



SASKATCHEWAN SOCIAL WORKER

Volume 23 Number 3

“Social Workers – Make a Difference”

November 2012 Edition

President’s Message



I trust that you are able to recall a good vacation break over the summer, and hope you had an opportunity for some rest, relaxation, fun and reconnecting with friends and family.

Although many things slow down during the summer, it was a very busy one for the SASW. Beginning in June we engaged in a process of

internal and external consultation regarding proposed changes to *The Social Workers Act* that would restore the ability to include the use of diagnosis within the practice of social work. There has been a great deal of well-considered response to a letter sent out jointly by the Deputy Minister of Social Services and myself requesting input from members and other stakeholders. The responses at times expressed divergent views, and I would like to thank everyone who took the time and opportunity to submit comments. I would like to express appreciation to Nuelle Novik and Ralph Aman for dedicating a good part of their summer to assisting Richard and me in reviewing the responses and consulting with the Ministry of Social Services staff. Richard Hazel did a great deal of the “heavy lifting” on this project and he provides a more detailed account of the process in his report in this newsletter.

The Saskatchewan Partnership of Professions for Social Justice, of which the SASW is a member, met again on October 12 to continue our joint efforts to address poverty, disadvantage and marginalization in Saskatchewan. At this point, the group is made up of ourselves, the SRNA, the College of Physicians and Surgeons, the College of Psychologists, the Psychiatric Nurses Association and the Teachers Federation. Terms of reference are now available for this group and we

believe that through our joint efforts we can help influence public policy regarding some crucial issues. At the meeting there was a presentation by a representative from Poverty-Free Saskatchewan, whose work we support.

The Strategic Planning Committee put together arrangements for a two-day meeting of SASW Council and Advisory Board on October 18 and 19 with facilitator and consultant Valerie Sluth. A survey of the membership occurred during the summer to help identify priorities and ideas for this fall session. Our last action plan has been successfully completed and we now aim to look to the future of the Association with a clear vision and goals. By the time you read this there will be a new four year plan of action for the SASW in place.

SASW was invited to provide input to proposed changes to *The Mental Health Services Act* as a stakeholder organization identified by the Ministry of Health. We reviewed the recommendations that had been put forward and provided feedback in September from a social work perspective.

SASW’s new Public Representative, Melissa Haas of Kelvington, was appointed by Minister Draude in May and attended her first meeting with us in June. She was able to attend the ASWB New Board Member Training in Chicago recently. I hope Melissa will find her work with our organization interesting and informative.

Recently we were informed by SASW Executive Director, Richard Hazel, that he will be retiring in the new year. I am very pleased for you, Richard, that you will soon be able to begin this new stage in your life that many of us look forward to and happily anticipate. Congratulations! Subsequently, we have begun the search process for a candidate to fill this position. Thank you, Richard, for your years of hard work in making the SASW the robust and dynamic association it is. It will be a challenge to fill your shoes.

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SASW COUNCIL

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Secretary: Diane Lauritzen, Battlefords
Treasurer: Leann Keach, Moose Jaw
Members at Large: Hazel Berg, Melfort
James Mulvale, Regina
Julie Stocki, Prince Albert

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Senate Representative: Shelley Whitehead, Regina
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Discipline Resource: Vacant
Social Policy: Sydney Bell, Saskatoon, &
Noela Crowe Salazar, Regina
Education: Shelley Whitehead, Regina
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Health Services Committee: vacant
Mentorship: Angie Pollom, Saskatoon
Aboriginal Social Workers Task Team: Hazel Berg, Melfort

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Saskatoon: Angela Luron
Prince Albert: Murray Wotherspoon
Northeast Branch: Sheryn Peterson, Melfort
Swift Current: Sandra Fortman
Yellowhead East: Marissa Wolfram
Battlefords: Dianne Lauritzen
Southeast: Jill Zyla, Weyburn

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Ailsa Watkinson
Richard Hazel, Executive Director
Debb Fisher, Office Administrator

Members of the Editorial Board can be contacted through the SASW Office at sasw@accesscomm.ca. We are interested in readers' stories, thoughts and ideas, letters to the editor, pictures and current events. The Board reserves the right to reject any article as well as edit submitted material. Publication does not imply endorsement by the Saskatchewan Association of Social Workers. Printed materials represent the views of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the view/policies of the Association.

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Please submit material to:
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• **ADVOCATE** for **SOCIAL JUSTICE**

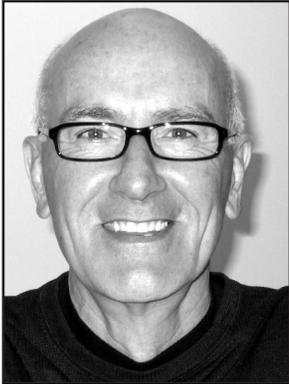
• **PROMOTE** the **PROFESSION**

• **REGULATE** the **PROFESSION**

• **SUPPORT** for **ETHICAL PRACTISE**

Executive Director's Message

The Matter of Including Diagnosis in Social Work Practice



Further to the comments made by Joanne in her report, what I will attempt to do here is briefly summarize some of the history on this topic while pointing to the location of more detailed background, answer a couple of questions that came up during our internal consultation period during June and July, and then provide the

current status on developments.

Background

SASW's pursuit of restoration of the ability to be responsible for the practice of diagnosis began when Section 23 of *The Psychologists Act* came into force in 2002. That change limited the use of diagnosis to psychologists who were authorized to include it in their practice and to physicians. The new provisions effectively terminated the ability of clinical social workers to use the diagnostic tools that are the subject of our current proposal. SASW was given direction by representatives of the membership in the 2003 strategic plan, followed by the appointment by Council of a committee to develop our proposal, to regain what had been lost. Again in 2007, when the strategic plan was revisited, even clearer direction was given to continue work in this area, reflected in item R11 in the current Action Plan that has guided our work over the last 4 years—see the Action Plan on the SASW website under the “Council/Committee/Branch Information” tab. It is the third item under the “Council” heading. There have been regular reports on progress, or the lack of it, and the best recent detailed summary would be in the 2010 Annual Report on pages 4 and 5 (Annual Reports are all on the website

President's Report, continued

It is time to remind everyone that registration renewal has begun for 2013. I hope all of our members new and old can look back on this year as a positive and productive one.

Submitted by:
Joanne Schenn, MSW, RSW (SK)

under the “Annual Reports” tab).

The current proposal for change to *The Social Workers Act* was developed last spring after the Minister of Social Services approved development of the package of changes to *The Act*. It is important to be reminded that every self-regulating professional organization reports to a minister of the Saskatchewan government and in our case, it is to the Social Services Minister that we are accountable. Her approval of this project meant that not only were proposals to change our Act drafted, but so were draft By-law provisions, and the package containing both documents was sent out in early June to external stakeholders by our President and the Deputy Minister of Social Services. Shortly thereafter, Joanne sent the same package to all of us as members for an internal consultation period that lasted four weeks, ending July 18.

Points of Rationale

1) How will diagnosis be used by social workers?

For social workers who succeed in their application for an endorsement, it would be limited in two ways:

a) Beyond codes in the DSM4 related to stressors in one's environment (the V, S and Z codes which are not covered within the scope and intent of the provisions in Section 23 of *The Psychologists Act*) it would centre mostly in the areas of diagnosing and treating mental health and addiction disorders.

b) In all cases, a social worker, whether carrying an endorsement or not, is governed by ethical direction to practice only within areas where they possess the competence to do so.

In the shaping of the proposal, there was reliance upon the experience of other Canadian and U.S. social work regulators that have a clinical practice licensing category that includes the authority to utilize diagnosis. It is estimated that if the current proposal were to be implemented about 50 of our members could qualify for the authorized practice endorsement. Of these, most would practice as described above, and a smaller number might have competence to practice above that level. Most of the 50 would be found practicing in locations such as adult and child/youth mental health and in private facilities such as the Ranch Ehrlo Society.

continued on page 4

Executive Director's Report, continued

2) What About Rural Populations?

A significant element driving this proposal is the fact that rural and remote areas often struggle with access to all professionals including physicians, and we have consistently heard this from social workers practicing in rural Saskatchewan. Many communities have no regular physician services and those that do, have physicians who are often very busy and have limited time available for persons with mental health concerns. Endorsed clinical social workers could provide much-needed services that will improve mental health service access for people living in rural and remote communities.

3) Does using diagnosis in practice offend the principles of anti-oppressive practice?

This question came forward during the internal consultation and the small working group identified by Joanne came to the conclusion that it did not. Here's what was concluded: "Anti-oppressive social work practice (which is an umbrella term for a variety of practice and theoretical approaches) does strive to address social divisions and structural inequalities. In fact, Thompson (1993) suggests that an anti-oppressive approach is an attempt to eliminate discrimination from our own practice and challenge it in the practice of others. However, anti-oppressive social work practice is also about emphasizing 'good practice' and 'personal and professional accountability' during that process. In order to practice in an anti-oppressive manner, social workers must be committed to achieving the level of professional training and education that is required to provide 'good practice.' Further, anti-oppressive social workers are required to examine and question the sources of their own power and the ways in which this is exercised in their relations with clients and consumers. So, while the use of diagnostic tools may be viewed by some as 'labelling', accountability, and transparency in that accountability, really is a cornerstone to anti-oppressive practice. According to an anti-oppressive perspective, enhancing social workers' competency and skill in clinical practice can actually bring us closer to working anti-oppressively."

Current Status

1) The Legislative Proposal?

After the closure of the external consultation in July, our colleagues in the Ministry responsible for legislation were required to analyse the feedback received, and it was then decided that the proposal

would be prepared to go forward for consideration by the Legislation and Regulation Review Committee (LRRC).

At this writing, in late September, the meeting of LRRC was still two weeks away.

2) The Draft By-laws?

The draft of By-laws included in the consultation package was an initial expression of the content thought by Council to be the requirements in the public interest, of a member making application for an "Authorized Practice Endorsement." The next steps will include a round of more detailed work to refine the provisions, and it has been concluded that this work will be done in collaboration with legislation staff at Social Services and with the assistance of ASWB (The Association of Social Work Boards), whose clinical examination it is intended that we would use as part of the qualification process. Once refined and detailed, the By-laws need the approval of the membership at an Annual General Meeting or at another duly called meeting of the membership. If approved there, they also require the further approval of the Minister of Social Services before they could take effect.

Advanced work on the draft By-laws would proceed when the legislative proposal receives approval.

*Submitted by:
Richard Hazel, MSW, RSW (SK)*

NOTICE FOR SUBMITTING PROPOSED BY-LAW AMENDMENTS

Section 24 of the Social Workers Administrative By-laws reads:

- (1) Council or any member of the association may propose amendments to any of the By-laws of the association by providing a notice of the proposed amendment to the Registrar for circulation to the membership in accordance with section 15(7) of the Act.
- (2) All proposed amendments to any of the By-laws of the association by council or any member of the association shall be forwarded to council not later than 60 days prior to the notification as required by Section 15(7) of the Act.

The deadline for submitting any proposed bylaw amendments is February 27, 2013.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

Call for Nominations to Council Positions

As per Section 25 (2) of The Social Workers Administrative By-laws, SASW voting members are hereby given notice of the right to nominate licensed member(s) to fill any Council vacancy for the upcoming year. The position open for nomination is President Elect.

All nominations must be submitted on the "Call for Nominations Form" which is included below. Nomination forms must be mailed to the SASW Office no later than February 27, 2013.

The SASW Annual General Meeting will be held in Saskatoon on Monday, May 13, 2013, starting at 7:00 p.m.

Call for Nominations for SASW Council

Position: President Elect

Name: _____ SASW Registration Number: _____

Address: _____ Credentials: _____

City/Town: _____ Number of years in practice: _____

Area(s) of practice and contribution to the profession: _____

Previous/present involvement with SASW Branch/Committee:

Nature of contribution(s) to be made on SASW Council:

Signature of Nominee: _____

Nominators – Registered Social Workers

Signatures of Nominators

Mail completed form to SASW Office – 2110 Lorne Street, Regina, SK, S4P 2M5

Deadline for submitting nominations: February 27, 2013



SASW Provincial Workshop Day

“Impact Techniques: When Words are Not Enough”

Tuesday, May 14, 2013 – Travelodge Inn, Saskatoon

Wednesday, May 15, 2013 – Royal Executive Hotel (formerly West Harvest Inn), Regina

Workshop Presenter: Dr. Danie Beaulieu

Workshop Description:

Have you ever had the impression that sometimes your words just weren't enough? No matter how you said it, your message just wouldn't get through? Impact Therapy and Impact Techniques go beyond words engage the powerful visual and kinesthetic sensory systems to provide a richer experience to the helping process. This dynamic and IMPACT-full workshop will present dozens of unique and versatile multisensory metaphors, visual imagery, tactile props, and other techniques that focus clients' attention and increase their multisensory involvement in resolving their difficulties. Participants will learn how to apply and integrate these techniques in their practice and create new paradigms based on their experience and needs.

Workshop Presenter:

Danie Beaulieu holds a doctorate in psychology and is internationally recognized in the fields of Eye Movement Integration (EMI) and Impact Therapy. Founder and president of the training institute Impact Therapy as well as the Psyboutique, she is also the author of 17 books, some of which have been translated into several languages. Dr. Beaulieu has presented to more than 250,000 people in Canada, Europe, the United States, South America & Africa. She has appeared on numerous popular television and radio programs and is often requested as expert by the print media. Dr. Beaulieu has been invited as keynote speaker to numerous prestigious conferences.

***The Workshop Brochure/Registration Form is available
on the SASW Website under the “News/events” tab.***

***As well, a brochure/registration form will be included
in the February 2013 Saskatchewan Social Worker mail-out.***

***Registration Cost: \$105 - SASW Members
\$90 - SASW Students \$150 - Non-members***



Article Section

Caring for the Official Language Community in Minority Situation in Saskatchewan

Addressing socio-linguistic and ethnic barriers for more effective patient-provider communication

In Saskatchewan almost 20,000 individuals speak French at home and they would like to receive health services and clinical care in French. Language barriers have been shown to reduce participation in health promotion and prevention activities as well as interfere with the quality of patient-practitioner communication.^{1, 2, 3} Linguistic and cultural barriers lead to an increased risk of late presentation, unnecessary procedures, poorer patient understanding of prescribed treatment and lower patient satisfaction, which may be associated with increased wait times and poorer health outcomes.^{4,5} Access to quality and safe health services includes showing respect for a complex mix of cultural factors and patients' individual preferences. Therefore, in order to minimize these barriers, it seems urgent that the health care system takes into account the diversity of needs and involves all key players in the system.

Building partnerships for better access to health services in French in Saskatchewan

A not-for-profit organization, the Réseau Santé en Français de la Saskatchewan (RSFS),¹ known as the Saskatchewan provincial network for health services in French, is engaging its 5 key health partners: professional associations, post-secondary institutions, health services organizations, the francophone community and governments, to improve access and quality care for the French-speaking community. The vision is the creation of a favourable environment in which Francophones in Saskatchewan are able to seek and receive health services in French, and where health institutions and

health professionals are actively offering a continuum of quality services in French adapted to the needs of the French-speaking population of Saskatchewan.

Examples of RSFS activities include raising awareness about the Fransaskois health needs, partners' networking, engaging in health promotion activities within the provincial priority areas, identification of human resources who speak French, assistance in planning French-language services and various support services such as language training and translation.

What the RSFS can offer?

RSFS will work with partners to:

- Organize medical terminology workshops with continuing education credits
- Provide resources to improve French language skills and medical terminology in French.
- Suggest resources to improve clinical practice in French
- Offer research opportunities in French such as the "Réseau de recherche interdisciplinaire sur la santé des francophones en situation minoritaire" (RISF).
- Invite participation in francophone health forums and conferences
- Provide information about web conferences on health topics in French

The RSFS has compiled a directory of French speaking health care professionals: http://www.rsfs.ca/opFichier/_4aR0QKY4uLJ4_12377.pdf

What can you do as a health professional?

- If you are a healthcare professional who can speak French, we encourage you to self identify by going to the link at http://www.rsfs.ca/identifiez_vous_n936_t7123.html; you can also become a preceptor.
- Become a member of the RSFS – rsfs@shaw.ca
- Improve or practice your language skills, by:
 - participating in our francophone networking activities (most of the events are free of charge)
 - taking part in health promotion and prevention events in the francophone community
 - taking online courses in French (website: www.educacentre.com email: info@educacentre.com)

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1 A member of Société Santé en français (SSF), le RSFS is one of 17 provincial and territorial networks for health services in French funded by Health Canada and designed to improve access to the official language minority population by following the WHO model of partnerships: toward unity for health: http://www.who.int/hrh/documents/en/TUFH_challenges.pdf

Caring for the Official Language Community in Minority Situation in Saskatchewan, continued

or the Institut français in Regina at Sandra.flynn@uregina.ca)

- attending our medical terminology workshops
- attend our annual health forum conference
- Spread the word among your colleagues and encourage them to self identify.

For more information, please get in touch with our office. We look forward to hearing from you to see how we can be of further assistance.

To contact us:

Réseau Santé en Français de la Saskatchewan
103 - 308 4e Ave Nord,
Saskatoon, (Saskatchewan) S7K 2L7

Tel : (306) 653-7445

Fax : (306) 664-6447

email: rsfs@shaw.ca website: www.rsfs.ca

Submitted by:

Hortense E Nsoh Tabien

Roger Gauthier

Anne Leis

Celebrating Social Work Week in Saskatchewan

March 17 to March 23, 2013

“Social Workers: Defending Social Programs for a Stronger Canada”

For ideas on how to celebrate Social Work Week in your area/branch, please see the SASW website (www.sasw.ca) and click on the tab “social work week”

References

1. Gany F, Ngo-Metzger Q. Language Barriers in Health Care: Special Supplement to the Journal of General Internal Medicine, *Journal of General Internal Medicine* November 2007; 22 (Suppl. 2)
2. Schyve PM. Language Differences as a Barrier to Quality and Safety in Health Care: The Joint Commission Perspective. *J Gen Intern Med* 2007; 22 (Suppl 2):360-1
3. Bernard A, Whitaker M, Ray M, Rockich A, Barton-Baxter M, Barnes SL, Boulanger B, Tsuei B, Kearney P. Impact of Language Barrier on Acute Care Medical Professionals Is Dependent Upon Role *J Prof Nurs* 2006; 22:355- 8.
4. Bowen S & WRHA Language Barriers Committee. Marginalized evidence: Effective knowledge translation strategies for low awareness issues. *Healthcare Management Forum* 2006; 19 (3), 38-44
5. Bylund, Carma L., D'Agostino, Thomas A., Ho, Evelyn Y. and Chewing, Betty A. Improving Clinical Communication and Promoting Health through Concordance-Based Patient Education. *Communication Education* 2010 July; 59:3, 294 - 311.

MENTORS WANTED

Student Energy in Action for Regina Community Health (SEARCH) needs mentors to help this student-run primary health care initiative provide programming. SEARCH, based at Four Directions Community Health Centre, provides after-hours clinical and social services for North Central Regina residents. Programs focus on nutrition, physical activity, holistic support for women and support for those with addictions.

Mentor social workers are required to co-facilitate programs and provide oversight to social work students.

SEARCH services are offered Saturdays from 12:30-3:30 p.m.

Time commitment is flexible and may be used as part of professional development requirements.

Honorariums will be offered.

SEARCH is a non-profit organization supported by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Health, the Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region, Four Directions, the North Central Community Association, the University of Regina, the University of Saskatchewan, the First Nations University of Canada, and the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology. For details or to participate, email reginastudentclinic@gmail.com.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

SASKATCHEWAN ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS

Position: Executive Director

QUALIFICATIONS/QUALITIES:

- Minimum BSW, MSW preferred and broad knowledge of social work practice with a minimum of 5 years post-degree experience
- Member in good standing of the SASW.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
- Ability to work independently.
- Willingness to travel.
- Initiative.
- Strong organizational skills.
- Demonstrated understanding of the regulatory role of a self-governing profession.
- Administrative experience.
- Excellent leadership skills.

The Executive Director is the Chief Executive Officer and as such will:

- Oversee all the areas of organizational operation including but not limited to:
 - development of a budget in conjunction with the treasurer and monitoring income and expenditures to ensure the financial integrity of the organization;
 - hiring, training, supervising and evaluating professional and support staff;
 - property management;
 - systems development in consultation with the executive assistant.
- Maintain and expand the communications systems between the Association, its branches, committees, employers and the general public.
- Provide support to branches and interest groups as required.
- Support council and committees in their development and in the implementation of their projects and ensure continuity and a focus on organizational objectives.
- Represent social work on inter-disciplinary committees, in consultation with government, employers and unions and to the public.
- In consultation with Council, respond publicly to issues affecting social workers and their clients.
- Respond to membership concerns and issues.
- Maintain communication with other provincial executive directors and serve on CASW projects as necessary.

ACCOUNTABILITY:

The Executive Director will be accountable to Council of the Saskatchewan Association of Social Workers. The Executive Director, as the CEO of the SASW, will be an ex-officio member at committees of Council.

CONTRACT:

The position will be 80% of full time, based on a 40-hour work week. There will be a six month probationary period.

LOCATION:

While the location is negotiable, most of the work of the Executive Director will necessitate living/staying in Regina.

SALARY AND BENEFITS:

Negotiable

START DATE:

April 1, 2013

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS:

Friday, December 21, 2012

Send applications to:

Tom Seeley, Chair – Search Committee
Saskatchewan Association of Social Workers
2110 Lorne Street, Regina, SK S4P 2M5
Email: sasw@accesscomm.ca Fax: (306) 545-1895

Saskatchewan's New Personal Care Home Benefit

The impending tsunamic effect of aging baby "boomers" is a "social seismographic vibration" that grows in intensity with every passing year. As the population of frail elderly increases, the need grows for more supportive living resources.

The purpose of this article is to briefly review some of the most common supportive living options available to seniors followed by an analysis of the new personal care home benefit. References to Regina are used in the examples as this is the area most familiar to the writer.

Home Care

Home Care is an effective resource for assisting seniors with maintaining independence and quality of life for as long as possible at home. Assistance with such daily activities as bathing, dressing, meal preparation, and managing medications are a few examples of the services that are available. There are charges for some services but the program is subsidized according to income. However, as functional ability declines it can become impractical if not unsafe to remain at home. Although there are limits to what Home Care currently provides, it may well have the greatest untapped potential for expanding service to seniors in need. Additional tax dollars would have to be considered for this resource, but it may turn out to be a cost-effective strategy in the long run.

Enhanced Housing

The private sector has attempted to meet some of the demand for seniors' housing with the advent of increasing numbers of enhanced housing facilities offering independent living suites complete with kitchenettes, housekeeping service, and quality meals served in a central dining area. However, not all seniors have the income to afford this level of luxury. Home Care service is also available to residents in these facilities.

Subsidized Housing

Regina Housing Authority, for example, offers affordable senior citizens independent living suites in a number of facilities in the city. Rent is subsidized according to income but the waitlist is long. Again, Home Care service is available to residents.

Special Care Homes

Long-term care facilities (Special Care Homes) accommodate clients who require high levels of care. Typically complex problems include but are not limited to issues associated with personal care, mobility, incontinence, and cognition. Approval for access is mandatory and involves a comprehensive assessment and subsequent

review by a health region committee. These facilities are heavily subsidized by government. Resident charges are income tested in order to make costs affordable to all clients. All of the long-term care facilities in Regina are either crowded, outdated, or a combination of both. Some have or have had to address infrastructural problems. The Extended Care/Veterans Program at Wascana Rehabilitation Centre is the least outdated, having opened in April 1990. The others have been in operation for more than 40 years. Clients awaiting special care home placement from hospital block beds that are otherwise needed for acute care patients, particularly during times of over capacity in hospital emergency units. A separate list is also maintained for clients who have been assessed and are awaiting placement from the urban community, not to mention the rural areas. There is no doubt that long-term care is a grave concern across Canada.

Personal Care Homes

For seniors needing 24-hour care and/or supervision but who do not meet the criteria of need for admission to a long term care facility, there are private, licensed personal care homes regulated by the Personal Care Homes branch of government. Public distribution lists are available and include fees, as well as descriptors of amenities such as wheelchair ramps, up at night staff, smoking/non-smoking, respite service, oxygen, and door alarms. According to the August 28, 2012, list, costs range from about \$1200 to \$3650 per month in Regina. Approximately twenty-five percent of these homes are priced from \$1200 to \$1800 per month. The remaining seventy-five percent are priced from \$1800 to \$3650. Historically costs have been out of range for clients whose incomes are limited to Old Age Security/Guaranteed Income Supplement unless they have been able to top up their income from another source. It is the issue of personal care home costs that the government has attempted to address with the new personal care home benefit.

The New Personal Care Home Benefit

In July 2012, the Government of Saskatchewan introduced the Personal Care Home Benefit program for seniors. A person is eligible if he or she is 65 years of age or older; is a resident of Saskatchewan; has a monthly income below \$1,800; lives in a Saskatchewan licensed personal care home; and is in receipt of an Old Age Security pension. The Program is administered by the Ministry of Social Services. Information is available by calling from outside Regina toll free at 1-855-544-7242 or in the Regina area at 798-7242.

Clearly the cost of personal care homes has been a

Social Worker, Renu Kapoor, Regina, SK, recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal



Renu Kapoor was nominated by Osteoporosis Canada for her dedicated service to their organization and is the recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal which was awarded by the Governor General of Canada, David Johnston. In her various roles with Osteoporosis Canada, Renu was the Regina Chapter Founder,

Past Chair, in fund-raising and advocacy.

To celebrate the 60th anniversary of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's accession to the throne as Queen of Canada—an occasion marked only once before, by her great-great-grandmother, Queen Victoria, in 1897—60,000 Canadians are being honored for their contributions to their community and country. In granting this honour to Renu, the Governor General thanked Renu for her dedicated service to her peers, to her community and to Canada. “The contributions she has made to the nation are most commendable and deserve praise and admiration.”

Congratulations Renu!

Saskatchewan's New Personal Care Home Benefit, continued

long standing concern for lower income seniors. The purpose of this new benefit is to provide seniors with financial assistance to help offset the cost of residing in a licensed personal care home (PCH). The supplement amounts to the difference between a threshold of \$1,800 less the resident's monthly income. According to the Ministry, no matter what the applicant's income, as long as it is below \$1800, the applicant gets the difference between their income and the \$1800 threshold. This means that, for example, if a resident's income is \$1233 per month and the PCH cost is \$1800 per month then the supplement would amount to \$567. However, it should be noted that the supplement itself does not take into account any additional expenses such as clothing, medications, incontinence supplies, or other personal items. Therefore, for those applicants who have no possible means of support other than their own personal income, it is important to factor in any of these additional costs over and above the PCH monthly fee before entering into a contract with the PCH. To be succinct, any applicant who qualifies for the PCH benefit will be on their own for all additional costs if they enter into an agreement with any PCH with an advertised cost of \$1800 or above. In other words, approved applicants without any other means of support would be well advised to look for personal care homes that charge somewhat less than \$1800 per month if they hope to have any money left over to pay for additional expenses.

The net positive outcome of the new Personal Care Home Benefit is that it marginally increases the number of affordable PCH's on the public distribution list. However, for all intents and purposes the benefit has no meaningful effect on availability since the vast majority

of lower cost PCHs are almost always full. Furthermore, safety restrictions on admissions to most of the lower cost homes as set by the Government of Saskatchewan Personal Care Homes branch (for example, the need to climb and descend stairs independently) only serves to further erode any real advantage. Also the costs as stated on the PCH public distribution list are labeled as “starting fees.” This generally means that as care needs increase costs increase which in turn can translate into unaffordability if a resident's functional status declines but not quite enough to qualify for admission to a long-term care facility (special care home).

Residents in long-term care facilities (special care homes) can apply for provincial Long Term Care Optional Designation For Determining Resident Charge status. This acknowledges the reality of involuntary separation and ensures that when the resident's income is lower than that of the spouse, only the resident's income is considered when calculating the charge. The Personal Care Home Benefit does not offer applicants this advantage.

An issue that may yet come to light is speculation that the Personal Care Home Benefit will result in lower cost PCH operators raising their existing prices to take advantage of the benefit.

Ultimately the Personal Care Home Benefit will cost the government some money but ironically those who benefit most from it may not be the people for whom it was really intended.

Submitted by:

*Gordon Moyer, B.A Honours, BSW, RSW (Sask)
Senior Assessor/Coordinator (SK)
Pasqua Hospital, Regina*

A Day in the Life of a Retired Social Worker



“The meaning of life is to see.” – Hui Neng 7th century Zen Master

I have been intrigued by the above words ever since I heard them decades ago: The Buddha’s advice, “Don’t just do something, stand there,” and the French Philosopher, Blasé Pascal’s comment, “Most evil in the world is done by people who can’t sit quietly in a room.” Social Work emphasizes “doing.” In a sense no one can “be” a Social Worker. One can “have” a Social Work degree, “have” membership in a professional association and “have” a job description, while “being a person” who “does” Social Work. The “doing” of Social Work begs consideration of its apparent opposite, “non-doing,” in at least one of its senses —staying out of the way of others. (Another way of saying this may be to honor the hiddenness, privacy and solitude of others). I promised myself that on retiring from daily work (I think of it now as retreat from compulsive work into work I wanna do when I wanna do it, if I wanna do it) I would balance meaningful doing with meaningful non-doing. The quest for a deeper presence through patience and watching was no small part of this. I even made a list of specifics. (The bureaucratic and political side of Social Work in a government department setting which had engulfed me in the latter years of my career provided plenty of those.) Not that I would cease all doing. In an existential sense “one cannot not-do.” In that sense one even “does” non-doing. Overall, I planned a closer consideration of the basic qualities that make us “human”—empathy, compassion, insight, foresight, hindsight. Fortunately I was retiring from a professional career that demanded one value these qualities (see Code of Ethics) as part of its daily practice so I had a head start. Or so it seemed.

Like every retiree I spent the first part of my retirement looking over my shoulder at what I was leaving behind, or maybe what was sneaking up on me. And I returned to the workplace off and on for a number of years, putting on the uniform (without a necktie. I still claim indisputable proof it cuts off blood circulation to the brain and clouds judgment. I can supply many examples), while remaining vigilant for an emerging new Identity.

Many years ago a friend was out of work for a period of time—now we say “between jobs”—and sold his car, suits and guns to finance the lean times. He said he suffered a crisis of identity—no job, no car, no suit, no gun—who was he? Fortunately I still had a car.

I am part of all that I have met. I carry forward be-

haviors from those times: The son of farmers I still till and groom the land, seed and harvest our ½ acre city lot and tend the buildings on our city and lake properties. I bake bread twice a week (milled at home with organic ingredients) and ensure we have enough chokecherry wine to survive the year. (My father on our near subsistence level farm would say, “As long as we have a bin of potatoes in the basement we will be fine.” I still follow his advice on the potatoes but add chokecherry wine for extra security.) Additionally, the bread and wine may be my way of celebrating the Eucharist, impelled by the Catholicism of my youth. Happy hour is the daily communion.

Near the end of the day, as I have done for decades, I may play my flutes and reeds. Sometimes a child or adult dances or sings along. The wine lubricates the joints and larynx while the spirit evokes spirit.

I walk miles each day, another lifelong habit—often near a lake, ocean or river, alone or with Anne or another friend (no dog and our cat won’t follow)—my most necessary activity and one I believe extends my life and truly gets me places (no ambiguity about the outcome of this enterprise).

I care and fail to care everyday for the people closest to me—Anne, our three adult children, their partners and families (5 grandchildren from 5 to 21 years) an aging mother-in-law (97 years) who lives with us, and the extended family, neighbors and friends nearby and spread across the globe. The environmentalist David Suzuki, only a couple of years older than I, says people our age are in the Death Zone and must do whatever we can to leave the world a better place for our descendants. Or, as my mother used to say, “Clean up your mess before you start something new.” (Her way was to make stories out of the events of her life and fashion separate versions of them to suit the situation of each listener.) And to give my father equal space with his folk wisdom and quirky metaphors: “Don’t be stupid, look where you’re going, open your ears, they won’t bleed, you’re the eldest, you should know better.” I am no longer intent on changing the world. Even the Province of Saskatchewan proved to be too large a territory for such effort. I work now at revisioning the apparently obvious happenings in my life to deepen their meaning (to see more is to be more), but know that attempting to change anything alone other than one’s mind is a fool’s mission. I limit my efforts to offering support here and there—a word spoken, written, perhaps a tangible resource, or just my presence. (Woody Allen says that 80% of success in life is just showing up.)

Many issues from my Social Work career still grip me and I react in whatever ways I can within the new

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Online Confidentiality

Reprinted with permission from The Advocate, Fall 2012.

by Ilona Cardinal, BA, BFA, Promotions Coordinator, Alberta College of Social Workers

Is online confidentiality achievable? How can social workers continue to respect their client's right to privacy when using social media programs like Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, MySpace and Reddit? Begin by recognizing that everything posted online with social media programs is public information. Facebook often changes the way its privacy settings work, making it from difficult to impossible to ensure your posts and other information are totally confidential. Even when your privacy settings seem secure, "liking" a comment on a public profile or page is a public action that can lead to your personal profile. "Friending" clients and communicating with them on social networks can

expose you and your client to non-confidentiality.

Fielding questions outside your employment locations and office hours may affect the trust and confidence required to maintain your professional relationship with a client. While email communication is more discrete, be aware of the complications that could arise if your messages are forwarded or carbon copies (cc) and blind carbon copies (:bcc) are used indiscriminately.

Maintaining online confidentiality requires you to keep very current with changing technology. For more information, refer to the Canadian Association of Social workers (CASW) Code of Ethics Value 5: Confidentiality in Professional Practice at: tinyurl.com/83uck31 The ACSW Standards of Practice also addresses some of these issues in the Competence section, under "Technology in social work practice": tinyurl.com/7vu4xst

A Day in the Life of a Retired Social Worker, continued

possibilities and limitations set by retirement and aging: Soul-numbing poverty, racism and other forms of intolerance, violence perpetrated by individuals groups and governments, eco-desecration, obscene accumulation of wealth, the religion of consumerism, ovine chorus lines, injustices of various kinds coupled with a sense of entitlement of the wealthy and arrogance of the powerful and the celebrated. I have impassioned rants to address these whenever an occasion arises and I gather new material daily from the abundance of reported inhumanities.

Child hunger remains the central issue that leaves me with a sense of professional and personal failure, guilt anger and despair. Given the central attributes of humanness, as I see them—empathy, compassion, insight, foresight and hindsight—why do the global societies fail to address this one adequately? Still, that fact shouldn't pre-empt a personal response from a guilty bystander—especially if that person is a grandfather.

I read and listen to the poets, finding that both their verse and prose cut closest to the core of what it means to be human and how one might think and do something about it while looking for the extraordinary in the ordinary. Much of their wisdom is in the music, choice and juxtaposition of their words and the meanings that emerge between the lines. I meditate and write in my journal, with the hope that insights may come to me out of the silence and from my own attempts to put feelings, ideas and intuitions into words.

I study the writings of others, the way of cats and birds, the movement of wind, water and clouds, the wis-

dom of children and sagacity of women. Walt Whitman said, "I loaf and invite my soul." Such a one in this era risks getting flattened by the bulldozers of the multitude hell bent on progress. I esteem the Golden Rule, The Sermon On The Mount and the Buddhist Eightfold Path. I am grateful for the discovery years ago that human, humus, humility, humidity and humor derive from the same root word and that "imagination is everything." I know now that I am not going to die young and that realization of impending death is the severest of teachers.

I view retirement as a time of transition, a liminal time. The Hindu tradition teaches there are four stages of life. Student is the first—a time of dependence and learning, then Householder—raising children, earning a living, shouldering communal responsibility, then Retirement—free of social obligations, a time of quiet and pursuit of self knowledge practicing the virtues of Patience, Humility, Kindness and Simplicity. In the final stage one attains some wisdom and becomes a Sadhu, (holy man) and teacher, free of desire or worldly ambition, wandering the world—really or metaphorically. Like all human beings, I ooze toward that last one but have a life-time of work to do on those four virtues and five attributes of humanness.

Everything is always changing. Everything is connected. Pay attention!

*Submitted by:
David Macknak, MSW, RSW (SK)*



Committee, Branch & Task Team Section

Introduction to the Education Committee

The purpose of the Education Committee is to address the educational needs of members and educational requirements for quality professional practice. The Committee promotes continuing education for members and provides support and input to the Faculty of Social Work regarding the design and delivery of the degree programs.



Committee Chair:
**Shelley Whitehead, BA,
BSW, MSW (SK) – Regina,
SK**

I work with the Ministry of Central Services managing corporate (government-wide) projects that lead to more innovative and efficient ways of providing public services. One of my responsibilities

is oversight of the Lean initiative whereby employees and managers take a step back from their daily work to examine how things are done, make improvements and streamline business processes to improve service delivery.

I am a proud public servant and have been with Government for 30 years. I started out as a front line social worker and have held a variety of positions in Central Services, the Public Service Commission, Social Services and Post-Secondary Education.

I have been a member of SASW for 11 years and got involved with the Education Committee about three years ago. In addition to chairing the committee, I represent the SASW on the University of Regina Senate and the Faculty of Social Work's Undergraduate Studies Committee.

I believe it is important for social workers, across the province, to have access to professional development opportunities. I am particularly excited about the new Professional Practice Series being sponsored by the University of Regina's Faculty of Social Work, the Centre for Continuing Education and the SASW.



**Karen Wasylenka, MSW,
RSW (SK) – Wynyard, SK**

Greetings, SASW members! My name is Karen Wasylenka and I am a member of the SASW Education Committee and the Ethics Training group. I got involved early on with the initial group of Ethics trainers, joining the group as I saw an opportunity

to learn more about our Code of Ethics and ethical behavior.

I have a MSW (2005) from U of R and have worked at the Ministry of Social Services since 1982, beginning as an Income Assistance worker in the small Wynyard office. Over the last 30 years, I have had the opportunity to work in both Income Assistance and Child and Family Services programs, and to work in various locations across the southern part of the province. I have had the opportunity to work with many wonderful and skilled individuals, both inside the Ministry of Social Services and in other agencies and communities. As I look back, I can say that I did my share of bringing new social workers into the field!! My current role is Director, Service Delivery, Child and Family Services, in Central Office of MSS.

In addition, I have been a sessional lecturer in the Faculty of Social Work, University of Regina, since 2006. I teach a number of different classes in Regina, Saskatoon and Yorkton. I am always encouraged by the students I see, as they are filled with enthusiasm, passion, creativity, and dedication to work in the human services field, to improve the lives of individuals and families and advance community/societal issues.

Although I work in Regina, Wynyard continues to be my permanent home. I have been a weekend commuter for 13 years!

I strongly believe that as social workers we need to continually enhance our skills and knowledge and continually strive to conduct ourselves in a professional and ethical manner. Thus my keen interest in SASW's role in assisting our membership through the Education Committee and the Ethics Workshops.

Introduction to the Education Committee, continued



Amber Barlow, BSW, RSW (SK) – Saskatoon, SK

Greetings, one and all. I work with the Saskatoon Health Region in Mental Health and Addiction Services and I am the Senior Clinical Social Worker for Children Services. In my position I work as a clinical therapist and as the coordinator for the Case Management Program which involves case managers who assist children and their families by accessing and coordinating the services they need to meet their goals. I also am the consultant to Red Willow Centre which provides housing for at-risk children with behavioural problems.

Prior to working at MHAS, I worked in Moose Jaw and Saskatoon for the Ministry of Social Services in various program areas such as: Child Protection; Youth Services Worker; Adoption Worker; Placement/Support Coordinator; Therapeutic Foster Coordinator and in rural services.

I am proud to be a member of SASW and decided that I wanted to give back to the organization so I got involved with the Education Committee three years ago. I also represent the SASW on the Faculty of Social Work's Master of Social Work Committee.

Social Work to me is not just a profession, it is a lifestyle and a blueprint of how to be with each other in our world. I especially like this quote by Ralph Waldo Emerson: "Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail."



Margi Hollingshead, MSW, PhD – Regina, SK

I have been an Assistant Professor of Social Work at the University of Regina since 2003. I love teaching the "practice" courses, including a new course on critical thinking for social workers. I worked for Social Services in Wisconsin for

eight years before moving to Regina, where I was the director of Regina Christian Counselling Centre and a counselor at Family Service Bureau before teaching. I

am active on the Faculty's Undergraduate Studies Committee that seeks to connect social work education with the realities and needs in the field. I am a member of SASW as it provides clear identification with my commitment to ethical standards, a venue for mutual support and a forum for ongoing professional development. I am proud to call myself a social worker!

Susan Luedtke, BSW, MSW, RSW (SK) – Prince Albert, SK

I am currently the Executive Director of Eagle's Nest Youth Ranch, a program which I helped establish in 2007. Eagle's Nest provides therapeutic group care services to 99 youth residing in group homes located in Prince Albert, Saskatoon and North Battleford. I have worked in the area of youth care since the beginning of my social work career in 1986. I have also taught courses in the area of group work and ethics as a sessional instructor for the faculty of Social Work, University of Regina. I graduated with my BSW from the University of Regina in 1986 and then completed my Masters of Social Work at the University of Toronto where I focused my studies in family therapy. I have been involved in SASW since I was a social work student in the early 1980s and have served in the past on Council as a member at large and also previously served as the chair of the Prince Albert branch of SASW. Currently I am a member of the Education Committee and act as the coordinator of the Ethics Trainers group. I live in the Rural Municipality of Buckland, north of Prince Albert, with my partner, Paul, and our four daughters, as well as numerous horses, dogs, and cats!

Krista Olson, BSW, MSW, RSW (SK) – Swift Current, SK

My name is Krista Olson and I reside in Swift Current, Saskatchewan, in the southwestern part of the province. I have worked in the Adult Community Mental Health Program for the Cypress Health Region since 1998. I teach social work classes for the Great Plains College and had a thriving private practice in the city which I closed last year to create more balance within my personal and professional life. I am an active member of the SASW Education Committee and a past representative for Swift Current on SASW Council and as a member of the SASW Volunteer Development Committee. I am involved with SASW to keep current regarding issues relevant to our profession and to connect with fellow social workers across the province.

Did You Know? – 2011 Financial Tidbits

- The Saskatchewan Social Worker newsletter cost \$7,981.28 in 2011. This newsletter is produced three times per year at a cost of \$5.46 per member.
- Office supplies/stationery expense amounted to \$3,549.22. That's a cost of \$2.42 per member.
- The SASW has five scheduled mail-outs to members to minimize the ever-increasing cost of postage. In 2011, \$10,794.53 was spent on this budget item. A cost of \$7.38 per member.
- Printing of SASW materials for promotion and registration cost \$10,386.17, a cost of \$7.10 per member.
- To repair/maintain the SASW office building and equipment, the cost was \$7,469.75—a cost of \$5.10 per member.

For more information on revenues/expenses of SASW, please refer to the audited financial statement which appears yearly in the Annual Reports. The Annual Reports are located on the SASW website (www.sasw.ca).

2013 SASW Calendar

SASW wishes to acknowledge and thank the students and teachers from

*Phoenix School (North Battleford)
for participating and submitting art work
for the 2013 SASW Calendar.*

*Your beautiful art will be enjoyed and
appreciated by many individuals from
around the province.*

Well done!

Navigating an Ethical Minefield? Pondering a "Grey Area"?

The **Practice Ethics Committee** is a confidential support service for SASW members that offers guidance on ethical decision-making. The committee will make every effort to respond in a timely fashion, and will provide alternate ways of viewing and acting on ethical issues.

To contact the Practice Ethics Committee with your questions or dilemmas, please call the SASW Office. Contact may be by letter, email, telephone or fax. Sufficient detail should be given so that an informed response can be made.



Calling for Nominations for CASW Distinguished Service Award

Eligible Criteria

1. Outstanding contribution in any area of social work practice.
2. A high degree of professional commitment and contribution to the social work profession both provincially and/or nationally.
3. Current/valid registered social worker status with SASW.

Procedure for Nomination:

The name must be submitted for nomination with the written support of three registered members of SASW. A brief biographical sketch must be included along with a curriculum vitae and a digital picture.

Selection Process:

Selection of the Awardee will be made by the SASW Selection Committee. The plaque will be presented at the SASW Annual General Meeting.

Nominations must be sent to:

SASW - Selection Committee
2110 Lorne Street
Regina, SK S4P 2M5
Fax: (306) 545-1895

Deadline for Nominations:

November 23, 2012



Saskatchewan
Ministry of
Agriculture

FARM STRESS LINE
1-800-667-4442
www.agr.gov.sk.ca

Book Review:

THINKIN' DRINKIN'

From the Teen Years Forward:

A Rational, Safe, Worry-Free Approach to Lifetime Alcohol Use or Abstinence

Thinkin' Drinkin' (2011) by Richard Thatcher is an easy read and hard to put down. The book has a lot of well-presented information, as well as ideas, strategies, and exercises designed for teenagers or young adults. I particularly like the emphasis Thatcher places on important information, often using bold, highlighted and capitalized words or even sentences in each chapter to ensure he has made his point. Very catchy and a good reminder, as he often makes the point earlier in the chapter and then reminds readers a bit later on. I also like the words he chose throughout the book designed for a younger audience, for example, wasted, blast, buzz, etc.

The book begins by explaining the title of the book and why he chose a silly name. The intention was to grab people's attention and perhaps to get people thinkin'. He wanted to irritate people just enough to make them want to read the book, as well as brand the concept of thinkin' drinkin'. Thatcher sees thinkin' drinkin' as the exact opposite of "stinkin' drinkin'," which he sees as highly annoying. This might scare off people who are firmly entrenched in 12-step programs, but if you can hang on there is a great deal of logic behind his idea of thinkin' drinkin' and why abstinence is not for everyone.

Thatcher clearly defines and explains alcoholism, as well as what to do if you are an alcoholic or if you are drinking for emotional relief. Yet, the emphasis of this novel approach is on people who, on occasion, drink too much and strategies they can use to avoid over drinking. He advocates for drinking and sees what it has to offer, but he does not promote drinking for people who can not drink sensibly. The whole purpose of the book is for people to make a plan, stick to the plan and never over drink. Thatcher believes even one overindulgence can have devastating consequences. The emphasis is on looking at your thoughts for drinking, exploring your core values and beliefs, setting goals to effectively express those values and to

understand how drinking sabotages those goals. He has step-by-step guides to help individuals make plans and he covers every potential situation that could occur.

Finally, Thatcher encourages and reinforces the idea of finding more satisfying alternatives to drinking. He "champions maturity of thought and action when it comes to drinking." This book is clear, logical, and comprehensive. The information flows nicely and it is well worth the weekend to read. But be prepared to be challenged when you read this book.

Submitted by:
Dawn Rain, MSW, RSW (SK), Saskatoon

BELL, TEMPLE

Barristers & Solicitors

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Legal Advice for Members of the Canadian Association of Social Workers

A Pro Bono Program

To reduce the risk of civil claims or disciplinary complaints against social workers, Aon Reed Stenhouse Inc., in co-operation with the Canadian Association of Social Workers and your insurer, Halifax Insurance, have arranged for a pro bono summary legal advice service to be provided by Bell, Temple, Barristers & Solicitors. Bell, Temple, in consultation with Halifax Insurance, will arrange for the appropriate referral to legal counsel in provinces other than Ontario.

Bell, Temple will provide confidential advice by telephone to all social workers participating in the Professional Liability Insurance Program administered by Aon Reed Stenhouse Inc. and co-sponsored by the Canadian Association of Social Workers. Bell, Temple will provide advice on questions regarding potential civil claims or disciplinary complaints including:

- ✦ Confidentiality - client files/records ✦
- ✦ Release of information ✦
- ✦ Response to subpoena ✦
- ✦ Conflict of interest ✦
- ✦ Custody and access ✦
- ✦ Sexual involvement with a client ✦
- ✦ Incompetence ✦
- ✦ Other professional misconduct issues ✦

ABOUT BELL, TEMPLE

Bell, Temple is a litigation law firm that has been involved in malpractice liability and health discipline matters for many years on behalf of many professional groups.

Cameron C. R. Godden and Lisa E. Hamilton lead Bell, Temple's Health Discipline Group. They are well versed in the regulations, standards of practice and the ethical obligations of social workers. They have represented regulated professionals at every stage of discipline and civil matters, including assistance in the preparation of responses to complaints from the various Colleges, representation before discipline tribunals and the Health Professions Board, and related appeals. They are both available by telephone to provide free, confidential legal advice to avoid or reduce the probability of a claim or complaint.

Each telephone consultation is limited to 30 minutes per inquiry.

The lawyer may consider it appropriate to review the issues and jurisprudence, and then call you back. The advice given will rely upon the accuracy and completeness of the information you provide.

Please be prepared with the following information:

- ✦ Your name, telephone number(s) and address ✦
- ✦ Your policy and certificate numbers ✦
- ✦ A concise summary of all relevant facts ✦
- ✦ Your specific question or concern. ✦

Bell, Temple
Barristers & Solicitors

393 University Avenue, Suite 1500, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5G 1E6
Toll Free (888) 263-8600 Local (416) 581-8200

They can be reached during business hours or voice mail messages can be left after hours or on weekends:
Cameron C. R. Godden - extension 8201 Lisa E. Hamilton - extension 8207

In the event of a formal claim or complaint, notify Aon Reed Stenhouse Inc.

ING HALIFAX

AON

Association canadienne
des travailleurs
et travailleuses sociaux
Canadian Association
of Social Workers



Faculty of Social Work, University of Regina Section

Acting Dean's Message



It is a very busy time around the Faculty of Social Work—at the time of writing this report, we are at the end of our second week of the fall semester and working through the myriad of details that always seems to accompany semester start-up. I have had an opportunity to meet with many of our students—both new and returning—over the

past couple of weeks and am absolutely thrilled with the evident quality in the students that are part of our program. The strength of the current student class bodes well for the quality of social service programs in the future. Student numbers are very strong in Social Work—we do have a cap on the number of students we admit each year, but what we are finding is that there are more qualified applicants for the spots in the program than ever before. Overall, the University of Regina has experienced strong growth in the past few years and is now home to over 13,000 students. The Faculty of Social Work enrolls approximately 900 students in both the qualifying and regular admit combined.

There have been a few staffing additions and changes around the Faculty of Social Work. We have hired two new assistant professors who began their duties July 1. Dr. Randy Johner is based on the Regina campus and has a strong research interest in social inclusion/exclusion and disability issues. Ms. Darlene Chalmers makes the shift from our Field Education Coordinator to an assistant professor position based on the Saskatoon campus. Darlene is currently completing her Ph.D. dissertation and has a number of research interests, including investigating the use of animal-assisted therapy as an adjunct to therapeutic practice. We have hired Ms. Angela Yung as Field Education Coordinator

in Regina, replacing Myrna Pitzel, who retired. With Darlene changing positions on the Saskatoon campus, Ms. Erin Beckwell has moved into the Field Education Coordinator position on a term basis and Ms. Jennifer Clarke has been hired as the Practicum Placement Coordinator.

There have also been some leadership changes within the Faculty. Dr. Jim Mulvale has completed his term as Associate Dean and has gone on a well-deserved sabbatical. Dr. Judy White has now moved into the Associate Dean role. With Judy moving into the Associate Dean's office, her role as MSW coordinator has now been taken on by Dr. Ailsa Watkinson. We may need to publish a program to help everyone keep track of who is doing what, but I must add that I am quite pleased at both the new additions to our Faculty, and the willingness of current faculty members to step into some very challenging and time-consuming leadership roles. The Faculty is in some very good hands!

One of the issues, and challenge, that is facing the Faculty is to ensure we have a good and sustainable model for program delivery throughout the Province. I have received a number of requests from different regions in the Province for program delivery—both at the BSW and MSW level. The Faculty does have a plan in place to increase our distance delivery capabilities through the use of technology, but we recognize this is not the complete answer to this question. I have asked a committee within our Faculty to come forward with a conceptual plan to enable regional program delivery on an effective, and what I believe is most important, sustainable basis. I think we do a reasonably good job of BSW program delivery, most notably in collaboration with our regional college partners, but I am hoping we will be able to find a model that allows for the delivery of the MSW program as well. However we move forward here, the partnership and collaboration with the regional colleges will be key.

Best to everyone—I want to encourage anyone who would like to make contact or discuss any issue with our Faculty to send an e-mail to sw.dean@uregina.ca, or feel free to call into my office at 585-4119.

*Respectfully submitted:
Craig Chamberlin,
Acting Dean*

To gain access to the Member's Site of the CASW Website, SASW members need the following information:
Username: SK
Password: bicycle10

Field Instructor Training

Field Instructor Training Sessions:

University of Regina – Field Instructor Training

The University of Regina Faculty of Social Work field instructor training program is offered to both new and experienced field instructors who wish to build their skills and knowledge in the areas of mentorship and field instruction with Social Work students.

Field instructor training consists of the following modules, Module 1 - Evaluation and Feedback, Module 2 - Ethics in Field Education and Module 3 - Theories, Perspectives and Models in Social Work. The Faculty of SW will be offering the modules in one-day sessions on the following dates:

Regina:

January 25, 2013 - 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
University of Regina, ED 438

Saskatoon:

January 30, 2013

North Battleford:

February 2013 (date TBA)

For more information, to register for sessions, or to inquire about bringing Field Instructor Training to a community or workplace near you, please contact:

Angie Yung, Field Education Coordinator
(Regina Campus & Southern Saskatchewan)
angela.yung@uregina.ca or 306.585-4572

OR

Erin Beckwell, Field Education Coordinator
(Saskatoon Campus & Central/Northern Saskatchewan)
erin.beckwell@uregina.ca or 306.664-7380

The Faculty of Social Work is very thankful for the individuals who take on the important role of field instruction. We couldn't do it without you!

In recent months, the following individuals have completed the training:

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| Donalene McKinnon | Dawn Glichrist |
| Melanie Christopherson | Darryl Hnatiw |
| Debbie Kovalsky | Brigitte Krieg |
| Sandra Nourse | Jenna Pullen |
| Karen Richard | Kim Taylor |
| Ian Bekkatla | Trista Robinson |
| Debbie Mooney | Leanne Yantz |
| Leanne Berger | Rae Shoofey-Stabler |
| Jocelyn Pederson | Bryce Young |
| Terri Peter | Glenda Carleton |
| Peggy Cunningham | Barby Reinboldt |
| Danielle Pool | Robert Picard |
| Lynda Bankley | Sharon Achtemichuk |

Submitted by:

Erin Beckwell and Anne Penniston Gray

NOTICE OF SASW ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday, May 13, 2013

7 p.m.

Travelodge Hotel, Saskatoon, SK



SASW
Toll Free Number
(outside Regina)
1-877-517-7279

Contributions to the newsletter are always welcome.
Read any good books lately?
Working on an interesting project?
Have an area of interest that you would like to share with other people?
Write to SASW Editor and see your name in print!
Deadline for the next newsletter is December 31, 2012



SASKATCHEWAN ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS
Social Workers - Make A Difference

As an association, the Saskatchewan Association of Social Workers is the voice of social workers in Saskatchewan. SASW is a professional association with members in many fields of practice across the province.

As a regulatory body, it is SASW's role to establish, maintain, & develop standards of ethical practice as well as develop skills and competency among its members for the purpose of serving and protecting the public. It is the Association's purpose to assist the role of professional social workers, advance their interests and enhance their contribution to social justice.

More specifically, SASW advocates for improvement for social policies and programs directly affecting social work clients, publishes a provincial newsletter, and provides tangible benefits and services to its members and the public.

Website: www.sasw.ca

UPCOMING CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS & EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

Addictions and Mental Illness: Working with Co-occurring Disorders

November 15, 2012
Saskatoon, SK
Crisis and Trauma Resource Institute Inc.
info@ctrinstitute.com

Substance Abuse and Youth: Creating Opportunities for Change

November 16, 2012
Saskatoon, SK
Crisis and Trauma Resource Institute Inc.
info@ctrinstitute.com

Family Systems: Resilience & Loss

Friday, November 16, 2012
Sponsored by: Centre for Continuing Education,
Faculty of Social Work & SASW
Location: Centre for Continuing Education, Collage
Ave Campus, Regina
Registration: bpd@uregina.ca OR (306) 585-5853
Cost: \$50 SASW members/\$65 non members

Addictions and Mental Illness: Working with Co-occurring Disorders

November 22, 2012
Regina, SK
Crisis and Trauma Resource Institute Inc.
info@ctrinstitute.com

Substance Abuse and Youth: Creating Opportunities for Change

November 23, 2012
Regina, SK
Crisis and Trauma Resource Institute Inc.
info@ctrinstitute.com

Understanding Mental Illness

December 13, 2012
Saskatoon, SK
Crisis and Trauma Resource Institute Inc.
info@ctrinstitute.com

Critical Incident Group Debriefing

December 14, 2012
Saskatoon, SK
Crisis and Trauma Resource Institute Inc.
info@ctrinstitute.com

Understanding Mental Illness

December 17, 2012
Regina, SK
Crisis and Trauma Resource Institute Inc.
info@ctrinstitute.com

Critical Incident Group Debriefing

December 18, 2012
Regina, SK
Crisis and Trauma Resource Institute Inc.
info@ctrinstitute.com

Working with Stuck Kids

Presenter: Gordon Neufeld, Ph.D.
Dates: April 11 & 12, 2013
Location: Saskatoon, SK
Register at http://workshops.jackhirose.com/JHA_Upcoming.php

Helping the Anxious Client

Presenter: Reid Wilson, Ph.D.
Dates: May 9 & 10, 2013
Location: Saskatoon, SK
Register at http://workshops.jackhirose.com/JHA_Upcoming.php

SASW Provincial Workshop - "Impact Techniques: When Words are Not Enough"

Speaker: Dr. Danie Beaulieu
Website: <http://www.impactacademy.net/en/daniebeaulieu.php>
May 14, 2013 (Saskatoon) and May 15, 2013 (Regina)

Advanced Training: The Collaborative Problem Solving Approach

Presenter: Ross Greene, Ph.D.
Dates: My 15, 16 & 17, 2013
Location: Saskatoon, SK
Register at http://workshops.jackhirose.com/JHA_Workshop.php?id=119

CANADA POST CORPORATION
PUBLICATION AGREEMENT #40007721

Upcoming events, news and workshops are regularly posted on the SASW website.
Please visit the website for more information.