

**MINUTES**

**February 21, 2018 10:00 AM (Central Standard Time)**

**Board of Directors – Teleconference**

**Present:**

BC – Deborah Jones (V), Chelsea Cooledge

Alberta – Richard Gregory (V), Lynn Labrecque King

Manitoba – Vicki Verge Burgess (V), Barb Temmerman

Saskatchewan – Ryan Labatt (V) joined at 11 a.m.

Ontario – Shelley Hale (V) – participated until 11:06 a.m., Lise Betteridge

Nova Scotia – Alec Stratford (V)

Newfoundland & Labrador – Glenda Webber, Lisa Crockwell (V)

New Brunswick – Miguel LeBlanc (V) – participated until 11 a.m.

PEI – Bill Lawlor (V), Phil Matusiewicz

Regrets: Claude Savoie, Guylaine Ouimette

Call to Order – 10:09

1. Approval of Agenda

Addition of 2 items – Confidentiality Provisions in Child Protection, Douglas College Update

***Motion to approve agenda as amended. Shelley Hale, Richard Gregory. CARRIED.***

1. Approval of October 30, 2017 Board meeting minutes

***Motion to approve as presented. Lisa Crockwell, Deborah Jones. CARRIED.***

Miguel LeBlanc – abstention as not present at last meeting.

1. President’s Update

Lise and Lynn have been attending Intersectoral meetings. CASWE educators are circulating proposal for sector studies in child welfare. CASW reviewing their procedures/policies related to assessment foreign trained social workers. Joint world conference 2020 will be held in Calgary. CASW not involved in conference but committed to supporting and participating in education. Website work continues with intention to present progress at June meeting. ASWB annual education conference is coming up. Lynn will be presenting workshop with Kim Madsen relating to interjurisdictional practice.

1. Treasurer’s Update – Lise Betteridge for Ryan Labatt

Currently in process of review engagement as opposed to full audit. Financial statement – main expenses relate to website and meetings. Invoices will be sent for 2018 fees in near future.

1. Bylaws

Intent to streamline terms (i.e. director, member, director at large, etc.). Red-lined and clean copies circulated. Bylaws always open to change. Approve content on these Bylaws with recommendation that formatting will be cleaned up for minor typos. Document will be translated following approval. Updated copy will be circulated in June. Acknowledgement to those who participated in reviewing the bylaws, including Richard Silver.

***Motion to adopt amended Bylaws dated December 2017 as presented. Lisa Crockwell, Richard Gregory. CARRIED.***

1. Call for Nominations/ Notice of Election for May 2018

Election Procedures were circulated – it is possible that they are outdated and not in line with Bylaws. Currently some positions are transitional one-year terms. Two year officer terms are suggested in By-law but unclear reference to “directorship” vs “officer”. Decision to proceed with elections as required by the Bylaws. Bylaws need to more clear on election procedures, definition of directors, officers and terms of office. Coordinator needed for elections.

***Motion for Executive Committee to review and edit the Bylaws to clarify***

* ***definitions of officer and director***
* ***election procedures and***
* ***terms of officers***

***with recommendations to be brought forward to Directors. Miguel LeBlanc, Richard Gregory. CARRIED.***

***Motion to increase terms for officers to 2 years and send notice of elections immediately. Bill Lawlor, Miguel LeBlanc. CARRIED.***

***Motion to appoint Rebecca Singh-Arthur as elections coordinator. Shelley Hale, Lisa Crockwell. CARRIED.***

1. Inter-jurisdictional Collaboration
   1. ASWB Spring Meeting Preparation
   2. MOU sample drafts (Alec)

7.1 Lynn seeking input for presentation at ASWB spring meeting - Developing Tools for Social Work Mobility. Topic is assessing facilitators and barriers to interjurisdictional practice. Lynn will speak to Canadian experience including Canadian Free Trade Agreement and development of MOU model to allow social work practitioners to practice across borders.

Suggestions to speak to e-counseling, practicing across borders, courtesy rosters. May be helpful to look at provinces that regulate practice versus title and the impact this has in terms of practicing in another province. Development of policies and procedures in the absence of clear legislation on mobility is important in order to discourage “unground practice” and provide the public with some level of protection.

Resources

* Newfoundland & Labrador Association passed a policy?
* Nova Scotia Physiotherapists
* OCSWSSW has Q & A on their website about members practicing in another province

7.2 MOU Sample Drafts

Physiotherapy Regulatory bodies in Canada have established an MOU to provide framework for interjurisdictional practice and e-service which recognizes secondary practice jurisdictions. Provides example for how other professions might move forward on this issue. Managing complaints across jurisdictions is a significant issue for consideration.

Interjurisdictional Practice Sub-committee will resume their work and draft a framework for discussion. For review at June meeting. Alec Stratford volunteered to join committee.

1. Douglas College Update

No changes from October minutes. Provisional approval of Douglas College program on condition that they seek accreditation. Both Deans and Directors of universities and CASWE expressed dismay and concern that BCCSW granted approval. BCCSW wrote letters to all parties indicating that they are under pressure from government to approve unaccredited programs. BCCSW have been firm with government that the program will not receive full approval if they do not become accredited. May be important for other stakeholders to express views to government as well.

1. Role of CCSWR in Recognition of Social Work Programs – Draft Aspirational Statement

Thank you to Lise for drafting statement. Amendment to remove “Aspirational” and “While there is some diversity of opinion within CCSWR”. New title: “CCSWR Statement”. Post on CCSWR website and share at Intersectoral table and schools of social work. Available to jurisdictions to circulate.

***Motion to adopt the Statement as amended. Deborah Jones, Lisa Crockwell. CARRIED.***

1. RCMP Checks (Alec)

In Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, the RCMP are becoming strict on release of records checks. Occasional barriers have been identified with checks in BC and Ontario but not consistent. No issues have surfaced in AB, MB or NFLD to date. Concern that employer and volunteer organizations are named but not regulatory body. Question whether RCMP understands role of regulator.

1. Confidentiality Provisions in Child Protection

BC has title protection with exemptions of social workers employed with government, including child protection. Some child protection workers choose to register although it is not required. BCCSW having difficulty accessing records as Director of Child Protection indicates they cannot divulge information related to a client under their Act. Same department that refuses to release records administers the legislation that governs BCCSW. Department does not seem to view social workers as professionals.

New Child, Youth and Family Services Act in Ontario, which speaks to qualification of child protection workers. OCSWSSW can get access to information but they have to formally appoint an investigator. Limited success in discussions with Premier regarding access to information. Lack of understanding of role of the College. OCSWSSW made submission on the regulations related to qualification of child protection workers. Lise will circulate.

Alberta met with Deputy Minister a number of years ago and developed protocol on how to manage complaints involving child protection workers. Sanctioned at Ministry level. Lynn will circulate.

MCSW is experiencing similar issues. No formal exemptions but due to title protection legislation, many child welfare workers have changed their titles. Most CFS agencies do not require registration as a condition of employment. Social workers employed with CFS agencies directly under government are being advised not to respond to complaints, citing confidentiality provisions in CFS Act. MCSW must seek court order in each case at this point but in discussions with Director of Child Protection regarding more reasonable solutions. MCSW making submission to Child Welfare Legislative Review Committee recommending amendments to confidentiality provisions in CFS Act. Recommendations will also be made regarding qualifications and registration of child protection workers.

1. Other/ New Business

Ryan invited questions on the Treasurer’s report. None.

1. Next Meeting – June 10, 2018 in Ottawa

Full day meeting scheduled. Documents will be circulated in advance. Call for agenda items – send them to Barb Temmerman or Lynn Labrecque King.

1. Adjournment – 11:37

***Motion to Adjourn. Deborah Jones. CARRIED***