

BCASW BOARD MINUTES

January 18, 2025

Via Zoom



Attendance –

Dianne Heath (ED), Fiona Lewis (Treas), Glen Schmidt (CASW Rep), Jennifer Hagen (KTN), John Richmond (VSS), Kelly Guiaya (MAL), Lissy Snowden (Associate AL), Michael Crawford (Pres), Ming Huey Chan (VI), Phil Mach (VP), Phyllis Nash (Past-Pres), Stephanie Altenhof (Student Rep), Tara Scheirer (MAL), & Vanessa Key Craig (MAL),

Regrets - Jeremy Marczak (MAL), Lorry-Ann Austin (TN), Cheryl Ash (Sec & OK), Kayla Walker (N), Elizabeth Vondette (MAL) & Susan Soloman (Indigenous Liaison)

Guests – Bobbi Moulton (UNBC social work practicum student)

1. Opening, welcome, and land acknowledgement (Michael)
 - a) We acknowledge that our office is in the unceded territory of the Coast Salish Peoples, including the territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations and that our members live and work in unceded territories across British Columbia. We acknowledge territory and Indigenous Peoples and commit to genuine and ongoing work to forge real understanding, and to challenge the legacies of colonialism. We respect the histories, languages, and cultures of First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and all First Peoples, whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant communities.
 - b) Bobbi Moulton, UNBC social work practicum student was welcomed
2. Minute taker: Dianne Heath & Michael Crawford
3. Review of minutes (All) – November 23, 2024 – see attached
 - a) 8. e) delete all after first sentence
4. Review of agenda (All) –
 - a) Add 6. k) BCCSW – invitations to partner
 - b) Revised 16. g) – VI Branch Report
 - c) Revised 24. - membership changes
 - d) Revised 20. a) – ARCA statements
5. Member Delegations (15 minutes) - none
6. President's Report (Michael)
 - a) Thank you to Ming Huey Chang for attending the presentation of the Janusz Korczak Statuette and the Janusz Korczak Medal for Children's Rights Advocacy at Government House on January 14th as BCASW's representative
 - b) Thank you to the Board for responding to proposals to accept statements or endorsements by email
 - i. Accepted - Endorsement of PaRx, Canada's national nature prescription program
ACTION: Michael will contact PaRx to inform them of our decision

- ii. Not accepted - Joining West Coast LEAF's Family Well-Being Coalition **ACTION:** Michael will inform West Coast Leaf of our decision
 - iii. Accepted with changes - BCASW Statement Regarding VPD & City of Vancouver **ACTION:** Michael will send revised statement to Racialized Social Worker Community of Practice for discussion about releasing to the public
- c) Sent 23 letters requesting meetings with Ministers, Parliamentary Secretaries, and Critics
Directors and CoP members have been invited to participate
Created a Google form to collect members comments on these meetings
 - i. Jessie Sunner, MLA, Parliamentary Secretary for Anti-Racism Initiatives - Completed
 - ii. Honourable Jodie Wickens, Min MCFD & Minister of State for Child Care and Children and Youth with Support Needs - Completed
 - iii. BC Green Party, BC NDP & BC Green Cooperation and Responsible Government Accord - Completed
 - iv. Brennan Day, MLA, Critic for Rural Health and Seniors' Health
 - v. Amelia Boulton, MLA, Critic for Children and Family Development
 - vi. Heather Maahs, MLA, Critic for Children and Family Development - Indigenous Self-Government in Child and Family Services
 - vii. Scott McInnis, MLA, Critic for Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation
 - viii. Anna Kindy, MLA, BC Conservative Critic for Health
 - ix. Claire Rattée, MLA, Critic for Mental Health and Addictions

Some ministers are waiting to set a meeting with us until they receive their mandate letters from the Premier.
- d) Continue to serve as BCASW liaison to the Centre for Collaboration, Motivation, and Innovation.
 - i. Arranged online registration for the following courses - Motivational Interviewing (Jan 15, 2025), Trauma-Informed (Jan 29, 2025), and Brief Interventions (Feb 19, 2025)
 - ii. Offered unused seats to waitlist BCASW members in the following courses - Engaging in Substance Abuse Conversations, Health Literacy Overview, Informed Decision-Making Overview, Responding to Risk Online Course, Collaborative Screening Online Course, Brief Action Planning Webinar Series, and Person & Family Voice in Quality Improvement Workshop
- e) Launched Membership Committee survey on Google Forms.
- f) Webinars attended
 - i. Seniors Advocate
 - ii. CASW interpersonal violence
 - iii. Design thinking
- g) Committees & CoPs attended
 - i. BC Social Work Week, Advocacy, Indigenous, Child & Youth, Finance, Executive, MHSU, Student Committee, CPD, & ARCA
 - ii. CASW Federation Meeting
- h) Providing field instruction for UNBC social work student Bobbi Moulton with Kayla Walker
Bobbi is co-chair of the BC Social Work Week Planning Group and is drafting a paper on the benefits of professional regulation.
- i) MCFD
 - i. First Call BC Board support our campaign to remove exemptions and will write a letter to MCFD
 - ii. RCYBC Jennifer Charlesworth and Alan Markwart did not publish Part 2 of "No time to wait"

- iii. Drafted and sent a brief to Seniors Advocate Dan Levitt
 - iv. Dianne and I met with Kelley McReynolds, Executive Director of CFS Squamish Nation.
 - v. Dianne and I met with MCFD Minister Wickens and among other issues raised our concerns regarding exemptions and the flawed MCFD report on the consultation on social work oversight.
 - vi. Discussed professional regulation with PS Jessie Sunner (Antiracism) and BC Green staffers
 - j) Media releases –
 - i. Worked with Seniors CoP to draft a release regarding our support for the call by BC Seniors Advocate Dan Levitt for the province to develop an action-oriented, measurable cross-ministry seniors' plan to address the mashup of services to seniors.
 - k) BCCSW
 - i. The College is looking at making some improvements to their website and was hoping to have some pictures that were truly representative of our registrants. BCCSW is seeking BCASW's assistance.
ACTION: Dianne will ask BCCSW for specifics of this request
 - ii. The College is engaging on a special project this year to have a public campaign possibly timed during social work month towards raising awareness of the mandate of the College in protecting the public and what they do as a regulator of social work. The BCCSW is seeking BCASW's assistance.
ACTION: Dianne will discuss this request with BCCSW, seek clarification regarding the purpose of collecting data from the public, and suggest a decolonizing and intersectoral approach, including consultation with Indigenous groups, to any research undertaken.
 - iii. The College is engaging in a project to revise the standards of practice this year. There is a possibility of a working group engaging in this, working with external consultants. BCCSW is asking about BCASW's participation in this project.
ACTION: Dianne will discuss this request with Phil Mach and Glen Schmidt, both of whom expressed interest.
7. Executive Director's Report (Dianne) – see attached
- a) Itemized Branch financials for 2024 need to be sent to office as soon as possible along with signed form for two branch account signatories
 - b) Member benefits- Johnson Insurance will rebrand to belairdirect. Insurance discounts for retirees is one of the many reasons to continue membership.
 - c) Darren Usher met with Health Authorities in planning meeting for support of sexually and gender diverse patients in ERs.
8. Vice-President (Phil)
- a) RCSW advocacy work is close to finalizing materials
 - b) Discussions with about CVAP's certification process for social workers and counsellors that includes practicum/supervision hours. CVAP will not accept social work practicum hours because not hours may be clinical. It was noted that some graduate clinical students are restricted regarding the level of mental health issues they are permitted to deal with in practicum/internships.
ACTION: Dianne and Phil will continue to seek solutions with CVAP
 - c) Situation, Background, Analysis, and Request (SBAR) proposal presented.

ACTION: Phil will assist Phyllis, Tara, Steph, and Bobbie who will form an ad hoc committee to complete work on a BCASW Board orientation package to present to the Board for acceptance and implementation.

9. Treasurer & Financial Committee Report (Fiona)

- a) Budget 2025 – see attached
- b) Budget 2025 was accepted as presented

10. Indigenous Liaison (Susan)

- a) Moving ahead with creating a selection process for appointing an Indigenous Liaison position on the BCASW Board and BCASW Executive Committee

11. CASW (Glen)

- a) Glen, Dianne, and Michael attended the CASW Federation Partners meeting last week.
- b) The Quebec social work association, with 576 members, is considering joining CASW this year.
- c) Ontario continues to be the largest partner with 9,903 members.
- d) Albert, with 1,100 members, has a new Executive Director.
- e) CASW received external funding for a project addressing radicalization.
- f) March 18th is International Social Work Day.
- g) CASW is making progress with establishing clinical practice guidelines.
- h) CASW developing an award for African Canadian social worker and consulting with the three Black Social Worker Associations (NS, SK, and AB)

12. MAL Reports

- a) Kelly Guiaya
- b) Lissy Snowden
- c) Elizabeth Vondette
- d) Vanessa Key Craig
- e) Tara Scheirer
- f) Jeremy Marczak

13. CPD (Phyllis)

- a) Two successful webinars since last Board meeting – Seniors Advocate Dan Levitt and BCASW member Heather Hopkins on design thinking
- b) Three CCMI courses start this week and CCMI has generously offered our members extra seats in six or seven other courses.
- c) The DBT webinar in February has sufficient registration that we will go ahead with it.
- d) Outreach to social work professors who are BCASW members resulted in some interest and also three students interested in presenting their research.
- e) **ACTION:** CPD will invite previous BC Centre on Substance Abuse Addiction Social Work Fellows to consider presenting a webinar

14. Nominations Committee (Phyllis)

- a) Terms ending
 - i. President – resignation effective AGM 2025 received
One expression of interest
 - ii. Vice-President – resignation effective AGM 2025 received
No expressions of interest

ACTION: Directors are asked to contact Phyllis with suggestions for nominees

iii. Secretary

Two expressions of interest

iv. Three members at large – election will be for one MAL to bring compliment up to four as per Bylaws.

15. Membership (Kelly & Vanessa)

a) Online membership survey launched

b) 46 responses as of January 14, 2025

c) **ACTION:** Dianne will include a reminder in February's eBulletin for members to complete the survey

16. Branch Reports

a) Fraser River (Vacant)

b) Northern (Kayla)

Glen noted that the Branch held a social in December at a social service agency that was well attended including three City of Prince George Councillors.

c) Northwest (Vacant)

d) Okanagan (Cheryl)

e) Richmond/Delta/Burnaby (Vacant)

f) Thompson Nicola (Lorry-Ann) – see attached

Michael spoke about the Branch's Somatic Experiencing Training set for May 28 and 29.

g) Vancouver Island (Ming Huey Chang)

VI branch continues to have monthly meetings. In December, we had an in-person social gathering in downtown Victoria with eight people attending. Some members in Nanaimo area expressed interest in hosting similar events in the future. One member stepped up to plan a social work week celebration event in Cowichan Bay. We may have a social worker talking about restorative justice. Ming attended the Janusz Korczak Association of Canada statuette ceremony at the Government House. Dr. Dana Brynelsen, OBC was awarded for her lifetime achievement in child advocacy and leadership in promoting a holistic approach to the well-being of children. At the ceremony, Campbell River Early Years Council was awarded medal for children's rights advocacy.

h) Vancouver Sea to Sky (John) – see attached

i) Kootenays (Jennifer)

17. Student Rep Report (Stephanie & Bobbie) – see attached

a) Meeting last week included good representation from BC schools of social work

b) Working on developing webinars for the first week of BC Social Work Week(s)

c) **ACTION:** Stephanie and Bobbie will send a note to Directors asking for assistance in locating suitable speakers and panelists

18. Personnel/Human Resources (Fiona)

a) Ming has joined this committee

19. Health Advocacy Committee (Fiona)

- a) Letter to Hon. Ravi Kahlon, Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs essentially endorsing the position included in the Green Party platform on SAFER issued during the 2024 BC provincial election..

20. Communities of Practice

- a) Anti-Racism & Cultural Advocacy (Michael)
Criteria almost developed for the Marion Secunda Poliakoff Bursary
Completed work on an antisemitism statement
Working on a statement against Islamophobia
- b) Advocacy Circle (Barb Keith & Carol Ross)
Two articles were received from students for the advocacy contest- both given awards
- c) Seniors Issues CoP (Alison Leaney, Chair)
- d) Indigenous Community of Practice (Susan Soloman)
- e) Mental Health & Substance Use (Phil)
- f) Sexual and Gender Diverse Community of Practice (Michael/Darren)
- g) Child & Youth Community of Practice (Jeremy)
- h) Racialized Social Workers (Vanessa)
- i) Disability (?) Community of Practice (Michael/Elizabeth)
- j) School Social Work (Michael)
Email sent to 53 school districts asking about hiring social workers. 26 responses. 2 hire social workers. 3 hire social workers in positions not titled social work.

21. Retired social workers (Carol Ross)

- a)

22. Editorial/*Perspectives* (Heather)

- a) Dianne sent the current issue to print

23. Awards (Phyllis, Pam, and Cheryl)

- a) The next round of the Glenn Drover National Award for Outstanding Service, deadline January 15, 2026)
- b) CASW Distinguished Service Award BC (deadline February 21, 2025) – see attached call for nominations and criteria
ACTION: Michael will draft a nomination and send to Directors
- c) The Janusz Korczak Association of Canada Award for Distinguished Social Work Practice Protecting the rights of Children – see attached criteria
ACTION: Directors are asked to search for nominees. Dianne will include a call in the next eBulletin.
- d) ARCA is working to finalize criteria for the Marion Secunda Poliakoff Bursary

24. Policy governance (Phil (Chair), Fiona, Phyllis, & Cheryl)

- a) TOR are under construction
- b) Currently reviewing policy structure and scanning other associations

25. BC Social Work Week (Steph & Bobbi, Co-chairs)

- a) March 3-7 (student focus) & 10-14 (professional practice focus), 2025
- b) MCFD declaration received

- c) Theme: Social workers make a difference everywhere
- d) Webinars and speakers so far –
 - i. Mon, Mar 10 – 630pm, Involuntary care
 - ii. Tues, Mar 11 – Noon – MCFD Minister Jodie Wickens & awards
 - iii. Tues, Mar 11 – 630pm, Indigenous practice and allyship
 - iv. Wed, Mar 12 – 630pm, Professional regulation Dianne Millette (College of Health and Care Professionals of BC), Ann Joseph (BCCSW), Michael Crawford (BCASW)
 - v. Thurs, Mar 13 – 630pm, Transition child welfare in BC to a well-being, prevention model
 - vi. **ACTION:** Stephanie and Bobbie will send a note to Directors providing specifics of webinars and asking for suggestions for panelists and speakers.

26. Annual General Meeting

- a) Date: Thursday May 29, 2025
- b) Location/Zoom
- c) Speaker: Jeremy Y'in Neduklhchulh Williams, MCFD ADM and Indigenous Director of Child Welfare. Not confirmed.
ACTION: Michael will contact Jeremy again
- d) Notice to members – meeting, Bylaw changes, election of directors, etc
ACTION: Dianne and Phyllis will consult regarding timeline
- e) Election/Voting process
ACTION: Rose Wu is looking at ways of online voting

27. 2024-2027 Strategic Plan (Lissy, Kayla, Kylee, & Michael)

- a) **ACTION:** BF to next Board meeting

28. Next Meetings:

- a) Schedule of meetings below
- b) May April Board Meeting in Vancouver
1pm-5pm, Friday, April 4th, 2025
9am-3pm, Saturday, April 5th, 2025
ACTION: Dianne will make arrangements and notify Directors.

Month	Board	Exec
Jan	Sat Jan 18, 2025	
Feb		X
Mar	Social Work Week 9-15, 2025	
Apr	In person Apr 4-5, 2025	X
May	AGM – Thursday, May 29, 2025	
June	Zoom TBD	
July		
Aug		
Sept		
Oct		

Adjournment – 1155am | Recorder: Dianne Heath & Michael Crawford