



# NATIVE COURTWORKER AND COUNSELLING ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



A H E L P I N G H A N D T O J U S T I C E

## CELEBRATING

# 45

# YEARS

## SERVING AND CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

The Native Courtworker and Counselling Association of British Columbia has been providing justice-related services to Indigenous people and communities in the province of BC for over four decades.

## NCCABC HISTORY

Native Courtworker programs have been in existence in Canada in some form for over 50 years. In the late 1960s, the Department of Indian Affairs, Health and Welfare, Employment and Immigration and Secretary of State funded the Native Courtworker pilot project. In 1973, responsibility for the program at the federal level was assigned to the Department of Justice and was established on an ongoing basis.

In British Columbia, the Vancouver Indian Friendship Centre, Indian Homemakers' Association, Union of BC Indian Chiefs, BC Association of Non-Status Indians, North American Indian Brotherhood and the John Howard Society decided then to start a Courtworker program. Under the management of the John Howard Society, a Courtworker pilot project was initiated in 1970. By 1972 the project expanded to become the Native Courtworker Association. In 1975, it had added counselling as a service and became the Native Courtworker and Counselling Association of BC (NCCABC).

The Native Courtworker program, which is the largest program for the NCCABC, is a cost-shared program funded by the Ministry of Solicitor General and the Department of Justice. The NCCABC is a provincial or-

ganization with over 40 years of history providing services to Indigenous people who finds themselves in conflict with the law. Native Courtworkers cover over 70% of the courthouses throughout the province.

Over the years our Association has grown significantly to support our clients and their families as well as our communities that will provide culturally appropriate justice and health-related services. Our understanding of justice is based on a holistic view of people – psychological, physical, social and spiritual. We believe every Indigenous person's story is linked to our people's history and culture. Our goal is to help our clients find a solution to their particular need from that perspective. As we work together with them, we treat them with dignity and respect. That is our commitment to our clients. This would not be possible without the dedication of our staff who tirelessly work for this Association every day, as well as our volunteer Board of Directors who represent 13 jurisdictions throughout the province.

In this resource guide are the very important programs and resources that make up the Native Courtworker and Counselling Association of BC. Over 40 years of service is truly something to celebrate.

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### 1970

The Vancouver Indian Friendship Centre, Indian Homemakers' Association, Union of BC Indian Chiefs, BC Association of Non-Status Indians, North American Indian Brotherhood and the John Howard Society meet to start a Courtworker program.

### 1971

Alfred Scow, a retired judge of the Provincial Court of British Columbia, is the First Nations person to graduate from a BC law school, the first Aboriginal lawyer called to the BC bar and the first Aboriginal legally trained judge appointed to the BC Provincial Court.

## Values & Principles | A Helping Hand to Justice

The NCCABC Board and staff believe that any successes in serving Indigenous people are rooted in traditional values common to all Indigenous nations and peoples, such as

- Respect for elders
- Programs, services and activities that are culturally appropriate
- All people must be treated with dignity and respect
- Dedicated employees are responsive to the needs of the community
- All Indigenous individuals have a right to justice
- Solutions are custom made to the individual
- The importance of ensuring the Indigenous voice is heard, and
- Quality and innovation in all that we do.

### Vision Statement

The needs of all Indigenous people going through the BC justice system are fully met, their cultures are respected and their unique historic rights guaranteed in Canada's Constitution are enforced.

1973

July 26, NCCABC is officially incorporated.

1974

Start of the NCCABC Vancouver Alcohol and Drug Program.



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## CELEBRATING

# 45 YEARS

**1976**

Employee-Board workshop on policy to expand Courtworker role, build development of Prevention, Community Education and Participation programs.

**1982**

Canada repatriates its constitution from Britain. The Canadian Constitution recognizes and affirms existing Aboriginal and Treaty Rights.

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



*We need to identify and embrace the opportunities that will benefit our people the most.*

**Doug S. White** | PRESIDENT

THE NATIVE COURTWORKER & COUNSELLING ASSOCIATION OF BC



**F**or over four decades the Native Courtworker and Counselling Association of BC has played an integral role in helping shape and maintain many of the programs and services that support the Indigenous communities throughout BC.

As NCCABC's board of directors it is our goal to support these efforts by providing a leadership role and working to influence changes in the justice system that are more sensitive and respond to the needs and culture of the Indigenous community.

**Over the next five years it is our goal to:**

- Develop a more holistic approach to addressing the social determinants of health outcomes that affect justice issues (including efforts to reduce the number of children born with FASD).
- Conduct research and evaluations to inform the expansion of the definition of justice, to support the development of specific changes to the justice system and to strengthen the rationale as to why governments need to implement those changes.
- Create a joint structure, process or forum with the BC and federal governments leading to legislative, regulatory, policy, program and funding changes that respond to Indigenous justice approaches.
- Expand participation in and access to justice supports to improve individual and family outcomes to help achieve strategic directions and operational goals and create broader awareness of NCCABC.

**On behalf of the board I would like to take this opportunity to thank our dedicated team at NCCABC for their collective years of hard work caring for our communities.**



# nccabc faces

The NCCABC employs over 50 workers in more than 30 BC communities. Our employees play an important role in their communities, working on the front lines of securing justice for and improving the lives of Indigenous people throughout the province.

Meet a few of our dedicated workers on the NCCABC Faces pages throughout this publication.



CELEBRATING

**45**  
YEARS

1984

The Young Offenders Act (YOA) is adopted from former Juvenile Delinquents Act (JDA) of 1908. The YOA gave youth the same rights as adults but shielded them from the influence of the adult corrections system.

1984

Severe deficit and government restraint policies.



**1985**

June 28, Bill C-31 is passed amending the Indian Act and adhering to the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

**1986**

NCCABC expands service for sexual abuse counselling and Aboriginal probation supervisor services.



# nccabc faces

## Darlene Shackelly

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Darlene has been with the NCCABC since 1982 and has been executive director since 2000. She grew up in the Comox Valley on Vancouver Island, and comes from Musgamagw Dzawda'enuxw Nation on her grandmother's side and We Wai Kai Nation (Cape Mudge) on her grandfather's side. She has dedicated her career to advocating justice for Indigenous peoples in BC, and across Canada. The formation of the BC Aboriginal Justice Council of BC supported by NCCABC as the host agency has been a great achievement. She is a recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal and the author of three safety guidebooks that support and inform women on protecting themselves.



CELEBRATING

**45**  
YEARS

1988

NCCABC's priority is to build a stable and supportive relationship with tribal groups and organizations in BC. Ministry of Attorney General congratulates NCCABC for its effort and determination in its success in eliminating deficit. NCCABC receives a grant for ongoing development training.



# OVER 40 YEARS SERVING AND CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

*As we look to the future, let's also take this opportunity to celebrate our accomplishments and take pride in knowing that the work that we do every day has played such an integral role in the support of Indigenous people and communities in BC.*

**Darlene Shackelly** | EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

THE NATIVE COURTWORKER & COUNSELLING ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA


I am very pleased to report that the Native Courtworker and Counselling Association of British Columbia has strived toward great accomplishments through collaboration and continued support for the services and programs we provide and manage. Our partnerships have strengthened, as witnessed by new initiatives, and the future looks very positive. The completion of the NCCABC's Board of Directors Strategic Plan this year will continue to move the Association forward with its priorities.

## **National Indigenous Courtwork Program**

I am honoured to represent the Indigenous Courtwork (ICW) Program Directors across Canada as their Co-Chair for the past two years. Courtwork programs across Canada continue to collaborate, which has resulted in the development of a National Strategic and Implementation Plan.

Phase 1 of the Strategic Plan was created two years ago. It was agreed that a proposal would be developed to support a second phase which would include regional conversations and the development of an implementation plan. Phase 2 of the Strategic Plan focused on gathering the regional voices and determining what common themes and priorities for action emerged from the regional discussions held across the country.

After extensive dialogue and consensus building among ICW Program Directors, the resulting strategic and implementation plan was then given to



federal/provincial/territorial representatives for comments and to gather feedback. The final Indigenous Courtwork Directors National Strategic & Implementation Plan was presented at the 2017 Tripartite Working Group meeting.

The vision and mission statement and four strategic directions (Program Expansion and Enhancement; Communication, Collaboration and Consultation; Strategic Partnerships and Relationships; Sustainability of the ICW Program) are important work for the Indigenous Courtwork Program.

### **Native Courtworker Program**

Our most senior program is the Native Courtworker Program. For over 40 years, Native Courtworkers have helped Indigenous people navigate the criminal justice system by providing them with timely and accurate information at the earliest possible stage of the criminal justice process. This includes referring Indigenous accused to appropriate legal resources as well as to appropriate social, education, employment, health, Indigenous community and other services that can help to address underlying issues.

There are Native Courtworkers located around the province, covering approximately 70% of the provincial courts. They work with the various officers of the court, communities and service providers to assist Indigenous people in contact with the justice system to receive fair, equitable and culturally sensitive treatment within that challenging system.

### **Programs that Support Indigenous Youth**

For the past 44 years, the NCCABC has continued to provide support to Indigenous youth throughout Brit-

ish Columbia. One of our innovative programs is called “Changing Directions in Support of Aboriginal Youth.” Through this first-of-its-kind program in BC, we are assisting the two communities of Nanaimo and Williams Lake in reaching out to Indigenous youth between the ages of 12 and 18, empowering young people who may need additional support to reach their full potential. This program is supported by Public Safety Canada.

As well, our Association in partnership with The Asante Centre of BC launched a pilot project to create awareness and understanding of the intersection of a Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) diagnosis, coexisting substance use and other life harms, with justice involvement among Indigenous youth in BC. The goal of Through an Aboriginal Lens (TAL) program is to help Indigenous youth referred by Youth Probation Services for an FASD assessment identify within themselves and their support systems both the assets and areas that need additional support in order to develop individual strategies to ensure their successful navigation through the justice system and assessment process. We are very pleased to report that First Nations Health Authority is now supporting this program as funding from Youth Justice Canada came to completion.

To address the challenges of child and family services in British Columbia, the NCCABC looks forward to supporting Grand Chief Edward John’s recommendation that the Ministry of Children and Family Development invest in the development and delivery of child and family services directly within First Nations communities in BC. Specific actions include increasing the number of social workers, Family Courtworkers, and others serving Indigenous communities in BC.

### Alcohol and Drug Outpatient Services

NCCABC was approached by Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) to take over the core programming that had been offered by Hey-way'-noqu' Healing Circle for Addictions Society (HHCAS). We took on that work to ensure there was no disruption in services for the people that accessed those services. Our program supports a vision for Indigenous-led wellness and addiction services, and to identify the gaps in health and justice-related services for Indigenous people in the VCH region, and to identify a clearer understanding of a shared mission/vision, potential partnerships and integration, operational capacity of who we are and whom we serve. VCH has identified the benefit of NCCABC leading this process because of our understanding of the intersection of health and justice.

### BC Aboriginal Justice Council

The BC Aboriginal Justice Council was formed in 2014. As host agency for the Council, the NCCABC worked with the First Nations Leadership Council to set up the Justice Council. Resolutions were passed by the First Nations Summit, Union of BC Indian Chiefs and the BC Assembly of First Nations at their respective assemblies reaffirming their support of a BC Aboriginal Justice Council.

The three resolutions directed their respective executive and staff to work with each other and the NCCABC toward establishing the BC Aboriginal Justice Council. The Council's priorities are to provide a collective approach to address key issues and concerns that Indigenous people face with the justice system in BC by:

- Challenging approaches that contribute to the growing overrepresentation of Indigenous children and youth in the care of government;
- Challenging approaches that contribute to the

growing overrepresentation of Indigenous men and women who are incarcerated;

- productively engaging with the government to advance effective strategies that can achieve better outcomes for our people in the justice system.

In three short years, the Council has advanced the work needed to increase access to justice for Indigenous people in BC, and improve the well-being of our communities. These are important and exciting times for the work of the Council and the NCCABC.

### In Closing

As the Association sets its sights on future goals, we should take a moment and reflect upon our past accomplishments and take pride in knowing that each of us has played an important role in supporting Indigenous people accessing our services and our communities.

I am proud of the programs and initiatives the Native Courtworker and Counselling Association of British Columbia has provided over the past 44 years. We would not be in the strong position we are today if it weren't for the hard work and dedication of our employees, partnerships, funders, volunteers, and NCCABC Board of Directors.

Respectfully,

*Darlene Shackelly*

Darlene Shackelly  
Executive Director



# nccabc faces

## Robert Clydesdale

NATIVE COURTWORKER

Robert grew up on the Lower Nicola Reserve (Shulus) just outside of Merritt, BC, and is also a member of the Nooaitch Indian Band. He says growing up on the reserve and living in the city for most of his adult life has allowed him help clients “to recognize issues that are First Nations community-based” living while appreciating the camaraderie and community it offers. It has also allowed him to fluently connect to people from other native communities – an ability that serves him well in his work as a Native Courtworker in North Vancouver who also serves Pemberton.



CELEBRATING

**45**  
YEARS

1990

NCCABC hosts a Provincial Native Child Welfare Symposium in Vancouver. The objective was for First Nations to take control of our children's welfare.

1990

MP Elijah Harper blocks the Canadian constitutional amendment known as the Meech Lake Accord. He cited the lack of adequate participation and recognition of Aboriginal people in that process.

# NATIVE COURTWORKER PROGRAM

*It's great to see a client go from being distant and not trusting the system to coming into my office and wanting to tell me all the great things they've been doing.*



**T**he purpose of the Native Courtworker program is to help clients involved in the criminal justice system. We will help you obtain fair, just, equitable and culturally sensitive treatment.

## Objectives

To provide Indigenous accused at the earliest possible stage, and all stages of the criminal justice process, with timely and accurate information about:

- The nature and consequences of the charge.
- Their rights, responsibilities and options under the law including alternative justice processes (if available).
- The philosophy and functioning of the criminal justice system, and of alternative justice process (if available).
- Court procedures; and the disposition or direction given by the court or community to the offender.

## We can help by:

- Providing Indigenous accused with appropriate referral to legal resources (as available and where practical).
- Referring Indigenous accused to appropriate social, education, employment, medical and other resources to enable them to address the underlying problems which contribute to their charges, and where appropriate, follow up on these referrals.

**continued next page**

DID YOU  
KNOW

1 in 6

Indigenous people in  
Canada live in BC

5%

of BC's total  
population  
is Indigenous

1 in 4

Indigenous people in  
BC live in Vancouver

STATISTICS CANADA 2011

# contact

## LOWER MAINLAND

	Phone	Fax
Vancouver	(855) 221-6152	(604) 660-1101
Downtown Community Court	(604) 660-8743	(604) 660-8705
Robson – Youth Court	(855) 221-6153	(604) 660-7455
Surrey / Port Coquitlam	(855) 221-6154	(604) 543-3151
Chilliwack/Abbotsford	(855) 221-5725	(855) 842-4198
North Vancouver/Pemberton	(855) 221-5726	(604) 929-1027

## SOUTHERN INTERIOR

Kamloops / Merritt	(855) 221-5728	(250) 828-7969
Williams Lake	(855) 221-5729	(250) 398-6819
Penticton / Kelowna	(855) 221-5730	(855) 279-8288
Vernon / Salmon Arm	(855) 221-5731	(250) 545-8885
Cranbrook	(855) 221-5732	(855) 276-1606

## SOUTH COAST

Nanaimo	(855) 221-5734	N/A
	(855) 221-0977	
Victoria	(855) 221-1160	(250) 386-6760
Port Alberni / Tofino / Ucluelet	(855) 221-1179	(855) 276-1297
Port Hardy / Bella Bella	(250) 902-2223	(250) 949-7201
Bella Coola	(855) 221-1182	(250) 799-5453
Campbell River	(855) 221-1180	(855) 276-1295
Duncan	(855) 221-5735	N/A

## NORTHERN INTERIOR

Prince George / Quesnel / Kwadacha / Tsay Dene Band	(855) 221-1187	(250) 562-1578
Vanderhoof / Fort St. James / Burns Lake	(855) 221-1186	(866) 963-0155
Fort St. John/Fort Nelson	(855) 221-0975	(250) 785-5519
Dawson Creek	(250) 782-9174 ext. 241	(250) 782-4167

## NORTH COAST

Prince Rupert	(855) 221-0979	(855) 839-5614
Terrace/Kitimat	(855) 221-0978	(855) 839-5614

### Regional Manager - Lower Mainland

Southern Interior & South Coast	(778) 375-3306	(604) 985-8933
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### Regional Manager

Northern Interior & North Coast	(855) 221-1183	(866) 961-4979
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Head Office / Admin.	(604) 985-5355 ext. 306	(604) 985-8933
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### NCCABC continued from page 13

- Liaising between Indigenous accused and criminal justice personnel to help overcome communication barriers and reduce alienation from the criminal justice system. This may include being available to provide appropriate information to the court and/or speaking on behalf of the accused.
- Informing justice officials about the cultural traditions, values, languages, socio-economic conditions and other concerns of the Indigenous community and the perspective of Indigenous accused. Initiate further understanding when required.
- Promoting understanding within the Indigenous community, of the existing criminal justice system and alternative justice processes.
- Promoting and facilitating community-based justice initiatives and helping build community capacity to identify and address problems, which could end up in the courts or community justice system.

Our Native Courtworker program is a cost-shared program jointly funded by the provincial Ministry of Solicitor General and the federal Department of Justice.

CELEBRATING

45  
YEARS

1990

NCCABC is awarded a contract through the Ministry of Social Services and Housing to provide services to Aboriginal people on social assistance seeking employment, and job placement.



## COURTWORKER RESOURCE GUIDE

### John Howard Society

Reintegrates inmates into society.

[www.njhsbc.com](http://www.njhsbc.com)

181 Quebec St. V2L 1W2

### Elizabeth Fry

Programs involving women and girls involved with the criminal justice system.

[Elizabethfry.ca](http://Elizabethfry.ca)

1575 5th Ave. PG, BC V2L 3L9

(250) 563-111

### Legal Aid Society

A non-governmental, non-profit organization that provides legal services to people who cannot afford a lawyer.

[www.lss.ca](http://www.lss.ca)

(250) 564-9717

### Warriors Against Violence

Anger management.

[www.wav-bc.com](http://www.wav-bc.com)

### Justice Education Society

Building the legal capability of individuals and justice systems.

(250) 614-2686

### Aboriginal Victim Services

(250) 564-4324

### Salvation Army

Helping with emergency housing, food, AA/NA and shelters.[www.salvationarmy.ca](http://www.salvationarmy.ca)

[salvationarmy.ca](http://salvationarmy.ca)

### BC Aboriginal Resource Guide

<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/aboriginal-people/aboriginal-organizations-services>

### Vancouver Coastal Health

Health care services: hospitals, primary care clinics, community health centres and residential care homes.

[vch.ca](http://vch.ca)

1 (866) 884-0888

### First Nations Health Authority

The FNHA plans, designs, manages, and funds the delivery of First Nations health programs and services in BC.

[fnha.ca](http://fnha.ca)

1 (855) 550-5454

### The Indigenous Justice Program

British Columbia Robson Court  
900-840 Howe St. Vancouver, BC V6Z 2S9  
(604) 666-6009  
F: (604) 666-7121

### BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres

Improving the quality of life for Aboriginal people in the urban area.

[bcaafc.com](http://bcaafc.com)

551 Catham St. Victoria,

BC V8T 1E1

(250) 388-5522

F: (250) 388-5502

### Positive Living North

Programs and services designed to raise public awareness and support for people living with HIV/AIDS/HCV.

[positivelivingnorth.org](http://positivelivingnorth.org)

(250) 562-1172

### BC Schizophrenia Society

Services for people with schizophrenia and other serious mental illnesses.

[bcss.org](http://bcss.org)

(250) 561-8033

TF: 1 888-888-0029

1991

Aboriginal Justice Inquiry suggests that “Aboriginal Canadians must have their own Police forces and courts if they are to have any chance of fair treatment.”

1992

The NCCABC holds forums with various associations to ask their view about NCCABC, and how to improve its services. NCCA hires its first Sexual Abuse Counsellor.

1994

The opening of First Nations Legal Clinic.

# nccabc faces

## Melissa Vabic

ALCOHOL AND DRUG COUNSELLOR

Melissa is Heiltsuk and Slovenian and grew up in Burnaby's Lougheed area. She was hired by the NCCABC in November 2008 as a young adult. Melissa always wanted to be a counsellor, initially with youth, although she is now very happy to be working with adults. About her job at NCCABC, she says: "I knew I belonged to this organization and felt strongly accepted since Day 1."



CELEBRATING

**45**  
YEARS

1995

NCCABC and The Justice Institute of BC start the Aboriginal Sex Offender Retrainer Program. Nine people graduated and all of them obtained employment.

1996

The Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples begins to investigate the evolution of the relationship among Aboriginal peoples (Indian, Inuit and Métis), the Canadian government, and Canadian society as a whole.

# ALCOHOL AND DRUG OUTPATIENT SERVICES PROGRAM

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*I know that everyone is unique,  
but also see that we all have one thing  
in common: we want to heal.*

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The Alcohol and Drug Outpatient Services Program's goal is to provide a quality service to help clients achieve a healthier and satisfying life free from alcohol and drug use. We provide various types of counselling such as individual, couple, family and group counselling. We believe addictions are illnesses. They affect people in all areas of their lives – physical, mental, emotional, financial and spiritual. We do not view addiction as a matter of lack of morals, intellect or willpower, nor do we view addiction as a mental disorder.

Our Alcohol and Drug team can assist clients in the following ways:

- Address substance use and misuse issues
- Provide one-to-one adult, youth, family and group counselling
- Provide crisis intervention counselling
- Make referrals to detox centres, rehabilitation and residential treatment centres
- Make referrals to education institutions, pre-employment and life skills training
- Provide follow-up and aftercare treatment
- Networking with other agencies

The goal of our care is to decrease substance use and misuse, improve health, decrease legal problems, improve thinking and social functioning, and improve self-esteem and coping abilities. We also want to increase occupational and educational opportunities for clients.

DID YOU  
KNOW

75%

of First Nations residents in BC feel alcohol use is a problem in their community

33%

indicate it's a problem in their own family or household

STATISTICS CANADA 2006



# contact

## ALCOHOL AND DRUG COUNSELLING

### Vancouver:

Tabitha Paul:  
(604) 628-1143

Robert Hong:  
(604) 628-1145

Ava Varga:  
(604) 628-1146

Melissa Vabic:  
T: (604) 628-1138  
F: (888) 520-6140

### Surrey

Karen Longmuir:  
T: (855) 221-6155  
F: (604) 630-7204

CELEBRATING

**45**  
YEARS

## ALCOHOL & DRUG PROGRAM RESOURCE GUIDE

### Aboriginal Child and Family Support Services, Vancouver Native Health Society

The Aboriginal Child and Family Support Services are community-based services to assist and support caregivers with the goal of promoting parental competency and strengthening family life, leading to healthy child and family development.

[vnhs.net/programs-services/  
family-support-services](http://vnhs.net/programs-services/family-support-services)

717 Princess Avenue  
Vancouver, BC V6A 3E4  
(604) 602-7558

### Network of Inner City Community Services Society

A consortium of community based organizations, resident groups and consumer groups who work together in the coordination and delivery of services to children and families and individuals.

[www.niccss.ca/](http://www.niccss.ca/)

#200-739 Gore Avenue,  
Vancouver B.C., V6A 2Z9

(604) 569-2787 ex. 2843

### PHS Community Services Society

Our goal is to provide housing, service and advocacy to those poorly served in Vancouver's DTES community and beyond.

[www.red-road.org/](http://www.red-road.org/)

20 West Hastings Street,  
Vancouver, BC

(604) 683-0073  
#61-1959 Marine Drive,  
North Vancouver, BC V7P 3G1  
(778) 340-3388

### Round Lake Treatment Centre

Round Lake has become a leader in the field of First Nations' addiction recovery and trauma training.

[roundlaketreatmentcentre.ca/](http://roundlaketreatmentcentre.ca/)

200 Emery Louis Road  
Armstrong, BC V0E 1B5  
(250) 546-3077  
1 888-554-9944

### Tsow-tun Le Lum Society Substance and Abuse Treatment Centre

We provide programs that address the issues of addictions and substance abuse, and that support the survivors of trauma and residential schools.

[www.tsowtunlelum.org/](http://www.tsowtunlelum.org/)

PO Box 370, 699 Capilano Road,  
Lantzville, BC V0R 2H0  
(250) 390-3123

### Cwenengitel Aboriginal Society

Provides a safe environment where up to 12 Aboriginal men may reside while addressing drug and alcohol addiction.

[no website available]

13632 110A Ave, Surrey,  
BC V3R 2B1  
(604) 309-2702

1996

NCCABC receives a grant from the Law Foundation of BC and Attorney General's Ministry on the computerization of all Courtworkers' offices.

1996

The Nisga'a of British Columbia are successful in striking an agreement in principle with the federal government over their land claims.

### **FRAFCA Fraser Region Aboriginal Friendship Centre Association**

We are committed to improving the quality of life of urban Aboriginal people in the Fraser Valley.

[fracca.org/](http://fracca.org/)

A101-10095 Whalley Boulevard,  
Surrey, BC  
V3T 4G1  
(604) 595-1170

### **First United Church**

A place of welcome for people experiencing homelessness and poverty in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside.

[firstunited.ca/](http://firstunited.ca/)

Coast Salish Territories 320  
East Hastings Street,  
Vancouver, BC V6A 1P4  
(604) 681-8365 ext. 122

### **SHEWAY**

Provides health and social service supports to pregnant women and women with infants under 18 months

who are dealing with drug and alcohol issues.

[sheway.vcn.bc.ca/](http://sheway.vcn.bc.ca/)

BC 101-533 East Hastings Street,  
Vancouver, BC V6A 1P9  
(604) 216-1699

### **Downtown Eastside Women's Centre**

Provides practical support, basic necessities and hot nutritious meals to women and children every day.

[dewc.ca/](http://dewc.ca/)

302 Columbia Street,  
Vancouver, BC V6A 4J1  
(604) 681-8480

### **Luke 15 House**

We help our residents heal from the wounds of their past and help them reconstruct their lives

[luke15house.com/](http://luke15house.com/)

11861 99th Avenue,  
Surrey, BC V3V 2M3  
(604) 930-4884

### **Carnegie Community Centre**

Social, educational, and recreational activities for the benefit of the people of the Downtown Eastside.

[carnegie.vcn.bc.ca/  
oldthecentre](http://carnegie.vcn.bc.ca/oldthecentre)

401 Main Street, Vancouver,  
BC V6A 2T7  
(604) 665-2220

### **Lookout Emergency Aid Society**

Provides housing and a range of support services to adults with low or no income who have few, if any, housing or support options.

[lookoutsociety.ca/](http://lookoutsociety.ca/)

544 Columbia Street,  
New Westminster, BC  
V3L 1B1  
T: (604) 255-0340  
F: (604) 515-9435

### **Atira Womens Resource Society**

Dedicated to supporting women and children affected by violence by offering safe and supportive housing and by delivering education and advocacy aimed at ending all forms of gendered violence.

[www.atira.bc.ca/](http://www.atira.bc.ca/)

101 East Cordova Street,  
Vancouver, BC V6A 1K7  
(604) 331-1407

1996

The last residential school, White Calf Collegiate, closed. The first one opened in the 1840s.

1996

Federal government declares June 21 as National Aboriginal Day.



# nccabc faces

## Tristen Westman

DETOX SUPPORT WORKER

Tristen is Northern Tutchone and a member of the Little Salmon Carmacks First Nation in the Yukon. After earning a bachelor of arts in interdisciplinary studies from the University of British Columbia, she began working at NCCABC in June 2016 as an intern through the BC Public Service Agency's Aboriginal Youth Internship Program, in which young Aboriginal leaders have an opportunity to work for nine months with a ministry, followed by three months with an Aboriginal organization. She stayed on with NCCABC following the completion of her three-month term.

CELEBRATING

**45**  
YEARS

1998

25th year of NCCABC is celebrated in Stanley Park, a family picnic for all the staff and their families. NCCABC joins the Coalition Against No Fault Insurance. NCCABC host the National Directors Meeting of Aboriginal Courtworker Programs in Kelowna, BC.

## DETOX SUPPORT PROGRAM

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*Seeing individuals that I have met outside of the office stepping through the 520 Richards Street door to check in and to begin engaging in one-to-one counselling, as well as groups and workshops offered through our program, is the most rewarding aspect of my job.*



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The Aboriginal Detox and Follow-up Support Program's goal is to provide a quality service to help clients achieve a healthier and satisfying life free from alcohol and drug use. This is done through the review of individuals' treatment and/or aftercare plans where we assist in identifying issues and needs and we familiarize clients with appropriate addictions and community services such as justice-related services, traditional healing, residential treatment programs, day treatment and support services.

Aboriginal people are strong and resilient. Yet many face barriers that prevent them from finding support that will help them along the journey to health and well-being. Others feel overwhelmed when connecting with the professional community. Our Aboriginal Detox Support Workers Program is an important part of our mission to bring health justice to Aboriginal people living in British Columbia. Our Aboriginal Detox Support Workers connect with Aboriginal clients through coordination with Vancouver Coastal Health Withdrawal Management Services (WMS). We set up an initial meeting with clients exiting WMS, and from here the client and worker develop the Client Action Plan, tailoring it to the client's personal needs.

This plan helps the client build appropriate personal support networks and connect with community. The goal of this program is to create good recovery habits early. The Client Action Plan consists of shelter or housing, food, laundry and showers, as these are the basic issues that clients face after detox. Secondary issues are connecting clients to drug and alcohol counselling, AA meetings, NA meetings and sponsors. This builds the client's support community.

DID YOU  
KNOW

Rates of fatal drug  
overdose are

2-3x

higher among  
Aboriginals in BC  
compared to the  
general population

URBAN HEALTH RESEARCH  
INITIATIVE 2011



# contact

## DETOX SUPPORT WORKERS

### Vancouver:

Wade Moses:  
(604) 628-1137

Tristen Westman:  
(778) 375-3282  
F: (888) 520-6140

## DETOX RESOURCE GUIDE

### 3 Bridges Addictions Services

Outpatient addiction treatment programs.

vamp@vch.ca  
(604) 714-3480

### VCH Mental Health

Multidiscipline team provides individual & group mental health rehabilitations.

perry.omeasoo@vch.ca  
(604) 253-4401

### It's Up to You

Men's residential recovery support homes.

jason.vokey@iuty.ca  
(604) 512-1479

### Together We Can

Both men & women early recovery, long-term sobriety, recovery & support homes.

intake@twcvancouver.org

1 (888) 940-9854  
**Luke 15 House (Transition & Recovery)**

Christian, 12-step for men recovery and just out of jail.

luke15house@hotmail.com  
(604) 930-4884

### Heartwood

Residential treatment program for females.

terri.seeley@cw.bc.ca  
1 (888) 300-3088

### Aboriginal Wellness Program

Deliver culturally safe mental health and addiction program.

sheryl.gurney@vch.ca  
(604) 675-2551

### Vancouver Detox

Detox & treatment for multiple addictions.

Access Central  
1 (866) 658-1221

### Creekside Withdrawal Management Centre

Residential detox centre for adult and youth.  
(604) 587-3755

### Vancouver Harbour Light Detox

Medically supported detox acute withdrawal management services.  
(604) 646-6844

### Alouette Addiction Services

Serves families and has support groups including a dual diagnosis support group.  
(604) 467-5179

CELEBRATING

45  
YEARS

1999

Decision of the Supreme Court of Canada, R v Gladue. The decision provided the Court's first interpretation of section 718.2(e) of the Criminal Code. The section says: "718.2 A court that imposes a sentence shall also take into consideration the following principles: (e) all available sanctions other than imprisonment that are reasonable in the circumstance should be considered for all offenders, with particular attention to the circumstances of aboriginal offenders."

**Al-anon/Alteen Services in Vancouver**  
**Alcoholics Anonymous**  
**12-Step groups in Vancouver**

Service in Vancouver, Surrey and throughout the Lower Mainland. Contact for Addictions Services through the Province of BC and Yukon.

**Kinghaven Treatment Centre**

For adult men. Intake hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday to Friday. 31250 King Road, Abbotsford  
**T: (604) 864-0039**  
**TF: 1(877) 864-0039**

**Raven's Moon Resources**

1st, 2nd & 3rd stage supportive transitional housing using an empowerment model. House for women with children, with children in care or who are pregnant.  
[ravensmoonresources@](mailto:ravensmoonresources@)

**hotmail.ca**

3401 Shuswap Terrace, Abbotsford, BC V2T 4Z4  
**(604) 855-8322**

**InnerVisions Recovery Society**

This is a fee for service program for men 19+. Program is 60 days in length. Miller House, 837 Miller Avenue Coquitlam, BC

[nnvisions1.ca](http://nnvisions1.ca)

[helpme@innvisionsrecovery.com](mailto:helpme@innvisionsrecovery.com)  
**T: (604) 468-2032**  
**TF: 1(877) 939-1420**

**A Better Place Transition Housing**

There are 20 beds for men 19+.

[abetterplacetransitionhousing.ca](http://abetterplacetransitionhousing.ca)

[service@abetterplacetransitionhousing.ca](mailto:service@abetterplacetransitionhousing.ca)

[abetterplace8587@yahoo.com](mailto:abetterplace8587@yahoo.com)  
 PO Box 42582, Columbia Square, New Westminster, BC V3M 6L7  
**(778) 889-8555**

**Revolution Recovery Ltd.**  
[revolutionrecoveryltd.ca](http://revolutionrecoveryltd.ca)

Email: Use form on "contact us" page  
 Surrey, BC  
**(604) 349-7200**  
**(604) 220-7486 (Admissions)**

1999

**NCCABC is granted the Order in Council on March 17, 2005, by the Province of BC, which ensures that the existing operational mandate of the Native Courtworkers is in line with what is required under section 802.1 of the Criminal Code.**

1999

**The Aboriginal Justice Implementation Commission is established in Manitoba to develop an action plan to improve Aboriginal justice as recommended by the Aboriginal Justice Inquiry.**

# nccabc faces

## Lori Henry

NATIVE FAMILY AND YOUTH ADVOCATE

Lori grew up in Prince George raised by Cree elders, her maternal grandparents. Her family is from the Sawridge First Nation located in the Slave Lake area of northern Alberta. Lori earned her registered nursing diploma from the College of New Caledonia, and recently received training in assisted suicide intervention and human trafficking awareness. Her most memorable moments in her five years with NCCABC include attending court with clients and helping them achieve positive outcomes as a result.



CELEBRATING

**45**  
YEARS

1999

Native Courtworkers receives Firearm Legislation Training and Family Court Training. New reporting system introduced using the internet.

1999

Ethel Pearson, who sat as an elected Board Director for over 10 years, and who championed the cause of ensuring Aboriginal women who lost their status under the Indian Act were reinstated, passes away at the age of 86.

## FAMILY AND YOUTH PROGRAM

*The most rewarding part of my job is seeing justice and fairness become a reality for our people.*



The Family and Youth Advocate is responsible for providing basic counselling, guidance, support, crisis response, some therapeutic intervention, assessment and referrals, community development, service networking, education and advocacy for First Nations, Indigenous families and clients involved in child protection issues and other family matters. The Advocate may also act as a coordinator for services required by families, or individual clients, in distress and will work closely with local reserves or community services in responding to the needs of the families and the children.

A Family/Youth Advocate is someone who encourages, knows when to listen, cares, keeps confidences, withholds judgments, provides information and is a positive role model. The Family/Youth Advocate ensures that Indigenous families:

- Understand the family court process and are heard
- Understand and gain access to an appeal process in family matters
- Are protected and safe
- Have access to community resources or services
- Have access to legal education
- Are informed on the needs and rights of Indigenous children and their rights to legal assistance
- Have access through negotiation, mediation, reconciliation and other dispute resolution processes

DID YOU KNOW

54.2%

of children in care of the Director of Child Services in BC, by court order, are Indigenous (First Nations, Métis or Inuit)

STATISTICS CANADA 2011



# contact

## YOUTH AND FAMILY ADVOCATES

### Prince George:

#### Lori Henry

Direct: (855) 221-1184

F: (866) 963-0131

## FAMILY AND YOUTH RESOURCE GUIDE

### AWAC (Women's Shelter)

24-hour emergency shelter for women and female youth. Provides support, advocacy, referrals and accessible, safe and affordable housing for women and girls who are struggling with poverty, homelessness, addiction, mental illness and exploitation.

144 George St, Prince George, V2L 1P9  
(250) 562-6262

### Activators Society

Assists men on conditional release in achieving and maintaining a balanced lifestyle while working towards social and financial independence.

[activatorsoffice@shaw.ca](mailto:activatorsoffice@shaw.ca)

770 2nd Avenue, Prince  
George, BC, V2L 3A3  
(250) 563-5019

### Active Support against Poverty

Provide general advocacy services including welfare and disability appeal, tenant advocacy, and tribunal representation. There is also a shelter available.

1188 6th Avenue, Prince  
George, BC V2L 3M6  
(250) 563-6112  
TF: 1 (877) 563-6112

### Child Abuse & Neglect Assessment (SCAN Clinic)

The SCAN clinic accepts referrals for any child known or suspected to be a victim of child maltreatment, including physical abuse, sexual abuse, physical neglect, and emotional abuse or neglect.

4186 15th Avenue Prince George, BC  
(250) 565-2120

### Carrier Sekani Family Services (CSFS)

We proudly provide holistic health and wellness services, in keeping with our mandate, for Carrier and Sekani people in North Central British Columbia. Our culturally relevant services meet high standards.

P: (250) 562-3591  
TF: 1 (800) 889-6855

### Prince George Urban Aboriginal Justice Society

The mission of the Prince George Urban Aboriginal Justice Society is to reduce the number of Aboriginal people in conflict with the law.

102 - 1268 5th Avenue  
Prince George, BC V2L 3L2  
(250) 562-7928

### Legal Aid Prince George

Their capable cabinet is available as defence

CELEBRATING

45  
YEARS

2000

The NCCABC mourns the loss of Hereditary Chief Joe Mathias of the Squamish Nation and past President of the NCCABC.

2000

NCCABC withdraws its direct service to family court due to government policy on cost-shared agreement.

lawyers, barristers, appeal lawyers and even more.  
277 George St. Prince George, BC V2L 3E3  
**(250) 564-9717**

**RCMP**

North District, Prince George  
**Victim Service**  
**(250) 561-3300**  
**(250) 561-3329**

**MCFD Intake**

Qualified professionals will help children and families with their concerns, ensuring that children are safe and looked after.

101-1577 7th Avenue  
Prince George, BC V2L 3P3  
**(250) 565-4101**

**Prince George Native Friendship Centre**

The Prince George Native Friendship Centre is a non-profit, non-sectarian organization dedicated to servicing the needs of Aboriginal people residing in the urban area and

improving the quality of life in the community as a whole.  
1600 3rd Avenue  
Prince George, BC V2L 3G6  
**(250) 564-3568**

**PG Nechako Aboriginal Employment & Training Association**

We are a visionary team dedicated to promoting the self-sufficiency of Aboriginal People.

198 Kingston Street  
Prince George, BC V2L 1C3  
**(250) 561-1199**

**Phoenix Transition House**

24-hour shelter, services and programs for women and their children in times of crisis.

**(250) 563-7305**

**Nezul Be Hunuyeh Child & Family Services**

We will build trust with the communities by working towards the restoration and support

of the traditional family, and ensure that children out of the home maintain connections to their family, identity, culture, and community.

PO Box 1180  
700 Stuart Drive West  
Fort St. James, BC V0J 1P0  
**(250) 996-6977**  
1444 9th Ave. PG, BC V2L 5N9  
**(250) 561-0790**

**Kikino Metis Child & Family Services**

We provide broad-based community prevention and education programs that are geared towards everyone in the community, as we recognize that all families need support in raising their children.

1546 6th Avenue  
Prince George, British Columbia V2L 5B5  
**(250) 563-1661**

**2001**

**Over 20 NCCABC employees show their support by participating in the Terry Fox Run to find a cure for cancer.**

**2001**

**NCCABC's Alcohol and Drug Program /Outpatient Services in Vancouver and Surrey receive accreditation from CARF.**

# nccabc faces

## Darryl Shackelly

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Darryl has been with the NCCABC for over 20 years. He grew up in Richmond and is a member of the Nooaitch Band just outside Merritt, BC. Over the course of his two decades with NCCABC, Darryl worked 10 years at the Main Street provincial courthouse in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, has been seconded to other jurisdictions to train frontline staff, and conducted Aboriginal consultations for the development of Vancouver's Downtown Community Court. He has also been an integral part of the Changing Directions in Support of Aboriginal Youth program and its success in Williams Lake and Nanaimo.



CELEBRATING

**45**  
YEARS

2002

Province of BC and the four political Aboriginal organizations sign an agreement to work on a government-to-government basis towards reducing the number of Aboriginal children in care. NCCABC was a witness and support to the signing.

2002

Closures of community law offices and legal information program due to funding cuts by the Province of BC.

## CHANGING DIRECTIONS

*There has been a lot of damage done to First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities over the years. I am proud to be a part of an organization that works hard in creating the positive momentum required to rebuild and make our communities healthy and safe again.*



**C**hanging Directions in Support of Aboriginal Youth is a project funded by the National Crime Prevention Centre until July 2018. This program is designed to reach out to Aboriginal youth (First Nations, Métis & Inuit) between the ages of 12 and 18 living in Nanaimo and Williams Lake. The purpose of the program is to assist young people who carry risk factors that may cause disruptive behaviour and criminal activity. There is an Aboriginal Youth Support Worker in each office that will assist young people and their families by using a process called Wraparound.

DID YOU  
KNOW

45%

of Indigenous people in BC are under the age of 25 compared to 27% of the non-Indigenous population

28%

of Canada's Indigenous population are 14 years old and under

STATISTICS CANADA 2011



# contact

## CHANGING DIRECTIONS IN SUPPORT OF ABORIGINAL YOUTH PROGRAM

### Nanaimo:

Shelly Vanderhoef:  
(250) 802-4540

Tunisha Baines:  
(250) 802-4772

Thomas George:  
(250) 802-5430

### Williams Lake:

David Faubert:  
(250) 267-4714

Christine Habsburg:  
(250) 267-4837

Michael Archie:  
(250) 267-6094

## CELEBRATING

# 45 YEARS

## CHANGING DIRECTIONS RESOURCE GUIDE

### Cariboo Friendship Centre Society

Youth Centre, Mental Health  
Liaison, Pregnancy Outreach  
Program, Restoring Our  
Aboriginal Roots Program.

[cariboofriendshipsociety.ca/](http://cariboofriendshipsociety.ca/)

(250) 398-6831

### Women's Contact Society

Assistance with Ministry  
of Human Resources.

[womenscontact.org](http://womenscontact.org)

(250) 392-4118

### Central Cariboo Child Development Services Society

Youth & child care  
outreach, Fetal Alcohol  
Spectrum Disorder.

[cccdca.org/](http://cccdca.org/)

(250) 392-4481

### Child Care Resource & Referral Program

Supports child care providers,

families and parents.

[ccrr.bc.ca/](http://ccrr.bc.ca/)

### Mobile Outreach Van Service

(250) 392-4270

### Canadian Mental Health Association

24-hour crisis line and other  
counselling services.

[cmha.ca](http://cmha.ca)

(250) 398-8220

### Crisis and Counselling Line-24 Hours

24 hours crisis and  
counselling services.

(250) 398-8224

### Denisiqi Family Services Society

Child protection services  
and early childhood  
outreach services.

250-392-6500

### Knucwentwecw Society

Child protection agency,

community support.

[knucwentwecwsociety.com](http://knucwentwecwsociety.com)

250-392-2995

### Carrier Chilcotin Tribal Council

Political, education, housing,  
technical, advocacy and  
family support services.

[carrierchilcotin.org](http://carrierchilcotin.org)

250-398-7033

### Big Brothers & Big Sisters of Williams Lake

[bbswlake.com](http://bbswlake.com)

250-398-8391

### Three Corners Health Services Society

[threecornershealth.org](http://threecornershealth.org)

250-398-9814

### Axis in Williams Lake

Addictions services, CDBC  
assessment and support.

[axis.bc.ca](http://axis.bc.ca)

250-392-1000

2002

BC Native Courtworkers receive training on the new Youth Criminal Justice Act during the National Aboriginal Courtworker Conference in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

2002

Creation of an awareness project called the Aboriginal Concurrent Disorders Awareness Project to assist individuals to gain access to Aboriginal alcohol and drug treatment programs in BC.

**Tillicum Lelum Aboriginal Friendship Centre**

The Aboriginal Youth and Leadership Program offers a variety of workshops that enhance employability skills and personal growth.

250-753-8291

**Boys and Girls Club of Central Vancouver Island**

Assisting Aboriginal children and youth experience new opportunities, overcome barriers, build positive relationships and confidence.

250-754-3215

**John Howard Society of BC Nanaimo Region**

Youth Mentoring Program engages in weekly contact with the youth via text, phone, Skype, Facebook, and outings in the community.

250-754-1266

**Justice Access Centres**

The justice access centres provide help with family and civil law issues that affect your everyday life, such as separation or divorce, income security, employment, housing or debt.

250-741-5447

**Hiiye'yu Lelum Society House of Friendship**

250-748-2242

**Kwumut Lelum**

Family support, Four Seasons Cultural Program: create culture plans sustainable throughout the four seasons.

250-591-0933

**Kwam Kwum Tthun Shqwaluwun - Youth Centre, Cowichan Tribes Youth Centre**

Provides youth with a safe and positive environment to hang out, have fun and learn.

1-877-811-1190

**Snuneymuxw First Nation Youth Centre**

The Centre's program is designed to help SFN community youth get together for fun and games. Activities include: soccer, lacrosse, b-ball, jail tag, arts & crafts, computer time, Ping-Pong, movies and board games, weekly boxing and hip-hop.

250-740-2300

**Nanaimo & Area Resource Services for Families**

Multi-service agency that delivers child, family and youth and harm reduction services on Vancouver Island.

250-754-2773

**Haven Society**

Our vision is to work together with our community to end violence against women, and to create and support a safe community for all of us.

250-756-2452

**Nanaimo Aboriginal Centre**

Aboriginal Family Night: spend time with family and friends.

250-754-3215

**Nanaimo Youth Services Association**

Youth housing, resumé building, Blade Runners: training skills links in the trades.

1-855-922-0220

2002

The Dr. Peter Centre in Vancouver begins running a safe-injection site for drug-addicted patients with HIV and AIDS. The city estimated 12,000 intravenous drug users among 1.3 million in Greater Vancouver.

2002

A police raid on the farm of Robert Pickton turns up evidence of missing women. Since 1984 at least 50 women had vanished from the streets of Vancouver, many of them Indigenous women.

A portrait of Mabel Peters, a woman with long dark hair, wearing a dark blazer over a red top. She is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera. The background is a textured wall with a window with blinds.

# nccabc faces

## Mabel Peters

NATIVE COURTWORKER

A Cowichan Tribes member whose ancestors are from the Snuneymuxw, Penelakut and Tsartlip First Nations, Mabel has a criminology diploma from Malaspina University-College (now Vancouver Island University). She was motivated to become a courtworker to help address the overrepresentation of Aboriginal people within the criminal justice system, and has been with NCCABC for eight years. She has been involved with the development of two specialized courts in Duncan, the Domestic Violence Court (2009) and First Nations Court (2013) – both successful aspects in the Duncan courthouse.

CELEBRATING

**45**  
YEARS

2002

Creation of an awareness project called the Aboriginal Concurrent Disorders Awareness Project to assist individuals to gain access to Aboriginal alcohol and drug treatment programs in BC.

2003

NCCABC is requested by the First Nations Summit to report on the Aboriginal people in BC and Canada who in the last 50 years had been shot by police, and died in custody due to police action or inaction. The NCCABC tabled the report at their meeting.

## FIRST NATIONS COURT

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*It is exciting to see change and development with my clients and how my assistance helped them make positive choices for their future.*

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**T**he goal of First Nations Court is to apply an Indigenous perspective to sentencing using a holistic and restorative approach, focusing on healing rather than punishment.

First Nations Courts have been developed in consultation with local First Nations, community members, police, Community Corrections, Crown counsel, defence lawyers, and other support service groups like the Native Courtworker and Counselling Association of British Columbia. The overarching goal of First Nations Courts is to take a holistic, culturally appropriate approach to First Nations offenders within the framework of existing laws. First Nations Courts provide support and healing to assist in offender rehabilitation and seek to acknowledge and repair the harm done to victims and the community. The First Nations Courts make decisions on bail hearings, sentencing hearings and child protection matters.

To be eligible to have a case heard in First Nations Court, a person must:

- Self-identify as an Indigenous person
- Acknowledge the wrongdoing and plead guilty to a criminal offence
- Have available to the person and sentencing option of either a probation order (generally referred to as a healing plan) or a conditional sentence order

First Nations Courts currently operate in New Westminster, North Vancouver (includes Whistler and Squamish), Kamloops and Duncan. Merritt First Nations Court opens October 2017.

DID YOU  
KNOW

17%

of Canada's federal institution inmates are Indigenous — considering they represent only 2.7% of Canada's population

URBAN HEALTH RESEARCH  
INITIATIVE 2011



# contact

## FIRST NATIONS COURT

### Kamloops/Merritt:

Rae-Anne Sasakamoose  
(855) 221-5728

### North Vancouver:

Robert Clydesdale  
(855) 221-5726

### Duncan:

Mabel Peters  
(855) 221-5735

### New Westminster:

(855) 221-6154

## FIRST NATIONS COURT RESOURCES

### Duncan Resources Hiiye'yu Lelum (House of Friendship)

To promote wellness and unity the Hiiye'yu Lelum (House of Friendship) Society address the needs and aspirations of the Aboriginal people by providing holistic programs and services.

<https://hofduncan.org/>

#106-5462 Trans Canada Hwy

Mailing Address:

Hiiye'yu Lelum Society

P.O. Box 1015, Duncan, BC

V9L 3Y2

(250) 748-2242

[arlenesam@hofduncan.org](mailto:arlenesam@hofduncan.org)

### Quw'utsun Syuw'entst Lelum' Culture and Education Centre

Quw'utsun Syuw'entst Lelum' (Cowichan teachings house) Culture and Education Centre promotes the understanding of Cowichan culture and language to both the First

Nation and non-First Nation community, and provides educational support to Cowichan Tribes members. The success of its programs is attributed to its holistic approach to improving the quality of life for all members and integrating its services with other Band and community services.

[www.cowichantribes.com](http://www.cowichantribes.com)

5744 Allenby Road, Duncan,  
BC V9L 5J1

(250) 715-1022

[education@cowichantribes.com](mailto:education@cowichantribes.com)

### Ts'ewulhtun Health Centre

Ts'ewulhtun Health Centre began operation in 1992. It manages public health and communicable disease control for Cowichan Tribes, and provides health education programs. Other administrative services include:

- Birth registration
- Applications to the Elders Program
- Elders Tobacco Tax (Funeral subsidies)
- Youth Tobacco Tax

[www.cowichantribes.com/member-services/health/](http://www.cowichantribes.com/member-services/health/)

5768 Allenby Road, Duncan,  
BC V9L 5J1

(250) 746-6184

[health@cowichantribes.com](mailto:health@cowichantribes.com)

### RCMP – First Nations Policing

The First Nations Policing Program (FNPP), administered by Public Safety Canada, gives First Nations communities the opportunity to participate with the federal and provincial or territorial governments in tripartite agreements for the provision of dedicated policing services in their communities.

CELEBRATING

45  
YEARS

2003

The Youth Criminal Justice Act (YCJA) replaces the Young Offenders Act “to stop over use of incarceration, minor cases that did not belong in court, unfair sentencing, and insufficient reintegration to society and a lack of consideration for victims’ rights.”

## FIRST NATIONS COURT RESOURCES

[www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/pubs/abo-aut/fncps-spcpn-eng.html](http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/pubs/abo-aut/fncps-spcpn-eng.html)

### Lalum'utul' Smun'eem Child and Family Services

Lalum'utul' Smun'eem exists to promote a healthy Cowichan Community and supports everyone having a voice. Our focus is on our precious gifts of children, families, elders and community while respecting tradition. We work towards achieving this vision from a place of growth, equality and strength.

[www.cowichantribes.com/member-services/children-and-families/](http://www.cowichantribes.com/member-services/children-and-families/)

5766 Allenby Road, Duncan,  
BC V9L 5J1  
P: (250) 746-1002  
[cfs@cowichantribes.com](mailto:cfs@cowichantribes.com)

### MCFD – Social Workers

The Ministry works together with Delegated Aboriginal Agencies, Aboriginal service partners and approximately 5,400 contracted community social service agencies and foster homes, cross-government and social sector partners to deliver inclusive, culturally respectful, responsive and accessible services that support the well-being of children, youth and families.

[www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/organizational-structure/ministries-organizations/ministries/children-and-family-development](http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/organizational-structure/ministries-organizations/ministries/children-and-family-development)

### Cowichan Women against Violence Society

CWAV Society provides a range of programs designed to assist women in their response to physical, emotional or sexualized abuse and/or violence from a current or past partner, family member or acquaintance. We also work to increase awareness, educate, and prevent abuse or violence, and work to promote community safety through many strategies.

[www.cwav.org](http://www.cwav.org)

103 - 255 Ingram Street,  
Duncan, BC, V9L 1P3  
P: (250) 748-7000  
F: (250) 748-9364  
Somenos House:  
(250) 748-8544  
Email: [cwav@cwav.org](mailto:cwav@cwav.org)

### Warmland Women's Support Services Society

[www.warmlandwomen.org](http://www.warmlandwomen.org)

To preserve the dignity and value of women and self-identified women who are transgendered by providing services grounded in feminist theory and cultural competence addressing gender-based violence and its impact on women, youth and families in the Cowichan Valley  
331 St. Julien Street  
Duncan, BC  
T: (250) 710-8177  
[kthomas@warmlandwomen.org](mailto:kthomas@warmlandwomen.org)

2004

NCCABC receives the Employee Gold Award from the United Way of the Lower Mainland for its outstanding contribution to the community.

2004

The support of the First Nations Summit, Union of BC Indian Chiefs, Métis Provincial Council of BC and BC Assembly of First Nations is successful, as the NCCABC retains its funding level.

# nccabc faces

## Kevin Hill

ABORIGINAL CASE WORKER

Kevin is Mohawk from Six Nations in Ontario and is part of the Turtle Clan. He studied criminology at the University of Windsor, child and youth care at Mohawk College and human and social development at the University of Victoria. He has worked for NCCABC for nine years, all at the Downtown Community Court in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside. He became a caseworker "to help our people through the court process, as it can be scary and intimidating if you are not familiar with it."



CELEBRATING

**45**  
YEARS

2004

NCCABC develops an interactive CD showing Circle Sentencing processes used for Aboriginal Restorative Justice Programs in BC.

2004

NCCABC establishes the new Aboriginal Detox Support Program in Vancouver that assists client to carry out their aftercare recovery plans.

## DOWNTOWN COMMUNITY COURT

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*The most memorable moment in my work with NCCABC so far was seeing my client in the paper as a chef for a restaurant and knowing how far she has come and what she overcame to get to that position.*



**T**he Aboriginal Case Worker at Vancouver Community Court provides these services:

- Increases linkages between communities, organizations and individuals and the justice system
- Increases consideration of relevant factors (cultural and other) by court officials and the judiciary
- Enhances legislation, policies, services and processes affecting Aboriginal people before the courts
- Ensures Aboriginal accused receive fair, equitable and culturally sensitive treatment by the criminal justice system

Our Case Worker also liaises with the judicial personnel to develop rapport with First Nation and Indigenous communities. This builds trust and provides knowledge of local issues. The worker also helps educate the community court on Indigenous culture and advises the court when required. The worker will make the court aware of all underlying factors that led to the offence and direct the participant toward the proper avenue that best suits their needs.

DID YOU  
KNOW

25%

of First Nations people in BC live in Vancouver although they represent only 2% of the total population residing there

STATISTICS CANADA  
2002-2006



# contact

## VANCOUVER COMMUNITY COURT

Kevin Hill:

T: (604) 660-8743

F: (604) 660-8705

211 Gore Street  
Vancouver, BC  
V6A 0B6

## DOWNTOWN COMMUNITY COURT RESOURCE GUIDE

### Pier Pharmacy

Pier Pharmacy is a clinical operation designed to address a need for increased mental health and chronic disease outreach support to create a safer and healthier community.

<http://pierhealth.ca>

223 Main Street, Vancouver,  
BC, Canada V6A 2S7

T: (604) 891-1480

F: (604) 891-1490

[info@pierhealth.ca](mailto:info@pierhealth.ca)

### Carnegie Community Centre

Provides social, educational, cultural and recreational activities on-site, at nearby Oppenheimer Park and through an outreach team. The programs serve low income adults with the goal of nurturing mind, body, and spirit in a safe and welcoming environment.

<http://vancouver.ca/parks->

[recreation-culture/carnegie-community-centre.aspx](http://recreation-culture/carnegie-community-centre.aspx)

401 Main Street, Vancouver,  
BC V6A 2T7

(604) 665-2220

[carnegie@vancouver.ca](mailto:carnegie@vancouver.ca)

### Vancouver Native Housing Society

VNHS's mandate is to provide safe, secure and affordable housing. We have expanded our operations to include housing solutions for seniors, youth, women at risk, persons living with mental illness and the homeless and homeless at risk populations.

<http://www.vnhs.ca>

1726 East Hastings Street,  
Vancouver, BC, V5L 1S9

T: (604) 320-3312

F: (604) 320-3317

[info@vnhs.ca](mailto:info@vnhs.ca)

### BC Housing

Creating safe, affordable and

quality housing is core to our purpose. Discover the mission, vision and values that guide every aspect of our business.

<https://www.bchousing.org/>

Suite 510-369 Terminal Avenue,  
Vancouver, BC V6A 4C4

P: (604) 609-7024

F: (604) 609-7031

[Imdirectlymanaged@bchousing.org](mailto:Imdirectlymanaged@bchousing.org)

### Salvation Army Belkin House

A Residential Program Facility in the heart of Vancouver dedicated to "Breaking barriers – transforming lives."

[belkinhouse.ca/](http://belkinhouse.ca/)

555 Homer Street,  
Vancouver, BC V6B 1K8

P: (604) 681-3405

[administration@belkinhouse.ca](mailto:administration@belkinhouse.ca)

### Strathcona Community Mental Health Team

Integrated Care Team provides primary care,

CELEBRATING

45  
YEARS

2005

The NCCABC mourns the loss of First Nations leader and past President of the NCCABC George Watts who passed away.

2005

A pilot project to develop a Trainer's Model is undertaken to describe day-to-day skill requirements for the Courtworkers.

specialized health services, and supports to adults with serious and persistent mental illness and/or substance use issues. Services include case management, clinical assessment and treatment, individual and group therapy, addictions treatment, harm reduction services, and rehabilitation services.

[http://www.vch.ca/locations-and-services/find-health-services/?program\\_id=1](http://www.vch.ca/locations-and-services/find-health-services/?program_id=1)

330 Heatley Street,  
Vancouver, BC V6A 3G3  
(604) 875-8289  
(604) 253-4401  
F: (604) 253-5194  
[feedback@vch.ca](mailto:feedback@vch.ca)

#### Overdose Outreach Team

The Overdose Prevention Outreach Team will help us provide life-saving services where they are needed the most, and we know, right now,

the majority of overdoses occur in and around the Downtown Eastside.

<http://www.vch.ca/about-us/news/news-releases/new-programs-to-combat-overdose-crisis>

Vancouver Coastal Health  
O: (604) 708-5338  
C: (604) 312-1148  
[carrie.stefanson@vch.ca](mailto:carrie.stefanson@vch.ca)

#### Connections Clinic

Provides a drop-in treatment centre to help those struggling with illicit drug addiction and have difficulty accessing mainstream services. The clinic offers opioid replacement therapy with clients assessed and receiving treatment within hours of check-in. No appointment is required.

[www.vch.ca/your-care/mental-health-substance-use/substance-use-services](http://www.vch.ca/your-care/mental-health-substance-use/substance-use-services)

623 Powell Street, Vancouver  
604) 675-3600  
1 (866) 658-1221

#### Drug Users Resource Centre

The primary goal of the Aboriginal Services program is to round out an individual's medicine wheel in an attempt to facilitate holistic well-being.

<https://www.phs.ca/index.php/contact-us/>

20 West Hastings Street,  
Vancouver, BC V6B 1G6  
[info@phs.ca](mailto:info@phs.ca)

#### Indian Residential School Survivors Society

To support survivors: crisis counselling, court support, information, referrals assist communities to help survivors: partnerships, training & education workshops raise awareness

of residential school issues: contact with the media; conferences supports & conducts research: history and effects of residential schools. To advocate for justice and healing: traditional and non-Aboriginal forms.

<http://irsss.ca/>

413 West Esplanade, North  
Vancouver, BC V7M  
(604) 985-4464  
[reception@irsss.ca](mailto:reception@irsss.ca)

2006

The Crystal Meth Reference Guide is developed.

2007

The Law Foundation of BC provides a contract to fund four Aboriginal Family and Youth Advocates for three years.



**CELEBRATING**

**45  
YEARS**

**2007**

NCCABC President Hugh Braker receives the 2007 National Aboriginal Achievement Award.

**2008**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper officially apologizes for more than a century of abuse and cultural loss involving residential schools.

## THROUGH AN ABORIGINAL LENS

*At NCCABC we have the opportunity to support Indigenous youth, families and communities utilizing Indigenous cultural teachings.*



**T**hrough an Aboriginal Lens (TAL) program, in partnership with the Asante Centre Youth Justice Program in Maple Ridge and Surrey, provides support to Indigenous youth who have been referred for an FASD assessment by Youth Probation Officers in BC.

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) is an umbrella term that describes the range of cognitive and behavioural disabilities that may affect an individual's brain if their mother drank alcohol while she was pregnant. Individuals with FASD are overrepresented in the criminal justice system due to concurrent cognitive, physiological and environmental risk factors.

Funded by First Nations Health Authority, TAL provides all-inclusive support in partnership with the Asante Centre and other service providers while still rooted in Indigenous values and teachings. The program supports youth through the FASD assessment process and facilitates communication with family and/or any persons related to the FASD assessment process or the youths' engagement with the criminal justice system. TAL will also refer youth and family to other services, resources or Elder mentors within their community that can assist with life challenges outside of the assessment process. TAL workers attend Ministry of Child and Family Development meetings and case conferences, and also educate families and communities about FASD. This wraparound and culturally influenced support helps reduce the number of youth with FASD entering into ministry care and the criminal justice system and assists youth in reconnecting with birth families, communities and cultures. | Darla Rasmussen, Program Manager.

DID YOU KNOW

3.6%

of Aboriginal children aged 14 and under are foster children compared to 0.3% of non-Aboriginal children

48.1%

or almost half of all children in Canada under the age of 14 and in foster care are Aboriginal

STATISTICS CANADA 2011



# contact

## THROUGH AN ABORIGINAL LENS PROGRAM

Darla Ramussen  
Program Manager

C: (604) 349-2578  
P: (604) 467-7101

Sean Russell  
(604) 219-8151

CELEBRATING  
**45**  
YEARS

## THROUGH AN ABORIGINAL LENS RESOURCE GUIDE

### **Plea Youth Detox Sprrtd Recovery**

Addiction programs include:  
Youth Detox  
Daughters & Sisters Addiction  
Treatment for Teen Girls  
Waypoint Addiction  
Treatment for Teen Boys  
Supported Recovery.

3894 Commercial St,  
Vancouver, BC V5N 4G2  
**Kalyn Brown**  
(604) 708-2616  
kbrown@plea.bc.ca

### **PLEA Youth Justice Support**

PLEA's Youth Justice Services are alternatives to custody for young people who are involved with the Youth Justice system. Our programs adhere to the requirements of the Youth Criminal Justice Act and support the safe rehabilitation of people while minimizing the use of custody. Our programs include:  
Dare Attendance  
Short Term Bail/Respite  
Intensive Support

and Supervision  
Curfew Monitoring

Vancouver, Richmond, North  
Shore, Sea to Sky, Sunshine Coast,  
Bella Coola and Bella Bella  
**Kim Gale-Gotowiec**  
(604) 708-2614  
kgotowiec@plea.bc.ca

### **Access – BladeRunners**

It targets at-risk youth (15-30 years of age) and provides them with basic training designed to facilitate entry into the labour force. Companies from all sectors of industry throughout British Columbia provide employment opportunities for participants and the ultimate goal is for them to gain sufficient skills and experience that will translate into a long-term attachment to the labour force. All BladeRunners participants receive certified health and safety training and learn life skills and job readiness skills that help

them build self-esteem and confidence. Through workplace training and integration, the participants acquire marketable skills that enhance their long-term employment prospects.

Suite 108 - 100 Park Royal,  
West Vancouver, BC V7T 1A2  
**T: (604) 913-7933**  
**F: (604) 913-7938**

### **Access – Essential Skills for Aboriginal Futures**

Vision is to deliver an innovative Essential Skills program to the Aboriginal Community through employer partnerships and customized training that supports employment success and retention; Essential Skills for Aboriginal Futures (ESAF) is Access (Aboriginal Community Employment Services Society) program and funded by the Government of Canada.

Suite 201, 681 Columbia Street,  
New Westminster, BC V3M 1A8

**2008**

**The new Vancouver Downtown Community Court opens to bring together justice, health and social services. NCCABC hires a Native Courtworker to work directly from this court.**

**2013**

**Darlene Shackelly, Executive Director of Native Courtworker and Counselling Association of BC, receives the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal, recognizing her outstanding contributions to society and Canada.**

T: (604) 521-5929  
F: (604) 521-5931

**First Nation Health Authority**

The First Nations Health Authority is establishing a strong foundation that will allow us to innovate, transform and redesign health service delivery with guidance from BC First Nations.

501-100 Park Royal South  
Coast Salish Territory  
West Vancouver, BC  
V7T 1A2  
Crisis Counselling:  
(604) 666-6458  
IRS: (604) 658-2833  
TF: 1 (855) 550-5454

**All Nations Safe House**

Safe house with six beds and meals for at-risk, self-referred youth ages 16 to 18 of all nations. ANYSH is a 7-day emergency stay, with the possibility of extension based on weekly review.

Each resident is assigned a key worker who assists the youth in developing an individualized service plan of daily goals to secure housing. Staff assist youth to locate job opportunities, training, housing, and schooling. Youth are encouraged to be goal oriented, and are supported with individualized case planning when appropriate. Youth must be clean/sober 72 hours.

Surrey  
(604) 584-2625

**Community Navigator**

The Community Navigator will act as a liaison for primary care and community clients with barriers to access, by connecting them with various community services, social assistance programs, health promotion programs and initiatives, and clinical services. A Navigator can help

youth with developmental disabilities transition into adulthood. They can help youth plan for the future and coordinate appropriate supports and services.

To see a Navigator near you call:  
1-855-356-5609

**Mission Friendship Centre**

33158 A First Ave, Mission,  
BC V2V 1G4  
P: (604) 826-1281  
TF: 1 (888) 826-1281  
F: (604) 826-4056  
director@mifcs.bc.ca

**Urban Native Youth Association**

Safehouse: Youth who meet the following criteria:

- 16- to 18-year-old youth in need of shelter
- Looking to make a positive change in your life
- Must want to attend by own choice
- Must be 72 hours clean of hard drugs

1618 East Hastings Street,  
Vancouver, BC V5L 1S6

TF: 1 (877) 223-4321  
F: (604) 254-5159

**Community Living BC**

On January 31, 2010, a regulatory change for CLBC eligibility criteria took effect making a distinct new group of adults eligible to receive supports from CLBC. CLBC's new Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Resource Supporting Success for Adults with FASD is designed to be used by CLBC staff, service providers, community members, family members and others who work with adults with FASD.

7th Floor, Airport Square 1200 – West  
73rd Avenue Vancouver, BC V6P 6G5  
- Multiple services offices across BC

O: (604) 664-0101  
TF: 1 (877) 660-2522  
F: (604) 554-0765  
email: CLBCInfo@gov.bc.ca

2015

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada releases its findings and calls to action, following a six-year mandate where the three Commissioners heard more than 6,750 survivor and witness statements from across the country after over a century of abuse at Indian residential schools.

# nccabc faces

## Christina Draegen

NCCABC MANAGER | NORTHERN BC

Christina is a proud Algonquin and Ojibwa First Nation. She has lived in BC since she was five years old and considers Prince George to be her home. She was raised by proud Cree women who inspired her to work hard and help our Peoples and believes the stories, tools and resources in our Women's Right to Be Safe publication is essential information in today's world. "I believe this publication can save lives through conversations amongst family and community. Knowledge is empowering and that is what this resource offers. It is practical, easy reading and profiles community champions."



CELEBRATING

**45**  
YEARS

**2015**

The Government of Canada announces the launch of an independent national inquiry to address the high number of missing and murdered Indigenous women.

**2017**

Brenda Butterworth-Carr becomes first Indigenous woman promoted to Commanding Officer of the RCMP. The Yukon native is the first Indigenous woman to head the RCMP's E Division.





**Douglas White** B.A., J.D., is a member, former Chief, and current Councillor of the Snuneymuxw First Nation in Nanaimo, BC. His Coast Salish name is Kwulasultun and his Nuu-chah-nulth name is Tliishin.



**Estella White** is a member of the Hesquiaht First Nation and belongs to the house of Kinqashtacumlth. Her traditional name is Hee Naih Cha Chist, which means “water that glimmers.” Estella is a practising lawyer in Victoria and Vancouver. Estella’s work strives to advance the inherent and constitutionally protected rights of Indigenous peoples.



**Nancy Sandy** is a member of the Williams Lake Indian Band (T'exelc) of the Secwepemc Nation. She successfully completed the requirements for the Masters of Laws degree in 2011 at the University of Victoria.

**Halie Bruce** Halie (Kwanxwa'logwa) is an Indigenous woman of Kwakwaka'wakw, Tlingit, and Scottish descent. She is a member of the 'Namgis First Nation.



**Colleen Spier** is a Métis woman, wife and mother of two children, and her husband and children are registered members of the Lake St. Martin Band in Manitoba.

**Chief Aaron Sam** is currently the elected Chief for Lower Nicola Indian Band, outside of Merritt, BC. Chief Sam is also a practising lawyer at Fulton & Company in Kamloops.



**Kristy Bell** is of Scottish and Cree ancestry from the Driftpile First Nation in Treaty 8 territory. Her partner is a member of the Musgamagw Dzawada'enuw with maternal lineage to the K'omoks First Nation.

# BC ABORIGINAL JUSTICE COUNCIL

The BC Aboriginal Justice Council (BCAJC) is a leadership initiative consisting of the First Nations Summit, Union of BC Indian Chiefs, BC Assembly of First Nations, and the Native Courtworker and Counselling Association of BC. The council aims to provide a collective approach to address key issues and concerns that Aboriginal people face within the justice system in British Columbia.

## Purpose

The BC Aboriginal Justice Council aims to provide a collective approach to address key issues and concerns that Aboriginal people face with the justice system in British Columbia by challenging approaches that contribute to the growing overrepresentation of Aboriginal children and youth in the care of government, and incarcerated Aboriginal men and women. The BCAJC strives to productively engage with the government to advance effective strategies that can achieve better outcomes for our people in the justice system.

## Membership

The Justice Council is composed of seven individuals:

- One representative appointed by each of the respective political organizations of the First Nations Summit (FNS), Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs (UBCIC), and British Columbia Assembly of First Nations (BCAFN), according to their own protocol and accord of appointments,

for a total of three representatives;

- One representative appointed from the Board of Directors of the Native Courtworker and Counselling Association of British Columbia (NCCABC); and,
- Three representatives with expertise in Aboriginal justice in BC, on or off reserve, to be jointly appointed by the respective organizations of the NCCABC, BCAFN, FNS, and UBCIC.

## Decision Making

The Justice Council has two co-chairs and are elected by consensus to be responsible for chairing meetings and work with NCCABC staff to arrange meetings, prepare agendas, and report on progress.

## Priorities

To build upon resolutions of the BCAFN, UBCIC, FNS and NCCABC, the goals and priorities of the BCAJC include:

- Identifying the policy and program changes and resource realignments required to address the magnitude of issues contributing to the disproportionate patterns of children and youth in care.

## QUICK FACTS:

- The B.C. government has committed to adopting the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), which has been accepted by 148 nations, including the Government of Canada.
- In all government ministers' mandate letters, the Premier included a requirement that they review policies, programs and legislation to determine how to bring the principles of UNDRIP to action in British Columbia.
- The government will also accept and implement the 94 Calls to Action in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's final report and will work with First Nations and the Government of Canada to do this.
- The B.C. government has committed to implementing the recommendations from Grand Chief Ed John's report, Indigenous Resilience, Connectedness and Reunification – From Root Causes to Root Solutions, and provide better supports so Indigenous children grow up in their communities and not in care.

## PROVINCE AND ABORIGINAL JUSTICE COUNCIL SIGN BC INDIGENOUS JUSTICE STRATEGY MOU

September 7, 2017

**T**he Co-Chairs of the Aboriginal Justice Council, Attorney General and Minister for Public Safety and Solicitor General signed a BC Indigenous Justice Strategy Memorandum of Understanding.

The BC Indigenous Justice Strategy will focus on reconciliation with Indigenous peoples, decreasing the overrepresentation of Indigenous peoples in the justice system, addressing violence against Indigenous peoples – especially women and girls – improving access to justice and justice services for Indigenous peoples, and designing services for Indigenous peoples that are culturally relevant and appropriate.

The ministries will be providing capacity funding of \$400,000, to sustain the BC Aboriginal Justice Council's (BCAJC) participation in this important work and to enable joint development of the strategy over the next two years.

"This is a pivotal time in the building of a new partnership with Indigenous leadership organizations," said Attorney General David Eby. "We know that the justice system is not working well for Indigenous peoples and we have heard the clear message from leaders – we must do things differently. This is the first step in working togeth-

er to develop a justice system that is culturally relevant and meets the needs of these communities. The funding allows us to work collaboratively toward practical solutions and actions."

"New and robust engagement between government and Indigenous peoples is essential for increasing opportunities for restorative justice and addressing public safety concerns such as violence against Indigenous women and children," said Solicitor General Mike Farnworth. "In order to improve outcomes, and ensure the justice and public safety sector is responsive to these concerns, collaboration is critical."

"The BCAJC has an urgent mandate to address much-needed reform in the criminal justice system, and child and family system," said Douglas White, Co-Chair of the BCAJC. "Our people are grossly overrepresented in both systems. Today's announcement of an MOU between the BCAJC and BC is an important step in signalling real partnership to act on the needs of Indigenous peoples in our province and to create a more just society."

"Signing this Memorandum of Understanding and commitment to funding the work of the BCAJC, is acknowledgement of the collaboration that is needed to advance justice issues for all Indigenous People in the province," said Nancy Sandy, Co-Chair of the Aboriginal Justice Council.



**From top left to bottom right:** Mark Sieben Province of BC, Chief Aaron Sam BCAJC, Grand Chief Edward John FNS, Richard Fyfe Province of BC, Darlene Shackelly NCCABC, Minister Scott Fraser, Maureen Chapman BCAF, Minister Mike Farnworth, Minister David Eby, Douglas White BCAJC and Nancy Sandy BCAJC.

# Contact us:

## ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

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mboucher@nccabc.net

Christina Draegen | Regional Manager  
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1-877-811-1190 Ext. 320  
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cdraegen@nccabc.com

Darla Rasmussen | Program Manager  
Through an Aboriginal Lens  
1-877-811-1190 Ext. 309  
Cell: 604-349-2578  
drasmussen@nccabc.com



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NCCABC Board of Directors are community-elected in 13 regions throughout the province. They serve three-year terms on the Board of Directors. Our Board functions primarily as a “policy board” and operates with two main committees: an executive committee, which is responsible for providing direction, and the finance committee, which monitors the financial health of the association and provides recommendations to the executive committee. Our Executive Director is responsible for the operations of the association and its activities.

Region #01 – Ben Cardinal, Fort St. John, BC

Region #02 – Andrew Tom, Smithers, BC

Region #03 – Gloria George, Prince George, BC

Region #04 – Vacant, Williams Lake, BC

Region #05 – Mary Brown, Bella Bella, BC

Region #06 – Kristy Bell, Courtenay, BC

Region #07 – Douglas White, Nanaimo, BC

Region #08 – Sandra Tate, Port Alberni, BC

Region #09 – Terry La Liberte, QC, West Vancouver, BC

Region #10 – Leslie Jones, Chilliwack, BC

Region #11 – Marci McDougall, Kamloops, BC

Region #12 – Jon Spotted Eagle, Vernon, BC

Region #13 – Michele A. Sam, Cranbrook, BC



# Thank you

*We wish to extend our heartfelt thanks to the agencies and organizations that support the NCCABC and the work that we do.*

Department of Justice

Department of Justice  
Victim's Fund

Children's AID Foundation

Law Foundation of BC

Vancity

First Nations Health Authority

Fraser Health Authority

Ministry of Children and  
Family Development

Ministry of Health  
Aboriginal Healthy  
Living Branch

Ministry of Solicitor General  
Corrections Branch

National Crime  
Prevention Centre  
Changing Directions Program

New Relationship Trust

Status of Women Canada

Vancouver Coastal  
Health Authority

Vancouver Foundation

The Province of British Columbia

# NATIVE COURTWORKER

AND COUNSELLING ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



CELEBRATING

45

YEARS

SERVING AND CARING  
FOR OUR COMMUNITY

The Native Courtworker and Counselling Association of British Columbia has been providing justice-related services to Indigenous people and communities in the province of BC for over four decades.

GETTY IMAGES



N C C A B C . C A