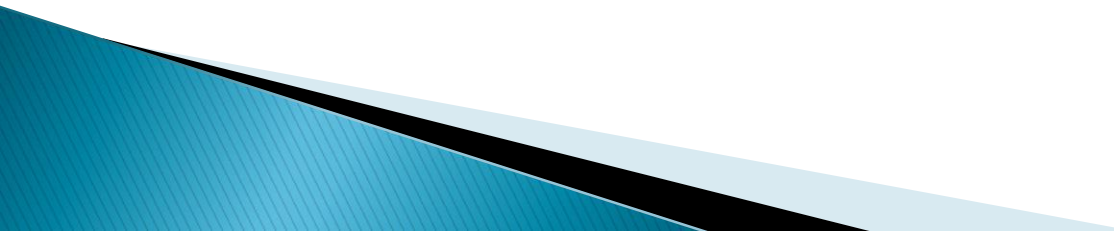




BC ASSOCIATION *of*
SOCIAL WORKERS

A Voice for Social Work in British Columbia

We acknowledge that our office is in the unceded territory of the Coast Salish Peoples, including the territories of the x^wməθk^wəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh (Squamish), and səlilwətał (Tsleil-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 respect the histories, languages, and cultures of First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and all First Peoples, whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant communities.



Professional Associations

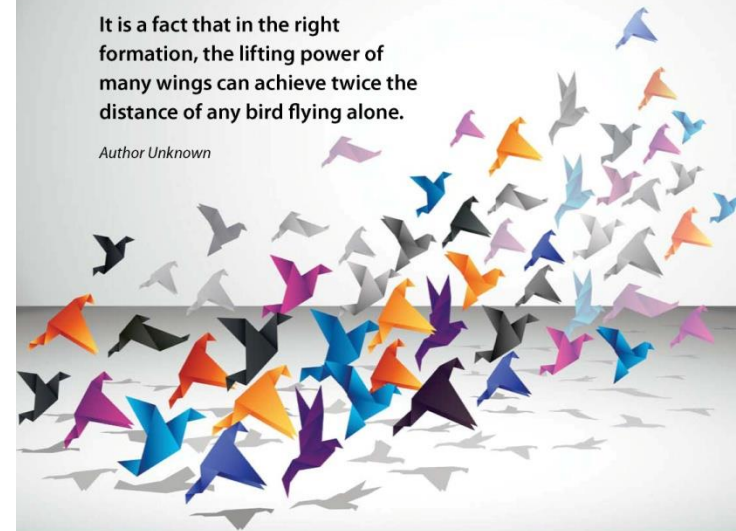
- ▶ Major professions have an organization that reflects the profession's values, advocates on their behalf, and seeks to increase public understanding
- ▶ BCASW carries this role for the social work profession in BC

SOCIAL WORK

Celebrating Strengths

It is a fact that in the right formation, the lifting power of many wings can achieve twice the distance of any bird flying alone.

Author Unknown



SOCIAL WORKERS STRENGTHEN COMMUNITIES



BC Association of Social Workers

www.bcasw.org

What is BCASW?

- ▶ BCASW is a voluntary, not-for-profit membership association
- ▶ Supports and promotes the profession of social work and advocates for social justice
- ▶ Incorporated in 1956
- ▶ Over 1,500 members including students and retired social workers



Educators, Practitioners, & Regulators

- ▶ Separate and distinct from the profession's regulatory body, the BC College of Social Workers
- ▶ The revised Social Workers Act established the BCCSW in 2008
- ▶ Ontario, PEI, Alberta, BC have an association and a college



BRANCH ACTIVITY

- ▶ Branches have a core of members committed to organizing meetings and events
- ▶ Branch Representatives sit on the BCASW Board



What We Do

- ▶ Promote awareness of our varied roles
- ▶ Monitor and respond to government legislation and program implementation that impinge on social work's scope of practice
- ▶ Promote inclusion of social workers
- ▶ Advocate for improved programs and social policies
- ▶ Enable members to voice concerns and shape future directions



BCASW Advances the Profession

- ▶ Highlighting the contribution of social work to communities
- ▶ Advancing the interests of social work in business and government
- ▶ Recognizing distinguished service and awarding scholarships
- ▶ Promoting research and education

SOCIAL WORK

Celebrating Strengths



Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.
Margaret Mead

SOCIAL WORKERS STRENGTHEN COMMUNITIES



BC Association of Social Workers

www.bcasw.org

Celebrating Social Workers

- ▶ Social Work Week
- ▶ Distinguished Service Awards
- ▶ 2024 theme
 - *Social Work*
One profession, many roles

Social Work

One profession, many roles

Social workers practise in different areas of care, with different groups of people, different organizations, and in different political environments.



*It's not about being different for the sake of being different.
It's about being different in a way that makes a difference.*

- Toni Newman



BC Association of Social Workers

www.bcasw.org

Social workers are united by values and dedicated to a just and inclusive society.

Advocacy in Action

- ▶ As a collective voice, we campaign for and defend social work values
- ▶ We build links with government and media
- ▶ We partner with other public and professional bodies
- ▶ Coalitions and connections, including First Call: Child & Youth Advocacy Society, BoardVoice, BC Poverty Reduction Coalition, Action for Reform of Long-Term Care

SOCIAL WORK

Celebrating Strengths

*In a gentle way,
you can shake
the world.*

Mohandas Gandhi

**SOCIAL
WORKERS
PARTNER FOR
CHANGE**

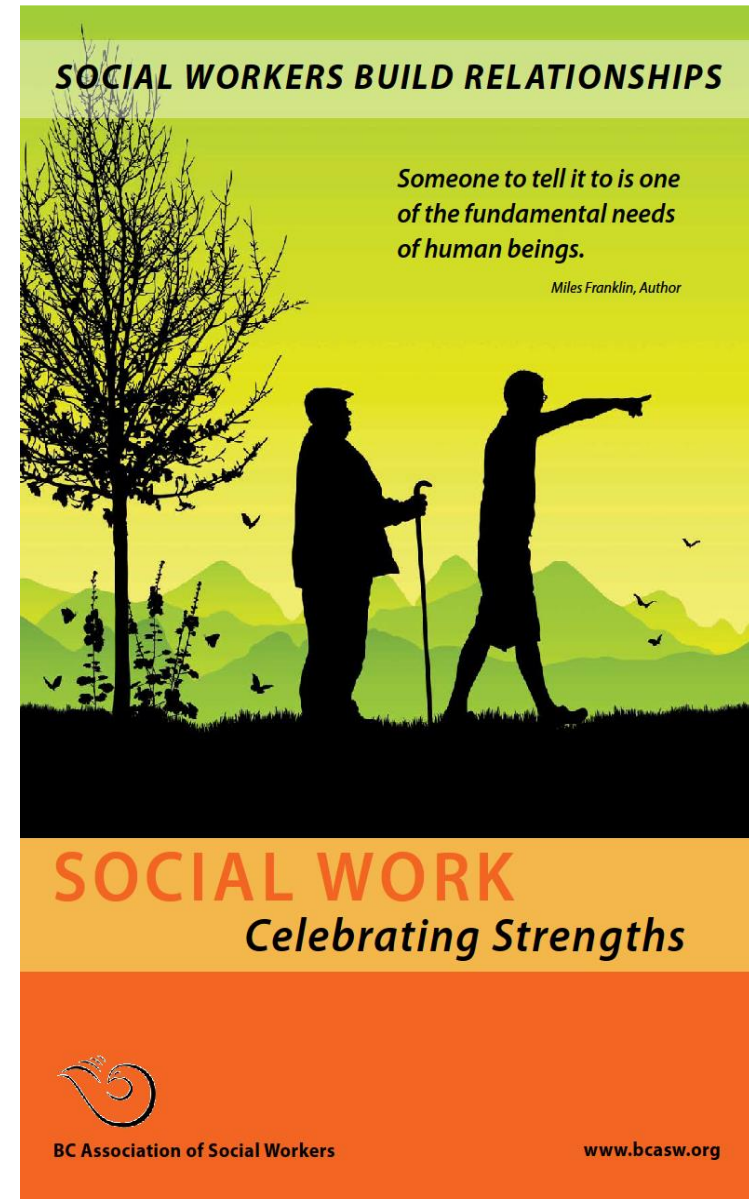


Practice Interest Groups

- ▶ Anti-Racism & Cultural Advocacy
- ▶ Health Advocacy
- ▶ Seniors Issues Advocacy Circle
- ▶ Retired Social Workers' Virtual Community
- ▶ Mental Health and Substance Use
- ▶ Sexual and Gender Diverse
- ▶ Child and Youth
- ▶ Indigenous Practice

BCASW Supports Members

- ▶ Mentorship
- ▶ Job/Employee search help
- ▶ Networking
- ▶ Scholarships
- ▶ Affordable insurance
- ▶ Membership discounts
- ▶ Peer support groups
- ▶ Practice Roster
- ▶ Continuing Professional Development



SOCIAL WORK CODE OF ETHICS for British Columbia

A social worker shall...

Consultation based on adherence to the code



Information and Connection

- ▶ Receive *Perspectives*
- ▶ Website and email provide updates, information, opportunity
- ▶ Receive *Media Monitoring*
- ▶ Access affordable CPD and Networking Opportunities

JANUARY | 2012

Perspectives

VOLUME 34 | NUMBER 1 NEWSLETTER OF THE BC ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS



Our Service to Children Impacts Us

Windows into the experiences and thoughts of those who work with children and youth in need: comments from foster parents, and two accounts from a Canadian child protection social worker in London.

(articles on pages 4, 6 and 10) >>>

BCASW FALL CONFERENCE ISSUE

8	A COMMUNITY-BASED APPROACH TO REACHING HIDDEN POPULATIONS Exploring hidden illicit drug use and improving health and social service access	12	INTRODUCING BCASW'S NEW BOARD Our new and returning members are dedicated to representing our profession's interests	15	OUR YEAR IN REVIEW Branch and Committee Reports, and President's Report to the AGM	20	DIALOGUES FOR ACTION Salient points discussed by participants at the 2011 fall conference in the areas of healthcare, addictions and mental health, child welfare
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CASW

- ▶ BCASW is one of the provincial/territorial social work associations belonging to the [Canadian Association of Social Workers \(CASW\)](#)
- ▶ Through CASW we support the work of the International Federation of Social Workers
- ▶ IFSW is a global organisation striving for social justice, human rights, social development through the promotion of social work, best practice models, facilitation of international cooperation

Student Memberships

Students receive full membership benefits at reduced annual rates.

A student representative sits on the BCASW Board of Directors. Student members can join the student committee.

Join BCASW and learn more about your chosen profession!

Student/Student Associate

\$75/year

Enrolled in a social work degree program/enrolled in a social services program

Social Work Profession of Choice



Global Definition of Social Work

Social work is a practice-based profession and an academic discipline that promotes social change and development, social cohesion, and the empowerment and liberation of people. Principles of social justice, human rights, collective responsibility and respect for diversities are central to social work. Underpinned by theories of social work, social sciences, humanities and indigenous knowledge, social work engages people and structures to address life challenges and enhance wellbeing.

International Federation of Social Workers & International Association of Schools of Social Work (2014)



BC Association of Social Workers

www.bcasw.org



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