

Alberta College of Social Workers Annual Awards

Nominations for the awards open at the end of November each year. This information will be shared in the ACSW Advocate, ACSW Mass Emails and on the ACSW Website in the “Honouring our Own” page.

1. Procedure for Nomination

- The administration of nominations will be the responsibility of the Nominations & Recruitment Committee
- A call for nominations will be published annually in the Advocate
- Any member of the ACSW may nominate a member in good standing for any award
- Nominations must be made using the appropriate nominations package
- Nominations must be submitted by the deadline each year for the Nominations & Recruitment Committee review
- The ACSW Office will verify that both nominators and nominees for the award are members in good standing
- The Nominations & Recruitment committee will review the nominees and make recommendations to Council for approval
- The award will be presented to the successful recipient at an Awards ceremony during the ACSW Annual Conference, or as indicated by Council
- The Nominations & Recruitment Committee will facilitate the arrangements for the award ceremony (with the assistance of the ACSW Office)

2. Awards Review Guidelines

Nominations for all awards must include:

- Fully completed nomination form
 - Two RSW nominators in good standing
 - Letter(s) outlining reasons for specific award nomination
- Current resume of nominee
- Relevant supporting documentation

Additional for the Tera Dahl Lang Memorial Award for Wise Indigenous Social Work Practice

- Support Letter/documentation from an Elder or Cultural Knowledge Person (or similar) and/or ability to confirm contents of nomination package with Elder or Cultural Knowledge Person (or similar)

3. John Graham Hutton Memorial for Social Action/Policy

Description	<p>The ACSW established the John Graham Hutton Award for Social Action/Policy following his untimely death on December 24, 1990. John Hutton had worked tirelessly for ACSW, serving on many committees, including Council and as President from 1984 - 1985. At the time of his death, John was a full time instructor with the Social Work Program at the Grant MacEwan Community College, where he had taught since 1978. John was a champion of social justice, advocating endlessly for clients, students and the profession. He had specific expertise in social policy, community practice and direct practice, always encouraging the profession to enhance social and political environments. John had particular interest in working with seniors and aboriginal peoples and students. John was a founding board member of Operation Friendship and Pioneer Place and had been instrumental in the development and delivery of several off-campus social work diploma programs to aboriginal students in their home communities. At the time of his death he was in the process of completing his dissertation/Doctorate in Social Work from Columbia University. One way in which John's spirit and vision of our profession lives on is through this award.</p> <p>This award is not given lightly. It represents significant impacts in the profession over a significant period of time.</p>
Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nominees must demonstrate outstanding contribution to the profession of social work and the community through advocacy, social action, policy development/analysis (including work completed on behalf of ACSW), program development or political action aimed at enhancing social functioning, service delivery systems and the environments in which we live and work with our clients;• Nominees must be members in good standing with the ACSW;• Nominees' contributions include significant impacts over a significant period of time;• The following key questions are clearly illustrated:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ What was the unmet community need?○ What was the social action/policy?○ What makes the achievements outstanding?○ What was the significant impact on the community?

4. Excellence in Social Work Practice

Description	<p>The ACSW Award for Excellence in Social Work Practice recognizes Registered Social Workers who have exhibited exemplary skills and commitment to the Code of Ethics and mission of the ACSW while engaged in providing direct service to clients.</p> <p>Preference will be given to nominees engaged in providing direct service to clients; however, nominees working in a variety of practice settings will be considered so that, over time, social workers from a variety of practice settings will be recognized.</p>
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<p>Criteria</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nominees must exhibit exemplary knowledge and skills, and commitment to the Code of Ethics, Standards of Practice, and mission of the Alberta College of Social Workers; • Nominees must be members in good standing with the ACSW; • The following key questions are clearly illustrated: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What was the exemplary practice? ○ What examples of commitment to the Code of Ethics & Standards of Practice were demonstrated? ○ What was the significant impact on clients, workplace, or the community?
<p>5. Clinical Social Work Practice</p>	
<p>Description</p>	<p>Clinical Social Work is a profession based on the application of knowledge and theory of “psychosocial development, behavior, psychopathology, unconscious motivation, interpersonal relationships and environment stress.”* It utilizes social work methods to assess, diagnose, and provide psychotherapeutic interventions across the lifespan with individuals, couples, families, and groups. This award is presented to a Registered Social Worker who has exhibited exemplary leadership/skills/commitment to the advancement of clinical social work and continuing excellence in clinical competence, ethical practice, and respect for diversity.</p> <p>*National Institute for Clinical Social Work Advancement (as cited in Handbook of Clinical Social Work Supervision [3rd edition] Carlton E. Munson, PHD p. 9.)</p>
<p>Criteria</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nominees must exhibit exemplary knowledge and skills, and commitment to the Code of Ethics & Standards of Practice; • Nominees must be members in good standing with the ACSW; • Nominees must possess an MSW or equivalent; • The following key questions are clearly illustrated: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What was the significant contribution to the advancement of clinical social work? ○ What examples of commitment to the Code of Ethics & Standards of Practice were demonstrated? ○ What was the significant impact on clients, workplace, or the community?
<p>6. Tera Dahl Lang Memorial Award for Wise Indigenous Social Work Practice</p>	
<p>Description</p>	<p>Wise Indigenous Social Work is a combination of Wise Indigenous Social Work practices and Western Social Work social work methods to provide wholistic services to children, youth, families, communities Nations and/or Settlements that work towards overall healing. This award is presented to a Registered Social Worker who has demonstrated exemplary leadership and commitment to the</p>

	<p>advancement of Indigenous ways of knowing and continuing excellence in Wise Indigenous Social Work practice.</p>
<p>Criteria</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nominees must demonstrate cultural knowledge in their daily practice and a commitment to the Code of Ethics & Standards of Practice; • Nominees must be members in good standing with the ACSW; • Nominees can be either be someone who self identifies as being of Indigenous ancestry or an ally (someone who is not of Indigenous ancestry but has worked with Indigenous populations for a significant period of time) • The following key questions are clearly illustrated: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ How has the nominee demonstrated a combination of Wise Indigenous Practice with Western Social Work practices? ○ What community or population would recognize this individual for their work? ○ How has the nominee helped bring attention to the issues of Wise Indigenous Social Work practice? ○ What was the significant impact to Indigenous people? ○ How does the nominee demonstrate commitment to the Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice? • How has the practice of the nominee demonstrated the ideals of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s Calls to Action and/or the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples?
<p>7. Honourary Social Work Practice</p>	
<p>Description</p>	<p>Honourary memberships may be awarded to a person or group of persons (non-social workers) who have made a significant broad-level contribution to the values and ideals inherent in the profession of social work and who have advanced the goals of the ACSW.</p> <p>One honorary membership per year may be awarded with ACSW Council having discretion to approve more on the recommendation of the Nominations Committee.</p> <p>Honourary memberships will be awarded only when there is a nominee who meets the criteria for selection.</p> <p>Honourary Members will be presented with a framed Honourary Members' Certificate and their name included on the “Honouring Our Own” page of the ACSW website.</p> <p>*Note – This award is intended for contributions impacting at broad/macro level and is not intended for direct service delivery.</p>

<p>Criteria</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nominees demonstrate significant broad-level contribution to the values and ideals of social work and advance the goals of the ACSW; • Nominees must not be a Social Worker; • Nominees’ contributions include significant impacts over a significant period of time; • This recognition is not limited to Albertans; • The following key questions are clearly illustrated: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What was/were the significant contribution(s)? ○ Which values and ideals of social work were involved? ○ Which ACSW goals were advanced?
	<p style="text-align: right;">Approved by ACSW Council - November 30, 2018 Revised December 5, 2018 Approved by ACSW Council – December 7, 2018</p>