



# News & Views

May 2021 Issue



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# Message to Members

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Dear Members,

As we continue to navigate our way through the global COVID-19 pandemic, the [provincial directives of the Chief Medical Officer of Health](#) are updated regularly and should be followed to avoid the spread of the virus, in hopes of keeping everyone around us safe.

This March, during National Social Work Month, a message was made clear: Social Work is Essential. As we have continuously adjusted to a set of unprecedented circumstances within the past year, it is apparent that social workers are needed in our communities, now more than ever. We have heard from many front line social workers on their experiences providing such important services to some of the most vulnerable people. As essential workers, we are pleased to have been considered eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine, to which the instructions on how to register were shared with members mid-March.

In other news, we are pleased to announce that the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Conference will be taking place virtually this year. Although we may not be able to gather in person this year, we are thrilled to have the opportunity to come together in an alternate and safer way. Stay tuned as more information from the Fredericton Chapter's organizing Committee and the Association regarding the annual events will be sent prior to these events.

Additionally, it is my pleasure to announce that the [Standards Regarding the Capacity of Minors to Consent to Social Work Services](#) were adopted by the Board of Directors this February. The Standards elaborate on social workers providing services to minors; if a social worker deems a minor mature, fit to provide consent to social work services, then only their consent would be required.

I want to thank all of you for your continuous work, your devotion to the profession, and your excellence in practice.

Thank you,



Miguel LeBlanc, MSW, BSW, RSW  
NBASW Executive Director

# AGM & Conference

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The virtual **Conference**, held by the Fredericton Chapter, will take place on June 4, 2021, from 1PM to 4PM, via the Zoom platform. The theme of the conference is “Celebrating Resiliency in Social Work” with Barb Wilkins as the Keynote Speaker. To register, Members must simply pay the \$30.00 fee before May 21, through the link provided in the previous email communication to members. The virtual **Annual General Meeting (AGM)**, held by the NBASW, will take place on June 5, 2021, at 9AM, via the Zoom platform. Members do not need to register to attend the AGM. This event is a free event, and we encourage for all members to join and participate.

Please note that as per the NBASW By-Laws, (2.2.2) & (2.2.3), Student Members and Temporary Authorized Members are entitled to attend Annual and Special Meetings of the Association. If you are a Student Member or a Temporary Authorized Member, we encourage you to contact [info@nbasw-atsnb.ca](mailto:info@nbasw-atsnb.ca), should you want to attend this year’s meeting.

# Promote my Profession Contest

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The Promotion of the Profession Committee is pleased to announce the winners of the third annual Promote My Profession Contest, which was held during Social Work Month. We have received everyone’s submissions and wish to thank all those who participated for their efforts in promoting the profession.

The winners are as follows: **Amy O’Keefe & Melanie Polley!**

# Bursary and Scholarship Winners

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The NBASW is pleased to announce the winners of the following scholarships and bursaries:

NBASW Scholarship: **Maxine Ginnish**

Co-Operators Bursary for Members: **Michelle Crawford-Windle**

Co-Operators Bursary for Student Members (UdeM): **Mélissa Frenette**

## Co-operators Bursary for Student Members

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Student members enrolled in St. Thomas University's Post-Degree Program are encouraged to apply by the deadline of August 1st, for the Cooperators Bursary, valued at \$500. [Click here](#) to access the application form and eligibility criteria. Good luck to all applicants!



*Co-Operators Bursary  
Recipient, Mélissa Frenette*

## Continuing Education Opportunities

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### STU's MSW Program

We are pleased to share the new Master of Social Work Program offered at St. Thomas University. "The program focuses on advanced clinical practice with a structural lens providing students with advanced theory and practice skills in professional leadership and social work supervision / advanced direct practice skills development." Registration is currently open and will be until the end of May 2021.

- [Click here](#) to view STU's MSW announcement.
- [Click here](#) to view the Master of Social Work Program's information list.

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## **Webinar: Lunch & Learn Get to Know NB Champions & Become Involved!**

START DATE:5/21/2021

START TIME:12:00 PM ADT

DURATION:60 MINUTES

REGISTRATION LINK: <https://bit.ly/3vL8Epx>

Webinar Objectives:

To introduce NB Champions for Child Rights to the larger New Brunswick community, share our mission, our upcoming projects and ways to become involved in our organization.

In this webinar, we hope that participants will: Learn and understand what NB Champions is all about, including our history and our mandate, better understand Child and Youth rights, learn what NB Champions is working on and its upcoming projects, leave with a few ideas on how to get involved, collaborate and join us!

## **Webinar: Rethinking Early Learning through Virtual Connections**

START DATE:6/2/2021

START TIME:12:00 PM ADT

DURATION:60 MINUTES

REGISTRATION LINK: <https://bit.ly/33gcXwB>

Webinar Objectives:

Participants will hear how the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development embraced online virtual connections to provide quality early learning experiences for children and their families who had no access to services in New Brunswick. Participants will learn about the creative and innovative ways to design, develop and deliver engaging virtual connections and early learning with young children and their families in a home environment, hear how an early childhood educator shifted practices with children from in-person interactions using physical presence and real objects to a complete virtual learning environment, and more.

Please note that both of these event will be recorded and an On-Demand version will be made available through this link 24 hours after the presentation

# Resources

## 211

You are juggling a lot right now. Don't shoulder the burden alone. If you need help with employment, paying bills or managing your mental health, dial 2-1-1. It's a free, confidential service that connects people quickly to critical government, social, and community support.

When you don't know where to turn, #HelpStartsHere.

**LIFE CAN BE HARD.**

**FINDING HELP CAN BE EASY.**

**Connect with 2-1-1 to find support for all of life's challenges:**

- Dial 2-1-1
- Dial 1-855-258-4126 (VRS)
- Dial 1-855-405-7446 (TTY)
- Email [211nb@findhelp.ca](mailto:211nb@findhelp.ca)

FOOD ACCESS

FINANCIAL AID

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

MENTAL HEALTH

211

New Brunswick / Nouveau Brunswick

## Camp Wonder

Camp Wonder is an inclusive day camp that gives children and youth with disabilities opportunities to develop friendships and social skills in an accessible, safe, and fun environment. Camp Wonder focuses on celebrating each camper's strengths, abilities, and interests while providing quality respite for their families. They are looking for youth between the ages of 13-17 to be Counselors in Training with Camp Wonder.

- Responsibilities of being a CIT: assist staff with programming, supervising, and engaging campers in activities

- Benefits of being a CIT: add skills and experience to your resume! Specifically, CITs will develop or strengthen leadership, responsibility, and maturity, all while having fun!
- \$150/summer. Included in fee: An overnight camp where team building, and training will take place - date TBD closer to camp permitted it is safe. Involvement with two full weeks of Camp, and participation in all scheduled activities and outings.

Register for the CIT program at [www.campwonder.ca](http://www.campwonder.ca).

## **Study to Assess the Capacity of the Mental Health and Substance Use Workforce to Respond to COVID-19**

An interdisciplinary research team led by Dr. Mary Bartram at the Mental Health Commission of Canada and Dr. Ivy Bourgeault at the University of Ottawa and Canadian Health Workforce Network has contacted our organization, asking us to inform you about an important study they are conducting. Their team is working to assess how COVID-19 is impacting the capacity of Canada's mental health and substance use workforce. The pandemic has brought about big changes for this workforce, such as the sudden shift to online approaches and responding to increasing levels of anxiety, trauma, and grief in the population.

We know from previous disasters and epidemics that the mental health and substance use impacts are likely to be complex and long-lasting and may not fully emerge until after the worst of the crisis. This study will provide better information about the capacity of service providers to respond to the mental health and substance use needs of people in response to COVID-19.

If you are interested in taking part in this study, please [follow this link to the online survey](#). The questions in the survey will be related to your capacity as a member of the mental health and substance use workforce to respond to COVID-19 pandemic. The survey is anticipated to take 10-15 minutes and can be completed at a time convenient to you.

Please note that you are not required to participate in this study. This project is being conducted independently from our organization and your decision to participate (or not) will not be known to our organization. Taking part or not taking



part in this study will not affect your status at the organization. At any point you can withdraw participation without recourse. The study has received ethics approval from the University of Ottawa.

## Wellness

Throughout New Brunswick, Social Workers provide essential services to some of the most vulnerable people. While extending their expertise to the best of their abilities, social workers should ongoingly nurture their personal wellness, as the nature of the social work profession is emotionally demanding.

“Just like you do on a plane, you need to put on your own oxygen mask first before trying to help others.”

- Nancy Smith

### CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR EXERCISE

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[Click here for the full article...](#)

### CANADIAN FOODE GUIDE & EATING HABITS

...  
[Click here for the full article...](#)

### CTRI's STRESS REDUCTION EXERCISES

...  
[Click here for the full article...](#)

### SELF-CARE FOR SOCIAL WORKERS

...  
[Click here to view the video...](#)



# Stay Social

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## Facebook

To stay informed on news, events, surveys and more, follow us on **Facebook!**



Our English page:

New Brunswick Association of Social Workers [@NBASW](#)



Our French page:

Association des travailleuses et des travailleurs sociaux du Nouveau-Brunswick [@ATTSNB](#)

## Twitter

You can also follow our **Twitter** pages for social work related content!



Our English page:

New Brunswick Association of Social Workers [@NBSocialWorkers](#)



Our French page:

Association des travailleuses et des travailleurs sociaux du Nouveau-Brunswick [@TravSocNB](#)

## Newsletter

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Have something you'd like to see in the NBASW Newsletter? We're always looking for stories about social workers, events, and more to add. If you've got something you'd like us to include, please email [info@nbasw-attsnb.ca](mailto:info@nbasw-attsnb.ca) with the subject line "Newsletter."

