

# COLLEGE CONVERSATION

## REPORT FROM THE REGISTRAR

Since assuming the role of College Registrar in October of last year, I have had the opportunity to learn much about Professional Regulation in British Columbia and have had the fortune of working with excellent Board members and staff.

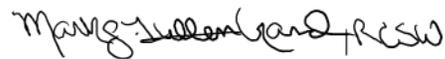


The past year has brought both challenges and opportunities. Just after the beginning of the year, 2020, we began to hear about Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19). By mid-March the College staff began implementing social distancing and remote work practices. College staff have done an amazing job of continuing the work of the College, while implementing measures to remain healthy.

Amidst the challenges of COVID-19, opportunities for improvement continued to be pursued by the College. These opportunities include modernizing the College's technology and data management systems, welcoming new staff to the team and in modernizing regulation by engaging in a rigorous review and revision of bylaws, policy and procedure.

An opportunity I encourage BC Registered Social Workers to consider is running for Board membership. Information about the 2020 Board election can be found in this newsletter.

I look forward to navigating the challenges and opportunities of this next year.



Mark Hillenbrand, MSW, RCSW  
Registrar – CEO  
BC College of Social Workers

“The past year has brought both challenges and opportunities.”

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## IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON CPD

In light of COVID-19 there has been a change in the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) requirement for the current 2020 CPD cycle that is coming due on October 31, 2020. Under normal circumstances, all practicing registrants of the College are required to report a minimum of 40 hours of CPD activities each year from at least three of the six categories of CPD activities listed below (the following table and more details of different categories of activity are available at <https://www.bccsw.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/CPD-Categories-of-Activities-Jan-2015.pdf>).

Category of CPD Activity	Maximum Qualifying Hours
Self-directed	15 hours
Work-based	15 hours
Professional	15 hours
Formal/Educational	15 hours
Other	15 hours
Degree/Diploma/Licensure Exam	40 hours

As indicated see above, the maximum qualifying hours for five of the six categories of activity have been set at 15, meaning that registrants will only receive credit for 15 hours even if they claim more than 15 hours in one of those five categories. Based on this rule, registrants have been required to record 40 hours of CPD using activities from at least three different categories (unless they have completed a degree, diploma, or licensure exam).

However, for the current 2020 CPD cycle, the College has decided to set the maximum qualifying hours at 40 for **all categories of activity**. This change in the rule will allow registrants to be credited for up to 40 hours in any of the six categories, meaning they will be able to meet the yearly 40-hour requirement using activities from as little as one category.

This decision to provide registrants with more flexibility in choosing types of CPD activities is due to the challenge in completing activities in categories involving face-to-face interactions such as Work-based, Professional and Formal/Educational. The College understands that many trainings, seminars and conferences have been cancelled due to COVID-19 physical distancing and anticipates that registrants have taken/will be taking on more activities in the Self-directed category such as independent learning or attending webinars. Therefore, this change in the maximum qualifying hours will alleviate the burden for registrants having difficulty accumulating CPD hours in categories other than the Self-directed category.

This change only applies to categories of activity, the requirement remains that a minimum of three hours of CPD activity be related to ethical conduct.

Please note that this change in the rule applies to the current 2020 CPD cycle only. The College will continue to monitor the development of the COVID-19 situation and the fast-changing professional environment to assess whether this change needs to be maintained for the future CPD cycles.

For further information contact the College at [info@bccsw.ca](mailto:info@bccsw.ca).

## **BOARD ELECTION 2020**

The BC College of Social Workers holds elections for new Board members in the fall of each year. In accordance with College Bylaws, this Notice of Election is being distributed to all registrants 90 days prior to the election date in order that all eligible voters and potential candidates be informed of the election process and relevant timelines. Full details about the election are available on the College's website and in the College Bylaws.

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

Call for nominations/Notice of election	August 15, 2020
Nominations close	September 15, 2020
Ballots delivered to registrants	October 15, 2020
Deadline to submit paper ballots	November 15, 2020
Last day for election vote / Election close	November 30, 2020
Results announced	December 15, 2020

### **NOMINATIONS**

As of August 15, 2020, BCCSW is accepting nominations for four vacant positions on the College's Board. Only registrants in the Full or Clinical Classes of registration with the College may nominate or be nominated; registrants may nominate up to two other registrants. Nominees must be nominated and must consent to the nomination. All nominees must declare that they will abide by the Act and election procedures to be eligible. Nomination and Nomination Consent forms must be received by mail, or scan/email by September 15, 2020. Both forms are available online at <https://bccsw.ca/about-us/board/election/>

### **ELECTIONS**

Balloting will begin on October 15, 2020 and end on November 15, 2020. The four persons with the most votes will each be elected to a two-year term beginning January 2021. The elected candidates must swear the Oath of Office no more than 45 days after the election date.

For Registrants with email accounts, voting will take place over a secure website. Paper ballots will be mailed to registrants who do not have email addresses listed with the College.

*Please ensure that you provide the College with an up to date email account if you have one.*

### **BC CROWN AGENCIES AND BOARDS RESOURCE OFFICE (CABRO) TRAINING RESOURCES**

It is recommended that registrants interested in serving as Board member familiarize themselves with information provided by CABRO that outlines the roles and responsibilities of Board members. CABRO's website is: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/organizational-structure/ministries-organizations/central-government-agencies/crown-agencies-and-board-resourcing-office> and specific documents can be found on BCCSW website at <https://bccsw.ca/about-us/board/election/>

# INTRODUCING...

The BCCSW team has had the pleasure of welcoming two new faces to the organization.

## ALANA PRASHAD

Director of Professional Practice

BCCSW welcomes Alana Prashad as Director of Professional Practice. A registered social worker with the College since 2008, Alana brings over 15 years of healthcare leadership experience with particular focus on professional practice, policy and statutory compliance.



An experienced educator and presenter, Alana currently is a doctoral student at UBC's Department of Educational Studies in Educational Leadership and Policy.

She was invited recently to present her research on moral distress at UNESCO's 14<sup>th</sup> World Conference on Bioethics, Medical Ethics & Health Law.

Alana authored the re:act Adult Protection Worker Curriculum which was adopted by all health authorities and cited as best practice by the Ministry of Advanced Education's BCcampus. Alana also co-authored the curriculum's program evaluation in the *Journal of Elder Abuse and Neglect*.

She earned her BSW with a Minor in Public Administration from Ryerson University and her MSW from the University of Toronto.

Alana is excited to join the College as it works towards modernization.

She and her husband have lived in North Vancouver for over 20 years. When time permits you will find them exploring the North Shore mountains with their seven-year old son. You can reach Alana at [alana.prashad@bccsw.ca](mailto:alana.prashad@bccsw.ca).

## CHERYL NAHU

Inquiry Assistant



BCCSW welcomes Cheryl Nahu as Inquiry Assistant in the Complaints department.

As a former career litigation paralegal focused mostly on medical negligence

and personal injury cases, Cheryl has also had a long career which includes criminal and family work focus, the latter of which Cheryl believes to have best prepared her for this new role with the College.

An interesting fact that Cheryl would like to note is that she is half-Hawaiian, or hapa kanaka as her people would call her, although this you would not immediately guess on first glance.

Cheryl is an avid reader with the title of bookworm or book nerd having been thrown around by those that know her well.

Pictured here with Cheryl, is her now grown up son, who has recently moved out of home.

Cheryl is thankful for the opportunity to make her introduction and feels she has landed in the luckiest of places, i.e., the College.

## BOARD

**Chair** – James (Jim) Campbell, RCSW

**Vice Chair** – Cheney Campbell, Public Member

### **Social Work Members**

Selena Bateman, RSW

Sonia Andhi Bilkhu, RSW

Ellice Daniel, RSW

Connie Kaweesi, RCSW

Christina Rodrigues, RSW

Jenny Morgan, RSW

Sandra Wilson, RSW

### **Public Members:**

Denese Espeut-Post

Natalie Shorten

## STAFF

### **Registrar & CEO**

Mark Hillenbrand, MSW, RCSW

### **Director of Professional Practice**

Alana Prashad, MSW, RCSW

### **Practice Consultant**

Sheila Begg, MSW, RSW

### **Manager, Registration Services**

Hoon Kim, BMath, BBA, JD

### **Junior Counsel - Investigator**

Madelaine Kirk, BSc, JD

### **Inquiry Assistant**

Cheryl Nahu

### **Executive Assistant**

Tracy Singh, BA Candidate

### **Administrative Assistant**

Rosa Sackey, BA

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