

# 2010-2011 ANNUAL REPORT



## NEW BRUNSWICK ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS

P.O. BOX 1533, STA. A,  
FREDERICTON, N.B. E3B 5G2  
TELEPHONE: 1-877-495-5595  
FAX: (506) 457-1421  
E-MAIL: [nbasw@nbasw-atsnb.ca](mailto:nbasw@nbasw-atsnb.ca)

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear Colleagues,

It has been a pleasure for me to represent you for the past four years as President of the NBASW. Again this year, I've been lucky enough to witness great accomplishments and hard work by the staff and members of the Board of Directors. I'm so proud to be part of this Association! This time last year, we were undergoing a major staff change. Our Registrar was retiring, decreasing our available human resources, but not the number of projects...or of challenges. Bravo to all our staff, Denise, Annie and Miguel, who again showed their commitment and team spirit. This past March, Martine Paquet took on the position of social work consultant. She's a dynamic addition to the team. As I write this final report, I want to start by thanking the members for having given me this chance, and especially by tipping my hat to the staff and Board members. The President's job is nothing compared to theirs'. It's great to work with a committed, disciplined, very professional team, especially one that allows itself to have fun! Together, we motivated ourselves to complete projects and to dare making certain decisions and certain changes. These decisions certainly won't please everybody, but be assured that none of them have been made lightly. Our constant aim is to improve the Association for its members and the public.

Among some successes, there is first the fact that all but one of our chapters are represented at the Board. The one missing chapter should be naming a director as I'm writing this report. This means that the interests of social workers from the four corners of the province will be heard at the Board level. You will see in the chapter reports that they have been quite active and that a number of activities have taken place in the past year, especially during National Social Work Month. Although some regions hit stumbling blocks and had changes on their executive, the passion was still

there. As well, all the committees are full and very active. The Board even found the time to establish two temporary committees. Our new Web site is finally up and running, and I want to thank the members who contribute to it regularly. Certain committees collaborated on the same projects and, after several years of absence, a Bylaw Committee was formed. Its mandate is to review each of these to ensure even better operations. You'll see the fruit of their labor soon enough by the amendments presented at the AGM. I hope that these will show you that your concerns and requests have been heard. A first First Nations Symposium has also been formed in N.B. The Registrar and the President have been working with the Canadian Council of Social Work Regulators on developing the new Canadian Social Work Competency Profile. The NBASW remains a member of the Association of Social Work Boards, which brings together regulators in Canada and the US. We also need to recognize the members who were awarded the Debbie Nason Award, the CASW National Award for Outstanding Service and the Raoul Léger Award. The AGM banquet will be special this year because we will be unveiling the official Raoul Léger Award pin and presenting it to the former recipients in attendance.

As to the completion of projects that have been under way for a few years, it will be a pleasure to introduce the promotional document on the scopes of practice in social work in New Brunswick, which will be officially presented to the members at the AGM. A number of members of the NBASW made up the group of "experts" who developed and reviewed the document; others were targeted as consultants before the final revision. I want to thank them all for their time.

We've been looking for a long time for a document to validate and promote the importance of our roles in various workplaces, and here it is! Feel free to

use it and to share it within your work teams. We would really appreciate your feedback. The NBASW Board is now going to take the first steps toward reopening the Act to Incorporate the New Brunswick Association of Social Workers. It will be a long and very costly process. A temporary committee has been struck to look after the amendment of the Act, the proposed changes, consultation sessions with members in the province, going forward and presentation to the Minister of Health within two years. We anticipated that members would question the increase in membership fees in 2011, but it was the only way to amend the Act at this time while both paying the costs and maintaining the organization's financial viability. More information will come to members through their chapter directors and via communiqués over the next few months, but don't hesitate to contact the office to find out more. A major challenge faced by our profession this year was at the national level. The provinces of Ontario and Alberta have decided to leave the federation of the CASW, despite months of attempted negotiations and collaboration by the CASW Board. It's a sad year for the social work profession in Canada. This sort of discord among the professional organizations will certainly have a negative impact on the CASW's operations, especially financially but also morally. Since our association is one of the smallest provincial organizations, it depends heavily on the CASW's work in the areas of promotion, political lobbying and social justice advocacy. The NBASW has always maintained its support for the CASW and we support its many efforts to try to maintain unity around the country. The NBASW, who will host the first CASW Annual Meeting since these changes, still believes firmly in the viability of a national voice for the social work profession. You may already have had an opportunity to meet some members of the CASW Board, along with presidents and executive directors from other Canadian provinces, at the

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT (CONT.)

AGM banquet. Indeed, one of our members, Morel Caissie, is a candidate for the post of CASW President. We are sure that he could restore stability the federation's future. Terms of office are expiring, and certain members are leaving the Board. Others are leaving their positions on various committees. I want to thank all of you for the time you have spent, sometimes far from your families and jobs, to devote your expertise for the good of the Association. Be proud of having contributed to the many projects I have mentioned!

Finally, as President, I see what a privilege it was to work and to learn alongside a group that was so motivated, motivating and welcoming. I invite each and every one of you to personally experience this feeling of unity by getting involved, whether in a local chapter, on

a committee or on the Board. As for me, after several years of involvement at different levels with the NBASW, I'm stepping back. I leave the position of President with no regrets, proud of what the Association has continued to accomplish, but also wanting to leave a little bit of myself behind. When I look at the candidates for posts on the executive, I'm sure that I'm leaving you in good hands. I want to say THANK YOU. A wonderful success shared with all of you, old acquaintances, new acquaintances, old friends, new friends. Long live the NBASW!

Karine Levesque, RSW  
President

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

### Staffing

I want to first, express my sincere appreciation and thanks to Denise St. Laurent, our Administrative Assistant and Annie Couturier, our Registrar. Their commitment to the NBASW is clearly evident with their hard work and constant contribution as team members to the development of the Association in fulfilling our mandate. I want to officially welcome Martine Paquet, who joined the NBASW in March as our Social Work Consultant, to our energetic and dedicated team! This means that all staff positions with the NBASW are finally filled. Also, I want to acknowledge the amazing work of our social work student, Rachel Mills who joined our team during the summer, and also worked as a part-time employee throughout the year. I was also privileged to supervise two social work students, Jane Jollimore and Tanya Smith from St. Thomas University, who worked with the Social Action Committee on the development of the first ever NBASW First Nation Symposium.

### Board of Directors

This year, the Board of Directors met five times. This provided the opportunity to discuss different Chapter initiatives and concerns, special projects, and the

governance of the Association among other important issues. I also want to take this opportunity to welcome Théo Saulnier as our Chapter representative for the Acadian Peninsula. Furthermore, with the appointment of a Moncton Chapter Director at our AGM, I am proud to state that all slates of Directors will be filled. This will assure that the issues arising across our province are being discussed at the provincial level. I want to assure all members that with the ongoing leadership from the Executive, the Board of Directors, and the dedicated staff at the NBASW that your Association is in good hands!

### Committees

The Education Committee, the Ethics, Practice Issues and Standards Committee, the Management Committee, the Social Action Committee, the By-law Committee, the Ad Hoc Committees and the Regulatory Committees are all very busy, as you can ascertain from their individual reports. I want to briefly highlight two committees: the Ad Hoc – Scope of Practice Committee, and the Ad Hoc – Re-Opening of the Act Committee.

Last year, the Board of Directors appointed an Ad Hoc Committee to develop a Scope of Practice for our profession. As our President, Karine

Levesque, states in her report, the promotional document is complete. I also want to take this opportunity to inform members that the Board of Directors appointed a new Ad Hoc Committee for the Re-Opening of our Act. Although it is an expensive endeavor with a timeline of at least two years, the NBASW believes that our Act needs to be modernized to meet the new realities of social work practice in New Brunswick. Part of the process of re-opening the NBASW Act will include a consultation process to provide the opportunity for members who want to participate.

### Government Relations

The NBASW continues to promote our profession and build working relationships with all levels of governments. The NBASW continues to be approached for our participation on major government consultations and announcements, for example: the Bullying Summit organized by the Department of Education, the Child and Youth Advocate/Ombudsman Annual State of our Children Address in Miramichi; the Department of Education and Early Childhood Education Consultation; the Department of Health - Mental Health Action Plan announcement; the Department of Health Primary

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT (CONT.)

Care Consultation; and the Women Issues Branch 10 years plan, to name a few. The NBASW was also invited at the provincial Legislature for the new Government of New Brunswick Throne's Speech and for an official announcement of Social Work Week by the Minister of Social Development.

The NBASW attended a meeting with the Minister of Social Development in collaboration with representatives from both Schools of Social Work and social work students. An agreement was reached to allow all social workers in the Department of Social Development to use their work email to receive Chapter and NBASW information. Another result is a commitment by the Minister of Social Development for an annual/bi-annual meeting with the Department in collaboration with both Schools of Social Work to discuss and pro-actively find solutions to address recruitment and retention issues.

The NBASW also met with all leaders or political party representatives during the provincial election to promote the value and importance of our profession and highlight the needs of our clients.

The Federal Government Parliamentary Committee invited me to be a witness in Ottawa to present NBASW's concerns with the changes of the Youth Criminal Justice Act, which would negatively affect our clients in our communities and our province. Merri-Lee Hanson from our Board of Directors was also a witness. All of the expenses incurred for this meeting were covered by the Federal Government.

The NBASW also met with representatives from the Community College of New Brunswick; the Mental Health initiative on the Integrated Service Delivery Program team; and the Department of Health Service Database Providers. I also have ongoing and regular discussions with members of both the Federal and Provincial Government and look forward to continue advocating on behalf of our profession and our clients, and to develop pro-active solutions.

### Media

The NBASW is increasingly being approached by a range of media outlets to have our position on specific issues. Interviews have been published and/or broadcast at the national and provincial level. The NBASW is also pro-actively disseminating press releases and letters to the editors with regards to social work concerns and we continue to send announcements with the goal of celebrating NBASW members' accomplishments. Furthermore, a partnership with Université de Moncton was formed to promote the social work program to the public. Our Registrar, Annie Couturier, is on a pamphlet, developed by l'Université de Moncton, as a social work ambassador. This promotional item was sent to all high schools in the province of New Brunswick.

### Building Relationships, Social Work Week, and Social Justice

The NBASW continues to work with different coalitions and campaigns addressing specific social justice issues. The Association is a member with the Common Front for Social Justice, Pay Equity Coalition, Dignity for All Campaign, I am a Witness Campaign, Jordan's Principles, NB Catastrophic Drug Coverage Coalition, to name a few.

I am in my second term as a Board of Director member on the Muriel McQueen Family Violence Research Centre. Due to the success of the Social Worker Train the Trainer on Inter-Personal Violence, the NBASW, in partnership with the MMFVRC, submitted a proposal to the Federal government for multi-year funding to evaluate the program. This will provide the opportunity to promote this New Brunswick made program to other provinces, and possibly, to other countries.

The NBASW website is completed and I urge all members to visit the new site and send their comments. The NBASW is now going paperless once all the emails of our members are added to our database which should be completed

at the end of this summer. I am also in ongoing discussions with representatives from the Department of Health and Service New Brunswick to provide online registration to all members and I am hopeful that I will have more news in the next year.

The NBASW continues to engage and promote our mandate to Social Work Students at both Schools of Social Work. The Social Action Committee is examining the possibility of having another group of Social Work Students do their Field Placements with the NBASW.

I want to remind all of you to check the [www.casw-acts.ca](http://www.casw-acts.ca) website and read the latest edition of the Canadian Social Worker, which is a peer reviewed, social work journal that you have access to as a member with the NBASW.

If you have any questions and/or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us. The Association belongs to you! And I want to assure you that we are always open to discuss issues, hear new ideas, and identify pro-active solutions.

Sincerely,

Miguel LeBlanc, BSW, MSW, RSW  
Executive Director

I would like to thank the people I have been working closely with over the year, including the members of the Scope of Practice Committee, the By-Laws Committee, the Committee of Examiners, the Complaints Committee, the Discipline Committee, and the Practice Issues, Ethics and Professional Standards Committee, as well as the members of the Board of Directors.

I also want to thank Denise St-Laurent, Administrative Assistant, Rachel Mills, summer student, and Miguel LeBlanc, Executive Director, for their incredible dedication and support. I would also like to welcome Martine Paquet, Social Work Consultant, to our team!

The 2010-11 year was a very busy one on the regulatory side of things. The following report provides a summary of the year's events.

## **The Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT)**

The Agreement on Internal Trade remains an active issue. As a brief reminder, the provincial, territorial, and federal governments signed this agreement to eliminate barriers to trade and to the movement of labour between the provinces and territories. To get an exemption from totally free movement of labour until a way is found to remove this barrier, regulatory bodies for each profession and trade had the opportunity to file a legitimate objective with their provincial government. The NBASW therefore filed a legitimate objective with the Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour. This legitimate objective concerns social workers with a two-year college diploma admitted to the Alberta College of Social Workers and social workers holding a diploma in social work admitted to the Saskatchewan Association of Social Workers. In early February, the NBASW received a written confirmation of the approval of this objective by the Minister of Postsecondary Education, Training

and Labour. As this message is being written, the legitimate objective from the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers, as well as the one from the Newfoundland and Labrador Association of Social Workers on the same issue, have been accepted by their governments.

## **Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB)**

The NBASW maintains its membership in the Association of Social Work Boards, which brings together regulatory agencies in Canada and the United States. The NBASW enjoys many benefits as a member of the ASWB, including free training for members of Boards of Directors from member provinces and states. This year, a member of our Board of Directors took part in this training. I also had the opportunity to take part

I had the opportunity to take part in the training held in the spring, at Charleston, South Carolina, in May. I also had the opportunity to go to the Annual General Meeting, held in November in New Orleans, Louisiana. I took part in the administrators' forum held concurrently with the AGM.

## **Canadian Council of Social Work Regulators**

The Agreement on Internal Trade brought the provinces together to work on developing a national Social Work Competency Profile, through the Canadian Council of Social Work Regulators. The outcomes of this project will also help develop a process for evaluating foreign credentials in a way that would be acceptable to all provinces. During the year, a questionnaire focusing on basic competencies was developed, and the 35 000 registered social workers in Canada will be called on to fill out this questionnaire in the near future. Your contribution to this questionnaire is essential to ensuring the success of this

project. It will also provide you with the opportunity to talk about what you do.

## **Schools of Social Work**

This year, I gave presentations about registration and the Code of Ethics to social work students at Université de Moncton and St. Thomas University.

As a social work graduate from Université de Moncton, I was pleased to serve as an ambassador for the social work program of the university. I was called on in this role to take part in an interview published in the *Mon Avenir* section of *L'Acadie Nouvelle*, as well as in brochures and advertising materials.

## **Members**

The membership of the NBASW increased by 36 during the 2010-11 year, for a total of 1648. Of these members, 1496 were regular members (an increase of 31), 66 were not employed members (a drop of 8), 58 were retired members (an increase of 6), 24 were out of province members (an increase of 7), and 4 were honorary members (unchanged from the previous year). As for the previous year, there were no student members.

## **Standards for Technology**

In early June, 2010, standards for the use of technology in social work practice written by the Practice Issues, Ethics and Professional Standards Committee of the NBASW were adopted at the Annual General Meeting. Copies of the standards were distributed to all members of the association and are also posted on the NBASW website. These are the first such standards to be adopted by the NBASW, but will not be the last.

## **Complaints and Discipline**

Nine new complaints were made in 2010-11, representing an increase of 3 over the previous year. Please see the Complaints

## REGISTRAR'S REPORT (CONT.)

Committee report for more details. The Discipline Committee considered three related statements of facts and consequences during the 2010-11 year. Last year, the committee had not met, since no case had been presented.

### **Evaluation Process**

New candidates for registration and candidates for readmission to the NBASW who have not been registered by a regulatory body of social work for five years or more are now required to undergo an evaluation process to determine whether or not the candidate meets the current BSW level of knowledge and skill. You may refer to NBASW by-law 19.04e) concerning this requirement. The evaluation process was developed in response to concerns about social workers who may not have practiced the profession or undertaken continuing education for a long time and are returning to the job market when their knowledge may no longer be current. This evaluation process includes oral and written components and is offered in English and French, as the candidate requests. Over the year, examiners were trained in the administration and the correction of this evaluation.

### **Community College Project Concerning Social Work Assistants or Social Service Workers**

After a market study was done on developing a college program to train social work assistants or social service workers, a meeting of potential employers, Francophone community college representatives, and representatives from the NBASW was held in Campbellton in the fall. After much discussion on the subject, it was recommended by representatives of these groups that such a program should not be developed, since there is insufficient demand for it. It was suggested that current programs are relevant,

and that simply updating existing programs to enable them to better meet employers' needs is the solution.

### **Reinstatement**

People who want to become members of the NBASW a year or more after having let their memberships lapse must submit an application for reinstatement. These applications are considered by the Board of Directors. During the 2010-11 year, the Board of Directors approved 18 applications, representing an increase of 11 over the previous year.

### **By-Laws**

I was involved on the By-Laws Committee, since several by-laws were targeted for a comprehensive review under the regulations. This work has led to amendments that will be brought forward to the Annual General Meeting next June.

### **Meeting of Canadian Registrars**

In September, I attended the annual meeting of Canadian Registrars, which was held in Gimli, Manitoba.

### ***Review of the Act to Incorporate the New Brunswick Association of Social Workers (1988)***

This important project is still in its preliminary stages. A first study of the Act was done last year by the Board of Directors to draw up a draft of potential amendments. This year, the board decided that a temporary committee will work on moving this project forward. Since this project is in its preliminary stages, you will be hearing more about it over the next year.

### **Website**

The upgrade to the website provided an opportunity to update information on regulation and public protection.

The information provided is more detailed and more accessible.

Sincerely,  
Annie Couturier, MSW, RSW  
Registrar

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of New Brunswick Association of Social Workers

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of New Brunswick Association of Social Workers, which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2011, and the statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

### *Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements*

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### *Auditor's Responsibility*

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### *Opinion*

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of New Brunswick Association of Social Workers as at March 31, 2011, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Fredericton, New Brunswick

May 5, 2011

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

## Statement of Financial Position March 31, 2011

### ASSETS

Current Assests	2011	2010
Cash	\$258,606	\$315,976
Term Deposits	<u>518,906</u>	<u>495,052</u>
	777,512	811,028
Property and Equipment (Note 4)	<u>15,182</u>	<u>18,081</u>
	<u>\$792,694</u>	<u>\$829,109</u>

### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

CURRENT		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$30,333	\$40,419
Unearned membership dues	<u>178,420</u>	<u>230,947</u>
	208,753	271,366
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	150,693	144,906
Restricted (Note 5)	418,066	394,756
Invested in property and equipment	<u>15,182</u>	<u>18,081</u>
	<u>583,941</u>	<u>557,743</u>
	<u>\$792,694</u>	<u>\$829,109</u>

### ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CON'T)

## Statement of Changes in Net Assets Year Ended March 31, 2011

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Invested in Property and equipment	2011	2010
NET ASSETS BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$144,906	\$394,756	\$18,081	\$557,743	\$519,847
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	27,687	3,051	(4,540)	26,198	37,896
AQUISITION OF EQUIPMENT	(1,641)	-	1,641	-	-
INTERFUND TRANSFERS	<u>(20,259)</u>	<u>20,259</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
NET ASSETS END OF YEAR	<u>\$150,693</u>	<u>\$418,066</u>	<u>\$15,182</u>	<u>\$583,941</u>	<u>\$557,743</u>

## STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2011

	2011	2010
<b>Revenue</b>		
Membership dues	\$512,475	\$496,804
Other	1,769	890
Intrest	<u>2,858</u>	<u>2,771</u>
	<u>517,102</u>	<u>500,465</u>
<b>Expenses</b>		
A.S.W.B dues	500	543
Amortization	4,540	4,215
Board and executive meetings	22,041	16,356
C.A.S.W. dues	60,356	59,240
C.A.S.W. operational reviews	2,421	-
C.C.S.W.R. dues	750	-
Chapter rebates	15,870	15,480
Committee expenses	18,182	23,151
Complaints and discipline	22,550	5,984
Dossier expenses	10,110	8,295
Equipment, maintenance and support	3,788	3,474
Insurance	7,150	7,057
Meetings and conventions	10,327	15,387
Office	32,973	25,044
President's expenses	3,823	4,092
Professional fees	7,863	5,056
Public relations and promotions	2,974	4,170
Rent	26,450	26,017
Salaries, wages and subcontracts	194,929	208,944
Services to members	13,284	8,193
Staff expenses	14,646	9,652
Telephone	7,051	6,393
Travel and donations	1,969	3,691
Website development	<u>6,357</u>	<u>2,135</u>
	<u>490,904</u>	<u>462,569</u>
<b>Excess Of Revenue Over Expenses For The Year</b>	<u>\$26,198</u>	<u>\$37,896</u>

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2011

	2011	2010
<b>Operating Activities</b>		
Excess of revenue over expenses	\$26,198	\$37,896
Items not affecting cash		
Amortization	<u>4,540</u>	<u>4,215</u>
	30,738	42,111
Changes in noncash working capital:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(10,086)	8,695
Unearned Membership Dues	<u>(52,527)</u>	<u>15,311</u>
	(62,613)	24,006
	(31,875)	66,117
<b>Investing Activities</b>		
Purchase of property & equipment	(1,641)	(4,228)
Term deposits	<u>(23,854)</u>	<u>(195,524)</u>
	(25,495)	(199,752)
Decrease in Cash	(57,370)	(133,635)
Cash Beginning Of Year	<u>315,976</u>	<u>449,611</u>
Cash End Of Year	<u>\$258,606</u>	<u>\$315,976</u>

## NEW BRUNSWICK ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS Notes to Financial Statements Year Ended March 31, 2011

### 1. DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS

The New Brunswick Association of Social Workers is a notforprofit organization that governs and regulates social work services provided to the public in the Province of New Brunswick.

### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### Property and equipment

Property and equipment are stated at cost less accumulated amortization. Property and equipment are amortized over their estimated useful lives at the following rates and methods:

Furniture, fixtures and equipment 20% declining balance method

The organization regularly reviews its property and equipment to eliminate obsolete items.

#### Measurement uncertainty

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the period. Such estimates are periodically reviewed and any adjustments necessary are reported in earnings in the period in which they become known. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

#### Revenue recognition

Membership dues, interest and other revenues are recognized on the accrual basis as earned.

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CON'T)

## 3. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The organization's financial instruments consist of cash, term deposits, accounts payable and accrued liabilities. It is management's opinion that the organization is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risks arising from these financial instruments. The fair value of these financial instruments approximate their carrying values, unless otherwise noted.

## 4. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

	Cost	Accumulated amortization	2011 Net book value	2010 Net book value
Furniture fixtures and equipment	\$80,940	\$65,758	\$15,182	\$18,081

## 5. UNEARNED MEMBERSHIP DUES

This amount represents dues collected for the 2011/2012 year, net of associated CASW fees.

## 6. RESTRICTED NET ASSETS

The Board of Directors has internally restricted resources for specific purposes as follows:

The contingency fund can be accessed for day to day operations of the Association in the event of a revenue shortfall.

The defence fund can be accessed in order to cover the legal and associated costs of disciplinary hearings.

The scholarships fund can be accessed to cover the costs of bursaries awarded by the Association.

The special projects fund can be accessed for future projects as determined by the Board of Directors.

	2011	2010
Contingency	\$270,326	\$262,619
Defence	100,000	104,171
Scholarships	25,000	17,273
Special Projects	<u>22,740</u>	<u>10,693</u>
	<u>\$418,066</u>	<u>\$394,756</u>

During the year the organization transferred \$6,561 (2010 \$43,590) from the unrestricted fund to the contingency fund, \$1,698 (2010 \$nil) from the unrestricted fund to the scholarship fund, \$12,000 (2010 \$nil) from the unrestricted fund to the special projects fund and \$4,604 (2010 \$nil) from the defence fund to the scholarship fund.

## CASW DIRECTOR'S REPORT

I provided a report last year on our organizational review which was completed in May 2010 and I want to provide an update on what has transpired over the last twelve months. The impetus for this review came from the financial challenges facing CASW. The Quebec Association left CASW in 2003 and this resulted in a considerable loss of revenue. Over the subsequent years, a number of activities undertaken by CASW had to be curtailed due to lack of funds. The reduction in office staff, National Conferences and board meetings, were but a few of the consequences of this reduced revenue. Priority was given to maintain our social advocacy initiatives through our media releases, policy papers, as well as direct involvement with a number of coalitions and meetings with politicians. We continued to promote our profession through our publications. Media releases and social work month were maintained as ways to promote our profession. A proposal for a fee increase of \$2 per member was defeated by a narrow margin by member associations in 2008 and again in 2009. Member associations and the CASW Board voted instead to proceed with an operational review which would include a review of our fee formula.

The AGORA report was received in May 2010 and a joint committee of representatives of member associations and the CASW Board was mandated to develop an action plan over the weeks that followed. The plan was presented to the CASW Board and approved in October 2010. CASW immediately undertook to implement the action plan. (copy of the action plan can be viewed on the CASW web site). A number of initiatives stemming from the recommendations in the AGORA report are well underway, notably the revamping of our website, which will be completed in July of 2011. We are in the process of adopting a new governance model which will help to clarify the respective roles of Board members and CASW staff as they relate to member associations. A review of governance policies will enhance our delegation of responsibilities and authority so we can better meet our goals and objectives outlined in our strategic plan. We have adopted a mission that puts equal emphasis on the promotion of the profession

and the promotion of social justice. The review of our membership agreement and fee structure was one of the major recommendations that were highlighted in our action plan. CASW was transformed into a federation of member associations in 1974 in lieu of an association of individual members. The agreement still calls for a basic fee for each individual social worker from these provincial or territorial associations. The fee is remitted to CASW and all their respective members then become members of CASW. The basic annual fee is \$ 37 per member and is reduced for associations over 1000 members and further reduced for associations with over 2000 members. Student fees are reduced to \$26 per member. The current agreement and fee formula has been in effect for more than 13 years with no fee increase despite the loss of the Quebec Association in 2003.

The biggest challenge in implementing our action plan was coming up with a consensus on a new fee formula that would be deemed equitable. The Alberta College of Social Workers (ACSW) has been insisting on a reduction in fees for a number of years. Their argument is that they should pay less because of their dual responsibility as regulatory body and association. There are six member associations that have these dual responsibilities, including the New Brunswick Association of Social Workers. A compromise proposal which would have reduced the fees for the two largest member associations by 25% was rejected by their representatives in May 2010. CASW subsequently received written notice in September 2010, from both the Alberta College of Social Workers (ACSW) and the Ontario Association of Social Workers (OASW), of their intention to leave the federation as of March 31, 2011. In the case of OASW, they indicated that it would be a suspension of payment of dues for one year, at which time they would reconsider if in their opinion, there was value in re-joining the federation. It was understood that during the six month notice given by ACSW and OASW, discussions and negotiations would be on-going in our concerted efforts to modify the current fee formula and address any other issues relative to various initiatives undertaken by CASW.

Over the weeks that followed a number

of options were developed and presented for consideration by the CASW Board and member associations. It was obvious that member associations and the CASW Board members were prepared to make generous concessions to ACSW and OASW as evidenced by the fee proposals that were adopted. Essentially the proposals addressed the different categories of memberships across Canada and called for a greater reduction of the per capita fee for the two largest member associations. Three successive proposals adopted by the CASW Board and member associations were summarily rejected by the ACSW and OASW Boards. The latest proposal submitted in January 2011 called for a reduction in annual per capita fees for ACSW and OASW members to an average of \$19 and \$ 23 respectively. Under this latest proposal, the annual fees for all the other member associations would have been on average \$33 per member. This proposal was also rejected by the ACSW and OASW representatives. CASW received communication from ACSW and OASW at the end of January that their decision to leave the federation was final and would not be reversed. To our dismay, we were told that their respective boards questioned the value of CASW and that their decision to leave CASW was not just related to a fee formula that they considered inequitable. All efforts to pursue discussions were rebuffed, including an invitation to submit any proposals that would see them remain as members of the federation.

We at CASW are obviously deeply saddened by this turn of events. A number of social workers from Ontario and Alberta have complained that the decision taken by ACSW and OASW Board members did not come about as a result of a consultation with their respective memberships. They argue that the 10,000 members from Alberta and Ontario were never given an opportunity to vote on the decision of succeeding from CASW. They have been especially critical about the argument of their respective Boards that the fee formula was inequitable. They argue that this has little credence considering that their respective provincial associations have opted to maintain the same provincial fees and keep the dues that were previously remitted to CASW for their own use. A group of retired social workers from Alberta have

## CASW DIRECTOR'S REPORT

their own use. A group of retired social workers from Alberta have presented a resolution calling for ACSW to continue to remit the per capita fees on behalf of their membership. They have also proposed that the members should be able elect their representative to the CASW Board and that the members who pay the fees should be the ones to whom the CASW Board representative is accountable. Their resolution calls for a change to the current membership agreement so that individual social workers could once again have a say in what happens to their national association in lieu of a federated model where the interests of federation members may take precedence and even be in conflict with the interests of the national body.

Many social workers across the country have communicated their deep concern, relative to the viability of our National Association, with the loss of over half of our total membership. Many are asking if CASW will be able to fulfill the mission of promoting our profession on the national and international scenes and advocating for social justice. We cannot deny that we are facing a number of challenges. I wish to reassure you all however that we will move forward and we will persevere. CASW has an 85 year history of trials and tribulations, and through the efforts of dedicated social workers, we have responded to the challenges.

I will admit that it is difficult for me personally to comprehend and accept that as social workers we would not all have a deep and strong commitment towards our national body as solidarity, cooperation, and mutual support are all core values of our profession. There can be no expectation that everyone can commit to serving on committees and Boards as a way to support their professional association, but to conclude that a minimal contribution of a few dollars per month is too much to ask is dumbfounding. We must, and I am convinced that we will continue to seek ways for social workers to work in solidarity across this great nation in our common and noble cause. We must, and we will continue to reach out to social workers in Ontario, Alberta and Quebec in order to ensure that there is an opportunity for them to become members of CASW. The current membership agreement must

be modified in a way that allows social workers from every province and territory to contribute to the promotion of our profession by virtue of his or her membership in CASW. I invite all social workers to visit the CASW website on a regular basis and to read our publications so that you can keep up to date on what is happening with your national association. We want and need your comments and suggestions as to how we can continue to be relevant as the voice of social work in Canada. Thank you for your continued support.

Morel Caissie, RSW  
Secretary/treasurer  
CASW Board

# FIRST NATIONS SOCIAL WORK REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Wilfrid Laurier University is offering a Masters Degree Program in Aboriginal Field of Study for First Nation Social Workers in New Brunswick for the first time. There will be holistic Practices, Aboriginal Kinships Structures and Social Work Practice, Elders' Teachings and Indigenous Identity and self reflection, cultural camps, Indigenous knowledges and theory and Indigenous Research and Methodologies. Classes will commence in September 2011.

The Mi'kmaq/Maliseet Association of Social Service Professionals (MMASSP) is to promote and advocate for the education and professional development of social service professionals who work in First Nation Communities.

The first First Nations National Child Welfare Conference took place in Moncton, June 2010. There were many First Nation presenters and social workers from as far as Vancouver and Sheshatshiu, Happy Valley Goose Bay came for the conference. It was very nice to see representatives from Social Development from each region. There was a dinner with East Coast Flair, along with dancers from Elsipotog. Right after the Child Welfare conference the Annual General meeting (AGM) and it took place that weekend. This was my first time attending the AGM for the NBSWA. I found that the Campbellton Chapter organized the AGM very well and the people in Campbellton were very friendly and people at gas station were happy to give me directions to the hotel.

The New Brunswick Social Work Association has a new web site which is [www.nbasw-atsnb.ca](http://www.nbasw-atsnb.ca) and The Dossier is available on the internet. I encourage First Nation Peoples to volunteer with your local chapters or committees. If you should have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me through email at [lorisesimon@nb.aibn.com](mailto:lorisesimon@nb.aibn.com) and if anyone has good news stories about First Nation Child Welfare, let me know and I will put it in the Dossier.

During Social Work week the Moncton Chapter John Lutz was awarded the Debbie Nason Award on March 23, 2011. Suzanne Boudreau and Linda MacDonald worked hard to organize this event. I appreciate that Miguel LeBlanc came to the celebration and it was a great turn out. Dr. Mildred Milliea and her daughter from Elsipotog

were present. I presented John Lutz the Debbie Nason Award for 2011.

The New Brunswick Social Action Committee had a First Nation Symposium: Celebrating Diversity Through Social Justice in December 2010 and they met again May 2011. There are members of this committee and people that attended the Symposium are in discussion surrounding Social Workers that work on First Nation communities to bring voices to the NBSWA.

The staff from Red bank Child & Family Services is now part of Four Directions Child & Family Services Inc. employees. Four Directions Child & Family Services Inc. services 4 communities which are The Fort Folly Band, The Bouctouche Band, The Indian Island Band, Pabineau First Nation and now Red bank First Nation.

St. Mary's First Nation is a testing site for New Brunswick Families (NB Families) which is a computer programming system whereby child welfare cases are managed by a computerized resource management system. I went to training in the Structured Decision Making and it is very good but First Nation Child & Family Services Agencies do not have NB Families.

On March 30, 2011 there was a celebration of Bernard Richard, Ombudsman and Child and Youth Advocate retirement which included a First Nations Children's Futures Fund. The mission of this Fund is to develop and support opportunities for recreation, culture and language among First Nation children in New Brunswick. I understand that there will be a Board of Directors led by private sectors donors. Four Directions Staff attended this event. Even though I was unable to attend the celebration of Bernard Richard's retirement which included First Nation Children's Future Fund I heard that this was very successful. Congratulations to Aaron Barlow, a First Nation Youth gave an excellent speech about his struggles and how his life has changed. I would like to say at this time that Aaron has come a long way and he is a great role model for First Nation Youth.

Miguel LeBlanc, Executive Director of the NBASW and Karine Levesque, President of the NBASW Board of Directions and Wendy Matthews was

gracious and filled in for me as the First Nation Representative for NB at Bernard Richard's retirement celebration along with First Nation Children's Future Fund. Wendy is the President of the Sussex Chapter, a Board Member of the NBSWA and she is a member of the Social Action Committee.

Pam Sappier Transfer of Learning Specialist for First Nation and Judy Levi First Nation Child Welfare Consultant have started work in April 2011 at central office, Fredericton.

At this time I would acknowledge and honour all Social Workers in the work that they do.

Lorise Simon, BA, BSW, RSW  
First Nation Representative for NBSWA

## COMMITTEE OF EXAMINERS

The Committee of Examiners mandate is to evaluate candidates who are applying for membership with the NBASW in one of the following categories: regular member; temporary member, or student member. The Committee also evaluates the requests of people who want membership under the process of equivalency that is reviewed by a sub-committee.

The Committee is composed of seven members, Joan Russell (Public Member), Carole Gallant, Monique Dubé Michaud, Andrée

Beaudin, Margo Butler and Nancy Flett and Heather Hastings Roach.

The total of members approved by the Committee of Examiners is 110, which is 7 more than last year. Specifically, for the year 2010-2011 the Committee approved:

- 98 regular members (2 more than last year)
- 8 temporary members (1 more than last year)
- 4 student members (4 more than last year--no student applications were received last year)

•1 equivalency application is under review; no candidate was approved under the equivalency process.

Furthermore, the Committee is undergoing a review of the Equivalency Process.

Sincerely,  
Heather Hastings Roach, RSW  
Chairperson, Committee of Examiners

## DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Discipline Committee is composed of the following members : John Lutz, Sharlene D. MacPhee, Jean Doucet, Rina Arseneault and Claude G. Savoie (president). In 2010-2011, the Discipline

Committee considered three agreements on statement of facts and consequences.

Claude G. Savoie, RSW  
President

## COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE

The members of the Complaints Committee are all volunteer members of the New Brunswick Association of Social Workers. The Committee meets on average once per month. All of the meetings, with the exception of one, were held via teleconference. Members of the committee include: Albert Gauvin, Samantha Paul, Nathalie Melanson, Leslie Lecour-Benoit, and Merri-Lee Hanson.

The mandate of the committee is to review and investigate all complaints received, in keeping with the requirements of *The New Brunswick Association of Social Workers Act 1988*. When necessary, the Committee consults with the NBASW's legal counsel to obtain advice on how to proceed and for assistance in drafting decisions. Some complaints require more in-depth investigations. On these occasions, the committee will hire an investigator. This person may be a member of the NBASW who has received training or may be a private investigator.

Over the past year, between April 1, 2010 and March 31, 2011, 9 new complaints have been received which was an increase of 3 from the previous year. Of these 9 new complaints, 2 were dismissed and 7 were still under review as of March 31, 2011. 3 complaints

were carried over from the previous year and as of March 31, 2011, 2 of those have been dismissed. 2 complaints from 2008-2009 were sent for a Practice Review and after receiving the results this year, they were dismissed.

I would like to thank all members of the Committee for their commitment to this difficult work. Many thanks to Annie Couturier, Registrar, for all of her help and guidance.

Respectively submitted,  
Merri-Lee Hanson MSW/RSW

## **ETHICS, PRACTICE ISSUES AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

Members of Committee are:  
Sarah MacDonald (liaison to the Board of Directors)  
Armand Savoie  
Sue MacKenzie Mohr  
Chad Daigle  
Frances Seca

The Committee recently welcomed two new members; Sarah MacDonald (Woodstock), Armand Savoie (Moncton).

The Committee continues to answer ethical questions submitted by the

membership. This year, the committee considered two such requests.

Work is ongoing on standards and guidelines related to: the duty to warn; clinical supervision; limits of confidentiality; custody and access. At the 2010 Annual General Meeting, the document on the *Standards on the Use of Technology in Social Work Practice* was presented to the membership and was adopted.

Chad Daigle has completed his second mandate and the Committee wishes to thank Chad for his years of service and

dedication. We wish to thank all the members of this Committee for their continued work in achieving our mandate.

Respectively submitted,  
Frances Seca, RSW

## **EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

The Education Committee did not hold any face-to-face meeting this fiscal year, however, members of the Education Committee were consulted by the By-Law Committee on the development of a Supervision policy and procedures in regards to applicants who have not been registered with a regulatory body for 5 or more years. Members of the Committee also represented the NBASW at both Schools of Social Work on their Advisory Committee.

Respectively Submitted,  
Miguel LeBlanc, RSW, Executive Director, NBASW, on behalf of the Education Committee.

## **SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE REPORT**

Another year has come and gone. The Social Action Committee mandate is to promote social justice and social change. Through the School of Social Work at St-Thomas University, the Association was able to get field placements for two students to work with the Committee and was coordinated by the Executive Director. I am pleased to report this placement went well. I am pleased to say that they were instrumental to help the Committee make this initiative a success. One of the challenges identified by the Ombudsman/Child & Youth Advocate and First Nation Child Welfare review was that a Symposium on native issues should be undertaking. As such, the Committee took a leadership role to make this a reality. The NBASW Symposium Report

title is Celebrating Diversity Through Social Justice. The Stakeholders who attended the Symposium were from the Federal government, Provincial government, First Nations communities, Ombudsman office and the NBASW representative. The meeting took place at Kingsclear First Nation and the topics included, but were not limited to, issues regarding adequate funding, cultural competency/safety, community resources, best practices for self determination and the role at the NBASW. The draft final report was written by the two students who were doing their field placement and discussed by the Committee. If you are interested in a copy of the report feel free to contact the Association and one will be sent to you. Follow up sessions are

planned in the near future. As a Social Worker, working towards social justice and ending inequalities are of interest to me and I believe that this is a core value of our profession. I strive to make myself better informed on the subject matter and I am looking forward to continue working with the Committee in the aforementioned areas in the future.

Respectfully,  
Gary Sacobie, RSW  
Chairman  
Social Action Committee

## MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

I would like to thank all of the members of the New Brunswick Association of Social Workers for giving me the opportunity of being your Treasurer for the past four years. I am proud to say that with the support of the Management Committee Members I have been successful in managing the finances of our Association.

The Management committee's role is to support the Executive Director in overseeing the operating of the NBASW. This committee is formed from members of the Board of Directors. The Chair of this committee is the treasurer of the Association. This year's members were Barbara Whitenect our Vice-President, Merri-Lee Hanson our Secretary, Morel Caissie our CASW Director, Ian Rice our Saint John Chapter Director and Miguel LeBlanc our Executive Director.

The NBASW Financial Statements as at March 31, 2011 were found to be in accordance with the Canadian accounting principles. The Defense fund has been capped per the NBASW policy. The Contingency fund has been topped per the NBASW policy. And the Scholarship fund has been increased to \$25,000. Due to a vacancy in our staff position the NBASW fiscal year ended with an excess of revenue

over expenses. The budget 2011 to 2012 is a zero-base balanced budget.

The staff of our Association continues to work above and beyond their expectations. They are a very dedicated group. Our Executive Director Miguel LeBlanc, our Registrar Annie Couturier and our Administrative Assistant Denise St. Laurent have all taken on extra duties this past year to assure the functioning of the office. Rachel Mills a Social Work Student who was hired part time to work on Special Projects (publication of the Dossier, new Website) for the NBASW has done excellent work. Jane Jollimore and Tanya Smith two Social Work Students at St Thomas University did their Social Action Field Placement with the NBASW. And, to complete our staffing, I would like to welcome our new Social Work Consultant Martine Paquet who was hired in March, 2011.

Becoming treasurer of an Association such as the NBASW is something I had always aspired. I am very grateful to have been allowed to reach that goal through this Association. The knowledge I have gained with this experience has exceeded my expectations. As I complete my second two year mandate as treasurer, I am proud of my accomplishments. And I am confident that the finances of the Association are in a good state.

Prior to being elected treasurer of the NBASW, I served as a Board member as the Moncton Chapter Director. Being a member of the Board of Directors of the NBASW for the past seven years has given me many wonderful opportunities. I have had the pleasure of meeting many inspiring Social Workers. I was asked to represent the NBASW on a National level by participating at the Canadian Association of Social Workers Primary Health Care Workshop in Ottawa. I was also allowed to attend an International training with the Association of Social Work Boards in Rapid City South Dakota. I will keep these great memories with me. In closing, I would like to encourage members of the NBASW to come forward and take advantage of these great opportunities that are available by being involved with our Association.

Respectfully submitted,  
Francine Prosser RSW  
Management Committee Chairperson

## SCOPE OF PRACTICE

The very active scope of practice committee is fortunate enough to have the extensive experience of Barbara Wilkins, Morel Caissie, Annette Bourque Chantal Bourassa, Bruce MacPherson and Barb Whitenect along with the guidance of the staff of the NBASW. Over the past year the work undertaken by this committee includes: terms of reference; an environmental scan; a work plan and several draft versions of a scope of practice document. Meetings were held on a 6 to 8 week basis with work occurring between meetings and a focused work plan and timelines to assist with meeting the task of a completed scope of practice document. The committee is very grateful to those from the NBASW membership whom in the past have produced materials

on scope of practice as this formed the basis for the current document.

The committee has come to agreement that this document can not be a regulation document and cannot define the practice of social work (this is done through our Act) but rather will be a promotional document for the profession of social work. The gathering and writing of all the feedback for the scope of practice document was undertaken by Rachel Mills with support from the committee and the other NBASW staff. Many documents were reviewed, much discussion occurred and much consultation were part of the production this scope of practice.

The committee thanks the membership for the support and

this opportunity to produce what we view as a critical document in advancing the profile of social work in the province of New Brunswick.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barb Whitenect, RSW  
Chair

## GRAND FALLS AND EDMUNDSTON CHAPTER REPORT

Two years have already gone by since the beginning of my term as President of the local chapter of the NBASW! Time flies! I greatly appreciate this opportunity and I can sincerely tell you that, as I learn something new at every meeting, I realize more than ever how complex and complicated the general running of the NBASW is!

Once again this year, we held two regular meetings of the membership, one in Grand Falls in November, and the other in Edmundston in February. These meetings were particularly informative, because we learned about several new developments in our profession, at the provincial as well as the national levels (for instance, the potential changes to the Act). Things are moving forward! I would be remiss if I did not mention how lucky we are to have people in our chapter who are very involved with the NBASW and CASW

and very knowledgeable about the issues our profession is facing. Thanks to them, we are able to keep ourselves up to date on what is going on and better understand the issues. A very big thank you goes out to Morel Caissie, Karine Levesque, and Monique D. Michaud, who do exceptional work with the provincial and national associations. Also, to the members of the regional executive, Sandra Soucy, Jennifer Beaulieu, and Kim A. Lagacé: It is such a pleasure to work with you! Thank you very much for all the time and energy you devote to the local chapter!

I would like to take the opportunity in presenting this report to inform you that the NBASW has nominated Morel for the CASW presidency. The election for the presidency for CASW will be held at the National annual meeting on June 5th, 2011 at Delta Fredericton. Morel, we want to wish you GOOD

LUCK in the election and to tell you that you have the wholehearted support of your local chapter!

I would like to conclude by reminding you that, this year, we celebrate social workers' promotion of dignity and inclusion! Just like a pebble dropped into water has ripple effects, our work affects a lot more people than we think! We have a significant impact on our communities and we should take advantage of it! This is one good reason to move forward with our involvement, supporting our efforts to promote human rights.

Marie-Josée LeBlance ,RSW  
Chapter President

## FREDERICTON CHAPTER REPORT

Our chapter once again held educational in-services on the last Wednesday of each month. September: Welcome Back Meeting; October: Annie Couturier and Miguel LeBlanc: The New Faces of the NBASW; November: Brian Carty: The BSW Student's Social Action Project.; December: Pot Luck Dinner; January: Jennifer Wilkins: Addictions and the Adult Population; February: Shirley Withers: Youth and Addictions March: Coffee House with Janet McGeachy and Tom McAvity entertaining and Suzanne Dudziak explaining her project with Rwandan Social Work Students. Some funds were raised for this project; April: Norma Jean Profitt Solidarity with Guatemala: Impressions from the 2010 Breaking the Silence Maritimes Delegation to Guatemala.

In October we also held a very popular two day workshop with about 60 participants - Motivating Client's Strengths for Change: Solution-Focused Therapy Across Social Work Practice presented by social workers Jill Ceccolini and Barry McClatchey from the Halifax Brief Therapy Centre.

Our chapter owes much thanks to our education committee: Janet Crawford, Maria George, Lise Jullian, Barbara

Kerr, Evelyn Morrison, Murray Weeks and Anita Wilson who together kept our chapter vibrant and functioning. Also thanks to Denise Selesse-Guitard who is our new treasurer and Greg Zulyniak who did a great job as treasurer in 2010. We have openings on our Fredericton Chapter Executive for President and Vice President and Social Action committee chair for the 2011 - 2012 year.

Murray Weeks, RSW  
Fredericton Chapter NBASW

## MONCTON CHAPTER REPORT

This year the Moncton Chapter hosted its largest Annual Meeting in numerous years. The executive arranged to combine the Christmas dinner with the Annual meeting, as we have found that we get much better turnouts when meals are offered and paid for by the Chapter. The meeting occurred at the Future Inns, and was catered by Mavericks' Steak House, also located in the Future Inns. We had 61 people RSVP for the dinner, and of those, only 2 or 3 did not show up. As a result of the enormous turnout for the dinner, the majority of our annual financing was spent to provide the meal.

During the course of the meeting, the executive asked the members for assistance, as having 2 individuals on the executive for over 300 members was becoming more and more difficult. As a result of our request, we have since added 2 new members to our roster: Melissa Hebert and Lorise Simon.

For Social Work Month this year, the Moncton chapter had very little funds left, and with assistance from the NBASW (thank you, Miguel!), we were able to arrange an awards ceremony, held at l'Université de Moncton, where John Lutz was presented with the Debbie Nason Award. John presented to those in attendance about his life experiences as a social worker, including his ongoing involvement and interest in First Nations communities. Unfortunately, few members showed up for the presentation, and missed out on a unique experience that included two First Nations members presenting an Aboriginal chant in honour of John.

Respectfully submitted,  
Suzanne Boudreau & Linda MacDonald

## BATHURST CHAPTER REPORT

This year, the Executive Committee of the Chaleur Region met seven times. Last August, our colleagues from the Peninsula organized a training session offered by Josée Masson, specialist in children's bereavement and we offered to pay our fees for this. In total, 8 people participated in the education session. All found it very interesting. We also considered the possibility of offering a training session in our own region and this is still under consideration. Please note that your suggestions are always welcome!

On 2 December 2010, we wanted to try something new to get our members to meet each other. We held a Christmas social. Eight members met at the "Brasserie O St Pierre" and had a great time. During the evening, we collected donations for the regional food bank. Door prizes were also given.

As president of the Chaleur Chapter, I thoroughly enjoy working with the Committee. I also welcome members' comments and suggestions for the next year. We are not here only to acknowledge what we have accomplished during the last year but to talk about what you would like to accomplish in the coming year.

Finally I would like to thank the members of the Executive Committee for their commitment during the last year. I also would like to invite members to join us at our various meetings and activities in the coming year.

I am looking forward to seeing you all soon.

Karine Dupont  
President, Chaleur Chapter

MEMBERS 2011-2012  
Karine Dupont - President  
Isabelle Martin - Vice-President  
Nadine Landers Soucy - Secretary  
Danny DeChamplain - Treasurer  
Denise LeGresley, Tania Thibodeau,  
Carole Poitras - Counselors  
Eric Gauvin - Director

## RESTIGOUCHE CHAPTER REPORT

This year, in addition to meetings of the executive and of the general membership, we had several discussions and made preparations to host the NBASW annual meeting on June 4 and 5, 2010, in Campbellton. So, a total of four meetings of the membership were held, including a dinner meeting on March 23, 2011 and the annual meeting on June 5, 2010. There were also four executive meetings. Most of the meetings were held at dinnertime, with an average of about 15 to 20 members in attendance. We also hosted an event from 5 to 7 p.m. on December 16, 2010, to acknowledge the work done for the annual general meeting on June 4 and 5, 2010, and celebrate the holidays. Several positions on the executive were filled for the 2011-2012 year, because of terms ending. President Steve Lagacy was replaced by Nathalie Melanson, Vice President Gary Burris was replaced by Louise Lapierre, Treasurer Isabelle Maltais Roy was replaced by Mélanie Roy, and Chapter Director Nathalie Melanson was replaced by Albert Gauvin. The only position that has not yet been filled is the Secretary's position, which had been held by Louise Lapierre.

Once again, 2011 kicked off Social Work Month with a dinner meeting on March 23. This is a tradition we hope to continue for the years to come. For several years now, we have been encouraging members in the region to submit the names of individuals, groups, or social workers who have made a significant contribution to the well-being of our society. This year, the recognition award was given to Mr. Orien Maltais, a social worker, during the annual general meeting on May 20, 2011. Once again, attendance at this event and the general meeting gave people a chance to win the draw for annual dues, valued at \$345.00 for the 2010-2011 year. The RCVA (food bank) had a fire in 2010, and a donation of \$200 was made to the organization (from the profit made on the annual meeting of June 4-5, 2010). This year, members of the executive decided to eliminate the position of liaison officer, which was no longer being filled in most of the chapters. A draw was held to provide \$250 to two members from the region to attend the NBASW annual general meeting in Fredericton. We plan to give the Chapter Director for next year \$250 also for this.

Finally, I would like, once again, to thank the members of the executive for their dedication, as well as all chapter members who attend meetings and make other contributions. I urge those who are hesitant to come to our meetings to join us in doing so in 2011-2012.

Members of the Executive:

President: Steve Lagacy  
Secretary: Louise Lapierre  
Vice President: Gary Burris  
Chapter Director: Nathalie Melanson  
Treasurer: Isabelle Maltais

## MIRAMICHI CHAPTER REPORT

We had a quiet year in the Miramichi Chapter although; we continue to have an energetic group of Social Workers in our area.

We did not have a President to lead our Chapter; however, the rest of the Executive stayed the same as last year and is as follows:

Chapter Director: Dianne Miles  
(term completed in June 2011 then vacant)  
Vice President: Karla Parks-Lissok  
Secretary: Michele Bushey  
Theasurer: Bonnie Thompson

Our meetings were minimal this year; however, but we are pleased to report that in May 2011, we hosted an NBASW pizza party which was well attended and Chapter issues for our region were discussed.

Our region is very proud to announce that Judy Adams an active NBASW member from our area is the recipient of the Raoul Legere Award.

The Miramichi Chapter is in the process of purchasing a banner to display at community events to promote social workers in action. Miramichi Chapter received permission from our Provincial Chapter to use the NBASW logo as well as from the CASW to use their logo of people holding hands for the boarder. The banner will display the message of social workers in action in both official languages.

A number of new members have located to the Miramichi area and were placed on the Miramichi Chapter local member list serve. Information relevant to social work practice is consistently forwarded via email to our local social

workers to assist in their helping clients and community members.

For Social Work Week the Miramichi Chapter made a number of draws to assist social workers with their yearly NBASW dues. This presented as being appreciated and well received.

Karla Parks-Lissok  
Chapter President

## **SAINT JOHN CHAPTER REPORT**

The Saint John chapter of the NBASW had a comfortable year in 2010 - 2011. We have had two successful social events, and a positive Social Work Week. We are also excited as we have recently begun to attract new and renewed interest from our area Social Workers. Our executive remains intact and we have begun to consider new ways to recruit our members to become actively involved their association. The executive of the Saint John chapter is looking forward to begin to reach out to our membership in the next year and we will be working hard to try and represent all of the views of our

region in the best manner that we can. On a personal note I would like to thank Patti Scott, Jessica MacPhee and Clara Tarjan for all of the hard work and positive attitude they bring to the local chapter - these three individuals really do go well above and beyond for the membership throughout the year.

Respectfully  
Ian Rice, RSW  
Chapter Director, Saint John

## **SUSSEX CHAPTER REPORT**

The New Brunswick Association of Social Workers (NBASW) Sussex Chapter is pleased to report we had another active year. Our Chapter met monthly this past year to fulfill commitments to a number of initiatives. Since June 2010, our Chapter has involved itself in social action, supporting families in need in the greater Sussex community, offering peer support initiatives, and promoting the profession.

Our Chapter wrote a letter in support of community action advocating against the closure of our local Court House because of the added expense and inconvenience this closure would mean for clients and professionals who would need to travel to court in Saint John. As a result of these efforts government representation did meet with our local Chapter and other concerned community partners/ citizens regarding this issue. Although, these actions have not led to a government commitment to reverse its decision, our Chapter felt satisfied that their concerns were taken seriously enough for government to meet and listen to their concerns.

The Sussex Chapter has been proactive in the workplace supporting families in need by requesting food donations for the food bank, doing a school supply drive during back to school, and in raising money to support a family of four for Christmas.

Peer support initiatives included brainstorming ways to acquire education hours during workplace cutbacks in

education. Information on webinars has been shared, and training on Intimate Partner Violence was offered by two social workers for social workers during workplace hours. In addition, there has been discussion about developing an Education Committee to oversee more training opportunities for the Chapter. As far as promoting professional morale, annually two dynamic social workers arrange a week of fun and appreciative activities towards our local social workers for Social Work Week. To promote the profession of social work we once again offered a scholarship to local school graduates.

Elections were held in May 2010 and three Executive members were reinstated for a second two year term (Tracy Hooky (president), Tanya Smith (Vice-President), Pam Cole (Treasurer)). Chrystal Parlee was voted in as the new secretary for the next two years. Wendy Matthews has been re-elected for a second two year term as the Sussex Chapter Director.

This year we are looking at reducing our monthly meetings to four to five meetings annually with subcommittees to reduce the time commitment of the executive and its members.

Wendy Matthews, MSW, RSW  
NBASW Sussex Chapter Director

## **WOODSTOCK & PERTH ANDOVER CHAPTER**

We have had a great year in the Woodstock and Perth Andover Chapter.

Our executive is as follows:

President: Merri-Lee Hanson  
Vice-President: Adele Eamer  
Treasurer: Shelley Murray  
Secretary: Vacant  
Director: Sarah MacDonald

We had regular attendance at our quarterly meetings. We also enjoyed a Christmas Luncheon as well as a lunch during Social Work Month, 2011.

We congratulate all members in our chapter for their personal and

professional goals throughout the past year. We acknowledge the hard work that occurs by our members and the ongoing willingness to participate in NBASW activities. Each person has contributed in terms of bringing new ideas and suggestions to the table.

The executive thanks our chapter members who continue to give us very helpful input on issues and decision-making either at meetings or through email. We thank the Executive Director and other members of the staff at NBASW for providing timely information and assisting with inquiries. They are generous with their assistance.

We look forward to the next year. We have many exceptional people in our social work community and we hope to have them continue to come to our meetings to share their expertise.

Respectfully submitted,  
Merri-Lee Hanson, RSW President

## **ACADIAN PENINSULA CHAPTER REPORT**

Yes, the Acadian Peninsula Chapter has been reactivated. In August of 2010, members of the former committee organized training for social workers. The training, which focused on children and grieving, was provided by Josée Masson, social worker. The event was a success.

To officially reactivate the committee and celebrate Social Work Week, the committee hosted a wine and cheese party on April 7, 2011. During the event, Miguel LeBlanc, Executive Director of the NBASW, met with the members attending. We took the opportunity to elect a new executive. The following people were appointed: Pauline Albert, President; Théo Saulnier, Vice President; Anne Robichaud, Treasurer; Thérèse Doucet, Secretary. The new executive plans to focus on training. I would like to take this opportunity to wish social workers a good summer, and to thank social worker Lucie Blanchard for her involvement in the Acadian Peninsula Chapter.

Keep up the good work, and let us be proud of our profession.

Théo Saulnier, RSW  
President, Acadian Peninsula Chapter