

Rikki Fontaine, MSW, Non-Practicing Member Member Representative

Term: 2021-2024 (1st term)
Region: Capital

Biography



Rikki recently completed her Master of Social Work degree with a focus on helping students better manage their well-being by using Cognitive Behavioural Therapy. Rikki is a registered ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training) trainer. Rikki has previous experience within the social work profession, including six years of work in community development and counselling in the francophone community for a non-profit agency. Rikki has experience working within the mental health field as a Community Mental Health Worker for the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority. Rikki's most recent position is at the University of Manitoba in Student Support Services.

Rikki views Board membership as a way for her to help shape the vision of the Social Work profession. Rikki believes that it is important to continue to promote the values of inclusivity, reconciliation and anti-oppressive ways of practicing. Rikki is a strong proponent for the environment and what it means for people, given the increasing impacts of the climate crisis. Rikki uses her passion for the environment to volunteer with the David Suzuki Foundation supporting a pollinator program. Rikki believes that her passion for the environment and her experience in the mental health field will be useful for potential areas of focus for the College in the upcoming years. Rikki intends to continue to utilize her leadership skills to ensure that the field of social work continues to advocate for and address topics of climate change and mental health.

As a member of the francophone community, Rikki feels it is important to have representation in the interests of French speaking social workers. Rikki is currently on a consultative committee for l'École de travail social at the University of Saint-Boniface. Rikki intends to use her passion for learning and her unique understanding of the education students are receiving to ensure that future generations are being educated with the same values and principles as the College. Rikki hopes to instill a spirit of collaboration within MCSW and inspire other professions to act in a similar, collaborative way.