



My name is Timothy Wild, MA, MSW, RSW and I am currently a Team Lead for the Community Social Workers at The City of Calgary. Prior to this I worked in Social Policy and Planning as an Issue Strategist on poverty and homelessness. I also have practice experience in the areas of housing, mental health, community development, homelessness, community organizing, and advocacy.

In terms of involvement with the ACSW I have:

- served four terms on Council,
- worked on numerous Council committees, including Finance, Nominations and Recruitment, and Social Action / Social Justice,
- collaborated with ACSW staff to develop and implement the *Influencing social policy* process and agenda, which serves as a framework to guide our macro-level advocacy initiatives.

Outside of Council, I am involved with Calgary Social Workers for Social Justice, write a monthly column on social issues for *Alberta Street News*, and have served as a board member for a number of organizations supporting a variety of initiatives including international development, the rights of workers and employees, and community health.

If re-elected to Council, my focus would be on member engagement and advocacy / social justice. *The Health Professions Act* clearly indicates that protection of the public is a critical dimension of a regulated profession. Part of this legislated mandate explicitly involves ensuring that social policy and programs adequately support people. As a practicing social worker, however, I see the tragic consequences of inadequate policy in terms of food insecurity, income and wealth inequality, unaffordable housing, and other manifestations of social, cultural and economic marginalization. This is the result of political choices...which can be changed.

All too often, however, “agency mandate” limits the ability to advocate for much needed change. Yet, I believe that the ACSW can serve as an advocacy umbrella, and continue to work with individual social workers, local groups and community partners to gather the facts, faces and stories of the people we work with, and use these to strategically press for more humane and transformative social policies. To quote Roy Hattersley, I believe that all Albertans should enjoy “an equal start and an open road”. As social workers, we are uniquely placed to provide an alternative narrative that supports and promotes justice, dignity, opportunity and inclusion.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my candidacy.

Timothy Wild