

**BCASW BOARD Minutes
September 20 & 21, 2024
In person and via Zoom**



Attendance – Dianne Heath (ED), Michael Crawford (Pres), Phil Mach (VP), Phyllis Nash (Past-Pres), Fiona Lewis (Treas), Glen Schmidt (CASW Rep), Kelly Guiaya (MAL), Jeremy Marczak (MAL), Vanessa Key Craig (MAL), Elizabeth Vondette (MAL), Lissy Snowden (Associate AL), Scott Riesterer (Student Rep), John Richmond (VSS), Ming Huey Chan (VI), Lorry-Ann Austin (TN), Kayla Walker (N), Jennifer Hagen (KTN), Ming Huey Chan (VI)

Regrets – Cheryl Ash (Sec & OK), Scott Riesterer (Student Rep) on Friday, Susan Soloman (Indigenous Liaison), Tara Scheirer (MAL), Ming Huey Chan (VI) on Friday, Vanessa Key Craig (MAL) on Friday

Guests - Kathleen Westergaard, Kylee Latter, Stephanie Altenhof, Brett Mason

1. Opening, welcome, and land acknowledgement (Michael)
 - a) We acknowledge that our office is 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 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.
2. Minute taker needed: Kayla Walker volunteered.
3. Welcome and Introductions - all
4. Social (Dianne)
 - a) Dinner this evening (RSVPs)
 - b) Lunch on Saturday
5. Review of minutes (All) – July 3, 2024 – see attached
6. Review of agenda (All) –
Timing for these agenda items:
 - i) Brett Mason: presentation for proposed use of our surplus 1:30pm Friday
 - ii) Strategic Planning – 9am, Saturday
 - iii) Referrals and Private Practice Committee – 10am, Saturday
 - iv) Other proposals for use of surplus – 10:30am, Saturday
 - v) Kathleen Westergaard- 10:00 AM Saturday- concern re need for and use of private practice roster
7. Member Delegations (15 minutes)- deferred to Saturday- Kathleen Westergaard
8. Review of consensus decision-making (All) – see attached

9. President's Report (Michael)

- a) Thank you to the Board and members for providing feedback on the MCFD report on social work oversight.
 - i. July 23 letter to Minister Lore responding to MCFD's report on social work oversight
 - ii. Dianne and I met with MCFD Minister Lore, BCGEU, and BCCSW regarding the report.
 - iii. We continue to encourage BCCSW to develop a position on the removal of exemptions and have offered to meet with their Board.
 - iv. We asked MCFD for the anonymized data from the consultation and we will consider a FOI request in November if we have not heard from MCFD on this matter
 - v. We meet next week with First Call BC's Board to discuss exemptions
 - vi. We will meet with the RCYBC in the coming weeks to discuss exemptions for part 2 of their report "No time to wait".
- b) Media releases –
 - i. July 16 - BC social workers don't look away and call on government to support calls for a better child welfare system
 - ii. July 23 – Child welfare ministry must address workforce shortages and improve working conditions for BC social workers
 - iii. September 17 – Social work association concerned about involuntary care
- c) Internal meetings – I continue to serve on the following committees – Student, CPD, Strategic Planning, Membership, and Finance
- d) I attend the following communities of practice meetings - Sexual and Gender Diverse, Racialized Social Workers, MHSU, Indigenous, Child & Youth, Advocacy, and ARCA
- e) External meetings – I attended the following meetings – RCYBC report release "Don't look away", MCFD HR regarding staff recruitment, and with several members requesting meetings.
- f) Roles of MAL directors – I am still discussing roles with MALs and thankful for those who have agreed to provide leadership in our communities of practice. Also on the agenda for this meeting.
- g) Social media –
 - i. Facebook – 1,996, an increase of 6% since January 2024 (1,879)
 - ii. X/Twitter – 770, an increase of 25% since January 2024 (616)
 - iii. Instagram – 1,264, an increase of 14% since January 2024 (1,109)
 - iv. Threads – 180, an increase of 58% since January 2024 (114)
 - v. LinkedIn – 34, an increase of 103% since June, 2024 (16)

10. Executive Director's Report (Dianne) – see attached

- a) Will track numbers of member calls and emails for consultation, information, general topics for purpose of future planning and show need for BCCSW practice consultation

11. Vice-President (Phil) – see attached

12. Treasurer & Financial Committee Report (Fiona) – see attached

- a) Financial statement January-July, 2024 reviewed

13. Indigenous Liaison (Susan)

- a) National Day for Truth and Reconciliation document on website and sent to membership
- b) Video with Elder Dr. Roberta Price

14. CASW (Glen)

- a) Government brought out loan forgiveness program, CASW lobbied successfully to have social workers included. Loan forgiveness won't begin until later in 2025
- b) Jurisdictions have different approaches to adoption/partial adoption, rejection of national code of ethics
- c) Barbara Whitenect new CASW President

15. MAL Reports

- a) Kelly Guiaya – see attached
- b) Lissy Snowden - on strategic planning committee. Thank you to Board members who participated in survey.
- c) Elizabeth Vondette- attending financial committee meetings, seeking to establish disability community of practice. Offered to do CPD workshop on helping clients acquire PWD's. (RSWs permitted to do section 3.)
- d) Vanessa Key Craig- racialized social work community of practice
- e) Tara Scheirer - absent
- f) Jeremy Marczak- children and youth practice committee. Vancouver Island Branch revitalization project. Assisting in writing elections guide.

16. Reorganization – Roles for MALs (All)

- a)
- b)
- c)

17. Policy – Use of BCASW email accounts (Dianne)

- a) Policies accepted with amendments below. Will be placed in policy governance.

CM#1

“Other groups within the association are encouraged to consult with the president and/or ED before making public statements” (branches, committees, communities)”

CM#2 moved to be included with other communication policies

CM#3 accepted with addition of “bcasw.org accounts and correspondence are the property of the BCASW.

18. Bylaw revisions (Dianne)

- a) To be reviewed for EDIB language
- b) Amendments made to section 17- no change, section 30 to be moved to 17 and change “The board shall appoint” from “member of the association
- c) Upon completion, to be posted on website and sent to members as per notification period prior to AGM

19. Policy - Social Media (Lorry-Ann) – Accepted with amendments

- a) Under initial paragraph: amendment, heading stating “content”
- b) First line “BCASW uses social media to share” remove apostrophe in first word.
- c) Last sentence of first paragraph, “everything you put on social media should be approved by the board” changed to “choice of social media platforms shall be approved by the board”
- d) Change “stakeholders” to “parties” (first paragraph)

- e) Login credentials shall be submitted to the BCASW office (stand-alone sentence between 2 paragraphs under heading of monitoring)

20. Travel and per diem rates (Dianne & Fiona) – new rates adopted. See attached

21. CPD (Phyllis Nash)- Seeking new members for PD committee

- a) One webinar so far in September- regulated drug supply
- b) Later in September- private practice (3rd time) (held twice yearly)
- c) Ethics in social work practice Oct 17
- d) Queer world making and ethics in mental health Oct 21
- e) MAiD Oct 28
- f) International social work Nov 4
- g) DBT skills training in the new year
- h) Looking at exploring relationship with presenters of decolonization from first nations perspective
- i) Rights under the MH act - November?
- j) Financial literacy for social workers in private practice - intro
- k) Addictions treatment

22. Nominations Committee- Phyllis

- a) CASW representative term ending. CASW rep not done by nominations committee. Member writes interest. There is a policy for selection.
ACTION: Executive to put an open call out to members re: CASW rep (and criteria)
- b) Nomination committee should be formed NOW. Members need fairly good knowledge of social workers throughout the province.
- c) This year used the strategy of contacting some presenters (particularly over social work week) by email, asking about interest in board participation.
- d) Required nominations for terms ending

23. Membership (Kelly) – see MAL report

24. Reports

- a) Branches
 - i. Fraser River (Vacant)
 - ii. Northern (Kayla) – see attached
 - iii. Northwest (Vacant)
 - iv. Okanagan (Cheryl)
 - v. Richmond/Delta/Burnaby (Vacant)
 - vi. Thompson Nicola (Lorry-Ann) – see attached
 - vii. Vancouver Island (Ming Huey Chang) – quiet during summer, setting up Facebook, invitation to members
 - viii. Vancouver Sea to Sky (John) – Staffed a table at the Sunshine Coast Labour Day event – concerns raised by MCFD staff re work environment
ADD TO FUTURE MEETINGS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION
 - Jeremy to lead
 - Should include DAA's as well as MCFD
 - ix. Kootenays (Jennifer)

Virtual meetings

About 40 people receive email invites, 7-8 consistent participants

Themes: professional development importance/value, appreciate low-no cost (already paying fees),

Feedback: glad there's a branch rep, appreciate the work, but will not attend (value in knowing the work is being done)

- b) Student Rep Report (Scott)
 - i.
 - ii.

- c) Personnel/Human Resources (Fiona) – see attached
 - i. Salary review for Member Services Coordinator position deferred to Executive Committee
 - ii. Updated job description for Membership Services Coordinator – see attached

- d) Health Advocacy Committee (Fiona) – see attached
 - i. Social prescribing: An infringement on social work roles

- e) Communities of Practice
 - i. Anti-Racism & Cultural Advocacy (Michael)
Working with the awards Committee to develop criteria for the annual bursary
 - i. Advocacy Circle (Barb Keith & Carol Ross)
 - ii. Seniors Issues CoP (Alison Leaney, Chair)
 - iii. Indigenous Community of Practice (Susan Soloman)
September 30th National Day for Truth and Reconciliation document will be uploaded to our website and members notified
 - iv. Mental Health & Substance Use (Michael)
Helpful feedback on BC government's involuntary care plan
 - v. Sexual and Gender Diverse Community of Practice (Michael/Darren)
 - vi. Child & Youth Community of Practice (Michael)
 - vii. Racialized Social Workers (Vanessa)
 - viii. Disability (?) Community of Practice (Michael/Elizabeth)

- f) Retired social workers (Carol Ross)
 - i.

- g) Editorial/*Perspectives* (Heather)

- h) Awards (Phyllis)
 - i.
 - ii.

- i) Policy governance (Pam, Phyllis, & Dianne)

- i. Ad hoc committee Phyllis, Fiona, Cheryl, Phil (chair), and Pam? to search out a paradigm that fits our association to push the mandate of this organization forward.
- ii.

25. BC Social Work Week (All)

- a) March 9-15 2025 ACTION: Dianne to request MCFD to declare
- b) Theme: deferred
- c) Funding – MCFD, Health, BCGEU, HSABC, etc
- d) Joint event with VCH social workers
- e)

26. Student Practicum - Should BCASW take a student for the coming year? Supervisor?

- a) None available from Fraser Valley University, Northern Branch will have a student, VSS has a student
- b) In past student took role in social work week planning and events
- c) Student projects might include creating a spreadsheet listing grants that could support BCASW priorities

TIMED AGENDA ITEMS BELOW

27. 2021-2024 Strategic Plan (Lissy, Kayla, Kylee Latter, & Michael) - see attached

- d) Data collected from membership, staff, directors, and community partners
- e) Data presented for discussion
- f) Draft Strategic plan will be presented to the BCASW Board at the first Board meeting in 2025
- g) Ming – the value of organizational constellations – see attached

28. BCASW private practice roster and Private Practice Committee (Kathleen Westergaard)

ACTION ITEM: Bring forward for Board discussion.

- a) Concern that as OASW has indicated they will end the current findasocialworker service, practitioners will not receive referrals from some government third party funders
- b) Suggestion: create a private practice committee

29. Proposals for use of 2023 surplus: ACTION ITEM: Committee chaired by Elizabeth Vondette will review proposals

- a) Process for review, criteria, decision-making, ad hoc committee, etc
- b) Brett Mason – Affirm Youth
- c) Mike Turje – No for Now
- d) Steve Quinlan – Happiness Management
- e) Dianne Health – Private practice roster
- f) Dianne Heath – purchase Indigenous artist logo
- g) Dianne Heath - Archiving BCASW documents
- h) Glen Schmidt – CPD staff
- i) Lorry-Ann Austin – Annual conference
- j) Lorry-Ann Austin – New find a social worker website
- k) Michael Crawford – Regional conferences

30. Next Meetings:

- a) Schedule of meetings below

Month	Board	Exec
Sept	In-person – Fri/Sat, Sept 20-21, 2024	
Oct		630pm, Thurs, Oct 24, 2024
Nov	Zoom - 9am-noon, Sat November 23, 2024	
Dec		X
Jan	X	
Feb		X
Mar	Social Work Week 9-15, 2025 X	
Apr		X
May	AGM	

31. Adjournment – Saturday September 21, 3:30 PM

Recorder: Kayla Walker