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2002 Annual Report



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President's Report

2002 marked the 40th year of SASW's existence.

As the first year of my term as President of SASW draws to a close, I want to thank the members for offering me the opportunity to serve you in this position of leadership. It is truly an honour and a privilege to be President of this vibrant association and to represent our province at the national level.

My initial priorities were two fold: to see our membership reach 1,000 members and to develop a strategic plan to carry us forward in our development as an organization, thoughtful of process (which we excel at) and focused on outcomes and results that are consistent with social work values and our special role as a professional association.

We celebrated the registration of the 1000th member in September of 2002 and closed the year as at December 31, 2002 with a membership total of 1,050 members! We welcome each and every member to develop a strong affiliation to each other and the work SASW sets out to do.

Our Strategic Planning process is well underway and input has been invited from the membership, the political arena as well as from other professional associations. I look forward to the actual planning workshop which is scheduled for June 6 and June 7, 2003 in Regina where we will determine our vision/mission statement and strategic plan. This promises to be an exciting opportunity as social workers from around the province will gather and review our direction and priorities for the next five years. This initiative is being organized by a planning committee consisting of Maureen Kraemer (Weyburn), Wanda Seidlikoski Yurach (Prince Albert), David Macknak (Saskatoon), Bernie Zaharik (Regina), Richard Hazel (Regina) and myself (North Battleford). Valerie Sluth, Praxis Consulting, has been retained to facilitate the process and plan. Thank you is extended to each member of the planning committee for volunteering your time and expertise in this endeavor. SASW has entered a new phase of development with a need to refine policies, set new initiatives and respond effectively to our professional environments.

On the national level, I have been fortunate to participate with the group of provincial presidents to review the mandate of the Canadian Association of Social Workers and struggle with balancing the needs and priorities of a national voice. I will be attending the next President's meeting and the Annual General Meeting of CASW which is scheduled to be held in Halifax, Nova Scotia in early June 2003.

As an association, SASW has afforded the opportunity to set priorities and establish initiatives to promote the greater good. In 2002, we have again been reminded of the larger environment and community we operate within. Other organizations and systems may impinge upon us and challenge our practice, standards, and beliefs. With the proclamation of *The Psychologist's Act*, the standards of practice within mental health care, have been challenged. SASW is awaiting a meeting with the Honourable John Nilson, Minister of Health, to present our position and interests as SASW strives to set the standards for the social work profession.

I wish to extend my thanks and gratitude to the SASW Council Members for their participation and expertise at the SASW table and for accepting the many unique challenges and rewards of leadership. To SASW committee members, a sincere thank you for your contribution to life-long learning, practice standards and ethics, social justice issues, and organizational development. I express my appreciation to the branches as you remain active and involved in local initiatives.

I would like to extend special thanks to Debb Fisher for her talents including a never ending clarity of purpose and attention to time management. As well, thank you to Richard Hazel. It is a pleasure to have Richard join SASW. His fine sense of integrity and administrative acumen are certainly appreciated.

In conclusion, I offer my appreciation to members of SASW for your loyalty and commitment to the social work profession and to SASW.

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



Executive Director's Report

This report will be brief because my time as an employee at SASW has been brief. It was on September 9, 2002 that I came to this position. I first want to say how grateful I am for the welcome that has been extended by everyone. For their generosity in terms of time and information, I want to particularly thank Debb Fisher, Rawd Bieber and Klaus Gruber.

Already in the beginning stages, when I came along, were two major undertakings for SASW. Initial planning for the 2004 Conference to be held in Saskatoon was the subject of a meeting on September 20th with Eugenia Moreno, Executive Director of CASW and Ellen Oliver, the National President. As the year ended, planning and decision-making were underway under the capable leadership of conference co-chairs Tracy Muggli and Evelyn Hynes. We all look forward to the profile this conference will afford our profession, the opportunity to host a national event of this size and the privilege of learning together.

The other major project is the renewal of our strategic planning. SASW decided mid-way through 2002 to revisit the planning done in 1998 and determined early on that the widest possible consultation should be a part of this work. A committee to steer the process was established under the leadership of Deb Buettner and a consultant was retained to ensure that we were thoughtful and thorough. As we consider the future shape of our Act, reconsider our structures and deliberate about where to place our energies, it is hoped that the development of vision and mission statements and a refined set of goals, will be of significant assistance.

Elsewhere in these pages are accounts of the work of the committees and branches of SASW. Much is being achieved by our members as work proceeds on many fronts. I have thoroughly enjoyed becoming involved with the committees and the visits to branch meetings.

There is ongoing work by a national committee on third party billing where we are exploring ways to ensure the place of social work in the context of employee assistance programs. This is being led by the Ontario Association and we are one of four other jurisdictions directly involved. Current work is focused upon insurance companies, unions and Canada Customs and Revenue.

There is also ongoing work at the national and local level on the child welfare service area. This CASW-led project is called ***Creating Conditions for Good Practice*** and it is now moving to a phase where the information gathered will be used in a collaborative way to search for actions that will make a difference. Able leadership locally is given to this work by David Macknak of Saskatoon. David and I will be working with the Department of Social Services to determine how best to use the project materials recently received containing data particular to Saskatchewan.

We were very pleased to have our newsletter editorial group together for the first time in the fall. Thanks to Tamara Dobmeier, Brenda Stinson, Lorelee Manning, Ailsa Watkinson and Peter Griffiths for volunteering their time along with Debb Fisher and myself to plan and develop content for the newsletter. The initial thinking is that we would develop three or four ongoing sections looking at such elements as resources available, our history and particular areas of practice. We have also begun to do some things aimed at reaching out to potential members. The Yellowhead Branch did an article for the newsletter on what membership in SASW means to them. This is in response to questions about the nature of our Association from members and non-members alike.

In addition, posters promoting membership with SASW have been developed for staff working at the Department of Social Services and for students. These are now in distribution within the Department, Saskatchewan Indian Federated College (SIFC) and at the Faculty of Social Work – Regina, Saskatoon, and Prince Albert.

With all that is underway within the Association, 2003 should be a very interesting and challenging time.

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

Treasurer's Report

Nigel Crook
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

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AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of the
Saskatchewan Association of Social Workers

I have audited the statement of financial position of Saskatchewan Association of Social Workers as at December 31, 2002 and the statements of operations and unrestricted net assets and changes in financial position for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the organization's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

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

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

In my opinion, except for the effect of adjustments, if any, which I might have determined to be necessary had I been able to satisfy myself concerning the completeness of the revenues referred to in the preceding paragraph, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the organization as at December 31, 2002 and the results of its operations for the year then ended in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Nigel Crook

Nigel Crook FCA
March 14, 2003

SASKATCHEWAN ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

DECEMBER 31, 2002

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>
CURRENT ASSETS		
Bank accounts	\$ 30,758	\$ 23,594
Short term deposits	<u>226,920</u>	<u>219,346</u>
	257,678	242,940
Accounts receivable	489	135
Prepaid expenses	<u>2,101</u>	<u>2,045</u>
	260,268	245,120
RESTRICTED ASSETS		
	3,609	3,544
CAPITAL ASSETS - Note 3		
	<u>92,684</u>	<u>94,184</u>
	<u>\$ 356,561</u>	<u>\$ 342,848</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$ 5,182	\$ 4,033
Deferred revenue - Note 2	<u>182,830</u>	195,350
Current portion of mortgage payable	<u>5,225</u>	<u>5,017</u>
	193,237	204,400
MORTGAGE PAYABLE - Note 4		
	<u>18,304</u>	<u>23,736</u>
	<u>211,541</u>	<u>228,136</u>
NET ASSETS		
<u>Restricted:</u>		
Net assets restricted (Edna Osborne Fund) - Note 6	<u>3,609</u>	<u>3,544</u>
	3,609	3,544
<u>Unrestricted:</u>		
Net assets invested in capital assets - Note 7	69,155	64,432
Unrestricted net assets	<u>72,256</u>	<u>45,736</u>
	141,411	111,168
	<u>145,020</u>	<u>114,712</u>
	<u>\$ 356,561</u>	<u>\$ 342,848</u>

SASKATCHEWAN ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS

**STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
AND UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2002

	2002	<i>2002 Budget</i>	2001
REVENUE			
Membership Fees	\$ 241,950	\$ 235,000	\$ 210,773
Conference	8,420	12,000	23,280
Interest	2,516	3,500	5,087
Workshops	-	2,000	-
Newsletter	750	500	425
Mailing fees	500	500	550
Other fees and revenue	<u>81</u>	<u>150</u>	<u>191</u>
	<u>254,217</u>	<u>253,650</u>	<u>240,306</u>
EXPENDITURES			
Audit and accounting	1,328	1,400	1,258
Awards	229	500	60
Bank charges	1,172	1,200	1,279
Branch payments	3,700	3,500	3,700
CASW fees	38,023	36,500	35,423
Committee: meetings and travel	20,371	17,500	17,575
training and planning	1,270	1,500	543
Conference and workshop	8,440	12,000	18,625
Courier	495	700	697
Copier	1,490	1,500	1,079
Depreciation	5,529	6,000	5,873
Insurance	1,624	1,500	1,507
Legal	21,426	18,000	29,399
Miscellaneous	-	100	-
Mortgage interest	1,995	-	2,459
National conference	151	-	-
Newsletter	6,075	8,000	5,337
Office supplies/equipment	4,354	3,900	3,125
Postage	7,532	8,000	7,904
Printing and stationery	6,245	6,600	6,604
Property taxes	4,307	-	4,198
Special events	5,725	2,500	1,378
Repairs and maintenance	5,173	6,000	6,741
Salaries and benefits	66,286	104,730	80,085
Staff training	-	-	-
Telephone	8,104	8,000	7,905
Utilities	2,930	2,800	2,665
<i>Mortgage principal payments (budget item only)</i>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>223,974</u>	<u>252,430</u>	<u>245,419</u>
EXCESS REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	30,243	<u>1,220</u>	(5,113)
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>111,042</u>		<u>116,155</u>
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 141,285</u>		<u>\$ 111,042</u>

SASKATCHEWAN ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FINANCIAL POSITION

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2002

	2002	2001
OPERATIONS		
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures	\$ 30,243	\$ (5,113)
Items not requiring the use of cash:		
Depreciation not affecting cash	<u>5,529</u>	<u>5,873</u>
	35,772	760
Changes in non-cash working capital items		
Accounts receivable	(355)	195
Prepaid expenses	(56)	(192)
Accounts payable	1,149	142
Deferred revenue	<u>(12,520)</u>	<u>25,439</u>
	<u>23,990</u>	<u>26,344</u>
INVESTING		
Acquisition of capital assets	<u>(4,028)</u>	<u>(225)</u>
FINANCING		
Transfer to E. Osborne fund	-	135
Repayment of long term debt	<u>(5,224)</u>	<u>(4,728)</u>
	(5,224)	(4,593)
INCREASE IN CASH	14,738	21,526
UNRESTRICTED CASH, BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>242,940</u>	<u>221,414</u>
UNRESTRICTED CASH, END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 257,678</u>	<u>\$ 242,940</u>

SASKATCHEWAN ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2002

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 ($\frac{1}{2}$ 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>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>
Land	--	\$ 20,000	\$ -	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000
Building	4%	75,956	17,689	58,267	60,695
Office equipment	20%	22,781	15,087	7,694	9,617
Computer equipment	20%	16,073	10,703	5,370	2,180
Furniture and fixtures	20%	<u>5,916</u>	<u>4,562</u>	<u>1,354</u>	<u>1,692</u>
		<u>\$ 140,726</u>	<u>\$ 48,042</u>	<u>\$ 92,685</u>	<u>\$ 94,184</u>

4. MORTGAGE PAYABLE

The mortgage is secured by the real property at 2110 Lorne Street, Regina and is repayable to Sherwood Credit Union at \$975 per month including interest and taxes. Interest is currently charged at 7.5% per annum.

5. COMPARATIVE FIGURES

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

SASKATCHEWAN ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2002

6. NET ASSETS RESTRICTED

A contribution made to the Association, known as the Edna Osborne Fund, has been classified as restricted. The specific purpose and use of the fund is to be determined by the Association. Interest of \$65 (2001-\$195) earned by the fund during the year has been allocated to the fund.

7. NET ASSETS INVESTED IN CAPITAL ASSETS

Net assets invested in capital assets consists of:

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>
Capital Assets (net)	\$ 92,684	\$ 94,185
Mortgage payable - current	(5,225)	(5,017)
Mortgage payable - long term	<u>(18,304)</u>	<u>(23,736)</u>
	<u>\$ 69,155</u>	<u>\$ 65,432</u>

SASKATCHEWAN ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS

Proposed Budget – 2003

	2002 Budget	Proposed 2003
REVENUE		
Memberships	235,000.00	250,000.00
Conference	12,000.00	10,000.00
Workshops	2,000.00	2,000.00
Newsletter	500.00	750.00
Promo Sales	50.00	50.00
Mailing Fees	500.00	1,000.00
Interest Revenue	3,500.00	2,200.00
Miscellaneous Revenue	100.00	100.00
2004 Conference		15,000.00
Total Revenue	253,650.00	281,100.00
 TOTAL REVENUE	 253,650.00	 281,000.00
 EXPENSES		
<u>Employee Expense</u>		
Wages/Salaries	89,250.00	85,720.00
EI Expense	2,400.00	3,000.00
CPP Expense	3,600.00	3,350.00
WCB Expense	200	200
Pension Benefits	5,980.00	5,790.00
Group Life & Disability	1,400.00	1,500.00
Health/Dental Expense	1,100.00	1,120.00
Staff Training	800	800
Total	104,730.00	101,480.00
 <u>General & Administrative Expenses</u>		
Accounting	1,400.00	1,600.00
Legal	18,000.00	19,000.00
2004 National Conference		15,000.00
Awards	500.00	3,500.00
Branch Payments	3,500.00	4,000.00
C.A.S.W. Fees	36,500.00	40,000.00
Conference Expenses	10,000.00	10,000.00
Courier	700.00	700.00
Copier Expenses	1,500.00	1,500.00
Depreciation (Equipment/Bldg.)	6,000.00	7,000.00
Insurance	1,500.00	1,700.00
Bank Charges	1,200.00	1,200.00
Newsletter Expense	8,000.00	8,500.00
Office Supplies, Stationary	3,300.00	3,000.00
Office Equipment/Furniture	600.00	600.00
Postage	8,000.00	8,000.00
Printing	6,600.00	6,400.00
Special Events/Occasions	2,500.00	7,000.00

SASKATCHEWAN ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS

Proposed Budget – 2003

	2002 Budget	Proposed 2003
Repair & Maintenance Bldg.	6,000.00	6,000.00
Telephone, Fax & Internet	8,000.00	8,500.00
Utilities	2,800.00	2,800.00
Miscellaneous	100.00	100.00
Workshop Expenses	2,000.00	2,000.00
Total General and Admin Expense	128,700.00	158,100.00
<u>Committee Expenses</u>		
Mileage/Transportation	7,500.00	16,560.00
Accommodation	6,500.00	6,000.00
Meals	3,000.00	3,000.00
Parking	100.00	100.00
Training/Planning	1,500.00	2,000.00
Miscellaneous Expense	400.00	700.00
Total Committee Expenses	19,000.00	28,360.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	252,430.00	287,940.00
NET INCOME	<u>1,220.00</u>	<u>(6,840.00)</u>
	=====	
	=====	



Registrar's Report

As Registrar, I worked on behalf of SASW on a number of regulatory and association areas during 2002. I have been actively involved in such activities as the regulation of social workers, the increasing professionalism of social work, and the promotion of the profession of social work on both the provincial and national level.

In addition to my responsibilities for the registration of new applicants, renewal of members and reinstatement of former members, I sit as a member on the following SASW committees: Standard of Practice, Legislative Review, and Professional Conduct (*ex officio*). I also chair the Registrar's Committee. Provincially, I am a member of the Government of Saskatchewan's Network of Interprofessional Regulatory Organizations (NIRO). Nationally, I am a member of the Canadian Registrars National Committee. I am also in regular contact with the Registrars of the other Canadian social work provincial regulatory bodies regarding issues of regulation, control of title and of practice.

Membership

For 2002, I am pleased to report that SASW reached a milestone in its total membership. As a first, SASW reached 1000 members and then surpassed this number.

Membership breakdown for the past five years is as follows:

MEMBERSHIP TYPE	2002	2001	2000	1999	1998
ASSOCIATE	3	3	4	1	1
FULL TIME	736	682	660	660	612
NON PRACTISING	105	87	83	90	69
PART TIME	135	155	138	126	128
STUDENT	71	48	61	44	44
TOTAL	1,050	975	946	921	854

Registrar's Committee

The Registrar's Committee was struck to work on issues concerning regulation, registration of applicants, renewal of members and reinstatement of former members.

The committee has a number of tasks before it. One task was the review and amendment of the Association's by-laws. Other tasks are the development of policies and procedures concerning the duties of the Registrar, and the review of the forms used by applicants, and renewing members. Members of the Registrar Committee, beside myself, are Richard Hazel, Ray Pekrul, and the Association's legal counsel, Darcia Schirr.

Canadian Registrars National Committee

The Canadian Registrars National Committee meets once every year in the fall. Each year one of the regulatory social work bodies hosts this meeting. The 2002 meeting was held in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

At these meetings topics of national importance to the regulation of social workers are discussed. Some of these topics include registration, registration requirements, renewals, renewal requirements, reinstatement, reinstatement requirements, continuing education, ethics, standards, investigations, discipline, and mediation.

The purpose of this meeting is to allow the Registrars to examine and discuss issues that are important to the regulation of social work across Canada. It also permits the Registrars to compare regulatory requirements and attempt to standardize the practices of regulation across Canada.

Closing Comments

In closing, I would like to thank the following individuals and committees for their assistance and support throughout the year. They are Deb Buettner, Tom Gullason, Ray Pekrul, Mona Acker, Richard Hazel, Debb Fisher, the council of SASW, the Canadian Registrars, and committee chairs and members of the Standard of Practice, the Legislative Review and the Professional Conduct Committees.

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



For health and personal reasons, Norma Rohatyn resigned from her position as CASW Saskatchewan Director. Although her tenure was short, Norma made a contribution at the national level and she will be missed. I have completed the final year of Norma's term. CASW has developed clear selection criteria for this position. I am very pleased to announce that **Marlene Chatterson** has been appointed as our new CASW Director. Her term will begin after the June 2003 CASW Annual meeting. With the National Conference planned for Saskatoon in June 2004, this will be an exciting and challenging time for the incoming CASW Board member.

Quebec Withdraws From CASW

After 78 years as a member of CASW, l'Ordre professionnel des travailleurs sociaux du Quebec has announced that a decision has been taken by their board to withdraw from membership in the federation effective August 31, 2003. The l'Ordre has stated that this decision was made for financial reasons. Quebec has made a significant contribution to the work of CASW and a unique contribution to Canadian social work. The departure of l'Ordre is a major loss for CASW and the collective voice of social workers in Canada. Quebec's decision also has major financial implications for CASW. The restructuring and revitalizing of CASW is now more important than ever.

CASW Mandate & Mission Review

The Presidents of the Provincial/Territorial Associations are questioning and challenging the role of CASW and the relationship between the member organizations and the national organization is being examined. The Presidents want to have more meaningful input and the opportunity to influence the agenda and priorities of the national body. Central to the discussion of mandate is the issue of regulation -vs.- association. Professional regulation is exclusively an area of provincial jurisdiction. The mandate of CASW does not now include support to professional regulation even though 7 of 11 member organizations have a regulatory function. (Ontario, PEI and BC have separate regulatory bodies; the Territories do not have regulation.) This does create problems when shared regulatory issues are brought forward for discussion at the national level. This is a critical issue and right now is a divisive one. A joint committee was formed to address these concerns. The Presidents held a special meeting in Montreal in February of this year to address these issues and come up with some proposals. These challenges provide us with the opportunity to improve our working relationship and to make changes that will benefit the membership and the profession.

CASW National Conference--Saskatoon 2004

Mark your calendars now! The 2004 CASW National Conference will be held in Saskatoon June 5 to 8, 2004. The theme for our Conference will be: **"Social Work: Making a Difference & Meeting the Challenge."** 'Making a Difference' is the Saskatchewan theme and 'Meeting the Challenge' could include all fields of practice. Conference co-chairs are Tracy Muggli and Evelyn Hynes. Planning is well under way with committees being struck, a budget and work plan developed and hundreds of details regarding facilities, accommodations, translation, logo, program, speakers etc. being managed.

The second CASW National Conference was held in Moncton, New Brunswick in June 2002. "Social Work from Sea to Sea" was a great success in every way. There were 440 registrants and a profit was made which was divided between NBASW and CASW. The 2006 CASW National Conference will be held in Vancouver.

Historic Meeting

For the first time in both of our histories, the NASW (National Association of Social Workers) Executive Committee met with the CASW Board. Their 10-member Executive, the NASW Executive Director and other staff, traveled from all over the United States to attend a joint meeting in Ottawa in October 2002. This event had been many years in the making. There were striking similarities in the issues and challenges being faced by both organizations despite the difference in scale. (NASW has about 150,000 members, 10 times the CASW membership.) A NASW-CASW Memorandum of Understanding has been ratified by both organizations. This document formalizes our wish to work together on certain areas of mutual interest.

Social Work Day At The United Nations

CASW will plan the annual Social Work Day at the United Nations in April 2003. This includes choosing a theme, speakers and making a presentation. Last year the CASW Executive attended the UN Social Work Day. This will be the first time that CASW has been involved in the planning as this has always been handled by the NASW. We are pleased to have this opportunity.

National Statement Of Ethical Principles

The Code of Ethics is being revised and will be called the National Statement of Ethical Principles. There will be consultation with and feedback requested from member organizations as this work progresses. The revised Code will be a document that represents the core ethical principles of the profession of social work in Canada. The interpretation of each principle will attempt to reflect the diversity of practice within our community.

CASW Distinguished Service Award

The CASW National Distinguished Service Award is given yearly by CASW to an individual or group of individuals selected by each member organization. This year's Saskatchewan recipient is Rawd Bieber. Rawd has made a significant contribution to our profession over his many years of involvement. Congratulations Rawd!

Child Welfare Project: *Creating Conditions for Good Practice*

A Child Welfare Consultation Day was held in conjunction with the CASW National Conference in June 2002. As well, the results of the CASW National Child Welfare survey were presented to conference participants. An action plan has been developed to carry out the next steps of the Child Welfare Project.

Social Work Role Statements

Work is being done on the National level to develop role/position statements for the following areas of practice:

- ✓ Primary Health Care
- ✓ Outcome Measurement/Best Practice Service Innovation in Health Care
- ✓ Corrections/Justice
- ✓ Authority & Social Work Intervention
- ✓ Older Adults
- ✓ Long Term Care
- ✓ Labour Unrest

"Social Work in Long-Term Care" and "The School Social Worker" have recently been completed.

Special Interest Group In Health

CASW has completed an agreement with CASWLH (Canadian Association of Social Work Leaders in Health—used to be CASWAH). This group will now become a special interest group of CASW.

Journal Editor

The current editor of Canadian Social Work, Bill Rowe has relocated to Florida. The new editor will be Gilles Rondeau of Quebec. To facilitate this transition, in 2003 Rowe and Rondeau will work together as co-editors of our publication.

National Awards

CASW is reviewing the criteria for the National Award and considering developing some new awards. The first one will be a Media Award. Stay tuned for further details.

OASW Video "Social Work: An Extraordinary Profession"

OASW (Ontario Association of Social Workers) has produced a 30 minute video, "Social Work: An Extraordinary Profession." SASW now has a copy. The videos are available in English and French for about \$40 each.

Next Meetings

The spring CASW Board meeting will be held in Halifax May 28 – June 1, 2003. It is the Nova Scotia Association's 40th anniversary and they will be hosting these national meetings in conjunction with their annual conference. Their international conference on "Human Services in Rural Communities - Beyond Geographical and Disciplinary Boundaries" is being organized with CSSW (Canadian Schools of Social Work) and MSSW (used to be the Learned's). The Joint CASW/Presidents meeting and the CASW Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, June 1, 2003.

I want to thank the Executive and Council of SASW as well our Executive Director, Richard Hazel and Executive Assistant, Debb Fisher, for their ongoing support of the work of CASW. I also want to thank our CASW President, Ellen Oliver for the strength of leadership she has shown in these interesting and challenging times.

I continue to be amazed by the amount of work that is done by our very small national office. We are very fortunate to have Eugenia Moreno as the Executive Director of CASW. She has made an enormous contribution to the profession both nationally and internationally.

This is my final report as your representative on the CASW Board. It has been a great privilege and a pleasure to serve as the Saskatchewan director on our national board.

Respectfully Submitted: **Maureen Kraemer, MSW, RSW (Sask.)**



Discipline Resource Pool Report

Committee Purpose

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

Committee Members Jim Walls, Chairperson

Pamela Ait-Allaoua	Dan Fofonoff	Elizabeth Fraser	Dixie Green
Harriet Greenhow	Susan Hetu	Kerry Lapointe	Katherine Potts
Fay Schuster	Tom Seeley	Don Stevenson	Audrey Zwack
Terri Woods	Murray Wotherspoon	Helen Finucane	<i>(Public Representative)</i>

The Resource Pool

Five members joined the Discipline Resource Pool in 2002, swelling our numbers to sixteen. I want to thank those new members for their interest in the discipline process and their commitment to serve the Association and the public in this way. I also want to thank the continuing members of the Resource Pool. As their experience grows, so too does their ability to effectively carry out the responsibilities placed on them through the self-regulation process.

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

Discipline Hearings

Two hearings were held in 2002. One decision from a hearing held in 2002 was released in the Spring 2003 edition of the *Saskatchewan Social Worker*.

Training

I attended a workshop entitled, "Introduction to Professional Investigation and Discipline Process" held in February. The workshop was jointly planned by Russ Buglass of the College of Law, University of Saskatchewan, the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Saskatchewan and the College of Physical Therapists of Saskatchewan.

A Training Day was held for members of the Discipline Resource Pool in November, 2002. The presenter was Dirk Silversides, SASW legal counsel, and was assisted by staff from his legal office.

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



Education Committee Report

Committee Purpose

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

Committee Members

Ray Pekrul, Chairperson

Grant Rathwell

Joyce Reid

Sharon McKay

Bernie Zaharik

Richard Hazel (ex-officio)

A key activity of the Education Committee has been orientating new members to the committee's ongoing agenda topics and issues.

Implementing and revising the policy governing Continuing Education has occupied most of the committee's time. Prior to the 2003 membership registration year, a portfolio folder including a policy statement and inventory sheets were mailed out. The committee hoped the portfolio would aid members in tracking their wide range of continuing education activities throughout the year. The portfolio was seen as a tool helpful at the time of registration by preventing members from having to recall a whole year of activities at the time. In a further attempt to increase compliance in completing the inventory of activities reports, in March 2002 and then again in May 2002, we requested completion of the forms for the 2002 registration year from those who had not completed them earlier. We received approximately a 64% return of completed forms in response to our letters, as well as written comments from members indicating the impact of the policy and issues particular to them. The Education Committee thanks those members who took the time to write expressing their concerns. These responses have formed the background for revisions of the policy and we believe a majority of the issues have been addressed. We now have a revised Continuing Education Policy which will be circulated to the membership prior to the 2004 renewing year. For the 2003 renewing year, it is with great pleasure we announce a compliance rate of over 90% for the submission of Continuing Education Inventory Forms .

In order to facilitate opportunities for members to meet expectations regarding continuing professional education to upgrade and remain current, the Education Committee sees that SASW has an obligation to provide learning opportunities. We would like to see workshops/seminars delivered at least once a year in each of the following areas: clinical social work/group work, community development and research, social policy administration, social work supervision and management. We recognize this is volunteer and labor intensive, but in partnership with employers, the Faculty of Social Work, etc., these endeavors may be successful.

Committee members represent SASW on University of Regina Faculty of Social Work committees. Bernie Zaharik sits on the University of Regina - Senate Committee and is a member of Faculty/Student Council. Ray Pekrul is SASW representative to the Undergraduate Studies committee and on the sub-committee looking to revise the admissions process and student applications.

The Education Committee continues to evaluate student applications. The October and January admissions have included about 270 student application forms needing to be read, commented on and assigned marks. The Committee is drafting a list of concerns about the application and the process to be submitted to the University of Regina Sub-Committee on Admissions.

The Education Committee looks forward to serving you for another year and welcomes your input.

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



Legislative Review Committee Report

Committee Purpose

The purpose of the Legislative Review Committee is to provide a position statement for the membership of SASW and to establish mandatory registration for social work within the Province of Saskatchewan in an effort to strengthen the social work profession.

Committee Members:

Tom Gullason, Chairperson

Klaus Gruber

Richard Hazel

Carole Bryant

Debra Wiszniak

Rawd Bieber

Ray Pekrul

Michael MacLean

Geoff Pawson

Consultations With SASW Members

Ten percent (10%) of the SASW membership attended the consultation meetings. Consultation with the membership is ongoing by the present Executive Director, Richard Hazel, at branch meetings and numerous calls to the SASW office. In review, consultations were made in the communities of: Regina, Saskatoon, Prince Albert, La Ronge, Moose Jaw, Rosetown, North Battleford, Lloydminster and Swift Current, prior to Klaus Gruber's leave from SASW, December, 2001; and, January, 2002. As the 2001 Annual Report states, "There was consensus that we must, as a profession, move to mandatory registration". Presently, membership in the association is voluntary and there were 1050 members registered in 2002. The Association continues to support the membership in their ongoing development and training.

An issue of concern, to members who attended the consultations was, "should the Association provide another opportunity to grandparent potential members who are working in social work related positions when their position is not classified as a social worker"? As examples, some members cited long term employees working for the Department of Social Services [i.e. the Social Service Program Worker classifications; some staff do not have a professional degree in social work]. Others refer to private practitioners who call themselves counsellors and choose not to become a SASW member. Some counsellors/therapists have years of experience and some are supervised by a registered social worker. In some instances, individuals have not furthered their education to obtain a minimum of a CSW or BSW. Some are soon to retire; while, others have 10 years before retirement.

The Committee has obtained the Legislation, Bylaws, etc. of Associations in other Canadian provinces. **Note:** With respect to the 'AIT – Agreement on Internal Trade (Canada) being developed, the presidents of the provinces and some territories [Associations] support a BSW degree as the minimum standard for mobility within the country. Presently, Quebec's minimum requirement is MSW.

Future Directions And Work Plan For This Committee

While a number of these areas have been addressed since 'The Social Workers Act, effective April 1, 1995', the work continues in defining "scope of regulation", "scope of membership", "scope of practice", and "the dual role of SASW" needs to be further reflected in our planning.

Ongoing Consultation With Branches, Representatives, Stakeholders And Other Jurisdictions

This is critical in the development of legislation that will serve our membership and the consumer for years to come.

Request From The Committee

Please attend your branch meetings to ensure you are kept informed. We welcome your input. Updates are provided to your branch representatives at each Council meeting; and, more often, by the Executive to obtain feedback from the branches and SASW members. I welcome your calls at (306) 373-8950 (residence) or your emails tomgullason@sasktel.net.

Closing Remarks

Thank you to all members of the Legislative Review Committee. Your support, encouragement, knowledge and investment in the work you are doing, as a committee member, is appreciated. I wish to extend my appreciation to Geoff Pawson who has recently agreed to join me as co-chair of this Committee. The SASW Executive and Council continue to have input. Your ideas are needed. They reflect the trends in this province and the development of the social work profession, on the whole.

The present status and progress of the Committee are in-part reflective of member involvement. Thank you for your attendance at the consultations, your involvement with your branches and your contact with the Executive Directors. Your involvement, including your opinions, are needed.

Thank you to Klaus Gruber, SASW's former Executive Director of the SASW [Klaus has agreed to continue his work on this Committee] and to Richard Hazel, Executive Director. Debb Fisher has provided administrative support to this Committee in contacting members. Thanks, Debb.

I wish to acknowledge Bernice, my spouse, for her continuous support. I appreciate your understanding, Bernice, since 1992 for the hours, I have been away from home attending Executive/Legislative Review Committee/Council/and other Committee meetings. The hours for research/writing reports goes without saying.

Respectfully submitted: **Tom Gullason, MSW, RSW (Sask.)**

Remember: "Social Workers - Make a Difference".



Practice Ethics Committee Report

Committee Purpose

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

Committee Members:

Victoria Walton, Chairperson

Della Yaroshko
Bernadette Prokopetz

Dave Macknak
Norlane Jensen

John Nicholson
Jana Hladun

Stan Dimnik

In 2002, the Practice Ethics Committee were consulted on 10 occasions by social workers from rural and urban settings, and from private practitioners as well as those working in various agencies. We responded to requests via telephone, in writing or by conference call, depending on timeliness and confidentiality needs. Questions were posed regarding files, charting, confidentiality, dual relationships, boundaries and issues with supervisors. There seems to be a particular need for consultation expressed from social workers working in isolation, whether that be in rural Saskatchewan, in a private practice, or in a position as the only social worker on multi-disciplinary teams.

As a committee, we also considered the educational needs of social workers regarding ethical practice as well as how to get the news out about our committee's presence to social workers. We were involved in successfully lobbying the University of Regina, Faculty of Social Work, for a mandatory ethics class in the B.S.W. curriculum. We have also written an article for the SASW newsletter regarding our process and availability, which was published in the spring 2003 newsletter.

During 2002, we made contact with a parallel committee in Manitoba regarding their procedures. MASW uses a more formal process including the advice of a lawyer in their responses. After reflecting on the merits of informal and formal processes, we have made the decision to remain committed to a more informal approach which we believe is more accessible.

Richard Hazel, Executive Director, attended one of our meetings this past year and will attend as he is available. It was useful to review our procedures with him, to discuss how SASW can support us in advertising and to consider our relationship with the Standards Committee.

For 2003, we have asked for money to be allocated to the committee for travel expenses. It is hoped that members from outside Saskatoon might want to join our committee. As well, it is hoped the allocated money will promote the Practice Ethics Committee with the membership.

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



Professional Conduct Committee Report

Committee Purpose

The Professional Conduct Committee [established under Section 25 (1) of the Social Workers Act (May 4, 1993)] is the committee charged with considering/hearing written complaints against a members alleging they are guilty of professional misconduct or incompetence. It is the committee's role to determine if the complaint should be heard before a Discipline Committee or if no further action should be taken. In essence, the Professional Conduct Committee along with the Discipline Committee are the arm of the Association charged with the protection of the public.

Committee Members Mona Acker, Chairperson

Judy Anderson
George Enns

Gayle Fulton
Eldon Wildeman

Jennifer Cohen
Gloria Fong

Joan Morris
Rawd Bieber (ex officio)

Complaint Activities in 2002:

Complaint Status	Number
Complaints carried forward to 2002-01-01	2
Complaints opened/received to 2002-12-31	6
Complaints sent to Discipline	0
Complaints with "no further action" *	5
Complaints concluded in 2002	5
Complaints remaining open at 2002-12-31	3
Total cases handled during 2002	8

*"No further action" may be due to the

complaint made by a third party, insufficient evidence, the alleged act did not constitute professional misconduct or incompetence, or the complaint did not concern a member.

The chairperson of the Professional Conduct Committee attended all Discipline Committee hearings.

The nature of complaints investigated varied widely including: billing irregularities, inadequate custody and access reports, dual relationships, problematic collegial relationships, using the title "Social Worker" while not a member, and breach of confidentiality.

Other Activities

The Professional Conduct Committee submitted the alternative dispute resolution work for final draft which is entitled "**Framework for Mediation of Complaints**" (policy and procedures) and received approval from Council. A special thank you to Eldon Wildeman for the work he put into this. We are hoping that complainants and members will agree to mediation of suitable complaints and that they, SASW and the public will all be better served. The Committee will be a party to all mediations and approve agreements. A thank you to those social work associations across Canada who responded to our questionnaire inquiring about their use of alternate dispute resolution. The "Framework" will be available shortly to all members and the public.

The committee is in the process of developing a brochure to explain the regulatory function of the Association.

Three committee members attended a workshop in Saskatoon on methods of investigating complaints organized by the Council on Licensure, Enforcement and Regulation (CLEAR).

Liaison occurs with the chairperson of the Saskatchewan College of Psychologists Professional Conduct Committee and Law Society of Saskatchewan staff responsible for professional conduct.

The chairperson of the Professional Conduct Committee sits on Council and on the Building/Facilities Committee looking into accessibility of the SASW office.

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

Respectfully submitted: **Mona Acker, MSW, RSW (Sask.)**



Public Relations Committee Report

Committee Purpose

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

Committee Members

Chairperson: Vacant

Joanne Toh

Rick Kuckartz

Shirley LeClaire

Karen Hanke

The Public Relations Committee was inactive during 2002. It is hoped that the committee can be rejuvenated and additional volunteers can be found.

Of note to the membership, is that SASW has purchased a three panel portable display board which is available from the SASW Office for the purpose of promoting the profession and educating the public at career expos, conferences, workshops, etc.

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



Standards of Practice Committee Report

Committee Purpose

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

Committee Members

Dennis Arbuthnott, Chairperson

Rawd Bieber
Wanda Yurach

Gloria Geller
Richard Hazel

Evelyn Hynes

There have been substantial changes to the Standards of Practice Committee. We were not very active during the first six months of 2002 and consequently much of the agenda set for 2002 was not addressed. We became active in September and have been meeting regularly since then. Gloria Geller left the committee at the end of 2002 and we would like to express our appreciation for her input and efforts during her time on the committee. Evelyn Hynes and Wanda Yurach have joined our committee and give us input from their areas of the province. Our new Executive Director, Richard Hazel, has been attending meetings. The Subcommittee on Private Practice has been inactive and any private practice issues have been dealt with by the Standards of Practice Committee.

Private Practice Registry

The Standards of Practice Committee continues to screen and approve applications for inclusion in the Registry.

Development of New Standards

The committee is actively working at developing standards for social workers in income security. We are working primarily from a document developed by Evelyn Hynes as part of her Master's program at the University of Regina. Our work includes input from the Department of Social Services and SASW legal counsel. We hope to submit these standards to Council for approval in 2003.

The committee has begun to collect information and will begin to develop standards for social workers in residential care settings for youth.

Plans For The Upcoming Year

In addition to working on the above standards, the Standards of Practice Committee will also address the following:

- Review of health care standards. We chose this set to review in light of the recent (March 2002) proclamation of the Psychologist's Act. Portions of this act have potential implications for the practice of social work, and in particular, for social workers in mental health and health district settings.
- Discussion and recommendations regarding social work practitioners using particular techniques and/or alternative treatment methods.
- Changes to the private practice registry.

In closing, I would like to thank Debb Fisher for her assistance in keeping the committee going. It has been helpful to have Richard Hazel provide input and guidance. Once again, thanks to Gloria Geller and current members of the committee for their efforts.

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



Social Policy Committee Report

Committee Purpose

The purpose of the Social Policy Committee is to provide a collective voice for members of SASW, to ensure effective social policy that promotes social and economic equity.

Committee Members:

Brian Howell, Chairperson

Mildred Kerr

Loralee Manning

Luc Theriault

Ralph Aman

Klaus Gruber

Patti Cram

Angela Leski

Richard Hazel

Wanda Yurach

The Social Policy Committee met on December 3, 2002 to begin to establish its agenda for 2003. The meeting was held in Prince Albert with members from Saskatoon and Regina joining us on a teleconference call.

Committee members are interested in many areas of social policy including:

- the Provincial Government's Building Independence Strategy
- child welfare reform
- working with anti-poverty groups in Saskatchewan
- how the Government might benefit from allowing MSW graduates in the provincial government to become more involved in research and policy development
- issues facing community based organizations as they attempt to implement the new Outcomes Based Evaluation required by the Department of Social Services.

The committee intends to meet in January 2003 for a half day session to further develop our agenda and to begin to respond to some of these issues. Anyone interested in joining the Social Policy Committee can contact me at (306) 763-7457 or at rbii@sk.sympatico.ca.

Respectfully submitted: **Brian Howell, BSW, RSW (Sask.)**



Battlefords Branch Report

President: Alan Corbeil **Vice President:** Karen Richard
Secretary: Jill Christianson **Treasurer:** Dianne Lauritzen
Members at Large: Jill Walls & Patti Dupuis
Branch Representative: Deb Buettner

Battlefords Branch is pleased to report on a successful year of activity in 2002. The Branch continues to focus on increasing membership and providing educational opportunities within our region. The branch membership has grown to include 29 social workers within the private sector, health, and social service fields of practice. We have organized several events to encourage participation and learning.

In order to remain familiar with local service delivery systems, our branch received presentations from our Kids First initiative and the Family Reunification Program with Saskatchewan Social Services.

Celebrating Social Work Week also remains a priority in the Battlefords Branch. The News Optimist published an article describing the mandate and values of the social work profession. We held our annual luncheon to mark the contributions of our profession and received lively presentation from our guest, Mildred Kerr, Executive Director – Equal Justice for All.

I would offer sincere thanks to our members for supporting our branch, and to our Executive for their commitment and creativity this past year. I offer our thanks as well, to SASW Council for their interest in our branch and provincial coordinating efforts. In conclusion, I extend our gratitude to Debb Fisher and Richard Hazel for their excellent assistance and expertise.

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



Moose Jaw Branch Report

Chairperson: Gloria Gale

Vice-Chairperson: Gwen Knoll

Secretary: Lyda Bruse

Treasurer: Leanne Beach

Branch Representative: Lois Lien

Members at Large: Grant Rathwell & Judy Vermette

The Moose Jaw Branch continues to have meetings every second month with presentations being provided by the various agencies employing social workers. The attendance varies. In an effort to try to increase the attendance and to give agencies an opportunity to host and provide "on-site" tours, meetings are now being hosted by social workers in community agencies.

Moose Jaw Branch published two newsletters over the course of the year, however, this project is on hold while the branch reviews level of interest and strategies for coordination.

Representatives of the Moose Jaw Branch attended City Hall to have their photo taken with the mayor while he signed the Proclamation for Social Work Week in March 2002. Individual work places had functions to recognize the social workers in their respective offices.

The Annual Meeting of the branch was held on April 11, 2002 and all positions were filled with the exception of the Newsletter Coordinator. We are pleased to add a representative from Mental Health and Family Services Moose Jaw to our executive as members at large.

Four people from Moose Jaw Branch attended the SASW Annual General Meeting and provincial conference which was held in Watrous on April 24 to April 26, 2002. Moose Jaw is very proud of Lois Lien, one our branch members, for being the recipient of the Distinguished Service Award.

In June 2002, provincial council approached Moose Jaw to coordinate and host the 2003 Annual Conference of which our executive met and rose to the challenge. A lot of our time has been spent doing the coordination/planning and we are now at a point where other working committees will be formulated to assist in this endeavor.

In November 2002, we had to recruit a new Treasurer. Our incumbent had to resign due to work and personal commitments. Leanne Keach has volunteered for this position.

The Moose Jaw Branch had its Christmas "Meet & Greet" on December 12th with 20 individuals attending. We were disappointed when Richard Hazel was unable to attend due to illness. Karin McEwen was the winner of the massage.

Gwen Knoll, vice chairperson, has been very proactive in recruiting new SASW members and providing information to new inquiries. An email from the branch has been sent out to all new members to welcome them and to advise of upcoming events.

Respectfully submitted: **Gloria Gale, BSW, RSW (Sask.)**



Northeast Branch Report

President: Lindsay Bruce **Vice President:** Sandy Neely
Past President: Myrtie Rempel
Secretary: Maureen Schriml **Treasurer:** Marylou Hamilton
Branch Representative: Lucie Dmyterko

The Northeast Branch continues to increase its membership from its vast geographic area. Supper meetings occurred at Tisdale, Nipawin, and Melfort. This format appears to be working and attendance is usually very good. Our branch's purpose is largely for information and professional development and, as in previous years, these goals were successfully achieved.

At our March meeting, Margaret Henderson, guest speaker reported on her practicum experience in Brazil where she spent four months at Fundanor, an orphanage/shelter for orphaned, abandoned or apprehended children.

On March 24, 2002 the Northeast Branch was one of three co-sponsors of an International Women's Day event featuring Monica Coneys, who spoke on the balance between work and home. Those who attended expressed pleasure for a great presentation.

The Northeast Branch Annual General Meeting was held in Tisdale on May 21, 2002. A new slate of officers was elected (as above).

The September meeting held in Nipawin featured Shelley Adams, Nipawin School Division. She provided an informative presentation regarding a proposal by several agencies in Nipawin to establish a family resource center.

The focus of the Northeast Branch will continue to be networking and professional development.

A sincere thank you to all Northeast members who have contributed their time and effort to the various functions that make this a successful and viable branch.

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



Prince Albert Branch Report

Secretary: Katherine Madraga

Treasurer: Connie Banks

Vice President: Audrey Zwack

President/Branch Representative: Patti Cram

The Prince Albert Branch has had another busy year. We continue to meet once a month over lunch and have continued to enjoy an active membership this year.

Members of our branch have been active with the Association in a number of ways, including: as members of committees, with strong representation (4) of active membership with the Social Policy Committee; regular and participatory attendance at monthly Branch meetings; attendance and presentation at the National Conference in Moncton in June; and regular attendance at Council meetings in Regina.

We are well connected with our Community Education Centre/Faculty of Social Work, University of Regina, with Faculty staff, who has been active with committees and the Branch, having joined our Association this year. We are connected as well in that we have had good representation from the student body recently. Our members do guest presentations in classes and instruct classes as sessional lecturers, and we continue to plan joint social/educational activities with the Faculty, and we have Branch members who sit on the Faculty's newly created *Community Advisory Board* in our community.

Much of our time during Branch meetings this year has been spent talking about the nature and structure of our Association. We are very much looking forward to the chance of being involved with the vision and mission statement creation process that has begun, and are planning a focus group for our community that will enable us to be a part of this creation.

In terms of Branch business, we hosted a social/presentation event at the Community Education Centre in December. Opal Cameron presented and facilitated discussion on 'how to stay positive in social work'. We had a good turn out, with good conversation, visiting and pizza supper. We have had a visit at a Branch meeting from our new Executive Director and have met with him in person, in PA, for two Social Policy meetings. We have appreciated each of Richard's in-person meetings with us.

Our plans for Social Work Week include: Social work students and practitioners doing in-class presentations with Grade 12 students in our community; SASW members doing in-class presentations at the Faculty; submission of interviews with practitioners to our local newspaper, and a presentation at the Department of Social Services main office for employees and interested others.

We want to send best wishes to all of our colleagues throughout the province and many thanks to Debb Fisher and Richard Hazel for all of the hard work they do for us.

Yours in community...

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



Regina Branch Report

No report is available from the Regina Branch. This branch has been inactive during 2002.



Rosetown Branch Report

No report is available from the Rosetown Branch. This branch has been inactive during the 2002.



Rural Social Work Interest Group Report

President: Deborah Bryson Sarauer

Vice-President: Barb Ulmer

Secretary: Peter Griffiths

Directors: Carla Jule, Heather Hamilton, Lindsey Bruce, Joanne Schenn, Judy Jones

The Rural Social Work Interest Group officially formed in April 2001 "to address some of the unique challenges and to celebrate the innovative strategies of social workers working in rural environments throughout Saskatchewan" (*Saskatchewan Social Worker*, February 2002, p.12). The goals of this group include:

- to increase the knowledge and awareness of rural social work practice issues;
- to raise the consciousness of rurality as an issue in social work and service delivery to communities;
- to undertake rural social work research to enable the group to effectively manage social, economic and political issues;
- to enable rural social workers to have a collective voice in SASW and act as a consultant for SASW on issues concerning rural social work;
- to encourage professional development in rural areas by promoting further training for social workers and other human service workers that is accessible and relevant to their needs;
- to share information about rural issues, training, relevant projects and provide support to social workers in rural settings.

For 2002, the Rural Social Work Interest Group was involved in:

Writing Contest

The group sponsored a writing contest open to SASW members. The topic of the essay was, "A Day in the Life of a Rural Social Worker". Deadline for entries was March 22, 2002. The provincial winner of Paul Brandt's CD *Small Towns and Big Dreams* was Nadia Stadnyk. Nadia's essay was published in the *Saskatchewan Social Worker*, November 2002 Edition.

SASW Annual General Meeting and Conference

The group's major project of 2002 was hosting the SASW Annual General Meeting and Conference in Watrous, Saskatchewan, from April 24 – 26, 2002. The conference was entitled "Putting the 'Social' Back into Social Work: Taking Time for Community." The focus of the conference was rural social work practice issues.

Annual General Meeting

The group held their Annual General Meeting on April 25, 2002. During this meeting members reviewed the previous year's activities, established an Executive for April 25, 2002 – April 25, 2003, and formulated group plans for the upcoming year.

Public Awareness Activities

The group published an article entitled "Social Work Conference Slated for Watrous/Manitou Beach" in *The Watrous Manitou*, a local publication in the community hosting the SASW Annual General Meeting and Conference. The purpose of this article was to raise public awareness regarding the upcoming conference and the social work profession. Following the conference, the group placed a "Card of Thanks" in *The Watrous Manitou* to thank the community for its assistance during the SASW Annual General Meeting and Conference.

Group Membership

As of December 31, 2002, there were 27 members from across Saskatchewan and two associate members from out-of-province.

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



Saskatoon Branch Report

Chairperson: Tracy Muggli **Secretary/Education Committee** Ruth Mireau
Treasurer: Richard Small **Education Committee :** Evelyn Hynes
Mentoring Committee: Melissa Kelsey **Student Rep/Mentoring Committee:** Jana Hladun
Social Committee: Kim Einarson **Faculty Representative:** Jacquie Maurice
Members-at-large:
Paul Benson, Carrie Robertson, Melanie Grace, Pat Cox, Terri Mooney, Jean Wiens, Wally Roth

The Saskatoon Branch has been very active over the last year. The diversity of our Branch executive has been a great asset and allowed us to go ahead with a number of exciting activities. We started the year with our AGM, followed by a viewing of the award-winning film "Protection." The focus of the film was the dichotomy of values faced by child protection workers when faced with apprehending children. The film was followed by a panel discussion of child protection staff from the Saskatoon region and a representative from EFAP. The attendance was great and participation in the panel following the film was informative.

The Education Committee of the Saskatoon Branch did an outstanding job of organizing educational events and the attendance at these educational events has been outstanding. We will continue to provide such educational events to our branch members and as always, welcome new ideas, participation and partnerships. Although our group has struggled to bring together a mentoring program, we intend to persevere and make some inroads during Social Work Week.

On a social note, we were able to host a Christmas luncheon with over 50 members in attendance. Social Work Week this year will also include (as has become a tradition in our branch), a social luncheon with a notable guest speaker, as well as other activities.

One of the larger undertakings of our Branch this year was the agreement to host the 2004 National Social Work Conference in Saskatoon. Evelyn Hynes and I will act as co-chairs with the involvement of many of our branch executive members as well as members province-wide. Preliminary plans are underway: The Saskatoon Centennial Auditorium will be the venue and several high-profile keynote speakers have been contacted. We welcome any volunteer assistance in this exciting venture! The conference will start with a "Health Issues Day" followed by two more exciting days covering a broad spectrum of issues.

This year was also witness to a long job action by HSAS members. Many of our SASW members spent a great deal of time together over the course of the strike supporting one another and we commend them for their successfully negotiated and much deserved collective agreement.

One thing that has been clear to us this year is that social workers are looking for ways to connect with one another and network/learn from each others' experiences. Our branch will continue to do our best to facilitate such opportunities in the coming year.

Respectfully Submitted: **Tracy Muggli, BA, MSW, RSW (Sask.)**



Swift Current Branch Report

Co-chairpersons: Krista Olson & Eunice Peters
Secretary: Bev Hesier **Treasurer:** Peggy Cunningham
Branch Representative: Sandra Fortman **Newsletter:** Ralph Aman
Program Coordinator: Vacant

The Swift Current Branch has been active and involved in the following activities for 2002:

- Swift Current Branch hosted a luncheon for Social Work Week with Melinda Baum as the guest speaker on Youth and Justice.
- Two regular luncheon meetings were held in April and June to network, share information and plan for educational workshop.
- Maureen Kraemer, CASW Representative, was a guest speaker for a meeting in November. She shared information about CASW which was well received by all members.
- The branch Christmas Party was held on December 18 with an annual Chinese Food smorg and wackly tacky gift exchange (great stress reliever).
- The Branch newsletter "Blah Blah Blah" continues to provide a communication link among local members.
- The branch will host "Blue Jeans Approach to Ethics" Workshop with Drs. Keith and Vivian Walker.

Respectfully submitted: **Sandra Fortman, BSW, RSW (Sask.)**



Yellowhead East Branch Report

President: Arlene Tangjerd **Vice President:** Kelly Karius
Past President/Secretary: Tom Seeley **Treasurer:** Helen Swanston-Hickie
Branch Representative: Kelly Karius/Sandra Vaughan Hastie (back-up)

During the 2002 Social Work Week, Yellowhead East Branch had a luncheon meeting with Michael MacLean, Dean, Faculty of Social Work, University of Regina, as guest speaker. His comprehensive presentation helped us feel connected to the bigger picture in social work in the province. We also profiled some local social workers in our local newspaper and had an article on social work featured in our health district's "Alive & Well" newspaper column.

Also in March, we did a survey of the 41 registered social workers in our area, requesting their comments on how our branch could best be of use to them, how our meetings could be more accessible, etc. As a result of this survey, we gained a new treasurer, experimented with different meeting days, set up regular email communication of our activities and discovered an interest in having regular discussion groups.

We have had discussion group sessions almost monthly since May and plan to continue these. The format is that one or two members assume responsibility to research and disseminate material on a chosen topic in advance along with discussion questions to consider. We then explore the topic from a social work perspective. To date, our sessions have focused on issues such as globalization, free trade, a global indigenous approach to diffusing violence and terror, the changing mission of social work, dual relationships, and the results of a research project on parenting in Canada.

Several of our members attended the SASW Annual Meeting & Conference held at the Manitou Springs Hotel, Watrous, Saskatchewan.

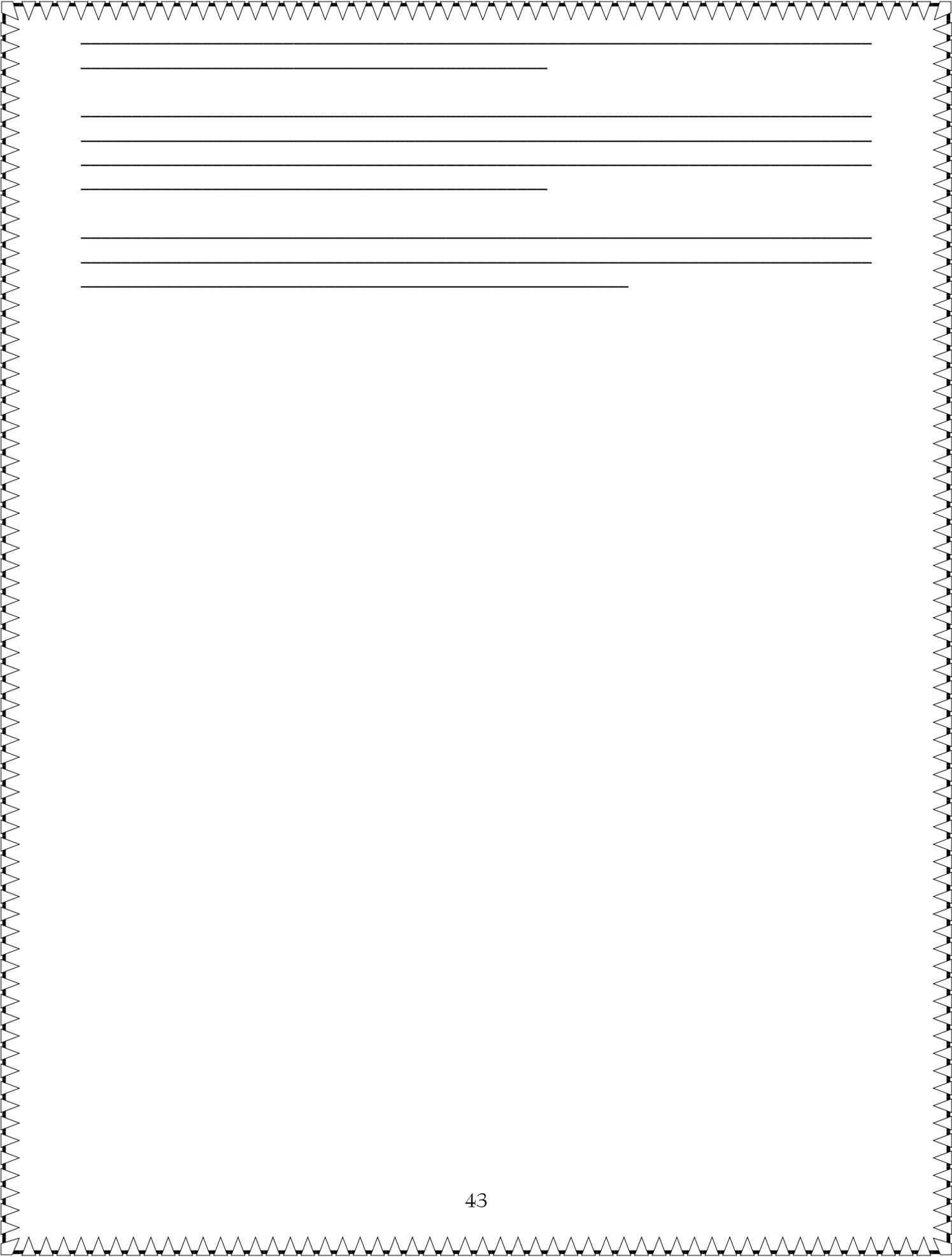
The Yellowhead East Branch was proud to have SASW's 1000th member with us over the summer months.

In October, the Yellowhead East Branch co-sponsored a conference with the Saskatchewan Guidance and Counselling Association for teachers called "Peaceful Schools – Peaceful Communities". We had a member on the planning committee, made a substantial financial contribution, and were acknowledged in the media coverage of the conference. It was attended by 350 participants and featured 15 speakers on a wide range of issues and programs related to conflict resolution and positive school strategies to combat violence and bullying.

In November, Richard Hazel, SASW Executive Director, attended a luncheon meeting to get acquainted with branch members and to provide an update on the activities and future plans of SASW.

In addition, Yellowhead East has nominated a Branch member for the CASW Representative and several of our members have volunteered to be part of the organizing committee for the 2004 National Conference. Yellowhead East also has a member on the Psychologist's Act Committee who are reviewing the implications of the Psychologist's Act and one on the Newsletter Committee.

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



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