THE ALBERTA COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORKERS
COUNCIL MEETING

Friday, February 27, 2015
ACSW Teleconference

Present: Richard Gregory, Terry Wilson, Richard Shelson, Alec Stratford, Rick Guthrie, Lyle Berge, Margaret Brown, Linda Fehr, Murray Hiebert, Timothy Wild, Kanakaii Mekaisto, Lynn Labrecque King, Neetu Dodd, Bruce Llewellyn

Regrets: Linda Golding, Cynthia Gallop, Noreen Majek

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Richard Gregory called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

Motion: To Approve Agenda for February 27, 2015

Motion Approval: Timothy Wild
Seconded: Margaret Brown

CARRIED (unanimous)

2.0 Approval of Minutes – Minutes of January 23, 2015

Motion: To approve minutes of January 23, 2015

Motion Approval: Terry Wilson
Seconded: Richard Shelson

CARRIED (unanimous)

3.0 Governance Business

3.1 President’s Report – Richard Gregory

The Presidents report was presented both written and verbal.

Last meeting for Tim and Cynthia. The president thanked both committee members for their commitment to the organization.

Richard Shelson has also completed his term but will be starting a new term at our next meeting. Congratulations Richard.
President was invited to participate in the internal review for the University of Calgary Social Work Faculty. Was not able to attend and wrote a letter to the review committee identifying our positive working relationship with the U of C, highlighting the projects that we have worked collaboratively on and identifying faculty involvement with ACSW on council, committees, and presenting at conferences and workshops.

Joined the Private Practice Committee via teleconference. Discussed Private Practice Committee as a membership committee versus a committee of council. The Committee expressed appreciation for the work that Charity does to support the committee.

Request made to Lynn to have Lori include in her report, reports from Charity and Heather on their work with the membership groups. This will help improve communications. Talked about potential to support our members in private practice to achieve pay equity.

Letter to the Canadian Association of Actuaries to request pay parity for clinical social workers.


Alberta Blue Cross to have access to social workers included in their plans. Trying to find the correct contact people has been a challenge. This is a work in progress.

The Private Practice Committee also expressed concern that recent changes in the publication of the Advocate have restricted what they are able to include in their submissions. They are asking for more autonomy in their contributions to the Advocate. This will be referred on to Lori.

Met with the vice-president for the Psychologist Association of Alberta. This was in reference to the motion that was brought forth last year in terms of the use of professional title for workers with Alberta Health Services – Mental Health and Addictions. They were asking for clarification on our position, as to why we did not support the entire motion and asking if we could engage in further discussion on this topic. We will be having follow up discussions.

Working on the letter to the Premier as per the resolution put forth at the last meeting. Draft to be sent out to committee once completed.

Richard prepared video address to social workers for Social Work Week.

3.2 Treasurer’s Report

The Treasurer’s report was presented by Rick Guthrie. The review of the financial statements/audit was completed. The report shows that the ACSW is financially sound – Documents will be included in the Annual Report.
3.2.1 Audited Statements

Motion: It is moved that Alberta College of Social Workers Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2014 be approved.

Motion for Approval: Rick Guthrie
Seconded: Terry Wilson

CARRIED (unanimous)

Motion: It is moved that the surplus for 2014 be transferred to the restricted contingency funds.

Motion for Approval: Rick Guthrie
Seconded: Lyle Berge

CARRIED (unanimous)

3.3 Executive Director & Registrar Update

The Executive Director provided the following updates on operational activities:

- Attended Parkland Board meeting Feb. 4th. 2 new staff have been hired – one with research expertise and one brings communications specialty. There has been a recent reversal of the decision to charge a 5% admin fee on donations. This is welcome news for organizations who donate to Parkland.

- Attended Alberta Federation of Regulated Health Professions meeting (AFRHP). An update on Public Member recruitment was provided. HPA amendments did not make it into spring session at Legislature, now aiming for fall. Hiring freeze impacting recruitment. No further work on the interpretations guidelines for psychosocial interventions is expected. This work is considered complete with the Interpretation Guideline document released last year.

- Attended training day sponsored by AFRHP “The Evolution of Continuing Competence” on Feb. 3, 2015 together with Bruce Llewellyn, Charity Lui (staff) and Deb Best (Competence Committee member). Focus was on notion of collective competence and beginning to factor into regulation requirements. Participants were challenged to think in terms of sum total of competence in our profession with consideration as to how the parts of our
systems interact. This info to be shared with Competence Committee by Bruce through his staff lead role.
- Attended meeting with Alberta Health on Alberta Electronic Health Record Regulation (part of Health Information Act). Purpose was to review inclusion of various professions in new law being drafted. Would impact social workers ability to access electronic health records. This project still in early stages.
- Update on Alberta Alliance and Mental Illness and Mental Health – Executive Director Orrin Lyseng has submitted resignation – Recruitment will begin shortly for new E.D.; ACSW continues to offer our site to support meetings.
- Elections Update- last day of voting is March 12. 2 Reminders will be sent over next few days.
- Resolutions – 1 received for AGM. Shared on agenda for Council info.
- Norquest College will be forming advisory group for social work program and requesting ACSW participation. Margaret Brown and Rick Guthrie will share this role. Lynn to advise Eugene Ip.
- Lynn recognized Gladys Smecko – offering congratulations on completion of her Degree in Applied Business Administration. With over 20 years of service, Gladys continues to make a strong contribution through management of financial systems.
- Info on presentation by Dr. Cindy Blackstock presented at MacEwan this week, was shared. Encouraged all to visit and add names to www.fnwitness.ca

3.4 Nominations and Recruitment Committee

Motion: To approve recommendations of Nominations & Recruitment Committee for ACSW Awards.

Motion for Approval: Rick Guthrie
Seconded: Margaret Brown

Carried

Motion: To appoint Gord Cummings and Anna Bellow to the Nominations & Recruitment Committee.

Motion for Approval: Rick Guthrie.
Seconded: Timothy Wild

Carried
3.5 **Indigenous Social Work Committee (ISWC)**

Verbal Report by Kanakii Mekaisto. Committee has recruited 3 new members – Audrey Frake, Pauline Gladue and Bertha Anderson. To-date they have 8 members including Kanakii. Hoping to hold a meeting in Lethbridge. Acknowledged and thanked and commended Dr. Betty Bastien for covering Kanakii’s role while she was away and for her contributions to the committee.

3.6 **Online Services Website Launch Update**

New Online system for renewals went live this past Monday, February 23. A plan is underway to assist members to bring unmet competence requirements up to date. The office is very busy with phone calls as anticipated. Current website is still in view for members – work continues on review and preparation of content for launch of new site. Anticipate launch date for a few weeks away.

3.7 **Resolution for AGM**

Copy of resolution for AGM “Gay Straight Alliances in High Schools” drafted by ACSW Calgary Social Workers for Social Justice, was shared. There is strong support by Council with suggestion for giving consideration to press release following AGM. To be reviewed following AGM.

4.0 **Regulatory Business**

4.1 **Manager Regulatory Practice Report**

Bruce Llewellyn presented the Regulatory Practice Manager’s report on behalf of Sheryl Pearson and himself.

**Highlights:**
- Total of 3 new complaints have been received. A decision is pending on how best to proceed with these complaints
- 27 complaints are currently under investigation
- 2 hearing are pending
- there have been five requests for a CRC
- 2 complaints were received in December
- February 5, 2015 – In-service for 30 Calgary Family Services staff on Standards of practice by Bruce
- February 12, 2015 – Area Coordinators Standards of Practice Workshop to 26 social workers by Sheryl
5.0 Professional Affairs

5.1 Professional Affairs Managers Update

Lynn King presented written update on behalf of Lori Sigurdson.

5.1.1 Area Coordinator Appointment

Motion: To approve Sarah Heagy as Fort McMurray Area Coordinator.

Motion Approval: Alec Stratford
Seconded: Terry Wilson

Carried (unanimous)

Motion to adjourn was made by Richard Gregory at 10:30 a.m.

Signed by Richard Gregory, President

Terry Wilson, Secretary

Date of Minute Approval: DRAFT