

**Board of Directors Meeting
December 12, 2024
Minutes**

Present: Jennifer Meixner (President), Salina Fukumoto (CASW Rep), Kaysi Katchmar (Secretary), Tricia Van Denakker (Treasurer), Beatrice Campbell, Wil Hedges, Cecilly Hildebrand, Grace Holwell, Michael Minor, Katherine Rushton

Barb Temmerman (Executive Director/Registrar), Amelie Findlay (Administrative Services Manager), Jacqueline Shortridge (Director of Professional Practice)

Rebecca Chartrand (Indigenous Strategies), Jo Ann Pinera (Indigenous Strategies)

Regrets: Alex Sawatsky, Rikki Fontaine

Meeting called to order at 9:05 AM

I. Welcome, Board Meeting Opening and Introductions

Acknowledgement: The land on which we gather is Treaty 1 territory - the traditional territory of Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene peoples, and the homeland of the Métis Nation. The College acknowledges and respects the diverse histories and cultures of Indigenous Peoples across Manitoba in the spirit of reconciliation.

Welcome to the new board members: Michael Minor, Grace Holwell, Ashley Vandepoele, Katherine Rushton. A reminder that new board member training is being offered by [ASWB](#). All board members are encouraged to consider attending.

II. Indigenous Strategy Presentation

Progress update from Indigenous Strategy of the work completed to date including an environmental scan of regulatory bodies across Canada, a review of all relevant documents and guidelines with actionable recommendations, a gap analysis report to identify areas of improvement, and a review of the complaints process with recommendations for optimizing complaints handling procedures. Board members asked to complete a survey, link provided.

III. Additions or changes to the Agenda

Addition: discussion of Substantial Equivalency fees.

Be it resolved that the December 12, 2024 Agenda is accepted amended. CARRIED

IV. Minutes

Be it resolved that the Minutes of the September 26, 2024 Meeting are approved as presented. CARRIED.

V. Meeting Evaluation Summary

Positive feedback from previous meeting.

VI. Standing Items

a) Operational Update

MCSW is transitioning to a new IT service provider. The team will complete cyber training with the new provider. Member Services Coordinator position is vacant. Indigenous Strategies will complete their review prior to MCSW moving forward with new hires to ensure alignment with strategic plan. Staff has been receiving requests to present to classrooms at St. B, UM, UM-Inner City, Booth. Website is being re-designed and set to launch in the new year.

b) Committee/Working Group Reports

a. Executive Committee – no report

b. Finance Committee

Report previously circulated. Investment portfolio doing well in 2024. Finance Committee will review policy from 2016.

c. Registration Committee

Report previously circulated.

Be it resolved that Michael Minor is appointed as Board Liaison to the Registration Committee. CARRIED.

d. Continuing Competence Committee

Report previously circulated.

Be it resolved that Ashley Vandepoele is appointed as Board Liaison to the CCP Committee. CARRIED.

e. Complaints Committee

Report previously circulated.

f. Inquiry Committee

Report previously circulated.

g. Standards & Ethics Committee

Report previously circulated.

Be it resolved that Jen Meixner is appointed as Board Liaison to the Standards & Ethics Committee. CARRIED.

h. Legislative Review Committee

Report previously circulated.

i. Nominating Committee

Report previously circulated.

j. Land Acknowledgement Working Group

Report previously circulated.

c) CASW Report

Report previously circulated.

d) Social Work Topics and Trends

Michael Minor shared student perspectives on Faculty of Social Work, UM. Wil Hedges shared a potential social work issue regarding the standing committee on science and research in Ottawa

concerned with the criteria of awarding federal funding on research excellence in Canada specifically related to examining if EDI initiatives are problematic.

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

The ED-Registrar Contingency Plan was reviewed and no changes were recommended. A recent statement was circulated in partnership with CCSWR/CASW urging reform to NIHB Mental Health Program. A new practice note is available on the website about social workers role in the administration of naloxone. Suggestion of partnering with Harm Reduction Network for training on Naloxone.

VII. **Business Arising**

a) **Executive Committee Position Review**

The President position is renewed in advance of the AGM. The other Executive positions are renewed after the AGM. Executive committee meets 4 times per year in advance of the board meeting. The Vice-President stands in for the President in case of their absence. Amelie will send an email requesting expressions of interest.

b) **Request to serve on ASWB committee**

Be it resolved that Jennifer Meixner is approved to serve on an Association of Social Work Boards committee. CARRIED.

c) **2025 Distinguished Service Award**

The Board of Directors has directed the staff to process the nomination for the Distinguished Service Award. The CASW looking at awards and criteria for future awards through an EDI lens.

d) **Exam Discussion**

Exams are a frequent discussion at national table and exam use is becoming more prevalent. Ontario has announced their intention to move to full implementation of exam by 2027. BC is currently the only province that uses the exam for all application categories. Landscape is changing around registration requirements. Provinces are trying to come together to be more consistent in registration requirements so that the public is assured that social workers are being screen equally across Canada. Registration shopping is happening due to mobility laws and applicants are attempting to register in jurisdictions without an exam requirements even if they are nor residents or working in that province. MCSE exam use considerations include the need for a French language exam. We have a French social work program in Manitoba and need to ensure a French exam is available. The Board supports the Executive Director being part of discussions around future use of exam.

VIII. **Financials**

a) **2nd Quarter Financials**

Be it resolved that the 2nd Quarter Financials are accepted as presented. CARRIED.

b) **10th Anniversary Event Budget**

Be it resolved that a budget in the amount of \$35,000 is approved for the purpose of funding events to support the 10th Anniversary of the Manitoba College of Social Workers. CARRIED.

IX. **New Business**

a) **Electronic Social Work Practice Policy Revisions**

Audit discussion – resources required to do CCP audits and debate around use of audits.

Be it resolved that the revisions to the Electronic Social Work Practice Policy are approved as presented. CARRIED.

b) **Substantial Equivalency Application Fees**

Registration committee scanned other jurisdictions for application fees. Suggestion to increase SE application fees as applicants have to demonstrate education and experience through evaluations by staff or a contracted evaluator for the education. This route does require significant resources to evaluate an application.

Be it resolved to the revisions to the Substantial Equivalency Policy and Fee Structure are approved as presented. CARRIED.

X. Adjournment of Board Meeting – adjournment 2:06 PM