

Saskatchewan Association of Social Workers

2011 Annual Report



Social Workers – Make a Difference

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SASIV Council/Committee Branch Listing - 2011

Council Members			
President	Carole Bryant, Regina	Members at Large:	Hazel Berg, Melfort Julie Stocki, Prince Albert Jim Mulvale, Regina
President Elect	Joanne Schenn, Saskatoon	Pubic Representative:	Doug Stewart, Regina
Treasurer	Leann Keach, Moose Jaw		
Secretary	Dianne Laurantzen, Battleford		

Council Appointments			
Registrar	Bill Tingley, Regina	CASW Representative:	Ray Pekrul, Regina
Senate-University of Regina	Shelley Whitehead, Regina	CCSWR Representative:	Jim Walls, North Battleford

Committee/Task Team Chairpersons			
Aboriginal Social Workers Task Team	Hazel Berg, Melfort	Public Relations Committee	Alan Corbeil, North Battleford
Discipline Resource Pool	Terri Woods, Regina	Standards of Practice	Nuelle Novik, Regina
Education Committee	Shelley Whitehead, Regina	Student Award Committee	Ruth Ann Thomas, Saskatoon
Health Services Committee	Wanda Miller, Weyburn	Social Justice Committee	Sydney Bell, Saskatoon Noella Crowe-Zalazar, Regina
Mentorship Committee	Angie Pollom, Saskatoon	Volunteer Development Committee	Tom Seeley, Yorkton
Practice Ethics Committee	Donald Halabuza, Regina		
Professional Conduct Committee	Jim Walls, North Battleford		

Branch Representatives			
Battlefords	Dianne Laurantzen	Saskatoon	Angela Luron
Northeast	Sheryn Peterson	Southeast	Jill Zyla
Prince Albert	Murray Wotherspoon	Swift Current	Sandra Fortman
Regina Branch	Crystal McKenzie	Yellowhead East	Marisa Wolfram

President's Report

I'm pleased to provide highlights of another very successful year for your professional association.

In April, the Saskatchewan Registered Nurses Association and SASW hosted a luncheon in Saskatoon for representatives from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation, the College of Psychologists, and the Registered Psychiatric Nurses of Saskatchewan. The purpose of the meeting was to start discussion on widening the collaboration on social justice issues that the two organizations have established. The response was very positive and although no formal commitments on future initiatives were made, all representatives agreed to take the concept back to their respective councils/colleges for further discussion.

The association held its stand-alone annual general meeting on April 30th in Saskatoon. In addition to some minor by-law amendments, the membership received a number of reports from Council, committee, and branches. The membership also paid tribute to Jim Walls who was the recipient of the CASW Distinguished Service Award, Linda Rudachyk, the recipient of the SASW Distinguished Services Award, and Serena Cataldo, the winner of the Student Award. The association is fortunate to have individuals of this caliber working on its behalf.

As our membership continues to increase, unfortunately so does the work of the Professional Conduct Committee. Discussions have been underway for some time about the need to add administrative, analytic, and investigative support to the committee. This year, Harriett Greenhow assumed the role of Professional Conduct representative. Although still evolving, her duties include researching complaints, determining their merits and analyzing the potential points of research; if deemed appropriate, she carries out the investigative steps under the direction of the PCC. The position, responsibilities, and budget allocation will be assessed after a one-year trial period.

In May the association hosted two one-day workshops, *Fostering Resilience: Building Skills for Effective Practice*. These workshops, which were held in lieu of an annual conference, attracted a total of 270 participants in both Regina and Saskatoon. This was the best attendance at an SASW event in recent memory. In 2012, SASW will revert back to the traditional format, with the North East Branch hosting the conference and annual general meeting. In 2013, the format will again be the two one-day workshops similar to those held this year.

In August Council met for a one-day planning session in Regina. In reviewing the mandates of the various SASW committees, Council agreed to disband the dormant Psychologists Act Task Team and transfer the task of reinstating social workers' right to diagnose to the Standards of Practice Committee. There is general agreement among the key stakeholders with our position and government representatives are now working with legal staff to develop a proposal on how legislation should be amended. Council also reviewed its obligations under the Action Plan which was established in 2007 and was very pleased to note that most objectives set out in the plan were either met or exceeded. Those not achieved were deliberately put on hold by Council for a variety of reasons. Committee chairs took responsibility for their action items very seriously and I thank them for their commitment to the association. Plans are underway to develop a new Action Plan

early in 2012. I look forward to the discussion, debate, and renewal that will undoubtedly blossom from this important exercise.

After extensive discussion and deliberation, Council passed a resolution regarding the decriminalization of those exploited by prostitution. In essence the resolution calls for the decriminalization of those who are prostituted, trafficked or otherwise exploited or objectified in and by the sex trade. It calls for the continued criminal prosecution of those who purchase, promote and profit from the trafficking and sexual exploitation of women and children. In passing this resolution, Council affirmed the right of people to be free from want and exploitation and called for resources to ensure an adequate standard of living for all. The association's position, which has had a positive response, has been disseminated through the Advisory Board and forwarded to CASW.

After months of work, the proposed new SASW Standards of Practice have been completed. The standards, which are closely tied to the Code of Ethics, have been circulated widely to the membership. I'd like to extend a special thank you to Nuelle Novik and her committee for the excellent work in updating this critical piece of regulatory work and to all the members who provided their important feedback on the document.

In November, Richard Hazel and I attended the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) annual general meeting in Oklahoma City. ASWB is a nonprofit association of social work licensing boards in the US and Canada. The association owns and maintains licensing examinations used by member boards and provides training, services and supports to boards and members. At the meeting, over 100 delegates from 50 jurisdictions considered a number of committee actions, including changes in both the bylaws and the Model Social Work Practice Act. I had the privilege of being elected by the members to a two-year term as Treasurer of the association.

As I conclude my term as President, I'd like to thank members of Council, the Advisory Board and all the other volunteers for their commitment and excellent work on behalf of SASW. A special thanks to Richard Hazel, Debb Fisher, and Bill Tingley for their guidance and support over the past two years. I'd like to extend my best wishes to incoming President, Joanne Schenn, as she assumes her new responsibilities. I'm confident she will do an excellent job in leading the association forward.

Respectfully submitted: Carole Y. Bryant, MSW, RSW (SK), MBA, CMA

Executive Director's Report

The President's Report prepared by Carole Bryant has captured well the highlights of the year, which was clearly a time of consolidation as well as an opportunity to move ahead on some significant pieces of work. Through the year, one tends to be moving from issue to issue without taking the time to reflect, and as I read Carole's comments, it caused me to pause. My role with the Association carries with it the responsibility of providing "ex-officio", non-voting support to not only Council and Advisory Board, but also all of our committees. This means I am required to facilitate the work, including the provision of advice and research whenever required. My thought as I write this annual report is that this provides a unique insight into the Association and that it is a privilege to carry this trust. It also allows me to see first-hand all of the hard work and dedication from all those who volunteer their time, intelligence and energy for the good of this professional organization. Our collective gratitude is owed to those members who stepped up as volunteers in 2011. During the year I was very pleased to be invited to meet with the Northeast and Yellowhead East Branches and to be with the brand new Southeast Branch in Weyburn for their celebration and lunch on October 20th.

Your dedicated Newsletter Committee for 2011 included Ailsa Watkinson, Ruth Mireau, Rick Yachiw, Debb Fisher and myself. The publication schedule is - February, June and November and we continue in paper only, as it was concluded by Advisory Board in late 2010 that the existing approach still works best for us in several ways and is worth the expense involved. The Committee thanks all of those who made contributions throughout the year.

Our collaboration with the Faculty of Social Work, University of Regina continues to develop. Many Faculty members are among those volunteering for service within SASW and through our Education Committee we are represented on key committees within the Faculty. In addition I was asked to be our representative on the search committee for a new Dean and late in the year, we were also asked for a representative on a new search committee seeking three additional Faculty members, and Tom Seeley has agreed to carry that task. In November, Carole Bryant, Shelley Whitehead and I met with the Canadian Association of Social Work Education accreditation team to offer our observations. SASW is pleased to hear that accreditation will be extended.

In June, 2008 SASW issued a survey to the membership as part of the Quality of Work Life national research project. I currently chair a group of representatives from all provinces looking to develop a survey article on this work that would position us to develop a second and more rigorous follow-up survey. This working group has engaged with a University of Toronto graduate student to develop at least one and perhaps two articles from this rich collection of data. This work was in active development as the year concluded.

This year I continued as chair of the Regulations and Standards Committee of the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB). This committee carries responsibility for the Model Act and regulations (available on the ASWB website) which was developed as a support for the ongoing development of legislation for the social work profession in Canada and the U.S. As well, this committee oversees the Public Protection Database (PPD) which is a support service for social work regulators that allows a quick check for any disciplinary history on someone making application for registration in a

different jurisdiction. This committee again had proposed changes to the Model Act/Regulations approved at the AGM in November.

Thanks to Ray Pekrul, our CASW Board Representative, who continues to represent us at the CASW table, now as the Treasurer for the Board. Thanks also to Jim Walls for his continued work as a Director of the Canadian Council of Social Work Regulators (CCSWR) where he has offered critical support and guidance to this emerging organization. In the office, we've been fortunate to have the continued talented, able, energetic and thoughtful services of, Debb Fisher, Office Administrator, and Bill Tingley, Registrar. It continues to be a pleasure to work with them both.

My congratulations to Carole Bryant as she completes her time as President and moves to the role of "Past President". It has been a fine experience to work with her and to enjoy her low-key, keen administrative style. A highlight was to watch as our colleagues at the ASWB annual general meeting in November elected her as Treasurer for that organization. Thank you, Carole, for your attentiveness and wisdom throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted: Richard Hazel, MSW, RSW (SK)

CASW Representative's Report

CASW had both an eventful and transforming year. The organization said good-bye to Eugenia Moreno as she entered retirement after 20 years as the Executive Director. Hiring both an interim and now Executive Director, Fred Phelps, has enabled the organization to start anew. Following the Agora Report and then the Organizational Review Committee's recommendations from the summer of 2010, a new organization has been forged. Addressing both social justice issues and strengthening the profession is the mission of the CASW.

From the Agora Report a policy governance model has been adopted. Board Members and partner representatives of the federation participated in an ends setting exercise in Fredericton, N.B. in June 2011. All by-laws and procedures are now being rewritten to coincide with the Carver-like policy governance model.

Along with the change in executive leadership, CASW on April 1, 2011 lost the membership of both the Alberta Association of Social Workers and the Ontario Association of Social Workers. The Board and partner representatives met with the executive of OASW in December 2011 to discuss their return. OASW placed on the table their requirements to consider rejoining the federation. The loss of the two largest partners has lead CASW to reorganize its operations. Currently the staff of CASW is demonstrating that more can be done with less – dedication, ingenuity and resourcefulness along with political know how and experience can go a long way. The Board is united and much is being accomplished.

Notably, CASW at the June 2011 annual general meeting adopted the introduction of individual memberships from provinces where the association is not a federation partner; Ontario, Alberta and Quebec. To date there are approximately 120 members with several applicants being denied membership. A lobbying cohort in Alberta, favouring membership in CASW, is actively writing in their newsletter and organizing a resolution for the annual general meeting.

The Canada Social Transfer (CST) along with CHT (Canada Health Transfer) is ending in 2014. CASW is concerned the CST has received scant attention in the media while it includes all the federal dollars for postsecondary education, income security, social services, and programs for children. CASW wanted to see heightened discussion and awareness of CST coming due and issued an RFP (request for proposal) for a paper to:

1. Document the historical and current role(s) of the federal government and its relationships with provinces and territories to the financing and delivery of social assistance, social services and child care
2. Create a framework and recommendations that address:
 - Where the federal government could play a leadership role in its financing, delivery and shaping of social programs
 - Where the federal and provincial governments could play a collaborative role in the financing, delivery and shaping of social programs
 - Where the federal government could develop national guiding principles

- Other relevant policy issues

3. Identify national guiding principles for the delivery of the CST.

A letter was written to the Federal Council which met January 16th requesting they identify key principles and values that would govern a new agreement with the federal government. There is concern that an increased emphasis in postsecondary funding has been occurring with a suspected decrease in funding for social services would leave the provinces and territories to absorb the remaining funding costs. As well, CASW acknowledged those provinces and territories who are engaging in poverty reduction strategies and suggested CST be incorporated as a support. The Board will review and likely accept the report at the February 6, 2012 teleconference Board meeting.

Fred Phelps, CASW Executive Director, has been active in various coalitions; Coalition Against Bill C-10; Canadian Health Care Coalition; HEAL (Health Action Lobby), G 7 group of HEAL looking to develop a position on collaborative practice and 3rd Party billing; Dignity For All Campaign; and CAMIMH (Canadian Mental Health Commission table of professionals) Fred will be the chair of the Government Relations Committee for CAMIMH.

On behalf of CASW, a presentation to the Federal Finance Committee meeting in Saskatoon Oct 28, 2012 was made in preparation for the upcoming federal budget. An appeal to double the base of calculating benefits for CPP, along with an Allowance for single senior women between ages 60 to 65 to be congruent with benefits received by married women whose spouse is collecting OAS, to alter the criteria for compassionate leave under Employment Insurance. These were recommendations stemming from research by CASW on senior women and poverty. Fred Phelps will likely be in the scrum during the release of the Annual Budget and a core group of CASW Board and select policy analysts will be ready to craft a press release.

Ongoing profiling of the social work profession during national social work week in March, a national webcast with Michael Ungar, access to publications, a blog on CASW website, and countless encounters provincially and nationally continue to make our profession strong and present in the public domain.

Respectfully Submitted: Ray Pekrul, MSW, RSW (SK)

Canadian Council of Social Work Regulators

SASW is a member of the Canadian Council of Social Work Regulators, (CCSWR) along with the other nine provincial social work regulatory bodies. Each member (provincial regulator) appoints two individuals as Directors of the Council. SASW has appointed Richard Hazel and myself as Directors. In addition, I have been elected by the Council as a member at large on the Executive Committee of the CCSWR.

The Canadian Council of Social Work Regulators purpose is to provide a national structure for Canadian Social Work regulators to present and pursue issues of common concerns and interest, and to share, consider and develop positions on such matters. The CCSWR intends to demonstrate leadership by working to create and maintain an effective forum for the exchange of information and to identify, consider and make statements on issues related to regulation of Social Work practice. Further, the CCSWR hopes to develop and promote national perspectives on Social Work regulation, collaborate with other national agencies and organizations and respond to matters which relate to licensure and/or regulation which are of national and international importance. Currently, CCSWR is administratively located within the offices of the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers (OCSWSSW). As a new national organization, there is no formal infrastructure (e.g. staff; equipment; website) as of yet. The work of the Council is shared amongst its provincial members which are the 10 social work regulatory authorities in Canada.

The CCSWR supports the development of, and promotion of national standards and to that end, has undertaken a national **Competency Profile** project. The CCSWR Competency Profile was developed in response to the Labour Mobility requirements (Chapter 7) of the Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT) which is a federal-provincial agreement regarding internal trade issues within Canada. The AIT labour mobility requirements are intended to facilitate the ease with which any registered professional can move from one jurisdiction to another without diminishing the regulatory standards that they must meet. As the AIT/Labour mobility requirements are that any measure adopted or maintained relating to licensing, certification or registration of workers relates principally to competence, the CCSWR recognized a need to develop a framework for examining Social Work competencies. The funding for the Competencies Profile was provided by Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC) to the CCSWR.”

The most recent draft of the Competency Profile Project Report was received by the Council in Toronto on October 22, 2011. Final revisions of the Report and a communication strategy are being planned. It is hoped that the Report will inform social workers and other stakeholders of the work so far. The process is a bit like renovating an old house. One project leads to another as we build evidence and understanding about how we can best protect the public and ensure competent social work practice across the country.

SASW involvement in the Council has up to this point required only a small investment of money. The Council has been mindful of the limited resources each member organization has. A Council website is planned which will help to share information with social workers, other stakeholders and the public.

Respectfully Submitted: Jim Walls, MSW, RSW (SK), CCSWR Director

Registrar's Report

Occurrences, Special Projects, Events

2011 proved to be a busy year. A normally expected summer lull in processing applications for registration with SASW failed to take place. Speculation suggests the preceding postal strike may have been a contributing factor. Perhaps so, however, a major piece in this was a surge of applications through July and August from recent graduates seeking registration in compliance with employers requiring such standing. All of this is for the good, of course. We like to be busy.

The following provides some of the year's highlights:

1. During 2011, a total of 10 apparent contraventions of Section 24 of **The Social Workers Act** (use of title) were raised to the attention of the Registrar, and acted upon. The majority of these referrals were initiated by members of our Association. This vigilance on the part of our membership plays a key role in SASW's fulfillment of its foremost purpose, that is, protection of the public. It does so by ensuring that in Saskatchewan, the title 'Social Worker' is used only by persons who have met qualifying criteria for registration with SASW, and who in registering with a self-regulating body, have committed to accountability for professional, ethical practice.
2. During 2011, the Alberta College of Social Workers (ACSW) undertook a study examining barriers faced by internationally trained persons seeking assessment of their educational credentials in hope of establishing equivalency with Canadian standards, in order to practice social work in Canada. Registrars of the Manitoba, Nova Scotia and Saskatchewan Associations volunteered to assist ACSW in this undertaking. My role was to assist in recruiting and hiring a team of research assistants in Saskatchewan and to assist in identifying candidates for interviewing purposes. Two researchers were hired from within our membership in the persons of Christina Charteris and Dr. Judy White. Project Coordinator Cindy Jing Fang is near completion of a final report under the direction of Dr. Alison MacDonald, Associate Registrar of ACSW. The final report and its recommendations will be made available on the SASW website.
3. It was my privilege to attend the annual National Registrars' meeting which took place September 21 to September 22, 2011 in Fredericton, New Brunswick, attended by all Registrars from across the country. Discussion ranged across a broad spectrum of interests and matters of common concern, including, to name a few, management of continuing professional education programs, information sharing between provinces, electronic practice, ethical concerns related to the growth of social media, criminal records check practices and discussion of the respective roles of the Registrar's group and the Canadian Council of Social Work Regulators.

I would note I am fortunate in sharing space on a daily basis with Executive Director, Richard Hazel, and Office Administrator, Debb Fisher. It is a pleasure to team with good people who each day brings a healthy mix of dedication and good humour to the work-place. The cooperation and support received from all parts of our Association, in trying circumstances, is cherished as well. I look forward to serving yet another year in the capacity of Registrar and hope to make a positive contribution to the general good in this regard.

Statistics

The following table provides a picture of the Association's registration count from 1998 to the end of 2011.

Year	Associate	Full Time	Part Time	Non Practicing	Student	Total Members	Increase/Decrease Percent
1998	1	608	127	69	44	849	n/a
1999	1	658	126	90	44	919	7.62%+
2000	4	660	138	83	58	943	2.55%+
2001	3	682	155	87	48	975	3.29%+
2002	3	736	135	105	68	1,047	6.88%+
2003	4	767	124	109	73	1,077	2.79%+
2004	3	781	132	108	79	1,103	2.36%+
2005	2	797	129	140	93	1,161	5.0%+
2006	2	828	154	138	103	1,225	5.23%+
2007	3	856	151	159	91	1,260	2.78%+
2008	3	895	146	155	86	1,285	1.95%+
2009	2	946	152	157	72	1,329	3.32%+
2010	2	1024	149	149	102	1,426	6.81%+
2011	3	1066	152	158	82	1,461	2.4%+

Some points of interest in the above table include:

- SASW has experienced a period of uninterrupted growth in membership from 1998 through to 2011, a period of thirteen years.
- SASW total membership increased by 35 members during the past year, a 2.4% growth rate for 2011.
- All categories of membership increased during 2011 with the exception of Student Members, which declined from 102 at year-end 2010 to 82 members at year end 2011. This could be the result that more student members are completing the upgrade from a student to registered social worker within the year that they convocate.
- The category of registration showing the largest increase was that of Full Time practicing membership.

The following table breaks down membership by employment sector:

EMPLOYMENT DATA	2010	2011
Community based agencies	73	75
Health care	613	619
Private practice	96	100
Corrections, policing & public safety	39	39
Ministry of Justice	12	14
Ministry of Social Services	89	85
School Social Work	68	81
First Nations Agency	32	41
Gov't of Canada	4	6
Research/Education	21	22
Other	23	24

For interest's sake, the two tables below present the gender split and age distribution of our membership:

GENDER DATA	Registration Type	2010	2011
Female	Full time	883	925
	Part time	131	135
	Non Practising	123	134
Male	Full time	144	142
	Part time	18	17
	Non practising	25	23
Total		1,324	1,376

AGE DATA	# of Members
20 -24 years	44
25 – 29	170
30 – 34	150
35 – 39	146
40 – 44	124
45 – 49	174
50 – 54	157
55- 59	165
60 – 64	92
65 – 69	33
70 – 74	17
75+	5
No response	99

Respectfully submitted: **Bill Tingley, MSW RSW (SK)**

Auditor's Report

NIGEL A. CROOK
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

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

To the Members of
Saskatchewan Association of Social Workers

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of Saskatchewan Association of Social Workers, which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2011 and the statements of operations, net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit. I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting auditing standards. Those standards require that I comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

In common with many membership organizations, the Association derives revenue from members and activities the completeness of which is not susceptible to 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, excess of revenues over expenses, assets and fund balances.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Opinion

In my opinion, except for the effect of adjustments, if any, which I may have determined to be necessary had I been able to satisfy myself concerning the completeness of all revenues, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Saskatchewan Association of Social Workers as at December 31, 2011, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Nigel Crook

Nigel Crook FCA
February 14, 2011

SASKATCHEWAN ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

DECEMBER 31, 2011

	2011	2010
CURRENT ASSETS		
Bank accounts	\$ 59,834	\$ 20,179
Short-term deposits – representing deferred revenue liability	370,791	378,806
– other	<u>230,047</u>	<u>159,536</u>
	660,672	558,521
Accounts receivable	8,684	8,512
Prepaid expenses	<u>500</u>	<u>500</u>
	669,856	567,533
CAPITAL ASSETS - Note 3	<u>140,796</u>	<u>147,798</u>
	<u>\$ 810,652</u>	<u>\$ 715,331</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$ 3,957	\$ 4,069
Deferred revenue - Note 2	<u>370,791</u>	<u>340,460</u>
	374,748	344,529
NET ASSETS		
Net assets invested in capital assets - Note 5	140,796	147,798
Unrestricted net assets	<u>295,108</u>	<u>223,004</u>
	435,904	379,802
	<u>\$ 810,652</u>	<u>\$ 715,331</u>

SASKATCHEWAN ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FINANCIAL POSITION

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011

	2011	2010
OPERATIONS		
Excess of revenue over expenditures	\$ 65,102	\$ 31,476
Items not requiring the use of cash:		
Depreciation not affecting cash	<u>7,002</u>	<u>8,092</u>
	72,104	39,568
Changes in non-cash working capital items		
Accounts receivable	(172)	(5,103)
Accounts payable	(112)	1,001
Deferred revenue	<u>30,331</u>	<u>20,468</u>
	<u>102,151</u>	<u>55,934</u>
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH	102,151	55,934
UNRESTRICTED CASH, BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>558,521</u>	<u>502,588</u>
UNRESTRICTED CASH, END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 660,672</u>	<u>\$ 558,521</u>

SASKATCHEWAN ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011

1. NATURE OF OPERATIONS

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 Canadian generally accepted accounting principles for non profit organizations which required management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the period. These estimates are reviewed periodically, and as adjustments become necessary, they are reported in revenues or expenses in the period in which they become known. The financial statements reflect the following significant accounting policies:

Financial Instruments – recognition and measurement:

All financial assets and financial liabilities are measured at fair value on initial recognition. Measurement in subsequent periods depends on whether the financial instrument has been classified as held for trading, loans and receivables, held to maturity, available for sale or other financial liabilities.

The Organization did not have any unrealized gains or losses on available for sale unrestricted net assets during the period.

Accounts receivable:

Accounts and grants receivable are classified as held for trading and are recorded at fair market value. The fair market value is equal to its carrying value given the short term nature of the amounts.

Investments:

Investments classified as held to maturity are those which the Organization has the intent and ability to hold until maturity. The investments are recorded at amortized cost using the effective interest rate method. Where there has been a decline in value which is not temporary, these investments are valued at net realizable value. Interest is payable annually.

Fixed Assets:

Fixed assets are stated at cost and are depreciated on the diminishing balance basis at the rates indicated (½ in year of purchase).

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.

SASKATCHEWAN ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011

3. CAPITAL ASSETS

	<u>Rates</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Accumulated depreciation</u>	<u>Net book value</u>	
				<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
Land	--	\$ 20,000	\$ -	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000
Building	4%	169,559	54,412	115,148	119,945
Office equipment	20%	22,781	21,932	848	1,291
Computer equipment	30%	26,366	21,748	4,618	6,334
Furniture and fixtures	20%	<u>5,916</u>	<u>5,734</u>	<u>182</u>	<u>228</u>
		<u>\$ 244,622</u>	<u>\$ 96,826</u>	<u>\$ 140,796</u>	<u>\$ 147,798</u>

4. 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.

5. NET ASSETS INVESTED IN CAPITAL ASSETS

Net assets invested in capital assets consists of:

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
Capital Assets (net)		<u>\$ 140,796</u> <u>\$ 147,798</u>

Aboriginal Social Workers Task Team

Committee Purpose

Recognizing that SASW supports the greater involvement of First nations and aboriginal social workers within the operation of the Association, the purpose is to create a group that is represented at the Advisory Board to work toward the creation of opportunities for the deeper involvement of those already registered and to recruit those who are eligible for registration.

Committee Members

Chairperson: Hazel Berg
Shawna Gray, Louise Fraser, Elaine Lavallee,
Carole Bryant, President, and Richard Hazel, Executive Director (ex-officios)

The Aboriginal Social Workers Task Team completed the article, "***Social Workers in Child Welfare***" and it was published in the February 2011 edition of *The Saskatchewan Social Worker*. The task team received one inquiry from a social work student in Calgary requesting more information.

The task team has struggled with maintaining interest as the time that our members have available to plan and get to meetings has been difficult with new work environments and with other circumstances with our membership. Some past members have been contacted in the interest of being able to continue in the goals set out by Council.

There are many issues to discuss and events to address by our group. We will be very busy once we are able to organize ourselves. The task team does have energy and enthusiasm when we talk; however, regular meeting times and planning events is such a challenge. It is my hope that with new members to the team, we will revive the task team.

Individual recruitment continues on an individual basis and hopefully will further increase our membership.

Respectfully submitted: Hazel Berg, BSW, RSW (SK)

Discipline Resource Pool

Committee Purpose:

To hear and adjudicate complaints against a member brought forward by the Professional Conduct Committee.

Committee Members:

Chairperson: Terri Woods

Charlene Cameron Lynn Duncanson Sandra Fortman Gayle Fulton

Klaus Gruber Kerry La Pointe Katherine Potts David Rivers

Victoria Walton Karen Wasylenka Debra Wiszniak

Doug Stewart (public representative)

Members of the Discipline Resource Pool joined with members of the Professional Conduct Committee for 2 ½ days of regulatory training in October of 2011. The training covered all aspects of the investigative and disciplinary process including planning and conducting an investigation, a mock hearing and writing reports and decisions. The training was facilitated by Dr. Alison McDonald from the Alberta College of Social Workers.

The Discipline Resource Pool does not meet on a regular basis. A discipline committee is struck when a hearing is required. There were no discipline hearings in 2011.

Respectfully submitted: Terri Woods, MSW, RSW (SK)

Education Committee Report

Committee Purpose

To address the educational needs of members and educational requirements for quality professional practice. The Committee shall promote continuing education for members, and provide support and input to the Faculty of Social Work regarding the design and delivery of the degree program.

Committee Members

Chairperson: Shelley Whitehead

Karen Wasylenka, Susan Luedtke, Amber Barlow, Krista Olson, Margi Hollingshead

The Education Committee is focusing primarily on ensuring continuing education opportunities for members; working with the Faculty of Social Work, University of Regina, through participation on various committees; and reviewing policy regarding continuing education requirements.

The SASW's Continuing Education policy was reviewed and minor amendments were approved by Council.

Ethics training is being delivered across the province. However, many members have not yet taken the training and the trainers are continuing to work with branches to make it available across the province. Susan Luedtke is the Coordinator of the Ethics Training and facilitates ongoing communication with the Education Committee about this project.

I sit on the Undergraduate Studies Committee of the University of Regina's Faculty of Social Work and am the SASW representative on the University of Regina Senate. Karen Wasylenka is the SASW representative to the Faculty Student Council meetings and Amber Barlow is the representative on the MSW Committee. The Education Committee's representative from the Faculty of Social Work is Margi Hollingshead.

The Education Committee worked with the University of Regina's faculties of Social Work and Continuing Education to survey the SASW membership regarding professional development needs and interests. This information will be used to prioritize continuing education opportunities which will be made available to members beginning in 2012.

I would like to thank all members who shared their time and expertise by serving on the Education Committee this past year. Thank you also to Richard Hazel and Debb Fisher for your continuing support.

Respectfully submitted: Shelley Whitehead, BA, BSW, MSW, RSW (SK)

Health Services Committee Report

Committee Purpose

The purpose of the Health Services Committee is to support the vital role social work currently plays in our health care system and to ensure its inclusion as health care services evolve. The committee acknowledges our unique abilities as a health care profession in collaboration, facilitation, case management, and advocacy as well as in education, counselling and navigation within the health care system. This committee advocates for our profession in health as we address one of the core functions of our profession; “helping communities and groups provide and improve social and health services”.

Committee Members

Co-chairs: Wanda Miller/Lorraine Marquis
Leann Keach, Elliot Paus Jenssen, Jennifer Suchorab, Stacey Fogal
Richard Hazel (ex-officio)

The Health Services Committee continued to face many challenges and obstacles in 2011. With efforts to renew and recharge we continued to struggle with committee membership and the personnel to continue the work we set out for ourselves. Sadly, our efforts to restructure as outlined in our last report did not result in moving the Health Services Committee forward.

Thus with sadness and deep appreciation to the SASW staff, Richard Hazel and Debb Fisher, and to committee members over the years, this committee has taken a leave from the great work and plans that have been developed.

I encourage anyone willing and able to continue this work to restructure the committee and move the work forward. There is a great foundation of work accomplished to date and with renewed energy and a mixture of new and seasoned committee members this work could continue. Are you up for the challenge?

Respectfully submitted: Wanda Miller, MSW, RSW (SK)

Mentorship Committee Report

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.

Committee Members

Chairperson: Angie Pollom

Darlene Bohach, Judy Jones, Chelsey Beres, Faith Nash, Sandra Fortman, Colleen Valuck, Jasmine St. Marie, Margarita Sysing, Richard Hazel (ex-officio)

The following are highlights for 2011:

On October 6, 2011 a teleconference meeting of the Mentorship Committee occurred. Some topics discussed included:

- The role of the Provincial Committee (e.g.) providing consistency to the program across the different branches.
- There have been past requests about matching newly graduated social workers (no longer students) with working RSW's possibly in the same field for mentorship. The SASW Mentorship program will continue focusing on student mentorship.
- Discussed record keeping and storing files
- Discussed ways to engage both students and registered social workers to be part of the program
- In Regina and Saskatoon information sessions are held to address common questions in a group setting.

It was concluded that we would look at offering these sessions via teleconference to smaller branches at the same time.

- To keep the Provincial Committee active there will be three teleconference meetings a year occurring roughly September, January, and May.
- This information was shared and discussed at provincial Advisory Board at the end of October.

SASW Mentorship Committee – Saskatoon Branch

Members:

Jasmine St. Marie, Margarita Sysing, Rachelle Hosak,
Amanda Day, Ruth Ann Thomas, Angie Pollom, Angela Luron,

- Mentor Lunch - September 21, 2011: An information luncheon was held on the program which was a success in bringing registered social workers who have never mentored with the program previously.
- 'Mentorship Mixer' #1: November 3, 2011: The turnout for this event was small, but students were open and engaged, and there was great discussion.
- RSW/Student Pairings: This year the committee was able to pair up 12 students with local registered social workers.

- For the purpose of streamlining information collection and communication, a Gmail account has been set up for the Saskatoon Branch (saskatoonmentorship@gmail.com)

SASW Mentorship Committee – Regina Branch

Members:

Darlene Bohach, Tara Bilash, Karene Hawkins, Lorelei Erickson-Neville, Anne Penniston-Gray

- The committee held a lunch information event the first week of September for social work students with approximately 15 students attended.
- Next event is scheduled for February 3rd with the Social Work Student Society. Several social workers will be there to share information about practice in schools, medical, policy and custody positions.
- There are two matches so far - will be using the Feb.3 event to try for more matches.

The Committee is always looking for registered social workers who are interested in being matched as a mentor, or to attend our interactive events with the students. Please contact us with any questions through the SASW Office at sasw@accesscomm.ca.

Respectfully submitted: Angie Pollom, BSW, RSW (SK)

Practice Ethics Committee

Committee Purpose

The purpose of this committee is to provide timely consultation to members of SASW regarding ethical concerns and dilemmas.

Committee Members

Chairperson: Donalda Halabuza

Andrew Field, Morgan Klassen, Peggy Cunningham, Arlene Tangjerd,
Anne Penniston Gray, Kim Lees, Deborah Bryson Sarauer, Shawna Gray

In 2011 the Practice Ethics Committee provided four consultations to social workers in the province which is down from our 18 consultations provided in 2010. Key issues in a number of the consultations provided in 2011 were the dilemmas social workers face when managers are not social workers and therefore do not understand ethics for social workers.

This committee works independent from the Discipline or Professional Conduct Committees and confidentiality is maintained. The Committee provides suggestions and options in all consultations that are not binding and are based on reviewing the CASW Code, Guidelines and relevant legislation. Our consultations occur via e-mail. In 2011, the Committee had training sessions on legal issues and boundary issues. A SASW student was invited to attend both sessions. We are striving have one face to face meeting per year. At present, most of the meetings occur via telephone conference calls.

This year, the Committee did not have any turn over in members but we were pleased to have Shawna Gray rejoin the committee. We strive to find representatives for the committee who represent a variety of locations in the province and who bring with them a diversity of work experiences. Our current members have experience in adult mental health, medical social work, young offenders, child protection services, veterans affairs, corrections, private practice, family justice services (custody and access assessments), mediation, employee and family assistance, women's issues, family violence, sexual assault, rural social work, child and youth (mental health for children and youth), social work in aboriginal communities, community based agencies, and government.

Respectfully submitted: Donalda Halabuza, PhD, MSW, RSW (SK)

Professional Conduct Committee

Committee Purpose

The Professional Conduct Committee is established under the authority of the *Social Workers Act* for the protection of the public. Its responsibility is to receive and investigate complaints alleging that members are guilty of professional misconduct or professional incompetence.

Committee Members

Chairperson: Jim Walls

Garry Chrusch, Tracy Danylyshen-Laycock, Maureen Kraemer, Karl Mack,
Gloria Mitchell, Jean Wiens, Murray Wotherspoon, Audrey Zwack

Investigator: Harriet Greenhow

The Chair of the Professional Conduct Committee, Joanne Schenn, resigned from the Committee following her acclamation as President Elect of the Saskatchewan Association of Social Workers on April 30, 2011. The Committee thanks Joanne for her commitment and leadership. Council appointed me to the position of Chairperson. Fortunately the other members of the Professional Conduct Committee remained the same in 2011 and this ensured a successful transition and continuity of process. The members have demonstrated a strong commitment to their role in the regulation of social work practice and the protection of the public.

In 2011 Council determined that the Professional Conduct Committee required administrative, analytical and investigative support; therefore, arranged for a contract position to provide that service under the supervision of the Chairperson. A framework of duties and responsibilities was created and Harriet Greenhow, RSW, was awarded the contract as of June 1, 2011. During the course of the year, the committee has developed protocols and procedures that operationalize the role of the Investigator.

The Committee joined with the members of Discipline Resource Pool in October for an educational event lead by Alison MacDonald of the Alberta College of Social Workers.

The Professional Conduct Committee met regularly by telephone during the year. Five complaint files were investigated and closed. No complaints were referred to the Discipline Committee. One complaint file remains open.

Respectfully submitted: Jim Walls, MSW, RSW (SK)

Public Relations Committee Report

Committee Purpose:

To enhance public awareness and knowledge of the social work profession throughout the province.

Committee Members:

Chairperson: Alan Corbeil

Don Ebert, Michelle Buglas, Owen Manz, Scott Horn, Roxane Schury,
Binamin Konlan, Richard Hazel (ex-officio)

It has been a year of change for the Public Relations Committee; one in which there has been a change in chairperson and membership. Roxane Schury, the chairperson, found it necessary due to some exciting career changes and a very busy schedule to step down in the spring. The role of chair was taken on by myself. I have been involved with the Public Relations Committee for over 10 years and maintain an active interest in the promotion of the profession.

Despite a fewer number of meetings in 2011, the committee continued to make progress with the help of e-mail correspondence. This included organizing the "Day in a Life of a Social Worker" articles for *The Saskatchewan Social Worker*, which highlights social workers in various areas of practice within our profession.

In February 2011, the second PowerPoint presentation was presented to the Advisory Board and approval was granted for use pending some suggested changes. These changes have since been implemented and the new PowerPoint is available for use on the SASW Website. This new PowerPoint presentation targets social work graduates and qualified professionals working in the field who are not yet registered with SASW. The presentation describes the SASW, the benefits of registration, and how one might become involved.

Other initiatives include planning a format for membership drives. Preparation of materials to make these presentations more "user friendly" has been ongoing, including the new PowerPoint. A call had been sent out via the newsletter for submissions of photos, and other creative works in order to update the SASW display board for use as well. There has yet to be any works received as a result of this invitation.

We are fortunate to have some very experienced social workers involved in the committee and are looking forward to some exciting projects in 2012 that should further serve to highlight our profession in this dynamic province.

Respectfully submitted: Alan Corbeil, BA, BSW, RSW (SK)

Social Justice Committee

Committee Purpose

Recognizing that one function of social policy is to provide guidance for social work practice, the purpose of the Committee is to advocate for the reflection of social justice and human rights principles in emerging and existing social policy. The preferred approach to these issues is one characterized by collaboration and collective effort.

Committee Members

Chairperson: Sydney Bell/Noela Crowe-Salazar
Kirk Englot, Serena Cataldo, Linda Charlton, Patti Cram, Cecil Gooliath, Jim Mulvale,
Wanda Yurach, Judy White, Tanis Shanks, Raven Sinclair, Shayne Volk
Richard Hazel (ex-officio),

This past year we continued our work in developing social policy principles in both of our focus areas. We kicked off this work with a full day working session in May that allowed us to come to some common understanding of the work that has already be done and consider issues and frameworks. This work is now designated to sub-committee and it is our hope we will be able to share these documents with the wider association members in the near future.

Child welfare and **poverty alleviation** are the two areas of focus for the SASW Social Justice Committee. I am pleased to share some of the highlights of the work we have done in these two areas this year.

Child Welfare

The committee remains to be involved with ***the Partnership for Children and Youth*** and the Ministry of Social Services in working towards considering the recommendations made in the *Child Welfare Review*.

Work being done to refine the policy principles to aid SASW in responding to Child Welfare concerns was held off to give room for work being done on the Child Welfare Review. The principles are currently in draft and would parallel the Income Security Policy Principles that our committee developed several years ago. Once a final draft has been approved they will be forwarded to Council for endorsement.

Poverty Alleviation

SASW continues its involvement in poverty alleviation through supporting the work of Poverty Free Saskatchewan (PFS). Poverty Free Saskatchewan has had a busy and productive year with developing and distributing poverty-related questions for citizens to ask of politicians during the provincial election, producing a poverty elimination framework document and hosting community conversations in seven communities around the province (North Battleford, Regina, Saskatoon, Moose Jaw, Tisdale, Nipawin and Melfort).

Collaboration Development

Our poverty work continues to be developed in close collaboration with SRNA. Richard Hazel and Carole Bryant have been active in bringing together representatives from other professional associations to discuss possible collaboration on social justice issues. At this point the group (which includes such professional association as the Saskatchewan Teachers Federation and the Association of Psychiatric Nurses) are moving forward with work to be further determined after each association gains support from their Council.

This past year we said good-bye to Serena Cataldo, Linda Charlton, Patti Cram, Wanda Yurach and Kirk Englot. We wish to extend a special thank-you to Kirk Englot who after many years of dedication as a member and co-chair has finished his term. We would like to welcome members Tanis Shanks, Shayne Volk and Raven Sinclair.

Respectfully submitted: Sydney Bell, BSW, RSW (SK)
Noella Crowe-Salazar, BSW, RSW (SK)

Standards of Practice Committee

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.

Committee Members

Chairperson: Nuelle Novik

Ralph Aman, Kathy Bovair, Vance Heaney Brittany Hockley, Bernie Holzer, Patti Petrucka
Richard Hazel/ Bill Tingley, (ex-officios)

In June 2010, SASW Council directed the Standards of Practice Committee to complete and submit a work plan outlining a detailed process to revise the *Standards of Practice* documents that were in use at that time. As a result, the Standards of Practice Committee met in Regina for a face-to-face meeting on January 12, 2011. The work plan that was developed at that meeting was subsequently approved by Council in February 2011, and work proceeded on revision of the Saskatchewan *Standards of Practice* document.

Working collaboratively, the Standards of Practice Committee members completed a revised and inclusive draft *Standards of Practice* document which was presented to the SASW Advisory Board meeting on June 10, 2011. The Advisory Board group was asked to review the draft document, as well as encourage members from their areas to review it. In addition, a request was specifically made that the Professional Conduct Committee, the Discipline Resource Pool, and the Practice Ethics Committee review the document. All those reviewing the document were invited to send comments and feedback to the Standards of Practice Committee by September 15, 2011. There was a good response to this review request, and feedback was received by the Standards of Practice Committee.

All of this feedback was addressed and was incorporated into a new draft document. To be certain all members had the opportunity of review, it was decided in October of 2011 to again share the draft and seek input from the membership one more time. As a result, a notice was sent out with the November 2011 issue of *The Saskatchewan Social Worker* directing members to the SASW website in order to review the draft document and inviting members to send feedback/comments – the deadline for this feedback was December 31, 2011.

Following the December 31, 2011 deadline date, revisions were once again made to the Standards of Practice document, and legal counsel was sought. Based upon the feedback from membership, and advice offered by legal counsel, additional revisions were completed and the final copy of the revised and inclusive Standards of Practice document was scheduled to go to SASW Council for approval in February 2012.

Respectfully submitted: Nuelle Novik, BSW, MSW, PHD, RSW (SK)

Student Award Committee

Committee Purpose

To support and profile the annual student award according to the policy set by Council, and to Profile the existence of the Student Award Fund maintained by the South Saskatchewan Community Foundation.

Committee Members

Chairperson : Ruth Ann Thomas
Marissa Landry, Brendan Wallace, Roxane Schury
Richard Hazel (ex-officio)

The Student Award Committee met once during 2011 via teleconference to review and determine the recipient of the annual student award. The selected recipient for 2011, Serena Cataldo, received a cheque in the amount of \$343. Serena's volunteer activities were indeed impressive. She worked tirelessly to further social causes. Her energy and her strong social work ethics are commendable. Congratulations Serena!!

Promotion of the Student Award continued throughout 2011 by means of running ads in *The Saskatchewan Social Worker*. As well, each new member of SASW receives a copy of the student award flyer in their welcoming package from the Association. It is hoped that profiling the Student Award will increase donations which in turn will increase the amount awarded yearly to a social work student. Donations to the fund are accepted by the South Saskatchewan Community Foundation in Regina. The award is seen as attracting students to the profession and to SASW while still in school. All donations are tax deductible.

The Student Award committee is always searching for new ideas to grow our fund – any and all suggestions are welcome. The balance in the Student Award Fund at September 30, 2011 was \$9,177.03

A special thanks to Richard Hazel for his guidance and to Debb Fisher for her administrative work in keeping our committee functioning.

Respectfully submitted: Ruth Ann Thomas, MSW, RSW (SK)

Volunteer Development Committee

Committee Purpose

The purpose of the Volunteer Development Committee is to directly seek and solicit nominations of practicing or non-practicing licensed members to fill any vacancies on the council of the association; to assist council in finding members to chair standing committees, to assist chairs of standing committees to fill vacancies on their committees, to assist council in finding licensed members willing to serve on the professional conduct committee and the pool of licensed members willing to be available for appointment to discipline committees; and to carry other tasks assigned by council through terms of reference.

Committee Members

Chairperson: Tom Seeley

Frank Dornstauder, Myna Pitzel Bazylewski, Victoria Walton

During 2011, the Volunteer Development Committee provided assistance in recruiting or provided consultation to the following committees/ task teams:

- Practice Ethics Committee
- Aboriginal Task Team
- Discipline Resource Pool
- Professional Conduct Committee
- Education Committee
- Student Award Committee

The Volunteer Development committee provided some consultation concerning the appointment of a public representative to the Saskatchewan Association of Social Workers and also concerning the appointment of a representative to the Health Services Review Committee formed under the auspices of the Community Care Division of the Ministry of Health.

Volunteer Development also assisted with recruitment to the newly created task team to plan the 2013 SASW provincial workshop. In addition, the committee gave consideration to making nominations for vacant executive positions on SASW Council.

The work of our committee has been made much easier by the willingness of SASW members to step forward to serve their organization. Our committee greatly appreciates the combination of enthusiasm and wisdom these members provide.

Respectfully submitted: Tom Seeley, BA, BSW, RSW (SK)

Battlefords Branch Report

President: Dianne Lauritzen

Vice President: Alan Corbeil

Treasurer: Faith Nash Secretary: Shannon DeBruin

Branch Rep: Jim Walls

Members at Large:

Tara Woodworth, Marissa Senger

The Battlefords and Area Branch of SASW is a small but determined group who believe they do two things well. In support of the promotion of the profession the Branch holds a luncheon during Social Work Week to raise the public awareness of social work in our area and to honour a colleague whose contribution to the profession and to the community is worthy of recognition.

Each year we invite members as well as those in the area, who work in human services but may not be registered, as well as local civic leaders and the press. We ask for donations to support local helping agencies. This year we made donations to our hosts, the Living Faith Chapel and the Canadian Mental Health Association, who catered the meal.

We had arranged for Ailsa Watkinson from Faculty of Social Work at the University of Regina, to speak during the luncheon. Unfortunately a spring blizzard prevented her from making it to the Battlefords. The Branch hopes to extend another invitation to Ailsa.

The Branch began a series of lunch and learn presentations in October with the topic "Ethics, Boundaries, Confidentiality and the Social Network". More presentations are planned in the new year.

The Branch presented its local recognition award to our colleague, Rick Felix, who recently retired after a notable and varied career of casework and community development. Rick was our Branch Vice-President for a number of years who always had a unique and client focused approach to SASW matters. Rick continues to influence his community for the better through volunteer work and through his family.

On Monday, April 18, 2011 the local branch of SASW was pleased to host Poverty Free Saskatchewan and University of Regina, President Vianne Timmons, who participated in a community consultation on the need to tackle poverty in our province. Approximately 40 people attended the discussion and many ideas as well as strategies were forwarded on how to eradicate poverty in a strategic way. This event was co-sponsored by the Battlefords Tribal Council Indian Health Services and Meadow Lake Tribal Council .

Beverlie Horpestad of Meadow Lake has agreed to be an Ethics Trainer for this area of the province. Beverlie lead a workshop in the fall. The Branch encourages all members to participate in this important review of practice ethics issues and to foster a "Culture of Ethical Excellence".

Respectfully submitted: Jim Walls, MSW, RSW (SK)

Northeast Branch Report

Chairperson: Lindsey Bruce

Vice-Chairperson: Leslie Christianson

Secretary & 2012 Conference Chairperson: Judy Jones

Treasurer: Sheryn Peterson

For 2011, the branch activities have been quite minimal apart from plans to host the 2012 Annual General Meeting and Provincial Conference.

The Northeast Branch did have three face-to-face supper meetings following provincial Advisory Board meetings in February, June and November. The noon Tele-Health meetings we had attempted the previous year were not well attended in 2011.

In March, the branch hosted an SASW booth at a Career Fair for high school and college students from the northeast.

We also sent a letter of support in March to the North East Outreach and Support Services for their efforts in finding a location for a safe shelter for women escaping domestic violence situations.

Since Cumberland College in Melfort is offering the BSW program, the branch has made an effort to encourage students to come out to our meetings and were very pleased when two decided to join us at our November meeting. The students also gave us some good feedback about making the difference between the school and the SASW really clear when introducing the concept to students because they are so overwhelmed with new information. Cumberland College has also been making efforts to offer the MSW program and/or classes. This seems to be a one step forward; two steps back process, and has many of our local social workers frustrated. We can only keep trying!

Our big news, of course, is the hosting of the 2012 Annual General Meeting and provincial conference at the new Kerry Vickar Centre, and the new Canalta Hotel/Convention Centre in Melfort. We have been putting almost all of our energy into this project with committee chair, Judy Jones, leading the way.

Respectfully submitted: Lindsey Bruce, BSW, RSW (SK)

Prince Albert Branch

Chairperson: Murray Wotherspoon

Vice-chairperson: Rosalie Meyer

Treasurer: Audrey Zwack

Secretary: Chelsey Beres

Members at Large:

Patti Cram, Laura Hildebrand, Wanda Yurach

The Annual General Meeting for the Prince Albert Branch took place on September 7, 2011. Invited to this meeting was local MLA, Darcy Furber, who provided a brief presentation and a question/answer discussion. Topics of interest were social issues with a primary focus on housing and homelessness.

At the Annual General Meeting the above executive was elected. Some of the main topics of discussion were:

- To add more members at large to the executive to a total of three.
- To hold monthly meetings on the first Wednesday of the month
- To review/revise the Branch Bylaws

Social Work Week

To celebrate Social Work Week for 2011, the Prince Albert Branch staged a breakfast, luncheon and/or display in their workplace and/or with the general public. One major event that our Branch hosted was a presentation by Prince Albert Police Chief, Dale McFee, and Mr. Brett Enns, Regional Executive Director of Mental Health and Addictions. This presentation focused on the HUB process, which is a multi-agency network to address high needs individuals and/or families. This presentation took place on March 24 and included over 20 of our Branch members.

Training Events

Our Branch supported and/or hosted two training events:

- **Ethics Training** presented by Katherine Bird and Susan Luedtke - May 18, 2011.
- **Lunch and Learn Session:** Branch members in attendance shared resources - June 15, 2011

In closing on behalf of our Branch, I would like to extend sincere thanks to our membership for their time in volunteering and participating in local projects, events and causes. Also, our Branch wishes to acknowledge the support from the Provincial Council, Executive Director, Richard Hazel, and Office Administrator, Debb Fisher.

Respectfully submitted: Murray Wotherspoon , BSW, RSW (SK)

Regina Branch Report

Chairperson: Crystal McKenzie

Treasurer: Gilliane Renwick

Secretary: Sheena McCallum

Mentorship Chairperson: Darlene Bohach

Members at large: Jasmine Kindred, Cindy Baergen

Students: Jerry Larson, Devaney Horner

One of the regular and consistent activities that the Regina Branch offers is the brown bag lectures for members that are free of charge. We decided that we would ask for donations to the Regina Food Bank as admission to the brown bag luncheons. This has been successful and the branch has received positive feedback. Our plan is to continue to incorporate First Nations Elders into presenting at the luncheons. We have Norma Jean Byrd and Elder Harry Francis at Child and Youth Services and Kids First. The purpose of this is to offer more traditional practices and techniques to members when working with First Nations families.

The following topics were covered during the Lunch & Learns:

“The Effects of traumatized children” presented by Sidney McGillicky, BSW, RSW (SK)

“The Significance of Traditional Legend teachings” presented by Norma Jean Byrd

Regina Branch developed a Facebook page for Regina and area members, non-registered members as well as students as a form of “new” communication and recruitment.

The branch had its annual Social Work Week luncheon in 2011 at the Regina Metis Sports and Culture with Garson Hunter as the guest speaker. There were 40 to 50 people in attendance.

The Regina Branch is welcoming back Dianne Allen to share the chair position with the current chair with the hope to eventually mentoring another member into this position. We recently lost four of our committee members; therefore, the branch will be recruiting new committee members. If you are interested in being involved, please contact me through the SASW Office

We anticipate a busy 2012 and look forward to assisting with activities in the future.

Respectfully submitted: Crystal McKenzie BSW, RSW (SK)

Saskatoon Branch Report

Chairperson: Angela Luron

Past Chairperson: Tammy MacFarlane

Treasurer: Jasmine St. Marie

Secretary: Rachelle Hosak

Members at Large:

Erin Beckwell, Amanda Klimm, Angie Pollom, Margarita Sysing

Ruth Ann Thomas, Jean Wiens

Member /Public Relations: Chairperson: Shared Responsibility

- Focused on increasing the local presence of the SASW
- Operated a strong email distribution system reaching approximately 480 Saskatoon & Area members, used to circulate Branch and Provincial SASW information, activity & initiatives, professional development, employment & self-care opportunities, and related community events; inquiries steadily increasing
- Maintained a group on Facebook, reaching beyond members to allied professionals and broader community
- Developed relationships with the BSW student body and facilitated their participation in Branch activities
- Promoted student membership in collaboration with the Faculty of Social Work, Saskatoon Campus
- Spring: Operated a Syracuse fundraiser and purchased Branch t-shirts with SASW logo for events
- Promoted and supported the provincial SASW Workshop which was located in Saskatoon
- December: Hosted a Holiday Steak night fundraiser for members and non-members
- Partnered with the Provincial SASW Public Relations Committee and the Faculty of Social Work for a high school presentation

Mentorship: Co-Chairpersons: Jasmine St. Marie and Margarita Sysing

- February & November: Organized and hosted mixer events for potential and current mentees and mentors
 - Round table, casual format included discussion/sharing related to diverse areas of practice, populations, communities, professional development, self-care, practicum, graduate studies, etc.
- September: Hosted a Mentor Lunch Information Session for potential mentors
- Followed up with 2010/2011 matches until spring, then facilitated 12 new matches in the fall of 2011
- Re-established a good connection with the Faculty of SW student body for the 2011/2012 year

Education: Chairperson: Erin Beckwell

- Ethics Workshops:
 - Now offering three Ethics Workshops twice yearly: Orientation, Decision-Making, Boundaries
 - Strong attendance: In 2011, 137 people attended six different ethics sessions in Saskatoon
 - One new person trained to facilitate, with another in process of completing training
- Social Work Week:
 - Partnered with the Faculty of SW (Saskatoon Campus) on a social work research symposium at the Atrium
- “Connections 2012: Human Service Career & Volunteer Fair” March 1:
 - Partnering with the Faculty of Social Work and Nutana Collegiate; open to the community

Social Justice: Chairperson: Shared Responsibility

- Social Work Week: Hosted community lunch/panel on changing refugee policy; Co-hosted social at Amigos with BSW students; Distributed a colour poster of events in the community to celebrate SW Week
- Spring: Promoted and attended local ‘Anti-Bullying Week’ and ‘Day of Pink’ events; ‘Pride Parade’
- September: Promoted and attended the ‘Take Back the Night’ community march against violence
- October: Supported the Saskatoon Anti-Poverty Coalition (SAPC) for ‘Poverty Awareness Week’
- November: Co-hosted Community Consultation on poverty elimination with PFS and the SAPC

General Branch Activity:

- April 29: Held Branch AGM and voted in 11 Executive Members

Respectfully submitted: Angela Luron, BSW, RSW (SK)

Southeast Branch Report

President: Natalie Bieberdorf
Vice President: Maureen Kraemer
Treasurer: Colleen Herman
Secretary: Cynthia Casavant
Branch Rep: Jill Zyla

For the past two years there has been movement in Weyburn to create a branch of Saskatchewan Association of Social Workers (SASW) in Southeastern Saskatchewan. Our members had access to the Regina Branch's meetings, but were seeking something more local so that they could participate more actively in the promotion of the social work profession and contribution to social justice. In June 2011, after much planning and several meetings, our branch became official. Currently, the Southeast Branch includes communities like Weyburn, Estevan, Carlyle, Oxbow, and Kipling.

Prior to officially becoming a branch, were able to celebrate National Social Work Week in March. We had the City of Weyburn recognize the week by proclamation. We hope to make this even more of a memorable event in 2012.

In October, we planned a luncheon to celebrate our new branch and invited professionals from across the Southeast region of the province to attend. Current SASW members along with non-registered BSW graduates attended this luncheon as an attempt to promote membership and involvement in the branch. In total, we had 16 people attend. Richard Hazel, SASW Executive Director, spoke at this luncheon and gave a great presentation on the benefits of SASW membership.

The Southeast Branch has been holding regular meetings with 5 to 10 people attending. Although the meetings are held in Weyburn, we can accommodate people attending from anywhere in the Southeast region via Tele-health. One individual from Kipling has been attending our meetings regularly by this avenue.

Respectfully submitted: Jill Zyla, BSW, RSW (SK)

Swift Current Branch Report

Chairperson: Sandra Fortman

Secretary: Glenda Carleton

Treasurer: Kristin Reinhart

Program Coordinator: Vacant

Swift Current branch has had limited activity this past year following the branch Annual General Meeting last February.

Activities that did occur:

- Social Work Week materials were circulated to all SASW members in our region for promotion within their workplace.
- Information received from SASW provincial office was circulated to all members via e-mail to solicit feedback and keep membership informed.
- Chairperson was able to attend one Advisory Board Meeting in Saskatoon on October 28, 2011 to represent branch.
- Chairperson participated in Provincial Mentorship teleconference as a branch representative on October 6, 2011.

A number of our branch members continue to support the local community Christmas dinner by assisting with planning, volunteering and donating items.

It is our hope is to revitalize the Swift Current branch in the coming year with meetings that incorporate an educational component. Several members have indicated that other commitments impact on their availability for meetings but are still interested in maintaining our local branch.

Respectfully submitted: Sandra Fortman, BSW, RSW (SK)

Yellowhead East Branch Report

President: Vacant

Vice-President: Joanne McCready

Treasurer: Arlene Tangjerd

Secretary: Vacant

Branch Rep: Marisa Wolfram

Members at Large:

Tom Seeley, Bob Buhler, Bev Kostichuk, Janay Brown,

Paula Walker Speiller, Leanne Sauser

The Yellowhead East Branch has utilized its meetings for review of the SASW Branch Operations Policy and discussion on the revisions of the SASW Standards of Practice. As well, we have done exploration in offering an Ethics Training workshop within our area but it has not been scheduled as of yet.

The Branch has supported the local agencies SIGN and Saskatchewan Abilities Council with regards to their work towards developing a housing complex for people with mental challenges, long term mental illnesses, and acquired brain injuries.

The Yellowhead East Branch welcomed new members during 2011 in hopes to rejuvenate operations but continues to struggle with limited active participants and busy schedules. We are thankful and fortunate to have veteran attendees who continuously promote the Social Work profession and remain hopeful to recruit new members.

Respectfully submitted: Marisa Wolfram, BSW, RSW (SK)

