



e-CONNECTION

e-CONNECTION is an electronic version of the NSASW Newsletter CONNECTION. It is produced on a regular basis in between the regular issues of CONNECTION and provides up-to-date news and opinion about social work in Nova Scotia. e-CONNECTION and the NSASW newsletter CONNECTION are both produced by the NSASW Editorial Board and the views expressed are those of the Nova Scotia Association of Social Workers.

Convention Planning



The NSASW Convention and Annual General Meeting will be held at the Wandlyn Inn, Amherst, NS on May 3 and 4, 2007. Check out the NSASW Website for more information and registration form. Deadline to register is April 25th.

Convention Planning

NSASW History Project



Jane Wisdom

It is fascinating to read about the early work and accomplishments of the pioneers in our profession. This project is being researched so that members of the profession and the public of today can appreciate the contributions that were made to establish and to develop the profession in Nova Scotia. Some made personal sacrifices and others struggled to change the prevailing public attitudes and social policies of the times that often resisted.

Our research will take us from the early days of the Canadian Association of Social Workers (CASW). Development of professional associations were commonly formed at the local or provincial level which then led to the formations of national ones. In the case of the NSASW, it was the national organization, the CASW, which developed first and then led to the formation of the provincial association. We will follow the roots of the evolution of the NSASW from these beginnings to the present day.

Go to the NSASW Webpage (www.nsasw.org) for progress on the collection of historical material to date.

Health Interest Group



The Health Interest Group is in need of some additional members. Would you consider joining us? The Group usually meets once a month (has usually been a Tues. from 4:30 till 6 pm or so) at the NSASW office. Members can link by phone. We have 35 on our Health Interest Group email list; most of those wish to receive information about what is happening with the group, but do not plan to attend meetings. We are looking for some additional members who can attend meetings in order to make the group viable. Marilyn Macdonald chairs the group; she also is the NSASW representative on the CASW Health Interest Group. The group fulfills a valuable role - and could do so more effectively with more members! There are lots of interesting issues to be dealt with. From time to time there are requests for input on health related matters from CASW; sometimes there are local or provincial issues about which our association wishes input from knowledgeable members, or the association looks to the group to help to identify specific NSASW members to represent us on a particular inter-disciplinary initiative. Or members may bring forward concerns they would like NSASW to address by making submissions to government or by meeting with government officials. The group also serves as a networking and educational opportunity for those involved and as a means of keeping NSASW aware of current issues in health care social work. The Health Interest Group has its next meeting on Tues., May 15th at 4:30 pm at the association office.

Job Market



Jobs, Jobs, Jobs

This page lists social work job postings that have been sent to the NSASW office with a request to post them on the Association's listserv. They are also being posted here in a continuous manner with the latest posting first so that members can see all current and past postings.

1. Social Worker (posted - April 10, 2007) Temporary Part-Time (0.5 FTE) for 1 year Mental Health and Addictions Program, CHOICES POSITION SUMMARY: Reporting to the Program Manager and working closely with the Team Leader, Out-Client Services, the Social Worker is part of a multidisciplinary team responsible for the clinical assessment and the delivery of individual, family, and group counseling to clients of CHOICES and their families. CHOICES is a treatment program for Nova Scotians between the ages of 13 and 19 who are harmfully involved with chemical substances and/or gambling. Out-Client Services works primarily with clients/families living in or near the Halifax Regional Municipality, other health, education and social service agencies, and the staff of the other two CHOICES teams, Day Program and Residence. CHOICES addresses many areas of biopsychosocial functioning, including social, spiritual, and physical health, the reduction of harms associated with substance use and gambling, and concurrent emotional and mental health problems.
2. Phoenix Youth Programs (posted - April 5, 2007) Phoenix Youth Programs (Phoenix) is a non-profit, community based organization located in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Phoenix offers at-risk and homeless youth, primarily between the ages of 16 - 24, the opportunity to break the cycle of homelessness and find a path from the street. For information about our programs, please visit our website at www.phoenixyouth.ca. We are currently accepting applications for Senior Director of Programming. Responsibilities:

As a member of the executive management team, the Senior Director of Programming has key leadership responsibilities across our seven programs. The successful candidate will provide support to the Executive Director and play a key role in the development of new initiatives, project management and budgetary activities. The successful candidate will be accountable for and provide supervision for several service delivery programs (Phoenix Centre for Youth (drop-in center), Phoenix Learning and Employment Centre, Phoenix Prevention Program), the Volunteer and Student Placement Programs and Health Services. The successful candidate will also take a lead role in human resources management and policy development.

The Evolution of CONNECTION



The NSASW has had a newsletter since 1966, three years after the organization was established by legislation in 1963. It was not long before the members realized that a major function of the organization would be to keep the membership informed. An obvious way to do this was the establishment of a newsletter.

The NSASW Newsletter was published almost continuously from 1966 as the Newsletter but had a name change in 1985 to be known as CONNECTION. Over the past 20 years it has been the instrument of not only news about the profession and member's accomplishments, but also an organ for members to present practice methods and issues as well as scholarly papers for peer review by colleagues.

As new licensure legislation was passed in 1993, the membership almost tripled meaning that CONNECTION became more expensive to produce. By the beginning of the new decade the Association began looking for ways to reduce expenditures but still provide a venue for members to be kept informed about their profession. Therefore, in 2004 CONNECTION was produced by posting it on the Association's webpage where members could read it or print it off from their computers. Although not the same as receiving a nice glossy publication in the mail, it served the purpose of providing an instrument for members to express themselves as well as receive information about their profession.

To continue the tradition of CONNECTION, this year it was decided by the Editorial Board to expand its function by arranging CONNECTION in three formats: (a) continue the production of a printed magazine; (b) posting it on the Association's webpage; and (c) creating a new on-line entity, e-CONNECTION. The printed magazine format will be

reserved for a membership mail out and occur perhaps once per year. This will be professional grade quality. The webpage format will occur perhaps quarterly and the e-CONNECTION format will occur as frequently as possible according to resources available. All will be accessible from the Association's webpage.

CONNECTION has come a long way since the first mimeographed copies in 1966, but with the membership numbers the association has today (1,600) it has become imperative to keep everyone informed and knowledgeable about their profession and its important place in today's society.

NSASW Newsletter

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