

Promoting National Social Work Week

Celebrating the helping profession

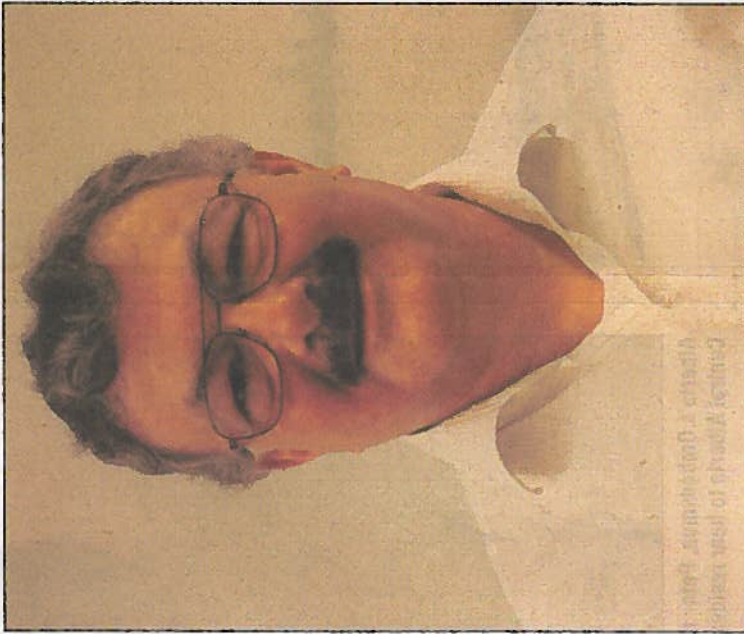
LAURA BUTTON
EDITOR

David Brady is pleased to be participating in National Social Work Week. Brady is the area coordinator for the Alberta College of Social Workers, the authority that registers social workers in the province.

The week, from March 2 through 8, will celebrate and promote the profession.

He estimates between 40 and 45 registered social workers are employed within Clearwater County.

"They work in a wide variety of public agencies and private practice," says Brady, including the provincial government, community agencies like victim services and parenting support services, to schools and hospitals, to



David Brady has enjoyed a long career in social work, and hopes National Social Work Week can help encourage more young people to enter the field.
LAURA BUTTON | THE MOUNTAINEER

name a few. Brady says social workers often target the vulnerable groups in society, and assist them with various life skills, be that finding employment, parenting, or access to other existing social supports.

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS Social Workers provide assistance to individuals, families and groups during times of special need, and:

WHEREAS the Alberta College of social workers is committed to the ongoing professional development of its members, and

WHEREAS special activities will raise awareness of the significant role social workers play in the healthy development of our Community;

THEREFORE, I MAYOR FRED NASH, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM THAT MARCH 2ND to MARCH 8TH, 2014 "SOCIAL WORK WEEK" in recognition of professional Registered Social Workers.

DATED THIS 2ND DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2014.

[Signature]
Mayor of the
Town of Rocky Mountain House

Mayor Fred Nash has declared the Town's support behind National Social Work Week. SUBMITTED

"It's helping people improve their life, however they want to. We don't tell them what to do, we help them achieve their goals." Social workers who work with geriatrics, mental health patients, people with disabilities

or children and families tend to share a common philosophy; that is, building a social support network. Brady explains it using a simple children's toy to illustrate how we are all connected.

"It's like a mobile. If I pull on one part of the mobile, I affect it all." Rocky Mountain House mayor Fred Nash signed a proclamation declaring Social Work Week in town.

As part of the week, Brady hopes to encourage students towards a career in social work.

"Typically, someone who wants to help other people is a strong value to start with," says Brady, describing an ideal candidate for the field. "The joy of giving is a strong characteristic that will carry them through a career with organizations that help other people.

"Encouragement is the most important thing. Having someone to believe in you - that's an amazing gift to give someone."