



## **PROFILE OF NOMINEE**

**IFSW Position to which you seek nomination** – Regional President, Asia Pacific

**Candidate's Name and Country** - Rose Henderson, Aotearoa New Zealand

### **Social Work Education**

Diploma in Social Work,  
Diploma in Maori,  
Post Graduate Diploma in Social Welfare

### **Professional Affiliations**

Current Vice President, IFSW Asia Pacific (since 2014)  
Life member of Aotearoa New Zealand Association of Social Workers (ANZASW) since 2010.  
Current Board Member of ANZASW.  
Fully registered under the New Zealand Social Workers Registration Board.

### **Professional Experience**

I am employed as the Director of Allied Health in one of NZ's largest mental health services, leading social work and other allied health professions, but currently have been seconded into a Clinical Leadership role for the District health board to lead the Recovery and Wellbeing work of the communities impacted by the most recent major earthquake.

My professional Social Work employment history includes statutory child protection and social welfare work, Womens Health, Mental Health, and Non-governmental agencies including Women's Refuge. The roles I have undertaken include frontline work, service management, professional and clinical leadership, project management, clinical and student supervision, student placement co-ordinator, professional accountability, strategic planning, regional leadership, member of divisional leadership team for mental health services in Canterbury, New Zealand. Over the years I have also supervised many students and social workers and undertaken fieldwork co-ordination roles in my agency. I have served on advisory committees in Tertiary Education Providers and provided guest lectures from time to time. I have also acted as an Expert advisor to the NZ Social Workers Registration Board.

### **National Association Experience**

Honorary National Secretary prior to 2003  
National President ANZASW: 2003 – 2010, 2016  
Board Member 2016 - current  
Panel to review inaugural ANZASW Quality and Innovation Awards – 2015  
Participated on organizing committee for ANZASW 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations – 2012 - 2014

### **Community/Volunteer Experience**

I have served in numerous community and voluntary agencies over the years. The following is a snapshot of the types of activities I have been involved in.

1982 – 1992: Volunteer Inaugural Co-ordinator of Invercargill Womens' Refuge

1989 – 1991: Elected Board member of the Southland Area Health Board

1990 – 1998: Foundation member of the Children and Young Person's Care and Protection Resource Panel, Invercargill

2014 – 2017: Chair of Mental Health Education and Resource Centre Board of Trustees.

**Are you aware of the role and responsibilities attached to the position you wish to have within the IFSW Executive?**

Yes

**If the answer is YES, please respond to the following questions:**

**a) What are the three most important responsibilities towards IFSW:**

1. Contribute to the work of IFSW including the IFSW Action plan, policy development and review and the promotion of the goals of IFSW across the region and the world as designated
  - a. Actively participate in Executive and General Meetings bringing an Asia Pacific perspective at the same time recognizing the overall collective responsibilities of good governance.
  - b. Support the Regional work plan for the Asia Pacific region to strengthen the meaningful promotion of and engagement with IFSW.
  - c. In consultation with the Regional Vice- President, undertake the identified tasks and provide effective linkage between IFSW Executive and Asia Pacific Region on IFSW action plans, policies and priorities and regional issues.
2. Constructively contribute to governance of IFSW.
  - a. Actively contribute to setting the strategic goals and plans, progressing international priorities and maintaining effective communications in a timely and professional manner.
  - b. Accept financial responsibilities as per IFSW budget processes, constructively contributing to the regular revision and ongoing monitoring of the budget and financial position of IFSW.
  - c. Works closely with the Regional Vice-President to support regional activities consistent with the IFSW Constitution, global goals and action plan across our region.
3. Together with the Regional Vice - President, promote membership of IFSW across the Asia Pacific region
  - a. Constructively represent IFSW and promote the benefits of membership.
  - b. Support member countries to meet ethical, professional and financial obligations and responsibilities to IFSW.
  - c. Expand membership of IFSW whenever opportunities arise across region.
  - d. Support succession planning to ensure continued strong leadership and active participation from Asia Pacific region.

**b) What are the three most important responsibilities towards your Region:**

1. Together with the Regional Vice - president, act as an effective link between the region and the IFSW Executive.
  - a. Provide a Communication channel between IFSW and region.
  - b. Respond to inquiries re the region or IFSW as required.
  - c. Represent accurately and professionally IFSW to the region and vice versa.
  - d. Facilitate opportunities to contribute to the Global Agenda work
  
2. Together with the Regional Vice - president, work with member organisations to thrive and develop by contributing to regional plans and related activities.
  - a. Foster collaboration, communication and support between members of the region.
  - b. Continue to strengthen the regional committee with effective and collaborative communication.
  - c. Continue to develop and promote regional work plan in consultation with member countries.
  
3. Together with Regional Vice - president, promote regional forums, conferences, seminars in consultation with Secretary General and IFSW Executive committee.
  - a. Encourage and support member countries to host a regional event
  - b. Provide advice on hosting responsibilities.
  - c. Support planning, delivery and active participation in successful regional events.
  - d. Support succession planning within the leadership of Asia Pacific region
  
- c) What are the three most important responsibilities towards your national association?**
  1. Maintain membership, uphold ethical and professional standards and responsibilities.
  2. Maintain effective link to strengthen the Aotearoa New Zealand co-ordinating committee encouraging their continued active participation in IFSW activities
  3. Encourage national associations to continue to support the development of member countries within IFSW across our region.

**Please demonstrate:**

**Commitment to the goals of IFSW as laid down in the Constitution.**

The aims of IFSW are summarised as building partnerships, facilitating action, developing policy and advocacy.

It is a primary goal of social work that all that we do will benefit the users of social work services in some way. The work IFSW Policy work that have been involved including cross border assessments, the trade agreements and the indigenous committee are clear examples of these. Users of social work services are frequently those exposed to and least able to deal with the negative consequences of international trade agreements. Likewise finding a way to strengthen IFSW support for indigenous practitioners and those who work across borders with children will benefit the users of social work services in these populations. Similarly, these pieces of work include opportunities for joint action, policy development and advocacy for social justice and human rights.

Over more than 15 years I have been actively involved in regional and international activities, leading the revisions of ANZASW Code of Ethics and professional processes ensuring they remain congruous with IFSW documents and co-chairing the hosting of the 2009 Asia Pacific regional conference during my tenure as National President. The

establishment of the local co-ordinating committee has seen significant changes locally and it is my hope that as this continues to strengthen, it will be a constructive platform to further develop broader membership and participation in IFSW. I carry a strong commitment to the involvement of social worker practitioners in all of the work of IFSW including the setting of the strategic direction, the formulation of policies and the enhancement of social work training.

More recently I have actively participated in the IFSW revision of the Ethical Principles including encouraging national and regional response to the consultation processes.

**Leadership in your own professional organisation**

- Between 2003 and 2010, I completed an 8 year term as National President, leading the organisation through changes following the introduction of statutory registration. Membership increased significantly during this time and a changed governance structure was introduced. The Code of Ethics and professional standards were also reviewed during this time. In 2016 I was re-appointed National President and since the AGM in 2016 have been an elected member of the governance board.
- Awarded Life Membership in 2010.

**Leadership in your country or internationally in promoting social welfare**

- Please see above - I have worked closely with the current regional President to progress the work of IFSW within our region.
- Led the production of the Regional chapter for the biennial publication of the Global Agenda report in 2016 and 2018.

**Possession of professional qualifications** - As listed

**Possession of language(s) facilities (preferably bilingual)** - English

**Identification with the region you represent, mainly by residence, work experiences, and knowledge of the main language(s) spoken in the region**

I have always lived in New Zealand, within the Pacific area of the Asia Pacific region. My professional education and career has been in New Zealand and the region. I have presented as a keynote, guest or conference speaker at professional events in New Zealand, Australia, Japan, the Philippines, Thailand, Hong Kong, China, the United States of America and the United Kingdom.

Since the earthquakes in New Zealand, I provided leadership in the cross sectoral psycho-social recovery subcommittee of the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority and have presented at national, regional and international forums. I was appointed as an inaugural Fellow and advisory member of the QUT Centre for Disaster and Emergency Management, in Brisbane, Australia from 2012 - 2015. In 2016 I was seconded to provide clinical leadership for the communities impacted by a further earthquake.

**Longer practical wisdom and objective interest in international affairs**

For the past four years it has been my privilege to serve the IFSW Asia Pacific region as the Member at Large initially and then the regional Vice - president. I am hugely

indebted and most appreciative of the willingness of the regional President, Mariko Kimura, to develop a strong working relationship with me as we have worked collaboratively for the region. Some of the work I have been involved in has included supporting the development of regional communications, supporting the development of a regional amplification of the definition of social work, developing standing orders for our regional meetings, and the work to ensure the inclusion of an Asia Pacific perspective on global agenda publications, participating in the regional conferences in Thailand and China. I remain an active member of the regional committee contributing to the many and varied issues that arise across our region.

I am most appreciative of the regional President's assistance to help me with gaining an understanding of the International context and enabling my full participation as outlined above.

**Willingness to devote time to assume work responsibilities in the Executive Committee**

If elected I would build on my current knowledge to strengthen my ability to constructively contribute to the work of the IFSW Executive committee and the region. I have demonstrated my willingness to prioritise my time in order to be available to undertake this work and would continue to do this.

**Ableness, in so far as possible, to attend Executive Committee meetings**

I am very willing and able to continue to attend Executive Committee and regional meetings.

**Participation, so far as possible, as delegate of the General Meeting or attendance at IFSW Conferences**

I am very willing and able to continue to participate in General meetings and IFSW Conferences.

**Personal Statement**

Being involved in the regional activities of IFSW for more than 15 years has provided a solid base of knowledge and understanding of the issues within the region. For the past four years this has included involvement in the IFSW Executive committee. I am especially appreciative of the close working relationship that the regional President has developed with me to work collaboratively and develop strategy, communications and regional activities. The Asia Pacific regional executive committee has also developed into a strong and effective regional forum for responding to issues and progressing the work of our region. We are fortunate to benefit from the commitment and practice wisdom evident in our active members across the region.

The Asia Pacific region is the largest geographical region of IFSW and arguably the most culturally diverse. I bring to this position an understanding of this diversity from a social work practitioner-base. I come from a member country with a strong and demonstrated commitment to supporting the work of IFSW but who has never held the role of Regional President.

It would be an honour and a privilege to continue to serve the profession as the Regional President of the Asia Pacific region should I be elected into this role.

*Rose Henderson*

**Signature and Date**

**10 April 2018**