

BC Association of Social Workers



ANNUAL REPORT

2021/2022

BCASW BOARD MEMBERS 2021-2022

EXECUTIVE

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

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Alyson Gracey
Kimberly Azyan
Rae Morris

REPRESENTATIVES TO THE BOARD

Vancouver Sea to Sky Branch	John Richmond
Richmond/Delta/Burnaby Branch	Carol Ross
Fraser River Branch	Jas Hundal
Vancouver Island Branch	WhitneyAnderson/ Robin Love
Kootenay Branch	Nikki Hemstad-Lette
Northern Branch	Glen Schmidt
Northwest Branch	Tessa Murray/Angela Boutillier
Thompson Nicola Branch	Lorry-Ann Austin
Okanagan Branch	Cheryl Ash
Student Representative	Anna Jackson

BCASW STAFF

Executive Director	Dianne Heath
Member Services Coordinator	Darren Usher
Communications Coordinator and Admin Assistant	Jess Holtslander
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

402-1755 West Broadway, Vancouver, BC V6J 4S5

T 604 730.9111

Toll free in BC 1 800 665.4747

bcasw@bcasw.org www.bcasw.org

We acknowledge that our office is located in the unceded territory of the Coast Salish Peoples, including the territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations and that our members live and work in unceded territories across British Columbia. We acknowledge territory and First Peoples and commit to genuine and ongoing work to forge real understanding, and to challenge the legacies of colonialism.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

submitted by Michael Crawford



Q 7es le m-wé7es re swíktsen. ("Its been a long time since I have seen you").

As a small part of my search for truth along the path of reconciliation with Indigenous peoples, I try to use Secwepemctsin phrases, the language of the Indigenous people within Secwepemcúl ucw where I live. I'm trying to demonstrate an appreciation and respect for Indigenous history and tradition, and with the blessing of Elders, I'm not appropriating culture. I used the phrase "Q 7es le m-wé7es re swíktsen" many time last year as public health orders lifted and as I have begun to meet people in person, rather than online.

Our Association was stronger and better able to achieve our mission this year, than in past years. We increased our membership and have seen an increase in staff. That allowed us to provide new, innovative, and improved services, promote the profession with the BC government and other associations, and to engage in advocacy in a more sustained and effective manner.

COVID and more generally the demands of the profession, took their toll on social workers. Our Association is thankful for the efforts of Alyson Gracey and Alex Leslie who facilitated the support group for social workers with workplace mental health injuries.

Our professional development offerings continue online and engage social workers within and outside the Association with high quality educational events. We are grateful for Phyllis Nash's trusted leadership and her commitment to being inclusive and strategic.

Our Advocacy Circle, under Barb Keith's leadership meets monthly to plan actions and to educate members about the role of advocacy and the basic skills involved. The Circle will

figure prominently this fall as the campaign to strengthen professional social work enters a new phase.

The Anti-Racism and Cultural Advocacy Committee, the Health Advocacy Committee, and the Seniors Community of Practice group have been active throughout the past year. We

thank Sri Pendakur, Marisa Tuzi, Fiona Lewis, Nancy Baker, and Alison Leaney for their leadership.

The BCASW Membership committee, chaired by Glen Schmidt, organized meetings between our Association and social work students to familiarize them with the Association and is currently drawing up plans to create a membership category for schools of social work in BC.

Outreach to students is underway for the fall and fourth-year UBC social work student Amanda Cama is providing leadership to this group and facilitating their involvement in the Association.

Perspectives continues to be an exciting and informative newsmagazine under the leadership of Heather Lamb, Chair of the Editorial Board.

The BCASW staff continue to provide strong and effective services to our members and lead the advocacy and outreach efforts of the Association. Thank you to Dianne Heath, Darren Usher, and our new hire, Jess Holtslander.

Thank you to outgoing Board members for your exemplary service and 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.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

submitted by Dianne Heath

Social work has always been essential. Now, social workers are in critical demand.

2022 continues to challenge and social workers continue to do their job, personally and professionally impacted by local and global events. Social work positions go unfilled while community and healthcare needs increase in the face of the concurrent pandemic and extreme weather events. Truth and reconciliation principles require thoughtful action and the need for diversity and inclusion leads us to ongoing reviews of ethics and practice.

Currently, Darren Usher, BCASW Member Services Coordinator is in the office part-time while I work full-time from home. Jess Holtslander joined the staff, working from Kelowna part-time. Kelly Guiaya, University of the Fraser Valley, completed her MSW placement.

Membership grows steadily (over 1385). This figure represents a new record high since the Board of Registration separated from the Association in 1996 (867). Just over half (55%) of BCASW members are full-time practising social workers. Remaining members are retired, associates, students, working reduced hours part-time, seeking work, on leave, or have completed less than a year of employment. All members in these categories pay significantly reduced dues in an effort to make membership affordable.

Over half of BCASW members (729), report working in private practice. Resources for this group include affordable professional liability insurance access, the private practice portal on the CASW site, peer group and individual mentorship, webinars on clinical topics and online practice. The private practice roster *findasocialworker* grew to 67 listings.

The new website, www.bcasw.org, was launched earlier this year and provides easier access to resources. This month, we completed data migration to a new secure members' site and database. As the migration was not a perfect transfer of data, we ask that members login from the website to correct and update their data. Over the next while we will continue to work out the glitches.

Nationally and provincially, BCASW works with coalitions and other associations to advance social policy initiatives to ensure that social policies are informed through the lens of the social determinants of health. We continue conversations with stakeholders, the Ministry of Children and Family Development (mandatory regulation), and the Ministry of Health (regulation under the new Health Professions Act). BCASW is registered under the Lobbyists Transparency Act.



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

As membership grows, benefits and programs for members have increased, as has our capacity to respond to consultation requests from government and other coalition groups.

Much of the work of BCASW is done by volunteers. Volunteers chair committees and practice interest groups. They provide leadership in branch executive, member at large, student and national representative, and board director positions. Board directors set strategic priorities, address concerns with government policy and action, connect with universities, and support the work of committees. Succession planning for leadership positions is challenging and crucial.

Capacity issues continue. BCASW has under the equivalent of two full-time positions. The need to augment staff resources to provide service and support volunteers remains.

Mentorship for social workers, new to practice or transitioning and acquiring new skills is a valued BCASW program. Please let us know if you would consider volunteering to share your expertise as a mentor.

Technology requires constant upgrading. Thank you for your patience while we continue to improve our payment system, database, and new website.

Possible directions on matters such as branch and board re-organization, return to in-person meetings/continuing virtually are discussed as we look for optimal adaptation for the future.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

- Truth and Reconciliation initiatives and actions
- Office relocation, providing space and hybrid workplace options
- Work on strategies to increase and support membership
- Review the 2021-2024 Strategic Plan with the new Board
- Continue advocacy for mandatory regulation of BC social workers.
- Update personnel policies to reflect new work realities
- Update policy governance to reflect equity, diversity, inclusion
- Support for national ethics review project

BCASW Mentorship Program

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

Ten requests so far this year including:

- support for new positions after recently graduating
- transition from school to practice
- working in BC after transferring from overseas
- support for a new position as a director of a non-profit
- working in child protection
- support taking the ASWB exam
- working with seniors and long-term care (COVID)

New mentors signed up to the BCASW Mentoring Program: two

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 with 120 members joining the mailing list. The group developed 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. The group split into two groups in May; a group advocating for greater recognition of the RCSW designation (11 members on the mailing list - First Thursday of the month, noon-1pm) and a group supporting members applying to the BCCSW to sit the RCSW exam (24 members on the mailing list - Fourth Thursday of the month, noon-1pm). Depending on identified need, a possible third group may develop as a clinical study group for the ASWB exam (also possible through 1-1 mentorship).

3. Peer Support Group for Supervisors in Private Practice

Second Thursday of the month, noon-1pm

This group was identified as a possible need through the Peer Support Group for Mental Health Injury where a recurring theme was that stress and lack of support for supervisors negatively affected front line staff. Also, the Peer Support Group for Members Starting a Private Practice received a significant number of requests for referrals to supervisors. This group has 12 members and group meetings have been small with 3-4 members attending. Themes include developing a supervision contract; vicarious liability; decolonizing supervision; individual vs group supervision. Exclusion applies to supervisors working for an employer as the group is meant for those working in private practice.

4. Peer Support Group for Members Experiencing Workplace Mental Health Injury

Fourth Thursday of the month 7pm-8pm

This group began in 2021 and drew a small number each month with a few members attending more than one meeting. Members reported feeling supported and relieved to understand they were not the only ones with similar experiences. Facilitators worked to redefine the group as a general mental health and burnout support group however believed that the stigma of admitting to such was a barrier to access. The group was put on hold in August 2022. The group will be reassessed in January 2023. As an alternative or supplement, 1-1 mentors will support members requesting assistance in this area.

TREASURER'S REPORT

submitted by Fiona Lewis, RSW



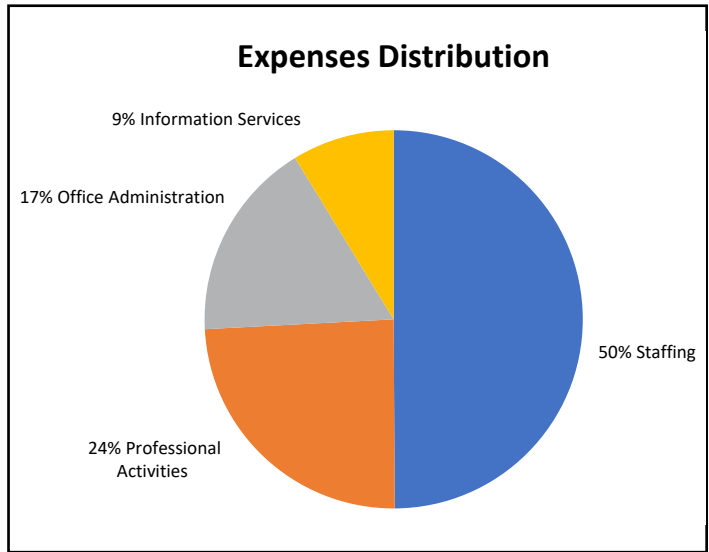
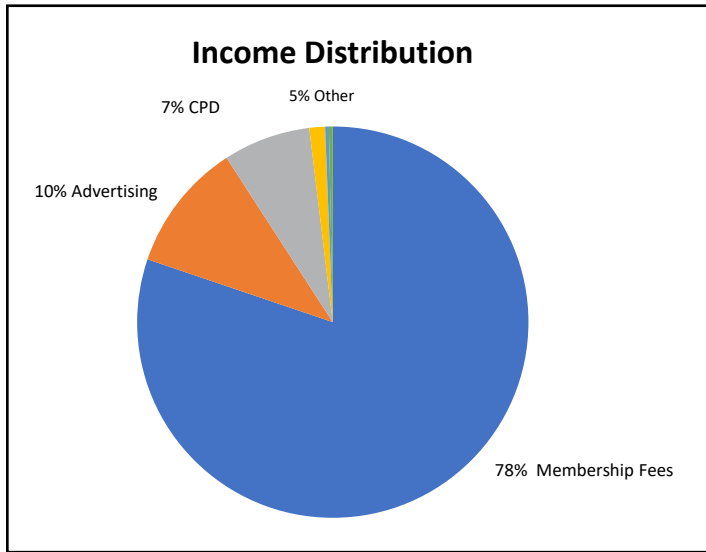
I am pleased to provide the following report to the 2022 Annual General Meeting.

The Association ended the year in a strong financial position, with an operating surplus of \$60,419.00. Revenue came in above budget due to continued growth in membership as well as increases in workshop revenue. Half of the surplus (\$30,000.00) will be used to pay back the repayable portion of the Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA) loan for COVID-19 pandemic emergency support. We expect to hear soon that the outstanding \$10,000.00 loan amount will be forgiven by the federal government.

Expenses were also slightly above budget. The Association's assessment payable to our national organization, CASW, increases as membership revenue increases. In addition, there were added expenses related to the many webinars BCASW offered throughout the year. Once again, the pandemic resulted in decreased expenses for board meetings as travel was not advised. The Association's board again approved a small increase for staff as we continue to ensure salaries are in line with similar roles in the not-for-profit sector.

As of June 2022, the association continues to perform well financially. With membership fees higher in the first six months than the same period last year, we may end the year with a small surplus. More members do lead to higher expenses in some budget areas such as CASW fees, *Perspectives* costs and other services to members. Other additional costs this year included a new part-time Communications and Admin Assistant and a salary increase for staff. These costs are included in the budget as are the costs of an in-person board meeting which we hope will occur in the fall. We are continuing to rebuild our contingency fund with an additional contribution of \$50,000 in June of this year. This brings our contingency fund up to \$188,914.00 which meets the contingency fund ceiling set out in our governance policies.

Thank you to all members for your support of the Association. We trust that the programs and services the Association provides to you represent good value for the fees you pay.



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, 2021 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, 2021, 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, 2022


Chartered Professional Accountants

BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS		
Statement of Financial Position		
December 31, 2021		
(Unaudited)		
	2021	2020
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Cash	\$ 190,355	\$ 160,591
Investments	139,293	88,299
Accounts receivable (Note 3)	7,388	3,425
Prepaid expenses	696	663
	<u>337,732</u>	<u>252,978</u>
TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS (Note 4)	459	1,293
	<u>\$ 338,191</u>	<u>\$ 254,271</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Accounts payable and accrued charges	\$ 2,500	\$ 1,291
Government remittances payable	2,535	2,490
Deferred revenue (Note 5)	169,113	136,866
	<u>164,148</u>	<u>140,647</u>
LONG TERM DEBT (Note 6)	40,000	40,000
	<u>204,148</u>	<u>180,647</u>
NET ASSETS		
Operating fund	134,043	73,624
	<u>\$ 338,191</u>	<u>\$ 254,271</u>

BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS			
Statement of Changes in Net Assets			
Year Ended December 31, 2021			
(Unaudited)			
	Operating Fund	2021	2020
NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$ 73,624	\$ 73,624	\$ 74,544
Excess (deficiency) of income over expenses	60,419	60,419	(920)
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 134,043</u>	<u>\$ 134,043</u>	<u>\$ 73,624</u>

BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS		
Statement of Operations		
Year Ended December 31, 2021		
(Unaudited)		
	2021	2020
INCOME		
Membership fees	\$ 256,829	\$ 215,951
Administration fees	1,013	1,050
Advertising	34,150	19,054
Conferences and workshops	23,095	10,581
Donations and gifts	10,000	3,465
Interest and investment income	994	1,808
Membership materials	4,154	4,617
Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy	-	9,127
	<u>330,235</u>	<u>265,653</u>
EXPENSES (per Schedule 1)		
Office administration	46,153	55,146
Information services	23,547	24,474
Professional activities	65,451	50,914
Board activities	-	6,780
Staffing	134,665	129,259
	<u>269,816</u>	<u>266,573</u>
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF INCOME OVER EXPENSES	<u>\$ 60,419</u>	<u>\$ (920)</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.

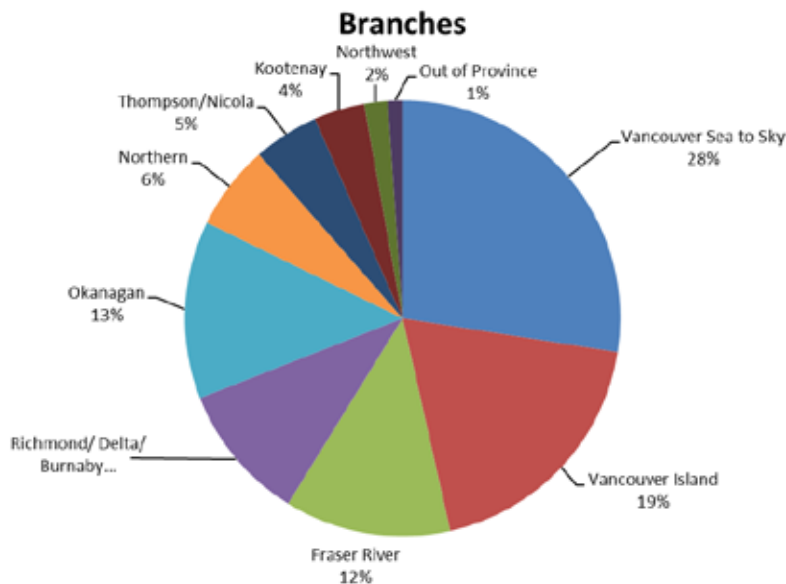
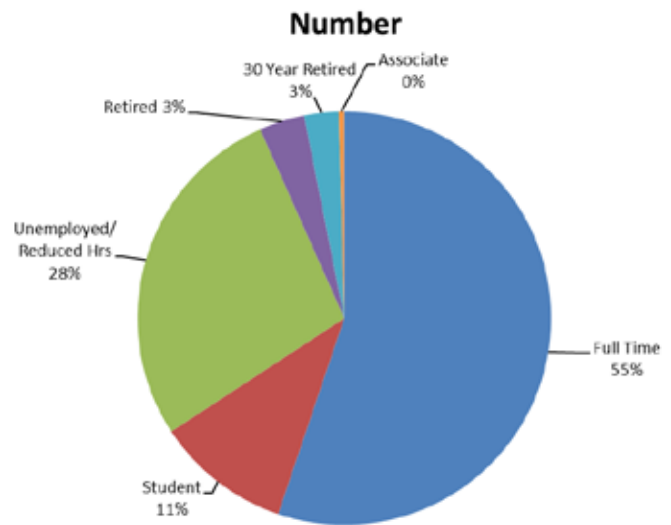
When?

A snapshot of data taken September 2022.

Who are we?

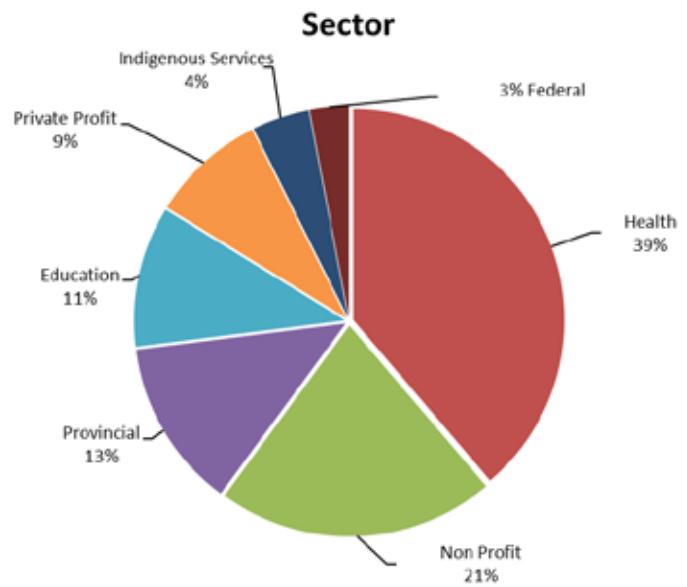
We are 1379 social workers, social work students, and associates.

Member Category	Number
Full Time	761
Student	146
Unemployed/Reduced Hrs	380
Retired	49
30 Year Retired	37
Associate	6
	1379



Branch	Number
Vancouver Sea to Sky	379
Vancouver Island	262
Fraser River	170
Richmond/Delta/Burnaby	141
Okanagan	182
Northern	87
Thompson/Nicola	67
Kootenay	52
Northwest	24
Out of Province	15
	1379

Sector	Count
Health	273
Non-Profit	150
Provincial	91
Education	76
Private Profit	62
Indigenous Services	31
Federal	21



729 members reported having a private practice.

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, Monica Oloresisimo Cervantes, Lorry-Ann Austin, Kelly Guiaya

Layout and Design: Heather MacNeil

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

- Winter Edition: *Current Events and Social Workers*
- Spring/Summer Edition: *Health Care Social Work and Pandemic Reflections*
- Autumn Edition: *A Post-COVID World: Challenges and Opportunities*

EBULLETINS list events, provide updates and information.

EMAIL

- Dialogue with members – questions, concerns, and responses
- CASW and Branch communications
- Opportunity Ads – job advertisements, continuing professional development, events

WEBSITE <https://www.bcasw.org> launched March 2022, new database September 2022

Member information, services, and benefits including:

- Branch events, committee updates, news
- Job advertisements
- 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

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*

- Promotional flyer for inclusion in BCCSW mailouts to new registrants – *Why Belong to BCASW?*
- Member benefit postcards

ADVOCACY & COMMUNICATIONS WITH GOVERNMENT, ALLIES, & PUBLIC

Issues addressed in partnership, coalitions, and/or as a single organization included:

- Mandatory Regulation – Ministry of Children and Family Development
- Modernization of the Health Professions Act – Ministry of Health
- Support for RSWs writing the RCSW exam
- Publicly Funded Counselling Advisory Committee (expanding services)
- Employment and Labour Marketing Services (the role of social work in healthcare)
- Provincial Health Care Social Work Working Group (competencies for BSW & MSW)
- The Doctors of BC review of draft policy paper on reducing burdens
- Improving the quality of life in long-term care
- The Select Standing Committee on Health (toxic illicit drug overdoses)

SOCIAL MEDIA – Managed by Michael Crawford and Jess Holtslander



The image shows a promotional graphic for BCASW. At the top, it says "bcasw" in a large, white, lowercase font on a teal background. To the right, it says "the hub of communication, advocacy and action for social workers in bc." in a smaller, white, lowercase font. Below the logo, there is a circular emblem with a stylized figure. The main text of the graphic reads: "BC Association of Social Workers is a voluntary, not-for-profit membership association that supports and promotes the profession of social work." Below this, it says "Join us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter!" followed by "We are posting about social work issues and opportunities in BC." and "Follow us to stay connected!". At the bottom, it lists the social media handles: "facebook.com/bcasw (1,604 followers)", "instagram.com/socialworkersbc (747 followers)", and "twitter.com/bcsocialworkers (446 followers)".

Members' Update on Campaign to Strengthen Professional Social Work in BC

September 2022

Our campaign to strengthen professional social work in British Columbia continues and we will soon call on members to work together to achieve a stronger profession.

The Ministry of Children and Family Development launched a consultation with their partners, social workers, and the public on oversight of the social work profession including what is working well and opportunities for improvement. I believe this consultation was launched as a direct result of the intense lobbying for changes to the Social Workers Act done by our staff and Board of Directors. You can find the details of this consultation on the govTogetherBC website.

This latest round of advocacy began when MCFD changed the educational requirements for child welfare workers in 2019 to include Bachelor of Arts graduates in almost any program including anthropology and theology. After an initial engagement, MCFD refused to discuss the changes and argued that they were required to address their recruitment and retention issues.

BCASW pivoted, put together a coalition including the BCGEU, the BC College of Social Workers, and directors of BC schools of social work, and began a series of discussions with MCFD aimed at changing the Social Workers Act to require mandatory registration for all social workers, full protection of title, and a legislated scope of practice. These discussions continued through to the spring of 2022 however, nothing substantial was gained and we were frustrated by MCFD's inability or unwillingness to discuss our profession beyond the boundaries of their ministry. As with almost all previous iterations of the campaign, we concluded, following much study and member consultation, that the regulation of our profession for the protection of the public interest would be best accomplished under the Ministry of Health. The Minister of Health oversees the regulation of more than two dozen health professions through the Health Professions Act.

The Minister of Health has advised that revisions to the Health Professions Act, following a review by Harry Cayton, will be introduced shortly after the BC Legislature resumes sitting in early October. The revisions create an oversight committee and we have been advised that the committee will be charged with the responsibility of determining where best to locate social work to best protect the public. They may choose to leave social work under MCFD or move our profession to Health.

MCFD has proven itself to be a poor steward of the Social Workers Act and the Minister, responsible for the administration of the act, maintains an exemption from the act for her own staff. In fact, MCFD is moving from a passive ignoring of the act to actively excluding the use of *social work* and *social worker* within their ranks.

Social work is much more than child welfare and health, is much more inclusive of the work we do. Our familiarity with the social determinants of health and their application to all areas of social work practice, make the move to the Health Professions Act a logical one. The Ministry of Health, over the past year, has reached out to BCASW asking for our expertise and involvement with the Publicly Funded Counselling Advisory Committee (expanding services), Employment and Labour Marketing Services (the role of social work in healthcare), the Select Standing Committee on Health (toxic illicit drug overdoses), Provincial Health Care Social Work Working Group (competencies for BSW and MSW). The Doctors of BC also recently asked us to review their draft policy paper on reducing burdens.

continued on next page

This fall, you will hear directly from Advocacy Circle chair, Barb Keith and me, with an invitation to get involved in this campaign. We look forward to working with you to strengthen our profession.

Me7 xpem-kt re sellts' u7úwi-kt ("We will stitch our moccasins together " in Secwepemctsin, the language of the Indigenous people within Secwepemcúlcw where I live).

Michael Crawford, MSW, RSW, President
BC Association of Social Workers

For further information, please contact Michael Crawford at bcasw@bcasw.org.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

The Membership Committee meets every 5 to 8 weeks and has held seven meetings since the last AGM. Current members include Kelly Guiaya, Lorry-Ann Austin, Ann Mary Jobin, Anna Jackson, Cheryl Ash, Michael Crawford, and Glen Schmidt. Dianne Heath attends the meetings and provides operational support.

The committee was inactive until several years ago but has been revitalized thanks to the initiative of Michael Crawford and the active involvement of the committee members. The committee has Terms of Reference and pursued the tasks of building membership numbers and sustaining existing members. Most of the work focused on building membership numbers.

Kelly Guiaya researched student involvement, as data indicated that recruiting students is an effective way to increase membership in BCASW. The committee tries to ensure that members of the committee or staff engage with incoming BSW students at the BC institutions of higher education. Normally this is accomplished at orientation sessions for incoming BSW students.

The committee is looking at institutional membership which would see all social work students become members of the BCASW as a part of admission to a social work degree program. The committee examined how other professional organizations deal with this. The proposition is complex, but the membership committee will be working to see if we might be able to establish this process.

Kelly Guiaya will become the new chair of the Membership Committee.

*Glen Schmidt RCSW
Past Chair Membership Committee*

REORGANIZATION COMMITTEE

This committee met three times since May 2022. With support from the staff team, we added new members who bring valuable perspectives to this challenging work. As a group, we methodically assessed how our Association and its components are at the moment meeting the goals of the Association, as laid out in our Strategic Plan. This work has been tough; we routinely come up against differences in opinion. These discussions compel us to evaluate long-standing BCASW structures, many that feel inextricable from our experiences of the Association. We recognise that in order to be effective as a committee, we need to keep our focus narrow and succinct. We made considerable progress in identifying success in achieving Strategic Plan goals and have uncovered some areas that require more work. Our current task is the massive undertaking to consider how the Board itself is meeting the needs of members – and whether the BCASW would be better served with a different type or arrangement of Board. We hope to have recommendations for the Executive by 2023.

Cayce Laviolette

LATEST NEWS (posted on BCASW website)

[SOCIAL WORK IMPOSTER'S SENTENCE SHOWS PUBLIC NEEDS MORE PROTECTION](#)

BCASW Media Release

Date of Release: July 25, 2022

[DECRIMINALIZATION OF SMALL AMOUNTS OF DRUGS IN BC A POSITIVE STEP - BUT FALLS SHORT OF CHANGES NEEDED TO SAVE LIVES](#)

BCASW/CASW Joint Media Release

Date of Release: June 1, 2022

[CHANGES TO CHILD WELFARE FUNDING NEEDED, BC SOCIAL WORKERS](#)

BCASW Media Release

Date of Release: March 29, 2022

[BC SOCIAL WORKERS CELEBRATE SOCIAL WORK WEEK](#)

BCASW Media Release

Date of Release: March 14, 2022

[BCASW SUPPORTS CHIEF CORONOR'S CALL FOR ACTION](#)

BCASW Media Release

Date of Release: February 9, 2022

[BC SOCIAL WORKERS STATEMENT ON THE NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION](#)

BCASW Media Release

Date of Release: September 28, 2021

CASW REPORT

submitted by Glen Schmidt, RCSW, CASW Board Representative



BCASW is member of the national body, the Canadian Association of Social Workers. The CASW is governed by a Board made up of a representative from each provincial organization, with the exception of Quebec. There is one representative for the three territories. The Board follows a policy governance model and the Executive Director, Fred Phelps, reports to the Board. The Board Chair and President of the CASW is Joan Davis Whelan from Newfoundland, serving in her second term. The CASW office is small but highly productive.

The Mission Statement of the CASW is to: *promote the profession of social work in Canada and advance social justice.* The Board, Executive Director, and staff follow the CASW Mission Statement through a strategic plan. A small sample of the actions and activities of the CASW staff and Board included meeting with the Federal government and advocating for forgiveness of student loans, meeting with Telus Health to ensure that all RSWs are included in e-billing across all participating extended health providers, developing a promotional campaign for social work, successful advocacy to have social workers included in the Public Service Health Care Plan, and successful lobbying to ban conversion therapy. This is only a small sample of advocacy and action by the CASW.

In addition to the advocacy, the CASW has undertaken a number of major projects. Noteworthy is the rewriting of the Code of Ethics. There has been extensive consultation with

social workers and Indigenous people regarding this work. The CASW submitted a proposal for a sector study and awaits approval. The last (and only) sector study of social work was more than 20 years ago. The CASW is working on an anti-racism statement and paper. The CASW reviews the applications and qualifications of social workers immigrating to Canada.

The CASW meets regularly with government officials and MPs from all political parties. The CASW establishes partnerships through regular linkage and meetings with other like-minded organizations and professional associations. The CASW connects Canadian social work to international organizations. Of note, Joan Davis Whelan is the current Chair of the North American branch of the International Association of Social Workers. The CASW connects with the Association of Social Work Boards, the organization that develops regulatory standards.

This past year, the CASW supported a group of social workers in Quebec who want to re-establish a provincial professional association and link with the CASW as a member organization. The CASW provided support to Alberta social workers as the association and the regulatory body decouple in that province.

The Board meets every two to three months. All meetings have been via Zoom through the COVID pandemic. However, the Board held its first in person meeting in three years in New Brunswick. This was a Federation meeting that included association members and regulators.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT: Things are Coming Together

submitted by Anna Jackson & Amanda Cama

For 2021/2022, The BCASW Student Committee reached out to and involved students across British Columbia. Monthly student meetings were held over Zoom to facilitate participation amongst attending schools across the province.

Participating students represented diverse backgrounds, identities, and social locations, bringing a breadth of personal lived experiences and points of view to meeting discussions. This diversity in the discussion led to increased and renewed interest in paid practicum placements and student loan forgiveness topics. In addition, to attract more student participation, the Student Committee began updating the member benefit document, although that remains an ongoing project.



For the first time, we appointed a social media officer, understanding that social media engagement is a predominant means of engagement with the association for the student population and is the cornerstone for sustainable growth of the Student Committee. The effort to continue growth on social media will continue into the coming year.

To crystallize the Committee and ensure a smooth succession in coming years, the Student Committee finished the Terms of Reference, which have been approved by the Board. Finally, the BCASW student members have elected a new Student Rep, Amanda Cama, who is excited to carry on the work of the Committee and ensure that the student voices are represented and heard at the BCASW Board.

BCASW STUDENT AWARDS

STUDENT AWARDS

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

UNBC - BC Association of Social Workers Prize \$250

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 to the Social Work program at UNBC. The prize will be awarded for study in the fourth year of the Social Work program.

Thompson Rivers University - BC Association of Social Workers Bursary \$250

Awarded annually to a top student in BSW Year 3 or 4 with financial need.

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology - BC Association of Social Workers Bursary \$250

Awarded to a full-time 3rd 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 - BC Association of Social Workers Scholarship \$250

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

University of Victoria - BC Association of Social Workers Bursary \$250

A prize is awarded to an outstanding student (a combination of GPA, community service etc.) 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 - BC Association of Social Workers Prize \$250

Awarded to an outstanding student in first year Social Work on the recommendation of the Director of the School.

Vancouver Island University - BC Association of Social Workers Scholarship \$250

A scholarship is offered to students in the BSW program.

Practising BCASW Member Scholarships

CASW/BMS scholarships are awarded to assist members of CASW partner organizations to attend activities that align with the mission and purpose of CASW and uphold the values and principles of the CASW Code of Ethics. Priority is given to support social work professional development opportunities provided through CASW conferences, BCASW conferences, and other BCASW training events. Applications are reviewed by the BCASW Awards Committee. This year three members applied for and received CASW/BMS funding for continuing professional development.

The law firm of Murphy Battista LLP, in consultation with the BCASW, created the BCASW Murphy Battista LLP Continuing Education Bursary Fund to assist practicing social workers with the cost of continuing education. In 2022, so far one member has applied for and received this bursary.

Application forms can be found on the BCASW website, Continuing Professional Development, Members' Resources.

Thank you to Pamela Miller, Phyllis Nash, and Cheryl Ash for their work on the Awards Committee.

Awards for Distinguished Service

THE BC ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

BCASW is proud to present Elizabeth Jones with a BCASW Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2022 AGM. Her contributions to the profession through leadership in the BCASW and the British Columbia College of Social Workers (BCCSW), as well as her leadership within positions she held with the Ministry of Children and Family Development, University Hospital UBC, UBC School of Social Work, and in private practice are significant in shaping the profession in BC. By leading the profession forward provincially, she contributed to the profession of social work nationally.

The Board of BCASW believes that Elizabeth Jones is the exemplification of service to the profession of social work and recognizes her work with the BCASW Lifetime Achievement Award.

INSPIRING SOCIAL WORKER OF THE YEAR AWARD

This award is co-sponsored by BCASW and the UBC School of Social Work to recognize BC social workers whose compassion and dedication to serving has inspired others. Recipients share their experiences at the Paul Cheng Memorial Lecture held early in September at the UBC School of Social Work.

Kathleen Cashin & Laura Honey, 2022 recipients, will share their insights and stories at the BCASW AGM.

THE JANUSZ KORCZAK ASSOCIATION OF CANADA AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF CHILDREN

This award is co-sponsored by BCASW and the Janusz Korczak Association of Canada and is given to a social worker during Social Work Week (March) in recognition of their contribution to improving children's lives and well-being in ways that reflect the philosophy of Dr. Janusz Korczak. Recipients' practices demonstrate respect for the child, foster skills that lead to healthy independence, promote self-determination, protect human rights, and engage in collaborative practice with the child.

Ferne Strain was the recipient of the first (2022) Janusz Korczak Association Award for Distinguished Social Work Practice Protecting the Rights of Children.

BRIDGET MORAN AWARD

This award is granted by the Northern Branch of BCASW. The ceremony takes place during Social Work Week.

This year's award was proudly presented by the Northern Branch to Christina Dobson.

HEART OF THE GRASSLANDS AWARD

Granted by the Thompson/Nicola Branch of BCASW, to a social worker who holds membership in BCASW, recipients are recognized for their social work service to the community and the profession.

Thompson/Nicola Branch was proud to present the 2022 award to Elaine Herbert.

COPPER SHIELD AWARD

This award is granted by the Northwest Branch of BCASW. The ceremony takes place during Social Work Week.

BRANCH HIGHLIGHTS 2021 - 2022



NORTHERN BRANCH

The Northern Branch had 87 members at last count. Most members are in Prince George but the region is large and we have members in the Peace, Quesnel, and west to Burns Lake. The Branch meets on the third Tuesday of each month with a summer hiatus. This past year, most meetings were held in-person at a local restaurant. In January and February, we met by Zoom due to the spread of the Omicron virus.

The Northern Branch has a good relationship with UNBC and we have several Branch bursaries for students in addition to the provincial BCASW bursary. We partnered with UNBC in establishing the Gordon Ternowetsky Bursary, the Sheila Bitschy Bursary, and the Bridget Moran Bursary. Northern Branch member, Beth Quesnel served as liaison with UNBC.

In the fall, we attend the incoming BSW student orientation at UNBC. The Branch hosts a pizza night for all social work students on the Prince George campus. We provide information about the BCASW and branch members speak about the importance of the professional association.

At Christmas, the Branch hosts a small fund-raising event and social gathering for a local non-profit agency. This past year we supported the Pounds Project, a non-profit society that provides harm reduction and prevention services to people dealing with addictions. The Society Director spoke to our December meeting about the agency and harm reduction.

We developed several initiatives during social work week. Branch member Dawn Hemingway successfully requested that the Prince George Mayor, Lyn Hall, proclaim social work week. We posted affirmations of social workers on social media sites and held a gathering where Dr. Tina Dobson received the Bridget Moran Award. Tina is a longstanding member of the Northern Branch. She worked extensively with Indigenous people and communities as a mental health worker and spoke about her work. We had good media coverage through the week.

Branch members serve on a variety of provincial committees. Of note, Heather Lamb, a Northern Branch member, is the Editor of *Perspectives*. Dr. Jim Campbell, is past Chair of the BC College of Social Workers. Although the Branch is small, we have an active group of core members who contribute time and energy to the Association.

Glen Schmidt

NORTHWEST BRANCH

Last year Monthly Peer Consultations continued via Zoom. Social Work Week was commemorated by offering two virtual lunch and learn opportunities. Carole Fell, a hospital social worker, shared her preceptor experience and knowledge about how to support yourself and students throughout their practicums. Securing enough social work practicum placements in the Northwest has been challenging. The presentation helped inspire and encourage preceptorship. The other lunch and learn was a facilitated discussion on the CASW Code of Ethics.

The NW Branch looks for new members and for members who would like to be involved in the branch executive. We are not sure what the year ahead will hold for the NW Branch, but we plan to connect with the UNBC 4th year social work students in the Northwest and the Coast Mountain College social service worker students.

Angela Boutilier

OKANAGAN BRANCH

Greetings from Okanagan Branch. Membership continues to grow. Please send an email, if you have any suggestions, ideas or comments. The OK Branch is seeking to fill Branch executive positions. Please contact us through the BCASW office for more information.

Cheryl Ash

THOMPSON NICOLA BRANCH

The Thompson Nicola Branch had a busy year full of Lunch and Learns, *Thompson Nicola Connector* mailouts and a spring workshop partnership with the BCASW. We are now in the planning stages for fall and are looking forward to attending orientation events at Thompson Rivers University as well as planning for our next series of Lunch and Learns which will restart in September. We are hopeful that health conditions may permit some in person social activities this fall. Branch Executive members include Lorry-Ann Austin, Michael Crawford, Meghan Dalglish, Jennifer Friend, Rachel Knuttila, and Meghan Selski.

Lorry-Ann Austin

VANCOUVER ISLAND BRANCH

As most other branches experienced in 2022, COVID continued to bring challenges and creative opportunities regarding holding events and connecting with membership.

This year brought more change to our executive; we unfortunately lost our Branch Rep Whitney Anderson earlier this year, which was a loss for us but a win for Alberta where Whitney and her family relocated. We wish Whitney great success in Alberta and thank her for her time and dedication. As secretary for the branch, I was elected to step in for Whitney and will be acting Branch Representative until our AGM should we find another willing candidate!

With *pivoting* being such a popular word these days, we hold gratitude for the creative collaboration between our executive and the Main Branch, and the kindness of Michael Crawford, Dianne Heath, and their team as we hosted two events online that reached everyone in the province. The first event was held in January, *Countering Islamophobia, Implications for Social Workers* facilitated by Dr. Moussa Magassa, UVIC Principal Strategist, Community Engagement and Anti-Racism Education & Dr. Mehmoona Moosa-Mitha, Associate Professor at UVIC's School of Social Work. The second co-hosted event was in May and was facilitated by Professor Lena Dominelli, University of Stirling, Scotland. This presentation focused on Lena's work with *Social Workers for Peace: Learning Lessons from Disaster Interventions for the Ukrainian War Experience*. We were fortunate to have Adrienne Carter MSW RCSW and co-founder of The Vancouver Island Counselling Centre for Immigrants and Refugees (VICCIRS) join us and speak to the recent Mental Health Ambassador Program to assist those coming from the Ukraine.

Our branch will end the year with an in-person social event, and we continue to encourage new members or those interested in membership to join us at any time. The executive decided to host in-person meetings in the fall. We plan to discuss with membership the need to reconnect with social work programs at VIU, UVIC, and Camosun College as well as engage in discussions and trainings on increasing diversity and decolonizing our branch work.

Our AGM will be held in October. We are planning a panel discussion regarding the opioid crisis and hope to invite frontline workers to share their experiences and discuss local community projects.

I personally extend my gratitude to David Turner and Nancy Baker for being a constant support to me while I navigate the Branch Rep role and for always showing up to meetings and helping to keep the VI branch up and running!

Robin Love

RICHMOND/ DELTA/ BURNABY BRANCH

We did not meet over the summer and will not be resuming in the fall. All regional members have had opportunity for input.

Carol Ross

FRASER RIVER BRANCH

No activity to report

Jas Hundal

VANCOUVER SEA TO SKY BRANCH

It was a challenging year for the branch as well as for me personally and professionally. I had scheduled a number of in-person meetings with social workers in Vancouver, North Vancouver, West Vancouver and three Indigenous Social Workers in The Swiya on the Sunshine Coast (Shishalh) territory and in the qathet (formerly Powell River) on Tli'amin Territory as well with UBC social work students when I had a stroke secondary to a cycling accident.

Having taken over from previous Branch Rep Catherine Patterson, I felt responsible for "carrying on" and did so with considerable support from my own stroke social workers and BCASW. I was able to recover from my stroke fairly quickly and resume my work with the branch as well as some clinical work and consulting.

Our plan with the VSS branch was to hold a webinar and branch re-launch meeting on the toxic drug crisis, safe supply, and complex care in mental health and addictions (my own life long career interest) on the 3rd anniversary of *In Plain Sight*. Unfortunately, we were not able to secure speakers on these topics but we continue to work on this idea.

While working on my recovery with UBC's BC Brainwellness, I was able to contact the membership with the help of Fiona Lewis.

I hear concerns about the stress and strain of working through the pandemic, underfunding of our health services, under appreciation of the role of SW during the crisis as well as pay and compensation issues. I am and will continue to advocate for our members in the region, acting as their voice with MCFD, Health, VCH, and provincial and municipal representatives.

With efforts from Cayce Laviolette on the Sunshine Coast and Amanda Cama at UBC, Social Work Week was officially recognized in the Town of Gibsons, Sechelt, and the cities of Vancouver, North Vancouver.

Onward and upward for 2023 for our branch.

John Richmond BSW, MSW (ON, BC)

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
PainBC
Social Work for Peace – response to the war in Ukraine (British Association of Social Workers)
The International Federation of Social Workers
West Coast LEAF

COMMITTEES, INTEREST GROUPS, & COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE

SENIORS COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

Last year we focussed on getting more exposure with policy makers for key points from our brief, *The Call for Mandated Social Work Positions in Long Term Care and Assisted Living* which is included in the Action for Reform of Residential Care's (ARRCBC) report *Improving Quality of Life in Long Term Care - A Way Forward*.

We are grateful to Tracy Leroux who met with ARRCBC to prepare to meet with Parliamentary Secretary for Seniors, Mable Elmore, and to strategize on how best to work toward the establishment of a provincial forum to gather community input into improvements needed to Long Term Care in BC. Meetings with ARRCBC have been ongoing. (Thanks Tracy, Dawn, and Darren from the BCASW office)

The federal government engaged the Health Standards Organization to develop national long term care standards. Our CoP responded to both calls for feedback on draft standards. In the first instance we submitted our brief and in the second instance, we prepared a more targeted response found on the BCASW website, practice interest groups, Seniors Community of Practice.

Our CoP has 10 active members, 2 having joined in the last year. In addition to actions noted above, we support each other and share info about upcoming conferences, research, and project opportunities.

In future we plan to:

- continue to support the ARRC call to establish a Long-Term Care Roundtable
- continue to stress the importance of the collection of data on existing social work positions in AL and LTC and promote key messages in our brief
- review new key reports – *Navigating the Path Forward for Dementia in Canada: The Landmark Study Report #1 | Alzheimer Society of Canada*, *WHO Global Report on Ageism and the Cultural Safety and Humility Standard - HSO and FNHA* – which could lead to other initiatives

Alison Leaney

THE ADVOCACY CIRCLE

The Circle meets via Zoom on the first Thursday of every month. Our current focus is on increasing member involvement; learning and using Slack Technology to work on internal projects; building our "How To" tools; becoming collectively more active in joint advocacy action; increasing visibility and advocacy communication within the Association; contributing to a new quilt for residential school survivors.

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.

RETIRED SOCIAL WORKERS DISCUSSION GROUP

This is not an "official" BCASW group but rather a gently coordinated and hosted opportunity for retired members to connect with each other to discuss topics brought forward by participants. Old social work friends and colleagues and complete strangers connect to catch up or get to know each other; suggest books, articles, movies, etc. followed by discussion; recommend resources; stir up interest in advocacy action; provide support during hard times; or encourage reasons to laugh and relax. Sharing wisdom is always appreciated.

Carol Ross

HEALTH ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

The Health Advocacy Committee (HAC) meets remotely on a monthly basis. The committee's activities comprise a range of initiatives, including the following highlights for the period between September 2021 and June 2022:

- Published article in the *Health and Social Work Journal*, entitled "I Have Failed Them and Failed My Duties": Experiences of Hospital Social Workers Discharging Patients into Homelessness", based on research conducted by HAC members
- Provided two rounds of feedback to the Health Services Organization regarding the National Standards on Long Term Care
- Reviewed and provided feedback on the Doctors of BC draft document *Physician Burden Solutions Tool*
- Prepared and disseminated a template letter for social workers to use to lobby their MLAs to take action on the dangers of extreme heat/heat dome
- Participated in the review of the Provincial Health Care Social Working Group report
- Reviewed and provided feedback on the draft of the CASW *Long-term Care Position Paper*
- Consulted with community and government individuals/groups in regards to issues affecting seniors in BC, including:
 - Dr. Penny MacCourt (founding member of the Action for Reform of Residential Care organization; one of the co-authors of the report *Improving Quality of Life in Long Term Care- A Way Forward*) that BCASW endorsed, and
 - Angela Eames (Research Officer, Office of the Seniors Advocate)
- Future initiatives under consideration include:
 - Continued support of Dr. Penny MacCourt and the Action for Reform of Residential Care – the organization that Dr. MacCourt chairs – as they lobby the BC government for changes to Long Term Care and the creation of a Provincial Advisory Forum to provide ongoing guidance to the government regarding Long Term Care and related questions.
 - Development and delivery of a webinar to discuss the issues identified in the published article
 - Impact of toxic drug supply

Nancy Anderson

ANTI-RACISM & CULTURAL ADVOCACY COMMITTEE (ARCA)

Our committee continues to meet monthly by Zoom to discuss issues related to anti-racism, religious acceptance, cultural diversity and inclusion, equity, social justice, and human rights. In past few months, we connected with the Vancouver Police Department, Inclusion and Indigenous Relations Department, hoping to work collaboratively. We are working towards providing a workshop using our *Anti-Racism Tool Kit*. The Committee plans a workshop for the International Holocaust Remembrance Day in January 2023. We are in the process of developing a workshop with community agencies, concentrating on refugee status and health care. The workshop will focus on the Interim Federal Health Program. We plan to provide this webinar through BCASW. The committee started discussing a training session concentrating on BIPOC in leadership roles. ARCA welcomes social workers who are interested to join our committee.

Sri Pendakur & Jhevoi Melville

Professional Development

Committee Members: Phyllis Nash (Chair), Cheryl Ash, Michael Crawford, Fiona Lewis, Rae Morris, Dianne Heath, Jess Holtslander

Webinar	Date	Presenter(s)
<i>The Road to Safety: Indigenous Survivors in BC Speak Out against Intimate Partner Violence during the COVID-19 Pandemic</i>	tba	CASW
<i>Empathy, Compassion, and Burnout Prevention in the Caring Professions</i>	Oct. 4, 2022	Estera Boldut
<i>Social Work Ethics and the BC Mental Health Act: Intersections and Tensions</i>	Sept. 22, 2022	Aman Sharma, Tonya Robitaille, Laura Johnston; Health Justice
<i>Post SSRI Sexual Dysfunction: Providing Ethical and Trauma-Informed Care</i>	June 28, 2022	Yassie Pirani
<i>Resolving Dilemmas at the Intersection of Law and Social Work Ethics</i>	June 16, 2022	Joan Braun
<i>Social Workers for Peace: Learning lessons for Disaster Interventions to the Ukrainian War Experience</i>	May 28, 2022	Dr. Lena Dominelli, Vancouver Island Branch
<i>Decolonizing Mindfulness, Mindful Decolonization and Social Work Futurities</i>	May 20, 2022	Dr. Michael Yellow Bird, Dr. Holly Hatton-Bowers
<i>Thinking of starting a private practice? Things you need to know</i>	May 5, 2022	Darren Usher
<i>Responding to Suicide in Social Work Practice</i>	May 4,5, 2022	Rebecca Sanford, Thompson Nicola Branch
<i>The Power of Curiosity: Embracing Practical Spirituality</i>	April 28, 2022	Maureen Smith
<i>Dismantling stigma, cultivating inclusivity: A participatory action project by and for students who experience substance use issues</i>	April 19, 2022	Sara Fudjack
<i>Decriminalization in BC: Key Considerations for Social Work</i>	Mar. 31, 2022	Chris Van Veen & Guy Felicella
<i>Social Work Week Guest Speaker</i>	Mar. 17, 2022	Minister Mitzi Dean, MCFD
<i>Social Work Week Guest Speaker</i>	Mar. 16, 2022	Minister Sheila Malcolmson, Mental Health & Addictions
<i>Days in the Lives of Social Workers: Health & Wellness, Advocacy & Inclusion, Children & Families, New Practitioners</i>	Mar. 7-10, 2022	BC Social Worker Panels
<i>Clinical Tools for Assessment & Treatment of Gaming Disorders</i>	Feb., 15, 2022	David Minor
<i>Incorporating Neurodiversity into Social Work Practice in Mental Health</i>	Feb. 1, 2022	Rae Morris
<i>Countering Islamophobia; Implications for Social Workers</i>	Jan. 18, 2022	Dr Moussa Magassa, Dr. Mehmoona Moosa-Mitha, Vancouver Island Branch
<i>Adoption According to Custom</i>	Nov. 16, 2021	Kathleen Westergaard

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) Need to articulate the benefits of membership b) Increase clarity about what BCASW does c) Increase contact between BCASW & social work students 	
<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) 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) 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 			

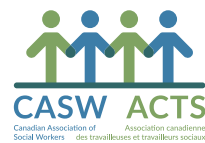
Social work has always been essential.
Now, social workers are...

In Critical Demand



March is National Social Work Month.
Social work was essential before the
pandemic, crucial during the pandemic,
and now more than ever, social workers
are **#InCriticalDemand**.

#NationalSocialWorkMonth



CASW ACTS
Canadian Association of Social Workers / Association canadienne des travailleuses et travailleurs sociaux

casw-acts.ca