
BRITISH COLUMBIA COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORKERS MINUTES

Date: **June 12, 2010**

Place: Granville Island Hotel, Vancouver

Chair: Liz Jones

Members present: Susan Hogman, Gary Mavis, Kathryn McCannell, Chi Ying Wong, Bruce Hallsor, Bruce Northey, Susan Noakes, Geraldine Manson, Lorna Dittmar

Regrets Heather Stilwell, Glen Schmidt

A quorum was present throughout the meeting.

In attendance: Staff: Susan Irwin

Liz Jones called the meeting to order at 9:15 am

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| 1. | Opening | Geraldine Manson opened the meeting with a prayer. |
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| 2. | Approval of agenda | The agenda was approved as circulated. |
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| 3. | Approval of minutes | <p>The minutes were amended to record the opening prayer. It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the BCCSW Board meeting held on March 19, 2010 be approved.</p> <p>The motion was adopted.</p> |
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| 4. | Orientation | <p>Susan Irwin made a presentation the Agreement on Internal Trade covering all provinces and the Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement between British Columbia and Alberta. This covered the background and purpose of these inter-provincial agreements and the current impact on the regulation of social work.</p> <p>In the ensuing discussion the Board identified an interest in further review of the possibility of registering social service workers. Susan Irwin was requested to compile information on different governance models which would include other professions, for the September meeting.</p> |
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5. EXECUTIVE REPORT: Liz Jones

Liz Jones provided a written report from the Executive.

The Executive would like to proceed with purchasing a new database,

Motion: It was moved and seconded that

The Board of the B.C. College of Social Workers approves the expenditure of up to \$80,000 for the establishment of a new database.

The motion was adopted.

6. REGISTRAR'S REPORT: Susan Irwin

A copy of the Registrar's report was circulated and received by the Board. Susan provided a verbal highlight of key activities:

- MCFD has advised that amendments to the *Social Workers Act* have been postponed until 2012
 - Newsletter & Annual Report have been distributed
 - Competency profile project is proceeding on time
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7. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

7.1 FINANCIAL REPORT: Gary Mavis

Financial Statements

The financial statements for March and April 2010 were received and reviewed.

Motion: It was moved and seconded that

The Board of the BC College of Social Workers receives the financial statements for March and April 2010.

The motion was adopted.

7.2 REGISTRATION: Susan Hogman

Susan Hogman circulated a report regarding the recommendations of the Registration Committee regarding two requests for waiver of late fee. The Board accepted the report of the committee.

Committee members

As Heather Stilwell has been unable to participate in the Registration Committee and the committee is mandated to have five members, the committee proposed a change in committee membership.

Motion: It was moved and seconded that

Heather Stilwell is removed from the Registration Committee until her health improves and she is able to return.

The motion was adopted.

Motion: It was moved and seconded that

In the interim, Susara Joubert is appointed to the Registration Committee until Heather Stilwell is able to return.

The motion was adopted.

Applications

The Registration Committee has denied two applications for registration.

The committee has reviewed several policy issues and is making recommendations.

Exam re-writes

The committee has reviewed the guidelines for writing the exam and is recommending additional policy. A memo on this issue was distributed in advance.

Motion: It was moved and seconded that

Clinical exam candidates may be approved to write the ASWB exam three times. After the third failure, candidates must wait for two years from the last unsuccessful sitting before writing the exam again.

The motion was adopted.

Specialist Certificates

The committee reviewed the proposal to establish a specialist certificate for oncology social work and have identified several challenges to establishing any specialist certificates: identifying priorities when there could be many areas of specialty, determining who has the expertise to assess specialties, lack of assessment tools for specialty practice. The BCCSW does not have the resources to adequately address these issues.

Motion: It was moved and seconded that

The British Columbia College of Social Workers will not undertake to develop or implement any specialist certificates at this time.

The motion was adopted.

Exam

The committee reviewed the plans to implement an exam for all applicants for full registration. Given recent developments such as the new practice analysis and subsequent exam revisions, as well as the impending development of a Canadian social work competency profile, the Committee recommends a delay in the expected implementation of the exam.

Motion: It was moved and seconded that

Whereas the new Social Work Practice Analysis completed by the Association of Social Work Boards has just recently come out which will result in changes being made to the exam in 2011;

Whereas the Canadian Competency Profile has just recently gone to tender and will be worked on over the next couple of years;

Whereas consultation is necessary with other stakeholders and educators;

The Board of the British Columbia College of Social Workers has put the implementation of the exam as part of the registration process on hold, to be reviewed in January 2012.

The motion was adopted.

The committee is also looking at the issue of registering applicants who live outside Canada.

7.3 REGISTRATION APPEALS: Bruce Hallsor

The committee is currently reviewing a new appeal.

7.4 INQUIRY COMMITTEE: Kathryn McCannell

The committee has received one new complaint and has four active complaint files.

Four citations have been issued with hearings or consent orders pending. A hearing was scheduled on a fifth citation, but a consent order was reached and so the hearing did not proceed.

A judicial review will be held in Prince George on another citation that was issued some months ago.

The committee is developing guidelines for public disclosure of information regarding complaints.

7.5 DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE: Bruce Hallsor

The Discipline Committee had scheduled a hearing, but the matter was settled through a consent order. Bruce had issued several subpoenas in preparation for the hearing.

Another matter is scheduled for a hearing in August.

6.6 QUALITY ASSURANCE COMMITTEE: Chi Ying Wong

Member **Motion:** It was moved and seconded that

Andrea Harstone is appointed as a member of the Quality Assurance Committee.

The motion was adopted.

The committee is looking at different models of continuing competency. The current work of the Committee is reported in the next item on scope of practice.

All committee chairs were thanked for submitting the Terms of Reference. All board members are encouraged to review all of these statements before the vote at the September meeting.

7. CLINICAL SCOPE OF PRACTICE/DIAGNOSIS: Chi Ying Wong

The Quality Assurance Committee has proposed a change to bylaw 42(1) and a corresponding change to 41(4) in order to address the problems, identified in the legal opinion, that the current wording limits full registered social workers from carrying out functions which are acceptable within the usual scope of practice. The attached report was circulated and discussed in detail.

After a full discussion it was decided that it is not necessary to amend bylaw 41(4) and that a straightforward wording change in 42(1) will address the concern.

Motion: It was moved and seconded that

The Board of the BC College of Social Workers amends bylaw 42(1)(b) by deleting "standardized and validated criteria" and adding "independent" before Diagnostic and Statistical Manual.

The motion was adopted. It was noted that it would then be logical to eliminate the sub-headings (a) and (b).

8. PERSONNEL MANUAL & POLICY MANUAL

The Executive has reviewed the Personnel Manual and proposed integrating it into the overall Policy Manual. The meeting reviewed the draft policy and discussed some specific issues, as well as clarifications of some sections. Anyone who has additional suggestions is requested to forward these to Susan Irwin. The plan is to have the final document circulated in advance of the September meeting for approval at that meeting.

9. ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting is scheduled for Thursday November 4. It is proposed that we follow a similar schedule to last year with a presentation, business meeting, followed by a no-host reception. This will be the afternoon/evening before the BCASW annual conference. The presentation will be a panel discussing the future of social work in BC.

10. MEETING SCHEDULE:

The next regular meeting is scheduled for September 11 at 9 am. A board meeting will be held in conjunction with the annual meeting on November 4.

11. Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 2:05 pm.

CHAIR: _____ Date: _____

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