

Saskatchewan Association
of
Social Workers

2005
Annual
Report



Advocate
Advocate
Promote
Promote
Regulate
Regulate
Support
Support

Social Workers - Make a Difference

SASW Council/Advisory Board Listing

SASW Council

President	Tom Seeley, Yorkton	President Elect	Debra Wiszniak, Regina
Treasurer	Frank Dornstauder, Regina	Secretary	Maureen Kraemer, Weyburn
Public Representative	Doug Stewart, Regina	Members at Large	Charlene Cameron, Prince Albert Tracy Muggli, Saskatoon Myrna Pitzel, Regina

SASW Council Appointments

CASW Board	Marlene Chatterson, Yorkton	Senate - University of Regina	Grace Jasper, Regina
SASW Registrar	J. Rawdon Bieber, Regina		

SASW Committee Chairpersons

Advocacy Task Team	Don Ebert, Regina	Discipline Resource Pool	Don Stevenson, Regina
Education Committee	Ray Pekrul, Regina	Practice Ethics Committee	Victoria Walton, Saskatoon
Legislative Review Committee	Geoff Pawson, Regina	Public Relations Committee	Joanne Toh, Saskatoon Roxane Schury, Saskatoon
Mentorship Committee	Myrna Pitzel, Regina	Scholarship Task Team	Sandy Vaughan Hastie, Yorkton
Professional Conduct	Mona Acker, Regina	Social Policy Committee	Patty Cramm, Prince Albert Nancy Carmichael, Saskatoon
Psychologists Act Task Team	Vacant	Volunteer Development Committee	Barb Church-Staudt, Regina
Standards of Practice Committee	Vacant		

SASW Branch Representatives

Battlefords	Jim Walls	Moose Jaw	Leann Keach
Prince Albert	Susan Luedtke	Northeast	Lucie Dmyterko
Regina	Dianne Allen	Saskatoon	Ruth Mireau
Rural Social Work Group	Deborah Bryson Sarauer	<i>Swift Current</i>	Peggy Cunningham
Yellowhead East	Sandy Vaughan Hastie		

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President's Report

The past year has been an exciting and productive one for the Saskatchewan Association of Social Workers. We have continued to see gradual growth in our membership numbers and under the watchful eye of Treasurer, Frank Dornstauder, the finances of our organization are clearly in good shape.

In 2003, SASW developed a strategic plan with the idea of developing more clarity of purpose and creating an opportunity for us to be more accountable. It is clear that the strategic plan has been successful in achieving these objectives. Through the strategic planning process, we described the four cornerstones of our organization - to regulate the profession, to promote the profession, to serve the profession and to advocate for the profession and for social justice. Our success has generated the need to renew the strategic plan. This will be an import focus for the SASW in the coming year.

We have been participating in national meetings of social work regulatory bodies. The purpose of these meetings has been to develop a "Memorandum of Agreement" so that there can be a greater degree of uniformity in the way that social work credentials are recognized across the country under the provisions of the Federal/Provincial Agreement on Internal Trade. After a decade of obstacles and periods of inactivity, it appears we are on the verge of an agreement.

Another difficult area has been that of our organization gaining control of the scope of social work practice through legislative change. Although much is yet to be done, our Legislative Review Committee has a solid action plan in place and importantly has developed an excellent forum for dialogue on this issue with officials from the Department of Community Resources and Employment.

SASW has made itself heard in advocacy during the past year. We have made representations to the Government of Canada and to the Government of Saskatchewan concerning issues of social justice, and we have also been in contact with Health Districts and with the Saskatchewan Association of School Boards concerning issues of supervision and registration of social workers.

Now that the administration of the SASW Scholarship Fund has been taken on by the South Saskatchewan Foundation, we have been able to focus on the promotion of this fund through the Scholarship Task Team. Some good progress has been made and more donations are now flowing into the fund.

One of the results of our close collaboration with the Faculty of Social Work at the University of Regina has been the development of the Field Practicum Supervisors Training Program. This program has been well attended and well received by both experienced and relatively new field practicum supervisors.

The Social Work Mentoring Program, which had its beginnings in the Saskatoon Branch, now appears to be rolling out in other parts of the province. This initiative is drawing an enthusiastic following, and sometimes from members and from areas who have not been active in the past. It is my belief that the Mentoring Program will be instrumental in our organization's efforts to keep it renewed and fresh in the coming years.

As I did last year, I again want to extend my appreciation to Advisory Board and Council who have been a very positive and committed group. Thanks also to Treasurer, Frank Dornstauder, and Registrar, Rawd Bieber, for their wisdom and competence in their respective positions. I wish to offer very special thanks to Richard Hazel and Debb Fisher who have done everything in their power to make my job easier.

My term as President comes to an end in April 2006. The past two years has been a tremendous learning experience for me. During this time, I have come to discover how many positive and committed social workers are making a difference across this province and indeed across Canada. Thanks to all for providing me with the opportunity to serve in this position.

Respectfully submitted: Tom Seeley, BA, BSW, RSW (Sask.)

Executive Director's Report

2005 was another year of good development and consolidation for SASW. Solid progress has been made on our action plan and, as Tom Seeley has reflected, SASW continues to make connections with colleagues across the country and with other professions and partners here at home. Much of this is reflected in the fine work of our volunteer committees - described elsewhere in this annual report.

The SASW vision and mission statements are two years old now and they have been very useful in shaping what SASW does and how we do it. These are useful when we need to express to others what SASW is about. It has also been helpful to have the clarity that Council is our governing body, and that the Advisory Board is our main communications and advice-giving body. I believe we have made great progress on the development of good communication throughout the association and have become more transparent in the ways in which decisions are reached.

The following is some information that is supplementary to the other reports of committees and task teams:

- *Newsletter Committee* - Although this group has yet to find a chair, excellent work has been done by the committee consisting of Brenda Stinson, Peter Griffiths, Judy White, and Lorelee Manning. Debb Fisher has also provided strong support to the capturing and organization of the information presented. Positive responses have been received for the "Family Tree" and "Day in the Life" sections as well as the now more frequent articles that have appeared.
- *Property* - In 2003, Council asked Frank Dornstauder, Mona Acker, Rawd Bieber and I to use a two year time-frame to act on its conclusion that we need to find accessible space for the SASW Office. This decision was based upon the conclusion that it would be too expensive to make the existing location accessible. Needed repairs have been completed so that the current property can be placed on the market and as the year ended, we were ready to search for new space.
- *Health Care Interest Group* - Late in the year, Margaret Woloshyn and Tracy Muggli invited members working in health care settings to express their interest in discussion of a set of health issues, including the developing emphasis upon primary health care. Part of the rationale for the invitation was that the social work profession has a lot to offer in primary health care development and needs to be primed and set to engage with other professions. As there were an encouraging number of responses, the group was scheduled to meet in January 2006.

The action plan for the association, mentioned above, was developed to include all of the recommendations developed within our strategic planning process during 2002 and 2003. There has been excellent progress in all areas and tracking of developments over 2005 was managed from the February 2005 version of the action plan. Early in 2006 there will be a final version developed which will reflect overall progress and identify what remains for consideration within our renewed strategic plan.

Over 2005, there has been no progress on the federal legislation that will lift the requirement of collecting GST for the health-related direct services of social workers. This legislation remains on the books and the understanding continues to be that it will proceed, however the timing remains unknown.

Following on the December 2004 School+ Shared Leadership Institute in Saskatoon, Margaret Pillay of the Saskatchewan Teachers Federation and I were asked to co-chair the "In Service Working Table" and develop an approach to service collaboration under the School+ banner. We were fortunate in having our members, Bernadette Holzer and Shirley LeClaire, as contributors to this work. The results from this "Table" and the work of the other two groups (Pre-Service and Community and Youth Leadership) will be presented as a part of the next Shared Leadership Institute in April of 2006.

While SASW continues its exploration of the potential for adding ownership of practice to *The Social Workers Act*, we continue to reach out to potential members. As we have discussed our draft "scope of practice" statement with key partners, we have also discussed the reasons an employer might want to require registration even in the absence of a legislative requirement to do so. As reflected in the Public Relations Committee Report, they worked with the Saskatoon Branch to do an excellent piece of outreach to eligible staff at the Departments of Community Resources and Employment, and Corrections and Public Safety. The Public Relations Committee has offered to assist other Branches in doing something similar. The Department of Community Resources and Employment have expressed an interest in exploring the issues in an employer-driven requirement of registration and it is looking like there could be a focus group convened to do this work.

I offer my thanks to SASW Council/Advisory Board, our committees and branches for their interest, support and dedication throughout the year. Thank you is extended to Tom Seeley for the helpful support and leadership throughout 2005. I have also very much appreciated the hard work and enjoyed the collaboration of Debb Fisher and Rawd Bieber at the SASW Office and Marlene Chatterson, SASW's link to CASW.

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

Treasurer's Report

NIGEL A. CROOK

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

*124-2001 Cornwall Street • Regina, Saskatchewan • S4P 3X9
Phone (306) 352-3920 Fax 352-3931*

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, 2005 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, 2005 and the results of its operations for the year then ended in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Nigel Crook

Nigel Crook FCA
March 13, 2006

SASKATCHEWAN ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

DECEMBER 31, 2005

	2005	2004
CURRENT ASSETS		
Bank accounts	\$ 45,715	\$ 28,618
Short term deposits	<u>328,053</u>	<u>311,236</u>
	373,768	339,854
Accounts receivable	2,618	3,143
Prepaid expenses	2,200	2,199
Prepaid 2006 conference expenses	<u>500</u>	-
	379,086	345,196
CAPITAL ASSETS - Note 3	<u>78,841</u>	<u>83,286</u>
	<u>\$ 457,927</u>	<u>\$ 428,482</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$ 2,977	\$ 2,732
Deferred revenue - Note 2	248,962	233,121
Current portion of mortgage payable	<u>5,340</u>	<u>10,746</u>
	257,279	246,599
MORTGAGE PAYABLE - Note 4	-	1,109
	<u>257,279</u>	<u>247,708</u>
NET ASSETS		
Net assets invested in capital assets - Note 6	73,501	71,431
Unrestricted net assets	<u>127,147</u>	<u>109,343</u>
	200,648	180,774
	<u>\$ 457,927</u>	<u>\$ 428,482</u>

SASKATCHEWAN ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS

**STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
AND UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005

	2005	2005 <i>Budget</i>	2004
REVENUE			
Membership Fees	\$ 269,560	\$ 272,600	\$ 259,125
Conference	16,911	8,000	-
National Conference revenue	-	-	140,886
Interest	3,339	3,500	3,642
Discipline penalties	-	-	2,000
Workshops	-	2,000	-
Provincial Golf Tournament	7,520	-	-
Newsletter	1,270	750	790
Mailing fees	240	1,000	1,140
Other fees and revenue	<u>21</u>	<u>110</u>	<u>117</u>
	<u>298,861</u>	<u>287,960</u>	<u>407,700</u>
EXPENDITURES			
Audit and accounting	1,436	1,700	1,447
Awards, honoraria	5,094	5,700	6,255
Bank charges	1,462	1,100	1,093
Branch payments	4,100	4,100	3,173
CASW fees	42,093	42,300	40,352
Committee: meetings and travel	22,728	29,850	22,614
training and planning	2,250	2,500	750
Conference and workshop	10,164	8,000	-
Courier	764	850	745
Copier	1,893	1,900	1,565
Depreciation	4,444	4,560	4,584
Insurance	3,339	3,200	2,058
Legal	6,286	20,000	16,007
Miscellaneous	788	100	318
Mortgage interest	658	-	1,124
National conference	-	-	129,046
Newsletter	8,808	8,000	7,687
Office supplies/equipment	3,693	4,000	3,200
Postage	8,936	9,300	9,139
Printing and stationery	10,394	7,800	7,756
Property taxes	4,300	-	4,431
Provincial golf tournament	7,520	-	-
Special events	350	2,000	544
Repairs and maintenance	10,312	7,000	13,111
Salaries and benefits	103,406	107,724	96,373
Staff training	302	-	561
Telephone	10,135	13,000	11,722
Utilities	3,332	3,100	3,295
Workshop	<u>-</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>278,987</u>	<u>289,784</u>	<u>388,950</u>
EXCESS REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	19,874	<u>(1,824)</u>	18,750

UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>180,774</u>	<u>162,024</u>
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 200,648</u>	<u>\$ 180,774</u>

SASKATCHEWAN ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FINANCIAL POSITION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005

	2005	2004
OPERATIONS		
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures	\$ 19,874	\$ 18,750
Items not requiring the use of cash:		
Depreciation not affecting cash	<u>4,444</u>	<u>4,584</u>
	24,318	23,334
Changes in non-cash working capital items		
Accounts receivable	525	(2,614)
Prepaid expenses	(1)	(17)
Prepaid conference expenses	(500)	10,276
Accounts payable	245	(1,826)
Deferred conference revenue	-	(11,600)
Conference loan payable	-	(10,000)
Deferred revenue	<u>15,841</u>	<u>18,770</u>
	<u>40,428</u>	<u>26,323</u>
INVESTING		
Acquisition of capital assets	<u>-</u>	<u>(399)</u>
FINANCING		
Repayment of long term debt	<u>(6,514)</u>	<u>(6,050)</u>
INCREASE IN CASH	33,914	19,874
UNRESTRICTED CASH, BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>339,854</u>	<u>319,980</u>
UNRESTRICTED CASH, END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 373,768</u>	<u>\$ 339,854</u>

**SASKATCHEWAN ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005**

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>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>
Land	--	\$ 20,000	\$ -	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000
Building	4%	75,956	24,405	51,551	53,699
Office equipment	20%	22,781	18,842	3,939	4,924
Computer equipment	20%	16,472	13,815	2,657	3,796
Furniture and fixtures	20%	5,916	5,222	694	866
		<u>\$ 141,125</u>	<u>\$ 62,284</u>	<u>\$ 78,841</u>	<u>\$ 83,285</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 \$943 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.

6. NET ASSETS INVESTED IN CAPITAL ASSETS

Net assets invested in capital assets consists of:

	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>
Capital Assets (net)	\$ 78,841	\$ 83,286
Mortgage payable - current	(5,340)	(1,109)
Mortgage payable - long term	<u>-</u>	<u>(10,746)</u>
	<u>\$ 73,501</u>	<u>\$ 71,431</u>

Registrar's Report

I am pleased to report on the Registrar's activities and responsibilities for the registration year of 2005. The responsibilities of the Registrar are to assess, approve and register applicants for registration and/or membership in the Saskatchewan Association of Social Workers (SASW), and to ensure that all members are approved for the appropriate categories of practice - whether it is full time or part time, non-practicing, student or associate.

Further, the Registrar approves the renewals of all members, monitors their continuing professional education and approves the reinstatement of lapsed members. The Registrar sits on Council and the Professional Conduct Committee serving as an ex-officio member and in a consultative role. The Registrar is also a member of the Standards of Practice and Legislative Review Committees.

At the national level, the Registrar is a member of the Canadian Registrars National Committee. This committee which is composed of the ten registrars of the social work regulatory bodies meets annually at some location in Canada. I am pleased that in 2006, Saskatchewan will be hosting the Canadian Registrars National meeting from September 28 to September 30, 2006. In 2005, this meeting was held in Montreal in the latter part of September.

The purpose of these meetings is to discuss issues, common to all the provinces, on the role of regulation, issues concerning investigations and disciplinary judgments, adherence to the Code of Ethics and standards required to be maintained by the profession. Out of these meetings have come recommendations that have been taken back to each provincial council about the requirements for registration, criminal record checks, acceptance of transcripts, and mandatory continuing professional education.

Membership

The Membership breakdown for the past five years is as follows:

<i>Membership Type</i>	<i>2005</i>	<i>2004</i>	<i>2003</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>2001</i>
Associate	2	3	4	3	3
Full Time	796	781	767	736	682
Non Practicing	140	108	109	105	87
Part Time	129	132	124	135	155
Student	96	80	75	70	48
<i>Total</i>	<i>1,163</i>	<i>1,104</i>	<i>1,079</i>	<i>1,049</i>	<i>975</i>

Continuing Professional Education

The reporting of continuing professional education (CPE) has been in place since 2001. For 2001 and 2002 it had been voluntary. Mandatory CPE was brought in for 2003. The national standard for CPE is 40 hours per year.

Each year, all CPE forms have been reviewed for the total of hours submitted and the activities members have been involved in. Every year members have been informed of the requirements for the reporting of CPE. This year, for the first time, members were given notification through the newsletter and when the renewal forms were mailed out that all submissions would be audited. The result of the audit was that they would be informed individually of any problems with the reporting of their CPE and recording of the information.

The purpose of this audit was to educate the membership about what information needs to be reported. This will make it easier to process renewals and CPE forms in future years. It also provides an opportunity to record and retrieve this material not only for the association but also for the membership.

At the time of renewal for December 1st of any given year, starting from the middle of November to the middle of December over 1000 renewals are processed. This responsibility falls on the shoulders of three people - the executive director, the executive assistant and the registrar. Without the assistance of the executive director and the executive assistant, the means of approving renewals, the entry of data and informing the membership of the approval of their renewal would not occur in a timely fashion.

Closing Comments

For their assistance and support throughout the year, I would like to thank Tom Seeley - President, Council/Advisory Board, Mona Acker - Past Chair of the Professional Conduct Committee, Susan Hetu and members of the Professional Conduct Committee, Dennis Arbuthnott and members of the Standards of Practice Committee, Geoff Pawson and members of the Legislative Review Committee, Richard Hazel - Executive Director, Debb Fisher - Executive Assistant and Darcia Shirr, Q.C. - legal counsel.

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

CASW Representative's Report

As the representative from SASW on the Board of the Canadian Association of Social Workers, I have had a very busy, interesting and challenging year. On the Saskatchewan scene, I had the honor of speaking to the North Battleford, Moose Jaw and Saskatoon Branches. An invitation is pending from the Yellowhead Branch. I was unable to attend the Swift Current Branch invitation but am hoping for an opportunity in the upcoming year to visit Swift Current, Prince Albert, Melfort/Tisdale and Regina Branches.

The CASW Code of Ethics was ratified at the June meeting of the CASW Board and the membership Presidents and Executive Directors. A training session was held in Ottawa and plans are underway throughout the country for further orientation to the new Code.

At the CASW November Board meeting, representatives from all divisions of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) came to our meeting and an agreement for working together has been developed. NASW is very open to sharing their promotional material. They have completed a national survey of social workers and found that their work force is older and many of their members are intending to retire in the near future. They are wondering where the next generation of social workers is coming from. The same is true for doctoral students as there has been a decline in social workers pursuing their doctorates. I think the same is true for Canada.

CASW is developing a closer working and collaborative relationship with the Canadian Association of Schools of Social Work. The joint area of interest is competencies. Other areas of potential agreement are in the discussion phase and include collaboration on resources, endorsement of each others documents and formation of a joint Committee on curriculum development.

CASW continues to be very active in national groups and supported the Enhancing Interdisciplinary Collaboration in Primary Health Care Principles and Framework, the Canadian Collaborative Mental Health Charter as well as participated on the Canadian Coalition for Seniors' Mental Health and the Quality End of Life Care Coalition of Canada. I have been acting as the CASW representative on the Seniors Coalition. As well, I have been fulfilling the role of liaison with the National Health Care Interest Group as we try to encourage social workers to organize provincially to promote the profession in the changing health environment. CASW is also in the process of developing a project called Preparing for Change: Social Work in Primary Health. The hope is that a change management strategy to promote dialogue and discussion among social workers about primary health care and the strengthening of mental health services in primary health care through interdisciplinary collaboration can occur nationally.

CASW continues to promote our values and principles at every opportunity. A paper on Income of Black Women in Canada has been released in which the statistics presented are startling.

CASW issued press releases when the federal budget was brought down, on World Aids Day, Human Rights Day, Make Poverty History's band day, World Mental Health Day and prepared a list of questions for those running for Parliament.

CASW is sharing social work success stories and would like social workers to contribute. Stories are on the CASW web site. I would encourage you to share your success stories.

It has been very rewarding to represent SASW at the national level and I thank you all for the support and encouragement I have received.

Respectfully submitted: Marlene Chatterson, M.S.W., R.S.W. (Sask.)

Advocacy Task Team

Committee Members

Klaus Gruber	Don Ebert, Chairperson	
Elliot Paus-Jensen	Ruth Mireau	David Macknak Ben Webster
Warren Postlewaite	Ron Pollock	Sandy Vaughan Hastie
	Richard Hazel (ex-officio)	

Committee Purpose

The purpose of the Advocacy Task Team is to address issues of social justice and human rights and to respond to misconceptions in the media that are of concern to social workers and the people they serve.

The Advocacy Task Team was asked to look at issues of social justice, human rights and where the profession is being maligned, misrepresented or misunderstood. The task team is to provide members of SASW with an avenue to bring forward concerns in any of these areas.

In the June 2004 Newsletter a description of the task team's role was published and the process for members to approach the team with a concern to request action. This same information will be republished in the February 2006 Newsletter in order to remind members of our role and their opportunity to express issues. The task team has struggled with the problem of addressing issues in a timely manner so that our responses will be of interest to the media, as often a response is required instantly or it is of no effect. We have had a better time preparing correspondence, or material for the print media.

While we have submitted several letters to the editor [under the President's signature] concerning poverty-related issues, the Advocacy Task Team's major focus has been the elderly and vulnerable adults. We held a teleconference with the Public Trustee and also met with Vicki Smart from Saskatchewan Registered Nurses Association (SRNA) concerning common interests regarding vulnerable adults. Elliot Paus-Jensen is on several committees and represents SASW at these meetings.

On November 22, 2005 the Advocacy Task Team held a joint meeting with the Social Policy Committee to sort out respective roles in the area of social justice. There was consensus that the Social Policy Committee will focus on longer term developmental issues while the Advocacy Task Team will address immediate social policy issues. We are fortunate to have David Macknak as a member of both of these committees which facilitates communication. Ongoing communication between the two groups will be assured by the chairs, David Macknak and Richard Hazel.

As we move into the New Year with a new look to the Canadian Parliament, the Advocacy Task Team may become more active in the new environment.

Respectfully submitted: Don Ebert, MSW, RSW (Sask.)

Discipline Resource Pool

Committee Members

Don Stevenson, Chairperson

Tania Miller	Kerry Lapointe	Harriet Greenhow	Terri Woods
Pamela Ait-Allaouna	Katherine Potts	Glenda Risling	Audrey Zwack
Murray Wotherspoon	Dan Fofonoff	Doug Stewart, public representative	

Committee Purpose

The Social Workers Act requires the establishment of a Discipline Committee to hear complaints referred to it by the Professional Conduct Committee. In order to ensure that there are sufficient members to establish a Discipline Committee as the need arises, SASW Council has established a Discipline Resource Pool. Discipline Committees are created from the Discipline Resource Pool to hear and adjudicate complaints against a member brought by the Professional Conduct Committee.

While no formal referrals to the Discipline Resource Pool were received from the Professional Conduct Committee in 2005, the resource pool did collaborate with SASW Council on a written response to some members concerned about how a previous decision was communicated to the membership.

Glenda Risling, Tania Miller and myself completed Modules 1, 2, and 3 of the 'Introduction to Professional Investigation and Discipline Processes' on behalf of SASW which was held at the University of Regina. I was also approved to complete the 4th Module - "The Professional Conduct Investigation Workshop". It is recommended that Terri Woods, Kathy Potts and Harriet Greenhow be given the opportunity to attend Modules 1, 2 and 3 and that Kerry LaPointe be approved to attend Level 4.

Respectfully submitted: Don Stevenson, MSW, RSW (Sask.)

Education Committee

Committee Members

Ray Pekrul, Chairperson

Grant Rathwell

Liz Newton

Lorraine Vandall

Joyce Reid

Bernie Zaharik

Grace Jasper

Susan Ludtke

Sharon McKay

Richard Hazel (ex-officio)

Committee Purpose

The purpose of the Education Committee is to address the educational needs and requirements for quality professional practice. The Education Committee shall promote continuing education for members, and provide support and input to the Faculty of Social Work - University of Regina regarding the design a delivery of the Social Work Degree programs.

Grace Jasper accepted the position as SASW's Senate Representative replacing Bernie Zaharik who served two two-year terms. A thank you is extended to Bernie for his dedication and hard work. Susan Luedtke has been SASW's representative to the MSW Committee and I have served as representative to Undergraduate Studies Committee for the Faculty of Social Work at the University of Regina.

The primary task of the Education Committee has been to put in place the development of a continuing education program with the Extension Division - University of Regina. To date, Adrianna Hackle, Extension Division at the University of Regina, has been attempting to contact identified persons, secure dates, venues and contracts. The January 2006 workshop which was to be held in Saskatoon on "Mediation and Mindfulness in Practice" was cancelled due to insufficient numbers. We believe the time of year and competition for other occurring workshops/conferences along with the cost defeated our registration. Planning for late spring and early fall is currently underway.

The Education Committee had identified the need for revamping the Admissions process at the Faculty of Social Work - University of Regina. The University has identified a subcommittee chaired by Rob Twigg who has worked on a proposal, details are now being altered and clarified after two rounds of feedback from Faculty. I am a member of the subcommittee.

Currently sessions to meet prospective candidates for Dean - Faculty of Social Work are being held at the University of Regina. Richard Hazel, Susan Luedtke and myself are attending and representing SASW at these sessions. Hopefully, other SASW members from Saskatoon and Prince Albert will also have had the same opportunity to attend these sessions.

The Education Committee continues to strive to have representation from all areas of practice and geographic areas of the province. Please feel free to volunteer your name for a position on the committee.

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

Legislative Review Committee

Committee Members

Geoff Pawson, Chairperson

Carole Bryant
Ruby LaFayette
Ralph Aman

Klaus Gruber
Michael MacLean
Richard Hazel (ex-officio)

Rawd Bieber
Frank Dornstauder

Ray Pekrul
Tracy Muggli

Committee Purpose

The purpose of the Legislative Review Committee is to address the association's goal of achieving ownership of the practice of social work and, therefore, mandatory registration.

The committee will also determine the need for other amendments to The Social Worker's Act to ensure it is appropriately updated and consistent with the needs of the association. This work will be done in collaboration and close communication with SASW Council.

The SASW Legislative Review Committee met six times and continued its ambitious round of discussions with a set of key stakeholders in 2005.

The Committee met with Dirk Silversides, legal consul, early in the year to discuss our approach to the provincial government on the inclusion of "scope of practice" in the current social work legislation. He noted that government is extremely reluctant to include scope of practice into professional legislation; a compelling case needs to be made highlighting the protection of the public and well as increased accountability and demonstrated outcomes. Mr. Silversides also provided the Committee with a legal opinion on the application of this proposed legislation on First Nations. Mr. Silversides concluded that *The Social Workers Act* as it currently exists would apply on reserve as a "law of general application", i.e. a law in force in Saskatchewan that is applicable to First Nations, because it is not inconsistent with *The Indian Act* or any order, regulation or bylaw made under the *Act*.

Committee members met with Beverly Crossman of the SGEU in June. Ms. Crossman expressed some concerns with the proposed legislation as she felt it would limit the mobility of some of her union members and could have repercussions on existing disciplinary processes. A subsequent meeting with Ms. Crossman and Barry Nowoselsky is being arranged. Committee members also met with Don Zerr, Director of Labour, Public Service Commission. Mr. Zerr raised a number points related to dual disciplinary procedures, seniority hiring and conflicting allegiances that the Committee will need to address. Richard Hazel, Executive Director met with a number of professional associations to brief them on proposed changes and obtain feedback on the proposed scope of practice statement.

The full committee had very productive meetings with Marilyn Hedlund, Executive Director, Child and Family Services Division and Karen Bright, Executive Director of Human Resources, Department of Community Resources and Employment (DCRE) and Brian Rector, Director, Program Development and Therapeutic Services, Corrections and Public Safety. Ms. Hedlund and Ms. Bright agreed to critique the current Scope of Practice statement and report if there are any issues from the Department's perspective. They advised that it would be important to start positioning the discussion in terms of the protection of the public, quality management, ethical practice and greater accountability.

Brian Rector indicated that the scope of practice statement was very board and that it would be very important to provide the context for changes; also, to explain that SASW was not attempting to define requirements for positions in the workplace. Mr. Rector felt that overall the changes would be positive.

The priorities for the upcoming year include a redraft of the scope of practice statement to provide greater clarity and to add references to lateral collaboration. This process will be a broad and inclusive exercise. A second priority is to start meeting with different representatives of the First Nations community to obtain their input into the proposed legislative changes. We will also continue to meet with government and union officials. At the end of this set of consultations the Committee will present an analysis to Council on the risks and opportunities involved in proceeding with this work.

Respectfully submitted: Dr. Geoff Pawson, C.M., S.O.M., LLD (Hons.)

Mentorship Committee

Committee Members:

Darlene Chalmers
Leigh Tomlin (ex-officio)
Russell Parr (Student)
Dianne Allen

Chair: Myrna Pitzel
Susan Luedtke
Shelina Bhatia-Meralis
Julia Bohm (Student)
Laura Hayes (student)

Sophie Grahame
Audrey Zwack
Carol McInnis

Committee Purpose:

To promote professional practice with students entering the field of social work by matching registered social workers in Saskatchewan communities with students attending the Faculty of Social Work, University of Regina.

The newly formed provincial Mentoring Committee has brought together the Saskatoon SASW Branch, Prince Albert SASW Branch, the Faculty of Social Work, Regina Campus and the Regina SASW Branch. This amalgamation was initiated after SASW Council obtained legal advice on liability risks to involved members arranging mentoring matches. The two recommendations were: 1) Establish an SASW mentorship program committee and, 2) Include in the registration form a disclaimer to be signed by the student applying for service.

The criteria to become a mentor are current registration with SASW and an interest in helping students increase their understanding and knowledge of professional social work practice.

The three locales, Regina, Saskatoon and Prince Albert currently administer their own programs but all use the same registration material. Yellowhead SASW Branch is exploring the possibility of developing a mentoring program with the Yorkton Social Work Student Society. The provincial committee has not yet met.

Events have been held in Saskatoon, Regina and Prince Albert to promote the mentoring program. We are endeavouring to make this a provincial program where professionals in Saskatchewan can be matched with students early in their career.

Respectfully submitted: E. Myrna Pitzel, MSW, RSW (Sask.)

Practice Ethics Committee

Committee Members

Chairperson: Victoria Walton

Paul Benson
Joanne Schenn

Norlane Jensen
Michelle Simms

David Macknak
Della Yaroshko

John Nicholson
Evelyn Weeks

Belma Podrug (student)

Committee Purpose

The purpose of the Practice Ethics Committee is to provide timely consultation to members of SASW on ethical issues.

The Practice Ethics Committee met 10 times in 2005 and had e-mail contact between meetings in order to facilitate prompt responses to consultations. We continue to receive consults via the office by e-mail or telephone, and to consult and co-ordinate a response using e-mail. This process appears to both ensure confidentiality, and provide a thorough review of the situation. Social workers working in community based agencies, mental health, private practice, health, schools and family services contacted us in 2005. We were also approached by students and non-registered workers. Out of the 21 consultations we received this year, the majority of concerns were related to issues of **confidentiality, boundaries and dual relationships**. Dilemmas regarding confidentiality were weighed against issues such as consent, risk of safety of children and adults, accountability, policies and procedures within and between agencies, as well as with past employers. Dilemmas regarding boundaries and dual relationships arose where there was the potential of personal gain, conflict of interest, and dual roles. This year, social workers also reported struggling with **advocacy** in relation to agency policies. Questions of **liability** were not uncommon in these scenarios. The social workers we spoke with had a strong desire to take an ethical position in challenging circumstances where they did not always feel supported in their work place, or where they worked in isolation from other social workers. This committee can provide a valuable service to such workers.

In 2005, the Practice Ethics Committee presented the work of the committee to three Ethics classes in Saskatoon and Regina, to a group of practicum students in Saskatoon, and to the Field Instructors Training in Regina. We were also asked to sit as a SASW representative on a Student Review Panel in Saskatoon. Many thanks to Joanne Schenn, Paul Benson, Belma Podrug, and Marcia Clark for their assistance with these events. Sandra Fortman also assisted us by presenting to the Moose Jaw Branch on behalf of our committee. Marcia Clark represented our committee at the National Train the Trainer for the CASW Code of Ethics (2005) event held in Ottawa in October. We are aware of the high level of interest in ethics at the moment due to the new Code of Ethics. We hope to be able to work with other aspects of the association in the coming year to provide education about the recent changes to the membership.

I would also like to thank the committee for the opportunity to chair over the last three years. It has been a delight to get to know such a group of witty and wise colleagues, and it has been a privilege to explore the world of ethics with other social workers across the province. Sincere thanks to each member of the committee for their time and willingness to grapple with complex issues in order to support the members of our association when facing ethical dilemmas.

Respectfully submitted: Victoria Walton MSW, RSW

Professional Conduct Committee

Committee Members

Mona Acker, Chairperson

Gayle Fulton
Susan Hetu
Laura Carment

Joan Hergott
Jennifer Cohen
Rawd Bieber (ex-officio)

Marlene Chatterson
Joan Morris

Penny Murphy-Loucks
Robert Twigg

Committee Purpose

The Professional Conduct Committee was 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." The duties of the committee are to consider a complaint against a member when requested by council and to receive written complaints against members alleging they are guilty professional misconduct or professional incompetence. The committee reviews and investigates the complaint and a report is sent to the Discipline Committee recommending that the complaint be heard and determined or no further action be taken. In essence, the Professional Conduct Committee along with the Discipline Committee are the arm of the Association charged with the protection of the public.

Complaint Activities in 2005:

Case opened in 2005	5
Cases closed in 2005	3
Cases referred to Discipline for hearing	0
Cases reported "no further action"*	3
Cases remaining open on December 31, 2005	2
Total number of cases handled during 2005	5

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

The nature of complaints investigated varied widely including:

- inadequate custody and access reports
- boundary and confidentiality issues
- professional misconduct

Other Activities

The chairperson of the Professional Conduct Committee attended meetings of the SASW Advisory Board. Darcia Schirr, legal counsel, for the Professional Conduct Committee conducted an in-depth orientation session for committee members in June 2005.

Thanks is extended to members of the Professional Conduct Committee for the countless volunteer hours spent on investigations (interviewing complainants, members and others involved, traveling to do so, reviewing documentation material, writing letters and reports and other miscellaneous work), as well as on other Committee work listed above and attending monthly committee meetings. I would also like to thank Darcia Schirr, counsel for the Committee, for her valuable guidance and assistance

Respectfully submitted: Susan Hetu, MSW, RSW (Sask.) for Mona Acker, MSW, RSW (Sask.)

Psychologists Act Task Team

Committee Members

Chairperson: Vacant

Maureen Kraemer

Klaus Gruber

Lorne Sier

Dan Fofonoff

Myrna Rhinas

Kathy Willerth

Richard Hazel (ex-officio)

Committee Purpose

This task team was formed to respond to limits placed on the practice of social workers by Section 23 of The Psychologists Act. This provision permits "authorized practice" by a limited range of psychologists and duly qualified medical practitioners.

Social Workers in private practice and embers employed by Mental Health Services have been left in the position of being unable to diagnose or communicate a written diagnosis. Analysis and development of solutions is required.

Last spring Deb Buettner resigned as chair after leading the work of this task team since it began. From that point, there were no meetings until December 2005 when the task team gathered to determine the need for further work and how to approach it.

As the year ended, three areas of further work were identified:

1. As legislation has recently provided the capacity to diagnose within the Act covering nurse practitioners, and there are social workers in two health regions who continue to diagnose, there is interest within the Health system to talk about opening *The Social Workers Act* to include provisions similar to those recently developed for nurse practitioners. These discussions will be pursued as soon as a meeting time can be arranged.
2. Should the work outlined in item #1 bear fruit, the next task would be to define our own process for ensuring we are consistent with the new Code of Ethics where it specifies that social workers are not to perform duties for which they are not trained and knowledgeable.
3. Seeking legal advice from counsel on the level of risk yet remaining for social workers using the provisions of the DSM4. Though the M.O.U. is in effect at this point, it does not mean that social workers who include the use of the DSM4 in their practice are immune to investigation or prosecution. The M.O.U. does not protect against a prosecution that is not initiated by the SCP, but rather a client/patient or someone else acting on their behalf.

In light of the above, there is still important and serious work to be done on issues surrounding diagnosis being included within the scope of practice of social workers. As this work progresses into 2006, Advisory Board will be updated on a regular basis.

Respectfully submitted:

Richard Hazel, MSW, RSW (Sask.)

Public Relations Committee

Committee Members

	Joanne Toh/Roxane Schury, Chairperson		
Darlene Chalmers	Don Ebert	Rick Kuckartz	Shirley LeClaire
Jeanne Beaudoin	Allan Corbeil	Norine Shewchuk	Lynn Peterson
Kathy Willerth	Erica Matthews	Richard Hazel, ex-officio	

Committee Purpose

The purpose of the Public Relations Committee is to enhance public awareness and knowledge of the social work profession within the Province of Saskatchewan.

The Public Relations Committee is in the process of researching, advocating and promoting insurance coverage for private practice social workers through employee assistance programs and insurance programs. Given the magnitude of this work, the next step is to look at what CASW is doing on a national level. Committee members from Saskatoon will be partnering with social workers from Regina who have expressed an interest, to target insurance agencies that do not pay for service in our locality.

An effort has been made by the Public Relations Committee to generate new membership within government departments by holding informational sessions about SASW with the enticement of coffee and donuts. Coffee breaks were set up at both the Sturdy Stone and the Family Support Centre with the SASW display board, information and application forms. The informal welcoming atmosphere of meeting over coffee received favorable response; so much so, that the committee ran out of application forms. A similar gathering was held at Yarrow Youth Farm on a smaller scale and plans are underway to meet with staff at Kilburn Hall in February.

All new members of SASW have been receiving an orientation package from the SASW Office upon approval of their registration. The Public Relations Committee worked at further developing a welcome letter to new members which branches have been encouraged to implement. It is this committee's hope, that branch representatives will be contacting the SASW office regularly for a list of new members in their area in order to be able to send the welcome letter. A sample welcome letter was written by a member from the Public Relations Committee which branches can customize for use in welcoming their new members.

For 2006, members of the Public Relations Committee committed to promoting the 2006 Social Work Conference which is being held in Saskatoon to the teacher population and work with the conference planning committee. As well, the Public Relations Committee supplied branches with ideas of things to do for Social Work Week. These ideas/suggestions have been posted on the SASW website. The ideas were gathered from suggestions from SASW branches and from the CASW website.

Submitted by: Roxane Schury, BSW, RSW (Sask.)

Standards of Practice Committee

Committee Members

Chairperson - Vacant

Carol Hansen

Curtis Robertson

Rawd Bieber (ex-officio)

Richard Hazel (ex-officio)

Committee Purpose

The purpose of the Standards of Practice Committee is to develop and maintain standards for social work practice which will ensure the quality of professional social work for the consumers of social work services.

No report as committee has been inactive during 2005. The Volunteer Development Committee will be looking to recruit members for this committee in 2006.

Social Policy Committee

Committee Members

Co-chairpersons: Patti Cram & Nancy Carmichael

Kirk Englot
Mildred Kerr

Cec Gooliaff
David Macknak

Brian Howell
Richard Hazel (ex-officio)

Committee Purpose

Recognizing that social policy is in place to provide guidance for social work practice, the purpose of the Social Policy Committee is to work toward ensuring social work values and ethics are well reflected in emerging & existing social policy.

The Social Policy Committee evolved into a very vibrant and busy group over the past year. The committee has continued to focus on the issues of child welfare and income security as part of what Richard Hazel has referred to as "our professional call to address matters of social justice."

The overarching issue that so profoundly affects the above-mentioned issues is, of course, poverty and oppression. Many of us are driven to work on the Social Policy Committee because of the extreme injustice we see individuals and families having to live and deal with on a daily basis in their lives, and because we continue to view these circumstances through a critical, structural social work lens.

Since the last Annual General Meeting, the Social Policy Committee has met five times: April, May, and November of 2005, and January and February of 2006. The purpose of these meetings has been to clarify our direction and plans, and to plan for meetings we have had with other groups. We have met once with members of the Advocacy Task Team to clarify roles each committee has within the Association. We have met twice with managers at the Income Security Division of the Department of Community Resources and Employment (DCRE). As well, members of the committee have met five times with a group of representatives from other agencies regarding child welfare issues. We have also produced a special "social policy" section in the November 2005 newsletter in attempts to raise awareness about some social policy issues, and to report to the larger membership on the interests and activities of the committee.

In terms of addressing child welfare issues, the Social Policy Committee has initiated meetings with a group of people including The Children's Advocate, representatives from DCRE, First Nations University, University of Regina, Yorkton Tribal Council, and the Prince Albert Grand Council, to look at a provincial response to the recommendations made by the 2003 CASW Child Welfare Project Report "Creating Conditions for Good Practice." A focus of the meetings has been to decide what this group will work on specifically and on who should be involved with the group. At our last meeting, a decision was made to invite a representative from Ranch Erhlo Society to join us. Members of the social policy committee are working on a draft 'terms of reference' which will be presented to the larger group, currently called "The Children's Issues Coalition", at our next meeting (scheduled for March, 2006). What the group has agreed upon to date is that we will work towards developing a project that will offer child welfare services that reflect the 'good practice' findings from the CASW report.

In terms of addressing income security issues, we, along with representatives of the Saskatchewan Registered Nurses Association, have met twice with managers from the Income Security Division of DCRE. We have heard from them about their plans and directions with the 'Building Independence' program. We have voiced our concerns about the continuous, ongoing issue of adequacy as it relates to the Saskatchewan Assistance Plan (SAP) program as well as to the Transitional Employment Program (TEA). We, along with many other individuals and groups in the province, have raised concerns, in particular with regards to the further erosion of people's rights and dignity through the administration and adequacy issues around the TEA program. In a meeting held on January 19, 2006, we were told that adjustments to TEA, including criteria for referral and administration (call centre issues) are currently being looked into by government. We have agreed to continue to meet as a group to share information and provide feedback for these policy initiatives.

In terms of looking at the broader issue of poverty, the Social Policy Committee has been active with a number of other groups, including the Regina Anti-Poverty Coalition, and the Saskatoon Community Clinic's Social Justice Committee. We have sent representatives to two gatherings over the past year. One was the "Dialogue on Poverty", which was hosted by the Faculty of Social Work and the Canadian Council on Social Development, and the other was an event organized by the Saskatchewan Federation of Labor in Davidson, which is looking in the direction of developing a provincial "social justice network." Also, Richard Hazel attended a meeting with the "Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives" (alternative budget initiative) in December 2005 to present information to this group about the work of the social policy and advocacy groups within our organization.

In planning for the future, the Social Policy Committee has decided that what we will attempt to do on an ongoing basis is: Publish a "social policy" section each year in *The Saskatchewan Social Worker* newsletter; gather and analyze social policy papers according to the "social policy principles" set out by CASW that can then be used to meet with the Minister of DCRE (and, if possible, other ministers as well, including Learning, Justice and Health). We are going to attempt to arrange this for once a year and will continue meetings with the income security group and the child welfare group.

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

Scholarship Task Team

Committee Members:

Chairperson: Sandy Vaughan Hastie

Marlene Glettler

Liz Newton

Richard Hazel, ex-officio

Committee Purpose

The purpose of the Scholarship Task Team was to develop a name for the Scholarship Fund, determine the requirements to meet the CCRA obligations, examine the feasibility of a link to the South Saskatchewan Community Foundation and to develop a plan to encourage SASW members to make ongoing contributions to the scholarship fund.

During the year, the Scholarship Task Team met on two occasions via telephone. We learned that to be able to increase the size of the SASW Student Award, the Fund balance had to increase substantially as well. This is because Canada Customs and Revenue Agency stipulates we must award a certain percentage of the total fund balance, which was 3.5% last year.

Thus, the task team focused on the objective of promoting the SASW Scholarship Fund to encourage its growth. The Fund has been promoted in the following ways:

- an article and advertisements in the *Saskatchewan Social Worker* newsletter
- a leaflet made available at the Annual General Meeting and conference, and at the SASW office and other functions
- described in the "Climb on Board... and be a Student Member of SASW" leaflet and ad
- described in the Awards, Bursaries, and Scholarships section on the SASW website.

The Task Team welcomes any further ideas for promoting the Fund.

The Fund has received a number of donations and has begun to grow. Half of the proceeds from the SASW Golf Classic, over \$400, were donated to the Fund. When it was transferred from the Edna Osborne Fund to the South Saskatchewan Community Foundation and established as the SASW Scholarship Fund, the balance was \$5,623.04. As of the end of December, 2005, the balance was \$7,412. The contributions will allow for an increase in the amount of the award. Our hope is to raise the fund balance to \$15,000, which will increase the allowable amount of the award to approximately \$500.00 based on current CCRA regulations.

The recipient of the 2005 SASW Scholarship Award, a plaque and a cheque for \$200 was presented to Jami McBain. She was presented the award at the Annual General Meeting in Nipawin.

Our Team consists of Sandy Vaughan Hastie, Marlene Glettler, Liz Newton, and Richard Hazel (ex officio). Recently Liz has resigned from the Team and we are in the process of recruiting a new member.

The Scholarship continues to be a meaningful way to contribute to the profession. The work of our team has been gratifying in that we have watched the Fund grow and had the enjoyable task of selecting a recipient. We look forward to continuing with the work that has begun.

Submitted by: Sandy Vaughan Hastie, MSW, RSW (Sask.)

Volunteer Development Committee

Committee Members

Barb Church-Staudt, Chairperson
Lucie Dmyterko Rick Kuckartz Krista Olson

Committee Purpose

The purpose of the Volunteer Development Committee is to:

- 1. Review the offers of service by members on their annual renewal forms;*
 - 2. Respond to those who have made an offer for service;*
 - 3. Develop a meaningful program of volunteer recognition;*
 - 4. Provide support and advice to local branches regarding volunteer recruitment, retention and recognition;*
 - 5. Present names to Council of those members who wish to stand for election.*
-

Since its creation, the Volunteer Development Committee has reviewed the volunteer recruitment process within SASW, reviewed the 2004/2005 renewal records for those who volunteered for committee work; introduced ourselves to the SASW membership, in particular, the existing committee chairs and other executive members; reviewed the process for the identification of vacancies on the Council and SASW committees; and provided a slate of potential candidates prior to the Annual General Meeting on April 27, 2005.

It is the Volunteer Development Committee's continued commitment to develop:

1. An effective way to respond to SASW volunteers with information regarding their expressed area of interest, and link them when vacancies are identified
2. Develop a meaningful program for volunteer recognition.

The members of the committee appreciate the patience demonstrated by the SASW Office, Council, Advisory Board and committee chairs, as we tackle the challenging tasks of developing this committee. We look forward to serving our professional organization in 2006.

Submitted by: Barb Church-Staudt, MSW, RSW (Sask.)

Battlefords Branch

Branch Executive Members

President: Alan Corbeil

Vice President: Rick Felix

Secretary: Sharon Moravec

Treasurer: Dianne Lauritzen

Branch Representative: Jim Walls

Member at Large: Faith Nash

The Battlefords Branch has held regular meetings throughout the year. We have also begun a regular email circulation of CASW, SASW, local issues and articles for comments and information.

Our first major focus has been the Community Events Committee. The committee was formed to increase our visibility as a profession in the community through support for events that reflected the goals and activities of social workers. We hosted a very well attended luncheon for Social Work Week, with Marlene Chatterson, CASW representative as guest speaker. As a group, members have also attended fundraisers for community groups, to ensure that the groups and the public know of our support and commitment to the work being done.

The second initiative is the Branch's decision to host and plan the 2007 SASW Annual Meeting and Provincial Conference. We have begun meeting with our partners in the community to develop themes that encompasses some of the unique practice issues in our geographical area, and which will resonate for workers across the province.

We look forward to seeing you in April 2007!

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

Moose Jaw Branch

Branch Executive Members

President: Gwen Knoll

Secretary: Judy Vermette

Branch Representative: Leann Keach

Due to the lack of interest by registered members in Moose Jaw, the branch held only two events in 2005. Our annual potluck supper for Social Work students and their supervisors was again held during Social Work Week and was well attended by both students and their supervisors. We also held our annual "Meet & Greet" in November. The ticket sales were poor due to the ongoing lack of interest of the members and the event was attended only by members of the branch executive.

Due to the lack of interest by registered members, the Moose Jaw Branch executive have made the decision to put the branch into a hiatus position for 2006, with the exception of the Social Work student supper, which will be held again during Social Work Week.

The Executive is sorry that we are not able to continue as an active branch, but we will continue as individuals to encourage people who attain a degree in Social Work to register with their professional association even if their place of employment does not require this as a condition of employment.

Leann Keach will continue to attend the provincial Advisory Board meetings and will keep the Executive informed of ongoing issues.

We the Executive hope that somewhere in the future, Moose Jaw Branch will again be an active branch with members who will be supportive of their professional association.

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

Northeast Branch Report

Branch Executive Members:

President : Lindsey Bruce

Vice President - Heather Reese

Secretary/Branch Representative: Lucie Dmyterko

Treasurer: Marylou Hamilton

Education/PR Committee Chairs - Leslie Christianson & Mabel Litowski

Membership Committee - vacant

The main accomplishment for the past year was co-hosting with the Prince Albert Branch the SASW Annual General Meeting and Provincial Conference - "Social Work: No Easy Answers - Creative Wellness" which was held in the Evergreen Centre, Nipawin, Saskatchewan from April 27 - April 29, 2005

This event was a resounding success, according to the feedback received. Social workers gathered to network, gain knowledge and motivation from the keynote speakers as well as from colleagues. Attendance for day one of the conference was 109 and 104 for day two! Evaluations reflected that over 80% of participants found the conference met their expectations, with fun, good care taking and Nipawin as an added bonus. Prince Albert was responsible for finding the keynote speakers and Northeast Branch was charged with the three "Fs" - facility, food, and fun! The keynote speakers - Beverley Antle, Toronto, and Jeanette Ambrose, Saskatoon, each provided material that was beneficial to everyday practice and can be utilized in the work-place.

The banquet held on the evening of April 29th was well attended. Pre-banquet mingling was enhanced with musical selections by the Nipawin Windy Strings. The Honorable Joanne Crawford, Minister of Community Resources and Employment, and her granddaughter, Serena, made a special effort to be with conference participants and that was certainly appreciated. Also appreciated were her characteristically warm, thoughtful and humorous words of greeting and her strong acknowledgement of the social work profession and what social workers have accomplished.

Following the banquet, conference participants were invited to attend the President's Social where wine and cheese were served. This event was funded by a social worker from the Northeast Branch, Leslie Christianson.

Because of the support from the Town of Nipawin, Nipawin businesses and other contributors, 43 door prizes were given away throughout the conference. All contributors were recognized in the June 2005 newsletter.

It was an honor and a pleasure to welcome everyone who came to Nipawin. Comments such as "beautiful setting, great get away/retreat, nice to be out of the city, warm hospitality" reaffirms that successful conferences can be held in the rural setting.

Thank you to my colleagues for making the 2005 conference in Nipawin such a successful and enjoyable event.

Respectfully submitted: Lucie Dmyterko, BSW, RSW (Sask.)

Prince Albert Branch

Branch Executive Members
Chairperson: Susan Luedtke
Vice Chairperson: Audrey Zwack
Treasurer: Ben Webster
Secretary: Wanda Yurach

The Prince Albert Branch had their annual branch general meeting in June, 2005 and hosted a golf and supper social event for members . In the fall the Branch resumed their monthly noon hour meetings at a new location in response to a survey of members that indicated that a more central location would be preferred. Meetings occur at the Salvation Army Board room with an average attendance of 8-10 members. Efforts have been made to increase communication with members by sending out e-mails to the Prince Albert and area members regarding events and issues related to the work of the Branch and the Association. The survey of members that was conducted in the spring of 2005 also indicated an interest in attending a couple of evening events during the year.

The first evening event planned by the Branch occurred on January 17th , The event was co-hosted by the Prince Albert Branch and the Westview Elementary Community School parent's council. The speaker for this event was Caroline Tait, Ph.D., who gave an interesting talk on her own research and other research on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder. Her presentation challenges some of the current information being publicized on this issue and challenged us to look at how oppression of women and aboriginal people in Canada impacts on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder and how it is currently being addressed. The event was attended by about 20 SASW members and 8 parents. Those who attended found the presentation interesting and enjoyed some delicious chili and a bun generously provided by the Westview school parent council.

On January 18th the Prince Albert Branch and the Faculty of Social Work in Prince Albert co-hosted a luncheon at the Prince Albert CEC to kick off the Mentorship program in Prince Albert. This event was well attended by 12 potential mentors and about 20 students. The Branch would like to express their appreciation to Darlene Chalmers from the Saskatoon Branch for speaking at this event and to Tammy Steib at the faculty of Social Work for helping to organize this event. The mentorship committee in Prince Albert began facilitating matches in February. Another initiative which began in 2005 was the establishment of a student liaison role. The Social Work Student Society in Prince Albert elects a student member to act as a liaison with the Branch. In 2005, Leigh Tomlin performed this role and currently Melissa Sommervill is acting in this capacity. Hopefully this role will facilitate more communication between students and registered social workers and encourage more students and new professionals to become involved in SASW.

In closing, I would like to thank the Prince Albert Branch executive for their commitment to furthering the work of the association and the mission of Social Work. As well on behalf of the branch, I would like to express our appreciation to Richard Hazel and Debb Fisher for their hard work and assistance to the Branch . As well, thank you to Tom Seeley for his leadership and commitment to the goals of the SASW.

Respectfully submitted: Susan Luedtke, MSW, RSW (Sask.)

Regina Branch

Branch Executive Members
Chairperson: Alice Parker
Secretary: Adrienne Douglas
Branch Representative: Dianne Allen
Members at Large: Maureen Sonntag & Linda Norton

The Regina Branch was involved in sponsoring/hosting three events in 2005. The annual Social Work Week Luncheon was held at the Travelodge. Guest speaker for this luncheon was Joanne Havlock from the Prairie Women's Health Centre of Excellence. This event was very well attended by members of the Regina Branch.

In June, an election for members to sit on the Branch Executive was held at Buckwacker's Brew Pub in an attempt to draw people with the social function. This was very poorly attended.

In October, a Mentorship Luncheon hosted at Child & Youth Services and catered by Street Culture had 46 individuals in attendance. This luncheon was a huge success.

Respectfully submitted: Dianne Allen, BSW, (RSW)

Rural Social Work Group

Group Executive Members
President: Deborah Bryson Sarauer
Secretary/Treasurer: Jane Grieve
Members at Large: Gayle Hood, Hazel Berg

In 2005, there was little activity with the Rural Social Work Group. The group did not apply for funding from the provincial office due to the group being active. As well, the group did not elect a new chairperson or a new executive.

The Rural Social Work Group will hold a restructuring meeting in the spring of 2006 in an effort to reignite interest and activity in the group. If you are interested in helping reestablish the *Rural Social Work Interest Group*, please feel free to contact me at (306) 682-1211 (work phone) or dsarauer@cphd.ca (work email).

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

Saskatoon Branch

Branch Executive Members:

Chairperson: Ruth Mireau

Past Chairperson: Tracy Muggli

Secretary: Terri Mooney Treasurer: Warren Postlewaite

Education Committee & UofR Faculty Rep: Darlene Chalmers

FNUC Faculty Rep: Sharon Acoosse FNUC Student Rep: Clarence Pine

Mentorship Rep: Carol McInnis & Shelina Merali

Members At Large:

Richard Small, Pat Cox, Nicole Ingenthron, Melanie Grace, Jean Wiens,

Shirley LeClaire, Michelle Buglas, Erin Scriven

The first major activity for the Saskatoon Branch in 2005 was our **Social Work Week** event during the first week of March, with the theme 'Fairness and Wellbeing'. Sessions offered throughout the day included a workshop on mediation and conflict resolution, an overview of a feminist research project on a domestic violence program, a self care workshop and poster presentations by a social work class.

Our local **Annual General Meeting** held on April 7 was well attended. The branch was delighted to have Marlene Chatterson, as our guest speaker, talking about current initiatives with the CASW, and also Richard Hazel, speaking about the provincial strategic plan. During our AGM, approval was given for amendments to the branch by-laws recommended by Tracy Muggli. Paul Benson paid tribute to a member who died in January of 2005, Tom Parmele.

The Saskatoon Branch **mentorship program** continues to actively match social work students with seasoned social workers to assist them in moving into the profession. Our welcoming event this year did not occur in the fall but rather occurred in January of 2006. Members of the mentorship program have been participating in the development of the SWITCH program (Student Wellness Toward Community Health Agenda). The student run clinic opened in the fall of 2005 and many of our members have received orientation and begun to participate as supervisors during clinic hours. Members of the local executive also continue to be active in mentoring students through a variety of presentations to University of Regina classes.

In June, the local executive invited all of the local members of provincial SASW committees to our annual executive **potluck BBQ**. This is a fun opportunity for committee members to network and get to know each other.

The **2nd Annual Golf Classic** took place at the Moon Lake Golf and Country Club on August 26. This year the tournament was offered in conjunction with the provincial association. The tournament was a sell out again. There was a steak dinner, complimentary massage, lots of prizes and loads of fun. Profits were directed towards student education. The local portion of profit is being used to purchase student spaces for attendance at the provincial conference in April of 2006. Four students, two from each university will be able to attend.

Our **Annual Charity Christmas luncheon** was held again at the 2nd Avenue Grill. A silver collection was directed to the food program for the 'Boys and Girls Mentorship Program' at Nutana Collegiate, a project of Shirley LeClaire and her co-workers at Nutana.

Considerable effort has been spent this fall planning Social Work Week for 2006 and planning for the SASW Annual General Meeting & Provincial Conference which is being hosted by the Saskatoon Branch in April of 2006.

Respectfully submitted by: Ruth Mireau, MSW, RSW (Sask.)

Swift Current Branch

Executive Committee Members:

Chairperson/ Branch Representative: Peggy Cunningham

Past Chairperson: Krista Olson

Secretary: Corliss Schaan Treasurer: Loretta Rolfe-Unger

Program Coordinator: Erica Matthews

The Swift Current Branch continues to organize meetings and / or events approximately every other month between September and June. Generally there are lunch hour business meetings and evening social gatherings.

The current focus of the Branch is on establishing the direction membership would like to pursue in the future. Options include promoting social work through increased visibility within the community, social work advocacy - related to the promotion of a social plan for the City of Swift Current, building competence through creation of educational opportunities and continuing to build social worker connections.

Swift Current Branch held a "Meet and Greet" for all Social Workers in the area on Nov. 22, 2005. Sandra Fortman provided the group with an overview of the new Code of Ethics. The event was considered a success with 15 in attendance, including four social work students.

When new local SASW members are identified, they are being sent a letter by the branch inviting them to become involved. There has also been increased outreach to existing members inviting their participation.

Two members of the Swift Current Branch continue to be involved at the provincial committee level - Erica Matthews on the Mentorship Committee and Krista Olson on the Volunteer Development Committee.

Respectfully Submitted: Peggy Cunningham, MSW, RSW

Yellowhead East Branch

Executive Committee Members

President: Kelly Karius

Vice President/Acting Secretary: Eileen Zarowny

Treasurer: Kelly Stankewich

Branch Representative: Sandy Vaughan Hastie

The Yellowhead East Branch was active during Social Work Week, facilitating a discussion regarding "The Housing Issue in Yorkton". A panel was developed involving participants from Saskatchewan Housing, The City of Yorkton, Parkland Housing, HRSD, Kids First and the Single Parent Action Network. This event was attended by approximately 35 people, including several major practicum students.

The branch also petitioned the City of Yorkton to proclaim the week of March 6-12th as "Social Work Week" in the City of Yorkton. A letter was received on March 8th indicating that Council authorized the proclamation. Three social workers, Kelly Karius, Brent McKee and Karen Buzinski were profiled for Social Work Week as well.

In November, a "Self Care" conference took place where approximately 50 people attended. Feedback from the conference indicated that attendees felt it was helpful.

Our Constitution and Bylaws were amended at the last annual meeting.

The branch has been active in planning video discussion groups and is in the beginning stages of setting up a Mentoring Program Committee

Yellowhead East Branch has members representing SASW on the CASW Board (Marlene Chatterson) and Council as President (Tom Seeley). We are also represented on the SASW Advocacy Task Team and the Scholarship Task Team (Sandy Vaughn Hastie).

Respectfully submitted: Kelly Karius, BSW, RSW (Sask.)