



January 2013

CASW Reporter

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Strengthening and Promoting the Profession

2013 National Social Work Month (NSWM)

The CASW federation adopted the theme 'Social Workers Defending Social Programs for a Stronger Canada' as for NSWM 2013. [Click here](#) to access a downloadable NSMM poster and remember to check your [provincial/territorial social work organization](#) for NSWM celebrations specific to your area.

Watch out in March for the launch of a CASW national on-line advocacy campaign that will draw attention to the Social Determinants of Health and provide recommendations on how the provincial, territorial and federal governments can better work together towards accountability and social equity for all Canadians. CASW will be inviting the general public to join social workers from across Canada in defending social programs for a stronger Canada.

National Educational Webcast –*Mark your Calendars and Sign Up!*

CASW is pleased to invite all members of [CASW partner organizations](#) and individual affiliate members of CASW to participate in a National Educational Webcast that will serve inform and support your practice.

Topic: "Social Work Practice in a Digital and Electronic World: Ethical and Risk-management Challenges"

Presenter: Frederic G. Reamer, Ph.D

When: March 28, 2013

Time: 1:00pm to 2:00pm (EST)

Registration: To register for the webcast, please [click here](#) or visit (http://www.snwebcastcenter.com/custom_events/casw-20130328/site/index) and follow the step-by-step instructions.

Presentation Synopsis:

This webcast will explore novel and emerging ethical issues arising out of social workers' growing use of electronic interventions and communications, digital technology, and social media. The presentation will examine ethical issues related to social workers' use of social networking sites, e-therapy, chat rooms, moderated forums, Web-based psychoeducation, self-guided Web-based intervention, video conferencing, telephone therapy, avatar therapy, expert systems, email exchanges, text messages, and client blogs. The webcast will focus on key ethical issues related to privacy, confidentiality, privileged communication, informed consent, boundaries, and documentation, among others. CASW is exceptionally thankful that Dr. Reamer has chosen to make available his depth of knowledge and expertise in these areas to the members of CASW partner organizations and individual affiliate members of CASW.

Presenter: Frederic G. Reamer, Ph.D

Frederic G. Reamer is Professor in the graduate program of the School of Social Work, Rhode Island College, where he has been on the faculty since 1983. Dr. Reamer has lectured extensively nationally and internationally on the subjects of professional ethics and professional malpractice and liability. He has published 19 books and more than 100 journal articles and book chapters. His research and teaching have addressed a wide range of human service issues, including mental health, health care, criminal justice, public welfare, and professional ethics. Dr. Reamer chaired the national task force that wrote the current *Code of Ethics* adopted by the National Association of Social Workers. Dr. Reamer has also received numerous awards, most notably the "Distinguished Contributions to Social Work Education" award from the Council on Social Work Education (1995) and Presidential Award from the National Association of Social Workers (1997).

Employment - Looking for a new opportunity?

- ❖ [Director, Aboriginal and Multicultural](#) Initiatives – City of Edmonton
- ❖ [Executive Director](#) – Saskatchewan Association of Social Workers

In case you missed it.....Medical Expense Tax Credit

As of September 26, 2012, Registered Social Workers (RSW) will be authorized as 'medical practitioners' under the Income Tax Act for the purpose of claiming medical expenses on income tax returns. All Private Practitioners should be including the *Registration Number* assigned to you by your respective provincial social work regulatory bodies on all receipts given to clients. Visit www.cra.gc.ca/medical to learn more.

CASW President Awarded Diamond Jubilee Medal

CASW President Morel Caissie was awarded a [Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal](#) for his dedicated service to the social work profession. [Click here](#) to read more.

Pursuit of Social Justice

Joint Statement in Support of the Aspirations of Indigenous Peoples

[Click here](#) to read the joint statement issued by CASW and the Canadian Association for Social Work Education (CASWE) calling on Canadian citizens to join with Indigenous peoples in advocating for laws, policies and practices that end colonialism.

Income Inequality in Canada

Given that all political parties supported to better understand the growing income inequality by passing Motion M-315, CASW wrote the Standing Committee on Finance to dedicate adequate time this session to hear the views of Canadians. [Click here](#) to read more.

It's time for a national housing strategy: Bill C-400

Join the Dignity for All Campaign in calling for a national housing strategy. [Bill C-400](#) is a private member's bill currently before Parliament that addresses the crisis of homelessness and inadequate housing in Canada. It calls for leadership on the development of a national housing strategy using a human rights framework. [Click here](#) to learn more and send a letter to your MP in support of a national housing strategy.

Nominations Open for the Champions of Mental Health Awards

The Canadian Alliance on Mental Illness and Mental Health, of which CASW is an active partner, has officially opened nominations for the *Champions of Mental Health Awards* for 2013. To nominate a Champion, please visit camimh.ca for details. Submissions will be accepted until March 1st, 2013 in several categories including private sector; public sector; research; community (individual), and; community (organization).

CASW Urges the Implementation of Criminal Justice Recommendations

CASW wrote the Prime Minister encouraging the Government of Canada to examine and review current practices in how the criminal justice system deals with inmates who suffer from mental illness. [Click here](#) to read more.

Relevant Resources

Abstract Call for Queer Scholarship

Social work students, social workers, and field instructors interested in submitting abstracts in the area of queer scholarship for a new UBC Press book called *Queering Social Work Education* contact susan.hillock@ubc.ca before March 1, 2013.

UNICEF UK

Published "The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child: a study of legal implementation in 12 countries", which looks in countries beyond the UK (Canada included) in order to compile evidence of the most effective and impactful ways of embedding children's rights into domestic law. The report is available [here](#).

National Standard on Psychological Health and Safety in the Workplace

The Mental Health Commission of Canada (MHCC) has championed the development of a national standard on Psychological Health and Safety in the Workplace. It is a voluntary standard intended to provide systematic guidelines for Canadian employers that will enable them to develop and continuously improve psychologically safe and healthy work environments for their employees. [Click here](#) to learn more.