



Ensuring quality professional social work services  
to the population of New Brunswick

New Brunswick  
**Association**  
*of SOCIAL WORKERS*



**NEWS & Views**  
*2018 - FEBRUARY Issue*



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## **FROM THE EDITOR**

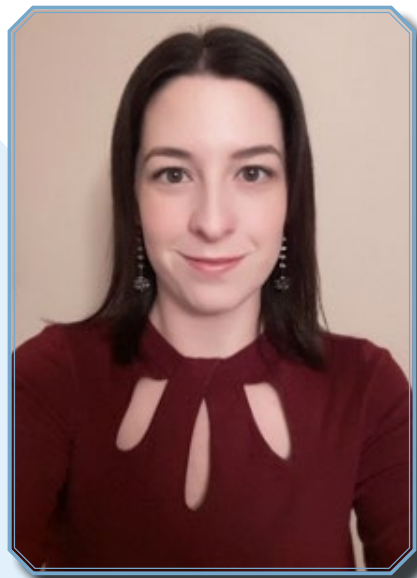
Happy New Year! Can you believe it's February already? The Winter is going fast, and the NBASW office has been busy! In December we said farewell to our three social work students from St. Thomas University, Dave Freeze, Toni Eichhorn and Melissa Crosby, who have now graduated and are working!

January was also an eventful month! We celebrated Gisèle Maillet as the recipient of the 2017 Debbie Nason Social Work in Health Care Award. NBASW members participated in the rebranding process by voting to select the new Association logo, which will be launched as part of the updated website, in June 2018. The Education Committee launched a new social media contest aimed at promoting continuous learning among social workers. NBASW staff prepared a submission for the provincial consultation about financial abuse of older adults, informed by feedback received from the member survey that was circulated in early December.

Registration for 2018-2019 is now open and online renewals are going well. With Spring just around the corner, the NBASW team is working on preparations for Social Work Week 2018 taking place in March, and the NBASW Conference and AGM coming up in June.

Finally, the NBASW is delighted to be accepting nominations for two prestigious awards, and applications for funding to assist members with continuing education.

2018 is shaping up to be an exciting year and we're looking forward to keeping you informed about the work of your Association. Thank you for taking the time to read the newsletter. As always, if you have suggestions to improve our newsletter, please reach out to me at [rmills@nbasw-atsnb.ca](mailto:rmills@nbasw-atsnb.ca)



## **REGISTRATION REMINDER**

The deadline to renew your NBASW annual registration for the 2018-2019 year is March 31st. A completed renewal includes the submission of your updated registration form and full payment of dues. You can complete your registration online at <https://spd-bdsf.gnb.ca>

Do you need a refresher about how to renew your annual registration online? NBASW staff have put together this helpful manual to guide you step-by-step through the registration process, complete with clickable links. To access the manual please visit: <http://bit.ly/2Dbzhtp>

## **NBASW CONFERENCE, BANQUET & AGM - SAVE THE DATE**

The 2018 NBASW conference, banquet and annual general meeting will be taking place at the Saint John Trade and Convention Centre on June 15 & 16, 2018. Be sure to save the date. More details about the event will be coming soon!

A block of 50 hotel rooms have been reserved for Friday June 15<sup>th</sup> at the Hilton Saint John at a rate of \$135 plus tax per night. Members can reserve a room by calling (506) 693-8484 or online at <http://bit.ly/2E2BUxm> (using code: SOCA18) before May 25, 2018.



## **SOCIAL WORK WEEK 2018**

Social Work Week 2018 will take place from March 18-March 24 in New Brunswick. This year's theme is "Bringing Change to Life". Posters are now available for members, and can be requested by emailing [nbasw@nbasw-atsnb.ca](mailto:nbasw@nbasw-atsnb.ca)



## **CALL FOR NOMINATIONS - REMINDER**

### **Raoul Léger Memorial Award**

The Raoul Léger Memorial Award is presented on a yearly basis to a social worker who is a current member of the NBASW or awarded posthumously, who has made a significant contribution to the advancement of the practice of social work and social justice. The Award is presented in memory of Raoul Léger, a social worker who devoted his career and gave his life for the advancement of social justice in Guatemala.

### **Debbie Nason Social Work in Health Care Award**

The Debbie Nason Social Work in Health Care Award is presented on a yearly basis to a social worker who is a current or former member of the NBASW, in memory of Debbie Nason, a social worker who devoted her career to the development and betterment of hospital social work.

To access nomination forms please visit <http://www.nbasw-atsnb.ca/en/Awards>  
Nominations for both awards will be accepted until **February 28, 2018**.

## **SCHOLARSHIPS & BURSARIES FOR MEMBERS**

### **NBASW Scholarship Fund**

The NBASW Scholarship Fund is awarded annually to a registered and practicing (in New Brunswick) member of the NBASW for the purpose of undertaking studies leading to a higher degree in social work, or to a specialized certificate program or course related to social work.

### **Cooperators Bursary for Members**

The Cooperators Bursary Fund is awarded annually to a registered and residing in New Brunswick, member of the NBASW for the purpose of undertaking training such as conferences, workshops, seminars and webinars.

To access application forms please visit <http://www.nbasw-atsnb.ca/en/Awards>  
Applications for the scholarship and bursary will be accepted until **March 31, 2018**.



## **NBASW WEBSITE & LOGO**

We'd like to thank all the members who took the time to vote on the new logo for the NBASW. We're excited to announce that you, the members, selected Concept #2 as the new look for your modern Association. This new branding will be used in the design of the updated NBASW website, scheduled to be launched during the June 2018 AGM.



## **DEBBIE NASON AWARD 2017 RECIPIENT – GISÈLE MAILLET**

The NBASW was proud to present the 2017 Debbie Nason Social Work in Health Care Award to Gisèle Maillet. Gisèle has had an impressive social work career, including various frontline and management roles. Many know Gisèle as a strong community advocate for mental health and addictions. Congratulations, Gisèle!



From left to right: Claude Allard, Gisèle Maillet, Miguel LeBlanc, Rachel Mills, Martine Paquet.

## **CONSULTATION ON FINANCIAL ABUSE OF OLDER ADULTS**

In December, the NBASW circulated a survey to members, requesting their input on the topic of financial abuse of older adults and what can be done to prevent and address it. Based on the feedback received, the NBASW prepared a submission for the consultation being led by the Financial and Consumer Services Commission. The document can be accessed at <http://bit.ly/2B0w40k>

# NBASW FEATURED SOCIAL WORKER SERIES

To read more Featured Social Worker Series publications, please visit the NBASW website or follow us on Facebook!

If you are interested in being featured in the future please contact Rachel Mills at [rmills@nbasw-atsnb.ca](mailto:rmills@nbasw-atsnb.ca)

November 2017 Edition

## NBASW Featured Social Worker Series

ZOE BOURGEOIS, RSW



Where are you from?

.....

Fredericton, NB

How long have you been a social worker?

.....

Less than a year (registered a year later in April 2017) Graduated class of '16.

Where do you work?  
What do you do there?

.....

Partners for Youth Inc. I am the Program Coordinator for the New Brunswick Youth in Care Network.

What is an achievement (professional or personal) that you're proud of?

.....

My biggest accomplishment besides my two children is the defining statistics. I have with the help of others managed to transition from a foster child to a University graduate to a Registered Social Worker.

Thank you Zoe for agreeing to be featured by the NBASW and helping us celebrate the diversity of roles held by NB social workers!

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## If you could give one piece of advice about self-care for social workers, what would it be?

.....

I think it's important to realize that self-care is an ongoing thing for Social Workers. It's not a one-time deal, or once a month break. It's crucial to implement small self-care habits everyday. It's important to give your life a little bit of love and attention. I started writing down a "compliments file" where I document every nice thing a person has said about me, so when I am feeling down, I pull out this folder and read those comments. I also take time to "unplug" from technology. At work, I am constantly on social media, emailing, talking on the phone so I make sure to take time in my day to free myself from that world. It's a nice mental break.

## What's a fun fact about you that most people don't know?

.....

I am a photographer on the side. I offer low session prices so every family can afford a record of their memorable moments. This past year, I took part in the #Beccatoldmeto campaign and offered one year of free photography for the public. To date, I have photographed over thirty families.

## Why are you proud to be a social worker?

"I am proud to be a social worker because I get the opportunity to work with people from all walks of life. Each person brings new life experiences, and I love being the person they need support from. I enjoy building relationships and learning from the people I work with. They challenge my thinking which helps me grow as a Social Worker. I have the opportunity to help change someone's life or peoples lives for the better. As a Social Worker my work helps me to learn what my strengths and limitations are while working with people in need of assistance. As a Social Worker, I am always growing".

-Zoe Bourgeois, RSW

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# NBASW Featured Social Worker Series

**ASHLEY GOYETTE, RSW, MSW  
(CANDIDATE)**



## Where are you from?

.....

Northern New Brunswick. A small town called Jacquet River.

## Where do you work? What do you do there?

.....

I work at Mindshift clinic, which is a private, holistic wellness clinic, here in Fredericton. We work primarily with Veterans with PTSD but are seeing an increase in civilian clients as well. I am employed as a biofeedback counselor. So essentially, I use equipment to monitor my client's physiological responses to stress (heart rate, breathing, muscle tension, sweat gland activity and finger temperature). I teach them about their unique physiological reactions to stress, how to be mindful and aware of them so they can learn to calm their body and mind through diaphragmatic breathing, mindfulness and relaxation. Once clients can calm their body and minds, they can then begin to use other therapeutic techniques like cognitive behavioural therapy, to attend to their thoughts and make changes. It's really about re-connecting the mind, body, emotions and spirit of the individual.

## How long have you been a social worker?

.....

Since 2011, I believe. I started out working in First Nations child welfare right after I graduated from social work school. I really enjoyed this work but my passion has always been in mental health.

**Thank you Ashley for agreeing to be featured by the NBASW and helping us celebrate the diversity of roles held by NB social workers!**

## What is an achievement (professional or personal) that you're proud of?

.....

I am very proud that I have been able to continue my social work education through the Masters of social work program at the University of Victoria (distance education), while working full-time and raising 4 children. I am set to graduate this spring. It's been a long but amazing journey.

## If you could give one piece of advice about self-care for social workers, what would it be?

.....

Throughout the years, I've had to get better at listening to my body and mind when it says it needs a break and to practice self-care. This is so important to the social work profession and overall mental wellness for everyone. I teach my clients that practicing self-care is not selfish. It's saying, "I matter too" and it's really important for social workers to care for themselves, as much as they care for their clients.

## What's a fun fact about you that most people don't know?

.....

Anybody that knows me knows I am a pretty candid, open book. I don't think there is a whole lot about me that people don't know.

## Why are you proud to be a social worker?

"I am proud to be a social worker because our profession goes beyond words. It takes words, puts them into action and advocates for those people and voices which are marginalized in our communities and in our society."

-Ashley Goyette, RSW,  
MSW (Candidate)

## **DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE**

### **In the matter of a complaint against Renée Dubé**

#### **Notice of Revocation**

On September 5, 2017, the Discipline Committee of the New Brunswick Association of Social Workers ordered the revocation of the right of Renée Dubé, from Caraquet, to practice social work under paragraph 23(4)(a) of the Act to Incorporate the New Brunswick Association of Social Workers (the “Act”).

The member has not performed the tasks of a social worker since March 2015.

A hearing of the Discipline Committee of the New Brunswick Association of Social Workers was held by teleconference on July 20, 2017, to review the complaint against the member, Renée Dubé, who was accused of professional misconduct.

The association presented evidence that the member had pleaded guilty to the charge of fraud against the Department of Social Development.

The Discipline Committee determined that Renée Dubé was guilty of professional misconduct at the expense of her clients and her employer under paragraph 23(2)(a) of the Act, since the member was found guilty by a court of competent jurisdiction of the allegations in the complaint, having exploited her clients’ situation for personal gain.

## **Op Ed – SOCIAL WORK & OLDER ADULTS**

Prior to completing their Social Action Field Placement in December, St. Thomas University social work students, Dave, Toni and Melissa prepared an Op Ed article and we’d like to share it with you! You can read their article on our website by visiting <http://bit.ly/2CXw0xS>

## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: CODIAC RCMP VICTIM SERVICES UNIT**

The Codiak RCMP Victim Services Unit in Moncton is currently recruiting volunteers interested in providing assistance to victims and witnesses of crime. This unit is a team of highly trained professionals available after hours to assist RCMP in responding to traumatic events such as domestic violence, sexual assaults, armed robberies and sudden deaths, etc. Training is provided as needed. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Kim Robichaud by Wednesday February 28th, 2018 at 857-2452 or by email at [kimberley.robichaud@rcmp-grc.gc.ca](mailto:kimberley.robichaud@rcmp-grc.gc.ca).

## **CYBERVIOLENCE TOOLKIT NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE**

The NBASW is pleased to announce that a new online toolkit about cyberviolence is now available on the Association website. This resource is the product of a multiyear collaborative project between the NBASW, Muriel McQueen Fergusson Centre for Family Violence Research and the Office of the New Brunswick Child and Youth Advocate. The toolkit can be accessed at: <http://bit.ly/2DNFX4x>

# **NBASW COMMITTEE VACANCIES**

Are you looking for ways to get involved in your professional Association? The NBASW has a variety of committees in search of new members! Keep reading for information about the work of each committee and available volunteer positions. If you would like to join a committee, please send a copy of your resume to [nbasw@nbasw-atsnb.ca](mailto:nbasw@nbasw-atsnb.ca) indicating the committee of interest. Committee members will be appointed by the NBASW Board of Directors.

## **Committee of Examiners**

- Examines and approves application for NBASW membership
- Comprised of six registered social workers appointed by the Association and one public member appointed by the Minister of Health.

**1 position available**

## **Social Action Committee**

- Concerned with issues of social injustice. Assists the NBASW with its efforts to bring about social and economic changes in society.
- Provides coordination and resources to the local chapters' Social Action Committees.
- Acts as liaison to persons or community groups engaged in social action and social change that adheres to the NBASW Code of Ethics.

**2 positions available**

## **Education Committee**

- Responds to the education needs of the NBASW membership.
- Selects recipients for various bursaries and scholarships.

**1 position available**

## **Practice Issues, Ethics, and Professional Standards Committee**

- Responds to questions from the members relating to ethics and practice.
- Works on standards and guidelines when they are needed.
- Promotes and encourages high standards for excellence and professionalism in social work practice.

**2 positions available**



## **PROMOTION OF THE PROFESSION COMMITTEE \*NEW\***

As part of the NBASW Strategic Plan, the Board of Directors has struck a new advisory committee responsible for supporting the NBASW in the promotion of the social work profession. This Committee will focus on the goals of: improving image, better education, and building partnerships. This committee will have vacancy for 6 members.

## **WELCOME NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

The NBASW would like to thank the many members who volunteer their time to participate on committees, and would like to welcome the members appointed to committees during the November Board of Directors meeting: Mary Ann McLeese (Ethics); Sarah Enright (Social Action); Tanya Smith (Bylaws), Géraldine Poirier Baiani (Bylaws), Eileen Gauthier (Bylaws), and Valerie DeLong (Bylaws).

## **EDUCATION COMMITTEE'S CONTINUOUS LEARNING CONTEST**

The NBASW Education committee was excited to announce a new social media contest that was launched in January! The purpose of the contest is to engage members and create a culture of continuous learning among NB social workers. Each week, we post a question to test your knowledge. NBASW members can answer using the comments section on Facebook. All correct answers received by midnight have their names entered in a draw. At the end of each month, one name is drawn to receive a \$25 gift card!

## **NBASW FACEBOOK PAGES**

Want to stay up to date on our day-to-day work?  
Follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/NBASW/>

