

SASW 2007 Annual Report

Table of Contents

President's Report.....	3
Executive Director's Report	5
Auditor's Report.....	7
Registrar's Report	12
CASW Representative's Report	14

Committee/Task Team Reports

Aboriginal Social Workers Task Team Report	16
Discipline Resource Pool	17
Education Committee Report	18
Health Care Task Team	19
Legislative Review Committee Report	20
Mentorship Committee Report	21
Practice Ethics Committee Report	22
Professional Conduct Committee Report	23
Public Relations Committee Report	24
Standards of Practice Committee Report	25
Scholarship Task Team Report	26
Social Justice Committee Report	27
Values & Principles Task Team Report	29
Volunteer Development Committee	31

Branch/Interest Group Reports

Battlefords Branch Report	32
Moose Jaw Branch Report	33
Northeast Branch Report	34
Prince Albert Branch Report	35
Regina Branch Report	36
Rural Social Work Interest Group Report	37
Saskatoon Branch Report	38
Swift Current Branch Report	39
Yellowhead East Branch Report	40

Council Members			
President	Debra Wiszniak, Regina	Members at Large:	Susan Luedtke, Prince Albert Myrna Pitzel, Regina Victoria Walton, Saskatoon
President Elect	Jim Walls, North Battleford	Pubic Representative:	Doug Stewart, Regina
Treasurer	Joyce Reid, Regina		
Secretary	Maureen Kraemer, Weyburn		
Council Appointments			
Registrar	Bill Tingley, Regina	CASW Board	Marlene Chatterson, Saskatoon
Senate-University of Regina	Grace Jasper, Regina		
Committee Chairpersons			
Aboriginal Social Workers Task Team	Hazel Berg, Melfort	Public Relations	Roxane Schury, Saskatoon
Discipline Resource	Don Stevenson, Regina	Standards of Practise	Vacant
Education	Ray Pekrul, Regina	Scholarship Task Team	Sandy Vaughan Hastie, Yorkton
Health Care Task Team	Wanda Miller, Weyburn	Social Justice Committee	Patti Cram, Saskatoon Nancy Carmichael, Saskatoon
Legislative Review	Geoff Pawson, Regina	Values & Principles Task Team	Jim Walls, North Battleford
Mentorship Committee	Shelina Bhatia-Merali, Saskatoon	Volunteer Development Committee	Tom Seeley, Yorkton
Practice Ethics	Marcia Clark, Saskatoon Joanne Schenn, Prince Albert		
Professional Conduct	Susan Hetu, Regina		
Branch Representatives			
Battlefords	Brenda Zulynik	Moose Jaw	Leann Keach
Prince Albert	Susan Luedtke Charlene Cameron	Northeast	Lucie Dymterko
Rural Social Work Group	Deborah Bryson Sarauer	Saskatoon	Darlene Chalmers Shelina Bhatia-Merali
Yellowhead East	Rick Yachiw	Swift Current	Peggy Cunningham

President's Report.....

My term as president concludes at this Annual General Meeting. I would like to thank the membership for the privilege to serve in this position of leadership. It has been a tremendous opportunity for personal growth and an inspiration to represent the profession at a provincial and national level. I witnessed the passion and strength of colleagues across the country providing leadership and giving voice to the profession and those we serve on many levels.

My key responsibility with Council has been to oversee the Association's activities to ensure alignment with its mission, vision, Code of Ethics and governing legislation. Additionally, it is Council's responsibility to balance the focus of energy and investment in all four mandated areas being to regulate, promote, advocate and support. Building on past achievements, the association continues to move initiatives forward in these key areas. The momentum is driven by the sheer dedication, passion and competence of the volunteer members of council, committees and branches, involving approximately 75 committed social workers at any given time.

The Association's continued evolution is exemplified in its attention to strategic planning and clarity of governance. SASW embarked on another strategic planning process in January 2007 resulting in a renewed set of directions for the association. A key process at the session was a renewal of our vision and mission statements. This prompted very important and passionate discussion regarding our mandated areas, especially the mandate of advocacy. Council is also working on processes that will assist the Association in being more effective in public/media relations. The 2007 strategic plan and action plan are available on the web site. I encourage members to become informed regarding the work of the Association.

To improve clarity resulting from the above noted discussion, several key initiatives have been undertaken. Council directed that a Values/Principles Task Team be struck to continue the work on the mission and vision statements. The Team will develop a set of values and principles that guide the work of the association in all four mandated areas, with particular attention to advocacy. The membership had the opportunity to provide input through branch representatives. Membership votes on the proposed mission and vision statements at the 2008 Annual General Meeting. The Association continues to work on improved administrative governance through such key initiatives as developing a policy manual. The above processes serve as important tools for existing governance and conduct as well as the important role of succession planning for the future leaders of the Association.

The Association continues to network and build community partnerships locally and nationally. Attending the National Social Work meetings in June 2007, created invaluable opportunities for face to face dialogue sharing successes, challenges and creative strategies being implemented nationally as well as providing key input regarding the strategic direction and priorities for CASW. SASW has been equally active on initiatives as its counterparts across the country. It continues to be focused on building collaborative relationships with other professional organizations such as the Saskatchewan Registered Nurses' Association, the College of Psychologists and the Faculty of Social Work. These collaborative partnerships will assist the Association on many levels including pursuing social justice and influencing policy.

Another important accomplishment has been the development of the Code of Ethics training. This is a critical initiative that directly reaches out and engages the membership in training that is essential to practice, being its title, "promoting a culture of ethical excellence". Another important opportunity for direct membership participation is the Quality of Life Survey, which will be rolled out in 2008 to the membership. This survey is being conducted across the country by all professional associations affording provincial and national perspectives on this issue. I encourage the membership to participate in both of these important initiatives.

I often hear from members that they are not aware of SASW's activities. Information is shared through the newsletter, web site, local branches, committees, Social Work Week, Annual General Meeting and conference. Again, I encourage all members to utilize some of these venues to become informed about the work of your Association. Knowledge and awareness of your professional Association, including the services available to you will assist in feeling connected to a larger professional body of almost 1200 registered members across the province. Becoming involved in branch activities, participating in Social Work Week and checking the website regularly are ways of staying connected and informed.

I wish to express my sincere gratitude to the members of Council, who each bring a unique set of strengths to the table. Council welcomed all challenges as opportunities for growth and learning while maintaining accountable direction. Thanks to Bill Tingley, the new appointed registrar, for managing the registration process with competence and special attention to detail. Debb Fisher and Richard Hazel's competent knowledge and management of the day to day operations of the Association has resulted in stability, accountability and forward momentum in all aspects of the Association including the important work of committees. I welcome my successor, Jim Walls from North Battleford. Jim brings many strong attributes and a wealth of knowledge to the role of president, including a deep passion and commitment to the field of social work.

Finally, I wish to acknowledge, again, Rawd Bieber's contribution to SASW as our long serving Registrar. Rawd stepped down from that role in the spring due to his deteriorating health, and we were all saddened by his death in the fall. We were pleased to carry acknowledgement and recognition of Rawd's work and commitment in *The Saskatchewan Social Worker*.

Thanks to the membership for your continued passion and commitment to the profession of social work. We must celebrate the practice diversity of our profession especially the opportunity for influence working in many professional capacities. I strongly believe this has tremendous value to individuals, organizations and society as a whole.

**“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful citizens
can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”
Margaret Mead**

Respectfully submitted: Debra Wiszniak, MSW, RSW (Sask.)

Executive Director's Report.....

My prediction in this report last year was that by the summer of 2007 we would have a renewed action plan coming out of Advisory Board's workshop in January. As Debra noted in her report, that prediction was accurate. Council, Committees and the office have already engaged in the work outlined in the new action plan and it is Council's direction that we update and celebrate our achievements along the way, just as we did over the previous four years.

In June, we saw the conclusion of a very lengthy process of developing for our profession a Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) under the Agreement for Internal Trade. Under the Agreement, all professions are obliged to develop an MRA to facilitate lateral movement between jurisdictions within Canada. The MRA for social work was concluded and signed in the spring by presidents from each jurisdiction. Now, the task is to review legislation and bylaws to address barriers as we have obliged ourselves to do by signing the MRA. For us, this means first proposing change to our legislation to allow us to accept for registration here, those grand-parented into registration elsewhere, those registered elsewhere through an equivalency examination process and those who need temporary registration here while full eligibility is being determined or to come here to provide service during a disaster of some sort.

In past reports, you will have noticed there is a long-term effort to address the loss to social work of the ability to use diagnostic tools and communicate a concluded diagnosis reached by a qualified social worker. This loss occurred with the installation in *The Psychologists Act* of a provision called "authorized practice", which narrowed to physicians and approved psychologists the ability to diagnose. In November, we reached a point in our ongoing deliberations with the College of Psychologists where it was acknowledged by the College that "The public would be much better served by the SASW having the ability to deal directly with the licensing and regulating of social workers who are competent to communicate a diagnosis." As the year ended, SASW and the College left with our government colleagues in the Ministries of Health and Social Services the request for their assistance on the mechanics of resolution. We dare to hope that in the 2008 report, we will have information on a substantial conclusion that will restore to SASW the ability to be responsible for the diagnostic work of qualified registered social workers. My thanks to a small and dedicated task group who assisted in moving this agenda forward: Dan Fofonoff, Klaus Gruber, Maureen Kraemer, Myrna Rhinas and Lorne Sier.

Thanks are also due to your dedicated Editorial Board for *The Saskatchewan Social Worker*. Ailsa Watkinson, Lorelee Manning, Ruth Mireau and Rick Yachiw. The newsletter is published three times each year – February, June and November. Debb Fisher is also a part of this group, and supports the work by organizing the information presented and directing the typesetting/printing and mailing of the newsletter. I continue to coordinate the Board. The Editorial Board thanks the many members who have made their contribution to the content over the year.

I mentioned last year that there are some challenges to our being configured as we are as a social work professional organization. Through the year, Council has confirmed its commitment to serving the best interests of the public and the profession by continuing to follow the unified model we have had since the new Act came into force in 1995. As you know, in Canada we have a mix of models for social work regulation, with some jurisdictions having separate regulatory and advocacy/membership support/practice support organizations. Council's view is that it is worth the extra effort to have a unified model where all that we do is viewed from the perspective that public protection and the development of public trust in the profession are fundamental to our work. To underline this way of operation, Council approved in the fall a new policy called "Professional Self Regulation" that underlines this unified approach and while doing so, provides direction around the independence of operation for our complaints, investigation, and discipline functions.

Further progress has been made in the development of the SASW policy manual. We now have completed policies on membership registration and personnel. Work on the updating of operational policies has been delayed into 2008.

I want to again recognize the commitment and energy of the many volunteers that give SASW its character and enable us to progress as we do. As I have said before, time is precious to everyone, and sharing it is a selfless act. As she leaves the office of President, I want to say to Debra Wiszniak how much I have enjoyed working with her over the last two years. Debra always has a fresh and energetic way of looking at the issues and is a well-practiced problem-solver. I also want to acknowledge the thoughtful, good work and the significant contribution to the organization of Debb Fisher and our new Registrar, Bill Tingley. As staff, the three of us carry the responsibility of supporting the work of SASW, and I do appreciate the opportunity of working with Debb and Bill to provide that support.

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

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 statement of financial position of Saskatchewan Association of Social Workers as at December 31, 2007 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 membership organizations, the Association derives revenue from various programs 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, 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, 2007 and the results of its operations for the year then ended in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Nigel Crook

Nigel Crook FCA
February 12, 2008

**SASKATCHEWAN ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
DECEMBER 31, 2007**

	2007	2006
CURRENT ASSETS		
Bank accounts	\$ 50,817	\$ 48,205
Short-term deposits	– representing deferred revenue liability	273,012
264,299		
– other	<u>67,010</u>	<u>26,235</u>
	390,839	338,739
Accounts receivable	3,490	2,343
Prepaid expenses	<u>500</u>	<u>500</u>
	394,829	341,582
CAPITAL ASSETS - Note 3	<u>159,839</u>	<u>166,787</u>
	<u>\$ 554,669</u>	<u>\$ 508,369</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$ 3,005	\$ 2,524
Deferred revenue - Note 2	<u>273,012</u>	<u>264,299</u>
	276,017	266,823
NET ASSETS		
Net assets invested in capital assets - Note 5	159,839	166,787
Unrestricted net assets	<u>118,813</u>	<u>74,759</u>
	278,652	241,546
	<u>\$ 554,669</u>	<u>\$ 508,369</u>

SASKATCHEWAN ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

	2007	2007 <i>Budget</i>	2006
REVENUE			
Membership Fees	\$ 309,391	\$314,000	\$ 293,275
Conference	13,070	15,800	34,240
Interest	5,892	3,500	5,257
Workshops	3,559	3,500	-
Provincial Golf Tournament	-	-	-
Newsletter, Website	1,975	2,000	1,940
Mailing fees	1,600	1,000	1,680
Other fees and revenue	-	60	21
	<u>335,487</u>	<u>339,860</u>	<u>336,413</u>
EXPENDITURES			
Audit and accounting	1,562	1,700	1,505
Awards, honoraria	169	1,100	5,333
Bank charges	1,087	1,500	1,087
Branch payments	3,424	3,950	4,038
CASW fees	46,109	47,804	44,872
Committee: meetings and travel	23,840	30,600	28,409
training and planning	250	2,560	1,669
Conference and workshop	11,177	24,900	18,701
Contract	3,333	10,000	-
Courier	562	850	599
Copier	2,081	1,950	1,925
Depreciation	6,947	4,200	5,657
Insurance	3,631	3,631	3,473
Legal	6,616	20,000	11,075
Miscellaneous	586	600	586
Mortgage interest	-	-	169
Newsletter	8,651	10,000	9,086
Office supplies/equipment	3,984	4,400	4,085
Postage	9,024	9,800	9,615
Printing and stationery	7,588	10,500	9,594
Property taxes	4,452	4,460	4,333
Provincial golf tournament	-	-	-
Special events	6,813	7,500	1,211
Renovations	-	-	2,713
Repairs and maintenance	9,971	9,484	6,363
Salaries and benefits	112,600	116,620	107,405
Staff training	585	800	856
Telephone	9,581	11,500	8,107
Utilities	2,635	3,500	3,047
Workshop	11,112	2,000	-
	<u>298,382</u>	<u>343,909</u>	<u>295,515</u>
EXCESS REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES 37,105	<u>(4,050)</u>	40,898	
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>241,546</u>		<u>200,648</u>
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 278,651</u>		<u>\$ 241,546</u>

SASKATCHEWAN ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FINANCIAL POSITION

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

	2007	2006
OPERATIONS		
Excess of revenue over expenditures	\$ 37,105	\$ 40,898
Items not requiring the use of cash:		
Depreciation not affecting cash	<u>6,947</u>	<u>5,657</u>
	44,052	46,555
Changes in non-cash working capital items		
Accounts receivable	(1,147)	275
Prepaid expenses	-	2,200
Accounts payable	481	(452)
Deferred revenue	<u>8,713</u>	<u>15,336</u>
	<u>52,099</u>	<u>63,914</u>
INVESTING		
Acquisition of capital assets	<u>-</u>	<u>(93,603)</u>
FINANCING		
Repayment of long term debt	<u>-</u>	<u>(5,340)</u>
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH	52,099	(35,029)
UNRESTRICTED CASH, BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>338,739</u>	<u>373,768</u>
UNRESTRICTED CASH, END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 390,839</u>	<u>\$ 338,739</u>

SASKATCHEWAN ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

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>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Land	--	\$ 20,000	\$ -	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000
Building	4%	169,559	33,987	135,572	141,220
Office equipment	20%	22,781	20,260	2,521	19,630
Computer equipment	30%	16,472	15,170	1,302	14,612
Furniture and fixtures	20%	5,916	5,472	444	5,361
		<u>\$ 234,728</u>	<u>\$ 67,942</u>	<u>\$ 159,839</u>	<u>\$ 166,786</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>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Capital Assets (net)	\$ 159,839	\$ 166,787
Mortgage payable	-	-
	<u>\$ 159,839</u>	<u>\$ 166,787</u>

Registrar's Report.....

A major occurrence affecting operations within the office of Registrar during 2007 certainly was the loss of J. Rawdon Bieber. Although I never met Rawd, it is evident that my predecessor was well respected within the regulatory community, and on more than one occasion it has come home to me that these are indeed big boots which I have inherited. This report of 2007 activities will focus on events occurring after September 1, the date of my appointment as Registrar.

In the third week of September, the Social Work Registrars' National Meeting took place in St. John's, Newfoundland. Given the recency of my appointment, Executive Director, Richard Hazel, took forward to this national meeting SASW's current regulatory issues and concerns. Richard returned with a thick packet of discussion papers, perhaps most notably related to assessment of international social work credentials.

As of October 2, 2007, SASW has resumed participation in meetings of NIRO (Network of Inter-Professional Regulatory Organizations). This forum provides opportunity to discuss with companion Saskatchewan based professional organizations, issues in common, for example, the potential for liability actions against regulatory bodies, the concept of on-line registration, etc. The next meeting of the NIRO network will take place in May, 2008 in Saskatoon.

Prior to the end of 2007, Council elected to place a hold on new applications for SASW's Private Practice Registry. As posted on SASW's website "effective October 31 2007, the criteria, qualifications and application process for access/admissions to the Private Practice Registry in Saskatchewan is being reviewed by SASW. Until further notice, the SASW office will not be accepting applications from registered social workers wanting to be placed on the Registry". This review process will carry forward in 2008.

The following table displays the 2007 membership, as compared to the previous ten years.

Year	Associate	Full Time	Part Time	Non Practicing	Student	Total
1998	1	608	127	69	44	849
1999	1	658	126	90	44	919
2000	4	660	138	83	58	943
2001	3	682	155	87	48	975
2002	3	736	135	105	68	1,047
2003	4	767	124	109	73	1,077
2004	3	781	132	108	79	1,103
2005	2	797	129	140	93	1,161
2006	2	828	154	138	103	1,225
2007	3	856	151	159	91	1,260

This table reflects a steadily growing SASW membership which augurs well for the future of our Association.

A final word of appreciation from the Registrar. Establishing and maintaining regulatory standards is neither simple nor easy, and sometimes application of requirements rubs fur the wrong way. In spite of this, the processing of applications for 2008 membership renewal has proceeded relatively smoothly. Credit for this goes to staff and volunteers, past and present, who work hard at growing this Association, but also, thanks are owing to our membership who continues to respond in a spirit of cooperation.

The following is some 2007 statistical data which has been extracted from the SASW Database for the membership to review.

Employment Data	Number
Community Based Agencies	69
Health Region	535
Private Practice	84
Retired/Maternity/Sick Leave/Unemployed	159
Saskatchewan Corrections & Public Safety	25
Saskatchewan Justice	15
Saskatchewan Social Services	73
School Social Worker	46
Other	160
Total	1166

Gender Data	Male	Female	Total
Full time	147	709	856
Part Time	16	135	151
Non Practicing	29	130	159
Total	192	974	1166

	New Members	Reinstated Members
Full Time	59	59
Part Time	13	8
Non Practicing	8	8
Total	80	75

Respectfully submitted: Bill Tingley, MSW, RSW (Sask.)

CASW Representative's Report.....

2007 was another interesting and challenging year for me in my role as CASW Board Member representing SASW.

CASW reviewed their strategic plan in April and agreed that their priorities would remain the same; 1) Pursuit of Social Justice, 2) Promotion of the Profession and 3) Enhancing Excellence in Regulation. The Board agreed that what needed to happen was to increase the clarity of directions within the priorities so that the maximum effect could be achieved with minimum resources. CASW asked for and received feedback during the June 2007 meeting held in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island and further input will be received during the 2008 National Social Work Conference to be held in Toronto in May.

In terms of pursuit of social justice, CASW continued to advocate for women in poverty and the last paper of the series **Financial Security for Women Seniors in Canada** was published in 2007. This paper is available on the CASW web site www.casw-acts.ca. The Board has been receiving input regarding new priorities in the pursuit of social justice and the SASW Advisory Board has discussed their views. Priorities will be further debated at the annual meeting of the CASW Board and Presidents/Executive Directors in May, 2008 so if you have input into the most pressing national priorities in the social justice area, you may contact myself or the SASW President or Executive Director. The policy paper **Evaluating the 2007 Federal Budget, Smorgasbord or Strategic Spin?** was released in a timely fashion.

CASW continued to make use of every opportunity to promote social justice. Statements regarding violence against children, physical punishment of children, children's rights, mental health, quality end of life care, poverty, federal budget, improvement of the lives of First Nations people are examples. CASW participates with many Coalitions as this has been found to be the best way to effect change. I am representing CASW on two coalitions - The Seniors Mental Health Coalition and the Quality End of Life Care Coalition as well as participating on a sub-committee of the National Institute for Care of the Elderly. Other board members represent CASW on national mental health and primary health care coalitions. CASW has also participated in a number of studies at the national and international level.

With regard to strengthening the profession, CASW continues to sponsor three national interest groups; the Health Interest Group, the Children's Issues Interest Group and the Aboriginal Social Workers Interest Group. These groups have been active in exploring and promoting improved working conditions for social workers as well as establishing interest groups within the provinces. The Children's Issues Interest Group published a brochure **Child Welfare in Canada: Protection Services** which is available at the SASW office. CASW also published an updated **Informed Consent and Confidentiality; CASW Guidelines** which is available on the member's site of the CASW web site.

Our yearly CASW Board meeting was held in Whitehorse, Yukon at the same time that the Northern Association of Social Workers held their conference. This was a very successful meeting and event.

In its efforts to enhance excellence in regulation, CASW has continued to support training regarding the Code of Ethics. CASW brought together representatives from social work education, regulation and the association (Inter-sectoral Collaboration Working Group) in June, 2007 to discuss issues which are common to all "arms" of the profession and to determine if there are areas where they can communicate and collaborate.

With regard to all three priorities, CASW keeps membership informed by publishing two issues of the CASW Bulletin, one issue of the journal as well as 12 issues of the monthly CASW Reporter.

CASW will be requesting an increase in membership fees in order to carry on the work they are presently doing and this will be brought before the member associations in May, 2008.

The National Social Work Conference is to be held in Toronto from May 22, to May 25, 2008. The theme is "**Human Rights in a Diverse Community**" - a theme that has been adopted for the 2008 Social Work Week as well. CASW Board Members have submitted a number of abstracts to the conference, many of which received confirmation that they were accepted. CASW/AON scholarships are given every two years to attend the conference and social workers are encouraged to apply. It is hoped that Saskatchewan social workers will have the opportunity to make the impressive contributions they have at past national conferences.

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

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 table 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

Donna Pelletier

Tammy Ens

This committee met once in late December 2007 to develop/approve terms of reference. It is expected that the Task Team will meet four times per year.

Discipline Resource Pool Report

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.

Committee Members

Chairperson: Don Stevenson

Kerry Lapointe

Harriet Greenhow

Terri Woods

Katherine Potts

Audrey Zwack

Bernie Zaharik

Terry Nielson

David Rivers

Sophie Grahame

Karen Wasylenka

Charlene Cameron

David Rivers

Carol Lafayette-Boyd

Doug Stewart (public representative)

The year began with the conclusion of the Evelyn Hynes Hearing and the expulsion of this member from the Association. No appeal was forthcoming. One of the issues that arose from this Hearing was the extent to which discipline decisions should be published. This topic would be cause for ongoing discussions throughout the year and continue to this date with a recommendation shortly going to Council in regard to the sharing of discipline decisions with other North American social work bodies.

Other matters that arose from this hearing involved the updating of the template used to specify the charge against a member and the importance of communication between the registrar and the lawyer for the Professional Conduct Committee prior to the charge being forwarded to the member in question.

During the year, the Law Reform Commission of Saskatchewan published a 'Handbook on Professional Discipline Procedure' which was forwarded to the Discipline Resource Pool Chair. As well, Jim Walls, previous Discipline Resource Pool Chair, along with SASW's Executive Director, worked on revamping the internal procedural document for pool members. The Association also convened a training meeting on Oct. 16th at the SASW office facilitated by Dirk Silversides, legal advisor to the Discipline Resource Pool, for eight newly recruited Pool members.

No discipline hearings were held during 2007.

As my term has ended on Dec. 31, 2007. I thank my professional association for this opportunity to serve and for the many fine colleagues I have met over the past two years. Cheers to Terri Woods, the new chairperson, and to all of you involved in this important work.

Respectfully Submitted:

Don Stevenson, MSW, RSW (Sask.)

Education Committee Report.....

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 and delivery of the Social Work Degree programs.

Committee Members

Chairperson: Ray Pekrul

Joyce Reid Sharon McKay Susan Luedtke Lorraine Vandall
Bernie Zarharik Grace Jasper Richard Hazel (ex-officio)

The Education Committee had a productive and engaging year. There have been many highlights; engaging in the strategic planning process and taking on meeting the outcomes over a three year period, developing the Train the Trainers Workshop toward the development of the “Culture of Excellence Project”, and the ongoing active involvement with the Faculty of Social Work, University of Regina.

The strategic outcomes are in the process of being met. The Education Committee has begun the development of a roster of our own members who are in a position to facilitate workshops or learning circles in their branches or provincially. We have begun to discuss discovering the various technological means for delivering continuing education workshops or training to our members throughout Saskatchewan and complying a list of options.

The Culture of Excellence Project is the delivery of workshops on employing the Code of Ethics with a focus on boundaries. We have nine trainers trained to deliver two or three hour workshops to all our members in Saskatchewan. Our expectation is to have all members trained in four years. The logistics of delivering the program have been developed with Susan Luedtke as the coordinator. To date three branches, two employer groups and two student groups have held workshops. We hope all the other branches will soon have workshops planned. The development and delivery of workshops on the Code of Ethics arose in response to the 2005 continuing education survey. In regards to planning other continuing educational events, the Education Committee is open to new ideas and collaborating with the University of Regina Continuing Education Division. We are currently looking to plan a three day event with the Just Therapy folks from New Zealand.

The Committee and its members continue extensive involvement with the Faculty of Social Work at the University of Regina in a series of consultations involving reviewing the curriculum for the BSW and the MSW programs, revising the application process and evaluating the student applications yearly. As well, members of the Education Committee represent the Association on the Senate, Faculty/Student Council, the MSW Committee and the Undergraduate Studies Committee.

We look forward to a continuing, rewarding and busy year as the Culture of Excellence project unfolds, new opportunities to develop continuing education programming arises, and as we further the ongoing consultative relationships with the Faculty of Social Work, University of Regina, as they enter re-accreditation.

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

Health Care Task Team....

Committee Members

Chairperson: Wanda Miller

Tracy Muggli
Leann Keach

Margaret Woloshyn
Elliot Paus-Jenssen

Brenda Pasloski
Richard Hazel (ex-officio)

Members at Large

Maureen Kachor

Melissa MacFadden

Victoria Walton

Committee Purpose

The purpose of the Health Care Task Team 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 the 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".

This is an exciting time for social workers in health care. I would like to thank all the committee members for the time and effort they direct to this team, this is a great group to work with. Our committee participated in a planning session that was organized to guide the work we will take on for the next few months. It was decided that the focus of our work will be to 'raise the profile of social work in health care within our own profession, interdisciplinary teams, and the general public'. Committee members determined appropriate tasks, prioritized our work and formed working groups to complete the tasks determined to meet our focus. The committee is busy adapting and developing brochures and formulating letters to decision makers that can be utilized to raise the profile of our profession.

Other activities of the Committee

- The chairperson of the committee sits on the SASW Advisory Board and the CASW Health Interest Group.
- Elliot Paus-Jensson reports to our committee on the work she is involved in with the Aging Task Force on Older Adult Abuse.
- Tracy Muggli sits on the Primary Health Interagency Working Group.
- Maureen Kachor represents our committee on the Canadian Collaborative Mental Health Initiative.

Our gratitude and thanks are extended to Chris Mayhew who left our committee in a good 'restarting' position prior to his move back to Alberta for a position in Primary Health Care. Our loss is Edmonton's gain, however in true fashion Chris passed the baton to me with a clear picture of committee purpose and strong membership to carry on with the work. I also want to acknowledge Margaret Woloshyn in the work she has done with the CASW Health Interest Group, she served 2 terms on this committee prior to stepping down in June, 2007.

Respectfully submitted: Wanda Miller MSW, RSW (Sask.)

Legislative Review Committee.....

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.

Committee Members

Chairperson: Geoff Pawson

Carole Bryant Klaus Gruber Ray Pekrul Frank Dornstauder
David Schantz Tracy Muggli Ralph Aman
Richard Hazel (ex-officio)

Following an ambitious round of discussions with key stakeholders in 2005 and 2006, this past year has focused on finalizing the wording of the scope of practice statement and obtaining support from officials in the Department of Community Resources (now the Ministry of Social Services) to proceed with the necessary legislative changes. Discussions also took place with the College of Psychologists with respect to the implications of the inclusion of Section 23 in their Act stating that only psychologists are able to use diagnostic tools and provide a diagnosis. The College has acknowledged damage to social work and stressed that the consequences were unintentional; it is prepared to facilitate a resolution to the situation.

A meeting scheduled with the former Minister of Community Resources in October 2007 was cancelled with the call of the provincial election. A request has been made for the President, the chair of this committee and the Executive Director to meet with the new minister, the Honourable Donna Harpauer, prior to the next legislative session.

The Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA), which promotes labour mobility between the provinces, was signed by the Saskatchewan government in 2007. In signing the agreement, each jurisdiction makes a commitment to seek legislative changes that would facilitate the changes. For Saskatchewan, this would mean, in part, amending Section 21 of *The Social Workers Act* so that SASW could recognize registered members from other provinces. In addition, there is a proposal that would be considered non-controversial that there be a second public representative added to the SASW Council and that the term for a public representative be extended from the existing two years to three. This would mean the provisions in Sections 8 and 9 of the legislation would need to be amended. Dirk Silversides, legal counsel, is currently reviewing the Act and Richard Hazel is preparing the required drafting instructions. The committee's interest in seeking to amend the legislation to include scope of practice and to allow social workers to use diagnoses within their practice will be further addressed in the meeting with Minister Harpauer.

I would like to thank committee members for their work over this past year. As well, thanks to Richard Hazel for his direction and support.

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

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: Shelina Bhatia-Merali
Sandy Vaughan Hastie Dianne Allen Melissa Flowers
Terry Lowe Rubina Malik Faith Nash
Loretta Rolfe Unger Susan Luedtke

The provincial mentorship committee for 2007 has been in the organizational phase where members were being recruited at various locations. During this time, the mentorship program has been delivering itself and creating awareness to students and professionals regarding the program and its benefits. This awareness stage has included an informal kick off in Saskatoon with the mentees and mentors gaining information and connecting with the program. In Prince Albert, Battlefords and Swift Current the mentorship program is looking at promoting this program at various departments by means of presentations, posters and the SASW website.

The application form is now on the SASW website which allows for efficient connection into the program and provides those mentees and professionals in rural locations to be able to access and participate in the program.

We will continue to work at increasing the programs' effectiveness and delivery with specific focus on rural Saskatchewan sites. Thanks to all the members for the hard work, dedication and efforts in delivering the program and hope they can continue to provide this service in the future.

Respectfully submitted: Shelina Merali, MSW, RSW (Sask.)

Practice Ethics Committee Report.....

Committee Purpose

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

Committee Members

Chairperson(s): Joanne Schenn/Marcia Clark
Michelle Sims Raven Sinclair Melissa Flowers Evelyn Weeks
Curtis Mills Darlene Chalmers
Nadia Stadnyk Danny Yee Jennifer Schenn-Visentini Pamela
Vorstermans-Agar (student)

The Practice Ethics Committee met seven times in 2007. Members of the committee bring experience from a variety of social work fields including social services, school social work, mental health, medical social work, private practice and social work education.

The committee has provided a response to 12 requests for consultation about ethical issues that included confidentiality, conflict of interest, advocacy and boundary issues. Since we consult with each other mainly via e-mail, extra care is taken to protect the inquirer's anonymity. A response is compiled by any of the committee, but contact is provided by only one person, usually one of the co-chairs.

Various committee members have presented information on the role and activities of the Practice Ethics Committee to the University of Regina Social Work Ethics class as well as several other groups of social workers. Melissa Flowers volunteered to attend the ethics "train the trainer" workshop held in June 2007 and then presented her information to the committee at our October meeting. We have also worked with Debb Fisher and Richard Hazel at the SASW provincial office to put together information ads for the SASW newsletter. Contact information for Practice Ethics Committee consultation requests is included in the SASW office phone message when SASW office staff are away. Richard attended the committee's May 17th meeting and provided interesting information on the upcoming ethics training and other SASW business.

Since attendance at committee meetings has been difficult for members due to travel requirements and busy schedules, we have decided with Richard Hazel to have four scheduled face to face meeting each year and continue to be in contact with each other via e-mail. This works well. Additional meetings can be scheduled as needed to handle committee business. Early 2008 meetings will be on March 20^h and May 15th. No meetings are held during July and August.

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

Professional Conduct Committee Report.....

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 of 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 is the arm of the Association charged with the protection of the public.

Committee Members

Chairperson: Susan Hetu

Gayle Fulton Robert Twigg Marlene Chatterson Joan Hergott
Jennifer Cohen Bill Tingley (ex-officio)

Complaint Activities in 2007

Investigations carried forwarded from previous year(s)	3
Number of new complaints received in 2007	1
Number of investigations closed with no further action	3
Number of investigations sent to Discipline	0
Total number of investigations handled in 2007	4
Investigations carried forward to 2008	1

“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 the complaints investigated included:

- Inadequate custody and access report
- Boundary and confidentiality issues
- Professional misconduct

Other Activities

The chairperson of the Professional Conduct Committee attended regularly scheduled meetings of the SASW Advisory Board. In 2007, the Committee worked with SASW Council to implement a paid investigator including developing a job description and budget proposal. Members of the committee were saddened by the resignation of Rawd Bieber as Registrar from the Committee and his subsequent death. His contributions and wisdom over the years were most appreciated.

Susan Hetu resigned as Chairperson of the Professional Conduct Committee as of December 31, 2007. Her dedication and effort on behalf of the committee was most commendable and we extend a heartfelt thank you to her.

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

Public Relations Committee Report.....

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.

Committee Members

Chairperson: Roxane Schury
Don Ebert Rick Kuckartz Maria Badrock Shirley LeClaire Jeanne
Beaudoin Allan Corbeil Norine Shewchuk Martha Ottenbreit
Richard Hazel (ex-officio)

The Public Relations Committee continues the process of researching, advocating and promoting insurance coverage for private practice social workers through Employee Assistance and Insurance Programs. In the past, committee members from Saskatoon have partnered with Social Workers from Regina to make contact with GMS, Blue Cross, Sun Life and others. The U of S EFAP external reviewer recommended that Master level Social Work services be covered. More recently, the committee checked national-level action with insurance companies and current advice is that the focus should now go toward employers (who drive policy content by what they demand of the companies).

In January of 2007, the chair of the committee participated in the SASW Strategic Planning Committee meeting.

The committee sought new membership within government departments by holding informationals about the SASW with the enticement of coffee and donuts. Coffee breaks were set up at worksites with the SASW display, information and application forms in the fall of 2007. One of the committee members spoke to new staff at the Social Services Core Training in Saskatoon. This was very well received.

The Public Relations Committee is in the process of reviewing a Power Point presentation which will be placed on the SASW Website for all to use. A call has gone out for pictures to update the SASW Display Board and to use on the Power Point presentation.

The committee is looking for new membership.

Respectfully submitted: Roxane Schury, BA, BSW, MSW , RSW (Sask.)

Standards of Practice Committee Report.....

No report due to committee inactivity and the lack of a committee chairperson. As of January 1, 2008 a committee chair has been recruited and a slate of committee members has been established.

Scholarship Task Team.....

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.

Committee Members

Chairperson: Sandy Vaughan Hastie
Marlene Glettler Richard Hazel (ex-officio)

During 2007, the Scholarship Task Team met on one occasion via telephone in March. A candidate for the Student Scholarship was selected and Pamela Vorstermans-Agar of Saskatoon was presented with the award at the Annual General Meeting. Because the award was not presented in 2006, the amount was doubled this year and amounted to **\$540**.

As of January 1, 2007, the Fund's balance was \$7996.95. During 2007, donations of \$1100 were made to the Fund and it earned income of \$481.71. Administration fees (1%) of \$86.51 were paid on December 31, 2007, with a remaining balance of \$8952.15.

The Fund is promoted in the SASW newsletter along with a tear-off form for contributions and is advertised in the Awards, Bursaries, and Scholarships section on the SASW website.

I have resigned as chair of the Scholarship Task Team effective December 31, 2007. A new chair will be recruited for 2008.

Respectfully submitted: Sandy Vaughan Hastie, MSW, RSW (Sask.)

Social Justice Committee Report.....

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

Co-chairpersons: Nancy Carmichael/Patti Cram
Dianne Allen Linda Charlton Noela Crowe-Salazar Kirk
Englot Kraus Gruber Mildred Kerr
David Macknak Judy White
Richard Hazel (ex-officio)

The Social Justice Committee has had another very active year. Issues addressed included:

- The amalgamation of the Social Policy Committee and the Advocacy Task Team - These groups were amalgamated under the "Social Justice Committee." Our "terms of reference" gives responsibility to this committee to be involved in the development of new, and the critique of existing social policy as well as to respond, in a timely manner, to more immediate concerns brought to the committee regarding social justice issues.
- The proposed changes to the mission statement made at the January Strategic Planning Session - The Committee agreed that removing the language of advocacy from the mission statement would not be a good thing for the Association in terms of our identity. As such, I wrote a newsletter article about the issue and met with the Saskatoon Branch and the Saskatoon U of R Faculty of Social work Student Union to ask for their input. Both groups overwhelmingly agreed that the language should stay in our statement and mobilized towards influencing this end. I represented the Committee on the "Values and Principles Task Team" that was called for by Council to clarify our intent around advocacy. This Team developed a new draft of the statements, which include the language of advocacy, to be considered by Council and the Advisory Committee prior to the vote at the AGM to adopt new statements.
- The coalition with SRNA and meeting with the DCR Income Security people - Our connection with SRNA diminished this year somewhat as our SRNA contact person left her position there. We are planning to reconnect with them in 2008 We met once with the Income Security people this year to discuss our ongoing concerns regarding adequacy and administration of SAP and TEA in particular. Plans are to continue to meet with this group.
- The "Saskatchewan Partnership for Children and Youth Committee" (The Partnership) - Two members of the Social Justice Committee along with the Executive Director continue to represent SASW on this committee. The Partnership, an initiative of the SASW policy committee three years ago, is a group of agencies and organizations concerned about the welfare of youth and children and their families in Saskatchewan. Terms of reference were developed in 2007. The mission statement is: "To advance the well-being of all Saskatchewan children and youth, their families and communities by promoting awareness of issues and creating conditions that promote best practice and quality service". In 2007 the Partnership completed one listening event, in Yorkton, to advertise itself, to gain support and to gather ideas from participants on direction it may take to pursue its mission. A Prince Albert event and others are planned for 2008.
- The CASW Children's Issues Committee - One member of the Social Justice Committee belongs to this committee, which was formed five years ago to pursue work place issues for child

welfare workers. It continues to meet through teleconferences with representatives from the provinces and territories. Currently the CASW Committee is studying Child Death Reviews that have been published across Canada over the past 20 or so years and will present provincial and federal governments with insights from the study. Additionally the Committee is testing new ways to provide support to Child Welfare Work units in the field. The committee will conduct two workshops on its efforts in these areas at the 2008 National Social Work Conference in Toronto.

- Release of public/media statements - The committee submitted two articles to Saskatchewan papers this year. One regarding the federal budget failure to adequately address poverty was picked up by the Regina Leader Post; the other regarding the housing crisis in Saskatoon was picked up by the Saskatoon Star Phoenix. We experienced some barriers in our attempts to have this last letter printed in a timely fashion and will continue to speak with Council about the process involved in doing media releases, with the goal being that we will be able to more efficiently get more letters/articles out to the media. We also sent emails to the Mayor and Council in Saskatoon regarding the Bus/Leisure Pass issue, asking them to continue with this program. We received quite a number of responses from that group.

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

Values & Principles Task Team Report.....

Committee Purpose

At its strategic planning workshop January 12 and 13, 2007, it was recommended that there be a set of values and principles set out for SASW. This work would incorporate the elements left out of the proposed draft vision and mission statements and present it in a context that further expresses how we will behave as we carry out our vision and mission. This work will include the development of a full expression of our advocacy purpose.

Committee Members

Chairperson: Jim Walls

Victoria Walton
(ex-officio)

Patti Cram

David Schantz

Richard Hazel

The Values/Principles Task Team was commissioned by Council in April 2007. Section 14 of *The Social Workers Act* and Section 26 of the *Social Workers Administrative By-laws* give authority for Council to authorize the formation of this committee.

SASW Council provided the Values & Principles Task Team with a number of expected outcomes:

- o *SASW have a full set of values and principles that express and clarify our philosophy of purpose and operation*
- o *SASW be better able to respond to questions on our approach under any of the four key purposes, and*
- o *SASW have clarity for its membership and the public on how it will approach its support of social justice issues through advocacy*

The original mandate was to bring a report to Council by October 31, 2007, but it became apparent quickly that the process would require more time. Council granted an extension, and asked for a report on February 7, 2008.

Social Workers are familiar with the values and principles which guide us in our practice and professional lives. These values are evidenced in our Code of Ethics and the Team began by using the core values of the Code as a starting point for our discussions. From the outset, it was clear that many of the core values of social work practice could be seen as fundamental values of an organization of social workers. Some of these include a recognition of the inherent worth and dignity of individuals; the pursuit of service to society through competent and ethical practice, and the pursuit of social justice to serve the public interest. The Task Team also recognized that in addition to the Code of Ethics framework, we might also state our values and principles in terms of an "organizational framework" that includes inclusiveness, democracy, transparency and accountability.

As the Task Team worked its way through the process of identifying and clarifying values and principles, we reviewed the draft Mission and Vision statements which were recommended during the January 2007 Strategic Planning event. While not appreciably changing the intent of the January drafts, the Team believes its suggestions will provide clarity and a more active "voice" to the statements.

The Task Team then placed its focus on the values which would best describe to our members, our partners and the general public our philosophy of purpose and operation related to the four key functions of SASW. The Team reviewed a number of other social work organizations' value statements and found the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers to have a very helpful and clear statement. We used it as a general model for our statement, and acknowledge their work in this area.

The Values and Principles Task Team presented its final report to the SASW Council on February 7, 2008. Following discussion, it was presented to the Advisory Board on February 8. The Council and Advisory Board have recommended a number of minor changes to the wording and layout of the drafts of the Mission and Vision and the statement of Values and Principles, and these drafts were provided to the SASW committee chairs and branch representatives for review and comment. Following this process, Council will place the revised Mission and Vision statements before the membership at the Annual Meeting in April, 2008. If consensus is received regarding the Values and Principles statement during the current consultation process, Council will also ask the SASW membership to consider its approval at the Annual General Meeting.

I would like to acknowledge and thank the members of the Values and Principles Task Team for their very deliberate and thoughtful work. As one might imagine, the debate was lively and passionate at times, and words and phrases were intensely scrutinized for intent and nuance. In the end, the Task Team felt confident that it had provided the Association with a clear and helpful document.

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

Volunteer Development Committee Report.....

Committee Purpose

The purpose of the Volunteer Development Committee is to review the offers of service by SASW members on their renewal forms, to respond to those who have made an offer for service and who have not had their offer met, to develop a meaningful program of volunteer recognition for the SASW provincial organization, provide support and advice to local branches in relation to issues such as volunteer development, retention and recognition and to forward the names of members who wish to stand for election to Council.

Committee Members

Chairperson: Tom Seeley

Barb Church-Staudt

Frank Dornstauder

Lucie Dmyterko

Krista Olson

The Committee faced a number of tasks during the 2007 year beginning with the search for a new President Elect. We were successful in recruiting Jim Walls in this position. The Committee was also successful in recruiting new chairs for the Mentorship Committee and the Standards of Practice Committee. Members were found for the newly formed Values and Principles Task Team. New members were also located for the Social Policy Committee, the SASW Aboriginal Interest Group, the Professional Conduct Committee and the Discipline Resource Pool.

During the year, the Committee also worked on a sustainable mechanism for ensuring all those offering service as volunteers are properly recognized.

Volunteer work is very central to the success of the SASW. The Volunteer Development Committee's work is made much easier by the willingness of the membership of our organization to step forward and make a contribution towards the betterment of the organization and the profession in Saskatchewan. The Committee thanks all those who have taken time from their busy lives and workloads to make this commitment to their profession.

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

Battlefords Branch Report...

No report submitted.

Moose Jaw Branch Report....

Branch Executive Members

Chairperson: Gwen Knoll
Treasurer/Branch Representative: Leann Keach
Secretary: Judy Vermette
Member at Large: Gisela Hall.

The Moose Jaw Branch only had one activity in 2007 and that was the Social Work Student Potluck Supper during Social Work Week.

It was with disappointment that the branch executive members decided to close the branch due to lack of interest from area social workers.

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

Northeast Branch Report....

Branch Executive Members

Chairperson/Branch Representative: Lucie Dmyterko
Past Chair: Lindsey Bruce Vice Chair: Heather Reese
Secretary: Jami McBain Treasurer: Vacant
Alternate Branch Representative/Education: Hazel Berg
Membership: Cecil Gooliaff
Public Relations/Fundraising: Leslie Christianson

In the spring of 2007, at the branch AGM, five enthusiastic members declared that the Northeast Branch would continue. Elections for the branch executive were held at that meeting.

Members reviewed a survey sent out to the membership which helped determine the direction for the upcoming year. Results showed that members found the local branch beneficial. Suggestions/improvements included having scheduled monthly meetings and events, information exchange with members and Advisory Board and networking. Recommended professional development topics were social policy, code of ethics, community development, redevelopment of Northeast Saskatchewan and counselling and treatment programs for sex offenders with intellectual disabilities. Taking the questionnaire results into account, the branch continued with supper meetings, rotating among the region (Melfort, Tisdale, Nipawin).

To celebrate Social Work Week the branch donated funds to Melfort KidSport, Nipawin Oasis Centre and Tisdale CHUMS.

Financial support was made available to Northeast area social work practicum students to attend the SASW Annual General Meeting and Conference but none were able to attend. Proposed presentations from practicum students was an excellent idea that was forwarded to 2008.

At the October supper meeting, the guest speaker was Lawrence Chukwu, the branch's newest member. Welcome, Lawrence! Lawrence spoke of the children in his home country of Nigeria and a honourarium was provided through personal donations from members to purchase what is needed for the children. Members discussed the possibility of linking with other agencies to continue to provide resources to the children in Nigeria. Mabel Litowski pursued this idea.

The November meeting was cancelled due to poor winter road conditions and will be rescheduled for early 2008. Hazel Berg, Chairperson of the Aboriginal Task Team, agreed to be our guest speaker.

For 2008, the branch will plan for Social Work Week, its Annual General Meeting and request "Code of Ethics" training.

Thanks to the members of the Northeast Branch who continue to attend meetings and activities. Thanks to the Advisory Board and others who continue to support SASW.

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

Prince Albert Branch Report.....

Branch Executive Members

Chair: Susan Luedtke/Charlene Cameron

Vice Chair: Nicole Rancourt

Treasurer: Audrey Zwack

Secretary: vacant

The Prince Albert Branch continued to hold monthly luncheon meetings during 2007. The Branch hosted an evening supper and speaker for Social Work Week in March which was attended by a group of about 20 people, including social workers, students and community members. The guest speaker for the evening was Marvin Bernstein, the Child Advocate for Saskatchewan, who spoke about the work of the child's advocate office and issues of concern for children in our province.

In October of 2007 the branch held its Annual General Meeting and nominated Charlene Cameron as chair,

We would like to express our appreciation to members of the Prince Albert executive for volunteering their time and energy to keep the branch going and to all members who have been involved in attending branch meetings and events for their continued support. We would also like to thank Debra Wiszniak, President, council members, committee chairs and branch representatives from across the province, as well as Richard Hazel, Executive Director, and Debb Fisher, Executive Assistant, for their hard work and commitment to enhancing the profession, supporting social workers in the province, and furthering the mission of social work.

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

Charlene Cameron, BSW, MA, RSW (Sask.)

Regina Branch Report.....

Branch Executive Members

Chair: Dianne Allen

Treasurer: Adrienne Douglas

Secretary: Crystal McKenzie

Members at Large: Colleen Larkin and Trina Farnell

The Regina Branch held meetings throughout the year but has continued to struggle with executive membership, dissemination of information to Regina and area members, and the challenge of hosting events with a small executive committee. The Regina Branch was supporting the Mentorship Program by hosting events but due to limited branch manpower has had to cease support to the program.

September welcomed a new member to our executive, Crystal McKenzie. Her additional help is much appreciated. We continue to brainstorm recruiting student membership. We have also managed to create a Regina and area e-mail system to finally disseminate information to local members. This is something the Regina branch has not been able to do for a number of years.

“Lunch and Learn Brown Bag” luncheons continued with a presentation on Suicide and Safety planned for February 2008. Feedback and attendance has been positive on this new series of luncheons.

Our annual Social Work Week Luncheon attracted approximately 75 members for a presentation by Geoff Pawson and Ranch Ehrlo staff on the numerous Ranch Ehrlo Society Programs. We chose to subsidize the event this past year in order to prevent ticket prices from rising.

Fall found our committee busy planning for further Lunch and Learn events, our annual social work week luncheon and discussion of hosting a workshop.

The Regina Branch continues to encourage more membership participation at the executive level so that we may be in a position to offer more educational and social events.

Respectfully submitted: Dianne Allen, BSW, RSW (Sask.)

Rural Social Work Interest Group Report....

Due to reduction of interest and support, the Rural Social Work Interest Group disbanded December 31, 2007.

Saskatoon Branch Report.....

Branch Executive Members

Chairpersons: Darlene Chalmers/Shelina Bhatia-Merali

Treasurer: Gwendolyn Gresham

Secretary: Amanda Klimm

Distribution: Nicole Ingenthron

University of Regina Faculty Rep: Darlene Chalmers and Judy White

First Nations University of Canada Faculty Rep: vacant

Mentorship: Melissa Flowers

Members at large:

Victoria Walton, Tara Brown, Jeff Sturgess, Pamela Vorstermans-Agar, Carole Courtney, Jeanne Beaudoin,

Karen Hanke, Terry Lowe, Ruth Ann Thomas, Richard Small, Rubina Malik, Jean Wiens, Shirley LeClaire,

Kristin Wilde, Daphne Kemp, Michelle Buglas, Carol McInnis, Erin Field, Melanie Grace, Doris Colson

The Mentorship Program had 18 matches for 2007., An informal kickoff lunch was held in October as well as a meet and greet breakfast in January. The program has been a success and continues to expand with much of the connection occurring with the Student Society at University of Regina being actively involved with the organization and planning.

The branch's Education Program is involved with Social Work Education Week held in February along with various sessions held for the community on valuable topics of interest at W. A. Edwards Building. Ethics training occurred with a few Saskatoon members trained in delivering sessions on ethical issues to other social workers in the professional field. There was also an informal session to the Ministry of Social Services providing information and awareness of SASW in encouraging registration.

The Saskatoon Branch has been particularly busy with the Provincial Conference planning as this is an exciting time for Saskatoon. The branch executive meetings continue to grow in numbers and this enthusiasm and dedication is of great value to our executive committee branch members.

Respectfully submitted: Shelina Bhatia-Merali, MSW, RSW (Sask.)

Swift Current Branch Report.....

Branch Executive Members

Chairperson: Peggy Cunningham
Secretary: Loretta Rolf-Unger Treasurer: Debbie Bissonnette
Program Director: Kristin Reinhart

Swift Current Branch Social Work Week activities included having Social Work Week proclaimed by the city, our SASW Banner hung across main street and Child Advocate, Marvin Bernstein, providing a public presentation on Advocating for Children's Rights. Two door prizes of books relating to children's rights were handed out.

Swift Current Branch activities have continued to focus on keeping membership informed and involved in provincial and community committees and issues. We have representation on the following provincial committees:

- Volunteer Development and Recruitment – Krista Olsen
- Legislative Review – Ralph Aman
- Public Relations – Kristin Reinhart
- Discipline – Sandra Fortman
- Mentorship Committee – Loretta Rolf-Unger

As well Swift Current Branch has representatives on the Action Swift Current Committee – Peggy Cunningham, and Sandra Fortman. Work on this committee consists of bringing social issues in Swift Current to the forefront, identifying gaps and looking at ways of involving the community as a whole in solutions. Many branch members participated in a community survey directly and by facilitating those often marginalized in such surveys to have a voice. The survey provided the opportunity for citizens to rate the "pillars" that are promoted as underlying life in Swift Current. These pillars include: Accessibility, Affordability, Culture, Education, Environment, Health, Recreation and Security.

The Branch has ordered a variety of SASW Swift Current Branch promotional materials, (e.g. totes, lunch bags and portfolios) to provide as gifts to guest speakers, door prizes, etc.

The Swift Current Branch Meetings are generally held over lunch hour; four to five times per year, with invitations sent to all members.

Respectfully submitted: Peggy Cunningham, MSW, RSW (Sask.)

Yellowhead East Branch Report.....

Executive Committee Members

Chairperson: Kendra Sedley
Secretary: Vacant
Branch Representative: Rick Yachiw

2007 has been a rebuilding year for the Yellowhead Branch. We experienced the loss of some regular members to new positions in various communities within Saskatchewan.

The Branch was asked to host the Annual General Meeting and Provincial Conference for 2009, which we are really excited about. This will be a great opportunity for the branch to connect with the community and provincial members. We are currently in the preliminary planning stages for the conference, working to determine a theme and goal.

The Mentorship Program has been stayed for the past few months. Many of our student members have become graduates of the Social Work program. We are currently working on innovative ways to engage students in becoming part of the mentorship program.

The Yellowhead East Branch had a great opportunity in June 2007 to host a Listening Tour with the Saskatchewan Partnership for Children and Youth. The Saskatchewan Partnership for Children and Youth is a newly formed organization that has as its purpose: "To advance the well-being of all Saskatchewan children and youth, their families and communities by promoting awareness of issues and creating conditions that promote best practice and quality service." This event was well attended by various stakeholders within the community of Yorkton and was a great opportunity for the Branch.

For 2008, the Branch would like to focus on the reestablishment of the Mentorship Program, recruitment of members to branch meetings and events, along with the planning of the 2009 conference.

Respectfully submitted: Kendra Sedley, BSW, RSW (Sask.)