/Delta/Burnaby Branch	closed
Fraser River Branch	Jas Hundal
Vancouver Island Branch	inactive
Kootenay Branch	Jennifer Hagen
Northern Branch	Glen Schmidt
Northwest Branch	Angela Boutillier
Thompson Nicola Branch	Lorry-Ann Austin
Okanagan Branch	Cheryl Ash
Student Representative	Amanda Cama

BCASW STAFF

Executive Director	Dianne Heath
Member Services Coordinator	Darren Usher
Communications Coordinator and Admin Assistant	Rose Wu
Bookkeeper	Cathy Larkin

ABOUT BCASW

BCASW is a voluntary, not-for-profit membership association that supports and promotes the profession of social work and advocates for social justice. BCASW is one of the provincial/territorial social work associations in partnership with the Canadian Association of Social Workers (CASW). Through CASW, we support the work of the International Federation of Social Workers. Incorporated in 1956, BCASW has branches and members throughout BC.

Membership in BCASW creates a synergy that strengthens your voice, supports your practice, and builds a solid foundation for advocacy and social action. We provide information and support to social workers, leadership in professional and social advocacy, and professional development opportunities. Ours is a strong collective voice that advances the interests of social work, communicates the vital contribution of social workers to their communities, and enhances the contribution of social work to social justice.

Our Mission

We are the professional association of social workers in British Columbia and promote the profession of social work. We advance social work practice and values to create a just and compassionate society.

The BCASW Logo

Our logo incorporates two symbols: the dove, which expresses freedom, peace and hope; and the hand, which expresses help, humanity and caring, the qualities embedded in BCASW's mission.



BC ASSOCIATION *of*
SOCIAL WORKERS

BC ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS

410-1755 West Broadway, Vancouver, BC V6J 4S5

T 604 730.9111

bcasw@bcasw.org

www.bcasw.org

We acknowledge that our office is in the unceded territory of the Coast Salish Peoples, including the territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh (Squamish), and səliwətaʔ (Tseil-Waututh) Nations and that our members live and work in unceded territories across British Columbia. We acknowledge territory and Indigenous Peoples and commit to genuine and ongoing work to forge real understanding, and to challenge the legacies of colonialism. We also express appreciation to Métis and Inuit peoples across British Columbia.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

submitted by Michael Crawford, MSW, RSW

Le7 re sucwentwécw-kt *

This has been a year of significant growth in our professional association. Most notably this year, membership is at an all-time high, our high-quality professional development webinars have attracted more participants, our advocacy efforts are strong, we added an Indigenous Liaison Representative position to the Board, we increased our outreach to students, and we are on solid financial footing.

Your Association has strong leadership through an active and engaged Board of Directors. Our staff continue to provide strong and effective leadership and deliver excellent services to our members. At every step, they promote our profession, and facilitate the advocacy and outreach work of the Association. Thank you to Executive Director Dianne Heath, Membership Service Coordinator Darren Usher, and Communications Coordinator Rose Wu for your ongoing commitment to the Association and your passion for our profession.

When we cancelled the March 2020 in person conference, we pivoted to online delivery of our professional development program. Since then, the Association has offered more than 50 online webinars and educational events. This is possible because of our dedicated Professional Development Committee under Phyllis Nash's leadership. We have an excellent lineup of events for the fall. Planning for the winter/spring session and BC Social Work Week in March 2024 is underway.

Thank you to Barb Keith and Carol Ross, who guided our advocacy work this year. We responded to the BC budget's inadequate attention to supporting low-income renters and seniors with a campaign asking Minister of Housing Ravi Kahlon to increase Rental Assistance Program and the Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters Program rates. The ongoing sad state of long-term care in BC, led us to join forces with Penny MacCourt and her group, Action for Reform of Residential Care, to push Health Minister Dix for change. Our ongoing campaign to strengthen professional social work in BC is likely to see some results this fall when MCFD Minister Mitzi Dean releases the report on social work regulation. MCFD heard clearly from social workers and sector partners that exemptions must be removed to ensure that we have mandatory registration for all social workers with the BC College of Social Workers and full title protection.



We are grateful to the many volunteers who keep our Association active and engaged with relevant issues. We thank Sri Pendakur, Marisa Tuzi, Fiona Lewis, Nancy Baker, Alison Leaney, Carol Ross, and others for their leadership in our Anti-Racism and Cultural Advocacy Committee, the Health Advocacy Committee, the Seniors Community of Practice, and the Retired Social Workers Group.

Our outreach to schools of social work faculty and students through our proposed school membership plan and delivering information about our Association at student orientation sessions has been guided by Membership Committee Chair Kelly Guiaya.

Our review of our Association structure is drawing to an end, and our Board will be considering a report authored by Reorganization Committee Chair Cayce Laviolette. Our aim is to ensure we are structured in such a way that the goals of our Association can be better met.

CASW BC Award for Distinguished Service recipient Heather Lamb, continues to provide strong leadership as Chair of the Editorial Board. *Perspectives* delivers well-written and informative articles and columns to our members and many community members.

Our Association is committed to Truth and Reconciliation, and we are grateful to Susan Soloman for her leadership in this area as our Indigenous Liaison Representative on the Board. We seek ways to honour survivors, to remember the genocidal residential school experience and those who never came home, to speak truth about colonization, our role in it and the ongoing oppression of Indigenous peoples. We must deepen our commitment to reconciliation, decolonization, meaningful conversations and allyship, and creating healing settler/Indigenous relationships.

Thank you to outgoing Board members, Alyson Gracey, Cayce Laviolette, Rae Morris, Robin Love, and Amanda Cama for your exemplary service. I look forward to the year ahead working with the new Board to continue strengthening the Association, providing services to members, advocating for social justice, and promoting social work in BC.

* Le7 re sucwentwécw-kt means "It is good that we greet one another" in Secwepemctsin, the language of the Indigenous people within Secwepemcúluw where I live.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

submitted by Dianne Heath, MSW, RSW

Social Work is Essential: Action Today for a Better Tomorrow

2023 was a year filled with action by the BCASW by Board, Members, Practice Groups, Committees, Coalition Partners, and Staff.

We began the year by moving the office across the hall, continuing to share with BC Speech and Hearing. Darren Usher, Member Services Coordinator is in the office part-time while I work full-time, still mainly from home. Rose Wu joined us in the position of part-time Communications Coordinator, working from Victoria. Rachel Andor, University of the Fraser Valley, completed her BSW placement.

Membership grew steadily (over 1,475). This figure represents a record high since the Board of Registration separated from the Association in 1996 (867 members). Over half of BCASW members are full-time practising social workers. Remaining members are retired, associates, students, working reduced hours or part-time, seeking work, on leave, or have worked for less than a year. Members in these categories pay significantly reduced dues to make membership affordable.

Over half of BCASW members report working in private practice. Resources for this group include access to affordable professional liability insurance, the private practice portal on the CASW site, peer groups and individual mentorship, and webinars on clinical topics and online practice. The private practice roster findsocialworker.ca (56 listings) is listed on a website resource for mental health services developed by Doctors of BC.

The website is a valued resource for members. Vintage *Perspectives* newsmagazines were added to a members' only page. This year we added a members' notice board, and an authors and filmmakers site showcasing new publications and productions.

A year ago, we completed data migration to a new members' website, database, and payment system. Government regulations require us to include GST because of added membership benefits.

BCASW works with coalitions and associations to advance progressive and socially just regulation and social policy initiatives. BCASW purchased an online letter writing platform to support advocacy actions, alone and in partnership. We continue conversations with the Ministry of Children and Family Development (mandatory regulation), and the Ministry of Health (regulation under the new Health Professions Act, improving long-term care), the BC College of Social Workers, schools of social work, and healthcare associations. As Executive Director, I am registered under the Lobbyists Transparency Act.



Consultations continue with ICBC and service providers such as Crime Victim's Assistance Program and MCFD regarding recruitment and retention of social workers, payment, and use of RCSW designation.

We are grateful to the Health Sciences Association of BC for donating space and resources for our AGM. Special thanks go to our hard-working Board of Directors and to President Michael Crawford for his leadership, support, and production management of BCASW webinars and social media.

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Much of the work of BCASW is done by volunteers who provide leadership in practice groups, branch executive, and board director positions. Board directors set strategic priorities, address concerns with inadequate government policy and action, connect with universities, and support the work of committees and practice interest groups. Succession planning for leadership positions remains challenging and crucial.

Capacity issues continue. The need to augment staff resources to support the work of members grows as member numbers, requests for expert consultation from external bodies including government, and awareness of needed social justice advocacy increase. Members new to practice or transitioning and acquiring new skills, recognize and value our mentoring program and we are seeing a spike in demand for this service. Please let us know if you would consider volunteering to share your time and expertise as a board director, practice group or committee member, or mentor.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS AND ACTIVITIES

- Continue Truth and Reconciliation initiatives and actions
- Host the CASW national meetings, June 2024
- Work on strategies to increase and support membership
- Continue advocacy for mandatory regulation of BC social workers
- Update policy governance to reflect equity, diversity, inclusion and reconcile with current practices
- Discussion and decision-making regarding possible adoption of the new national code of ethics
- Action the report of the BCASW Reorganization Ad Hoc Committee
- Strengthen relationship with government, regulators, and educators

BCASW Mentorship Program 2023

submitted by Darren Usher, MSW, RSW

Mentor and mentee are matched by skills and request rather than proximity. Mutual expectations are part of the negotiation process at the beginning of the relationship. Some people need only one or two conversations, others may contract for a year of support. This type of mentorship is not consultation or supervision. As an informal peer program for members, the focus is on the social work practitioner in relationship to their work and profession. Application forms to request a mentor or to offer mentorship can be found on the BCASW website under Benefits of Membership, Professional Support.

Individual Mentorships

Nine requests so far this year including:

- support for new positions after recently graduating
- transition from school to practice – job search strategies
- working in BC after transferring from overseas
- support for starting in private practice
- working with Indigenous populations
- support taking the ASWB exam
- working with seniors and long-term care

New mentors signed up to the BCASW Mentoring Program: one

Peer Mentoring Groups

1. BCASW Peer Support Group for Members Starting a Private Practice Third Thursday of the month, noon-1pm

This group, initiated in 2021, grew in popularity and now has 148 members on the mailing list. The group continues to develop an information sheet for members starting a private practice. During monthly meetings, members ask questions and learn from each other. As time permits, a theme is explored each month such as working with third party insurers; developing effective policy and procedure; how to refer clients after intake; supervision requirements in BC; decolonizing practice. Members are encouraged to adapt information to their own practice and client's needs.

2. RCSW Peer Support Group

We started an initial group to gauge interest in March 2022. The group split into two groups in May 2022; a group advocating for greater recognition of the RCSW designation and a group supporting members applying to the BCCSW to sit the RCSW exam. In July 2023 the BCASW sent its RCSW members a short questionnaire to gauge what advocacy issue should be prioritized. Staff are analysing the results of the 18 thoughtful and detailed responses and will use them to develop an advocacy strategy for the promotion and recognition of the RCSW designation.

Member's Practice Consults

BCASW staff are available to consult on your practice questions. We will not tell you what to do, or not to do, but we can help talk through the issues and refer you to sources of information to help you make a fully informed professional decision.



Darren Usher, BCASW Member Services Coordinator

The completed BCASW Diversity Quilted Wall Art Project, led by master quilter Barb Keith hangs in the background on the BCASW office wall. This project was supported by the Advocacy Circle.

Photo by Carol Ross

TREASURER'S REPORT

submitted by Fiona Lewis, MSW



I am pleased to provide the following report to the 2023 Annual General Meeting.

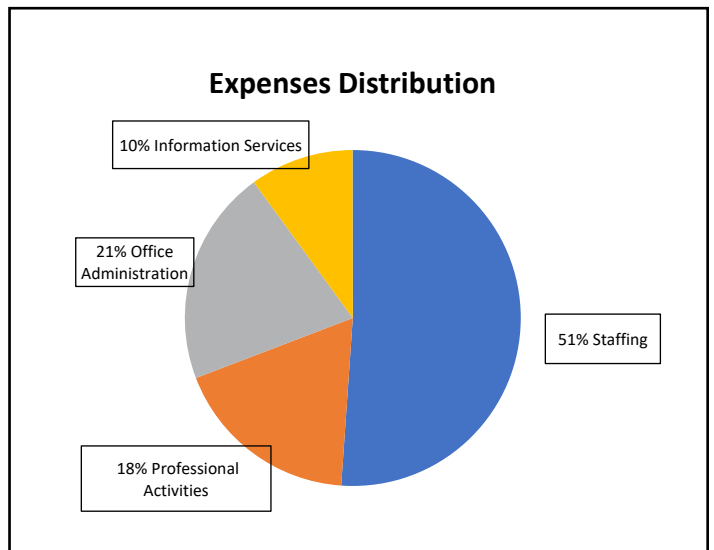
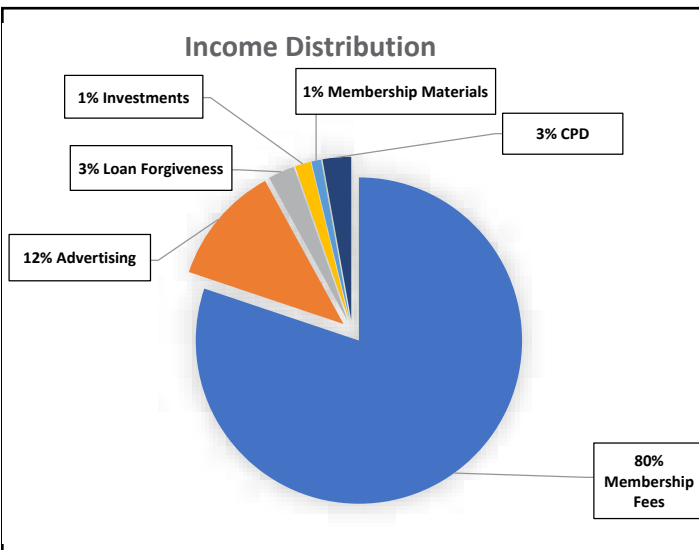
The Association again ended the year in a strong financial position, with an operating surplus of \$67,067.00. This includes a \$10,000 grant from the federal government, the forgivable portion of a wage subsidy loan we received during the pandemic. Our revenue was up due to increased membership and advertising sales (including the Find a Social Worker page on our website). As a result of increased webinar and advertising revenue we are now at the threshold where we are required to charge GST for memberships and programs.

Expenses were approximately \$19,000 below budget. The Board decided to postpone an in-person meeting to January of 2023 so the allotment for board travel in 2022 was not spent. Salaries came in lower than budgeted as the Communications Assistant position was vacant for part of the year. We spent less than budgeted in Professional Activities as committees and branches did not request all the funds set aside for their use.

At the May 2023 Board meeting, it was decided to allocate \$7,500.00 of the 2022 operating surplus towards one-time database changes needed to incorporate the GST into our billing system. The Board approved investing the remainder of the operating surplus as part of the society's contingency fund.

As of June 2023, the Association is on target to meet our budgeted revenue and expenses. Membership continues to grow as does advertising and webinar revenue. Budgeted expenses include salary increases for staff as part of our continued effort to bring salaries in line with sector averages. Our contingency fund is healthy, enabling us to weather financial uncertainties that may occur this year or in coming years.

Thank you to all members for their support of the Association. Your fees ensure that we can continue to provide valued services while also being a voice for social workers in B.C.



INDEPENDENT PRACTITIONER'S REVIEW ENGAGEMENT REPORT

To the Members of British Columbia Association of Social Workers

We have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of British Columbia Association of Social Workers which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2022 and the statements of changes in net assets, operations and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Practitioner's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the accompanying financial statements based on our review. We conducted our review in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements, which require us to comply with relevant ethical requirements.

A review of financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements is a limited assurance engagement. The practitioner performs procedures, primarily consisting of making inquiries of management and others within the entity, as appropriate, and applying analytical procedures, and evaluates the evidence obtained.

The procedures performed in a review are substantially less in extent than, and vary in nature from, those performed in an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion on these financial statements.

Conclusion

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that these financial statements do not present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of British Columbia Association of Social Workers as at December 31, 2022, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Report on other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

As required by the Societies Act of British Columbia, we report that, in our opinion, the accounting principles in Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations have been applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

Burnaby, British Columbia
April 14, 2023



Chartered Professional Accountants

BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS		
Statement of Financial Position		
December 31, 2022		
<i>(Unaudited)</i>		
	2022	2021
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Cash	\$ 136,503	\$ 190,355
Investments	192,622	139,293
Accounts receivable (Note 3)	6,598	7,388
Prepaid expenses	10,372	696
	<u>346,095</u>	<u>337,732</u>
TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS (Note 4)	<u>1,679</u>	<u>459</u>
	<u>\$ 347,774</u>	<u>\$ 338,191</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Accounts payable and accrued charges	\$ 4,269	\$ 2,500
Government remittances payable	2,638	2,535
Deferred revenue (Note 5)	139,757	159,113
	<u>146,664</u>	<u>164,148</u>
LONG TERM DEBT (Note 6)	<u>-</u>	<u>40,000</u>
	<u>146,664</u>	<u>204,148</u>
NET ASSETS	<u>201,110</u>	<u>134,043</u>
Operating fund	<u>201,110</u>	<u>134,043</u>
	<u>\$ 347,774</u>	<u>\$ 338,191</u>

BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS			
Statement of Changes in Net Assets			
Year Ended December 31, 2022			
<i>(Unaudited)</i>			
	Operating Fund	2022	2021
NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$ 134,043	\$ 134,043	\$ 73,624
Excess of income over expenses	67,067	67,067	60,419
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 201,110</u>	<u>\$ 201,110</u>	<u>\$ 134,043</u>

BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS		
Statement of Operations		
Year Ended December 31, 2022		
<i>(Unaudited)</i>		
	2022	2021
INCOME		
Membership fees	\$ 283,596	\$ 256,829
Administration fees	77	1,013
Advertising	41,950	34,150
Conferences and workshops	9,284	23,095
Donations and gifts	-	10,000
Interest and investment income	3,333	994
Membership materials	5,538	4,154
CEBA loan forgiven	10,000	-
	<u>353,778</u>	<u>330,235</u>
EXPENSES (per Schedule 1)		
Office administration	59,614	46,153
Information services	28,690	23,547
Professional activities	51,847	65,451
Board activities	50	-
Staffing	146,510	134,665
	<u>286,711</u>	<u>269,816</u>
EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENSES	<u>\$ 67,067</u>	<u>\$ 60,419</u>

For the complete financial statement, please refer to the Review Engagement Report at www.bcasw.org.

BCASW Membership Data Report

Why this data summary?

To inform organizational review and future planning.

When?

A snapshot of data taken September 2023.

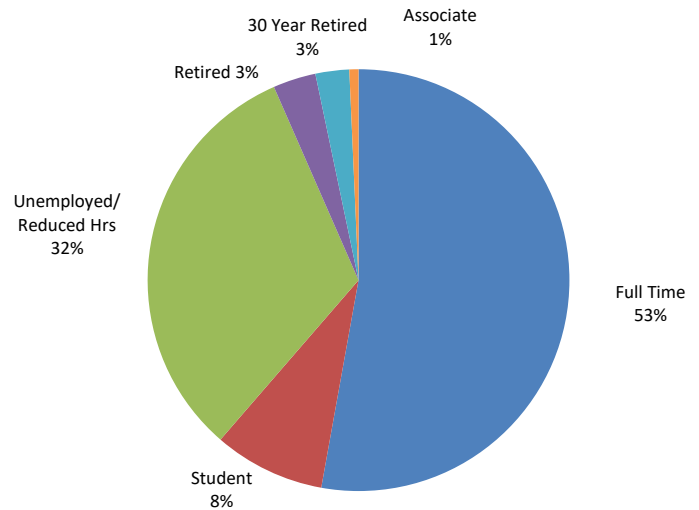
Who are we?

We are 1,431 social workers, social work students, and associates.

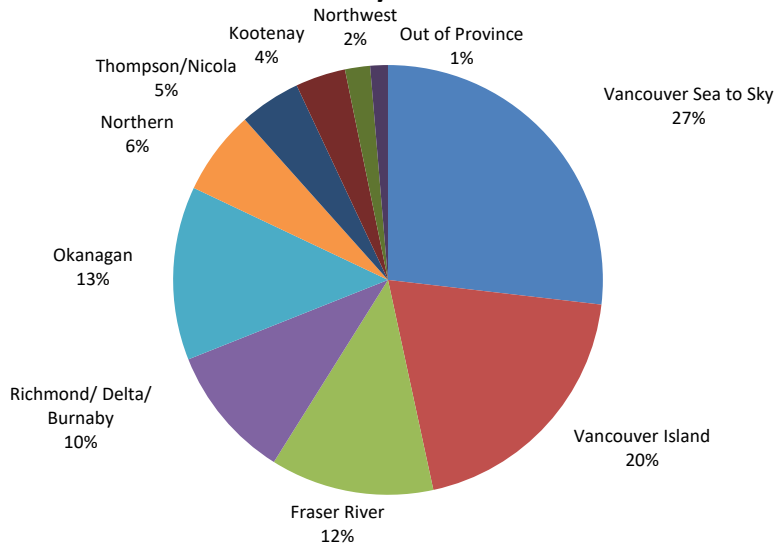
Member Category	Number
Full Time	756
Student	122
Unemployed/Reduced Hrs	459
Retired	47
30 Year Retired	37
Associate	10
	1431

57% (816) have a private practice.

Member Category

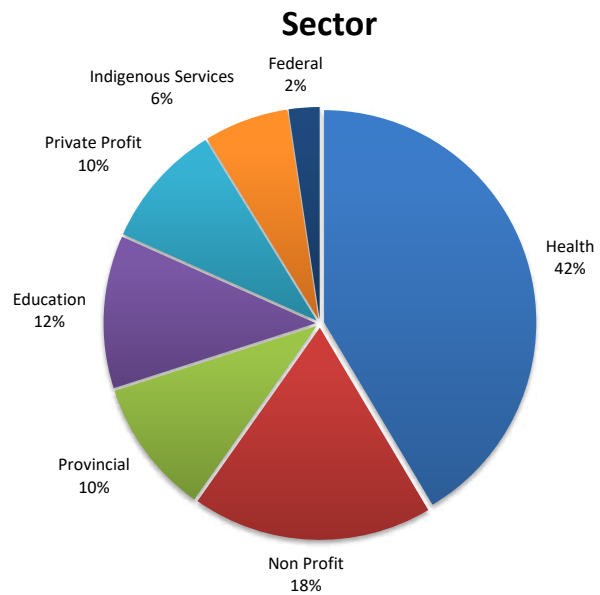


Branches/Locations



Branch	Number
Vancouver Sea to Sky	384
Vancouver Island	283
Fraser River	176
Richmond/ Delta/ Burnaby	144
Okanagan	187
Northern	91
Thompson/Nicola	66
Kootenay	54
Northwest	27
Out of Province	19
	1431

Sector	Count
Health	335
Non Profit	148
Provincial	83
Education	94
Private Profit	77
Indigenous Services	52
Federal	19
	808



Why Belong to the BC Association of Social Workers?

ACCESS RESOURCES

Continuing Professional Development • Affordable Insurance • Mentorship & Networking

ADVANCE THE PROFESSION OF SOCIAL WORK

Communications • Scholarships • Service Recognition

ADVOCATE FOR SOCIAL WORK VALUES

Advocacy Initiatives • Coalition Partnerships • Communities of Practice

PUBLICATIONS, POSTS, & COMMUNICATIONS

PERSPECTIVES NEWSMAGAZINE

Editor: Heather Lamb

Editorial Committee: Dawn Hemingway, Phyllis Nash, Michael Crawford, Dianne Heath, Lorry-Ann Austin, Kelly Guiaya, Rose Wu

Layout and Design: Heather MacNeil

Mailed to members, subscriptions for *Perspectives* are purchased by universities, and libraries. The sale of inserts and ads subsidize the publication.

- Winter Edition: *Reflections on Social Work Leadership*
- Spring/Summer Edition: *Navigating Senior Care Systems*
- Autumn Edition: *Inclusion and Culturally Safe Social Work*

EBULLETINS sent monthly: list events, provide updates and information.

EMAIL

- Dialogue with members – questions, concerns, and responses
- Branch Communications, Continuing Professional Development Opportunities

WEBSITE <https://www.bcasw.org>

Launched March 2022, new database added September 2022

Member information, services, and benefits including:

- Job board
- Continuing professional development
- Practice roster
- Link to professional liability insurance online application
- Mentorship program application information
- Distinguished Service Awards
- Latest news, statements, letters, and media releases
- Member discount information

PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL

- Posters for sale and download
- Download *Social Work Skills and Knowledge in Health Care, Social Work Services in Health Care Settings* (patient/client brochure in English, Punjabi, Chinese, and French; for sale at cost), *The Role of the Social Worker in Primary Care, Adding Further Value to Employee Assistance Plans*

SOCIAL MEDIA – Managed by Michael Crawford and Rose Wu



The image shows the BCASW logo and social media information. The logo features the text 'bcasw' in a stylized font, with 'the hub of communication, advocacy and action for social workers in bc.' to its right. Below the logo is a circular emblem with a stylized figure. The text below the logo reads: 'BC Association of Social Workers is a voluntary, not-for-profit membership association that supports and promotes the profession of social work.' It then says 'Join us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter!' followed by 'We are posting about social work issues and opportunities in BC. Follow us to stay connected!' and lists the social media handles: 'facebook.com/bcasw (1,810 followers)', 'instagram.com/socialworkersbc (1,006 followers)', and 'twitter.com/bcsocialworkers (572 followers)'.

SOME OF OUR COALITIONS, CONNECTIONS, & PARTNERS

Action for Reform of Residential Care BC
BC Coalition of Health Profession Associations
BC College of Social Workers
BC General Employees' Union
BC Poverty Reduction Coalition
BC Schools of Social Work
BoardVoice
Canadian Association of Social Workers
Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives
First Call: BC Child and Youth Advocacy Society
Health Sciences Association BC
The International Federation of Social Workers

Media Releases and Responses (BCASW website, Latest News)

[BC SOCIAL WORKERS URGE GOVERNMENT TO WITHDRAW LEGISLATION RESTRICTING DRUG USE IN PUBLIC SPACES](#)

October 10, 2023

[BC SOCIAL WORKERS ENCOURAGE TO FOCUS ON DECOLONIZATION \(National Day for Truth and Reconciliation\)](#)

September 27, 2023

[BC SOCIAL WORKERS AND ACTION FOR REFORM OF RESIDENTIAL CARE CALL FOR RESIDENTIAL CARE REFORM](#)

May 16, 2023

[BC SOCIAL WORKERS CALL ON GOVERNMENT TO ACT ON CHILD WELFARE RECOMMENDATIONS](#)

April 18, 2023

[BC SOCIAL WORKERS CALL FOR COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO ENCAMPMENT CONCERNS](#)

April 17, 2023

[BC SOCIAL WORKERS RECOGNIZED FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE](#)

Monday March 20, 2023

[BC SOCIAL WORKERS CELEBRATE SOCIAL WORK WEEK, MARCH 19TH-25TH](#)

March 16, 2023

[BC SOCIAL WORKERS CALL FOR EXPANSION OF RENTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS](#)

March 13, 2023

[BC SOCIAL WORKERS SUPPORT THE SENIORS ADVOCATE RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE HOME SUPPORT](#)

February 27, 2023

[BC SOCIAL WORKERS SUPPORT EVIDENCED-BASED SERVICES FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS](#)

February 23, 2023

[BCASW's Letter to the MCFD Consultation Group on Social Work Oversight in BC](#)

January 11, 2023

[CHILDREN'S MINISTRY'S SOCIAL WORKER SURVEY CLOSES SOON](#)

January 6, 2023

CASW REPORT

submitted by Glen Schmidt, RCSW, CASW Board Member

The Canadian Association of Social Workers (CASW) is a federated organization made up of nine Provincial Associations and one Association representing the Northern Territories. Quebec is not a member of the CASW, but the Quebec Association is considering rejoining the CASW. BC, Alberta, Ontario, and PEI have separate regulatory and professional association bodies while the other provincial organizations are joint regulatory and professional Federation members. Normally, two Federation meetings are held each year; one in January is virtual and the other in June is in-person. This year the in-person meeting was held in Toronto and hosted by the Ontario Association of Social Workers. The 2024 Federation meeting will be hosted by the BCASW. In addition to the June Federation meeting, the CASW Board holds one in-person meeting during the fall in Ottawa. Other Board and committee meetings are held virtually. The CASW is a member of the International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW).



The Executive Director of CASW is Fred Phelps. The CASW office is located in Ottawa. The current President of CASW is Joan Davis-Whelan from Newfoundland and Labrador. CASW employs staff and hires contractors around specific projects. In the year ending March 31, 2023, CASW had actual revenues of \$929,890.00. Partner membership fees accounted for \$665,826.00 of revenue while the Foreign Trained Social Worker (FTSW) Assessment Fees brought in \$154,255.00 of revenue. Other smaller sources of revenue were largely derived from advertising, interest, and Insurance scholarship contributions. Salaries and benefits were the largest expenditure at \$422,022.00. Travel, assessment fees of FTSWs, office operational expenses, contractor fees, rent, professional fees, advertising, and translation were other major expenses. The CASW must keep cash on hand in the event of any major and unexpected contingency expenses. This year there was a decrease of \$122,000.00 cash on hand with the CASW holding \$179,230.00 cash on hand at the end of the fiscal year.

The CASW developed and approved a new strategic plan to guide activities from 2023 to 2028. The four pillars of the plan are: 1. Promotion of the profession 2. Strategic Advocacy; 3. Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Accessibility, and Belonging; and 4. Strengthening the Profession and the Association.

During the 2022-2023 fiscal year, the CASW engaged in a variety of activities. Some of the highlights included the development of a new Social Work Code of Ethics, meetings and advocacy with Federal Government Ministers, delivery of 80 on-line events and webinars, extensive lobbying with MPs and Cabinet Ministers especially pertaining to law enforcement and racial justice, conversion therapy, decriminalization of small amounts of drugs, and the rights of Indigenous peoples, work with Senator Wanda Bernard and the Association of Black Social Workers, lobbying for inclusion of social workers in government planning and service delivery, a large expansion of FTSW assessments as well as many other lobbying and advocacy activities.

A new fee formula was negotiated and approved. Longer term BCASW members may recall that Alberta and Ontario withdrew from CASW, largely because of dissatisfaction with fee assessment. The new formula appears to be agreeable to all partner organizations. This past year the CASW worked closely with the nascent Alberta Association of Social Workers to facilitate their entry into CASW. CASW is working closely and providing support to the Quebec Association of Social Workers as they look to organize, grow, and eventually rejoin CASW.

CASW has a small staff, but they accomplish a huge amount of work on behalf of social workers and the people served by social workers.

BRANCH HIGHLIGHTS



VANCOUVER SEA TO SKY BRANCH

I continued to be acting Branch Rep for Sea to Sky, managing from the side of my desk with busy social work practices in BC and Ontario. I issued one communication in the winter, planning a Branch meeting which did not materialize due to conflicting schedules.

Despite the set back of an MVA (hit by a truck while riding my bike in Ontario), I spent considerable time in BC in 2022-2023. I visited the UBC campus twice and met with social work students interested in joining our Branch. We supported a student-lead initiative for Social Work Week and shared information with the public in North Vancouver and the Sunshine Coast. Local media ran an article I wrote for social work week. I met with social workers on the Sunshine Coast and Sea to Sky in March and listened to their concerns which included workload and compensation issues.

I held several meetings with local MLAs, MLA staff and municipal officials in 2023 to advocate for protection of social work title in BC and to raise awareness of the role social work could play in addressing a wide range of challenges – in particular the need to de-task police and employ social workers to de-escalate mental health crises (one of my roles in the Downtown Eastside in the 1990s).

I had requests from people in the harm reduction and addictions field to advocate for safe supply, better access to treatment, and to protect the funding of NGOs on the Downtown Eastside (such as Vandu). I toured the Downtown Eastside in June with several non-profit agency directors and social workers and shared their concerns with the City of Vancouver and BC government officials. I continue to support safe supply and decriminalization of small amounts of narcotics and other street drugs on the Sunshine Coast as well as to advocate for better access to non-profit treatment centres for those seeking to recover from substance use. I represented the Branch at Overdose Awareness Day in Ch'atlich (Sechelt) in August.

Our clients continue to die in large numbers from toxic drugs and members continue to experience mental distress from working in a system that is under staffed and under funded.

Branch members shared anger and moral distress at the case of the Indigenous children who died while under the “care” of MCFD in Chilliwack. While it is not within our Branch boundaries, I shared concerns with the Ministry and advocated for protection of title in BC, better social education and standards as key to raising the quality of social work practice within MCFD.

Another issue raised by some members was the need to increase income assistance rates in BC to deal with substantial increases in food and housing costs. As one member pointed out – the root cause of poverty is not enough income. I wrote a letter to the province, calling for increased income assistance rates and to the federal government in support of Bill 22, the Canadian Disability Benefit.

In September, I represented the Branch at an information booth at Labour Day on the Sunshine Coast, working closely with the Sunshine Coast District Labour Council, the Hospital Employees Union, PEA, and the BCGEU to promote professional, regulated social work.

John Richmond, BSW, MSW, RSW (ON, BC)
vanseatosky@bcasw.org

NORTHWEST BRANCH

Last fall the NW Branch connected with the Coast Mountain College Social Service Worker program, as well as the UNBC 4th year Social Work cohort to explain and encourage membership with the BCASW. In early December, a NW Branch only invitation was sent to members and non-members to learn about the BCASW campaign to strengthen social work, the HPOA and a general discussion about the BCASW. Social Work Week this year was a success with an afternoon celebration of education, networking, celebrating the profession and the UNBC BSW Terrace campus graduation. The summer months were quiet, with everyone taking a break to enjoy the summer months.

As always, please reach out to the Branch by email with ideas or input. The NW Branch is looking forward to finding opportunities in the year ahead for the membership to connect.

Angela Boutilier
nwbcasw@gmail.com

VANCOUVER ISLAND BRANCH

This Branch is currently inactive.

KOOTENAY BRANCH

The Kootenay Branch of the BCASW has about 45 members over a large geographical area, which means that virtual events have so far been more readily attended than in-person events. We hosted a peer learning opportunity on IMAGO therapy, an in-person celebration to mark Social Work Week, and a virtual meet and greet before we took a break for summer. Members have given feedback that meeting virtually for informal networking and support has been valuable, so we plan to continue these opportunities regularly. We have many experienced social workers in the Kootenay region, and I expect we will have several interesting and insightful peer learning opportunities available throughout the year. I look forward to continuing to develop and grow the Kootenay Branch of the BCASW.

Jennifer Hagen

kootenaybranchbcasw@gmail.com

NORTHERN BRANCH

The Northern Branch held its AGM on June 6, 2023, and capped off the year with a BBQ hosted by outgoing Chair, Glen Schmidt. The following slate of people was approved for the 2023-2024 year:

Kayla Walker – Chair

Marly Whitmer – Vice-Chair

Jim Campbell – Treasurer

Glen Schmidt – Secretary

Dawn Hemingway – Communication

Brent Goerz – Speakers and Zoom Link

Ursula Kerr – Facebook

Beth Quesnel – UNBC Bursary Liaison

We are particularly happy to see Kayla and Marly step into leadership roles as they are former student representatives from UNBC. On a sadder note, Kate Stanvick, also a former student representative and outgoing vice-chair, has left for Calgary. We will miss her contribution to the Branch. At the AGM, Kate spoke about her journey into social work. Her story was published in an edited compilation titled *Women like me: Healing and acceptance*.

At the AGM, the Branch presented Brent Goerz with the Bridget Moran Award. Brent was nominated by Chuck Fraser, a former recipient of the award. Brent is a long-time Prince George resident where he has practiced in a number of areas of social work. He worked for MCFD in after hours and then worked at the University Hospital of the North for many years as a Quick Response Social Worker in the Emergency Department. Brent currently works as a private practitioner. He is active in the Branch and has been recruiting speakers for the professional development component of our monthly meetings.

Glen Schmidt/Kayla Walker

OKANAGAN

Greetings from Okanagan Branch. Membership continues to grow. Please feel free to send me an email, if you have any suggestions, ideas, or comments. The OK Branch is seeking to fill all Branch executive positions. Please contact me for more information.

Cheryl Ash

okbranch@bcasw.org

THOMPSON NICOLA BRANCH

It was a quiet and productive year for the Thompson Nicola Branch. We continued to host Lunch n' Learn sessions over Zoom where community partners gathered to share important information around the services social workers offer to support individuals and families in our communities. In March, we facilitated a student organized panel of community social workers at Thompson Rivers University to celebrate BC Social Work Week. Our spring in-person professional development event did not garner the interest we had hoped and our branch is now brainstorming local events that may be of more value for area social workers. We will welcome a new 3rd year BSW student to our executive soon and also welcome BSW students to the profession of social work later this year. We are planning more student socials and are already looking forward to March and BC Social Work Week. We continue to support social workers locally by sending out our weekly *Thompson Nicola Monday Connector* which is full of information about webinars, new resources, career postings, and social workers in the news. Branch Executive members include Lorry-Ann Austin, Shannon Bull, Michael Crawford, Meghan Dalgleish, Jennifer Friend, and Sue Peterson.

Lorry-Ann Austin

RICHMOND/ DELTA/ BURNABY BRANCH

A faithful core group of members continued to meet for a portion of last year. We provided a significant contribution to Social Work Month. Individual members donated time to groups such as The Advocacy Circle, Retired Social Workers, Seniors CoP, and more. We gathered input regarding restructuring as we discussed a recommendation to disband. We had not grown in active numbers and recognized that because of the enormity and diversity of our multicity region, it was impossible to be active and visible everywhere. We chose to disband mid year. We support the Association's efforts to consider a change in structure to relate more to professional and geographic needs rather than exclusively by region. Thanks to the core RDB members for their dedication, brilliance, humour, and wisdom.

Carol Ross

COMMITTEES

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Members: Phyllis Nash (Chair), Cheryl Ash, Michael Crawford, Fiona Lewis, Rae Morris, Dianne Heath, Jess Holtlander, Rose Wu

Webinar	Date	Presenter(s)
<i>Surviving Stroke: A Social Worker's Journey to Recovery and Self-Help</i>	November 8, 2022	John Richmond
<i>Introduction to Narrative Therapy</i>	February 16, 2023	Tommy Spence
<i>In Focus: The Holocaust through the VHEC Collection</i>	March 6, 2023	The Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre
<i>Changing Queer Kids Lives Via Their Families</i>	March 9, 2023	Tracy Whitmore
<i>Let's Talk: Ethical Dilemmas and Supervision</i>	March 13, 2023	Moderated by Charity Champagne
<i>Let's Talk: Advocacy</i>	March 14, 2023	Moderated by Rachel Andor
<i>Let's Talk: Boundaries and Self-care</i>	March 15, 2023	Moderated by Scott Riesterer
<i>Let's Talk: The Transition from Student to Social Worker</i>	March 16, 2023	Moderated by Amanda Cama
<i>Deconstructing Colonial Practice</i>	March 20, 2023	Jennifer Charlesworth, Samantha Cocker, Wedlidi Speck, & Jennifer Dryer, Office of the Representative for Children and Youth in BC
<i>Moral Wellness and Resilience in Social Work Practice</i>	March 20, 2023	Allen Alvarez
<i>Between a rock and a hard place: Racism and social work practice</i>	March 21, 2023	Dr. Shirley Chau, UBC Okanagan
<i>Responding to the toxic drug supply and overdose deaths</i>	March 21, 2023	Lisa Lapointe, BC Chief Coroner
<i>MCFD Minister Mitzi Dean</i>	March 22, 2023	MCFD Minister Mitzi Dean
<i>MAiD in BC</i>	March 22, 2023	Tammy Dyson, Jaclyn Falk, Kristina Zoe
<i>A Conversation with Tzeachten Chief Derek Epp: Social work, Child Welfare, and Indigenous Leadership</i>	March 23, 2023	Chief Derek Epp
<i>Responding to Burnout: Personal and Collective Wellbeing</i>	April 18, 2023	Madeleine Eames, Elizabeth Bishop
<i>Thinking of Starting a Private Practice? Things you need to know.</i>	April 25, 2023	Darren Usher, Tammy Roche
<i>Strategies and Tactics for Effective Advocacy</i>	May 16, 2023	Christine Gordon
<i>Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting in a Canadian Context</i>	May 25, 2023	Warda Warsame, End FGM Canada Network
<i>Narrative Therapy for Social Workers</i>	June 1, 2023	Cecilia Mannella
<i>Shifting the Focus from Risk to Safety: Rethinking our Response to Suicide</i>	September 19, 2023	Lu Ripley, Crisis Centre BC
<i>Social Work and Suicide: Ethical Considerations for Practice</i>	October 12, 2023	Rebecca Sanford

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Upcoming Webinars and Events

<i>BCASW AGM - Exigencies and Antidotes: Nurturing belonging in young people amid a toxic drug crisis</i>	October 20, 2023	Dr. Jennifer Charlesworth
<i>Should I take a student?: An overview of the Field Instructor Role in Social Work Education</i>	October 24, 2023	Kelly Allison (UBC), Kelly Guiaya (UFV), Mari Otomo (NVIT)
<i>Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) and Social Work Practice with a Focus on Ethical Dilemmas</i>	November 9, 2023	Kristina Zoë, Sandy Rogers, Courtney Matthews
<i>Emotional Effects of Wildfires</i>	Pending	Mary Ann Murphy, UBCO
<i>Thinking of Starting a Private Practice? Things you need to know.</i>	November 30, 2023	Darren Usher & Tammy Rocheln
<i>A guided tour of the exhibit: "Age of Influence: Youth & Nazi Propaganda"</i>	In-Person Event, November 27, 2023	Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

In 2022, the Personnel Committee worked with staff on a major revision to the Personnel Manual. This manual sets out many of the employment terms and conditions for BCASW staff and had not been revised in a number of years. In September 2023, the manual went to the Board for final approval. Thanks to committee members, Cayce Laviolette, John Richmond, and Angela Boutilier, as well as staff, Darren Usher and Dianne Heath for their work on this significant project.

Fiona Lewis, Chair

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Our committee met via Zoom on June 23, 2023, and continued discussion on our key priorities of the recruitment and retention of members. As of June 2023, the BCASW had 1437 members. We are looking ahead to the upcoming academic year and hoping to engage with BC's Schools of Social Work by offering BCASW orientation sessions to new social work students and brainstorming ways to encourage students to become members of the BCASW.

The committee last met September 22, 2023, via Zoom. If you are interested in joining the Membership Committee, please contact me through the BCASW office.

Kelly Guiaya, Chair

AWARDS COMMITTEE

Members: Pamela Miller, Cheryl Ash, Phyllis Nash

Scholarships provided by CASW/BMS and the law firm of Murphy Battista LLP were awarded to five members this year so far. Applications are still being accepted and can be found on the BCASW website in the member's resources section.

In celebration of the profession of social work BCASW participated in three award events: the CASW Distinguished Service Award received by *Perspectives* editor Heather Lamb, the Inspiring Social Worker of the Year Award received by Kootenay social worker Tara Ross, and the Janusz Korczak Association of Canada Award for Distinguished Social Work Practice Protecting the Rights of Children received by Vancouver Aboriginal Child and Family Services' Arnold Martinez.

BCASW REORGANIZATION AD HOC COMMITTEE

After over a year of analysing and critically assessing how the structures of our Association align with its strategic goals, Chair Cayce Laviolette will present three themes identified by the committee to the Board for review, leading to action and potential restructuring plans for change and growth. The three themes identified for review are Board Director Positions: Roles and Responsibilities, Branches, Committees and Communities of Practice.

BCASW STUDENT COMMITTEE



*Scott Riesterer, Co-chair
4th year BSW, University of
British Columbia*

We thank Amanda Cama for her service to members as outgoing Chair of the BCASW Student Committee. Her passion for our profession and her commitment to bringing students together helped to establish the committee successfully within the Association.

Students are the future of the Association and we are working to engage social work students from diverse backgrounds across the province. We offer members opportunities to network with other students, discuss issues such as student loan forgiveness and paid practica, develop as professionals, and build professional relationships. We also do our best to facilitate social and educational in person meetings at BC schools of social work.

During BC Social Work Week 2023, our committee organized four successful webinars. The webinar topics included sorting through ethical dilemmas, how to engage in advocacy, boundaries and self-care, and the transition from student to professional social worker. The webinars were well attended with 544 registrations and 296 registrants. We look forward to participating in BC Social Work Week 2024.

We are currently reaching out to student members and seeking representatives from each school to join the committee. If interested, please contact the office at bcasw@bcasw.org and let us know.

Best wishes to all students as you complete your studies.

Scott Riesterer & Shannon Bull, Co-chairs

BCASW STUDENT AWARDS

BCASW bursaries, prizes, and scholarships of \$250.00 are available annually to a student in each accredited school of social work in BC. Applications are made within each university's award system.

University of Northern BC

Available to a full-time student currently enrolled as a third-year student in the social work (BSW) program who is a resident with continuous dwelling within the UNBC region for four years immediately prior to admission. The prize will be awarded for study in the fourth year of the social work program.

Thompson Rivers University

Awarded annually to a top student in BSW year three or four with financial need.

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology

Awarded to a full-time third year BSW student. The student must be active in school affairs, demonstrate class participation and leadership skills, show strong academic performance, demonstrate financial need, and show outstanding achievement.

University of the Fraser Valley

Available to a UFV student in the social work program who is on the way to completing the Bachelor of Social Work.

University of Victoria

A prize is awarded to an outstanding student (a combination of GPA, community service) who has completed the first year of the program in the School of Social Work. This was established in 1979 and awarded for the first time in 1980.

University of British Columbia

Awarded to an outstanding student in first year social work on the recommendation of the Director of the School.

Vancouver Island University

A scholarship is offered to a student in the BSW program.

INTEREST GROUPS & COMMUNITIES

HEALTH ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

The Health Advocacy Committee has five members who attend regular meetings on Zoom. The committee is open to all BCASW members who have an interest in health advocacy.

The Health Advocacy Committee (HAC) set the following goals for 2023:

A. Housing

- Review SAFER criteria and form recommendations for how it should be updated, partner with other organizations
- Liaise with the Seniors Advocate regarding the SAFER recommendations
- Do the research required to gather relevant data
- Invite the Seniors Community of Practice to partner with us
- Organize a webinar related to research on discharging patients from hospital who are not housed

B. Long-term Care (LTC), a component of housing for which we continue advocacy and involvement with Action for Reform of Residential Care in BC (ARRCBC)

- Continue collaboration with ARRCBC
- Keep social workers and the public concerned about LTC issues
- Amplify the public education work that ARRCBC is doing

C. Continue advocacy regarding Regulation and College Consolidation

- Continue to support BCASW's position on regulation

To date, the following activities stemmed from goals set:

- Participation in BCASW's letter writing campaign addressing the need to expand Rental Assistance Programs through BC Housing
- A HAC member is liaising with the Office of the BC Seniors Advocate. SAFER issues are addressed in the Seniors Advocate report - *Monitoring Seniors Services 2022* and *BC Seniors: Falling Further Behind* (released in September 2022).
- A joint meeting was held with the BCASW Seniors Community of Practice (SCoP) to discuss collaboration on LTC issues and presenting an educational webinar for ARRCBC. SCoP is planning a second webinar on MAiD, HAC is planning a webinar related to previous research completed regarding discharging patients from hospital who are not housed.
- Participation in and promotion of collaboration between ARRCBC and BCASW on the letter writing campaign to BC Government regarding the need for an action plan for LTC reform in BC and, specifically, establishing a diverse and inclusive multi-sectoral Long-term Care Advisory Forum to assist with development of a comprehensive and evidence-informed action plan that is person-centred and will ensure a good quality of life for all residents
- Continued collaboration with ARRCBC
- Participation in the online consultation regarding Government of Canada Safe LTC Act
- Planning for a CPD event is ongoing regarding the topic of homelessness; hospital, community, and lived experience perspectives and recommendations. A panel of four including representation from a community agency, health authorities, and lived experience, is proposed.

Other Activities

- A HAC member attended the Health Sciences Association conference in Vancouver in April as a BCASW representative. Many HSA members stopped at the table; discussion focused on the difference between BCASW versus BCCSW; social work practice; and becoming involved in the BCASW.
- Continued involvement with the Advocacy Circle. Health Advocacy Committee meeting minutes are provided to the Advocacy Circle to keep all committees up-to-date.

Nancy Baker

ANTI-RACISM & CULTURAL ADVOCACY COMMITTEE (ARCA)

Our committee members continue to meet monthly by Zoom to discuss issues related to anti-racism, religious acceptance, cultural diversity and inclusion, equity, social justice, and human rights.

Highlights of the past year:

- ARCA member, Shirley Cohn, arranged a tour for BCASW affiliated social workers of the Holocaust Exhibit at the Vancouver Jewish Community Centre
- In celebration of Social Work Week, the Committee worked in liaison with the BCASW President to organize for Associate Professor Dr. Shirley Chau, from UBC, Okanagan, to present a webinar on *Between a Rock and a Hard Place: Racism and Social Work Practice*
- ARCA provided feedback to the BC Anti-Racism Data Provincial Committee
- ARCA provided feedback on the CASW Code of Ethics survey
- ARCA provided feedback to the BC Government Survey on Anti-Racism Legislation
- Our committee members continue to submit articles to Perspectives newsmagazine on issues related to anti-racism, religious acceptance, cultural advocacy

Our goals for the next year are to continue to monitor and to respond to anti-racism issues in BC and in Canada.

If you are interested in promoting anti-racism, religious acceptance and cultural diversity, ARCA members invite you to join our committee.

We meet the third Wednesday of the month. Please contact us at bcasw@bcasw.org and we will send you a Zoom invitation to join our meetings.

Sri Pendakur, MSW & Marisa Tuzi, MSW – Co-chairs

RETIRED SOCIAL WORKERS GROUP

Retired Social Workers met by Zoom approximately ten months of the year. We kept it informal and enjoyed hearing stories of change and advocacy from various corners of the province and Yukon. Sometimes the highpoint was reading and analyzing a recommended book or article. Other times it was Bill Engleson's very early or very recent publication. We remain open to all suggestions and welcome all retired or soon to be retired or even thinking about retirement, BCASW members. We remain open to all suggestions and welcome all retired or soon to be retired or even thinking about retirement, BCASW members. Expect lively discussion, inspiring or thought-provoking topics, valuable referral sources and much understanding of the realities of retirement. Expect laughter too.

Carol Ross

INDIGENOUS SOCIAL WORKERS MEETING

Thanks go to Elaine Herbert for leadership of this group. Indigenous social workers are welcome to contact BCASW for more information about joining this group and advising and supporting BCASW in actions based on truth and reconciliation principles.

ADVOCACY CIRCLE

This past year the Advocacy Circle met regularly to share initiatives from participants and to explore direction and priorities. We participated in two New/Mode “letter writing” campaigns: *Speak Up for Housing Justice* and *Long Term Care Advisory Forum with Action for Reform of Residential Care Association (ARRCBC)*. New/Mode has been renewed for another year.

We are currently focusing on establishing the *Advocacy Toolbox*, a place where advocacy instruction sheets are written for use by our members. We are looking forward to increased participation in the Circle; updating our Advocacy Circle webpages; and filling a regular advocacy column for *Perspectives*.

The quilt for a residential school survivor has been completed thanks to the efforts of BCASW members Kate Layard, Ursula Kerr, Carol Ross and Barb Keith. Special thanks to Barb for putting it all together. It will be sent to a residential school survivor who requested a quilt through *Quilts for Survivors*.

We continue to have Advocacy Circle meetings using Zoom ten months of the year and look forward to an active year.

Barb Keith & Carol Ross

advocacy.circle.BCASW@gmail.com

SENIORS COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

While our understanding is that a Community of Practice is a less formal entity than a BCASW Committee, our group has been very busy this year as there is no shortage of issues impacting older adults.

This year we:

- Provided input into the provincial Accessibility Consultation led by the Parliamentary Secretary for Accessibility
- Hosted a Medical Assistance in Dying webinar during Social Work Week with support from Rachel Andor, social work student and Tracy Leroux
- Drafted a press release issued by BCASW in support of enhancements needed to Home Support in BC as outlined in the Office of the Seniors Advocate’s *We Must Do Better: Home Support Services for B.C. Seniors* report
- Held a joint meeting with the Health Advocacy Committee about how we can work together to support one another’s efforts
- Started to explore Assisted Living and Long-term Care impacts on Indigenous older adults and intersections with ageism

We continue to keep an eye on:

- New reports released on anything to do with services for older adults
- How we can support the Association for Reform of Residential Care in BC’s efforts in calling for a provincial Long Term Care Roundtable
- Opportunities to encourage the collection of data about the work of social workers in Assisted Living and Long-Term Care

We are currently planning two webinars for next year:

- MAiD Part 2 – Ethical Issues - November
- A session for the Association for Reform of Residential Care in BC – February – *It’s My Home – Working Together to Ensure LTC Really is Home*

Thank you to active group members Tracy Leroux, Elizabeth Dow, Karen Wong, Miriam Plonovska, Kimberly Azyan, Dawn Hemingway, and Nancy Baker for all your contributions this year!

Alison Leaney

Strategic Plan 2021-2024

Reorganize | Communicate | Grow
October 1, 2020



BC ASSOCIATION OF
SOCIAL WORKERS

<p>Mission - We are the professional association of social workers in British Columbia and promote the profession of Social Work. We advance Social Work practice and values to create a just and compassionate society.</p>				
<p>1. Promotion of the profession and practice of social work - Promote the knowledge, skills, and abilities of professional social workers and the diversity of social work practice to public, government, and non-governmental organizations.</p>	<p>2. Service to members – Provide valuable, supportive, and accessible resources and services that meet the needs and interests of members</p>	<p>3. Advocacy, social justice – Promote health, social, and economic policy consistent with social work values, to ensure a just and compassionate society</p>	<p>4. Strengthen the Association – Ensure that the Association is sufficiently resourced to fulfill its mission</p>	
<p>Reorganize –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Strengthen branches and equip them to better achieve the Association's goals at the local level b) Increase quality of continuing professional development offerings 	<p>Reorganize -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Reorganize and coordinate advocacy efforts, and establish priorities 	<p>Reorganize -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Increase diversity within membership and Association leadership positions b) Strengthen committees to attract members' interests c) Align committee structure with strategic goals d) Restructure the Board of Directors to increase effectiveness as a "working board". e) Strengthen Indigenous participation in the Association 	<p>Reorganize -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Increase diversity within membership and Association leadership positions b) Strengthen committees to attract members' interests c) Align committee structure with strategic goals d) Restructure the Board of Directors to increase effectiveness as a "working board". e) Strengthen Indigenous participation in the Association 	
<p>Communicate -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Strive to be a bold and strong voice for professional social work b) Educate other professionals and the public about the profession of social work 	<p>Communicate -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Increase frequency of communications with members and ensure members are aware of the Association's activities 	<p>Communicate -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Advocacy needs to be direct, focused, and sustained b) Ensure members and the public are aware of our advocacy efforts 	<p>Communicate -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Need to articulate the benefits of membership b) Increase clarity about what BCASW does c) Increase contact between BCASW & social work students 	
<p>Grow –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Strengthen relationships with elected public office holders 	<p>Grow –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Continue the campaign to strengthen professional social work including protection of title, mandatory registration, and a legislated scope of practice 	<p>Grow –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Increase membership to ensure the Association has adequate operating revenue b) Invest in developing a trained volunteer base 	<p>Grow –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Increase membership to ensure the Association has adequate operating revenue b) Invest in developing a trained volunteer base 	

Social Work is Essential

*Action Today
for a Better Tomorrow*

*Social workers are
practitioners,
counsellors,
advocates,
facilitators,
leaders...*

*Social workers are
professional and
accountable.*



BC Association of Social Workers

www.bcasw.org