



PROFILE AND CURRICULUM VITAE OF NOMINEE

This profile and Curriculum Vitae is an IFSW Bylaws requirement and informs voting members of your experience and abilities for the position. It also provides valuable information for the IFSW office. By completing and signing it you are agreeing to be a nominee for this position. Please ensure that the completed form is no longer than five (5) pages using a Times New Roman 12 font and with margins no smaller than 0.75 cm on each side.

IFSW Position to which you seek nomination

Member-at-large North America

Candidate's Name and Country

Margaret Kennedy
Canada

Social Work and Other Educational Qualifications (include institution and date)

Case Western Reserve University, Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences, MSSA (MSW), 1978
James Madison University, BA, 1972

Professional Affiliations

Canadian Association of Social Workers

Professional Leadership Experience over the past decade

Part-time Lecturer, University of Southern California, School of Social Work, 2016
Senior Project Director, Vulnerable Populations Strategic Initiative, Health PEI, Prince Edward Island Canada, 2014 – 2015
Director, Mental Health and Addictions, Health PEI, Prince Edward Island, Canada, 2010 – 2014
Provincial Manager, Community Mental Health and Addictions, Health PEI, 2008 – 2010
Coordinator, Community Mental Health and Addictions Central, Health PEI, 2005 - 2008
Family Services Consultant, Veterans Affairs Canada, 2005

(For a complete Professional Experience see Curriculum vitae)

National Association and Leadership Experience over the past decade

President, Prince Edward Island Association of Social Workers, 2004 – 2007
Board Member, Canadian Association of Social Workers, 2007 – present

Vice-President, Canadian Association of Social Workers, 2015 - present
Succession Planning Committee, CASW, 2015 – present
Children’s Interest Group, CASW, 2015 – present
CASW Representative, VEGA – Pan-Canadian Public Health Guidance on Family Violence National Committee, 2015 – present
Committee Member, Issues of Substance National Conferences, Planning and Program Committees, 2009 and 2013

Community/Volunteer and Leadership Experience over the past decade

I am committed to my community and demonstrate that in a number of ways. I served as president of the Prince Edward Island Association of Social Workers. As well, I participate in projects and activities formally and informally to assist vulnerable populations obtain the resources they need. I also contribute to my parish community through activities to support the congregation and those who are grieving. In addition, I am committed to fundraising for various volunteer and non-profit groups/organizations in my community.

Are you aware of the description, 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:

- Develop more active policies and position statements and influence the world’s social agenda
- Provide enhanced support for national member organizations and regions.
- Generate new sources of revenue that would enable us to extend our activities and provide financial support to member organizations and regions.

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

- Leading the development of regional structure and operations consistent with OFSW constitution and bylaws.
- Attend IFSW Executive committee and General Meetings to represent the region and to contribute to the accomplishment of IFSW global action plan goals.
- In consultation with the IFSW President/Secretary General act as IFSW spokesperson and representative in regional events, activities, and developing networks with regional institutions.

c) What are the three most important responsibilities towards your national association?

- Provide leadership to encourage and support communication, exchange of information, and collaboration in meetings between member organizations in the regions.
- Ensure that there are regional nominations and election processes for the purpose of electing of members of the regional executive or committee.
- Promote collaboration between CASW and IFSW

Please demonstrate:

• Commitment to the goals of IFSW as laid down in the Constitution

As President of the Canadian Association of Social Workers I am strongly committed to the goals of IFSW, and in my capacity as Canadian President I intend to follow in the footsteps of my predecessors in supporting our association’s involvement and commitment to IFSW and its goals.

- **Leadership in your professional organization**

I am committed to contributing to my professional social work organization and have demonstrated my commitment and involvement throughout my career. I have been a member of my professional organization wherever I have lived and frequently held elected or appointed positions such as national board member, board vice-president, vice-president for membership, president of my provincial association, and member of several committees. I also developed leadership training curriculum for one of my professional associations.

I am committed to being professionally registered/licensed as well as a member of my association. I believe in promoting the profession itself as a means to support the clients and communities we work with. I also believe in promoting social justice locally, regionally and nationally by whatever means is available to reach the public-at-large and policy decision-makers, including means to make social workers more visible such as the media, social media and in-person presentations.

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

I am committed to providing leadership in promoting social welfare both in Canada and internationally. The CASW code of ethics and strategic plan encompass promoting social justice. As the former president of the Prince Edward Island Association of Social Workers, and current vice-president and member of the CASW Board of Directors I work directly on policy initiatives to promote social welfare in Canada.

In the past through my teaching position at CWRU I worked with Eastern European colleagues to re-develop the social work profession in their country after the fall of communism in that part of the world. I am interested in international development through our profession to make the world a better place.

- **Possession of professional qualifications**

Registered Social Worker, Prince Edward Island, Canada
Licensed Independent Social Worker – Supervision, Ohio, USA
Myers-Briggs Type Indicator Qualified Practitioner

- **Possession of language(s) capabilities (preferably bilingual)**

English, French, Spanish

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

I presently reside in the Maritimes and have lived there for the past 19 years except from January to June 2016 when I resided in Los Angeles, CA. While there I taught in the MSW program at the University of Southern California School Of Social Work. Prior to living in the Maritimes I resided in the US in Ohio, Virginia and Texas. I am well-travelled and consider myself open and interested in various populations and parts of the world. I have worked with vulnerable populations as well as distinct cultures throughout my career and in my personal life. I strongly believe in ongoing development of my own self-efficacy in interacting positively and inclusively with diverse cultures.

- **Practical wisdom and objective interest in international affairs**

I am a citizen of two countries, Canada and the US, and have resided in each country for several years. This has enabled me to compare and contrast issues and practices in both countries which I can then also apply when considering other places in the world. As well, I have travelled extensively internationally throughout

Europe, Australia, South America, Central America, the US and Canada, and when traveling I always prepare myself by learning about the culture, the people, social and health issues and government policy. My experiences as both a citizen of two countries and as a world traveller give me a perspective of international concerns relevant to the social work profession. I have also worked professionally with Eastern European colleagues to re-develop the social work profession there following the collapse of communism in that part of the world. That experience provided the opportunity to both teach and learn from international colleagues.

- **Willingness and capacity to devote time to assume work responsibilities in the Executive or Regional Committee**

Yes, I am committed to devoting time to assume to the responsibilities of the executive committee

- **Ability, in so far as possible, to attend Executive or Regional Committee meetings**

Yes, I am able to attend Executive Committee meetings

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

Yes, I will be an official delegate at the General Meeting and attend the IFSW Conference.

Signature and Date


Margaret Kennedy

May 5, 2016