

**Board of Directors Meeting
September 25, 2025
MINUTES**

Present: Jen Meixner (President), Tricia Van Denakker (Treasurer), Beatrice Campbell, Rikki Fontaine, Wil Hedges, Cecilly Hildebrand, Michael Minor, Elizabeth Spence, Alex Sawatsky, Ashley Vandepoele

Staff: Barb Temmerman (Executive Director/Registrar), Jacqueline Shortridge (Director of Professional Practice), Catherine Collette (Manager of Regulatory Practice), Amelie Findlay (Administrative Services Manager), Andrea Evans (Administrative Support), Dianna Jardeleza (Administrative Support)

Indigenous Strategy Alliance: Stephen Penner, Tara Petti, Jo Ann Pinera

Sense and Nous (Standards of Practice Consultants): Julie Gaudet, Rhonda Hallberg

Regrets: Salina Fukumoto, Grace Holwell, Kaysi Katchmar

I. Land Acknowledgement

Reading of the MCSW land acknowledgement. Suggestion of incorporating recognition of the land in addition to the people on the land.

II. Welcome & Introduction of new MCSW staff member Dianna Jardeleza

III. Thank you to outgoing Board members - Beatrice Campbell, Grace Holwell, Michael Minor

IV. Indigenous Strategy Presentation

Indigenous Strategy Alliance provided an overview of progress to date of the College which demonstrates MCSW is moving forward. Jo-Ann Pinera reviewed the objectives of the project, the partner engagements that were completed, what we heard from the engagement sessions, the current phase of the report which is to create actionable recommendations for reconciliation and EDI integration.

V. Additions or changes to the Agenda

No changes or additions

Be it resolved that the September 25, 2025 agenda is accepted as presented. CARRIED

VI. Minutes

No changes or additions

Be it resolved that the Minutes of the June 19, 2025 Meeting are approved as presented. CARRIED

VII. Meeting Evaluation Summary

June board meeting feedback – positive comments and consensus on feedback.

VIII. Financials

a) Auditor Review – MNP

Jeff Eckstein and Amanda Fanning of MNP reviewed the 2024-2025 audited financial statements. The statements were previously reviewed by the Finance Committee.

The 2025 audit findings showed nothing of concern and no changes were required. Materiality increased slightly from the prior year, and the organization's accounting policies remain appropriate and consistently applied.

MNP gave a clean audit opinion.

b) In-Camera Session – Board Member Questions for Auditor

Be it resolved that the Board will enter in-camera session with auditor to confirm results of audit. CARRIED

Staff exited the meeting to give board members an opportunity to ask any questions of MNP directly about the audit.

Be it resolved that the audit report for the period of April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025 is approved as presented. CARRIED

c) Appointment of Auditor

The Finance Committee previously completed a review of the audit services and made a recommendation to continue with MNP for the next fiscal year.

Be it resolved that MNP shall be recommended as auditor for the April 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026 fiscal year at the 2025 Annual General Meeting. CARRIED

d) 1st Quarter Financials

Finance committee reviewed the 1st quarter financials. No questions were asked.

Be it resolved that 1st quarter financials are approved as presented. CARRIED

IX. Standing Items

a) Operational Update

Once recommendations complete from Indigenous Strategy, the Board will meet to review.

The Indigenous Advisory Circle is close to being confirmed after applications were reviewed. The initial step will be to convene the Circle for introductions and a review of the Terms of Reference.

Currently recruiting for an Indigenous specific Manager of Engagement and Advocacy position.

Standards of Practice project is underway and the consultants from Sense and Nous have been selected. Vicki Verge, Director of Regulatory Practice is leading this project. Private practice standards will be built into the standards. Another category being reviewed is a retired social worker category. Legal review has been completed, and the opinion will be taken to the Legislative Review Committee.

Manitoba Substantial Equivalency applicants are using ASWB Associate level exam – a level below the Bachelor's level exam. BC is using the Bachelor's level exam – looking to be consistent across

Canada to reach more consistent standards. Ontario and New Brunswick both have made a decision to implement the exam.

Lease expires for office space next year. MCSW has engaged with a real estate broker to look at available space.

Barb sits as President of the Canadian Council of Social Work Regulators; sits on Anti-Racist Regulatory Practice Committee, the Intersectoral Committee, and a CIHI Task Force where jurisdictions are coming together to come up with a minimum data set for Canada.

Barb has attended many community engagement events including 60s Scoop conference and commemoration event, Red Dress Day, Keeping the Fires Burning, volunteered for Circles for Reconciliation event, Indigenous Voices in Social Work conference, upcoming events include Orange Shirt Day events, First Nations Caring Society Gala, CNAR conference.

b) Committee/Working Group Reports

- a. Executive Committee
Report previously circulated.

Officer positions are renewed every year. Jen has expressed a willingness to continue as President.

Be it resolved that Jennifer Meixner is re-elected as the 2025-2026 President of the Board of Directors. CARRIED

- b. Finance Committee
Report previously circulated.

Tricia's term is up as treasurer, a new treasurer is required. Rikki has stepped down from Finance committee due to other competing demands.

- c. Registration Committee
Report previously circulated.

- d. Continuing Competence Committee
No report.

- e. Complaints Committee
Report previously circulated.

- f. Inquiry Committee
Report previously circulated.

- g. Standards & Ethics Committee
Report previously circulated.

- h. Legislative Review Committee
Report previously circulated.

- i. Land Acknowledgement Working Group
Report previously circulated.

- j. Indigenous Advisory Circle Selection Committee
Report previously circulated.
- k. Nominating Committee
Report previously circulated.

c) **CASW Report – No Report**

d) **Social Work Topics and Trends**

Question asked about if policy exists about social workers using same training over and over for their CCP. Barb clarified that the same training can be used once per reporting cycle.

Ashley Vandepoele will attend the Social Work in Primary Care Conference in Toronto.

e) **Feature: Policy/Statement/Practice Note**

Accessible Customer Service Policy

One suggestion received that Barb will review and report back.

RSW Number Not Transferable Practice Note

Review of this practice note and an example provided of non members using a member's number to bill for services, where they are in the same private practice.

X. **Business Arising**

a) **MCSW Position Statements**

Discussion took place regarding when position statements should be developed. CASW shared their decision-making model to provide additional context.

b) **Response to Fee Increase**

Notification was sent to members in August. A few questions were received from members. A presentation will be delivered at the AGM to provide an overview to members about the reasons behind the fee increase.

XI. **New Business**

a) **AGM Preparation**

Annual Report is being compiled, the delivery of the agenda items are being reviewed by Jen and Barb.

XII. **Adjournment 1:15 PM**