



Dear Fellow Social Workers,

I humbly stand before you and ask for your support as I am running for a seat on the ACSW Council.

Please do allow me to share with you my background and experience. I am a native Albertan and a lifelong resident of our glorious province. After graduating high school I enrolled at the University of Calgary where I completed a Bachelor of Education degree. I worked as a Teacher for seven years. I enjoyed being with the kids but...something was missing...I wanted to do more, I wanted to be an agent for social change, and I wanted to help challenge the oppressions in society. I switched gears and against the advice of family and friends decided to pursue a career in Social Work. A decision that I have NEVER regretted! I completed a Bachelor of Social Work from Dalhousie University. This was soon followed by a Master of Social Work from the University of Windsor.

I have been a Social Worker and a member of the ACSW for nine years. In fact, I hold dual registrations. In addition to being an RSW I am one of the very few Social Workers in Alberta who is also a Designated Capacity Assessor (DCA). I have been a Social Worker with Alberta Health Services for the past nine years in hospital based positions. During this time I have held a variety of leadership roles. I served a term as the Health Sciences Association of Alberta (HSAA) site representative for Social Workers on the local executive unit at the Peter Lougheed Centre. I have also previously served as a member of the Calgary Zone Social Work Professional Practice Council with Alberta Health Services. I am currently representing ACSW (and Canada) internationally through my work as an Item Writer with the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB). The ASWB is an international organization composed of Social Work regulators from the following jurisdictions: all provinces in Canada, all states in the USA, Washington DC, Puerto Rico, Guam, US Virgin Islands and the North Mariana Islands. In this role I am helping to ensure the Canadian perspective is present and represented as ASWB, through the Social Work licensing examinations, largely determines the core competencies that Social Workers must know to practice in North America.

If elected to ACSW Council an important priority of mine will be to do some public outreach and help educate the public and raise the profile of Social Workers in the Alberta public consciousness. The public I feel is often unaware of the many varied and complex roles that Social Workers perform in multiple practice settings. We don't "just decide who gets welfare". It's time to teach the public about what Social Workers do.

I thank you all for your consideration of my candidacy.

In fellowship,

Cardinal Fomradas MSW, RSW, DCA

P.S. "ALWAYS be kind to everyone. It is ALWAYS possible". – The Dalai Lama