



High ethical standards. Steadfast commitment. Promoting collaboration. Decade of service.

Richard Gregory of Alberta and David Hamilton of New York receive ASWB's highest honors

The Sunny Andrews Award for Outstanding Commitment to Social Work Regulatory Board Service and the Glenda McDonald Board Administrator Award for Outstanding Commitment to Social Work Regulatory Board Service were created to recognize qualities like these. And the 2016 recipients of these awards continue to exemplify the hard work of social work regulators to protect the public. Both winners were honored at ASWB's 2016 Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly in San Diego, California, on November 19, 2016.

Richard Gregory of the Alberta College of Social Workers (ACSW) was recognized with the Sunny Andrews Award for more than ten years of service to the college's regulatory efforts. ACSW Executive Director and Registrar Lynn King praised Gregory's commitment to ACSW when she presented the award, saying that Gregory is well known "as a strong supporter of the role that regulation and mandatory registration play in serving and protecting the public."

Gregory served on the ACSW council—the organization's



Richard Gregory (AB) says a few words after receiving the Sunny Andrews Award.

governing body—for five terms, culminating with a term as president. Through it all, Gregory carried out his work with "humor and grace," King said. He demonstrated much of that humor and grace in his acceptance speech, saying: "She says, 'Would you like to say a few words?' Put a microphone in front of me and try to stop me!" Gregory also pointed out that he was on the ACSW council when Alberta became the first province to join ASWB. "I was very proud to say that I was one of the people on council when that happened, that I voted for that to happen," Gregory said.



David Hamilton (NY) accepts the Glenda McDonald Award via Skype at the Delegate Assembly.

David Hamilton, executive secretary of the New York Board of Social Work, was recognized with the Glenda McDonald Award for his years of dedicated service to licensed social workers, the social work board, and his supportive leadership within ASWB. Always willing to share his expertise and insight on regulatory issues, Hamilton was presented the award by New York board member Carmen Collado. “He has been an inspiration to me,” says Collado, “in his dedication to our field. I truly admire his positive energy, his ethics and high standards.” Collado listed many of Hamilton’s accomplishments with the New York board, including the expansion of licensing in New York to include Licensed Master Social Workers. “David has made his top priority ensuring that the public is served by qualified, licensed professionals who are accountable for their work.”

Because of travel restrictions for New York state employees, Hamilton accepted his award via Skype. “I appreciate this award,” Hamilton said, “and especially the fact that it was named for Glenda, whom I had the opportunity to work with over the years. ...I’m proud to be selected from so many dedicated and committed individuals to receive this award.”

Hamilton is the first recipient of the award for social work regulatory administrators since the award was renamed by the ASWB Board of Directors in 2015. The award was named in memory of Glenda McDonald, longtime registrar of the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers and an active ASWB volunteer. The Sunny Andrews Award is named in honor of Sunny Andrews of Iowa, a longtime board member and former president of the ASWB Board of Directors.