



May 2012

## CASW Reporter

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### Pursuit of Social Justice

#### **CASW 'Accountability Matters' Campaign – Maintaining the Momentum**

Help CASW make equity in social services across Canada a priority for the Premiers when they next meet in July by [sending a letter](#) to your Premier and Minister responsible for Social Services to let them know 'Accountability Matters.'

[Click here to help make the Canada Social Transfer a priority for your Premier!](#)

#### **Canada's First National Mental Health Strategy**

As an active member of the [Canadian Alliance for Mental Illness and Mental Health](#), that has been advocating for a national mental health strategy for the past ten years, CASW was proud to be in attendance when the Mental Health Commission of Canada released [Changing Directions, Changing Lives](#), the first national mental health strategy for Canada on May 8, 2012. Its purpose is to help improve mental health and well-being for all people living in Canada and to create a mental health system that can truly meet the needs of people of all ages living with mental health problems and illnesses and their families. Watch out in the report for CASW's own champion of mental health, Elaine Campbell (NSASW), whose contributions, on behalf of CASW, helped shape the final report. CASW now, through CAMIMH, will turn its attention and energies to seeing the report's recommendations implemented. [Click here](#) to read CASW's release on the strategy.

#### **CASW Joins Call to Rescind Planned Cancellation of Health Benefits to Refugee Claimants**

CASW joined a group of eight national health organizations who represent various health practitioners in sending a joint letter to the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration asking the Minister to rescind the planned cancellation of supplemental health benefits to refugee claimants under the Interim Federal Health Program. The cancellation of these health benefits is scheduled to occur June 30, 2012. [Click here](#) to read further.

## Strengthening and Promoting the Profession

### **AON/CASW Scholarship and Sponsorships – Member Benefit**

Each year CASW makes available Scholarships and Sponsorships, thanks to the generosity of AON Reed Stenhouse, Insurance Brokers for the CASW Insurance Programs to social workers affiliated to CASW. The following social workers each received \$1000 to participate in opportunities that promote the profession and/or advance issues of social justice:

#### AON/CASW Scholarship:

- James Gouthro (NSASW) to attend 'Out and Equal Workplace Summit.'

#### AON/CASW Sponsorships

The following social workers will be attending the [2012 Joint World Conference on Social Work Social Development: Action and Impact:](#)

- Sandra Barton (NBASW)
- Laura Evans (BCASW)
- David Flomo, (Individual Affiliate Member- Alberta)
- Rina Arseneault (NBASW)

### **CASW President Promotes Profession**

Get to know CASW President Morel Caissie by watching him promote the profession in an interview with Rogers in Ottawa. [Click here](#) to access this interview (French) during National Social Work Month.

### **CASW Webcast Recording Available – Michael Ungar**

If you missed out on the inspiring CASW webcast on resiliency by Michael Ungar, [click here](#) to access a recording of the webcast.

## Relevant Resources

### **Save the dates! Free Webinar Series**

CWLC and UNICEF Canada have launched an exciting webinar series to inform and discuss the value of the United Nations Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children in child welfare policy and practice. To register for this free webinar series, please [click here](#). If you are unable to access the link or have any questions, please contact Sharon George at [sharon@cwlc.ca](mailto:sharon@cwlc.ca)

### **Our Dreams Matter too – Walk for Culturally Based Equity for First Nations Children**

First Nations children get less funding for services like education, health and child welfare than all other children enjoy. Consider joining this walk is to show how many people support First Nations children receiving the same opportunity to succeed as all other children in ways that respect their cultures and languages. [Click here](#) to learn more and participate.

**Food Secure Canada**

Food Secure Canada is a national voice for the food security movement in Canada. It is a nonprofit organization with individual and organization members across Canada. The organization is based in three interlocking commitments to: *Zero Hunger, Healthy and Safe Food, and A Sustainable Food System*. [Click here](#) to learn more and join the movement.

**National Standard of Canada for Psychological Health and Safety in the Workplace**

The Mental Health Commission of Canada has developed an *Action Guide* that provides a series of steps and 24 actions accessible to all Canadian employers regardless of size, sector or location. The *Action Guide* is mainly intended for employers and human resources personnel considering programs and policies to improve psychological health in their organization. [Click here](#) to access the Action Guide.

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