



# Canadian Association of Social Workers 2026 Annual Report

# 2025-2026 Board of Directors

## Executive:

President: Barb Whitenect  
 Vice-President: Rasheal Charles  
 Treasurer: Glenda Webber

## Board Members:

British Columbia: Glen Schmidt, Lorry-Ann Austin (June 2025)  
 Alberta: Rasheal Charles  
 Saskatchewan: Ruth Ann Thomas  
 Manitoba: Salina Fukumoto  
 Ontario: Christina Mills  
 New Brunswick: Géraldine Poirier Baiani  
 Prince Edward Island: Bruce Davison  
 Nova Scotia: Ezra Wexler  
 Newfoundland & Labrador: Glenda Webber  
 Northern Canada: Kelly Cooper

## CASW Board Committees

### Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging Committee

Salina Fukumoto (MB) - Chair, Rasheal Charles (AB), Barb Whitenect (NB), Glenda Webber (NL), Lorry-Ann Austin (BC), Géraldine Poirier Baiani (NB), Sylvie Rivard – term ended June 2025 (ON), Fred Phelps (Ex-officio)

### Awards Committee

Bruce Davison – Chair (PEI), Glen Schmidt – term ended June 2025 (BC), Rasheal Charles (AB), Christina Mills (ON), Lorry-Ann Austin (BC), Fred Phelps (Ex-officio)

### Expense Review Committee

Glenda Webber (NL), Bruce Davison (PEI), Géraldine Poirier Baiani (NB), Fred Phelps (Ex-officio)

### Federation Code of Ethics Review Committee

Barb Temmerman (MB), Carole Gallant (NB), Ruth Ann Thomas (SK), Rasheal Charles (AB), Alec Stratford (NS), Fred Phelps (Ex-officio)

## Intersectoral Committee

The purpose of the Intersectoral Committee is to promote communication, connection and collaboration among the three sectors (education, association and regulation) and to strengthen the social work profession in Canada:

Barb Whitenect, CASW President, Chair  
 Marie-Pier Rivest, CASWE-ACFTS President  
 Carole Carpot, CASWE-ACFTS, Executive Director  
 Barb Temmerman, CCSWR President  
 Jody-Lee Farrah, CCSWR Vice-President  
 Fred Phelps, CASW, Executive Director

## **International Federation of Social Workers - North American Region**

President: Dr. Yvonne Chase (NASW President)

Vice President: Barb Whitenect (CASW President)

## **IFSW Regional Representatives to New York UN Volunteer Commission**

Siu Ming Kwok (AB)

Sue-Ann MacDonald (QC)

## **Project Representation**

### **National Joint Clinical Best Practices Committee**

Canadian Council of Social Work Regulators: Barb Temmerman - Co-Chair (MB), Carole Gallant (NB), Sanjay Govindaraj (ON), Jennifer Meixner (MB), Jody-Lee Farrah (AB)

CASW: Fred Phelps - Co-Chair, Kelly Cooper (Northern Canada), Ruth Ann Thomas (SK), Kathy Jones (PEI), Alec Stratford (NS)

Contractor: Barnes Management Group - Rhonda Hallberg, Julie Gaudet, Marion Roberts

### **National Advisory Committee for the Social Work: Building Practice Resilience and Knowledge – Preventing and Addressing Radicalization and Violent Extremism (SW-PRE) Project**

Sanjay Govindaraj (CCSWR, ON), Ruth Ann Thomas (CASW, SK), Carole Carpot (CASWE, AB), Ari Mastro (BC), Yasmin Smith (ON), Suzan Albert (MB), Andrea Silverstone (AB), Ghayda Hassan (CPN-PREV, QC), Janelle Comeau (NS), Bibi Baksh (ON)

Andrew McKenzie – SW-PRE Knowledge Lead (Ex-officio), Roshney Kurian – Project Coordinator (Ex-officio), Fred Phelps (Ex-officio)

## **Coalition Board Representation**

- 2025 WAPR Congress and the Canadian Recovery Conference – Steering Committee - Glenda Webber (NL)
- Palliative Care Coalition of Canada - Salina Fukumoto (MB)
- Social Work in Primary Care - Glenda Webber (NL)
- National Collaborative for Health Care Well-being - Glenda Webber (NL)
- Brain Health Resources and Integrated Diversity Hub - Ruth Ann Thomas (SK), Kelly Cooper (Northern Canada)

# CASW Staff



**Fred Phelps**  
Executive Director



**Kate Hudson**  
Administrative  
Coordinator



**Sarah Pennisi**  
Senior Advisor, Policy and  
Public Affairs



**Esther Fagbola**  
Communications  
Coordinator



**Roshney Kurian**  
Education Coordinator

## Assessment of International Credentials



**Heather Hallett**  
IESW Program  
Coordinator



**Elizabeth Moura**  
IESW Administrative  
Assistant

## Contracted Support

Archivist: Drew Eisenberg-Holmes  
SW-PRE Project Knowledge Lead: Andrew McKenzie  
Government Relations: Santis Health  
IT Support: Windswept IT, Freeform Solutions  
Translator: François Couture  
Bookkeeping: Debra Trojan

## Land Acknowledgement

CASW's national office is located on the traditional, unceded, and unsurrendered territory of the Algonquin Anishnaabeg People, land now known to many as Ottawa, Ontario. This land remains home to many First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples.

CASW is national federation comprised of Partner Organizations across the land now known to many as Canada. So, while the national office is in Ottawa, CASW's work takes place on the traditional land of many different nations across Turtle Island.

As the national professional association for social work in Canada, it is critical to acknowledge not only our relationship to land, and to colonialism, but also our organization's and our profession's direct harms to Indigenous peoples and communities: to begin this key element of reconciliation, CASW released its [Statement of Apology and Commitment to Reconciliation](#) in 2019.

# Provincial and Territorial Federation Partners



## Association of Social Workers in Northern Canada

President, Christopher Stebbing  
Executive Director, Stacey Robinson-Brown  
[socialworknorth.com](http://socialworknorth.com)



BC ASSOCIATION of  
SOCIAL WORKERS

## British Columbia Association of Social Workers

President: Phil Mach  
Executive Director: Chelsea Minhas  
[www.bcasw.org](http://www.bcasw.org)



## Social Workers Association of Alberta

President: Arlene Eaton-Erickson  
Executive Director: Angela Fawcett  
[www.myswaa.ca](http://www.myswaa.ca)



## Saskatchewan Association of Social Workers

President: Amanda Knieval  
Executive Director and Registrar: Karen Wasylenka  
[sasw.ca](http://sasw.ca)



### Nova Scotia College of Social Workers

President: Robert Wright  
 Executive Director: Alec Stratford  
[nscsw.org](http://nscsw.org)



### Prince Edward Island Association of Social Workers

President: Kathy Jones  
[peiasw.ca](http://peiasw.ca)



### Ontario Association of Social Workers

President: Evelyn Weger (until December 15, 2025)  
 Interim President: Carol Soares (as of December 15, 2025)  
 Chief Executive Officer: Ajirioghene Evi  
[oasw.org](http://oasw.org)



### New Brunswick Association of Social Workers

President: Carole Gallant  
 Executive Director: Miguel LeBlanc  
[nbasw-attsnb.ca](http://nbasw-attsnb.ca)



### Newfoundland and Labrador College of Social Workers

President: Stephanie Mealey  
 Executive Director & Registrar: Phil O'Neil, Wendy Skinner (as of March 9, 2026)  
[nlcsw.ca](http://nlcsw.ca)



### Manitoba College of Social Workers

President: Jennifer Meixner  
 Executive Director and Registrar: Barbara Temmerman  
[mcsww.ca](http://mcsww.ca)

# A Message from the CASW President and Executive Director

Election 2025 was heavily impacted by threats to Canada's national sovereignty from our US neighbours. Since the election, this uncertainty has largely driven the agenda of the new Government of Canada, under Prime Minister Mark Carney, which has focused mainly on immigration, defence, AI and large-scale infrastructure.

Although social care does not yet appear to be a strong priority for this government, CASW is extremely grateful that after 8 years of advocacy that the Government of Canada announced Canada Student Loan Forgiveness eligibility for rural and remote social workers. This is a huge win for the profession in this our 100th year of CASW. Up next for CASW, as its core advocacy issue for the profession, is the inclusion of social workers in the federal definitions of Public Safety Personnel (PSP).

The past year CASW also completed and undertook new major projects to strengthen the profession and support members. In the fall of, CASW co-hosted the first National Summit to Advance Social Work in Team-Based Primary Care at the University of Toronto. Next, for its Preventing and Addressing Radicalization and Violent Extremism project, funded by Public Safety Canada, CASW established a National Advisory Council (NAC) from the over 100 members that applied to support the project with their expertise and knowledge.

CASW also, in collaboration with the Canadian Council of Social Work Regulators (CCSWR), kicked off a national clinical best practices project that will consult a diversity of members in the coming year. Further, CASW embarked on a new project on the ethical use of AI in social work that will inform advocacy and shape national policy. Finally, CASW is strengthening its assessment service for internationally educated social workers through a grant from Employment and Social Development Canada's (ESDC) Foreign Credential Recognition Program. Each CASW project and position is grounded in our commitment to the EDIB and the ongoing journey of reconciliation.

As part of its commitment to reparations, CASW actively supported the establishment of the National Africentric Social Work Circles (NASWC) in partnership with provincial black social work associations and Senator Dr. Wanda Thomas Bernard. This collaboration also supported the establishment of two new national initiatives that recognize excellence and leadership in Africentric social work practice.

In terms of federal advocacy, CASW strongly opposed the government's new approach to immigration as reflected in Bills C2 and C12 while continuing to uphold the Safe Third Country Agreement with the United States of America. CASW also led a national professional association call to reverse its decision to introduce co-payments to the Interim Federal Health Program (IFHP). CASW will continue to advocate for immigration and refugee reforms that uphold Canada's humanitarian obligations, maintain fair-hearing standards, and undergo independent human rights reviews.

In January 2026, CASW kicked off its celebration of 100 years with the theme Reflecting on Our Past, Reimagining Our Future. During National Social Work Month, CASW launched its historical digital archives – a searchable database of its position statements as well as the reimagined historical the Social Worker publication into a national podcast.

Finally, it's with great excitement and pride that in its 100th year, CASW is once again a united federation with the new affiliated partnership of the Association quebecoise des travailleuses et travailleurs sociaux! Thank you to all CASW federation partners for making unity a priority in a time of growing division and disharmony in the world.

With gratitude and solidarity,



**Fred Phelps**  
Executive Director, Canadian  
Association of Social Workers



**Barb Whitenect**  
President, Canadian Association  
of Social Workers





## CASW at a Glance

### CASW 100 Years of Service

CASW launched an interactive [digital timeline](#) to commemorate 100 years of service. The timeline showcases the Association's history, including key milestones, influential figures, and important moments that have shaped the profession, while also acknowledging harms and the ongoing work toward equity and reconciliation.

As well, CASW now has a [curated collection](#) of historical materials that preserves and shares the legacy of social work in Canada, creating space for reflection, learning, and accountability.



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## 100 Years of CASW Timeline

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### Founding and Early Years (1920 - 1955)

- [1924: First steps taken at the National Conference on Social Work](#)
- [1926: Founding of Canadian Association of Social Workers](#)
- [1928: First general meeting held](#)
- [1920s-'30s: First CASW branches formed](#)

# Membership and Reach

**20,575**

Approximate  
federation  
membership

**10**

Partner  
organizations

**14,906**

Newsletter  
subscribers  
engaged

## Welcome, AQTS – A United Federation after 100 years

CASW celebrates the **Association quebecoise des travailleuses et travailleurs sociaux** officially joining the federation, effective April 1, 2026 – after 100 years, a united federation.

## Year in Numbers

**14**

ADVOCACY  
SUBMISSIONS  
LETTERS +  
SUBMISSIONS  
2025/26

**3**

large scale  
campaigns

**66**

PROFESSIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT  
OFFERINGS

**CAMPAIGNS:** 100-YEAR ANNIVERSARY • NATIONAL SOCIAL WORK MONTH • CANADA STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS

# International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW) Update

It is once again my pleasure to be writing this report to you as Vice President of the North American region of the IFSW. Along with the President role of CASW I also represent Canada as the Vice President of the North American region of the International Federation of Social Work (IFSW) alongside Dr Yvonne Chase President and representing NASW (USA). The IFSW is a global organization representing five regions: Africa, Asia Pacific, Europe, Latin America and Caribbean and North America.

It was a very busy year for the global organization with much unrest and events occurring all over the globe. The mission of IFSW continues to be to advocate for social change/ social justice and enhance human rights.

The work of good governance and the development of policy documents continued over this past year, with the completion of a complaints manual that will be presented at the global general meeting in June 2026. Along with the work of good governance the federation was called upon to organize hiring of an Interim Secretary-General with the extended leave and final retirement of Rory Truell. Pascal Rudin has been acting as interim SG since June 2025.

Much conference work occurred over this past year with IFSW North American region hosting a virtual conference with our USA executive partners joining us in Ottawa. The 4 hour conference “Exploring Collective Crisis Among Immigrant and Displaced Communities in Canada, US and Beyond”, enjoyed a large participation with diverse presenter knowledge, including our own Sarah Pennisi.

IFSW will also be hosting a joint world Social Work conference in Kenya in June 2026.

A special general meeting (SGM) was held on 18 February 2026, with a very large global participation. The meeting was constitutionally called to address 2 questions from the European regions general meeting motions. The questions were 1) That the Israeli Union of Social workers organization be expelled from IFSW and 2) That the member organization be suspended from IFSW. Both these motions were not voted in favour of by a large percentage of voting participants after a lengthy 5 hour meeting with scheduled approved presenters.

On 16th of March 2026; World Social Work Day, IFSW President Joachim Mumba reflected on the vital role of Social Workers with respect to strengthening our communities, protecting dignity, and advancing justice. The theme of 2026 Social Workday “Co-Building Hope and Harmony: A Harambee Call to Unite a Divided Society”, calls on social workers, governments and communities everywhere to pull together in building a just, peaceful and sustainable world. The theme for this year’s day draws inspiration from the African philosophy of Harambee a powerful call for collective action, mutual support and shared responsibility, critical in our current fractured world environment.

It has truly been a learning experience and honour to represent CASW values and ethics over this past year with IFSW.  
Respectfully submitted,



Barb Whitenect, MSW, RSW  
Vice President IFSW North America



# Strategic Plan Results

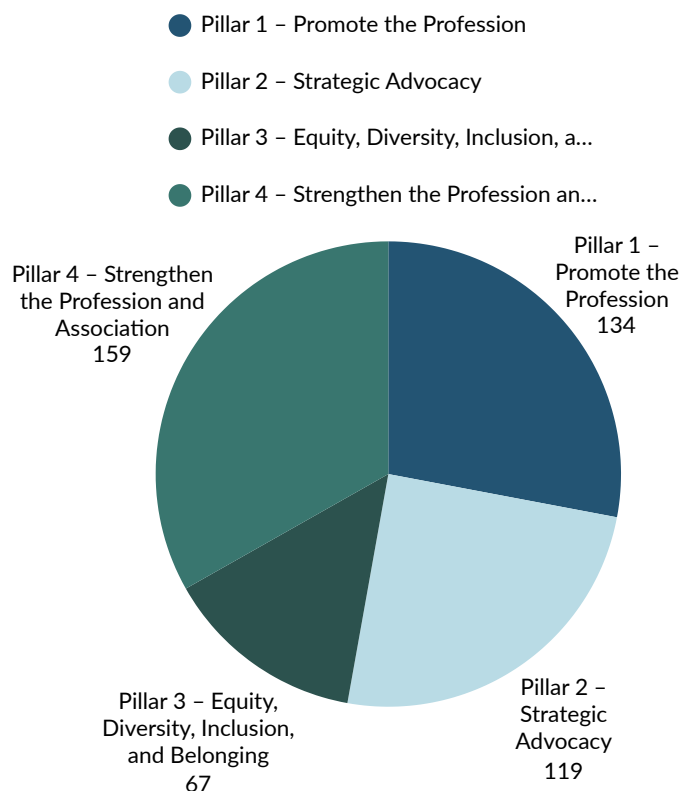
## Executive Dashboard

This dashboard provides a quantitative summary of the activities supporting strategic outcomes as tracked in the monthly reporting.

The volume of activity reflects a balanced organizational approach across all four of the Strategic Plan's pillars, remaining consistently high throughout the fiscal year.

The peak period of activities aligns with National Social Work Month, federal budget cycles and major advocacy milestones such as the inclusion of social workers in the Federal Student Loan Forgiveness Program.

**Pillar 3** activity demonstrates sustained engagement throughout the year, with increased intensity during national observances and coalition actions. The most significant activity occurred in relation to Pillar 4 which reflects CASW's significant investment in governance, partnerships, operations, and sector infrastructure.



# Introduction

This year's Annual Report is built around the four pillars of our 2023–2028 Strategic Plan so you can see how the pieces fit together in one place.

## The Four Pillars are:

- Promote the Profession
- Strategic Advocacy
- Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Accessibility and Belonging (EDIB) and Reconciliation
- Strengthen the Profession and Association.



The report offers a look inside our strategy, where goals, actions and outcomes come together: how we showed up for social workers, how we showed up in policy conversations, and how we worked to make CASW more inclusive, more connected, and more reflective of the communities we serve.

Each section walks through what we did, what changed, and what it means for members, the federation, and the people social workers support every day. The sections below summarize progress, outcomes, and key performance indicators for each pillar.

# Pillar 1: Promoting the Profession

**Purpose:** CASW works to strengthen public understanding of social work, increase the profession's visibility, and communicate social work's value across Canada.

## NSWM 2025-2026 Highlights

- **Virtual Panel Dialogue: 100 Years - Reflecting on Our Past, Reimagining Our Future:** CASW convened social work leaders from across Canada in a national dialogue examining the profession's historical foundations and future directions. Grounded in reflection on systems of power, resistance, and care, the discussion highlighted the profession's ongoing responsibility to advance justice, equity, and collective well-being.
- **Digital Reach and National Engagement:** CASW's campaign achieved broad national visibility, reaching a total audience of 37,314, generating a record 672,192 impressions, and achieving 62,676 total engagements, demonstrating significant public and professional engagement with National Social Work Month content.

Social Work at 100: History, Justice, and the Road Ahead

Reflecting on Our Past, Reimagining Our Future

National Social Work Month  
2026  
Mois national du travail social

Delivered by webinar.net

## National Social Work Month 2026: *Reflecting on Our Past, Reimagining Our Future*

March 2026 marked a milestone moment for the Canadian Association of Social Workers (CASW) as CASW celebrated National Social Work Month alongside its 100th anniversary. This year's theme, *Reflecting on Our Past, Reimagining Our Future*, invited social workers across the country to honour the profession's legacy while looking ahead to the possibilities of the next century.

Throughout the month, CASW delivered a dynamic and multi-platform campaign that elevated the voices, experiences, and impact of social workers in diverse fields and communities



## Major projects

- Confirmation that the Federal Student Loan Forgiveness Program includes social workers resulting in **16,924 engagements**.
- CASW received **2,021 contest entries** across social media and website activations, reflecting strong national participation and meaningful engagement with campaign content throughout the month.
- **IFSW North American Regional Virtual Conference** that critically examined the intersecting crises facing immigrant and displaced communities across North America.



### Canadian Association of Social Workers/ L'Association canadienne des travailleurs sociaux

10,841 followers

4mo •

CASW celebrates the inclusion of Social Workers in Canada Student Loan forgiveness for professionals working in underserved rural and remote communities!

A massive thank you to the [Government of Canada](#) for following through on this commitment to the profession.

<https://lnkd.in/ebsCWm9k>

#### Canada Student Loan Forgiveness

canada.ca

153

3 comments · 44 reposts



Like

Comment

Repost



## Key Performance Indicators

- Engagement with Core Communications: 14,906 engagements with the Reporter Newsletter
- Increased engagement across social media: From a 6% increase (Facebook) to 34% (LinkedIn) increase in engagement compared to last year

## Impact

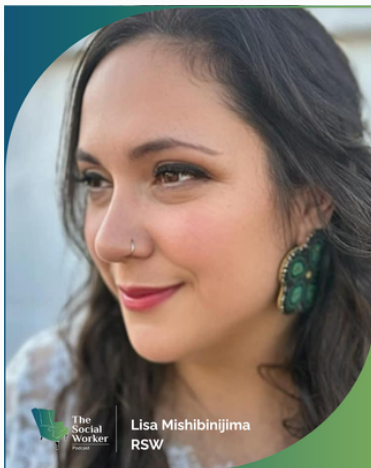
CASW strengthened public understanding of social work by amplifying the profession's contributions across health, mental health, social services, and community development.

Through coordinated national campaigns, targeted communications, and partnerships with allied organizations, CASW helped raise the profile of social workers as essential contributors to equity, well-being, and social justice. These efforts reinforced public and policy-maker recognition of social work as a distinct, skilled profession that plays a vital role in addressing complex social challenges.

*As of December 31st, 2025, Registered Social Workers eligible for federal Canada Student Loan Forgiveness, which means claiming up to \$30,000 of federal loans by social workers in eligible rural and remote communities.*

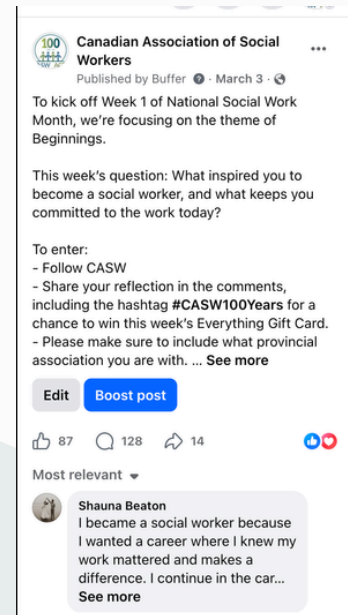
# National Social Work Month 2026 Highlights (cont.)

**Launched The Social Worker Podcast (March 6, 2026):** A new national platform amplifying the stories of social workers across Canada. The podcast features candid conversations on career journeys, challenges, and the evolving role of social work in today’s world.



**National Storytelling Campaign:** Through videos, interviews, and social media features, social workers from across the country shared their personal journeys and the diverse realities of practice, reinforcing the depth and breadth of the profession.

**Weekly Reflection Series:** A series of themed content encouraging social workers and the public to engage with the profession’s past, present, and future. Topics included leadership, advocacy, community impact, and envisioning the future of social work.



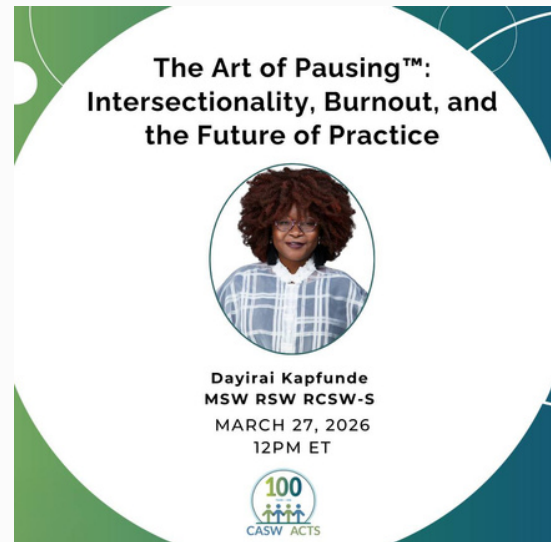
**Engagement and Community Building:**

CASW fostered national participation through interactive content, giveaways, and digital storytelling, strengthening connections within the social work community and increasing public awareness of the profession’s impact.



**Webinars:**

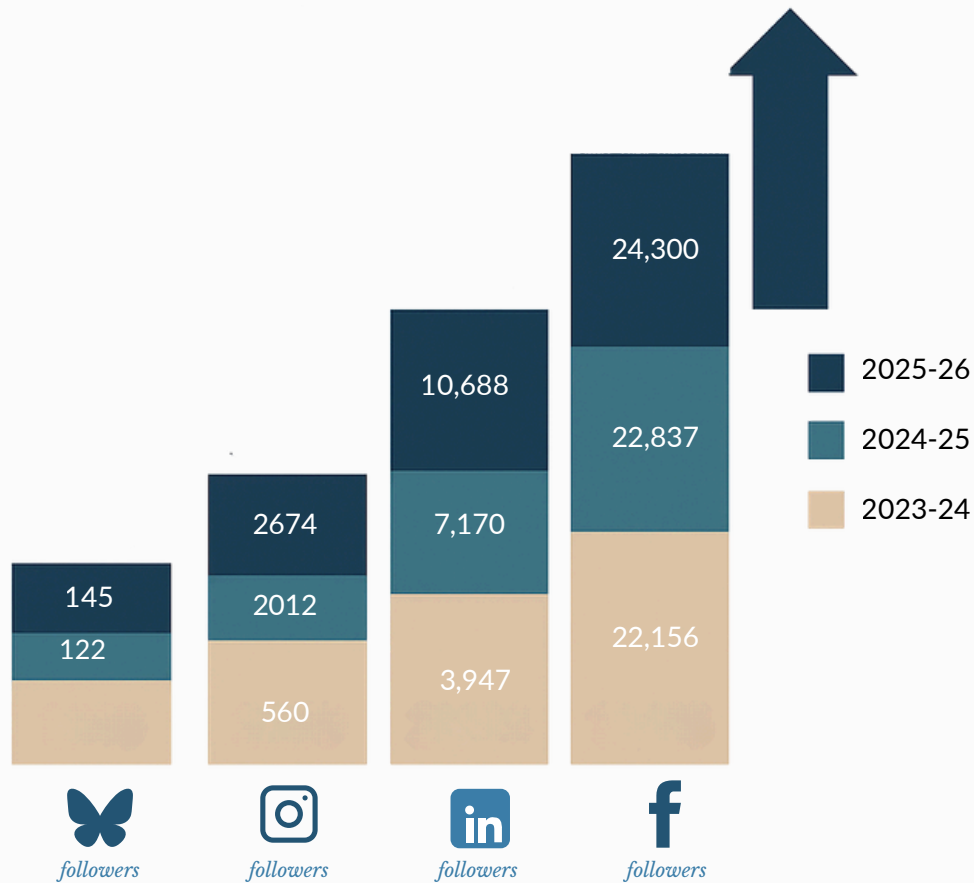
CASW delivered 15 webinars in March (10 English, 5 French), expanding national access to professional learning and strengthening knowledge exchange across diverse areas of social work practice.



*This year’s National Social Work Month celebrated the vital contributions of social workers and created space for critical reflection and forward-thinking dialogue. As CASW enters its second century, the campaign underscored a collective commitment to advancing equity, amplifying diverse voices, and shaping a more just and inclusive future.*

## CASW Social Media

CASW's social media channels continue to develop at an astonishing rate as we continue to shift to a virtual world. Our growing interactions reflect CASW's position as a visible and involved organization promoting the profession.

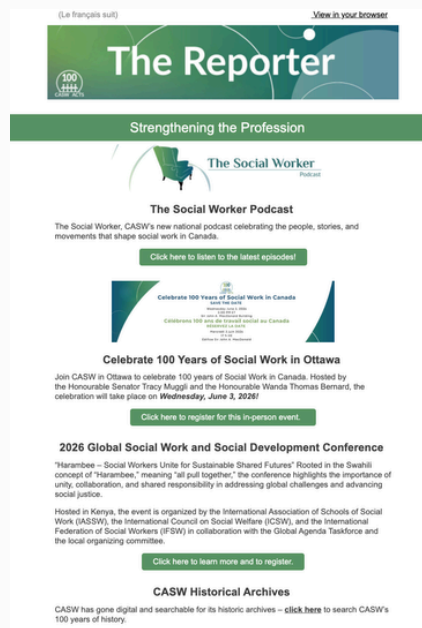


**Facebook:** [Canadian Association of Social Workers](#)  
**BlueSky:** [@casw-acts](#)  
**Instagram:** [@casw\\_acts](#)  
**LinkedIn :** [Canadian Association of Social Workers/ L'Association canadienne des travailleurs sociaux](#)  
**YouTube:** [Canadian Association of Social Workers](#)

CASW strengthened national knowledge-sharing and engagement through targeted email campaigns and digital mailers that advanced learning, advocacy, and professional solidarity across the social work community in Canada. These communications consistently generated strong engagement, demonstrating sustained interest in CASW's initiatives and priority issues.

## Key Performance Indicators

- Advocacy-focused communications also demonstrated strong reach and resonance, including the Call for Social Workers to Support Student Loan Forgiveness (16,924 engagements) and the announcement of the IFSW



Monthly Reporter newsletter, which achieved 14,906 engagements, reinforcing its role as a key source of ongoing professional updates and sector-wide connection.



Call for Nominations for CASW's podcast series "The Social Worker", which generated 16,417 engagements.

**Collectively, these initiatives reflect CASW's sustained impact in mobilizing engagement, disseminating critical information, and strengthening connection across the national social work community.**

# 2025-2026 CASW National Awards

## CASW Distinguished Service Award

In collaboration with CASW federation partner organizations, the 2025-2026 CASW Distinguished Service Award winners were announced during National Social Work Month.

Each year, CASW Distinguished Service Award recipients provide exceptional service to the populations they serve. This year, we honoured so many incredible social workers for their essential contributions to the profession.

Get to know this year's winners and read about their amazing contributions here:  
<https://www.casw-acts.ca/en/awards/casw-distinguished-service-award>



**Cheryl Jamieson**  
Prince Edward Island  
Association of Social  
Workers



**Jennifer Whalen**  
Manitoba College of  
Social Workers



**Susan Walsh**  
Newfoundland and  
Labrador College of  
Social Workers



**Ruth Ann Thomas**  
Saskatchewan Association  
of Social Workers



**Winnie Grant**  
Nova Scotia College of  
Social Workers



**Dr. Keith Adamson**  
Ontario Association of  
Social Workers



**Jeannine Bourque**  
New Brunswick  
Association of Social  
Workers



**Dr. Linda Kreitzer**  
Social Workers  
Association of Alberta

# Pillar 2: Strategic Advocacy

Purpose: CASW advances national health, social, and economic policy by influencing parliamentarians and policy makers with social work perspectives grounded in CASW's Social Policy Principles.

## 2025-2026 Highlights

- CASW launched the [2025 Election Hub](#) to support members in making their decision in Election 2025.
- CASW advocated with the Government of Canada regarding Bill C-2 the Strong Borders Act, finalization of federal student loan forgiveness for social workers, finalization of the Canada Disability Benefit as well as guarantors for Immigration, Refugee and Citizenship Canada forms and processes and to the Treasury Board regarding a review of the Lobby Act.
- Collaborated with a coalition of national health professions and disability organizations to call on the Government of Canada to implement targeted, [immediate policy reforms to the Disability Tax Credit \(DTC\)](#).
- CASW developed and submitted recommendations to Committees of the House of Commons and Senate Committees regarding the Safe Third Country Agreement, Anti-Feminist Ideology, Bill C-12 Strengthening Canada's Immigration System and Borders Act, Pre-Budget 2026, and Recognizing Social Workers as Public Safety Personnel.


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## 2025 Election Hub

[Home](#)



The Federal Election will take place in 2025. This page brings together a variety of resources and other tools to help you make your decision in election 2025.

Election & Voting Resources for Social Workers



CASW's Election Hub

## Major projects

- CASW Launched national project to develop practice guidelines for social workers and artificial intelligence
- Collaboration with researchers at McGill and McMaster University to inform CASW's work regarding Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) Track 2.



CASW ED, Fred Phelps and Parliamentary Secretary, Maggie Chi

CASW collaborated with a team of primary care researchers and social workers to convene a National Summit to Advance Social Work in Team-Based Primary Care at the University of Toronto.

*CASW launched its statement and demand for the Government of Canada to formally Recognize Social Workers as Public Safety Personnel (PSP).*

CASW participated in **13 Coalitions** and ally organizations actively engaged:

- BRAID Hub
- Canadian Alliance on Mental Illness and Mental Health
- Canadian Drug Policy Coalition
- Chief Public Health Officer Health Professional Forum
- Extended Health Care Coalition
- Disability Without Poverty
- Palliative Care Coalition of Canada
- National Associations Active in Criminal Justice
- National Collaborative for Health Care Well-being
- National Collaborative on PTSD
- Organizations for Health Action
- Perinatal Mental Health Coalition of Canada
- Promoting Relationships and Eliminating Violence Network
- Social Work in Primary Care



CASW attends CAMIMH Awards, photographed with Senator Patrick Brazeau (SP)

## Key Performance Indicators

- Number of formal submissions, briefings, or consultation responses: 5
- Number of meetings with MPs, ministers, officials, or staff: 7
- Unique Advocacy Strategies: 8  
(letters to Ministers/PM, parliamentary submissions, position papers/statements, pre-budget submissions, op-eds/editorials, campaigns and letter-writing tools, committee/forum presentations, and public press releases)

## Impact

CASW advanced the profession's voice in national policy-making by engaging federal institutions, responding to consultations, and framing key social work issues within broader health and social-policy agendas.

In 2025–2026, advocacy efforts helped move priority issues forward, including recognition of social workers in PTSD-related federal initiatives, calls for student loan forgiveness for social workers, and stronger links between social work and public health.

By consistently bringing social-work perspectives into federal discussions, CASW supported the development of more responsive, human-centred policies that reflect the realities of the people social workers serve.



Rabia Khedr, (National Director of Disability Without Poverty) and Minister Patty Hajdu



Organizations for Health Action with MP Gord Johns




“Save Public Health Care” Rally

# Pillar 3: Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Belonging (EDIB) and Reconciliation

Purpose: CASW is committed to embedding equity, diversity, inclusion, accessibility, and belonging, while advancing reconciliation, decolonization, anti-racism, and repair across the organization.

## 2025-2026 Highlights

[Unsubscribe](#) [View in your browser](#)



**National Week for Truth and Reconciliation**

**Truth and Reconciliation Week**  
September 22nd – September 26th

As we mark Truth and Reconciliation Week leading up to Truth and Reconciliation Day on September 30th, the Canadian Association of Social Workers reflects on the truths shared by Indigenous Peoples and the ongoing responsibility of the social work profession in reconciliation.

This week invites social workers to pause, learn and continue the work of truth and reconciliation. However, CASW notes that truth and reconciliation go beyond this week. It is an ongoing process of acknowledging harm, centering Indigenous voices and building respectful relationships that honour self-determination and sovereignty.

**Orange Shirt Day**

September 30 is also Orange Shirt Day. This day honours the children who never returned home from residential schools and survivors, their families and their communities. The orange shirt is a symbol that grew from the story of Phyllis Webstad, a residential school survivor whose new orange shirt was taken away from her on her first day at a residential school.

This shirt now stands as a reminder of how the residential school system sought to deny Indigenous children their culture, identity, and sense of self. Wearing orange on this day affirms that every child matters and calls us to reflect on how we contribute to reconciliation in meaningful ways.

**National Week for Truth and Reconciliation:**  
Reach and Impact of Awareness-Based Initiatives: Truth and Reconciliation Day mailer reached 16,246 recipients and supporting sector-wide education and reflection.

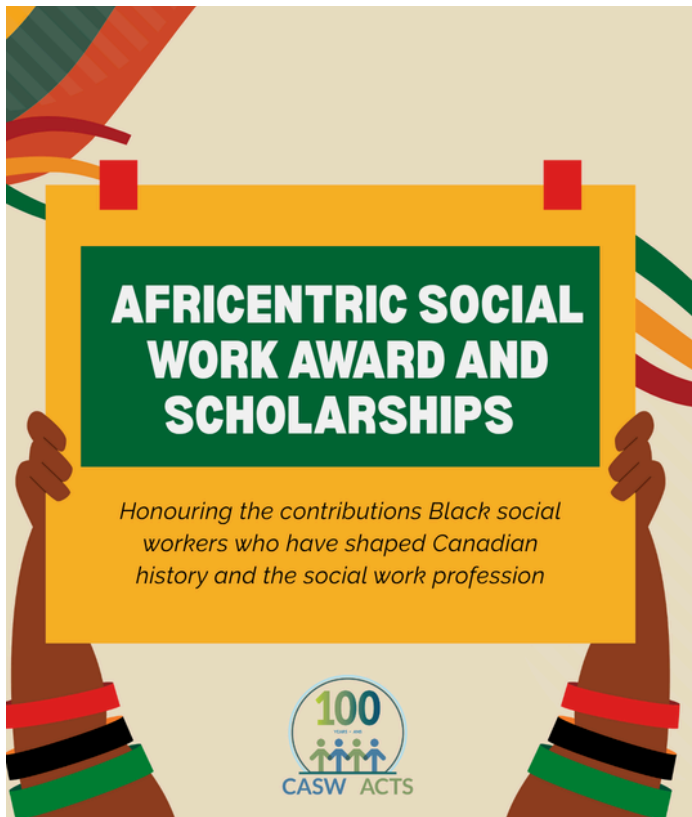


CASW PRESIDENT, BARB WHITENECT



CASW ED, FRED PHELPS AND MCSW ED, BARB TEMMERMAN

**CASW sponsored and attended the 7th International Indigenous Voices in Social Work Conference in Calgary, Alberta.**



### Africentric Social Work Awards and Scholarships:

CASW realized a commitment from the Reparations for Social Workers of African Descent project with the announcement of the Honourable Senator Wanda Thomas Bernard Legacy in Africentric Social Work Award and the National Africentric Social Work Circle Student Leadership Scholarships.

- **Two-Eyed Seeing Board Training:** Two-Eyed Seeing Training teaches participants to bridge Indigenous and western knowledge systems by utilizing the strengths of both for a more comprehensive, holistic perspective. It fosters respectful, equitable co-learning that encourages the integration of diverse worldviews to address complex, modern challenges.
- CASW issued a President's statement to echo advocacy related to the harms to asylum seekers reflected in legislation such as Bill C-2, C-12 and changes to the Interim Federal Health Program (IFHP).

## Major Projects

### Building Practice Resilience and Knowledge Preventing and Addressing Radicalization and Violent Extremism (SW-PRE Project)

**Social Work:** Building Practice Resilience and Knowledge – Preventing and Addressing Radicalization and Violent Extremism  
(SW-PRE Project)

**Travail social :** Renforcer la résilience de la pratique et les connaissances — Prévenir et traiter la radicalisation et l'extrémisme violent  
(projet TS-PRE)

Funded by the  
Government  
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Gouvernement  
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Canada

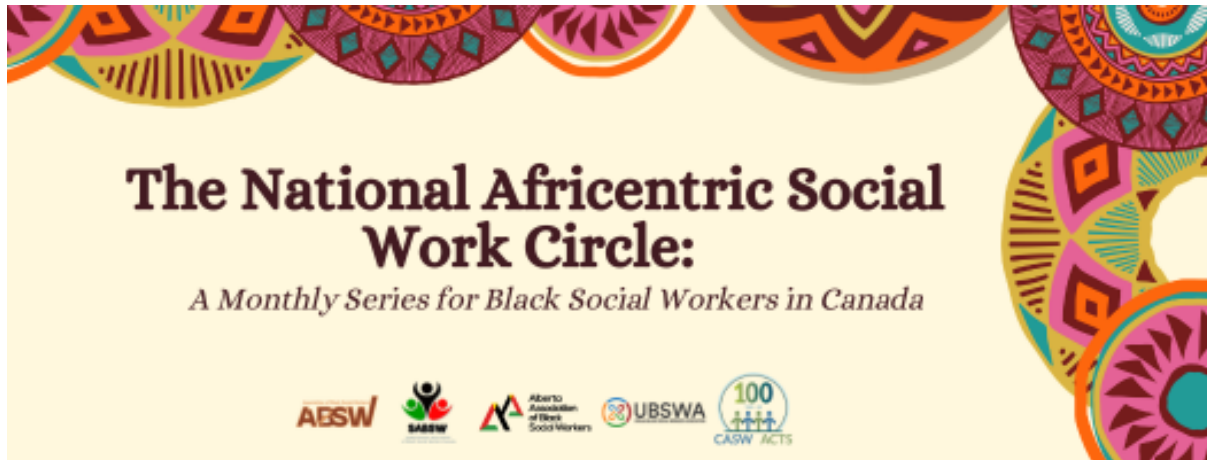


In February 2025, CASW secured \$400,000 in funding from Public Safety Canada for a two-year project focused on strengthening social work responses to radicalization and violent extremism (RVE). The Social Work Prevention of Radicalization and Extremism (SW-PRE) project aims to equip social workers with evidence-informed education, training, and practical tools to support prevention and intervention efforts across individual, family, community, and systems-level practice. The project also emphasizes worker well-being and sustainable practice, while fostering collaboration and community capacity within the violence prevention sector.

Key activities during 2025–2026 included the hiring of Knowledge Lead Andrew McKenzie, a PhD student at the University of Toronto specializing in radicalization and violent extremism research. CASW also established the SW-PRE National Advisory Committee (NAC), bringing together a diverse range of social work expertise and lived experience from across Canada. Additional milestones included the launch of the SW-PRE webinar series in January 2026, the development of a draft position paper, and ongoing work on a social work curriculum syllabus and practice resources to support the profession in this emerging area of practice.

## Major Projects

### The National Africentric Social Work Circle



In partnership with provincial Black Social Work Associations and the Office of the Honourable Wanda Thomas Bernard, CASW launched the National Africentric Social Work Circles (NASWC) in 2025–2026.

The NASWC is a monthly gathering space for Black social workers across Canada to connect, learn, and build knowledge together. The initiative aims to deepen understanding, strengthen professional networks, and advance Africentric social work practice in ways that honour Black communities, histories, and lived experiences.

Over the course of the year, CASW hosted six National Africentric Social Work Circle events for Black social workers, with a total of 388 participants. Feedback from participants has been overwhelmingly positive, highlighting the importance of dedicated spaces for connection, reflection, and collective learning. A national steering committee continues to guide and support the ongoing development and sustainability of the Circle.

## Key Performance Indicators

- Number of Opportunities for Gathering: 6 National Africentric Social Work Circle events for Black social workers, with a total of 388 participants

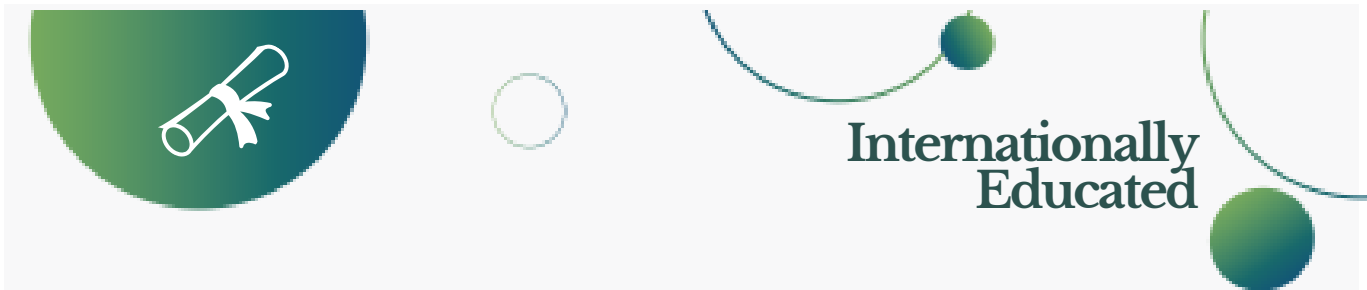
*Funding received for Preventing and Addressing Radicalization and Violent Extremism (SW-PRE Project): \$400,000*

## Impact

CASW deepened its commitment to equity, diversity, inclusion, accessibility, and belonging, while advancing reconciliation, decolonization, and anti-racism within its own structures and in the broader social work community.

Through internal reflection, learning, and deliberate policy and governance reviews, CASW created a stronger foundation for inclusive practice and leadership. This work not only addressed historic inequities but also helped position CASW as an organization that models the values social workers advocate for in practice, fostering a more just and accountable professional community.

## Pillar 4: Strengthen the Profession and Association



**Purpose:** CASW supports members with information, tools, and services that strengthen practice, well-being, and professional connection. A significant contribution is the CASW service for Internationally Educated Social Workers (IESW) that assesses their academic credentials to the equivalency to a Canadian Bachelor or Master of Social Work. CASW assessments are typically used by applicants as part of registration with one of the provincial or territorial social work regulatory bodies in Canada.

### 2025-2026 IESW Highlights

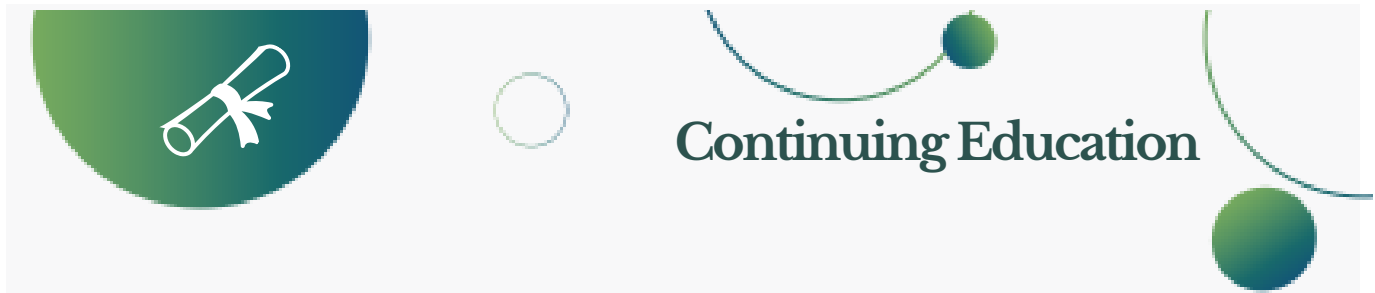
- The CASW IESW Assessment program demonstrated strong overall performance, completing 508 assessments with an equivalency rate of 88.58%. Indicates the program continues to deliver a high-volume of assessments for multiple regulatory partners, supporting internationally educated social workers in progressing toward registration.
- Applicant satisfaction remained very strong, particularly in areas such as clarity of information, staff support, and overall application experience.
- Service delivery was highly efficient, with assessment processing times significantly exceeding expected timelines.
- CASW maintained strong relationships with key regulatory partners, including OCSWSSW and ACSW, with continued contract compliance and positive stakeholder feedback.
- Full renewal of service agreements reflects sustained partner confidence and program reliability.
- The approved IESW project will enhance service delivery through a new document submission portal and an Immigration Hub, improving accessibility and reducing barriers for applicants.

## Major Projects

- In October 2024, CASW submitted a grant application to Employment and Social Development Canada's (ESDC) Foreign Credential Recognition Program for a two-year project entitled Improving Resources for IESWs: Strengthening CASW's Credential Recognition Capacity. The project was approved, and the funding agreement was signed in July 2025.
- The project includes two key pillars. The first pillar is the development of an online document submission portal. The second pillar is the creation of an IESW Immigration Hub on the CASW website. The IESW project is designed to strengthen both the effectiveness and efficiency of CASW's credential recognition capacity. The project will streamline application intake, improve access to information and supports, and reduce barriers for internationally educated social workers before and after arrival in Canada.

### Key Performance Indicators

- Number of assessments completed: **508**
- Customer satisfaction rating across key service areas: **87.86%–91.43%**
- Average processing time: **15.5 days (target: 6–12 weeks)**
- Renewal rate for regulatory service agreements (OCSWSSW and ACSW): **100%**
- Number of grants received: **1 ESDC-funded project approved and initiated (2-year duration).**



**Purpose:** CASW continued to strengthen its commitment to lifelong learning by offering accessible, relevant, and practice-informed continuing education opportunities for social workers across Canada. Grounded in the evolving needs of the profession, CASW’s professional development initiatives supported practice needs, emerging knowledge, and the advancement of social justice and community well-being. CASW’s continuing education offerings continue to be highly valued by members.

### 2025 Member Benefits Survey:

In the 2025 Member Benefits Survey, completed by 885 members, respondents identified Continuing Education webinars as the most valued CASW member service, followed by Practice Resources.

Survey findings also demonstrated the impact of CASW webinars on professional practice. Of the 704 members who responded to the question:

- 79% agreed that CASW webinars help inform or support their professional practice
- with 33% (232 respondents) strongly agreeing
- and 46% (323 respondents) agreeing



In 2025–2026, CASW hosted 57 national online events and webinars and 10 provincial online webinars. Many of these offerings were delivered with CASW’s provincial partners, reflecting the strength of CASW’s collaborative approach to continuing education.



**Complete CASW's Member Benefits and Services Survey**

**Your Input Matters!**

**For Your Chance to Win a \$250 Mastercard!**



**Webinars**

Home

<p><b>Ethical Considerations of Building a Private Practice: Sustainability and Social Responsibility</b> Counselling, Professional Practice May 26, 2026</p> <p><a href="#">REGISTER NOW</a></p> <p><a href="#">Read more</a></p>	<p><b>Nihilistic Violence and Glorification of Violence: Intervening With Youth, Families and the Schools</b> Trauma, Violence, Youth May 25, 2026</p> <p><a href="#">REGISTER NOW</a></p> <p><a href="#">Read more</a></p>	<p><b>Working with New Clients who Hold Violent Extremist and Conspiratorial Views</b> Counselling, Trauma, Violence May 13, 2026</p> <p><a href="#">REGISTER NOW</a></p> <p><a href="#">Read more</a></p>	<p><b>Support for ideological violence among adolescents : risk and protective factors within a cyber-developmental framework</b> Violence, Youth Apr 22, 2026</p> <p><a href="#">REGISTER NOW</a></p> <p><a href="#">Read more</a></p>
<p><b>Social Work at 100: History, Justice, and the Road Ahead</b> Anti-Oppressive Practice, National Social Work Month, Professional Practice Mar 31, 2026</p> <p><a href="#">REGISTER NOW</a></p> <p><a href="#">Read more</a></p>	<p><b>The Art of Pausing™: Intersectionality, Burnout, and the Future of Practice</b> Anti-Oppressive Practice, National Social Work Month, Professional Practice Mar 27, 2026</p> <p><a href="#">REGISTER NOW</a></p> <p><a href="#">Read more</a></p>	<p><b>Ageing and Older Adults, Health, National Social Work Month, NBASW-ATTSNB, Trauma, Violence</b> Mar 25, 2026</p> <p><a href="#">REGISTER NOW</a></p> <p><a href="#">Read more</a></p>	<p><b>Collaboration Without Compromise: Partnering in Ways That Preserve Voice and Equity</b> Anti-Oppressive Practice, MCSW, National Social Work Month, Professional Practice Mar 24, 2026</p> <p><a href="#">REGISTER NOW</a></p> <p><a href="#">Read more</a></p>

# 2025-2026 Continuing Education Highlights

## Rayonner Ensemble Webinar Series

PROCHAIN WEBINAIRE

**Pouvoir et contrôle : Le tabou dans l'implantation des approches sensibles aux traumas avec les jeunes**



**Ash Lowenthal**  
MSW, PhD(c)

Date: 20 novembre, 2025  
Heure: 12 h HE



**Agressions sexuelles et processus de mentalisation d'adolescentes en contexte de protection de l'enfance**



**Jessica Duclos**  
psychologue clinicienne

Date: 9 octobre, 2025  
Heure: 12h HE



In partnership with Association québécoise des travailleuses sociales et des travailleurs sociaux and Université de Sherbrooke, CASW launched the Rayonner Ensemble French webinar series, showcasing emerging research and practice-informed knowledge on relevant social work topics.

## Social Work and Mediation Series

**A Social Work and Mediation Series**  
*Presented by Family Mediation Canada*

Social Work and Mediation: A Natural Fit



**Dr. Michael Saini**  
Ph.D., M.S.W., R.S.W.  
Professor and Factor-Inwentash Chair in Law and Social Work  
University of Toronto

**Scott Cruickshank**  
C.M., B.S.W.  
Conflict Resolution Consultant with the Dispute Resolution Office, Saskatchewan Government

Wednesday, September 24, 2025  
1PM ET



**A Social Work and Mediation Series**  
*Presented by Family Mediation Canada*

Family Mediation Demystified: An Introduction to Family Mediation Principles and Practice



**Rhoda Dobler, KC**  
B.A., LL.B.

**Willow McLean**  
M.S.W., R.S.W.

Wednesday, October 1, 2025  
1PM ET



**A Social Work and Mediation Series**  
*Presented by Family Mediation Canada*

The Transformative Power of Elder Mediation



**Judy McCann Beranger**  
M.A. (Hons), B.Ed., B.A., Cert. Family Comprehensive Med. Advanced & Cert.EM Advanced

**Annalise Stenekes**  
B.A., B.S.W., M.S.W., R.S.W.  
Executive Director at Family Mediation Canada

Thursday, October 23, 2025  
1PM ET



**A Social Work and Mediation Series**  
*Presented by Family Mediation Canada*

Mediation in Child Protection: Creating Safe and Sustainable Solutions



**Dr. Michael Saini**  
Ph.D., M.S.W., R.S.W.  
Professor and Factor-Inwentash Chair in Law and Social Work University of Toronto

**Margaret Stewart Sweet**  
Lifetime Member of Family Mediation Canada (FMC), Former Chair of the Child Protection Mediation Certification Committee


Wednesday, October 15, 2025  
1PM ET



CASW hosted a four-part webinar series in partnership with Family Mediation Canada exploring the intersections between social work and mediation, with a focus on family mediation, child protection mediation, and elder mediation. The series attracted 1,489 participants and continues to grow.


## Decolonizing Clinical Social Work

**Decolonizing Clinical Social Work:**  
Becoming Culturally Competent: Walking the 5 Step Path




**SHAYLA S. DUBE**  
MSW, RSW, RCSW- S

Thursday, September 25, 2025  
1PM ET




**Decolonizing Clinical Social Work:**  
From Helping as Experts to Collaboration and Co-Creation: Multicultural Orientation and Ubuntu in Praxis




**SHAYLA S. DUBE**  
MSW, RSW, RCSW- S

Thursday, October 30, 2025  
1PM ET




Foundations of Cultural Competency:  
Understanding Culture, Colonial Harm, and the Call to Rehumanize



*Presented by:*  
**SHAYLA S. DUBE**  
MSW, RSW, RCSW- S

Wednesday, August 27, 2025  
1PM ET



CASW also hosted a three-part webinar series titled *Decolonizing Clinical Social Work: Integrating Ubuntu-Centred Cultural Humility to Enhance Cultural Competency*, which engaged more than 1,200 participants.

## Impact

CASW reinforced its role as a national hub for social workers by expanding member services, enhancing professional development opportunities, and strengthening collaboration across the federation. Through improved communications, targeted resources, and connection-building activities, CASW increased the perceived value of membership and supported members' practice, well-being, and collective voice. These efforts strengthened the profession's capacity to respond to emerging challenges and positioned CASW as a sustainable, responsive organization that continues to represent and support social workers across Canada.

# Direct Benefits of Membership and Services

- Sonnet Home and Auto Insurance & Pet Insurance! - Sonnet Insurance gives members access to Canada's first fully online insurance company and exclusive savings.
- Access to a national BMS Group Insurance Plans including Professional Liability.
- Expanded coverage options including Legal Entity Coverage; Cyber Security & Privacy Liability; Employment Practices Liability; Legal Services Package; Legal Expense Insurance; 24 Hour Accident Coverage
- Psychology Today Offer for CASW Members – When renewing BMS liability insurance, CASW Members can access a free first-time listing in Psychology Today's Therapy Directory.
- Exclusive pro bono legal services for participants in the CASW member insurance program
- Over \$22,000 was distributed through the CASW/BMS Scholarship program to CASW Partner Organizations to support their members
- 10% discount with VMedia on Internet, TV & other residential services
- Green Shield Canada – Preferred Provider for member Health Benefits program.
- Canadian Social Work Review - CASW continues the ongoing partnership with the Canadian Association for Social Work Education (CASWE) for members' access to their peer reviewed journal, Canadian Social Work Review.
- Members have continued access to Canadian Social Work journal archives.

**sonnet**  
**INSURANCE**

**bms.**

**gsc**  
green shield canada



- CASW and Pallium Canada continue to extend a 50% discount on LEAP Online to CASW members.
- Access to live and recorded CASW continuing education webinars.
- CASW's Media Monitoring Service – an e-mail service of national news relevant to the social work profession.
- CASW provides a national representation on coalitions and sustained lobbying to the Parliament of Canada.
- CASW's Monthly Reporter: a monthly newsletter circulated to CASW's full membership that provides news, job opportunities, member resources, and professional development information.
- Automatic affiliation to the International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW) via CASW
- Access to CASW's Private Practice Portal that guides social workers through every step necessary to begin, run, and even close a private practice
- CASW negotiated a 20% discount to access training from Pallium Canada
- CASW negotiated 10% off courses from the Centre of Indigegogy to support member's understanding and journeys of reconciliation

# Financial Overview

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2026

## **REVENUES**

Partnership fees	\$743,060
IESW assessment service	297,858
Community Resilience Fund project	177,376
Grant – IESW	64,488
Advertising	33,650
Interest income	26,460
BMS scholarship contributions	17,271
BMS sponsorship contributions	9,050
Other income	2,415
CSW journal	763
Total revenues	\$1,372,391

## **EXPENDITURES**

Salaries and related benefits	666,702
FTSW assessment fees	84,770
Travel	84,604
Website	61,087
Contracted government relations services	51,039
Rent	47,315
Fees to other organizations	45,045
Professional fees	44,056
Community Resilience Fund project	37,180
Office	35,350
Continuing education – webinars	21,875
BMS scholarships	17,271
Promotional expense (NSWM)	12,465
Strengthening the Profession	11,418
Translation	11,344
Telephone and utilities	9,836
BMS sponsorships	9,050
Insurance	5,685
Amortization	3,295
Continuing education fund	2,885
Closed captions and simultaneous translations	2,851
IESW salaries and benefits	—
EDIB initiatives	—
Total expenditures	\$1,265,123
Excess of revenues over expenditures before other item	\$107,268
Project fund expenditures	60,944
Excess of revenues over expenditures	\$46,324



**ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DES TRAVAILLEUSES ET  
TRAVAILLEURS SOCIAUX**

**Ottawa, Ontario**

**613.729.6668**

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**[www.casw-acts.ca](http://www.casw-acts.ca)**

