

Saskatchewan Association
of
Social Workers

2003
ANNUAL REPORT

Regulate *Advocate* *Serve* *Promote*



Social Workers - Make A Difference

Table of Contents

	Page Number
<u>Council/ /Staff Reports/Appointment</u>	
President's Report	2
Executive Director's Report	3
Treasurer's Report	4-11
Registrar's Report	12-13
CASW Representative Report	14-15
<u>Committee/Task Team Reports</u>	
Discipline Resource Pool Report	16
Education Committee Report	17
Legislative Review Committee Report	18
Practice Ethics Committee Report	19
Professional Conduct Committee Report	20-21
Public Relations Report	22
Psychologist's Act Task Team	23
Standards of Practice Committee Report	24
Social Policy Committee Report	25
<u>Branch/Group Reports</u>	
Battlefords Branch Report	26
Moose Jaw Branch Report	27
Northeast Branch Report	28
Prince Albert Branch Report	29
Regina Branch Report	30
Rosetown Branch Report	31
Rural Social Work Interest Group Report	32
Saskatoon Branch Report	33
Swift Current Branch Report	34
Yellowhead East Report	35

President's Report

An Annual Report is traditionally the avenue for members to reflect on the business accomplished during the year and to become familiar with the Association's successes. Throughout this year's annual report are many examples of the broad scope of issues and practical areas that SASW has been involved in.

SASW remains closely connected with the education offered to students and have a respected voice in student selection, curriculum development and continuing education initiatives currently being planned with the Faculty of Social Work, University of Regina.

SASW can be proud of the three committees who ensure appropriate practice standards are set and maintained, complaints are investigated and adjudicated. We are fortunate to have a Practice Ethics Committee, able to convene quickly and respond to members' questions from around the province, and with meaningful commentary.

During the past year, SASW successfully formed our new governance structure. Council members at large have portfolios to act as liaisons with our committees. SASW committees have clearly established action plans. These steps were taken to ensure we effectively manage our agenda and remain accountable to the membership.

As the President of SASW, I have had the privilege of attending the National Presidents' Meeting in Halifax, Nova Scotia in June 2003 as well as a joint meeting of Presidents, provincial CASW representatives and Executive Directors. These meetings saw the review of the CASW mandate and role. SASW has been able to offer information to support the new edition of the Code of Ethics as a complete and current document of standards.

Never content to rest on past achievements, SASW has aspirations for the future. We are working to build a stronger profession which will include mandatory registration of all social workers and those who practice social work, new legislation which we hope will include a defined scope of practice. New direction has been given to influence social policy and advocate for social justice.

SASW's future looks bright with a renewed sense of direction and the commitment of members who volunteer countless hours in service, through their determined efforts in the promotion, regulation, and advocacy of our profession.

My report would be incomplete without special attention being given to acknowledge the depth of commitment by our members at the branch and provincial levels. Your time and commitment is impressive and I wish to extend my appreciation to each of you who have chosen to extend yourself and by so doing, exemplify the spirit of our profession.

I would also like to express a sincere thank you to the members of Council who I have served with during my two years as President. It was a pleasure to work with you and be a part of your special eagerness to embrace the work before us. Special thanks must be given to Frank Dornstauder, who has kept a watchful eye on the finances and has a clear sense of the purpose of an Association; to Debb Fisher who has a fervor for precision, timeliness and the best little computer icons on the prairies, and to Richard Hazel, thank you for your engaging demeanor and wisdom with strategy.

It has been a pleasure to serve as your President and I thank the membership for the opportunity given me. I look forward to my term as Past President and the challenges set before us.

Respectfully submitted: Deborah Buettner, MSW, RSW (Sask.)

Executive Director's Report

This year has contained significant challenge and development for the Association. Key developments included a strategic planning process, preparation for the 2004 National Social Work Conference and beginning development of a set of policies for membership registration, personnel and operations.

The strategic plan project moved from exploration and analysis to a set of recommendations coming out of the working session June 6 and June 7, 2003. This work can be reviewed on our website under the tab 'Council/Branch Information'. From there we have moved to implementation of the recommendations and plan to track our development through 2004 and beyond. Key changes underway will affect the governance of the Association and the way it achieves accountability. There are four key purposes for SASW that were identified and they are:

- to regulate the profession
- to promote the profession
- to serve members
- to advocate for the profession and for social justice

These statements are reflected in the vision and mission statements that are being forwarded for acceptance at this Annual General Meeting. In the document on the website, there are recommendations covering all four of the areas of purpose plus the administration of the Association. It is the intent of Council to ensure that all of the recommendations have a response and are tracked and reported to the membership.

Planning for the 2004 national social work conference has been driven by our conference co-chairs, Tracy Muggli and Evelyn Hynes, by a large group of dedicated volunteers and by SASW staff. By the time this report is published, the program will be out and it will be evident that the conference will offer a significant opportunity for learning and the enjoyment of the company of our colleagues. This is a huge opportunity for Saskatchewan to profile the profession and the things for which it stands.

In addition, there was good connection to the national child welfare project called "Creating Conditions for Good Practice" in April when CASW President, Ellen Oliver, gave a workshop in Regina on the solution-focused approach to child welfare. Then, in May of 2003, Margot Herbert, the lead for this project, attended a meeting of the Child Welfare Redesign Reference Committee hosted by the Department of Community Resources and Employment.

In October there was the news that federal legislation had been tabled that would lift the application of the GST from the health-related services of social workers. While this was very good news to the profession, there have been a number of issues encountered in the interpretation of the new provisions and as the year ended, we continued to work with CASW and colleagues in other provinces to find solutions.

At the SASW office there has been progress made in supporting an increasing membership. As noted above, we now have a website where information can be accessed and Association documents and publications can be downloaded. We have a part-time staff that joined us later in early November to assist with membership renewal and provide time for administrative support to the national conference planning process. We now have a staff of one full time executive assistant, a part-time staff person and my role which remains at 80% of full time. We hope to balance the need to be responsive to members and the public with the requirement of being clear and efficient administratively that comes with being a regulatory body.

My thanks go to Debb Fisher, Norma Tindall and Rawd Bieber at the office for their hard work and collaboration. Also, through the year I have appreciated the commitment and support of those around the Council and Advisory Board tables, and all of our committees and branches. The dedication of all those who volunteer their time to the work of SASW is nothing short of amazing.

Respectfully submitted: Richard Hazel, MSW, RSW (Sask.)

NIGEL A. CROOK

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

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AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of
Saskatchewan Association of Social Workers

I have audited the statement of financial position of Saskatchewan Association of Social Workers as at December 31, 2003 and the statements of operations and unrestricted net assets and changes in financial position for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the organization's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

Except as explained in the following paragraph, I conducted my audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In common with many non-profit organizations, the Association derives revenue from various programs and activities the completeness of which is not susceptible of satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, my verification of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the Association and I was not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to revenues, increase in fund balance, assets and fund balance.

In my opinion, except for the effect of adjustments, if any, which I might have determined to be necessary had I been able to satisfy myself concerning the completeness of the revenues referred to in the preceding paragraph, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the organization as at December 31, 2003 and the results of its operations for the year then ended in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Nigel Crook

Nigel Crook FCA

March 02, 2004

SASKATCHEWAN ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

DECEMBER 31, 2003

	2003	2002
CURRENT ASSETS		
Bank accounts	\$ 31,768	\$ 30,758
Short term deposits	<u>288,212</u>	<u>226,920</u>
	319,980	257,678
Accounts receivable	529	489
Prepaid expenses	2,182	2,101
Prepaid 2004 conference expenses	<u>10,276</u>	<u>-</u>
	332,967	260,268
RESTRICTED ASSETS	3,734	3,609
CAPITAL ASSETS - Note 3	<u>87,471</u>	<u>92,684</u>
	<u>\$ 424,172</u>	<u>\$ 356,561</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$ 4,558	\$ 5,182
Deferred revenue - Note 2	214,351	182,830
Deferred 2004 conference revenue	11,600	-
Conference 2004 loan payable	10,000	-
Current portion of mortgage payable	<u>5,625</u>	<u>5,225</u>
	246,134	193,237
MORTGAGE PAYABLE - Note 4	<u>12,280</u>	<u>18,304</u>
	<u>258,414</u>	<u>211,541</u>
NET ASSETS		
<u>Restricted:</u>		
Net assets restricted (Edna Osborne Fund) - Note 6	<u>3,734</u>	<u>3,609</u>
	3,734	3,609
<u>Unrestricted:</u>		
Net assets invested in capital assets - Note 7	69,566	69,155
Unrestricted net assets	<u>92,458</u>	<u>72,256</u>
	162,024	141,411
	<u>165,758</u>	<u>145,020</u>
	<u>\$ 424,172</u>	<u>\$ 356,561</u>

SASKATCHEWAN ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003

	2003	<i>2003</i> <i>Budget</i>	2002
REVENUE			
Membership Fees	\$ 255,135	\$ 250,000	\$ 241,950
Conference	15,366	10,000	8,420
Interest	3,952	2,200	2,516
Workshops	-	2,000	-
Newsletter	696	750	750
Mailing fees	1,000	1,000	500
Other fees and revenue	<u>258</u>	<u>150</u>	<u>81</u>
	<u>276,407</u>	<u>266,100</u>	<u>254,217</u>
EXPENDITURES			
Audit and accounting	1,407	1,600	1,328
Awards, honoraria	3,490	3,500	229
Bank charges	1,146	1,200	1,172
Branch payments	4,200	4,000	3,700
CASW fees	39,536	40,000	38,023
Committee: meetings and travel	24,703	26,360	20,371
training and planning	-	2,000	1,270
Conference and workshop	7,951	12,000	8,440
Courier	866	700	495
Copier	2,843	1,500	1,490
Depreciation	5,214	7,000	5,529
Insurance	1,687	1,700	1,624
Legal	4,417	19,000	21,426
Miscellaneous	171	100	-
Mortgage interest	1,547	-	1,995
National conference	-	-	151
Newsletter	8,194	8,500	6,075
Office supplies/equipment	3,841	3,600	4,354
Postage	9,175	8,000	7,532
Printing and stationery	6,689	6,400	6,245
Property taxes	4,397	-	4,307
Special events	6,620	7,000	5,725
Repairs and maintenance	7,709	6,000	5,173
Salaries and benefits	96,023	101,480	66,286
Staff training	627	-	-
Telephone	10,334	8,500	8,104
Utilities	3,007	2,800	2,930
<i>Mortgage principal payments (budget item only)</i>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>255,794</u>	<u>272,940</u>	<u>223,974</u>
EXCESS REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	20,613	<u>(6,840)</u>	<u>30,243</u>
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>141,411</u>		<u>111,168</u>
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 162,024</u>		<u>\$ 141,411</u>

**SASKATCHEWAN ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FINANCIAL POSITION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003**

	2003	2002
OPERATIONS		
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures	\$ 20,613	\$ 30,243
Items not requiring the use of cash:		
Depreciation not affecting cash	<u>5,214</u>	<u>5,529</u>
	25,827	35,772
Changes in non-cash working capital items		
Accounts receivable	(40)	(355)
Prepaid expenses	(81)	(56)
Prepaid conference expenses	(10,276)	-
Accounts payable	(624)	1,149
Deferred conference revenue	11,600	-
Conference loan payable	10,000	-
Deferred revenue	<u>31,521</u>	<u>(12,520)</u>
	<u>67,927</u>	<u>23,990</u>
INVESTING		
Acquisition of capital assets	<u>-</u>	<u>(4,028)</u>
FINANCING		
Transfer to E. Osborne fund	-	-
Repayment of long term debt	<u>(5,624)</u>	<u>(5,224)</u>
	(5,624)	(5,224)
INCREASE IN CASH	62,302	14,738
UNRESTRICTED CASH, BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>257,678</u>	<u>242,940</u>
UNRESTRICTED CASH, END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 319,980</u>	<u>\$ 257,678</u>

SASKATCHEWAN ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003

1. DESCRIPTION OF BUSINESS

Saskatchewan Association of Social Workers (SASW) is a corporation dedicated to strengthening and unifying the social work profession through professional standards, education, and addressing issues of social welfare. SASW is continued under *The Social Workers Act* and has accordingly claimed exemption to any income taxes that may be payable on the reported income.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and include the following significant accounting policies:

- a) Fixed assets are stated at cost and are depreciated on the diminishing balance basis at the rates indicated (½ in year of purchase).
- b) Revenue recognition
Membership revenue is allocated to the year it relates to. All other revenue is recorded in the fiscal period it is received. Membership revenue received relating to the next fiscal period is shown as deferred revenue.

3. CAPITAL ASSETS

	<u>Rates</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Accumulated depreciation</u>	<u>Net book value</u>	
				<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>
Land	--	\$ 20,000	\$ -	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000
Building	4%	75,956	20,020	55,936	58,267
Office equipment	20%	22,781	16,627	6,154	7,694
Computer equipment	20%	16,073	11,777	4,296	5,370
Furniture and fixtures	20%	<u>5,916</u>	<u>4,831</u>	<u>1,085</u>	<u>1,354</u>
		<u>\$ 140,726</u>	<u>\$ 53,255</u>	<u>\$ 87,471</u>	<u>\$ 92,685</u>

4. MORTGAGE PAYABLE

The mortgage is secured by the real property at 2110 Lorne Street, Regina and is repayable to Sherwood Credit Union at \$967 per month including interest and taxes. Interest is currently charged at 7.5% per annum.

5. COMPARATIVE FIGURES

Certain of the comparative figures have been restated to conform to current year's presentation. The budget information as provided by management of the Association is included solely for informational purposes.

SASKATCHEWAN ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003

6. NET ASSETS RESTRICTED

A contribution made to the Association, known as the Edna Osborne Fund, has been classified as restricted. The specific purpose and use of the fund is to be determined by the Association. Interest of \$ 83 (2002-\$65) earned by the fund during the year has been allocated to the fund.

7. NET ASSETS INVESTED IN CAPITAL ASSETS

Net assets invested in capital assets consists of:

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>
Capital Assets (net)	\$ 87,471	\$ 92,684
Mortgage payable - current	(5,625)	(5,225)
Mortgage payable - long term	<u>(12,280)</u>	<u>(18,304)</u>
	<u>\$ 69,566</u>	<u>\$ 69,155</u>

**Saskatchewan Association of Social Workers
Proposed Budget - 2004**

REVENUE	2003 Approved Budget	2004 Proposed Budget
Memberships	250,000.00	257,000.00
Conference	10,000.00	100.00
Workshops	2,000.00	2,000.00
Newsletter	750.00	750.00
Promo Sales	50.00	50.00
Mailing Fees	1,000.00	1,000.00
Interest Revenue	2,200.00	3,300.00
Miscellaneous Revenue	100.00	100.00
2004 Conference - Fund Raising	15,000.00	8,000.00
2004 Conference - Registrations	0	113,000.00
Total Revenue	281,000	385,300.00
EXPENSES		
<u>Employee Expense</u>		
Wages/Salaries	85,720.00	91,000.00
EI Expense	3,000.00	3,185.00
CPP Expense	3,350.00	3,549.00
WCB Expense	200.00	150.00
Pension Benefits	5,790.00	5,950.00
Group Life & Disability	1,500.00	1,200.00
Health/Dental Expense	1,120.00	1,220.00
Staff Training	800.00	800.00
Total Employee Expenses	101,480.00	107,054.00
<u>General/Administrative Expense</u>		
Accounting	1,600.00	1,600.00
Legal	19,000.00	19,000.00
2004 National Conference	15,000.00	see below
Awards/Honorariums	3,500.00	4,500.00
Branch Payments	4,000.00	4,000.00
C.A.S.W. Fees	40,000.00	41,120.00
Conference Expenses	10,000.00	100.00
Courier_	700.00	850.00
Copier Expenses	1,500.00	1,900.00
Depreciation (Equipment/Bldg.)	7,000.00	5,750.00
Insurance	1,700.00	1,700.00
Bank Charges	1,200.00	1,100.00
Newsletter Expense	8,500.00	8,500.00
Office Supplies, Stationary	3,000.00	3,400.00
Office Equipment/Furniture	600.00	600.00

	2003 Approved Budget	2004 Proposed Budget
Postage	8,000.00	8,900.00
Printing	6,400.00	6,600.00
Special Events/Occasions	7,000.00	2,000.00
Repair & Maintenance Bldg.	6,000.00	6,000.00
Telephone, Fax & Internet	8,500.00	12,500.00
Utilities	2,800.00	2,800.00
Miscellaneous	100.00	100.00
Workshop Expenses	2,000.00	2,000.00
Total General and Admin Expense	158,100.00	135,020.00
<u>Committee Expenses</u>		
Mileage/Transportation	16,560.00	20,000.00
Accommodation	6,000.00	6,000.00
Meals	3,000.00	3,200.00
Parking	100.00	100.00
Training/Planning	2,000.00	2,000.00
Miscellaneous Expense	700.00	500.00
Total Committee Expenses	28,360.00	31,800.00
<u>2004 National Conference Expenses</u>		
2004 Conf. Room Costs	0.00	7,800.00
2004 Conf. Keynote Speaker Honourariums	0.00	15,600.00
2004 Conf. Transportation/Accom./Meals for Speakers	0.00	4,200.00
2004 Conf. Equipment Rental	0.00	11,650.00
2004 Conf. Decorations	0.00	2,300.00
2004 Conf. Gift for Speakers	0.00	700.00
2004 Conf. Entertainment	0.00	1,500.00
2004 Conf Registration Supplies	0.00	1,500.00
2004 Conference Publicity	0.00	9,750.00
2004 Conference Printing	0.00	10,000.00
2004 Conference Banking Fees	0.00	1,500.00
2004 Conference Translation Fees	0.00	6,000.00
2004 Conference Support Staff Wages	0.00	3,000.00
2004 Conference Telephone Costs	0.00	1,000.00
2004 Conference Misc. Expense	0.00	1,000.00
2004 Conference CASW Loan	0.00	10,000.00
2004 Conference Coffee Break Costs	0.00	3,600.00
2004 Conference Opening Ceremony Costs	0.00	4,000.00
2004 Conference Banquet Costs	0.00	10,000.00
2004 Conference Lunch Costs	0.00	8,800.00
Total 2004 Conference Expense	0.00	113,900.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	287,940.00	387,774.00
NET INCOME	-6,940.00	-2,474.00

Registrar's Report

I am pleased to report on my activities over the past year - this is my 9th year as Registrar for SASW. My duties as Registrar involve the assessment, approval, and registration of all applicants, the approval of the renewal of members and reinstatement of former members. As Registrar, I sit on the following committees: Standard of Practice, Legislative Review, and Professional Conduct (*ex officio*). I also sit on Council as an *ex officio* member in a consultative role.

Nationally, I am a member of the Canadian Registrars National Committee. This committee meets once a year to discuss issues important to the regulation of social workers and the practice of social work in Canada. Of prime importance is its role in creating national standards concerning the practice of social work and regulation across Canada.

As Registrar, I am actively involved in the role of regulation, the adherence to the Code of Ethics, and standards of our profession. This involves the professionalism of social work and the promotion of the profession across Saskatchewan and Canada.

Membership

I am pleased to report that SASW is maintaining a consistent membership base. Our membership numbers are over 1000. Some may remember when our membership base was around 200, then rose to 500, reached 700 and in 2002 reached 1000 members. Memberships have now surpassed this number.

Membership breakdown for the past five years is follows:

Type of Membership	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999
Associate	4	3	3	4	1
Full Time	767	736	682	660	658
Non Practicing	109	105	87	83	90
Part Time	124	135	155	138	126
Student	77	70	48	58	44
Total	1,081	1049	975	943	919

Registrar's Committee

The Registrar's Committee worked throughout 2003 to fulfill a number of tasks. One of its major tasks was the review and amendment of SASW's two sets of by-laws - The Social Workers Administrative By-laws and The Social Workers General By-laws. This work started in 2002 and was completed in the spring of 2003. The association's legal counsel reviewed both sets of by-laws. The membership approved these by-laws at SASW's annual general meeting in April 2003. The Social Workers General By-laws also requires approval of the Minister of Community Resources and Employment. These were approved after the Minister's office requested two minor changes.

The Registrar's Committee has now moved onto its second phase of reviewing, rewriting, and drafting policies and procedures for registration, renewal, and reinstatement. The first draft is completed and is being reviewed by both the Registrar and the Executive Director.

The Canadian Registrars National Committee

This committee meets once a year in the fall. The meeting is hosted by one of the regulatory bodies in Canada. The committee is composed of all the Registrars from each province's social work regulatory bodies in this country. The 2003 meeting was held in Toronto. The 2004 meeting will be held in Vancouver. A number of topics and issues of concern are discussed at these meetings, such as registration, membership categories, applicant requirements, renewals, reinstatements, continuing education, ethics, standards, and discipline to list a few. Very important outcomes and recommendations are achieved at these yearly meetings to setting national requirements for each provincial body to meet.

Continuing Education

For the years 2001, and 2002, SASW promoted the voluntary reporting of continuing education activities and encouraged the reporting of a minimum of 40 hours per year. In 2003 mandatory continuing education was approved at the annual general meeting. I am pleased to report that under both voluntary and mandatory reporting of continuing education the response has been overwhelming by the association's membership. This response demonstrates that our membership believes strongly in the concept of continuing education. This is a gratifying response as the national standard is 40 hours per year and those regulatory bodies who do not have mandatory education in place are working towards it.

Closing Comments

In summing up my report, I would like to take the opportunity to thank the following individuals and committees for their assistance and support throughout the year. They are our President Deb Buettner, Ray Pekrul - former member of the Registrar's Committee, Mona Acker - Chair of the Professional Conduct Committee, Richard Hazel - Executive Director, Debb Fisher - Executive Assistant, Darcia Shirr - legal counsel, the council of SASW, the advisory board of SASW, the Canadian Registrars, as well as the chairs and members of the Standard of Practice, the Legislative Review Committee, and the members of the Professional Conduct Committee.

Respectfully submitted: J. Rawdon Bieber, BSW, RSW (Sask.)

CASW Representative Report

In November, 2003 I attended my first meeting of the CASW Board in Ottawa. It was an interesting experience and I was impressed by the scope of activities that CASW is involved in. Maureen Kraemer reported last year on Quebec withdrawing from CASW. This was a great loss in terms of representation and finances but CASW adjusted, cut their budget and is carrying on forcefully.

CASW Mandate & Mission Review

This is nearing completion. CASW has designated social justice and promotion of the profession as primary goals. Input from all member organizations has been requested and received. A strategic plan was worked on at the November meeting.

CASW National Conference - Saskatoon, 2004

The conference, whose theme is *"Social Work: Making a Difference and Meeting the Challenge"* has been well planned. Special thanks and recognition go to co-chairs, Tracy Muggli and Evelyn Hynes, and a host of volunteers. We are hoping as many social workers as possible will attend this event. The Annual CASW Board meeting will be held in Saskatoon prior to the National Conference. The 2006 CASW National Conference is to be held in Vancouver.

CASW Distinguished Service Award

The CASW National Distinguished Service Award is given yearly by CASW to an individual or group of individuals selected by each member organization. This year Renu Kapoor from Regina, Saskatchewan has been chosen to receive this award. Congratulations Renu!

CASW Projects

- National Statement of Ethical Principles
- Primary Health Care discussion paper to assist social workers in dealing with the changing face of health care
- Women and Poverty - research on an issue of concern
- Database Project - vehicle for collecting data on a nation wide basis
- Child Welfare Project - in action stage
- Social Policy Principles Paper - developed to provide a basis for consideration of social policy and to influence advocacy in social justice issues.

Web Site

The Bulletin and Journal are now available on the CASW web site <http://www.casw-acts.ca> via "Members Only" section of the web site . A password is required and is different for each province and will be changed yearly. The SASW password for this year is BAGPIPES.

G.S.T. Exemption

CASW lobbied for and in October, 2003 was successful in getting a G.S.T. exemption for social workers in private practice in health related social work.

Other

CASW regularly makes statements on key issues such as AIDS, punishment of children, violence against women, etc. CASW participates in the International Federation of Social Work. An interview with Paul Martin has been requested in order to discuss CASW key issues and principles guiding our assessment of social policies.

Respectfully submitted: Marlene Chatterson, MSW, RSW (Sask.)

Discipline Resource Pool Report

COMMITTEE PURPOSE

The Discipline Resource Pool is a standing committee formed to assist the SASW Council by serving on Discipline Committees as required, by developing and revising policies/procedures for the discipline of registered social workers in Saskatchewan, and training committee members to serve at discipline hearings.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairperson: Jim Walls

Pamela Ait-Allaoua
Kerry Lapointe
Murray Wotherspoon

Dan Fofonoff
Katherine Potts
Audrey Zwack

Dixie Green
Don Stevenson
Douglas Stewart (Public Representative)

Harriet Greenhow
Terri Woods

Membership

The members of the discipline resource pool are drawn from members in good standing of the Association. The pool is large enough to ensure that sufficient numbers will be available to establish a Discipline Committee that may avoid the apprehension of bias due to prior employment or personal relationships or proximity with the member against whom a complaint has been made.

Members have a broad range of knowledge and experience and should reflect the demographic characteristics of the Association. In addition, pool members should possess the following attributes:

- good skills of assessment and evaluation with demonstrated ability to make sound judgments;
- knowledge and understanding of the Social Worker's Act and the Association's mandate to protect the public;
- knowledge of, and a commitment to uphold the standards of professional social work practice as approved by the SASW and CASW

The Resource Pool

Last year, five new members joined the Discipline Resource Pool. However, five members also left the Pool. A number of those had served for more than a few years, and their contribution of time, experience and cooperation is greatly appreciated. I also want to thank the continuing members of the Resource Pool. As their experience grows, so does their ability to effectively carry out the responsibilities placed on them through the self-regulation process.

The Discipline Resource Pool developed terms of reference that have been submitted to Council.

The Discipline Resource Pool is supported by Richard Hazel, SASW Executive Director; Debb Fisher, Executive Assistant, and Dirk Silversides, legal counsel.

Discipline Hearings

There were no Disciplinary Hearings in 2003.

Training

Members of the Discipline Resource Pool did not participate in any formal training event during the year; however, they have begun a process of sharing relevant professional development material via the Internet.

Respectfully submitted: Jim Walls, MSW, RSW (Sask.)

Education Committee Report

COMMITTEE PURPOSE

The purpose of the Education Committee is to promote, develop, and support formal social work education and continuing education for the profession. Committee membership represents a broad field of practice in order to identify and address the educational needs and requirements for quality professional practice.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairperson: Ray Pekrul

Sharon McKay
Susan Luedtke

Grant Rathwell
Melissa Flowers

Joyce Reid
Richard Hazel (ex-officio)

Bernie Zaharik

From feedback given by the members, the Education Committee has worked to revise the Continuing Education Policy, and along with the Registrar from 2004 registrations has identified new issues both in reporting and in how the policy is being interpreted. This process is proceeding with new changes anticipated for the 2005 registration year.

SASW has been represented by Bernie Zaharik on the University of Regina Senate and Faculty/Student Council, by myself on Undergraduate Studies Committee of Faculty of Social Work and for 2004 by Susan Luedtke on the Masters Committee of Faculty. Other committee members have participated in two social work student application evaluations - one in January and one in October. Our participation has encouraged faculty through Undergraduate Studies Committee to look at revisions to the student application process; proposed revisions may be expected by the end of 2004. As well in October, committee members comprised a focus group for SASW input to the MSW program self-study accreditation report prepared by the Faculty of Social Work, University of Regina.

The Education Committee has begun the work of developing a program of continuing education. The committee believes and Council endorses our efforts to provide opportunities to attend SASW sponsored continuing education events for SASW members. To this end, Sharon McKay presented the findings of the CASW report from the 80s where various models for delivery and issues at that time were identified. Clearly this study was prior to much of the communication technology we now have at our disposal. Recently, the committee is exploring a partnership model with the Faculty of Social Work and the Continuing Education Department of the University of Regina. We trust that a combination of resources may come together to provide relevant and accessible programming for continuing education of our members. Any suggestions regarding a topic area or mode of delivery for continuing education are welcome. Please contact any one of the committee members or call the SASW Office.

The Education Committee is looking forward to an exciting 2004 as we launch a long hoped for small program of continuing education.

Respectfully submitted: Ray Pekrul, MSW, RSW (Sask.)

Legislative Review Committee

No report submitted.

Practice Ethics Committee Report

COMMITTEE PURPOSE

The Practice Ethics Committee's purpose is to provide written feedback and consultation to registered social workers in Saskatchewan who may be struggling with practical or ethical issues. Consultations will proceed in a manner that will protect the anonymity and confidentiality of the SASW membership

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairperson: Victoria Walton

David Macknak
Stan Dimnik

John Nicholson

Bernadette Prokopetz

Norlane Jensen

Belma Podrug (student)

Della Yaroshko

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the members for their thoughtful insights, and their commitment to the work of this committee.

In the past year, the Practice Ethics Committee met monthly, except for the summer. We are also in touch via e-mail or telephone in between meetings in order to respond to consultations. In 2003, we were consulted on 17 occasions by social workers from a wide variety of settings throughout the province. After receiving the initial request our process involves consulting with as many of the members of the committee as possible. We then reply to the requests by telephone and e-mail, attempting to be timely and responsive to the needs for confidentiality that members seek. Issues that members sought consultation for included: confidentiality, consent to release information, boundaries, dual relationships, agency policies, volunteers, and files. In addition there were requests from members where there appeared to be practice disputes with supervisors and other agencies. This year we noticed more concerns from social workers who work in organizations where they may be the only one of their discipline, be hired on a contract basis, or where they may be reporting to other disciplines. There seems to be a continued need for consultation for members who work in some isolation from others of their profession.

In addition to consultations, committee members have been asked to speak regularly to social work students in the Ethics Class and the Skills Review Lab for practicum students at the Faculty of Social Work in Saskatoon, and more recently, in Prince Albert. Thanks to Richard Hazel for assisting us with these requests.

We submitted two articles to the SASW Newsletter outlining the process of our committee for members. We have asked that one of the articles run on a regular basis so that members have easy access to information about how to contact us. We have also produced a pamphlet that is being sent to all members

This year has been exceptional, in that, our committee has provided feedback on drafts of the new Code of Ethics. The 2004 National Social Work Conference will provide a forum to review the new Code, which is now near its final form. We also revised our Committee's Terms of Reference. Plans for the coming year include adding rural members to our committee in order to better respond to requests from rural members.

Our committee also consulted with legal counsel this year regarding our process. We are satisfied that our process provides for an informative but timely response to members who are often grappling with ethical situations in the grey areas of practice.

Respectfully submitted: Victoria Walton, MSW, RSW (Sask.)

Professional Conduct Committee Report

COMMITTEE PURPOSE

The Professional Conduct Committee is established under Section 25 (1) of the Social Workers Act (May 4, 1993) which states that the committee shall "consist of at least three persons appointed by the council, a majority of whom shall be members."

Section 26 covers the duties of the committee:

- to consider a complaint against a member when requested by council; and
- receive written complaints against members alleging they are guilty professional misconduct or professional incompetence.

The committee will then review and investigate the complaint and report to the Discipline Committee recommending that:

- the complaint be heard and determined; or
- no further action be taken.

A number of policies guide the work of the committee (available upon request). In essence, the Professional Conduct Committee along with the Discipline Committee is the arm of the Association charged with the protection of the public.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairperson: Mona Acker

Judy Anderson
Jennifer Cohen
Rawd Bieber (ex-officio)

Joan Hergott
Joan Morris

Marlene Chatterson
George Enns

Susan Hetu
Gayle Fulton

Complaint Activities in 2003:

Complaint Status	Number
Carried forward to 2003-01-01	3
Opened in 2003	5
Complaints closed as at 2003-12-31	1
- with no further action	1
- sent to Discipline	0
Complaints remaining open as at 2003-12-31	4
Total Cases Handled during 2003	8

**No further action" may be due to the complaint made by a third party, insufficient evidence, the alleged act did not constitute professional misconduct or incompetence or the complaint did not concern a member.

The chairperson of the Professional Conduct Committee attended no Discipline Committee hearings in 2003.

The nature of complaints investigated varied widely including:

- Billing irregularities
- Inadequate custody and access reports
- Boundary issues
- Using the title "Social Worker" while not a member
- Breach of confidentiality

Other Activities

- The committee is developing a brochure to explain the regulatory function of the Association Training.
- Darcia Schirr, lawyer for the Committee conducted an in-depth orientation session.
- Continuing liaison with the chairperson of the Saskatchewan College of Psychologists Professional Conduct Committee.
- The chairperson for the Professional Conduct Committee sits on the Advisory Board and the Ad hoc Advisory Board committee looking into accessibility of the SASW office

I would like to thank the members of the Committee for the countless volunteer hours they spent on investigations (interviewing complainants, members and others involved, traveling to do so, reviewing documentation material, writing letters and reports and other miscellaneous work), on other Committee work listed above and attending professional conduct meetings. I would also like to thank Darcia Schirr, lawyer for the Professional Conduct Committee, for her patience, wise counsel and time volunteered.

Respectfully submitted: Mona Acker M.S.W., R.S.W. (Sask.)

Public Relations Report

COMMITTEE PURPOSE

The purpose of the Public Relations Committee is to promote/enhance awareness of the social work profession in Saskatchewan.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairperson: Joanne Toh

Jeanne Beaudoin
Lynn Petersen

Shirley Leclaire
Alan Corbeil

Rick Kuckartz
Don Ebert

Darlene Chalmers
Pamela Goulden-McLeod

The Public Relations Committee has been meeting regularly since its “re-conception” last year. Terms of Reference have been revised, and a budget was submitted indicating this committee’s intentions to work toward some goals to “enhance public awareness and knowledge of the social work profession”.

To date, the Public Relations Committee helped to facilitate the formation of the Advocacy Task Group led by Don Ebert. This was in response to the high priority addressed by the Strategic Plan.

The PR Committee has worked on revising and up-dating the SASW Display Board which is used at various workshops, conferences and career fairs. This Display Board is available to branches and organizations throughout the province in promoting SASW, the social work profession and social work careers. One goal is to have the Display Board exhibited at the National Social Work Conference in June. A Saskatchewan Association of Social Workers banner is presently being designed and commissioned.

Active recruitment to the committee is ongoing, with the goal to involve more members from rural areas. Contact was made to a number of rural social workers who expressed an interest in participating on this committee, but time commitment and busy work schedules proved to be real obstacles for many. Some members left it with us to contact them again in the future. This committee will need to develop a more concrete plan as to how to best engage and involve members at a distance. This will evolve over time.

Attempts were made to publicize the 2004 National Social Work Week by inviting the Saskatoon Star Phoenix to print a story on two possible storylines provided to them. While the editor of The Star Phoenix described these ideas as worthwhile and interesting, she could not guarantee printing the stories within the given time-frame for National Social Work Week. The Public Relations Committee will work more actively in planning for National Social Work Week next year.

More planning is to take place in the coming year with regards to working together with the Education Committee of SASW to provide learning opportunities for its members, an opportunity to network with peers and to raise the awareness of the Association.

Respectfully submitted: Joanne Toh, MSW, RSW (Sask.)

Psychologist's Act Task Team Report

COMMITTEE PURPOSE

The Psychology Act Task Team was formed to respond to the Psychologist's Act sections which imposed limits on Social Work practice and diagnosis of treatment concerns.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairperson: Deb Buettner

Dennis Arbuthnott
Dan Fofonoff

Tom Gullason
Maureen Kraemer

Klaus Gruber
Richard Hazel (ex-officio)

Myrna Rhinas

The Task Team focused its efforts on the development of Terms of Reference and a work plan. The task team's intended outcomes are:

- 1) Identification of criteria or skill set for a social worker to complete and communicate a diagnosis;
- 2) A Memorandum of Understanding with the College of Psychologists such that any allegations about SASW members communicating a diagnosis will be reported to SASW and that no prosecution will be commenced by the College of Psychologists;
- 3) Social work practice needs and skills relating to the Psychologist's Act and "authorized practice" will be reviewed with the Faculty of Social Work, University of Regina;
- 4) Communicate to members, employers and Faculty of Social Work, University of Regina, the criteria for social workers to complete and communicate a diagnosis.

An invitation has been extended to the branches to consider possible criteria and to provide feedback to the Task Team. A group of social workers in Saskatoon has also offered to provide items for our consideration.

I would like to extend a thank you to each member of the team for their knowledge and participation this past year. It is only through our investment in the association can we continue to flourish.

Respectfully submitted: Deb Buettner, MSW, RSW (Sask.)

Standards of Practice Committee Report

COMMITTEE PURPOSE

The Standards of Practice Committee is responsible for the definition of scope of social work practice. The committee establishes and maintains standards of practice in various areas of social work.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairperson: Dennis Arbuthnott

Wanda Yurach
Rawd Bieber (ex officio)

Evelyn Hines
Richard Hazel (ex officio)

Curtis Robertson

Carol Hanson

During the past year the Standards of Practice Committee has addressed the following issues:

- Private Practice Registry - the committee continues to screen and approve applications for inclusion in the registry.
- Review of Health Care Standards - the committee reviewed these standards and decided there was no need currently to revise them.
- Development of New Standards - the committee is continuing to work on standards for social workers in income security. The original timeline has been extended. It is expected that these standards will be submitted to Council during 2004. As well, the committee has begun collecting information from other jurisdictions regarding standards for social workers in residential youth care settings.
- Alternative Techniques in Social Work Practice - after discussion the committee decided to develop a position paper on the use of alternative or adjunct practice techniques within social work practice. A brief article to the newsletter has been submitted soliciting feedback from the membership.

Plans for the Upcoming Year:

- to complete standards for social workers in income security
- to have a working document for social workers in youth residential settings
- to complete a thorough review and revision of the standards for private practice
- to complete a position paper on the use of alternative and adjunct techniques in social work practice.

In closing the committee would like to thank Debb Fisher for her assistance with the committee. Also thanks to our ex officio members who regularly attend meetings and provide valuable input.

Respectfully submitted: Dennis Arbuthnott, MA, RSW (Sask.)

Social Policy Committee Report

No report. Committee was inactive during 2003 due to resignation of chairperson.

Battlefords Branch Report

President: Alan Corbeil **Vice President: Rick Felix**
Treasurer: Dianne Lauritzen **Secretary: Jill Christianson**
Members at Large: Jim Walls, Patti Dupuis
Branch Representative.: Deb Buettner/Nathan Pyle (alternate)

The Battlefords Branch meets every three months to network with fellow members and to remain up to date with the programs and services offered in our community. The branch celebrated National Social Work Week with a dinner meeting and presentation from Mr. Ray Fox, Director of Aboriginal Justice, Battlefords Tribal Council, on the definition and role of elders.

The Battlefords Branch currently has 25 branch members and are looking forward to increasing our branch membership in the coming year.

Special appreciation is extended to Council and Advisory Board whose efforts have contributed to a successful yeuar at the provincial level and to Debb Fisher for her assistance to the branch.

Respectfully submitted: Deb Buettner, MSW, RSW (Sask.)

Moose Jaw Branch Report

Chairperson: Gwen Knoll
Past Chairperson: Gloria Gale Vice Chair: Gisela Hall
Secretary: Lydia Bruse Treasurer: Leanne Keach
Branch Representative: Lois Lien
Members at Large: Grant Rathwell & Judy Vermette

The Moose Jaw Branch is pleased to report that 2003 was a good year for the branch. In addition to our regular meetings, the branch had several extra events that seemed to go over quite well. Moose Jaw hosted the provincial conference in 2003 which turned out to be a great success. We received many compliments and positive feedback, while hoping to pass on a "do's" and "don'ts" to future conference hosts. The conference was well attended and was definitely a learning experience for our branch and members. A big thank you goes out to all members that helped with this event as well as to those members and guests who attended this event.

The Moose Jaw Branch has a yearly event we have dubbed "meet and greet". This year it was held in November at the Heritage Inn. Over the last few years, the branch has been very successful with attendance, and this year was no exception. We have found it provides an opportunity to meet with members in a more informal, social setting. The food and company was wonderful!

This year, the Moose Jaw Branch wanted to do something that would help put "faces" to various positions within social work. The local Shaw Cable station was contacted and agreed to interview several social workers in their respective fields and run these interviews throughout social work week. Richard Hazel was also interviewed, and provided information about SASW. The videos were televised on a rotational basis during each 24 hour period of programming throughout the entire week.

One of the new events we added to our branch activities was hosting a potluck supper for social work students in the Moose Jaw area currently enrolled in the practicum program. The branch members and practicum student supervisors provided the superb and delicious potluck dishes. The Moose Jaw Time Herald was present to cover this event, and submitted an article in the newspaper the following day. Grant Rathwell, Richard Hazel, and several students were interviewed. The article provided recognition of registered social workers as well as the varying degree of employment opportunities within the profession. Richard Hazel also did an impromptu presentation to the students explaining the importance of belonging to their professional association. The Branch would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank Richard Hazel for graciously accepting many of our invitations to local events and attending, even despite less than ideal weather conditions!

We believe that the Moose Jaw Branch with some new and enthusiastic executive members will continue to have success throughout the coming years. After all, with the guidance and expertise of our past chair, Gloria Gale, how can we not?

Respectfully submitted: Gwen Knoll, BSW, RSW (Sask.)

Northeast Branch Report

President: Lindsay Bruce

Secretary: Sandra Neely

Branch Representative: Heather Reese

Vice President: Kelly Anste

Treasurer: Marylou Hamilton

The Northeast Branch membership continues to remain stable. We draw our members from a wide geographical area of northeast Saskatchewan and therefore rotate our meetings between Tisdale, Nipawin, and Melfort. Once again the aim of providing our membership with further education and professional development on topical concerns was successful through the provision of interesting and informative guest speakers at our meetings.

Our branch observed Social Work Week in 2003, with smaller groups throughout the northeast making donations to local agencies such as Kids First.

The Northeast Branch was involved with the larger provincial association in March, when they set up focus groups to gain valuable information to aid in the development of strategic planning process that was taking place at this time.

Northeast Branch sponsored one registration fee for the provincial SASW Annual General Meeting and Conference. Sheryn Peterson, a social work student, from Melfort attended and reported back to us that the conference was educational, successful, and exciting.

Northeast Branch held their Annual General Meeting on May 26, 2003. A new slate of officers was elected as above.

The September meeting held in Nipawin, featured guest speaker Matt Andal. Mr. Andal gave us an informative presentation about his personal experience with the welfare system and his subsequent involvement with work experience programs. His humorous approach to this sensitive subject was appreciated.

The Northeast Branch has many hardworking individuals who unselfishly provide their time and expertise to keep this organization alive and vibrant in its work. A thank you goes out to each one of their continued dedication to social work and its mission.

Respectfully submitted: Heather Reese, CSW, RSW (Sask.)

Sandra Neely, BSW, RSW (Sask.)

Prince Albert Branch Report

Chairperson/Branch Representative: Patti Cram
Vice Chairperson: Audrey Zwack Treasurer: Connie Banks
Secretaries: Katherine Madraga/Katherine Olthius/Susan Luedtke

The Prince Albert Branch has enjoyed another active year as a branch in Prince Albert for 2003/ 2004. The branch continues to meet once a month over lunch, and are just about to have our first evening "discussion group" meeting in March. We always have a very full agenda of business-like topics at our lunch time meetings and so we decided that we would try having an extra "discussion group" meeting once every couple of months in the evening, where branch members will have a chance to talk about social work topics of interest that are not specifically business related. The branch lunch meetings have focused primarily during the past year on the strategic plan, and about the kind of association we are interested in having a part in shaping. Lately we have also been discussing the 'Psychologist's Act', in terms of its impact on some of our members. In discussing plans for our discussion group meetings (we are social workers after all), we thought we might bring topics such as workplace issues, research ideas and/or reports and/or social policy issues to the table.

The Prince Albert Branch will be having our branch AGM in June. All positions on the executive are open this year and will be filled at that time.

The Prince Albert Branch celebrated Social Work week this year by hosting a luncheon, where our guest speakers were Deborah Parker-Loewen and Amanda Doucette from the Children's Advocate Office. Deborah and Amanda talked about the importance of 'having voice' in terms of working towards social justice. Amanda presented a report on the 'Blueprint for Change' document that was released by the Children's Advocate Office following research where young people spoke about their experiences with the education system.

Thanks is extended once again to SASW Council members and paid staff people for all of their hard work this year. We also want to thank our colleagues around the province who have been involved in putting together the 2004 National Social Work Conference. We look forward to seeing everyone there.

Yours in community....

Respectfully submitted: Patti Cram, BSW, RSW (Sask.)

Regina Branch Report

Chairperson: Kathy Willerth **Vice Chairperson: Alice Parker**
Secretary: Adrienne Douglas **Treasurer: Maureen Sonntag**
Members at Large: Joyce Reid and Karen Paige
Branch Representative: Kathy Willerth

After a temporary hiatus, the Regina Branch of SASW is now up and running again. Many thanks to SASW members who assisted this process by making personal calls and inviting Regina members to discuss the rejuvenation of the Regina Branch. The Regina Branch is being headed by an interim executive as listed above.

Much of our effort over the past six months has been in familiarizing ourselves with the role of a branch. We are striving to learn this and to also become well informed about the activities and strategic direction of our provincial association.

The Branch has organized a number of events for the benefit of the Regina area social workers. In November, a lively and entertaining noon hour talk was given by Gayle Fulton, semi-retired clinical social worker. In January 2004, a well attended film night with the film *FIX - A City Addicted*, was followed by a wine and cheese social. In March 2004, during National Social Work Week, the branch in partnership with the Faculty of Social Work, University of Regina, hosted two events - a luncheon including two speakers, Noela Crowe-Salazar and Richard Hazel, and a noon hour talk by a new MSW grad.

Current plans are to ensure that elections are held for 2004/2005 and to explore the possibility of hosting another educational event in the spring.

Respectfully submitted: Kathy Willerth, BSW, RSW (Sask.)

Rosetown Branch Report

No report is available from Rosetown Branch. Branch has been inactive during 2003.

Rural Social Work Interest Group Report

President/Branch Representative: Deborah Bryson Sarauer

Vice-President: Barb Ulmer Secretary: Serena Landry

Directors:

Gayle Hood, Peter Griffiths, Jane Grieve, Joanne Schenn and Judy Jones

The Rural Social Work Interest Group officially formed in April of 2001 to address some of the unique challenges and to celebrate the innovative strategies of social workers working in rural environments throughout Saskatchewan" (*The Saskatchewan Social Worker*, February 2002).

The group is aimed at reflecting the diverse and complex nature of social work in rural communities. It is also directed towards giving rural social workers an identity among their peers.

Goals of the Group:

1. To increase the knowledge and awareness of rural social work practice issues.
2. To raise the consciousness of rurality as an issue in social work.
3. To undertake rural social work research to enable the group to effectively manage social economic and political issues (*The Saskatchewan Social Worker*, February 2002).

Meetings:

Group members met in Humboldt on June 6, 2003 and September 6, 2003. At these meetings, members decided to amend the terms of office for officers from a one-year term to a two-year term. The rationale for this change was to provide the group with more consistency.

In addition, at the AGM on June 6, 2003, a new Executive was elected. The Executive for 2003 to 2005 (2 year term) is listed above.

Financial Report:

As of December 31st, 2003, there was \$1,020.57 in the Rural Social Work Interest Group bank account at the Nokomis Credit Union, Nokomis, Saskatchewan.

Membership:

As of January 2003, there are 30 members in the group. Members are from various regions in Saskatchewan. There are also two "associate members" belonging to the Rural Social Work Interest Group who reside in Alberta.

Respectfully submitted: Deborah Bryson Sarauer, BA, BSW, RSW (Sask.)

Saskatoon Branch Report

Co-Chairs: Tracy Muggli & Ruth Mireau

Secretary: Terri Mooney

Treasurer: Richard Small

Mentorship Committee Chairs: Shirley LeClaire/Melissa Kelsey

Education Committee Chair: Darlene Chalmers

University of Regina School of Social Work Student Rep: Hilary Gamelin

Faculty of Social Work, University of Regina, Faculty Rep: Darlene Chalmers

Members at Large:

Evelyn Hynes, Paul Benson, Richard Small, Shelina Bhatia-Merali,

Pat Cox, Jean Wiens, Klaus Gruber, Wally Roth, Melanie Grace

Yes, another eventful year for the Saskatoon Branch. We were fortunate to co-chair the branch this year as both of us were taken away with other unforeseen circumstances over the year. We are also very fortunate that the executive members are a group of people who are dedicated to advancing our profession and worked hard on sub-committees to work on several exciting events this year.

As co-chairs, we were kept busy reporting the activities of the Advisory Board and the Council to our members. We accomplished this through regular e-mail notices and e-newsletters primarily. The past year kept us very involved in the roll-out of the SASW strategic plan. Saskatoon members provided regular feedback throughout the development of the overall plans. We want to commend everyone from our branch who is involved at a provincial committee level. Saskatoon Branch has members on nearly all provincial committees.

Specific branch activities we facilitated this year included:

- Annual MSW Research profile seminar.
- Social Work Week celebrations, including a workshop on Community Development, held in partnership with the Community Development Society of Saskatchewan.
- 2003 AGM, held at the "under renovation" Broadway theatre.
- A great deal of preparation for the National Social Work Conference. Tracy Muggli and Evelyn Hynes would like to extend a huge "thank you" to everyone who is helping out locally and provincially.
- Attendance at the annual College of Arts and Sciences information day
- Our annual Christmas luncheon at the Parktown Hotel.
- Speaking engagements to several social work classes throughout the year.
- The establishment of our mentoring program, with 20+ matches.
- A complete review of our branch bylaws
- Met with the new mayor of Saskatoon, Don Atchison, to discuss matters important to social workers such as social housing needs and crisis intervention services.

We would like to thank parting branch executive members Melissa Kelsey, Wally Roth and Paul Benson. We have really appreciated your contributions to our branch.

In closing, we would like to offer a heartfelt congratulations and thanks to Wally Roth who will be retiring in April, 2004. He has made many contributions to our Association over the years and has most recently assisted by acting as a Member-at-large and the Bylaws chair on the Saskatoon Branch. He has also made significant contributions in his field of practice; an area that requires a great deal of patience and perseverance in public education and the delivery of a message that violence is unacceptable in our community. We wish him the best of luck in his future artistic endeavors!

Respectfully submitted: Ruth Mireau, MSW, RSW (Sask) / Tracy Muggli, MSW, RSW (Sask.)

Swift Current Branch Report

Co- Chairs: Krista Olson and Eunice Peters
Past Chair: Sandra Fortman
Secretary: Corliss Schaan Treasurer: Loretta Rolfe Unger
Program Coordinator: Erica Matthews
Branch Representative: Krista Olson

Social Workers in the Swift Current area continue to meet once a month from September through June. We have approximately six to eight people in attendance at the meetings, which are primarily held over the lunch hour or as a social event held in the evening.

Our local branch in Swift Current started off 2003 with a workshop called "Blue Jeans Approach to Ethics" with Dr. Keith Walker and Dr. Vivian Walker. The workshop committee was dedicated to bringing the event to Swift Current and we had a very good response for the event.

Five members of the branch attended the 2003 SASW Annual conference in Moose Jaw. It was an excellent opportunity to network with other social workers and take part in the conference events.

One of our members has graciously taken over the task of formatting a newsletter for the branch, which was sent out once this year.

In April, members were invited to attend a strategic planning focus group meeting. The group discussion generated some excellent thoughts and ideas.

Members volunteered at a Career Expo held at the Swift Current Comprehensive High School in October to pass out written information on careers in social work.

One of the branch co-chairpersons sits on the National Social Work Conference committee, and shares the excitement of planning such a prestigious event for our province in June 2004!

Respectfully submitted: Krista Olson, BSW, RSW (Sask.)

Yellowhead East Branch Report

President: Arlene Tangjerd **Vice President: Kelly Karius**
Secretaries: Tom Seeley/Tracey Roebuck **Treasurer: Helen Swanston Hickie**
Branch Representative: Sandy Vaughan Hastie

A highlight for our Branch this year was the presentation of the SASW Distinguished Service Award to Marlene Chatterson at the SASW Annual Meeting. Several of our members attended the meeting and the Conference in Moose Jaw.

Our Branch was active during Social Work Week. Three of our members were profiled in the local newspapers and two of us were interviewed on social justice issues on the Health Region's "Alive and Well" television information program. We also held a luncheon meeting where a local youth worker from Corrections and Public Safety spoke to us on the implications of the Youth Criminal Justice Act.

Two of our members were present at the SASW Strategic Planning Session held on June 6 and June 7, 2003. We had focus group meetings locally to discuss our responses to the Strategic Planning process and also about the re-accreditation of the MSW Program at the Faculty of Social Work.

In the area of education and training, the Yellowhead East Branch financially sponsored a one-day conference on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder. We feel the Branch has a responsibility to see that educational opportunities are provided to assist members in meeting the 40 hour educational requirement. To this end, we carried out a survey inviting the input of all Branch members concerning the topics they would like to see covered in educational events. A good number of responses were received and these will be used as a guide to plan further educational events.

We have had active participation from several social work student members this year in Branch meetings, activities and committees. Their input has been much appreciated. In fact as I write this in early 2004, I am pleased to note that they facilitated bringing together the Branch and their social work class in planning a joint event for Social Work Week in March 2004.

We have a Branch member representing SASW on the CASW Board and one on SASW Council as President-Elect. We also are represented on the Professional Conduct Committee and the SASW newsletter committee and recently some members have volunteered to participate on the SASW Advocacy Task Team.

Respectfully submitted: Arlene Tangjerd, MSW, RSW (Sask.)

SASW Representation on Boards/Committees/Organizations

Board of Directors - Canadian Association of Social Workers

Canadian Registrars National Committee

CASW - 2004 National Social Work Conference

Child Welfare Project - CASW

Child Welfare Redesign Reference Committee

Integrated Primary Health Care Group

Masters Committee - Faculty of Social Work, University of Regina

Mental Health Coalition of Saskatchewan

Network of Interprofessional Regulatory Organizations (Niro)

Senate Representative - Faculty of Social Work, University of Regina

Student/Faculty Committee - Faculty of Social Work, University of
Regina

Undergraduate Student Committee, Faculty of Social Work - University
of Regina