



CANADIAN PSW NETWORK

THE PROFESSIONAL VOICE FOR PERSONAL SUPPORT WORKERS

A Federally Incorporated NPO, founded in 2018



WHO IS THE CANADIAN PSW NETWORK?

WHO WE ARE

Founded in 2018 by Lynn Steele, a PSW & CDCP who saw a need to improve the PSW industry by offering direct support and resources to PSWs while being their professional advocate and voice with prominent decision makers within our Government. The PSW Network is a federally incorporated NPO run by PSWs who are actively working in the field in different sectors across the industry.

In a world where society continues to age rapidly, PSWs are also leaving the field at an equally alarming rate.

We need to ensure PSWs providing these critical services are staying in the field, recognized, and valued for their selfless compassion.

Our goal is to provide these monumentally important resources for our PSWs who continually put their own personal health & well being aside so they can keep the care in health care.

We work with all levels and parties of Government to ensure the PSWs have a solid voice that is represented with integrity & professionalism.

WHAT WE OFFER

Highlights of options available with membership:

- Paid Vulnerable Sector Screening
- Health Benefits designed for PSWs
- LGBTQ+ supports & resources
- Mental Health Supports
- Assistance with Employment & Resumes
- Bereavement resources
- Educational programs at steep discounts
- Cost effective CPR & First Aid courses
- Access to FREE certificate education
- Human Rights & Diversity Information
- WSIB assistance
- Future Accident & Critical Care Planning
- PSW Advisory Committees
- Access to special FREE financial planning and investment management for members

OUR COMMITMENT

We are the preferred voice for PSWs because of our commitment to professionalism and integrity in our advocacy for PSWs, also in establishing positive change for the future of the PSW and healthcare industry.



OUR BOARD

Our board is made up of PSWs and Health Professionals in all sectors.

These include :

- PSWs
- Educators
- Nurse Advisors
- Joint Health & Safety Advisors
- Union Steward Advisors
- Palliative Experts
- Care Coordinators
- NPO Advisors
- Human Rights Advisors

We believe it's important for our boards and committees to be comprised of health care professionals who are active in the field to ensure that the information we provide to our members is as up to date and accurate as possible.

BOARD STRUCTURE

Our structure is ONCA / CLEO compliant.

We are a not-for-profit corporation that is an independent legal entity whose goals do not include gain or profit for its members, including board/committee members.

BOARD HIERARCHY

- Chair
- CEO
- Executive Director & COO
- Corporate Advisor
- Corporate Relations Director
- PSW Relations Director
- Community Development Director
- Nurse Advisor

MEMBERSHIP STRUCTURE

Our membership is based on a combination of two formats outlined under ONCA / CLEO:

Semi-Open Membership:

- Specific criteria for membership
- Code of conduct to be followed
- Committees & subcommittees can vote

Representative Membership:

- Directors/Board is one class of voting
- Committees are another class of voting
- Stakeholders are fairly represented

MEETINGS

Mandatory Annual Board Meetings are held on, or before November 15th.



HOW IS THE CANADIAN PSW NETWORK DIFFERENT?

The Canadian PSW Network is different from other organizations because of its perpetual focus on the PSWs directly.

There are no other organizations who are as consistent in their structure, purpose, and goals as The Canadian PSW Network.

The Canadian PSW Network is the fastest growing organization for PSWs in Ontario and Canada.

The Canadian PSW Network is not looking to become a regulatory body, governing body, or to have control/oversight over PSWs or the industry. However, we do want to be a visible and vocal representation for PSWs at those tables.

PSWs need a voice to represent them in an ethical and professional manner when bringing the current issues and voices of the PSWs to the table on their behalf.

Our goal is to provide these monumentally important resources for our care providers who continually put their own personal health and well being aside, just so they can keep the care in health care.



WHAT DOES THE PSW NETWORK PROVIDE TO STAKEHOLDERS?

The Canadian PSW Network not only provides necessary resources to its members, it also provides them to its partners and stakeholders.

We have been asked to:

- Sit on Round Table discussions with MPPs & policy makers
- Take part in Mental Health Round Tables
- Work on Private Member Bills with MPPs
- Conduct surveys for statistical data & research projects
- Partner with University of Guelph, and St. Joseph's to create a continuing education course which is intended to enable Ontario PSWs to upgrade their skills quickly and easily as well as work on effective strategies for retention of PSWs in Ontario.

Discuss with Government Officials the industry issues with:

- Critical staffing levels
- Title Protection
- Mandatory increased minimum wages
- General working conditions
- Industry accountability for increased public protection
- PSW retention & job creation
- Attended the Standing Committee on Social Policy regarding Bill 283 as it pertains to PSWs

We bring the voices of the PSWs directly to the table with us and make sure their voices are heard with professionalism and integrity.

Officials trust in the information we provide them as it is always backed up with facts, numbers, data, and the PSWs themselves.

PSWs trust us to be their voice. They come to us knowing we adhere to strict confidentiality. This is one of our main core values after professionalism and integrity - trust.