

Practice Note

Use of Title and Designation - “Social Worker,” “RSW”

Practicing Social Workers registered with the College are legally entitled and professionally obligated to use the title and designation of “Social Worker, RSW” in their correspondence and/or communication to ensure that the public is aware that they are regulated professionals. In accordance with *The Social Work Profession Act*, this legal entitlement applies to all Registered Social Workers regardless of their place of employment or position title.

The Social Work Profession Regulation 21(1) clarifies the legal requirements regarding use of title by Social Workers.

A practicing member must include in their professional signature:

- a. Highest post-secondary academic credential (i.e. MSW)***
- b. Professional designation (RSW)***
- c. Position title***

Requirements regarding disclosure of academic credentials, professional designation and title are set out in legislation, which supersedes any conflicting employer policies or practices.

Restrictions on the use of title, “Social Worker”, and designation, “RSW”, apply to *unregistered practitioners* who, by law, are not authorized to use the title Social Worker or represent themselves as Social Workers in Manitoba.

Employers are invited to contact and partner with the College when communicating information regarding the Social Work Profession Act to their employees.

If you have questions regarding the use of title and designation, please contact the College at: info@mcsw.ca

Practice Notes provide support and information for Manitoba social workers, employers, and members of the public regarding social work practice issues. These notes offer general guidance only and are not a substitution for legal advice. College members with specific inquiries are invited to consult the College.

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