

Standards and Ethics Committee Terms of Reference

Purpose

The Standards and Ethics Committee provides guidance and advice to the Board with respect to the establishment and revision of practice standards, code of ethics and practice directives.

Functions

The Standards and Ethics Committee has the responsibility to:

1. conduct reviews of currently established/adopted Standards of Practice, Code of Ethics and any other practice directives issued by the College
2. propose additions, deletions and/or revisions to the Standards of Practice, Code of Ethics and any other practice directives, for consideration by the Board
3. develop new practice standards, code of ethics and practice directives for consideration by the Board

Membership & Terms

The Standards and Ethics Committee shall be comprised of members of the College, including at least one member of the MCSW Board of Directors. The committee shall be supported by the Director of Professional Practice and/or the Executive Director/Registrar.

The Chair of the Committee shall be selected from among Committee members. Additional MCSW staff and/or legal counsel may participate in meetings as deemed necessary. The Committee shall strive to ensure appropriate representation from Indigenous Peoples, which may include consulting with or adding individuals when needed on an ad hoc basis, particularly when dealing with a matter that predominately affects the interests of Indigenous Peoples.

Committee members shall serve for a period of three (3) years and may be renewed for a successive term of three (3) years.

Meetings

The Committee will meet at intervals determined necessary to conduct the business of the Committee or at the request of the Board, Executive Director/Registrar and/or Director of Professional Practice. Minutes of each meeting will be maintained in the College records.

Decision-Making

Decisions of the Standards and Ethics Committee will be determined by consensus whenever possible. Where a consensus decision is not possible, all information regarding the related matter will be presented to the Board for consideration.

Quorum

Three (3) persons shall comprise a quorum of the Standards and Ethics Committee.

Reporting and Accountability

The Standards and Ethics Committee has direct accountability and reporting responsibility through the chair of the Committee to the Board of Directors. Members of the Committee shall adhere to the MCSW Code of Conduct.

Confidentiality

All matters that come before the Standards and Ethics Committee are considered internal to the organization and treated as confidential. Attendance at meetings is not open to persons who are not members of the Standards and Ethics Committee unless expressly invited by the Committee Chair. Discussion and decisions occurring in a meeting of the Standards and Ethics Committee may be disclosed to the Board of Directors in a manner that respects confidentiality.

References:

Social Work Profession Act, 60(1)(e), 62

Social Work Profession Regulation, 15(1), 20

MCSW Amended and Restated By-Law, 3-1