

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF NEPHROLOGY SOCIAL WORKERS

October 26, 1988

CANSW Meeting

President Report 29/10/88

I am writing these few lines with a feeling of nostalgia. In 1968, I was appointed as a renal social worker at Toronto General Hospital to help set up the new Home Dialysis Program and work with the in-hospital hemo dialysis patients. In those days, selection committees were the order of the day and the weight of recommending on a report the negatives and positives of placing a patient on the machine weighed on me very heavily. In desperation, I phoned my other renal colleagues in the city and suggested we meet montly in my office; at lunch time in order to share our burdens. This then was the beginning of CANSW and when I returned to the U.K in 1973, Dossie Matthews of Hospital for Sick Children, and a small band worked hard and finalized the organization.

Over ten years, we have run a very successful annual conference attracting approximately 45 colleagues from across the country. As well, we try to publish a newsletter at least twice a year. Four well attended meetings are held annually in Southern Ontario and we are gradually building up a tape library which is available to all members.

We continue to submit reports to Perspectives our American Colleagues journal and the Executive from time to time brings matters to the attention of the Kidney Foundation or the Ministry of Health.

As I pass into part-time work in 1989, I wish the organization continued success and hope it will always be as helpful to the membership as it has been to be.



Jane K. Dicks, B.A.S.W.
President 1988

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