



March 2012

## CASW Reporter

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### Strengthening and Promoting the Profession

#### **National Social Work Month Celebrations – Michael Ungar Webcast Recording Available**

CASW congratulates social workers from across Canada for a successful NSWM 2012 with celebrations happening on different weeks and different regions all with the same goal promoting our proud profession. If you missed out on the inspiring CASW webcast on resiliency by Michael Ungar, [click here](#) to access a recording of the webcast.

The NSWM [Distinguished Service Awards](#) were also presented throughout the month. Biographies of the winners and further information about NSWM will be published in the Spring edition the CASW Bulletin.

#### **Farewells and Welcomes to CASW**

CASW bids farewell to Denis Leblanc as NBASW representative to the CASW Editorial Board and to both Wanda Miller (SASW) and Tracy MacPherson (ASWNC) to the CASW Health Interest Group. CASW welcomes Dana Jennejohn as the new representative to CASW Health Interest Group from the ASWNC.

#### **Free legal Consultations - CASW Professional Liability Insurance Program**

Did you know that if you participate in the [CASW Professional Liability Insurance Program](#), you are automatically eligible to take advantage of the free legal consultation toll free line. Contact Aon at 1-800-951-CASW and you will be provided with a 1-888-toll free line which will connect you with the law firm of Bell, Temple. Your confidential call will be limited to 30 minutes.

## Pursuit of Social Justice

### **A Call to Action - Canada Social Transfer**

CASW recently released comprehensive report on the Canadian Social Transfer aimed at bringing attention to the lack of accountability inherent in its receipt and delivery. Entitled *Canada Social Transfer Project - Accountability Matters*, the Report outlines recommendations on renewing accountability for the billions transferred annually from the federal to provincial governments in support of social services, childcare and post-secondary education.

Now CASW needs your help to make the Canada Social Transfer a priority!

CASW encourages social workers and all Canadians to make the renewal of accountability to the Canadian Social Transfer a priority for the Council of the Federation and by extension, the provincial and territorial Ministers Responsible for Social Services and their federal counterparts.

Click here to learn more about the Canada Social Transfer or to send a letter to your Premier and Minister responsible for Social Services to let them know ***Accountability Matters***.

### **CASW endorsed NWAC request to UN CEDAW for Inquiry**

CASW endorsed the Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC) appeal to the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (UN CEDAW) to move forward with their request to the Government of Canada for permission to conduct an inquiry into the national tragedy of missing and murdered Aboriginal women and girls as expeditiously as possible. Click here to access CASW's own letter of support on this important national issue.

### **PTSD Report to Government of Canada**

The Mood Disorders Society of Canada (MDSC) issued a comprehensive new Report to the Government of Canada on Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), which calls for a new national strategy to overhaul the way the disorder is handled in the Canadian healthcare system. Entitled Out of Sight, Not Out of Mind, the Report aims to improve access to expert diagnostic and treatment care for PTSD sufferers and their families, while eroding the social stigma that surrounds the disorder. CASW issued a letter of support echoing the call for a new national PTSD strategy.

### **Bill C-10, the federal Safe Streets and Communities Act, Passes**

Despite overwhelming opposition, the Harper Government passed Bill C-10 within the 100 days as promised. CASW voiced its disappointment on the passing of C-10. Click here to read more.

### **Federal Budget 2012**

The Government of Canada delivered an austerity budget on March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2012 to which CASW immediately responded. Click here to review CASW's response.

## International

### **New Website - International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW)**

IFSW has launched a new website to support their global agenda of advancing social justice, human rights and social development through the promotion of social work, best practice models and the facilitation of international cooperation. As a member organization of IFSW, CASW encourages all social workers to take a moment to review the [90 member organizations](#) that support the mission and purpose of IFSW. [Click here](#) to access the new IFSW website.

### **2012 World Social Work Day (WSWD)**

CASW joined the global social work community in celebration of [WSWD on March 20, 2012](#). For [WSWD 2012](#), CASW focussed on the Global Agenda drafted, with input from global social work community, by IFSW and presented to the United Nations on United Nations Social Work Day (March 26, 2012). [Click here](#) to review the IFSW Global Agenda in full.

### **International Women's Day**

CASW recognized International Women's Day 2012 (March 8) by commending the Government of Canada for endorsing [United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#) and calling for commitment to a national strategy to address the inequality for Aboriginal women in Canada. [Click here](#) to read more.

## Relevant Resources

### **Not Myself Today campaign - Partners for Mental Health**

For the month of April, Partners for Mental Health have launched the 'Not Myself Today' campaign across Canada that is aimed at transforming the way Canadians of all ages think about, and act towards people living with a mental health problem or illness. Visit [www.notmyselftoday.ca](http://www.notmyselftoday.ca) to learn more about this important campaign and take the 'Pledge of Support.'

### **For the Next Seven Generations**

In 2004, thirteen Indigenous Grandmothers from all four corners, moved by their concern for our planet, came together at a historic gathering, where they decided to form an alliance: The International Council of Thirteen Indigenous Grandmothers. Four years in-the-making the Next 7 Generations follows what happens when these wise women unite. Facing a world in crisis, they share with us their visions of healing and a call for change now, before it's too late. This film documents their unparalleled journey and timely perspectives on a timeless wisdom. [Click here](#) to learn more.

**Kids Have Stress Too!®**

Ideas, Tips and Strategies for Parents of Preschoolers. [Click here](#) to access a booklet on this program championed by the Psychology Foundation of Canada.

**Work It! – A game about work, life and balance.**

**Work It!** The Canadian Labour congress developed this game as a way to start a conversation about the challenges women face in balancing work and family life – from finding child care to securing safe housing, to dealing with a stressful workplace. [Click here](#) to learn more and play the game!

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