Board of Directors Meeting
June 18, 2026
Minutes

Present: Jen Meixner (President), Rikki Fontaine (Vice-President), Wil Hedges, Cecilly Hildebrand, Kaysi Katchmar (Secretary), Elizabeth Spence, Desiree Morrisseau-Keesick, Lance Ludwig, Tricia VanDenakker (Treasurer), Ashley Vandepoele, Barb Temmerman (Executive Director/Registrar), Amelie Findlay (Manager of Operations & Senior Executive Assistant), Tara Petti and Jo Ann Pinera (Indigenous Strategy Alliance)

Regrets: Jennifer Sherb-Jenkins, Amanda Griffith-Conway

I. **Additions or changes to the Agenda**
Addition: Approved Social Work Program Policy

Be it resolved that the June 18, 2026 Agenda is accepted as amended. CARRIED

II. **Minutes**
No changes or additions.

Be it resolved that the Minutes of the April 9, 2026 Meeting are approved as presented. CARRIED.

III. **Meeting Evaluation Summary**
It was confirmed that the College has a dual mandate, which includes an advocacy role.

IV. **Standing Items**

a) President's Report
Items of discussion later in agenda.

b) Operational Update
Student engagement sessions were held, along with sessions with social work groups. The College also held the CASW Award reception in Thompson and participated in the local Red Dress Walk. Vicki Verge, Director of Regulatory Practice and Barb Temmerman attended the ASWB meeting, which focused on supervision. Barb also met with Yellowquill University College to discuss their Bachelor of Relational Studies program.

Barb was re-elected as President of the Canadian Council of Social Work Regulators. National discussions included clinical best practices, the development of an AI in social work guideline and anti-racist practice guidelines for regulators.

The Standards of Practice project is well underway. A working group has been established, and a consultation plan is currently being developed.

A meeting was held with Obby Khan, leader of the opposition, Jen Meixner, and Barb Temmerman to discuss Mr. Khan's public comments regarding social work. The meeting was productive, and Mr. Khan apologized and acknowledged his misstep. He was engaged in the discussion and expressed interest in the work of the College.

The Manitoba government announced at a press conference that social workers will be available in emergency rooms 24/7.

Preparing to transition to a new database, contract is still under review. The project will officially begin September 2026.

c) Committee/Working Group Reports

All committee reports were circulated prior to the Board meeting. It was highlighted that MCSW has received 17 non-jurisdiction complaints. No questions were posed regarding the reports.

d) CASW Report

Report previously circulated.

e) Social Work Topics and Trends

A discussion was held regarding trauma exposure and psychological safety in social work. MCSW will begin by providing education, learning more about Roots of Hope, and engaging in discussions with the national association.

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

The recent Call to Action document, *Advancing the Profession: A Call for Recognition, Regulation and Integration*, was reviewed. It was noted that the document was sent to the Manitoba government; however, no response has been received from the NDP.

V. Financials

a) 4th Quarter Financials

Board travel discussed, increase due to Member Appreciation Event being held in Thompson. Jen Meixner was set to travel and event ended up being rescheduled due to weather. A reimbursement will be processed in next quarter.

Be it resolved that 4th quarter financials are approved as presented. CARRIED

b) Office Lease

The lease agreement has not yet been received, will come to next meeting.

VI. Business Arising

a) Strategic Plan - Indigenous Strategy Alliance

Summary of work done by Indigenous Strategy Alliance presented by Tara Petti and Jo Ann Pinera. Key highlights include: context and mandate of project; findings including strengths, gaps and key themes; action categories including education, governance, Indigenous engagement and partnerships; logic model and roadmap; key documents including gap analysis; next steps including governance and operational plan.

b) Record and Registry Check Evaluation Policy

The Indigenous Advisory Circle reviewed and supported the proposed policy with a recommendation to establish a decision-making matrix.

Be it resolved that the Record and Registry Check Evaluation Policy is approved as presented. CARRIED.

VII. **New Business**

a) ASWB Elections - Public Representative Recommendation

ASWB has a screening of nominees and candidates may or may not be included on election slate. Wil Hedges and Elizabeth Spence volunteered to have their names put forward.

Be it resolved that the Board supports recommendation for Elizabeth Spence and Wil Hedges to serve as a public representative on the ASWB Board of Directors. CARRIED.

b) Exam Use Policy

Proposed change reflects using the BSW level exam instead of Associate level exam (same exam, different pass rate) to be consistent with other jurisdictions in Canada.

Be it resolved that revisions to the Exam Use Policy are approved as presented. CARRIED.

c) Board Terms

Wil Hedges and Cecilly Hildebrand– 1st terms coming to an end. Treasurer will be needed for Fall as Tricia Van Denakker is at the end of her Officer term. The President, Vice-President and Secretary are up for election in 2027.

d) Approved Program Policy

The Indigenous Advisory Circle reviewed and supported the proposed policy. Proposed change reflects implementing the same rules for all accrediting bodies including NIAB.

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

VIII. Adjournment – 3:50 PM