

# FROM CHARITY TO SOCIAL ENTERPRISE: UNBOXING THE HISTORY OF SOCIAL WORK IN NL

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# WHAT'S IN THE BOX?

From Charity Model to Social Enterprise -

## History of the Social Work Profession & Education in Newfoundland & Labrador

**14 Panels:**

**“Table of Contents”**

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Digital Archive Initiative (DAI)**

**Data Base**

**Over 500 Objects**

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THESE STORIES NEED TO BE SHARED...



**Will it be a book?**

**Can it be social worker stories of professional practice?**

**What is the history of professional social work education in NL ?**

**Will the stories be specific to time and place?**

# Early Perspectives

*He who will not work, shall not eat.*  
Aaron Thomas

*"In this land there is no Public Charity for the sick and the Lame; even the Blind and the Aged can have no assistance but what comes from the hands of Private Individuals" - Aaron Thomas*

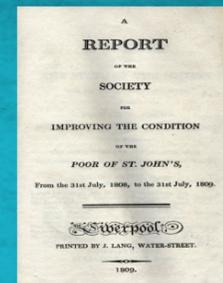
**There were no Work-Houses or Poor Rates, and relief was left to the Merchant class.**

Due to rapid population growth and the pressures of a stressed economy, immigrants who could not sustain themselves were encouraged to move out of the colony.

**1825** Governor Sir Thomas Cochrane institutes "work-for-hire" poor relief. This is the first of its kind in the colony. Unemployed men were put to work on government projects for a specified wage.

**1847** After the great fire that ravaged part of St. John's in 1846, Governor Sir John Gaspard LeMarchant increased the quantity of positions for able-bodied relief to over 1000 men.

By this point, merchants were either unable or unwilling to provide for the growing number of the poor, forcing the government to increase programs such as Governor Cochrane's going forward.



*The Society for Improving the Condition of the Poor of St. John's founded c. 1802.*

## 1806

Benevolent Irish Society, "Feed the Hungry and Clothe the Naked". It provided relief to the Irish immigrants for whom it was difficult to find work.

## 1823

The Society for Educating the Poor of Newfoundland. Founded by merchant Samuel Codner to provide education for the poor so that they could in turn help themselves.

## 1824

The Dorcas Society, "...to provide clothing for the honest and industrious poor...". Founded by Sarah Ward, subscriptions and donations were collected and redistributed to the poor in the forms of groceries, clothing, and supplies.



# Denominational Delivery

## Moravian Missions

Funded by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel to establish Christian settlements in Labrador.



c.1930s, Brother Hettasch

**1752** First attempt to found a mission at Hopedale proved unsuccessful.

**1764** Second mission sponsored by Newfoundland Governor Hugh Palliser.

### 19th century

By 1818, nearly 600 Inuit had converted to Christianity. Five more Mission stations had opened, and trade was facing increasing rivalry from Hudson's Bay Company.

## Orphanages Established

To fill a void in the services to children orphanages were established by major denominations.

**1855**

Church of England Orphanage.



**1859**

Roman Catholic Church opens Belvedere Orphanage for Girls.

**1885**

Roman Catholic Church opens Villa Nova Orphanage for Boys.

**1888**

Methodist Church Orphanage.



## Education Improves Quality of Life

**1833**

Four members of the Presentation order brought to St. John's from Ireland to instruct and educate the poor.

Adults took advantage of basic education offered by the Presentation Sisters.

15 convents open across the island over the next 100 years.

## ...In Service of the Sick, Poor, and Ignorant

**1842**

Three members of the Sisters of Mercy arrive in St. John's from Ireland.



Known as the "Walking Nuns", they visited the sick and poor in St. John's. Image courtesy of CBC, St. John's.

The Sisters of Mercy were also instrumental in the running of the Belvedere Orphanage.

## Godspeed the Rescue Work

**1885** Salvation Army officially opens a division in Newfoundland and Labrador.

**1891** The Rescue Lifeboat paraded through streets to raise funds.

**1894** "The Anchorage", a home for unwed mothers, is opened.

**1896** "Slum Brigade" formed on Simms Lane to visit and aide the poor.

**1897** The Metropole (shown in background), an affordable lodging & soup kitchen, opened on George St.

STORY -  
FIRST GOVERNMENT SOCIAL WORKER IN NL

MAJOR  
RHODA SAINSBURY



# Advocates for Community Development



**1906**

Jessie Luther: Community Development Through Cottage Industries; Introduction of skilled labour opportunities and training to both men (wood carving) and women (weaving). She worked with Jane Addams at Hull House.

**1914**

Etta Leighton: Social Service Worker with Grenfell Mission out of the Seaman's Institute. Met with Women's Auxiliary Groups; emphasis on role of Women's Clubs in community and social service infrastructure.



**1916**

Armine Nutting Gosling: Women's Suffrage; Impacting Social Change; Involvement in Auxiliary Groups; Orphanages/Child Welfare Work.

**1915-1935**

Lady Harris, Lady Allardyce, and Lady Anderson: Patronesses for Poverty Relief.

**1916**

Miss Rogers and Miss Kendall: Nursing and Child Welfare.

**1920**

Edith Haslam: Considered first Social Worker in province, funded by Women's Patriotic Association; Child Welfare and Preventative Health Measures.



**1920s**

Julia Salter Earle: Worker's Rights; Training; Wages.

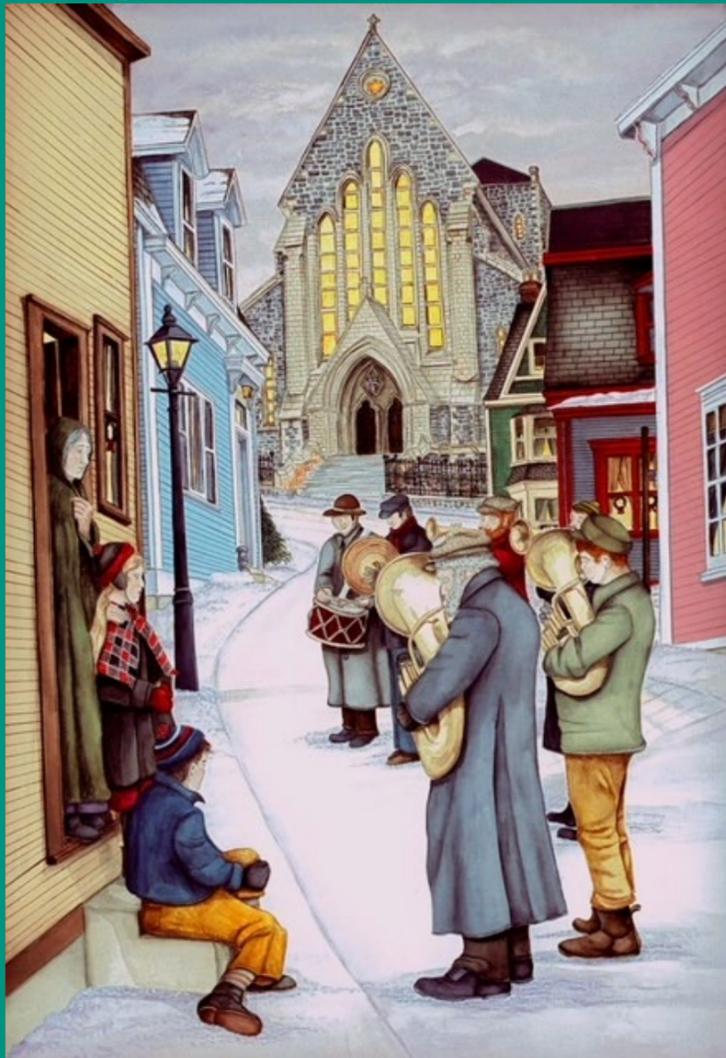
**1938**

Stella Burry: Poor Relief; Shelter; Community Development.

# STORY - NEWFOUNDLAND RANGERS SOCIAL WORK DUTIES (1934-1950)



# SOCIAL CHANGE & THE GREAT WAR: DEPRESSION ERA & SOCIAL WELFARE (1930-1935)



**Dire Poverty Pending Bankruptcy**

**Government Funded Social Worker**

**Disconnect between Legislation and  
Sustenance**

**Distribution of Welfare**

# MAGOR RATION 1931-32

## 6 CENTS WORTH OF SUPPLIES A DAY

25 lbs. of flour

3 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> lbs. fat back

2 lbs. beans

2 lbs. corn meal

1 qt. of molasses

pork

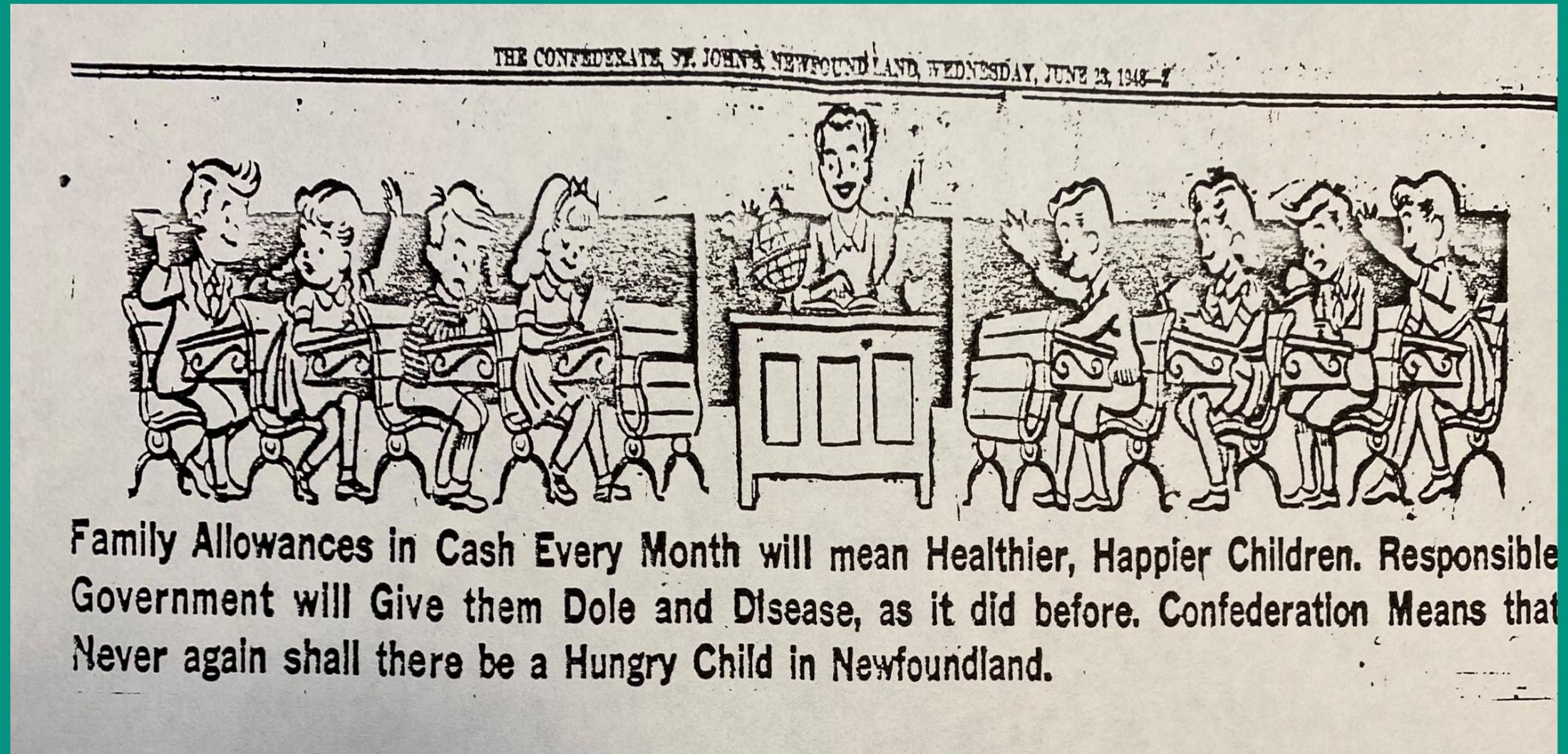
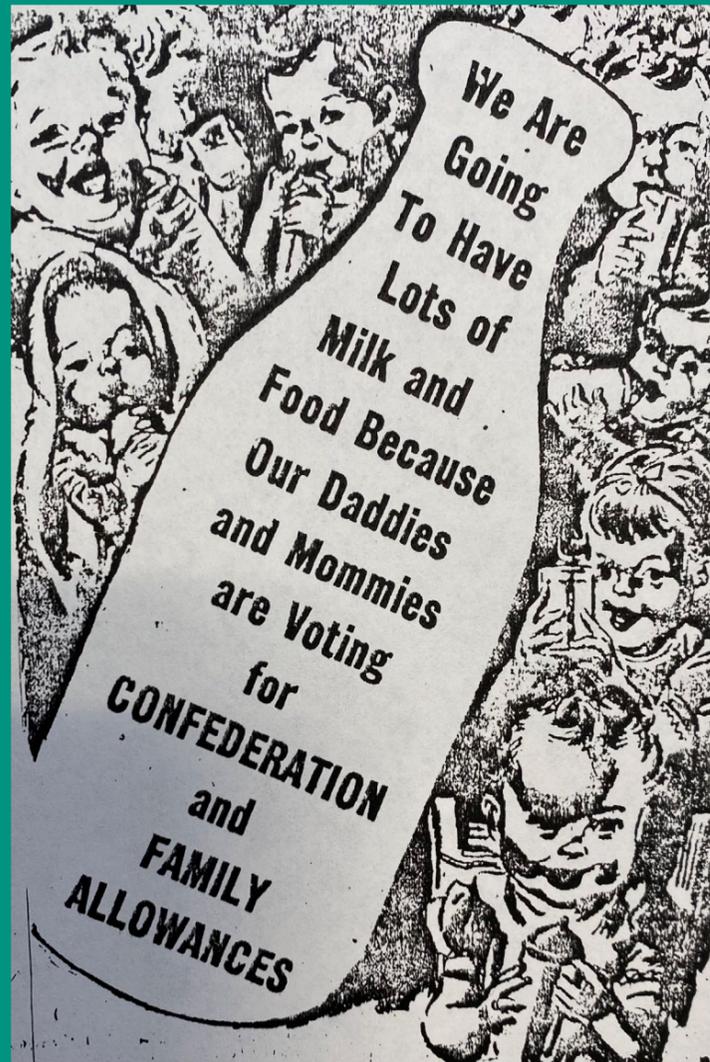
1 lb. split peas

<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> lb. cocoa

# RATION



# CONFEDERATION PROMISES...



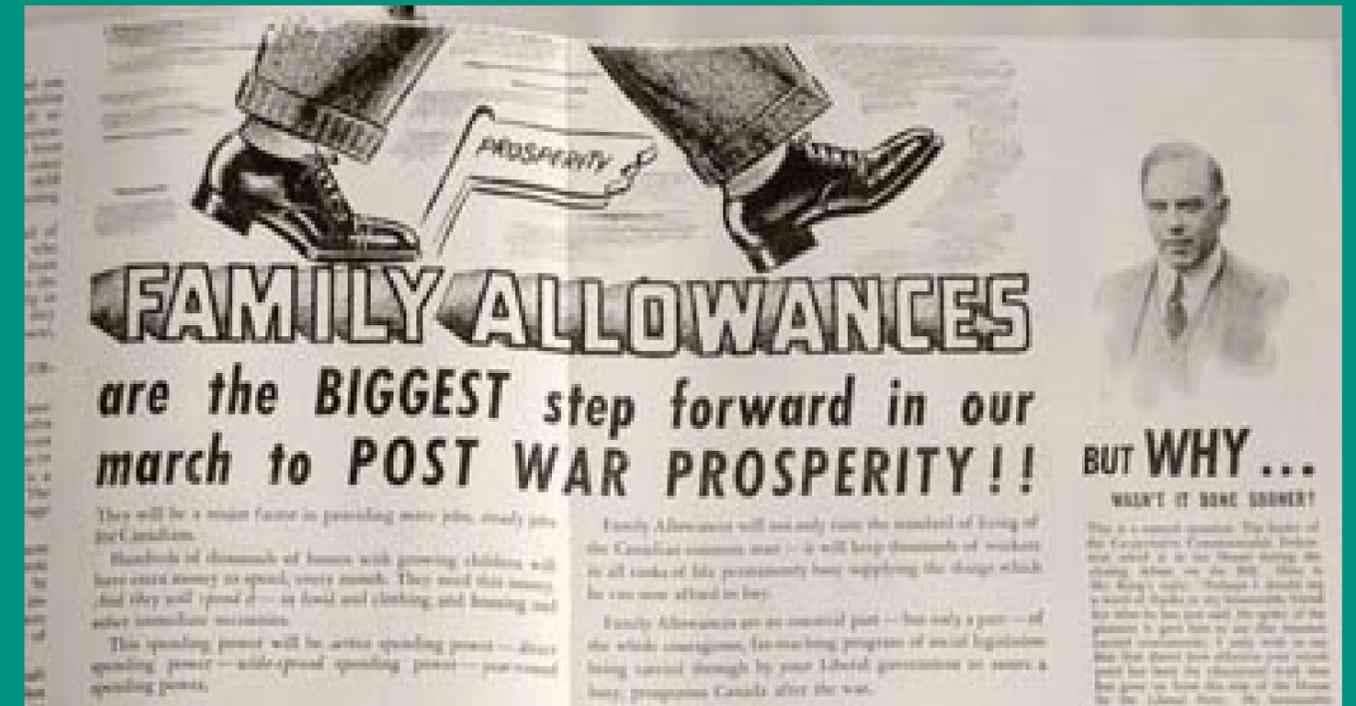
# INVITATION TO UNIVERSALITY

Institutionalized, Universal Safety Net  
Stigma

Role Changes for Elderly & Children

Baby Bonus/ Old Age Pension

From a “Truck System” Credit to Cash  
Systems



# Social Work Education

## EARLY SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION AT MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND

**1963** Memorial University offers a Diploma in Public Welfare.



Miss Ella Brett, formerly Assistant Director of Child Welfare for the Department of Public Health and Welfare, becomes first full-time faculty.

**1965** Bachelor of Arts (Social Welfare) offered.



Muse advertisement for BA (Social Welfare)

## Professionalization of Social Work Education



**1967-8** Dr. Frank Turner develops the Bachelor of Social Work program for MUN. Influences from the U.K., the U.S.A. and Canada build on the traditions of social work already established in the province.

**1968** With an extra year of courses the Bachelor of Arts (Social Welfare) becomes the Bachelor of Social Work. Frank Collett is the first graduate of the BA (Social Welfare) program.

**1970** First graduates of the BSW program. Social Work students are the first to utilize the Harlow Campus for field practica.

**1973-4** Curriculum Development and Expansion.

**1974** The Department of Social Welfare, formerly under the Faculty of Arts, becomes the professional School of Social Work.

**1975-6** The School of Social Work introduces the Masters of Social Work program.

**1977** The School of Social Work receives accreditation from the Canadian Association of Schools of Social Work.

**1978** First Masters of Social Work graduates.

**1995** The School introduces its PhD program.

**1999** First graduate of the PhD program.

**2010** BSW becomes a four year program. BSW as a second degree option introduced.

**2011** Nunatsiavut Bachelor of Social Work Program.



First graduating class of Nunatsiavut program 2013

St. John's College

Social Work  
Department

# STORY: SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION

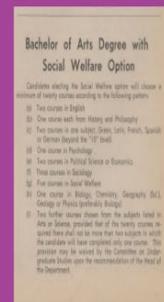
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## Social Work Professional Education

**Dr. Frank Turner Architect of the BSW**

# FIELD PLACEMENT AGENCIES

Seniors

Corrections / Justice

Hospitals

Women's Shelters

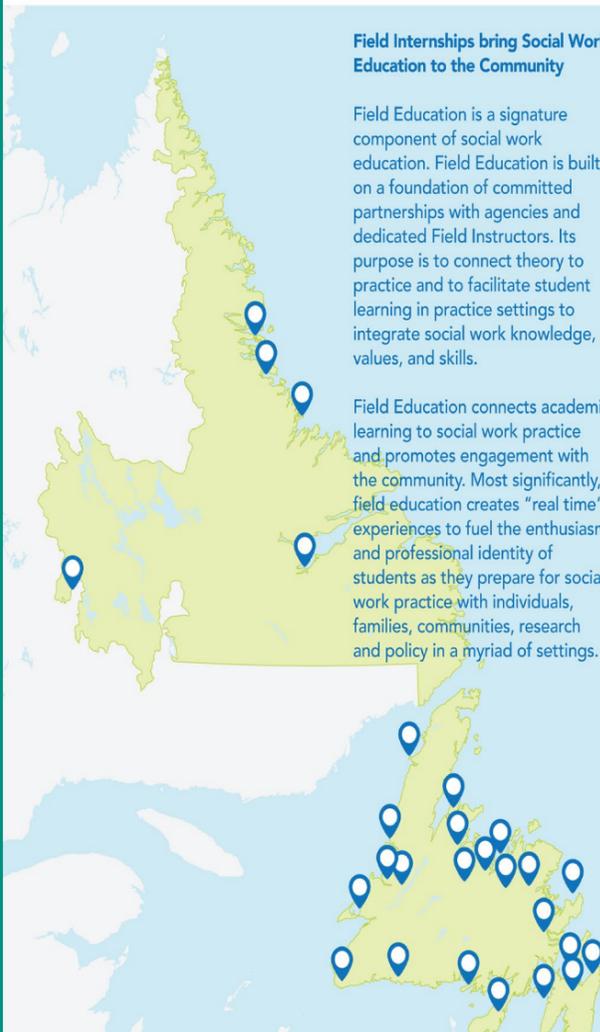
Community Organizations

Child & Youth Services

Veteran's Affairs

Private Practice

## Contributing to the Special Obligation to the People



**Field Internships bring Social Work Education to the Community**

Field Education is a signature component of social work education. Field Education is built on a foundation of committed partnerships with agencies and dedicated Field Instructors. Its purpose is to connect theory to practice and to facilitate student learning in practice settings to integrate social work knowledge, values, and skills.

Field Education connects academic learning to social work practice and promotes engagement with the community. Most significantly, field education creates "real time" experiences to fuel the enthusiasm and professional identity of students as they prepare for social work practice with individuals, families, communities, research and policy in a myriad of settings.

- St. John's
- Mount Pearl
- Burin
- Carbonear
- Placentia
- Bay Roberts
- Bell Island
- Holyrood
- Bonavista
- Clarke's Beach
- Clarenville
- Harbour Grace
- Long Pond, CBS
- Paradise
- Happy Valley - Goose Bay
- Grand Falls - Windsor
- Gambo
- Harbour Breton
- Lewisporte
- Labrador City
- Hopedale
- Nain
- Corner Brook
- Stephenville
- Port Saunders
- Port aux Basques
- Deer Lake
- Burgeo
- Norris Point
- Baie Verte
- Botwood
- Conception Bay South (CBS)
- Gander
- Marystown
- Natuashish
- Springdale
- Stephenville Crossing
- Wabush

# Social Workers as Agents of Change

In Newfoundland and Labrador, Social Workers have taken leadership not only in the traditional areas of social, economic and public policy development and service delivery, they have also been leaders in the evolution of social justice initiatives, the growth of social entrepreneurship and have prompted changing discourse as it relates to marginalization and racism. This panel features some of the Social Workers who have shaped the face of the profession in the province and illustrate the breadth and depth of innovations attributable to professional social workers as they identify the challenges faced by our population.

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <b>ETTA LEIGHTON</b><br><small>(1914) Pre-confederation Northern<br/>Development &amp; Social Enterprise</small> |    | <b>IRIS KIRBY</b><br><small>Women's Issues and<br/>Shelter Movement</small>                                 |
| <b>MARVIN MCNUTT</b><br><small>Corrections</small>   |   | <b>MYRTLE BARRETT</b><br><small>Persons with Disabilities</small>   |
| <b>DIANE MOLLOY</b><br><small>Youth Care &amp; Foster Care</small>   |   | <b>GWEN WATTS<br/>&amp; Lyla ANDREWS</b><br><small>Indigenous Cultural Competence<br/>and Education</small> |
| <b>JOCELYN GREENE</b><br><small>Community Development &amp;<br/>Social Enterprise</small>                        |   | <b>MAUREEN BARRY</b><br><small>Workplace &amp; Employee Assistance</small>                                  |
| <b>BERKLEY REYNOLDS</b><br><small>Family Court Mediation</small>   |  | <b>JACQUELINE LAKE<br/>KAVANAGH</b><br><small>Children &amp; Youth Advocacy</small>                         |
| <b>TOM STRONG</b><br><small>Veteran's Services</small>   |   | <b>VIVIAN RANDELL</b><br><small>Early Childhood Development<br/>and Child Care</small>                      |
| <b>TOM MILLS</b><br><small>Family Counselling Services</small>   |  | <b>DR. FRANK TURNER</b><br><small>Social Work Education</small>   |
| <b>TERRY CARLSON</b><br><small>Justice System Reintegration</small>  |   | <b>NEIL HAMILTON</b><br><small>Child Welfare Policy<br/>and Programming</small>                             |
| <b>CLAUDE QUIGLEY</b><br><small>Health Care</small>  |  | <b>RON TIZZARD</b><br><small>Addictions</small>   |
| <b>GERRY ROGERS</b><br><small>Political Advocacy and<br/>Gender Equality</small>                                 |   | <b>TERRY HAIRE</b><br><small>Income Support</small>   |
| <b>GEORGE CAREW</b><br><small>Income Support</small>   |  | <b>KAREN ALEXANDER</b><br><small>Emergency Management</small>   |
| <b>SUZANNE BRAKE</b><br><small>Senior's Advocacy</small>   |   |   |



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