

BCASW BOARD Minutes
November 23, 2024
Via Zoom



Attendance – Dianne Heath (ED), Michael Crawford (Pres), Phil Mach (VP), Phyllis Nash (Past-Pres), Fiona Lewis (Treas), Cheryl Ash (Sec & OK), Glen Schmidt (CASW Rep), Kelly Guiaya (MAL), Elizabeth Vondette (MAL), Tara Scheirer (MAL), Stephanie Altenhof (Student Rep), Ming Huey Chan (VI), Lorry-Ann Austin (TN), Kayla Walker (N), Jennifer Hagen (KTNI)

Regrets - Lissy Snowden (Associate AL), John Richmond (VSS), & Jeremy Marczak (MAL), Vanessa Key Craig (MAL), Susan Soloman (Indigenous Liaison)

Guests – Sri Pendakur & Marisa Tuzi (Co-chairs, ARCA)

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: Cheryl Ash
3. Welcome and Introductions - all
4. Review of minutes (All) – September 20 & 21, 2024 – see attached
 - a. Change **Required nominations to Terms Ending** on 22d
5. Review of agenda (All) – additions
 - a) Sri Pendakur & Marisa Tuzi, Co-chairs, ARCA will join us at 10am to present ARCA's Anti-racism statement. See 17. e) i.
 - b) Correction 17. e) i should read antisemitism not antiracism
6. Member Delegations (15 minutes) -
7. President's Report (Michael)
 - a) Tendered resignation of Pres for AGM 2025 and will move into Past Pres position
 - b) Thank you to the Board and members for supporting the proposals distributed by email
 - i. Salary increase for Membership Services Coordinator
 - ii. Appointment of Stephanie Altenhof for Student Representative to the Board of Directors
 - c) Campaign to removal exemptions in Social Workers Regulation. Dianne and I met with
 - i. First Call BC Board
 - ii. RCYBC Jennifer Charlesworth and "No time to wait" author Alan Markwart

- iii. BC College of Social Workers Board of Directors
 - iv. BC Ombudsperson staff
 - v. Jeremy Y'in Neduklhchulh Williams, MCFD ADM and Indigenous Director of Child Welfare
 - vi. Also, email correspondence with BCGEU's Judy Fox-McGuire, FNLC's Colin Braker and Cheryl Casimir, and Murphy Battista's Scott Stanley
 - vii. Meeting next week with Our Children, Our Way
 - d) BC Election Guide
 - i. Thanks to Jeremy for working with me and others on the election guide
 - ii. **ACTION:** Michael will write to appropriate MLAs, PS, and Ministers to congratulate them and invite them to meet with us to discuss mutual interests.
 - iii. Received a letter from MCFD that Grace Lore is back in the chair and ready to work with community groups.
 - e) Media releases –
 - i. None
 - f) Internal meetings – I continue to serve on the following committees – Student, CPD, Strategic Planning, Membership, and Finance
 - g) Communities of Practice
 - i. I attend most of the communities of practice meetings
 - ii. Thank you to those who have taken leadership roles Darren (Sexual and Gender Diverse), Vanessa (Racialized Social Workers), Phil (MHSU), Susan (Indigenous), and Jeremy (Child & Youth)
 - iii. Thank you to Carol Ross and Barb Keith (Advocacy), Sri Pendakur and Marisa Tuzi (ARCA), Alison Leaney (Seniors), and Fiona Lewis (Health Advocacy) who continue to provide leadership.
 - h) Appointments
 - i. Student Rep effective immediately – Stephanie Altenhof
 - ii. Indigenous Liaison – AGM 2025
 - iii. CASW Rep – July 1, 2025
 - i) External meetings –
 - i. See MCFD above
 - j) Webinars attended
 - i. Thinking of starting a private practice, Ethics in social work practice, Queer worldmaking and ethics, Disability/Vulnerability/MAiD, Overview of IFSW, and Supporting rights under the MH Act
 - ii. Social media –
 - i. Facebook – 2,022, an increase of 7.6% since January 2024 (1,879)
 - ii. X/Twitter – 746, an increase of 21% since January 2024 (616) – deleting many followers and setting up a BlueSky account
 - iii. Instagram – 1,330, an increase of 20% since January 2024 (1,109)
 - iv. Threads – 205, an increase of 80% since January 2024 (114)
 - v. LinkedIn – 52, an increase of 225% since June 2024 (16)
 - vi. **Proposal:** BCASW will phase out X/Twitter and grow BlueSky
8. Executive Director's Report (Dianne) – see attached
- a) Over 1500 members – 42 senior members
 - b) Darren is attending a 2-day workshop on grant writing

- c) CASW – Ontario has a psychotherapy act, but Ontario insurance only covers those under the act, so keeping an eye on how this will affect BC
 - d) Membership audit to BMS insurance helps with finding members whose membership has lapsed.
 - e) BCCSW – funding for public awareness campaign, and want to work with the BCASW.
9. Vice-President (Phil) – see attached
- a) Chaired first Branch meeting and policy governance meeting.
 - b) Advocating for social work coverage under third party insurers: Facility space agreement – inside the BCGEU has coverage for social workers. Have also been connecting with the HSABC Bargaining Team because they represent Health Authority Social Workers at the table.
 - c) The clinical designation work will provide awareness and endorsement for all social work & will create a slide deck to be posted on the BCASW website.
 - d) Liaisons between BCCSW and Minister are not social workers and not practitioners, and do not understand regulation in other provinces. Health liaisons do understand and are supportive of SW going under Health Act.
 - e) Advocating for student loan forgiveness is open for a warrior.
 - f) Tendered resignation of VP for AGM 2025 to run for Pres in AGM 2025.
10. Treasurer & Financial Committee Report (Fiona) – see attached
- a) Financial statement, Jan-Oct, 2024 for review – see attached. Unreviewed statements will change between now and the end of the year, but official statements are reviewed by the accountants every year, but we are in a good position. Expenses are in good shape, and potential surplus around \$5000.
 - b) Budget 2025 – potential income increase by 10,000 for 2025 so proposal for two in-person board meetings and 3% wage increase. Benefit of **Find a Social Worker** site increase revenue and a business expense. Increase insurance costs could change income. Professional Activities change is because of money carried forward from 2024. Extra 10,000 under consultant line is from the previous surplus to archive our records and the indigenous logo. Proposed Final Budget will be submitted to the Board at the January meeting for approval.
11. Indigenous Liaison (Susan) – n/a
12. CASW (Glen) – see attached
- a) CASW working with Dietitians of Canada and Farmers Association regarding household food insecurity.
 - b) Mental illness awareness week – met with senators and ministers regarding mental illness.
 - c) Half day workshop on decolonization – Candice Loring from BC
 - d) CASW launched membership survey – motivation is similar to BCASW – taking pulse and temperature of membership
 - e) ASWB survey also went out a while back. Retirees were not allowed to enter data.
 - f) CASW clarity on MAiD – proceeding very carefully on this topic. Important to exercise caution.
 - g) CASWE came out in strong opposition to the Ontario SWA regarding exams because they did not consult with the regulators in Ontario. CASW is a bystander in the conflict, but it effects the national sector study (last one 2000). Sector studies must be completed by all three sectors – CASWE, CASW, and Regulators.
13. MAL Reports – see attached

- a) Kelly Guiaya
- b) Lissy Snowden
- c) Elizabeth Vondette
- d) Vanessa Key Craig
- e) Tara Scheirer
- f) Jeremy Marczak

14. CPD (Phyllis)

- a) Recent webinars –
 - i. Thinking of starting a private practice
 - ii. Ethics in social work practice
 - iii. Queer worldmaking and ethics
 - iv. Disability, Vulnerability, and MaID
 - v. Overview of IFSW
 - vi. Supporting rights under the MHAct
- b) DBT skills training by David Renaud in Feb.
- c) BCCSW webinars planned for 2025

15. Nominations Committee (Phyllis)

- a) Terms ending
 - i. President – resignation effective AGM 2025 received
 - ii. Vice-President – resignation effective AGM 2025 received
 - iii. Secretary
 - iv. Three members at large – election will be for one MAL

16. Membership (Kelly) – see attached

- a. Membership survey update

17. Reports – see attached

- a) Branches – Thank you to Phil for pulling together a Branch Reps meeting last week – discussion on how to get branch engagement – however branches do promote the association and events. Branches could be seen as a community of practice – Geographical location. Communities of practice require less commitment - we don't ask them to appoint an executive or a rep.
 - i. Fraser River (Vacant)
 - ii. Northern (Kayla) – see attached
 - iii. Northwest (Vacant)
 - iv. Okanagan (Cheryl) – in the works for reinvigorating the branch
 - v. Richmond/Delta/Burnaby (Vacant)
 - vi. Thompson Nicola (Lorry-Ann) – see attached
 - vii. Vancouver Island (Ming Huey Chang) – see attached
 - viii. Vancouver Sea to Sky (John)
 - ix. Kootenays (Jennifer) – see attached
- b) Student Rep Report (Stephanie) – see attached
 - i. Hosted first student meeting.
- c) Personnel/Human Resources (Fiona)

- i. Need an additional member
- d) Health Advocacy Committee (Fiona)
- e) Communities of Practice
 - i. Anti-Racism & Cultural Advocacy (Michael) – Sri Pendakur & Marisa Tuzi (Co-chairs, ARCA)
 - Proposed Antisemitism statement – see attached. Board feedback: include the rise of hate and intolerance, and islamophobia – need to ensure that the statements are not political. BCASW supports speaking out against intolerance and hate. Condemn the violence, hate and conflict and see it as an ongoing state of colonization. We call for peace and the end of hate. Board will send any other comments to ARCA.
 - Preparing to apply for BC Anti-Racism Grant
 - Developing criteria for the Marion Secunda Poliakoff Bursary
 - ii. Advocacy Circle (Barb Keith & Carol Ross)
 - iii. Seniors Issues CoP (Alison Leaney, Chair)
 - iv. Indigenous Community of Practice (Susan Soloman)
 - v. Mental Health & Substance Use (Phil)
 - vi. Sexual and Gender Diverse Community of Practice (Michael/Darren)
 - vii. Child & Youth Community of Practice (Jeremy)
 - viii. Racialized Social Workers (Vanessa)
 - ix. Disability (?) Community of Practice (Michael/Elizabeth)
- f) Retired social workers (Carol Ross)
- g) Editorial/*Perspectives* (Heather)
- h) Awards (Phyllis)
 - i. Working with ARCA on the Marion Secunda Poliakoff Bursary
- i) Policy governance (Pam, Phyllis, & Dianne)
 - i. Ad hoc committee Phyllis, Fiona, Cheryl, Phil (chair) to search out a paradigm that fits our association to push the mandate of this organization forward.

18. BC Social Work Week (All)

- a) March 9-15 2025
- b) MCFD declaration – no update
- c) CASW Theme: Social work is everywhere? – BCASW theme options: Social workers make a difference everywhere? A World of Difference Through Social Work? **Proposal** BCASW theme: Social workers make a difference everywhere.
- d) Funding – MCFD, Health, BCGEU, HSABC,
- e) Joint event with VCH social workers (Michael)
- f) Volunteers for ad hoc committee – Social Work Planning Committee: Michael, Kelly, Stephanie, UNBC practicum student. Stephanie **Action:** Michael will call the first meeting.

19. Annual General Meeting

- a) Date: Thursday May 29, 2025

- b) Location/Zoom
- c) Speaker: Jeremy Y'in Neduklhchulh Williams, MCFD ADM and Indigenous Director of Child Welfare. **Action:** Michael will contact Jeremy
- d) Notice to members – meeting, Bylaw changes, election of directors, etc
- e) Election/Voting process – simply voting?

20. External funding (Glen’s previous CASW report)

- a) Ad hoc committee to seek sources of funding (see for example Civil Forfeiture Grant Program due Dec 9, 2024)

21. BCCSW Board of Directors election

- a) Voting ends December 9, 2025
- b) Preferences?

22. Student Practicum – (Kayla & Michael)

23. 2024-2027 Strategic Plan (Lissy, Kayla, Kylee, & Michael)

- a) Draft will be presented at the January 2025 Board of Directors meeting

24. Report on use of 2023 surplus (Elizabeth) – see attached.

- a) Private practice roster
- b) Purchase Indigenous artist logo
- c) Archiving BCASW documents

25. Next Meetings:

- a) Schedule of meetings below

Month	Board	Exec
Nov	Zoom - 9am-noon, Sat November 23, 2024	
Dec		X
Jan	Sat Jan 18, 2025	
Feb		X
Mar	Social Work Week 9-15, 2025	
Apr	In person Apr 4-5, 2025	X
May	AGM - Thursday May 29, 2025	
June	Zoom TBD	
July		
Aug		
Sept		
Oct		

26. Adjournment – 12:20 pm

Recorder: Cheryl Ash