



# Connecting Policy to Practice in the Human Services

By Brad McKenzie, Brian Wharf

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**Connecting Policy to Practice in the Human Services** By Brad McKenzie, Brian Wharf

Traditionally, human services policy has been made by people whose own lives are unaffected by their decisions. As a consequence, that policy often fails to meet the needs of service users. In this third edition of *Connecting Policy to Practice in the Human Services*, Brad McKenzie and Brian Wharf suggest that a more inclusive process will produce better results. Following a careful examination of current practices, they look at a number of alternative strategies, including shared decision-making, policy communities, and community governance. This edition has been updated throughout and features a new chapter presenting a case study analysis of policy resistance, new chapter summaries, end-of-chapter critical thinking questions, and an online glossary, making it the most current and engaging text available. Linking Canadian social welfare policy with social welfare practice, this indispensable resource encourages and facilitates participation in a process that has significant consequences for many lives.

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#### **About the Author**

Dr. Brad McKenzie is Professor of Social Work at the University of Manitoba. He began his career as a generalist social worker in Northern Saskatchewan and completed a Masters degree at the University of Manitoba and a doctoral degree in Social Work at Arizona State University. He has held administrative positions as the Acting Associate Dean, the first Director of the Winnipeg Education Centre's Social Work Program (1981-1987), Coordinator of Field Instruction, and Chair of the Graduate Program Committee. Over the past ten years, he has been the primary advisor to more than 35 graduate social work students. His primary teaching areas are Social Policy Analysis, Program Evaluation, and Child and Family Welfare. Dr. Brian Wharf is Professor Emeritus, Faculty of Human and Social Development, University of Victoria. He earned his B.A. from UBC in English and History (1953), his Masters of Social Work four years later, and his PhD from Brandeis University in 1969. During his long career at the University of Victoria, Brian was Director, School of Social Work; Dean, Faculty of Human and Social Development; Professor in a multi-disciplinary graduate program; and Acting Director, School of Public Administration.

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