



**For Immediate Release  
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**World Social Work Day 2009  
*Social Work and Social Development: The Agenda***

The Canadian Association of Social Workers (CASW) and International Social Service Canada (ISSC) together mark the 2009 World Social Work Day. This year's theme, "Social Work and Social Development: The Agenda", is particularly relevant to social workers and members of ISSC across the country as well as social workers around the world.

"Social workers have a long-standing, ethical commitment to human rights, and the profession believes and understands that the most effective change is that which occurs at a structural level," states CASW President Veronica Marsman. "A commitment to social development that transcends continents, countries, provinces/territories, professions and organizations is essential to ensure the rights and well-being of all citizens of the world."

"In keeping with ISS global principles, ISS Canada promotes and protects the rights of families, children and other vulnerable persons according to the UN Conventions on Human Rights and on the Rights of the Child," says ISS President Dick Chamney. He continues, "ISS celebrates diversity and continually strives to practice in a culturally competent manner. The principles of neutrality, confidentiality, independence and impartiality are at the heart of our work and it is our shared commitment to families, children and individuals that unites us with social workers in Canada and our global network in acknowledging this World Social Work Day."

Collaboration is essential, and for that reason CASW and ISSC are proud to join in acknowledging World Social Work Day and in highlighting the attached message from the International Federation of Social Workers. Together we build the agenda. Together we face the challenges. Together we thrive.

**For more information:**

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