

Board of Directors

Minutes of Electronic Voting for Temporary Electronic Social Work Practice Policy

I. Temporary Electronic Social Work Practice Policy

March 30, 2020 email to Board members:

Good morning Board members,

We've received a number of inquiries from social workers registered in other jurisdictions in Canada and the States who wish to provide electronic social work services to clients (typically students) to whom they were providing service in their jurisdiction who have returned to Manitoba as a result of the pandemic. In speaking with my national colleagues, this is a common theme across Canada and we are all attempting to respond as quickly as we can in the best interests of clients while maintaining our regulatory responsibilities. Please see the attached summary outlining a proposed temporary solution with the relevant application documents.

I have reviewed this matter with our legal counsel and been provided with feedback that it a "well-reasoned" interim plan. Please provide your feedback/questions by Friday, April 3. Given that this is a time-sensitive issue, if Board members provide support for this plan, we can either proceed with an email vote or attempt to arrange a special meeting – please indicate your preference.

Thanks for your prompt attention to this matter,

Barbara (Barb) Temmerman, MSW, RSW
Executive Director/Registrar
Manitoba College of Social Workers

Summary of feedback from Board members:

Clarification was provided that temporary authorization does not result in "membership" or "registration" with MCSW. Those authorized will be members in good standing with another regulatory body in Canada/US and they will be regulated in that jurisdiction. Time limit of authorization was discussed with a recommendation that authorization be approved for a three (3) month period, to be renewable for an additional three (3) months. If the practitioner wishes to be authorized to practice in Manitoba after six (6) months, they would be required to apply to MCSW for full registration. Policy will remain in effect until September 2020, at which time the Board will review considering the status of the pandemic.

April 1, 2020 email to Board members:

Thank you for your prompt feedback regarding the Temporary Electronic Social Work Practice Policy. I have attached the proposed policy, incorporating suggestions from the Board, including the time limits

on authorization. It will be helpful to be able to implement this policy as soon as possible. I participated in a national call today and was happy to hear that this is in line with what other jurisdictions are doing. I will ensure that this item is also included on the next Board meeting agenda to facilitate a broader discussion regarding this issue.

Please vote on the motion by completing the following survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/THWX9TN>

Barbara (Barb) Temmerman, MSW, RSW
Executive Director/Registrar
Manitoba College of Social Workers

Voting period: April 1, 2020, 2020 – April 5, 2020

Participants: Alexander Sawatsky, Tara-Lee Procter (Masciuszonek), Marlyn Bennett, Gwendolynn Kydd, Darlene MacDonald, Mary Heard, Beatrice Campbell, Jan Christianson-Wood, Michelle Berard, Tanis Newsham, Wil Hedges, Vicki Verge Burgess

***Be it resolved that the Temporary Electronic Social Work Practice Policy is approved as presented.
CARRIED. April 6, 2020***