

BCASW BOARD MINUTES

January 20, 2024

Zoom



Attendance – Michael Crawford (Pres), Phyllis Nash (Past-Pres), Fiona Lewis (Treas), Cheryl Ash (Sec & OK), Glen Schmidt (CASW Rep), Kayla Walker (N), Angela Boutillier (NW), Jennifer Hagen (KTN), & Kelly Guiaya (MAL), John Richmond (VSS), Lorry-Ann Austin (TN), Elizabeth Vondette (MAL), & Kylee Latter (UFV Practicum Student)

Guests – Scott Riesterer (Co-chair Student Committee)

Regrets – Shannon Bull (Student Rep), Vanessa Key Craig (MAL), Susan Soloman (Indigenous Liaison), Lissy Snowden (MAL), & Dianne Heath (ED)

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. Welcome and Introductions
 - a) UFV practicum student Kylee Latter introduced herself and listed some of the activities she is undertaking at BCASW as part of her learning contract.
3. Review of minutes (All) – October 21, 2023 Accepted
4. Review of agenda (All) – delete 13. a) CASW, move 13. d) BC Social Work Week to 6. a) i. & added a break at 1020am. Accepted
5. Member Delegations (15 minutes)
 - a) The January eBulletin did not include an invitation to members to join this meeting.
 - b) **ACTION:** Michael will remind Dianne in advance of the next board meeting to invite members to attend the board meeting as guests.
6. President's Report (Michael) – attached
 - a) Current emphasis on my work with the BCASW include
 - i. BC Social Work Week – Kylee Latter provided an overview of BC Social Work Week events and invited directors to work with her to recruit panelists for days in the lives of social workers, transitioning from student to professional, and honouring women in social work.
 - ii. Promoting BCASW in Health – our campaign for the removal of exemptions in the Social Worker Regulations will continue in 2024 and BCASW will continue to develop our relationship with Health.

- iii. Reinvigorating the FR Branch – thanks to Kelly Guiaya and other FR Branch members who are working to reinvigorate the Branch. Next meeting is set for February 1st at UFV.
- iv. School membership plan – our campaign to enrol schools of social work in our membership plan will continue in 2024. TRU is considering funding for 30 students, we are waiting to hear from UBCO, and UNBC is interested in meeting with us.
- v. Supporting existing committees and communities of practice – I continue to attend several practice committees.
- vi. Expanding communities of practice – we are recruiting members through the eBulletin and social media to join our existing and developing communities of practice. **ACTION:** Michael will start setting up meetings for new communities of practice.
- vii. Supporting our practicum student
- b) Change in bylaws
 - i. to permit associate members to hold elected office – through an oversight, one member of our Board does not qualify for full membership and therefore is not permitted to vote or hold elected office. This person will continue in the position and will attend Board meetings as a guest.
 - ii. This provides an opportunity to review our bylaws and constitution, and role of associates.
 - iii. **DECISION:** refer this issue to Membership Committee
 - iv. **ACTION:** Michael will provide some information to the nomination/membership committee to review and report to the board.

7. Executive Director’s Report (Dianne) – see attached

8. Treasurer & Financial Committee Report (Fiona) - see attached

- a) Proposed budget – see attached. Discussion: membership continues to increase and advertising revenue is up. We expect a 2023 surplus of \$20,000.
- b) Staff salaries: increase 6%.
- c) Benefits: adding admin position to benefits plan.
- d) Proposal to use 2023 surplus to expand staffing: Discussion included other ideas - conference; additional membership staff; hire a conference planner; paid consultant for restructuring or strategic planning; work with UBC CPD to cohost CPD webinar; media advertising; education; grants for a community project; use of paid consultants on contract rather than adding staff
- e) **DECISION:** The BCASW Board accepts the 2024 budget

9. CASW (Glen) – see attached

- a) Glenn Drover Award – a reminder that our nominee needs to have a significant contribution at the national level.

10. Nomination committee (Phyllis, Glen, Fiona)

- a) Ways to increase advertisement to draw in new board members: Perspectives, eBulletin, and social media, social work week event on leadership roles, CPD event surveys, annual conference could help increase nominations and membership
- b) We need to be prepared for the spring AGM

11. CPD (Phyllis Nash) – see attached

- a) Annual conference –
 - i. There is some interest in doing a conference, hybrid, online, or face-to-face. Dianne is searching potential venues for spring of 2025 and cost estimates. Suggestions for a theme are welcome.
 - ii. We may test the membership interest level through a survey
 - iii. Past conference ideas that worked - plenaries and breakout sessions, target all areas of practice, raffle or draws for travel costs, branches pay for student rep to attend, branches donate baskets for raffle, university student grants and bursaries, agency/government sponsorship
 - iv. UBC CPD has a great model. They have rapid 15 min presentations, Q&A, applied skills, and quiz. It is fast-paced and interesting
 - v. CPD webinars are well attended and very well organized.
 - vi. Upcoming CPD events are on Eventbrite

12. Membership (Kelly)

- a) 1545 members = 26% of BCCSW registrants
- b) Orientations with SW students across the province were completed last fall
- c) Creating a survey to members that will include questions from other committees (e.g. CPD)
- d) Collaboration with practicum student on projects
- e) We will address the issue of social workers who work online, and do not reside in BC.
- f) Members in NW branch sent in questions regarding payment reminders and reduced membership fees for financial hardship. The website now has new language - <https://bcasw.org/joinbcasw>
- g) We might benefit from an emphasis on rural and remote social workers in our recruitment.

13. Reports, notes, new members, & comments – see attached *send reports to okbranch@bcasw.org

- a) Branches
 - i. Fraser River (Vacant) – Kelly and several members are meeting to discuss revitalization
 - ii. Northern (Kayla) – long time branch treasurer Jim Campbell passed away.
 - iii. Northwest (Angela) – see attached
 - iv. Okanagan (Cheryl) – membership continues to grow. The OK Branch is seeking to fill all Branch executive positions. Please contact okbranch@bcasw.org for more information.
 - v. Richmond/Delta/Burnaby (Vacant/Disbanded)
 - vi. Thompson Nicola (Lorry-Ann) – Holding a lunch for BC Social Work Week for 75 social workers, where Caroline Cochrane (TRU alumni and former NWT Premier) will speak, and the Heart of the Grasslands will be awarded.
 - vii. Vancouver Island (inactive)
 - viii. Vancouver Sea to Sky (John) - has a series of in person meetings set up for - with health, MCFD, and private practice. Looking to do an event with a drug users group in Gibsons.
 - ix. Kootenays (Jennifer) – held a meeting recently to discuss BC Social Work Week and socialize
- b) Student Rep Report (Scott) –
 - i. fall was slow, but early in new year had a great start
 - ii. Met last week and many of the leadership roles were filled

- iii. Plan to create more continuity between handover of student committee by having student members from each level of BSW and MSW programs
 - iv. UBC, UFV, UNBC, & TRU were represented at the meeting last week.
- c) Personnel/Human Resources (Fiona)
- d) Health Advocacy Committee (Fiona) – presented a homelessness webinar through our CPD committee and picked up a new member who will be also be a panelist in a BC Social Work Week panel.
- e) Anti-Racism & Cultural Advocacy (Sri Pendakur & Marisa Tuzi, Co-chairs and Michael, Board Liaison) – ARCA submitted a grant application for \$5,000 to host two province-wide online webinars on anti-racism social work practice.
- f) Advocacy Circle (Barb Keith, Chair & Michael, Board Liaison) – Hosting Shane Simpson, former MLA an Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction, webinar during BC Social Work Week.
- g) Seniors Issues CoP (Alison Leaney, Chair) – presenting a workshop for Action for Reform of Residential Care - <https://arrcbc.ca/>
- h) Retired social workers (Carol Chair, Board Liaison needed) –
- i) Editorial/*Perspectives* (Heather, Chair & Kelly, Liaison)
 - i. Discussion regarding the expansion of our eBulletin to a monthly newsletter to include social workers in the news, publications, promotions, highlight awards, highlight social workers, etc. **ACTION:** Michael will ask Dianne is this additional work can be added to Rose’s current workload.
 - ii. Perspectives issue submitted to layout and then to publisher, so should arrive n mailboxes mid-February. There were more submissions than can be included in the current edition, so they will be considered for the next edition.
- j) Awards (Phyllis)
 - I. CASW (BC) Distinguished Service Award criteria – the committee will discuss changing the criteria due to some nominees being nominated for activity they have had recognized by previous awards
 - II. BCASW forwarded two nominees to CASW for the 2024 CASW Distinguished Service Award (BC).
- k) Indigenous Advisory Group (Susan & Michael)
- l) Policy governance (Pam, Phyllis, & Dianne)
- m) Reorganization (Michael) – see attached
 - I. **PREVIOUS ACTION:** Michael will set up three online meetings of the Board to discuss the three themes identified in Cayce’s report
 - II. We need times and dates. Cayce is available after 8pm some weekdays and some Saturdays.
 - III. The strategic plan process will be very consultative and broad so it will pick up concerns regarding organizational structure.
 - IV. **DECISION:** Table until we have a new strategic plan.

14. BC Social Work Week (Kylee)

- a) Committee – Kayla (Chair), John, Kelly, Phyllis, Shannon/Scott, & Michael
- b) Date: pre-social work week (March 3-9, includes Int’l Women’s Day) and social work week (March 10-16)
- c) CASW theme is “7 Points of Unity – Many Possibilities”
- d) **DECISION:** Theme “One profession, many roles”

- e) Program highlights – see attached
15. 2021-2024 Strategic Plan (Lissy Snowden (MAL), Kayla Walker (N Branch Rep), Kylee Latter (UFV BSW practicum student), & Michael Crawford) – see attached
- a) Proposed process – see attached
 - b) **DECISION:** the Board approves the proposed process.
16. Legacy gifts
- a. Marion Secunda Poliakoff 1923 – 2022 (MSW, UBC), BC Cancer agency, ARCA member, 1981 BCASW award for “Outstanding Achievement in Social Work.” - <https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/north-vancouver-bc/marion-poliakoff-10735898>
 - b. Gift is \$8,000 to \$9,000
 - c. **ACTION:** defer to next board meeting
17. CASW New Code of Ethics
- a) Webinars – <https://www.casw-acts.ca/en/webinars>
 - b) Process for review and possible adoption
 - c) Directors were encouraged to attend the CASW webinars
 - d) **ACTION:** defer to next Board meeting
18. Next Meetings: In-person – Fri/Sat, Apr 19-20, 2024
- a) Schedule of meetings

Month	Board	Exec
January	Zoom – 9am-noon, Sat, Jan 20, 2024	
February		
March		
April	In-person – Fri/Sat, Apr 19-20, 2024	
May	AGM - Zoom	
June	Zoom - 9am-noon, Sat, date TBD	
July		
Aug		
Sept	In-person – Fri/Sat, date TBD	
Oct		
Nov	Zoom - 9am-noon, Sat, date TBD	
Dec		

19. Adjournment – 12:00pm

Recorder: Cheryl Ash