



# SASKATCHEWAN SOCIAL WORKER

Volume 19 Number 3

*“Social Workers – Make a Difference”*

November 2008 Edition

## President's Message



I hope you had a great summer and found time to enjoy some time with family and friends. For those who like the drama and excitement of elections, there has been plenty of that around as well! The Association is back into high gear and there are a number of things I am pleased to share with you.

I attended the National Social Work Conference hosted by the Ontario Association of Social Workers in Toronto in late May. For the first time, the national conference was co-sponsored by CASW and the Canadian Association of Social Work Education (formerly CASSW). This collaboration is evidence of efforts CASW is making to work constructively alongside social work colleagues teaching in faculties across the nation. The conference itself was very exciting with some remarkable presentations by front-line social workers. I must say that I was particularly moved by the keynote address of Cindy Blackstock. Many of you will be familiar with Dr. Blackstock and her work around Aboriginal child welfare. She was an inspiration to hear and see. Another very moving presentation concerned a social work practice helping families deal with the lasting effects of the genocide in Rwanda. Also included in the trip were meetings of the Presidents of the Provincial Associations and the CASW Annual Meeting. I want to refer you to the CASW website which contains an enormous amount of valuable information and which seems to be a well kept secret! ([www.casw-acts.ca](http://www.casw-acts.ca))

The SASW Council met in late August for our annual planning day. This day helps ensure that our strategic plan continues to have relevance to our life as an organ-

ization. Highlights included our plan to invest in media relations training for members of the Social Justice and Public Relations Committees and Council. We expect to learn ways to ensure our message is clearly heard by the public and social policy decision makers, as well as our colleagues. It is our hope that this training will be made available to Branches in the future, as I see them as an important source of local advocacy and public relations.

Bill Tingley has decided not to continue as SASW Registrar. Bill accepted the very vital role of Registrar at a time of transition following the death of Rawd Bieber, and his contribution has been greatly appreciated. We express our thanks to Bill for the exemplary work he has done over the past year. Council advertised for the position and the successful applicant was our current Treasurer, Joyce Reid. Joyce has much experience, is highly regarded, and we are confident she will be an excellent Registrar.

As many of you will know, SASW has worked very hard for over six years to advance changes in provincial legislation which would secure ownership of social work practice and lead to mandatory registration for individuals practicing social work in Saskatchewan. Our goal has been to have the mandate to regulate all social work practice in order to ensure the highest quality service and to protect the public. This initiative has been led by the Legislative Review Committee, chaired by Geoff Pawson. It has become evident to SASW, through direct communication with the Minister, her Deputy and other Ministry staff that currently there is no traction for our proposals. On the other hand, we have received positive responses to the proposal for an employer-driven requirement for qualified Ministry staff. Council has agreed to the following:

- Place a hold on our pursuit of ownership of social

*continued on page 3*

## SASW COUNCIL

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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.

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- **ADVOCATE** for **SOCIAL JUSTICE**
- **PROMOTE** the **PROFESSION**
- **REGULATE** the **PROFESSION**
- **SUPPORT** for **ETHICAL PRACTISE**

## President's Message, cont.

work practice, and review the potential for re-engaging this project in one year.

- Release the Legislative Review Committee from its responsibilities.
- Communicate with the Ministries of Social Services and Corrections and Public Safety on the matter of initiating an employer-driven requirement of registration of qualified staff.

This represents a fundamental shift in our approach to legislative change and the regulation of practice. While we have acknowledged that the current political climate may not be conducive to ownership of practice, we should remember that the past six years of meetings and proposals have yielded very little, apart from raised expectations. Having said that, we owe a great debt of thanks to the members of the Legislative Review Committee who have been tireless in their efforts to advance our agenda over a long period of time. Shifting our focus to ministries that employ social workers, particularly when there appears to be a will to move in a direction we would endorse, may bring us closer to the goal of having all those who practice social work in the province registered with SASW.

In November, I will be representing SASW at the Annual Meeting of the Association of Social Work Boards in Providence, Rhode Island. Virtually all of the social work organizations in Canada which have a regulatory role are members of ASWB. It is a relationship which provides us with excellent resources, training and insight into the regulation of the profession in North America.

In addition, as the profession in Canada moves toward licensing of social workers, our connection with ASWB will become even more beneficial. Also of note, the costs to SASW for our participation in ASWB are minimal, and your Council believes we are getting excellent value with our membership.

Finally, I want to offer my congratulations and thanks to all involved in the "Culture of Ethical Excellence" training that has started in many locations and which will be ongoing. Thanks to the Education Committee and Susan Luedtke for their leadership; thanks to the excellent trainers who have dedicated their time, skill and passion to this process; and thanks to all of you who have participated so far.

As was expressed eloquently at our annual meeting, our ethics are what identify and define us. Jane Addams challenges us to "operationalize" our values when she said, "Action indeed is the sole medium of expression of ethics."

*Submitted by:  
Jim Walls, MSW, RSW (Sask.)*

***Celebrate Social Work Week  
in Saskatchewan...***

***March 15 - March 21/09***

***"Social Workers  
Making a Difference  
in Seniors' Lives"***

***For ideas/information  
on planning your social work week,  
please visit the SASW website.***

**Wherever you go,  
Whatever you do,  
Say**



**"I AM A SOCIAL WORKER"**

*You may be surprised at how often social workers say they work with alcoholics or they do therapy or counsel troubled children or direct an employee assistance program. There is nothing wrong with these statements, but preface each with "I AM A SOCIAL WORKER" and then add the statement "...who works with troubled youth." What you will be doing is performing an invaluable service to the education of the public which benefits the social work profession and ultimately yourself.*

*The best way to strengthen the image of  
the social work profession is  
for social workers to identify themselves  
as SOCIAL WORKERS.*

***Social Workers – Make a Difference***

# Executive Director's Message



In the June newsletter, I outlined information relating to the benefits of retaining your registration with SASW while on leave from practice. As we are nearing the deadline for registration renewal for 2009, this information has been expanded a bit and presented again in this edition of the newsletter—please see the box on page 7.

As you would be aware from last spring, we offered the survey on the quality of work life for social workers for completion until the end of June. In August, Council approved as the data analyst, Dr. Michael Saini of Ontario. Dr. Saini is the individual who did the same work for the OASW and who remains connected to the Ontario Association for other research purposes. Debra Wiszniak, Doug Stewart and I have met with this researcher over the fall to assist with the data analysis and the development of the report. It is expected the report will be available early in the new year. It is planned that our report will then join those from other jurisdictions, and CASW will lead development of a national summary.

We have been working this fall to develop by-laws that will enable the amendments to the *Social Workers Act* passed by the Legislature in May. These amendments were made to bring us into compliance with Chapter 7 of the Agreement for Internal Trade (AIT) and have to do with enabling movement to Saskatchewan of social workers registered elsewhere. As you may recall, the national Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) under the AIT for the social work profession was completed just 15 months ago. We were among the last professions to do this work.

Even as we do the work just noted to facilitate the MRA, the Premiers, at the Council of the Federation in July, determined that there has not been sufficient progress through the development of MRAs for all professions. They have directed that the AIT be amended to force through a higher degree of access to mobility. The changes will:

- Move attention from process to outcomes.
- Instate a new starting point of full access to mobility for all those already registered in good standing.
- Establish a new process of requiring “legitimate objectives” (this language intends to mean something

that would be a reasonable barrier to movement) to be developed as the only way to prevent mobility. This process is very labour-intensive and once approved, a legitimate objective is open to challenge by those seeking to move.

- Confirm that normal application processes/fees will apply on transfer.

All of this will take effect by August 2009. All professions are now reviewing their acts and by-laws to identify and report areas where changes will need to be made

Potential implications of the coming changes to the AIT are beginning to be identified. At the national meeting of social work registrars in September, there was significant discussion on how best to proceed. Registrars are working on communication to the federal government on preserving the BSW as the entry credential for the profession.

With these developments, it is clear that the Saskatchewan government is now far more interested in the professions than has been the case over recent years, and this may yet provide a different context within which to return to the topic of ownership of professional practice.

A professional regulation e-letter called “Grey Areas” reports that, in the U.K., the legal profession has lost its right to self-regulation. A government appointed Board will become the single oversight regulator of legal services. The goals of the new process include ending confusion and establishing a clear, flexible and transparent system. The complaints-reception office will be completely independent of the legal profession. The U.K. medical profession faced similar reforms recently as well. Reasons seem to include an inadequate separation of regulatory and self-interest roles, and poor handling of consumer complaints. The article suggests that regulators wishing to avoid this type of shift away from self-regulation should ensure they have two independent organizations for self-regulation and professional advocacy.

For SASW, this strongly underlines the significance of the policy approved by Council on October 29, 2007, called “Professional Self-Regulation.” It has been presented to Advisory Board and was profiled in the February newsletter (page 7).

My very best wishes for a wonderful holiday season! I hope that you will find some time to relax and refresh before the challenges of the New Year.

*Submitted by:*  
*Richard Hazel, MSW, RSW (Sask.)*



# SASW AGM & Provincial Conference

April 22 - April 24, 2009

Ramada Inn

Yorkton, SK

*“Overcoming Life Challenges:  
Integrating Hope, Spirituality & Self-care  
Into Practice”*

Wednesday, April 22, 2009

**Annual General Meeting**

Thursday, April 23, 2009

**Keynote Speaker – Wendy Edey, R.Psych, M.Ed., RSW**

Director of Counselling – The Hope Foundation, Edmonton, Alberta

Keynote speaker at the Alberta Association of Social Workers Conference 2008

*“Magnifying Hope, Shrinking Hopelessness”*

AN INTRODUCTION TO HOPE TOOLS IN SOCIAL WORK

*Banquet & Dance*

Banquet Speakers – Pastor Rick & Kathleen Gibson, Yorkton

Survivors of West Nile Virus

Friday, April 24, 2009

**Presenter: Noel Starblanket**

Presentation of the documentary – Starblanket: A Spirit Journey

*Self-care practitioners will have booths set up during the conference with information,  
products & demonstrations for conference attendees.*

*Hosted by: SASW Yellowhead East Branch*

# Notice of New and Reinstated Members

The following individuals applied as new members and were approved as registered social workers for the period January 1 to September 10, 2008.

Pamela Ago, Regina  
Zoe Ballek, Saskatoon  
Lois Bear, Saskatoon  
Alexis Billay, Prince Albert  
Celeste Boran-Fetch, Prince Albert  
Denise Chauvin, Saskatoon  
Rebecca Clein, Saskatoon  
Sharon Coflin, Saskatoon  
Trisha Dafoe, Swift Current  
Catherine Davis, Estevan  
Kimberly Delorme, Indian Head  
Karen E. Eckhart, LaRonge  
Carly Edgerton, Langenburg  
Angela Edwards, Saskatoon  
Arlene Engel, Star City  
Angela Dawn Esler, Saskatoon  
Shauna Eveleigh, Prince Albert  
Trina Farnell, Milestone  
Stacey Fogal, Moose Jaw  
Valerie Gelsinger, Regina  
Sandra L. Genest, Regina  
Gilbert Natasha, Moose Jaw  
Kristin Giroux, Regina  
Shelly Glum, Saskatoon  
Dana Granquist Seamer, Saskatoon  
Jacqueline Griffith, Regina  
Monica L. Harper, Prince Albert  
Christal D. Hein, Regina  
Lisa Hill, Saskatoon  
Chantal Hutchinson, Moose Jaw  
Carrie Hutchison, Saskatoon  
Reggie Jackson, Moose Jaw  
Laurie Janzen, Prince Albert  
Louisa Johnson, Saskatoon  
Ashley Jones, Saskatoon  
Myrna Kanigan, Saskatoon  
Roben Keddy, Moose Jaw  
Cory J. Klath, Saskatoon  
Amanda Klimm, Saskatoon  
Julia Kowalzik, Prince Albert  
Jessica Labman, North Battleford  
Alison Linnen, Regina  
Doreen Lloyd, Pense  
Maureen Lynn, Regina  
Pam F. Martin, LaRonge  
Lisa Martinka, Nipawin  
Rhonda Minchuk, Regina

John Parker, Regina  
Jessica Pegg, Saskatoon  
Leanne J. Perrin-Bear, Whitewood  
Delores Pocha, Prince Albert  
Rob A. Poggemiller, Regina  
Lois Poplestone, Saskatoon  
Trista Procyshen, Saskatoon  
Tanis Pura, Saskatoon  
Calvin Redman, Stanley Mission  
Treena Reilkoff, Prince Albert  
Angela Reinbrecht, Prince Albert  
Tonya Reschny, Saskatoon  
Cara Riendeau, Humboldt  
Monique Roy, Saskatoon  
Shelley Sayer, Regina  
Crystal Skjerven, Saskatoon  
Elizabeth N. Smith, Saskatoon  
Melissa Sommervill, Prince Albert  
Krystal Speiler, Regina  
Laura Tanguay, Hartney  
Colette Therrien Heschel, Morse  
Tamara Thompson, Regina  
Janet Thorson, Regina  
Kimberly Troesch, Saskatoon  
Shauneen Viklund, Saskatoon  
Alicia Ward, Regina  
Courtney Wendelborg, Melfort  
Sharla White, St. Walburg  
Pamela Willman, Saskatoon  
Tammy Wilson, Saskatoon  
Jasmin Wirth, Regina  
Nicole Wright, Regina  
Derek C. Yee, Saskatoon  
Treena Zelyck, Fort Qu'Appelle

The following individuals applied and were approved for reinstatement of their registered social worker status between January 1 and September 15, 2008.

Wendy Ahenakew, Air Ronge  
Beverly Bellegarde, Regina  
Carol Bevis, Regina  
Rod Butler, Saskatoon  
Donna Christopherson, Prince Albert  
Celia Clennell, Saskatoon  
Cathy Deneiko, Saskatoon  
Karrie Derbyshire, Regina  
Brandi Fischl, Melfort  
Gloria Fong, Weyburn  
Terry Garchinski, Millarville  
Jane Glennon, Prince Albert

## Notice of New and Reinstated Members, continued

Trista A. Goertz, Lloydminster  
 Louise Gurry, Saskatoon  
 Patricia (Trish) Harper, Saskatoon  
 Vance Heaney, Prince Albert  
 Leonard Herrem, Perdue  
 Theresa Hilbig, Regina  
 Marie Johnston, Montmartre  
 Annette Kapell, Regina  
 Joyce Laprise, Regina  
 Kimberley Lees, Saskatoon  
 Christie Litzenberger, Regina  
 Kimberly Love, Saskatoon  
 Karen Mason, Shellbrook  
 Marie Maurice, Saskatoon  
 Karen McGillivray, Regina  
 Janet L. Miller, Regina  
 Carmen Nokleby-Schultz, Saskatoon  
 Kate Pawson Langen, Regina  
 Scott Rainbow, Regina  
 Curtis Robertson, Regina  
 Karlee Robillard, Saskatoon  
 Laurie Roy, Yorkton  
 Cheryl Sampson, Saskatoon  
 Florence Saskatchewan, Canora  
 Kimberly (Kim) Schneider, Regina  
 Michael Schulhauser, Regina  
 Michelle Schwab, Kerrobert  
 Renate Selinger, Montmartre  
 Darren Smith, Saskatoon  
 Tom Tilford, Prince Albert  
 Sherry Tucker, Saskatoon  
 Jennifer Walter, Saskatoon  
 Margaret Wapass, Turtleford  
 Judy White, Saskatoon  
 Patti Wilkinson, Saskatoon  
 Brenda Wilks, Saskatoon  
 Patricia Wilson, Wymark  
 Robert Wilton, Saskatoon  
 Eileen Zarowny, Yorkton

For a complete listing of Registered Social Workers in Saskatchewan, please visit the SASW Website—[www.sasw.ca](http://www.sasw.ca)—and click on the “membership” tab.

**HealthLine, Saskatchewan**  
**New province wide**  
**24-hour telephone advice**  
**service under the management of**  
**Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region.**  
**1-877-800-0002**

### Registration Renewal/Reinstatement: Reminders

As you are aware, the deadline for submitting your 2009 registration renewal materials is Monday, December 1, 2008. If you have yet to do so, please take a moment before sealing your envelope to ensure you have included the required information and have signed your name in the three required locations. Doing this will make the Registrar's job that much easier!

While renewal is relatively straightforward, reinstating a lapsed registration is more complex. Should you miss the December 31st deadline, you are no longer subject to the \$15 late fee, but rather, you are required to reinstate your registration by completing the renewal form/continuing education forms and submitting the full year of membership plus a \$50 reinstatement charge. If your registration lapses for more than one year, upon reinstatement, you must pay the full year of registration fee plus a \$50 reinstatement charge. As well, you are required to submit an application for reinstatement, current criminal record check, transcript of marks which indicates your degree has been awarded/conferred, curriculum vitae/resume and a letter of reference (on SASW approved form) from a registered social worker or current employer.

**IMPORTANT:** Determination of registration status is based on the member's practice status on December 1st each year. Discretion in the application of this determination may be exercised by the Registrar in cases of maternity/adoption or education leave. Should your plans include a period of non-practice, it would be important that you check with the SASW office about the non-practicing registration category. Remaining connected through the non-practicing category keeps your registration valid and you would not have to reinstate when your employment status resumes. Members upgrading from the non-practicing to the practicing category during the registration year are not charged a fee difference.



## Articles Section

# Guaranteed Annual Income: Has Its Time Come?

As social workers, we are more familiar than most with the current patchwork of income security measures in Canada. This array of programs is very complex, difficult to navigate, and often inadequate in meeting people's need for income security.

Back in June, I had the opportunity to participate in a meeting in Ottawa of the Senate Sub-Committee on Cities (part of the Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology). The Sub-Committee tackled the question of guaranteed income (GI), and focussed on how such an approach might be designed and implemented. Senators, presenters and witnesses like myself took part in the discussion.

Given the big topic, the short time frame (one morning), and the relatively large size of the group (19), no firm or specific conclusions were reached. In fact, there was some strong disagreement among progressive social policy advocates about the GI model. For instance, the Caledon Institute of Social Policy opposes moving in this direction, and the National Anti-Poverty Organization supports implementation of GI.

The provision by government of a universal, unconditional, and adequate guaranteed income (also referred to as a "basic" or "citizen's" income) might be called

"the issue that never quite disappears" in Canadian social policy debates. A version of GI was proposed in 1971 by the Senate Committee on Poverty, chaired by Sen. David Croll. A minimalist version of guaranteed income was proposed by the Macdonald Commission in 1985. Senator Hugh Segal (who participated in the meeting described above) is currently calling for a guaranteed income to be delivered by the federal government by means of a negative income tax. In fact, a week after he attended the Senate Sub-Committee meeting in Ottawa, Sen. Segal was making his case for GI as a featured speaker at the Congress of the Basic Income Earth Network in Dublin, Ireland.

Social workers should join in this debate. We have first hand knowledge of the challenges faced by people who live in poverty. Our profession also has a long history of advocating for improved social programs to better meet the needs of the clients and communities that we serve. We should make our voices heard on the possible need and model for a GI in Canada.

*Submitted by:*

*Jim Mulvale, PhD, RSW (Sask.)*

*Member of SASW Social Justice Committee*

### *For further information:*

A full report of the discussion of Guaranteed Income at the Senate Sub-Committee on Cities can be found at: [www.parl.gc.ca/common/Committee\\_SenList.asp?Language+E&Parl=39&Ses=2](http://www.parl.gc.ca/common/Committee_SenList.asp?Language+E&Parl=39&Ses=2) (follow the links to the proceedings of 13 June 2008)

J. Mulvale. "Desperately Seeking a New Model of Economic Security for Canada: the Basic Income Approach." *Canadian Social Work* (Autumn 2008). Available at the Members' site of the CASW website: <http://www.casw-acts.ca/> (This article features discussion of guaranteed income by anti-poverty activists in Saskatchewan.)

J. Mulvale, "Basic Income and the Canadian Welfare State: Exploring the Realms of Possibility." *Basic Income Studies* (2008). Available at: [www.bepress.com/bis/vol3/iss1/art6](http://www.bepress.com/bis/vol3/iss1/art6)

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 assert 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.

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**Website: [www.sasw.ca](http://www.sasw.ca)**

# Why Would Anyone Complain About a Social Worker?

We are the professional helpers. We always have the best interests of our clients at heart. Knowing some of the reasons clients complain, not just against us, as social workers, but against other professionals is important.

Some of the reasons for complaints are as follows:

- Lack of respect for boundaries: as social workers, we are very conscious of boundaries but because we are who we are, we sometimes get over-involved with our clients. It is unprofessional to form personal relationships with clients or any person that might jeopardize or present a conflict of interest with your client's best interests.
- Not being knowledgeable and competent: as professionals, we must keep up to date with current and best practices.
- Professionals must understand their limitations and scope of knowledge and not be afraid to ask for assistance. Failure to seek assistance or make appropriate referrals can lead to complaints.
- Difficulties in the professional's personal life: difficulties in a professional personal life that can affect work life can create difficulties leading to complaints. It is important to ask for help when needed.
- Substance abuse: this can leave a professional person wide open for complaints either because of the lack of professional behaviour that results from substance abuse or addiction or the abuse and/or addiction itself.
- Communication: poor communication between the professional, the client or the professional and his/her colleagues can result in complaints.
- Regard for client's concerns: failure to appropriately address client concerns can result in a complaint.
- Environmental factors: excessive work demands, lack of supervision or consultation, inappropriate work practices and assignment of tasks the professional does not feel competent to do because of lack of training or experience. It is the professional's responsibility to ensure that work meets professional standards and raise concerns with the supervisor or administrator
- Personality conflicts: although there will always be colleagues, supervisors and clients with whom it is difficult to get along, it is the obligation of the professional to maintain a professional demeanor. Personality conflicts can not be allowed to escalate

to the point of unprofessional conduct. Difficulties must be dealt with in private and not in the presence of clients.

- Complacency about professional standards: a commitment to professionalism is a "life-long" commitment.

The SASW Practice Ethics Committee is available to consult with around ethical issues. If you have questions, this Committee is there to assist.

*Submitted by:*

*Marlene Chatterton/Robert Twigg, RSW (Sask.)  
Members – Professional Conduct Committee*

Reference: Jim Casey, L.L.B.

## Call for Creative Material

The Public Relations Committee of the SASW needs your help. Part of what the Public Relations Committee strives to do is to promote the profession of social work to the public and professionals in other disciplines, as well as to potential future social workers. In order to do this it is necessary to have eye-catching promotional material that can capture the essence of what we do in as few words as possible.

**How can you help?** You can help us by taking pictures of social workers at work in their various fields of practice, by designing and drawing artwork or graphics that symbolize our profession, or by creating other forms such as poetry, music, etc. The media you donate could be used in promotional materials (*i.e.*, brochures, calendars, posters, etc.), power point presentations, or the SASW display board, among other things.

Some simple guidelines to follow when taking pictures:

- 1) Make an attempt to capture the setting, the nature of the work, and a sense of who the clientele is.
- 2) If using actual clients in the picture, a letter of consent signed by the client or their guardian, giving permission to the SASW to use the image in its promotional activities on an ongoing basis, will be needed. Otherwise, recruit a volunteer to pose as that client.
- 3) Remember that the social worker and their work is the focal point.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact Alan Corbeil at [alcorbeil.sw@sasktel.net](mailto:alcorbeil.sw@sasktel.net) or by phone/fax at (306) 446-8885.

# Coming Home: Native Transracial Adoption and the Sixties Scoop

*This article was reprinted with permission from Perspective, the newsletter of BC Association of Social Workers, volume 30, number 3.*

In the early 1960s, the Splots'in First Nation (Spalumcheen) in BC witnessed the apprehension by child welfare authorities of almost all the children in their community. An Elder recently recalled that in one year, there were fewer than 30 children left in the community. One BC social worker was proud that she had apprehended 50 of the children in a one year period and on one weekend, a bus was chartered to facilitate a mass apprehension of 38 children (Fournier & Crey, 1997). In Saskatchewan, although we can observe from statistics a significant increase in the numbers of Native children in care in the 1960s and 1970s, and hence the adoptions of Native children increased at the same time, the adoption numbers remained proportional to the number of children in care who were not adopted (Sinclair, 2007). From these numbers we can infer that although the Saskatchewan government admitted that some children in the Battleford area had been removed from their families and communities illegally (*Saskatchewan Indian*, 1977), Saskatchewan did not subscribe to the same level of mass scooping of children as can be seen in the child welfare experiences of Manitoba and British Columbia.

Across Canada, Indian Affairs (INAC) adoption statistics (called the A-list or Adoption List) tell us that over 11,000 First Nations children were apprehended and subsequently adopted, primarily into non-native homes in Canada, the United States, and around the world between the years of 1960 and 1990, now referred to as the "Sixties Scoop." Having viewed the "A-list," I was able to observe that one Manitoba band had lost almost every child of a particular age group to child welfare in 1972. The statistics, however, do not account for children who were not Status Indians according to the *Indian Act*, or who may have been status but were not recorded as such in adoption records, perhaps in the interests of promoting their "adoptability" by non-Native families. Aboriginal spokespeople place the figure anywhere between twenty and fifty thousand, but until research can uncover more accuracy the true numbers are unknown.

How did this situation arise? To really comprehend, we have to look at Canada's historical policy of assimilation towards Aboriginal people; an approach designed to facilitate the absorption of aboriginal people into the Canadian body politic that would have a by-product of reducing governments' fiduciary responsibilities to Aboriginal people that accrued with the signing of the treaties. The treaties are legally binding nation-to-nation

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*Raven Sinclair. Photo by Marco Mancinelli*

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agreements where Aboriginal people signed away the vast majority of lands and resources in exchange for specific benefits, in perpetuity. Two methods of assimilation, enfranchisement (removal from the Indian Register) and residential schools, proved unsuccessful in the long term. Duncan Campbell Scott, Superintendent of Indian Affairs, speaking about the issue of enfranchisement, stated in 1920:

*Our objective is to continue until there is not a single Indian in Canada that has not been absorbed into the body politic, and there is no Indian question, and no Indian department. This is the whole object of this bill* (Jamieson, 1978, p. 120).

We now know that the residential school project led to severe interpersonal, familial, and community social problems that interfered with the well-being of First Nation bands. Imagine being raised in an unloving, punitive, dangerous, and threatening environment where abuse took the forms of starvation, beatings, sexual abuse, and physical violence, not to mention psychological and mental warfare tactics, and then, upon emancipation, attempting to raise a family and be a member of a community. Many children in residential schools were never allowed even to speak to family members, let alone be loved and nurtured in any form.

For new social workers in the 1960s who were primarily white, middle class and privileged, exposure to the foreign context of reserve life and encountering the social fallout of the resident school period would have been a deadly mix of good intentions to rescue Native people from themselves and governmental assimilation-influenced mandates. Hence, removing Native children and placing them into non-native contexts was likely perceived as a brilliant solution. Unfortunately, the reality was much less stellar. As one BC worker noted:

*When we discovered a child at risk in his own home, we had no resources to move him into a foster home. Over and over again we played Russian roulette with the lives of the young. In the end, when we removed children from their own homes and put them in foster homes about which we knew next to nothing, no matter how we cloaked our actions in welfare jargon, we were putting those children at risk.* (Fournier & Crey, 1997 citing Moran, 1992, p. 86)

Over time, stories began to surface about the abuse in some foster and adoptive homes and Aboriginal people began to resist the “scooping” of children. Chief Wayne Christian of Splat’sin was instrumental in putting a nation-wide stop to the transracial adoption of native

children in Canada and since a scathing 1985 report by Justice Edward Kimmelman who had been mandated to inquire into Aboriginal adoptions in Manitoba, very few children have been adopted out. Justice Kimmelman noted that, in some instances, the scooping and subsequent adoption of Aboriginal children amounted to genocide. Genocide is defined as the deliberate destruction of a group of people through the forced removal of their children, among other crimes.

### *So what has become of all the children who were removed or relinquished and placed into non-native contexts?*

Although the literature on transracial adoption, focused primarily on black/white adoptions, indicates that these adoptions were as successful as same-race adoptions, there has been very little literature on Aboriginal TRA and none on long-term adult outcomes. The existing literature on TRA indicates adoption breakdown rates of between 70 to 95 per cent by the time the children reached their teenage years. The literature tells us that the reason for the lack of success is due to children having lost their cultural identity in adoptive contexts and that a white family cannot adequately transmit a sense of Aboriginal cultural identity to adopted children. Thus, in early teen years, children begin to “act out” and the adoption breaks down. In recent years, several research projects have sought to examine the experiences of Aboriginal adoptees who are now adults and the most recent, *All My Relations—Native Transracial Adoption: A critical case study of cultural identity* (Sinclair, 2007), identified that Aboriginal adoption has been unsuccessful because of the interplay of a number of factors. Although successful adoptions have taken place in many instances, and many positive outcomes appear to evolve in the long term, the analysis indicates that a potential source of problematic Native transracial adoption outcomes rests not with cultural identity issues, but with racism. To be clear, cultural identity is an extremely important element to the experiences of adoptees, but it is something that is related to the personal agency of adoptees who, as adults, make clear and informed decisions to pursue their cultural ties and teachings. The results of the case study, with a spotlight on the problematic teen years described in the literature, clearly link the negative outcomes of Native TRA to the socio-cultural context of racism in Canadian society.

In a nutshell, Aboriginal adoptees are raised to be white and often with great privileges, but once they interface more with society as a teenager and young

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adult, they leave the adoptive enclave and are treated as an aboriginal person in a racialized social context. In Canada, this translates into often blatant discrimination, social exclusion, institutionalized racism, and even violence. In addition, adoptees may be racially profiled by teachers, doctors, police and others in positions of power, none of whom might recognize that this child has been socialized to be white and middle class. Many adoptees have suffered extreme psychological and mental turmoil as the result of their treatment as Aboriginal people and most were not prepared in any way to confront the realities of their racialized contexts.

In the adoption milieu, the prevailing myth has been that children, once adopted, become subsumed into their family as if born to them. This results in a “colour-blind” approach to minority children which, although well-intentioned, can have disastrous consequences in terms of preparing children to deal with the realities of racism in Canada. To use a metaphor from childhood, a colour-blind approach to racism is like covering one’s eyes and pretending that others cannot see you. The adoptees in the case study recounted endless stories of racism and because racism wasn’t part of the family or social ethos, most internalized the pain and, subsequently, engaged in destructive behaviours. None of the adoptees spoke about cultural identity being a problem for them. They

all spoke of racism and, frighteningly, many adoptees experienced the cruelest aspects of racism within their family systems; racism directed at them from parents, siblings, and extended family members.

Do these outcomes mean that the transracial adoption of Aboriginal children should not occur? Paradoxically, despite tribulations, most adoptees I spoke to would not change a thing about their experiences. Most have repatriated to their bands and nations and most have re-aculturated to their traditional Aboriginal worldviews. Many had very positive adoption experiences.

*It’s been an extremely positive experience for me. I’m very close with my adoptive parents. They are from another country so my whole growing up and experience has been more focused on that although they have been very supportive and, you know, sort of always trying to encourage me to be involved with my own culture and everything like that. (Tasha)*

In the adult context, therefore, cultural identity becomes a source of solace and, for many, a critical element for them to “come home” to their bi-ethnic identities as First Nations people raised in non-First Nations contexts. Some have become Chiefs of their

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*CTRI provides professional training and consulting services for individuals, communities and organizations affected by or involved in working with issues of crisis and trauma.*

### Saskatchewan Public Workshops

#### **DE-ESCALATING POTENTIALLY VIOLENT SITUATIONS**

Saskatoon

December 8-9, 2008

Participants will leave the workshop with a clear understanding of how to assess the potential for violence and respond with a diverse set of interpersonal tools and strategies designed to defuse potentially violent situations.

#### **CRISIS RESPONSE PLANNING**

Regina

December 9-10, 2008

Participants will leave the workshop with a clear understanding of how to implement their own crisis response team and plan for their specific environment.

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## Coming Home: Native Transracial Adoption and the Sixties Scoop, cont.

communities. Some, after years of teachings, are strong traditional leaders in their families and communities. Many have developed great insight into a greater spiritual "purpose" behind their experiences.

*I've had people ask me, would you change anything if you had a choice? I'd have to say no, I wouldn't. I wouldn't change anything because it is the way it was meant to be. I learned a lot and I think I was born to help others, you know, to help them whether I knew it or not.* (Mark Rutledge)

Given that many adult adoptees are relatively successful in their chosen fields and mostly content with their lives, we can be cautiously optimistic about the long-term outcomes of Native TRA. Thus, if we are to isolate the problematic aspects of Native TRA, we can infer that attending to the issue of racism may help us to then locate relevant and effective solutions to adoption and foster care breakdown, not to mention alleviating the burden of breakdown on adoptees and their families. Most importantly, we may forestall some of the racism related trauma experienced by children in care during

their childhoods and adulthood. Cultural identity reprogramming definitely has its place in enhancing supports for Aboriginal children but should never be applied as a way to deflect attention away from critical issues of racism. Children need to be prepared for the realities of a racialized Canadian society. Some practical recommendations can be found in Palmer and Cook's (1996) discussion of countering racism with First Nations children in substitute care. Their recommendations include discussing race with children and caregivers; acknowledging racial differences and the existence of racism in its various forms; helping children deal with racism through teaching and action plans; advising children that racism is illegal; and coaching children on effective responses to racism. The authors emphasize that children need confidence that people in authority will take action to support them in countering racism. This information, augmented with cultural identity programming, will provide a holistic approach to preparing children for their socio-political contexts.

We have the means to develop these tools and ensure that social workers, adoptive families, and other caregivers are all informed enough to help Aboriginal children prepare for the realities of the worlds in which they exist. Do we have the will? To do otherwise is to abdicate responsibility for the long-term welfare of Aboriginal children.

*Submitted by:*

*Raven Sinclair, MSW, RSW, PhD  
Assistant Director of the Indigenous Peoples'  
Health Research Centre and an Assistant Professor  
of Social Work with the Faculty of Social Work,  
University of Regina (Saskatoon Campus.*

### Make a meaningful contribution to the Social Work profession... Please donate to the SASW Scholarship Fund

The SASW Scholarship accepts donations from individual members, bequests from estates, fund-raising initiatives or anyone else who may wish to contribute to the fund. A receipt for income tax purposes will be provided by the South Saskatchewan Community Foundation, the administrator of the Fund. The SASW Scholarship is awarded each year at the Annual General Meeting in recognition of a student's contribution to his/her community. As the Fund grows, so too does the amount of the award. Please call the SASW office if you require more information.

Name of Donor: \_\_\_\_\_

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City: \_\_\_\_\_ Province: \_\_\_\_\_

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Amount of Donation to SASW Scholarship Fund: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail cheque to:

South Saskatchewan Community Foundation  
#2 - 2700 Montague Street, Regina, Sask. S4S 0J9

*With your consent, the SASW office will be informed of your name and amount of your donation. Do you wish to have the SASW office informed of your donation? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_*

### References:

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# Why Purchase Professional Liability Insurance?

Issues arising from professional liability are of great concern today. There was a time when the professional (or quasi-professional) was not a target for lawsuits; clients would never have considered bringing an action against a professional, not even in instances where negligence or errors were obvious.

Times have changed. Today, the public and our legal system expect more and are much more inclined to initiate a lawsuit. When adjudicating cases, the courts have based their judgements on an increasingly higher standard of care and responsibility. The ever-increasing levels of education, training, experience and reputation of professionals have led the courts and the public to expect service which is above average. This expectation can be overwhelming.

Why have public attitudes changed towards professionals? There are a number of causal factors. Part of the answer is that the public has become more informed of its legal and contractual rights, and, rightly or wrongly, has been led to believe that a legal action may be initiated from any turn of events that was not an expected outcome by the client.

In addition, the media has brought to public attention the litigious climate of our modern society. Many legal actions have been sensationalized in the press. Lawyers have become much more aggressive in the demands for compensation, seeking ever larger and more extensive settlements.

Another reason why public attitudes have changed is because the relationships professionals have had with their clients have evolved. Traditionally, the connection between the professional and the client was much more personalized than it is today. In the past, clients' trust and confidence in the professional was absolute. Our changing society and financial constraints felt by many clients have heightened their awareness and increased the professional's accountability to the client.

Professional liability insurance is one form of protection for professionals and for their clients. Coverage will shield personal assets and will help maintain a good reputation through the defence of allegations of wrongdoing which might be frivolous or false. For the client who has suffered some damages through the actions of a professional, liability insurance will ensure that there are adequate funds available to make amends for the wrong that has been done.

A professional liability policy covers errors, omissions or negligent acts which may arise from the normal or usual duties carried out by the insured.

When the professional is an employee of a firm, the firm, as the employer, is responsible for the actions of the employee. However, a court of law may find a professional personally responsible for an incident that occurred due to an error, omission or negligent act committed by the professional as an individual. To date, we know of no such situation ever occurring, however, it is our opinion that given the behaviour of the courts in recent times, one could be made personally accountable.

In another scenario, the employed professional may offer a professional opinion or "moonlight" professional services on his or her own time. In this case, the professional would be personally responsible for any consequence of these actions. It is highly probable that the policy of the employer does not provide coverage for the liability exposures of the moonlighter.

Should the limits of the employer's insurance be insufficient to meet the settlement of a claim in which the professional was co-defendant, then personal assets of the professional could be at risk. The difference in limits between the employer's insurance policy and the professional's policy is available to cover any shortfalls in these instances. A professional liability policy offers the insured peace of mind by knowing that he or she has independent coverage and by knowing what limits of that coverage are available.

When claims do occur, the professional's decision to have obtained professional liability coverage will remove the financial consequence of a legal action and provide him or her with a solid, reputable insurer upon whom he or she may rely in full confidence.

For more information on professional liability insurance, please visit [www.casw-acts-aon.info](http://www.casw-acts-aon.info) or call 1-800-951-CASW.

*contributed by:*

*Mary-Ann Hamel, Vice President,  
AON Reed Stenhouse*

**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, 2008.**

# Integrity in Professional Practice

Social workers demonstrate respect for the profession's purpose, values and ethical principles relevant to their field of practice. Social workers maintain a high level of professional conduct by acting honestly and responsibly, and promoting the values of the profession. Social workers strive for impartiality in their professional practice, and refrain from imposing their personal values, views and preferences on clients.

It is the responsibility of social workers to establish the tenor of their professional relationship with clients and others to whom they have a professional duty, and to maintain professional boundaries. As individuals, social workers take care in their actions to not bring the reputation of the profession into disrepute. An essential element of integrity in professional practice is ethical accountability based on the Code of Ethics, the IFSW International Declaration of Ethical Principles of Social Work, and other relevant provincial/territorial standards and guidelines. Where conflicts exist with respect to these sources of ethical guidance, social workers are encouraged to seek advice, including consultation with their regulatory body.

## Principles:

- Social workers demonstrate and promote the qualities of honesty, reliability, impartiality and diligence in their professional practice.
- Social workers demonstrate adherence to the values and ethical principles of the profession and promote respect for the profession's values and principles in organizations where they work or with which they have a professional affiliation.
- Social workers establish appropriate boundaries in relationships with clients and ensure that the relationship serves the needs of clients.
- Social workers value openness and transparency in professional practice and avoid relationships where their integrity or impartiality may be compromised, ensuring that should a conflict of interest be unavoidable, the nature of the conflict is fully disclosed.

In a recent discipline case I cited this section of the Code as a section that may have been breached by the social worker's actions. Our lawyer asked if I meant that the social worker in question had no integrity, and suggested that such a charge would be of great concern to him. To say that a person lacks integrity implies that their personal qualities are suspect; that the problem is deeper than the actions they take. We would not want to believe such a thing about any member of our profession.

Integrity is the piece that holds the Code together: if you act consistently according to social work values

and your own beliefs, you are practicing with integrity. If there is a conflict between your personal beliefs and the social work Code of Ethics, your actions in social work practice should be guided by professional values rather than your own.

Where social workers often get into trouble is when their personal values and professional ethics collide, or when their personal struggles result in them behaving in a manner that is not consistent with either their personal or professional beliefs.

I was speaking with a group of social workers about informed consent and the rights of minors. A question arose about the parent's rights when a teen is pregnant and doesn't want her parents to know. One person in the group said that as a parent she would feel compelled to tell the teen's parents because if she was in that position she would want to know herself. A review of the social work standards of practice and code of ethics makes it clear that the client's right to confidentiality should take precedence over the social worker's personal feelings about the parent's rights.

In this kind of situation the social worker's personal integrity may be in jeopardy as the professional obligation prevents her from being true to her own values. It is necessary for the social worker to consider why she feels the way she does and how she will feel after telling or not telling the parents about the pregnancy. Is this a matter of such strong conviction that acting one way or the other will leave her with moral distress? Can she find a resolution that will satisfy both her personal and her professional concerns? If not, this social worker may need to think about whether working with teens might be too stressful for her.

Social workers who are struggling with burnout, depression, addictions, or other types of impairment are also in jeopardy with regard to integrity. When we fail to take care of ourselves we are more likely to violate professional boundaries, or to practice less competently than our clients deserve, and to demonstrate poor judgment in our decision making. A review of professional discipline cases over the past 10 years points to impairment as a significant indicator of more serious offences.

In order to maintain our integrity, we must continually examine our beliefs and our behaviour as they impact on our practice. In addition, regular supervision and peer consultation are important supports for social workers in fulfilling the 4th value of our Code of Ethics.

*Submitted by:*

*Alison MacDonald, MDipl, RSW*

*Associate Registrar,*

*Alberta College of Social Workers*



## Committee, Branch & Task Team Section

# News from the Health Services Task Team

Over the past few months the Health Care Task Team has been actively working to accomplish some of the tasks they set out for themselves and it is timely that we share these with all of the membership. Through small group discussions in 2006 this team determined four themes they felt were important to tackle in their work as health care task team members. These themes included:

- Education of interdisciplinary team members and the general public about the variety of roles played by social workers in health care settings.
- Clarification of the role and scope of social workers within interdisciplinary teams.
- Promotion of social work values and knowledge within interdisciplinary health care teams.
- Promotion of social work in general and, more specifically, as one of the health care professions.

### Work Plan Development

In September 2007 our team came together to determine the priorities and develop a work plan for the next few years—this was set up from the themes that were identified in 2006. Two priorities were identified:

- Public Education – public education and promotion of social work as a health care profession.
- Role Clarity – work within interdisciplinary teams

### 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.

to promote our roles, knowledge and skills within the scope of social work practice.

### Health Care Social Workers Brochure

With permission to adapt a brochure from BCASW, we have developed a document that promotes social work with other professionals. This brochure is entitled “Health Care Social Workers” and describes the power of social work as it features the skills and abilities we have that complement interdisciplinary team work. This brochure is available on line at [www.sasw.ca](http://www.sasw.ca) and through the SASW office. Copies have been sent out with a letter of introduction to the Minister of Health, regional health authorities, SAHO, HSAS, etc.

### Letter Promoting our Profession and the Brochure

Our team determined that sending a message to decision makers and managers would be a great way to raise the profile of social work in the health care. A copy of this letter is on page 17; this letter was sent not only to promote our profession but also to introduce the brochure.

### Continuing On With Our Work Plan

As the Health Services Task Team continues on in the work we have planned, watch for a second brochure. This one is entitled “Social Work Services in Health Care Settings” and focuses on the skills and abilities social workers offer to the public and our role as part of health care teams.

Our team is working to educate and promote social work in health care. I would like to acknowledge the dedicated members of this team: Tracy Muggli, Margaret Woloshyn, Brenda Pasloski, Leann Keach, Elliot Paus-Jensen, and Richard Hazel (ex-officio). This has truly been a team effort.

*Submitted by:  
Wanda Miller, MSW, RSW (Sask.)  
Chair, Health Services Task Team*

# Health Services Task Team Letter

July 3, 2008

Hon. Don McMorris  
Minister of Health  
Room 302 - 2405 Legislative Drive  
Regina, SK S4S 0B3

Dear Hon. McMorris:

The Saskatchewan Association of Social Workers (SASW) invites you to involve social workers to be active participants in health care related policy development and strategic planning as we move toward a more effective and sustainable health system. The SASW has dedicated a committee to ensure the contributions social workers can make in health care are utilized to the greatest extent possible.

The SASW has many members employed by Saskatchewan Regional Health Authorities and in other health-related agencies. As you are aware, the role of social workers in health care is very broad, including community development, mental health, case management, acute and long-term care, primary health services such as the Kids First Program, as well as roles in teaching, research and management.

Social workers have played an integral role in the successes of our health care system in that they:

- ensure patients are able to navigate a complex system and have a successful discharge from acute care, obtaining services to help them to remain independent in their homes,
- provide counselling to support individuals and families to build physical and emotional capacity, thus allowing them to be healthy members of our community,
- support and educate families to make healthy life-style choices,
- advocate for access to services within and outside of regional health authorities,
- actively participate on planning committees and in policy discussions.

Our profession addresses key issues that determine the health of the people with whom we work. As a result, social workers are well positioned to make valuable contributions to broader planning initiated by health authorities and agencies. Social workers are invaluable in assisting the government to address priorities such as improving access to quality health care services, particularly as it relates to our key role in coordination of and access to services. We are also well-trained

in the service delivery of addictions and mental health services, both in intervention and prevention. Many social workers carry out program delivery and program planning with older health consumers, effectively promoting health and disease prevention, and addressing critical issues key to a solid senior's strategy.

Primary health care involves "responding to illness within the broader determinants of health. It also includes co-coordinating, integrating and expanding systems and services to provide more population health, sickness prevention and health promotion by all disciplines. It encourages the best use of all health providers to maximize the potential of all health resources." — Adapted from: A. Mable and J. Marriott, *Sharing the learning — The health transition fund synthesis series: Primary health care*, (Ottawa: Health Canada, 2002). Social workers who are involved in health care assist clients to address concerns such as income and social status, employment and working conditions, social support networks, physical environments, gender disparity, healthy child development, personal health practices and coping skills, cultural disparity, social environments, education needs, and specialized health needs such as mental health.

We have attached a pamphlet which outlines the many roles social workers have in health care. We look forward to hearing from you as we work collaboratively to make the improvements required to ensure a healthy society.



Jim Walls, MSW, RSW (Sask.)  
President

cc: Deputy Minister of Health  
Regional Health Authorities - CEO  
Susan Antosh, President/CEO - SAHO  
Chris Driol, President, HSAS

# Social Worker's Dedication Recognized by Sun County Health Region



Maureen Kraemer, who is employed as a Social Worker with Mental Health and Addictions Services in the Sun Country Health Region, was recognized at the Regional Adult Community Services meeting in Estevan on September 10, 2008, for her 31 years of involvement with the Saskatchewan Association of Social Workers (SASW). Maureen has been an active member of SASW since 1977.

Maureen has both chaired and been on various working committees during her time with SASW. She has edited the SASW newsletter, *The Saskatchewan Social Worker*. Maureen was the chair of the Social Policy Committee from 1991 to 1996 and took an active role during the preparation of the 1995 legislation changes for the protection of the title Social Worker. She served as SASW representative to the Canadian Association of Social Workers (CASW) Board from 1996-2001. Maureen was the CASW liaison to the agreement on Internal

Trade Registrars' working group. She co-chaired the joint CASW/CPA initiative on homelessness. Maureen was the national lead on the completion of a position statement on the role of Social Work in the field of Mental Health in May 2001. She also acted as co-facilitator at the National Social Work Forum in Montreal in October 2001. Maureen has most recently served as secretary on the SASW Council from 2005-2007.

Maureen's dedication to not only SASW but to her profession was commended. It is our hope that her valuable contributions to the field will continue for years to come.

*Submitted by:*  
*Marlene Salmers, BSW, RSW (Sask.)*  
*ACS Supervisor, Mental Health and Addictions Services, Sun Country Health Region*

**Code of Ethics Training – Regina & Area Members**

*It is the goal of the SASW to have all registered social workers participate in ethics training. It is offered free to members. The following dates have been scheduled for SASW Regina & area residents:*

November 17, 2008	1:00-4:30 PM
January 22, 2009	1:00-4:30 PM
March 17, 2009	6:30-10:00 PM
April 20, 2009	8:30 AM-12:00 PM
May 27, 2009	1:00 PM-4:30 PM

*SASW members may register for ethics training by contacting:*  
Darlene Bohach at [darbohach@sasktel.net](mailto:darbohach@sasktel.net)

*We ask social workers to provide two dates. Efforts will be made to accommodate your first choice, however, due to unknown demand, this may be difficult.*

**Regina Branch SASW Presents:  
Lunch and Learn**

The following lectures are offered for continuing education. They are open to the public for a fee of \$3.00 each and are free for SASW members. Those interested need to inform the contact person specific to each event to help us confirm numbers for adequate space and photocopying of materials.

Wednesday November 26, 2008:

Topic: Suicide Safety Planning  
Speaker: Sophie Grahame & Darla Goettler  
Alliance for Suicide Awareness & Prevention  
Location: Ministry of Social Services  
2045 Broad St.  
Contact: Diane Walton  
787-0607 or [dwalton@cr.gov.sk.ca](mailto:dwalton@cr.gov.sk.ca)

Tuesday January 13, 2008:

Topic: Children's Mental Health:  
Internalizing & Externalizing Disorders  
Speaker: Joanne Phillips  
Manager Child and Youth Services  
Location: Ministry of Social Services  
2045 Broad St.  
Contact: Diane Walton  
787-0607 or [dwalton@cr.gov.sk.ca](mailto:dwalton@cr.gov.sk.ca)



# Faculty of Social Work, University of Regina Section

## Dean's Message



Greetings from the Faculty of Social Work.

With the new academic year, we in the Faculty look forward to successfully building a future that expands and improves our capacity to meet student needs across the region. In doing so, we anticipate more high quality graduates ready to help address the multiple social

needs in all of our communities.

As I write this, the University of Regina is greeting our new president, Dr. Vianne Timmons, and our new Vice President Academic, Dr. Gary Boire. I have met both individually and in working groups, and come away convinced that they will be a boon to the University and our profession. I have been pleased to discover that both have a good understanding of social work and are deeply committed to the same sense of core values that we find within our profession. I also find an eagerness to improve the student centeredness of our University and support for new innovative ideas to meet community needs through implementing the University mission. For example, as a beginning welcome to the new president, the entire university is welcoming her by hosting community-located events that are designed to reach out beyond the boundaries of the University. These events will promote interaction and information exchange between the academy and community. The Faculty of Social Work is participating in these celebrations in both Regina and Saskatoon.

The University of Regina is awake. It is eager to advance and continue to make a positive impact in

our region. New energy stemming from the general University meshes well with continuing Faculty of Social Work efforts. Curriculum review and improvement is underway. Exploration of innovative methods of course delivery is being conducted. Need assessment and identification of innovative methods to provide MSW programming for larger and more geographically distant groups of students is taking place. Programming to increase student and new graduate engagement in SASW is also included among current Social Work efforts. And we will be growing. Social Work is advertising four faculty positions. In short, the Faculty of Social Work is moving.

In addition to our group efforts a number of individual and small group initiatives are underway. Work in the area of addressing issues of poverty and needed community development has led to publications and the invitation of speakers to our community through SPR. Other faculty members have been successful in grant efforts that bring both health and rural research dollars. Scholarship funds for new and continuing students have been forthcoming. Contact continues to take place between faculty members and other countries such as Chili and Viet Nam and has led to student exchanges, practicum placements and research opportunities. Many more fascinating endeavors are underway. We are also excited to announce Nuelle Novik as the first Ph.D. graduate in Social Work from the University of Regina.

Stay in touch. Your feedback to the faculty is valued. We look forward to continuing to work with you as we pursue our common purposes.

*Submitted by:*

*David Schantz, Ph.D., RSW (Sask.)*

*Dean - Faculty of Social Work*



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



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**1-800-667-4442**  
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# UPCOMING CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS & EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

*Dr. Paul Foxman, Ph.D.*

***“Anxiety Disorders with Children & Adolescents-Recognizing and Treating an Emerging Epidemic”***

November 17 & 18, 2008

Edmonton, Alberta

Link to more info: [www.jackhirose.com/brochures/abfoxman20081117.html](http://www.jackhirose.com/brochures/abfoxman20081117.html)

*Dr. Paul Foxman, Ph.D.*

***“Anxiety Disorders with Children & Adolescents-Recognizing and Treating an Emerging Epidemic”***

December 12, 2008

Edmonton, Alberta

Info: [www.jackhirose.com/brochures/abfoxman20081212.html](http://www.jackhirose.com/brochures/abfoxman20081212.html)

*Matthew Selekman, M.S.W.*

***“Pathways to Solutions with Self-Harming Adolescents”***

November 20 & 21, 2008

Winnipeg, Manitoba

Link to more info: [www.jackhirose.com/brochures/mbselekman20081120.html](http://www.jackhirose.com/brochures/mbselekman20081120.html)

***6th Annual Forensic Psychiatry Conference  
Mental Health & the Justice system Across  
the Lifespan***

April 1 - 3, 2009

Vancouver, BC

Conference Manager: Barb Bell

Email: [bbell@bcmhs.bc.ca](mailto:bbell@bcmhs.bc.ca)

Phone: (604) 524-7509

***Advanced Intensive Week in Reality  
Therapy/Choice Theory***

November 21, 22, 23, & 24, 2008

Contact: Carole Eaton at (306) 569-1977 or

Linda Routledge at [linda@accesscomm.ca](mailto:linda@accesscomm.ca)

***SASW AGM & Provincial Conference*** April  
22-April 24, 2009

Ramada Inn, Yorkton, SK

Hosted by: SASW Yellowhead East Branch

***“Overcoming Life Challenges: Integrating Hope,  
Spirituality, & Self-Care Into Practice”***

Keynote Speaker: Wendy Edey, R. Psych, M.Ed.,  
RSW

Director of Counseling, The Hope Foundation,  
Edmonton, AB

Other Presenters: Pastor Rick & Kathleen Gibson -  
**Survivors of West Nile Virus**

Noel Starblanket **“Starblanket: A Spirit Journey”**

***Somatic Experiencing Beginning Levels 1-3  
(Beginner's Level)***

Level 1 November 21-24, 2008,

Level 2 February 13-16, 2009

Level 3 May 22-25, 2009

Saskatoon, SK

Contact Information: Jeannette Kuc

Phone: (306) 343 0789

Email: [kucj@stf.sk.ca](mailto:kucj@stf.sk.ca)

Website: [www.traumahealing.com](http://www.traumahealing.com)

***Solution Focused Counselling with Difficult  
Clients***

December 2 and 3, 2008

***Solution Focused Counselling with Physical  
and Mental Illness***

December 4 and 5, 2008

Saskatoon, SK

Presenter: Nancy McConkey

Email: [soltalk@telusplanet.net](mailto:soltalk@telusplanet.net)

Toll-free: 1-866-304-8255

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