

# 2014 - 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

*Stopping Adult Abuse and Neglect...Together*



BC Association of  
Community Response  
Networks

*Stopping Adult Abuse and Neglect ...Together*

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**NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS**  
**OF**  
**THE BC ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY RESPONSE NETWORKS**

The Board of Directors of the Association hereby gives notice that the  
Annual General Meeting of the Association  
Will be held at  
**5:00 p.m. on the day of Thursday, June 18, 2015**

1. To receive the report of the Directors to the Members.
2. To receive and approve the Audited Financial Statements of the Association for the period ended March 31, 2015.
3. To appoint an Auditor for the Association for the ensuing year.
4. To transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

**CALL IN NUMBER FOR TELECONFERENCE AT 5:00 SHARP:**  
**1-877-353-9184 or Locally: 604-681-0260**  
**Pass Code: 9239214#**

DATED the 4<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2015

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Susan Harland  
Secretary

Please RSVP to Sharon Johnson - [administration@bccrns.ca](mailto:administration@bccrns.ca)

# BC ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY RESPONSE NETWORKS

## TWELFTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

### AGENDA

**DATE:** Thursday, June 18, 2015  
**TIME:** 5:00 pm  
**PLACE:** By Teleconference (please RSVP)  
[administration@bccrns.ca](mailto:administration@bccrns.ca)

- 5:00**      **Welcome**
- Introduction of current Board Members
  - Roll call of voting members and other participants
- 5:20**      **Agenda of AGM - June 18, 2015**
- Minutes of Eleventh Annual General Meeting - June 19, 2014**
- Financial Report**
- Audited Financial Statements for 2014/2015  
(Separate Document)  
- Norm Grdina, CPA, CGA
  - Appointment of the Auditor - motion
- Report of the Board to the Members - Jill Hightower**
- Report of the Executive Director - Sherry Baker**
- Introduction of Board members for 2015-2016**
- Other business**
- 6:00**      **Adjournment**

# BC ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY RESPONSE NETWORKS

## ELEVENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

### MINUTES

**DATE:** Thursday, June 19, 2014  
**TIME:** 5:00 pm  
**PLACE:** By Teleconference

1. Welcome, Co-Chair, Kathleen Cunningham
2. Roll Call, Sherry Baker, Executive Director

**PRESENT:** 31 Voting plus 16 Non-Voting

#### BOARD

Kelley Williams  
Elsie Gerdes  
Kathleen Cunningham  
Lillian Allison  
Jill Hightower  
Linda Myers  
Susan Harland

CRNs One vote for each CRN

Abbotsford  
Campbell River  
Cranbrook (2)  
Creston  
Fort St. John  
Gabriola  
Hope  
Houston  
Kamloops  
Kaslo  
Kelowna  
Lakes District - Burns Lake  
McBride (2)  
Mt. Waddington (2)

#### NON-VOTING STAFF

Shirley Gust  
Linda Hall  
Heather Archer  
Kathy Doerksen  
Micki Smith  
Karen Bunner  
Kari Chambers  
Belinda Lacombe  
Keri Rinehart  
Jane Osborne  
Barb Kirby  
Louise Tremblay

#### OTHER

Norm Grdina - Morrow & Co.

Nelson  
North Shore  
Prince George  
Quesnel  
Smithers (2)  
Sunshine Coast  
Surrey/Newton  
Vancouver West End  
Vancouver Downtown Eastside

**3. Quorum (15) was confirmed.**

**4. Agenda of AGM - June 19, 2014**

Additions/Changes to the agenda:

Norm Grdina of Morrow and Company will present the Financial Statements

**Motion:** Accept the Agenda of AGM - June 19, 2014 as amended

**Moved:** Elsie Gerdes

**Second:** Jill Hightower

**Opposition:** None

Motion Carried

**5. Motion:** Accept the Minutes of Tenth Annual General Meeting - June 20, 2013

**Moved:** Kelley Williams

**Second:** Dave Sutton (Quesnel)

**Opposition:** None

Motion Carried

**6. Motion:** Accept the Audited Financial Statements as presented by Norm Grdina

**Moved:** Jane Osborne (Nanaimo)

**Second:** Kelley Williams

**Opposition:** None

Motion Carried

**6. Appointment of the Auditor**

**Motion:** That Morrow and Company be appointed Auditors for the 2014-2015 year

**Moved:** Dave Sutton (Quesnel)

**Second:** Julie Foster (Mt. Waddington)

**Opposition:** None

Motion Carried

**7. Report of the Board to the Members - Kathleen Cunningham presented a report on behalf of the Board**

**Motion:** Accept the Report of the Board

**Moved:** Kathleen Cunningham

**Second:** Elsie Gerdes

**Opposition:** None

Motion Carried

**8. Report of the Executive Director - Sherry Baker**

**Motion:** Accept the Report of the Executive Director

**Moved:** Dave Sutton (Quesnel)

**Second:** Jill Hightower

**Opposition:** None

Motion Carried

**10. Report of the Nominating Committee**

**Motion:** I would like to move that the following candidates be elected to the Board of Directors of the BC Association of Community Response Networks for two years, starting on June 20, 2013.

**Phil Hall - Chilliwack**

**Guisepppe (Joe) Scaletta - Victoria**

**Lillian Allison - Cawston**

**Kelley Williams - McBride**

**Moved:** Susan Harland

**Second:** Elsie Gerdes

**Opposition:** None

Motion Carried

**11. Motion:** Adjournment

**Moved:** Jane Osborne (Nanaimo)

**Second:** Julie Foster (Mt. Waddington)

**Opposition:** None

Motion Carried

Meeting adjourned at 5:56 pm.

## BC ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY RESPONSE NETWORKS

### Report of the Co-chairs, Board of Directors To the Twelfth Annual General Meeting

June 18, 2015

We are pleased to provide the 2014-15 report from the Board of Directors of the BC Association of Community Response Networks.

The 2014-2015 year has seen the association continue to flourish and grow under the tireless and enthusiastic commitment of our Executive Director, Sherry Baker and her management team, the mentors and the many local CRN coordinators. We now have 52 CRNs connecting 116 communities throughout BC, including 2 in First Nation Communities. In the summer of 2014 our mentors helped their coordinators compile a comprehensive listing of local resources for every community which can be located using the interactive map on the website.

The ongoing support from the Ministry of Health and BC Gaming Branch has been instrumental in helping us to achieve our goals and assist the association in running an efficient and effective network, bringing together an ever expanding number of community members, all with an interest in preventing abuse and neglect of vulnerable adults in our communities, and increasingly representing a broader diversity of interests including business and financial sectors.

We continue to have a strong provincial and national presence through our executive director's participation on the BC Council to Reduce Elder Abuse, and the Canadian Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse, and many other committees and working groups. Our regular provincial learning events offer a wide variety of presentations on topics of interest to CRN participants and other interested parties across the province and are well attended.

Of particular note was the February learning event panel "Developing a Critical Lens on Older Adults in the Media." The panel was made up of three members of the BC CRN board who presented on "Ageism", "Legal Implications of Denying the Necessities of Life" and "Indicators of Abuse". The event was in response to the "kayak.com" commercial that attracted wide attention within the sector. In March 2015 we wrote to the CRTC, Kayak, and two marketing agencies expressing our concern with the ad. We were gratified to learn in late May 2015 that the Advertising Standards Council of Canada had received the complaint and taken it seriously. [Global News reported on May 21<sup>st</sup>](#) that the ASC found that the commercial displayed "unacceptable depictions and portrayals" under section 14 (d) of the Canadian Code of Advertising Standards." According to section 14 (d), advertisements shall not: "undermine human dignity; or display obvious indifference to, or encourage, gratuitously and without merit, conduct or attitudes that offend the standards of public decency prevailing among a significant segment of the population." Following the finding



Kayak removed the ad from its YouTube page and has pulled it from Canadian television. Many thanks to the board members who participated in the panel discussion and assisted with the letter.

This year has seen further changes to the board. We welcome **Ward Bertram** who joined the board in December 2104. He brings his knowledge of the financial sector. **Matt Scott** joined the board in February. He is from Island Health Authority. Matt will replace **Linda Myers** who retired from Interior Health in late 2014. Matt's presence will ensure that the board continues to have representation from the designated agencies responsible for responding to reports of abuse and neglect. In addition to Linda's departure, it is with regret that **Kathleen Cunningham** is also leaving the board this year.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Cunningham and Jill Hightower, Co-Chairs

A personal note from Kathleen:

*It has been a rewarding 2 years and I feel privileged to have had the opportunity to share the leadership of the board with Jill Hightower and watch the association grow and expand the nature of the work it does. I wish the next board and the association continued success. Kathleen Cunningham*

## BC ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY RESPONSE NETWORKS

### Report of the Executive Director To the Twelfth Annual General Meeting

June 18, 2015

#### INTRODUCTION

The year 2014-2015 has been an important year in the evolution of BC CRN. Most of the fundamental policies, procedures, resources and infrastructure are now in place. We owe a huge vote of appreciation to the **board of directors** who stepped up to the plate on several occasions to represent the society on the provincial and national scene; to the two team leaders, **Heather Archer and Kathy Doerksen** for putting the procedures in place to be able to support all the mentors effectively and respectfully. They produced an amazing suite of manuals, resources and tool kits for the mentors to use in their work throughout the province. To **Shirley Gust** who has now refined the questionnaires and forms and tirelessly supports the coordinators and mentors in providing our organization with up-to-date data to ensure the continuation of our work. She also manages the distribution of all

the materials for the CRNs as well as being the provincial contact for World Elder Abuse Awareness Day materials. Our most recent addition to the management team is **Sharon Johnson** who joined us last summer, bringing her special skills as a Chartered Professional Accountant and her keen interest in learning and supporting the administrative and website functions which are so important for the seamless execution of our ongoing operations.

And, most importantly, we thank our funders. The **Ministry of Health** recognized the value of our work being done by the **52** Community Response Networks embracing **116** communities throughout BC and we anticipate continued funding in the years to come. The **BC Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch, Ministry of Justice** also appreciated the work we are doing with their funding to support the local communities and the immense volunteer efforts which go into the CRNs and increased their support from \$100,000 to \$150,000. We were able to provide three \$500 grants for each CRN with these funds as well as supply promotional materials and brochures which are available to everyone on an as needed basis.

There was so much happening during the last year; I will be able to touch on only some of the highlights.

Our BC CRN **Website** has undergone a modernization and complete overhaul and new look. We hired **June Pang** to work on the “look” and our technical person, **Eric Greenwood**, worked with June to make it work within the existing platform. **Sharon** will be the point person for keeping it up-to-date and fresh. Thanks to **Heather Archer** and our webmaster, **Bonnie Nilsen** for all their help and support.

The **World Elder Abuse Awareness Day** has been mentioned previously. I would like to acknowledge the work that our mentor, **Erin Evans**, put into the development of a commemorative button to mark the tenth anniversary of this proclamation at the United Nations in New York. 2,500 buttons were circulated throughout the province and were totally committed by June 1!

We continued our work with our mentors in helping them feel comfortable working with **aboriginal communities**. **Kathy Doerksen** has been leading this group with expertise provided by mentors **Belinda Lacombe, Christine Spinder** and **April Struthers** and mentorship from board member, **Phil Hall**. A full day, in-person meeting of all the mentors will be held in September 2015 to continue this work. There are now two First Nations CRNs - Urban Vancouver and Secwepemc (near Kamloops).

Three **Community of Practice teleconferences** were held for the volunteer coordinators and mentors to familiarize them with the tools and materials which are available and one was to discuss WEAAD and share ideas.

The **Provincial Learning Events** are drawing between 40 and 60 people on the phone each time they are held. Last year the speakers included: Alzheimer Society of BC, Role of the

Designated Agencies, Qmunity, Disability Alliance of BC, “Developing a Critical Lens of Older Adults in the Media”, Seniors Advocate, HandyDART, Age-Friendly Communities.

The **Strategic Plan** was completed with input from the board and all the staff and will form the basis for the work plans of each of the contractors.

The **Collective Impact Summit** was attended by Sherry Baker. This weeklong workshop in Toronto provided us with a framework which validated how the BC CRN is working. Collective Impact is a way of working in community which is defined by the members of the community who have a common agenda, share a measurement system, have mutually reinforcing activities, have continuous communication and have a backbone support organization. The BC CRN is the backbone organization for the self-governing CRNs throughout the province. We supply mentorship, resources, workshops and other materials which help the individual communities develop their own ways of dealing with abuse, neglect and self-neglect. **Kathy Doerksen** and **Heather Archer** will be joining Sherry at the Summit planned for September 2015 in Richmond. We believe that we are creating an infrastructure which is sustainable and which will fundamentally change the ways that communities work together.

In the 2014-15 year, all the mentors were trained to deliver the **It’s Not Right - Neighbours Friends and Families** workshops. Further, they were also all trained to train presenters in the local communities. This evidence-based workshop with video scenarios and materials is now embedded in the work we are doing throughout the province to increase the bystander engagement around abuse and neglect. The BC CRN is the official holder of the rights to deliver this material in BC. It has been developed, with input from our colleagues from across Canada, at the University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario.

We continued to manage the finances for the **Canadian Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse Knowledge Sharing Project**. Sherry has been the treasurer on the CNPEA board and has been part of the management team for the project. We look forward to the roll-out of the interactive website in September 2015.

The BC CRN has been the vehicle for managing the finances for the **Council to Reduce Elder Abuse (CREA)**. CREA is facilitating the implementation of the Together to Reduce Elder Abuse Strategy.

The Board was involved in the following briefs and presentations:

- Select Standing Committee on Health
- National Seniors Day (Executive Director - speaker)
- “Developing a Critical Lens of Older Adults in the Media” (Board panel)
- Brief concerning certain changes to the Societies Act

In closing I would like to acknowledge and thank all the board, staff, volunteers and community partners who give so generously to the Association and have contributed in so many ways to its success.

Thank you to **Sue McIntosh** and the Come Share Society for continuing to provide us with office space and fax service; to **Jim Poole** who so carefully manages our investments and keeps an eye on our finances; to our evaluator, **Ben Kadel**, who really “gets” who we are and what we do; and to our auditor, **Norm Grdina** and his staff, for continuing to believe in us.

We have created a well-oiled machine which is nimble, lean, dedicated and wonderful to work with. Thank you all.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Sherry Baker**  
Executive Director

## TEAM LEADER REPORTS

### 1. Fraser Health, Vancouver Coastal & Vancouver Island

The 2014-2015 year saw many changes to the roster of Mentors for my regions. **Pam Alcorn**, Mentor for Vancouver Island South, left us to take on full-time employment. **Jane Osborne**, who has been with the BC CRN for many years- serving the North Shore and the Sea to Sky region - moved to Nanaimo and took over as the Mentor for central Vancouver Island. We divided Vancouver Island into 3 regions and **Bridey Morgan Morrison** was hired as a new Mentor last August 2014 to serve the Victoria and South Vancouver Island region. **April Struthers** continues as the Mentor for North Vancouver Island and the Sunshine Coast.

**Kari Chambers** came on board in the summer of 2014 and serves as the Mentor for the North Shore and Squamish, Whistler and Pemberton areas.

**Karen Bunner** was hired in May 2014 and covers the Fraser Valley East region.

Continuing on as Mentors are **Christine Spinder** who works in Fraser Valley West and with the Vancouver Urban Aboriginal CRN, **Louise Tremblay** who works with the White Rock/South Surrey, Newton and Richmond CRNs and **Barb Kirby** who is very busy with her 5 Vancouver CRNs.

This year we have brought Campbell River, Gabriola Island, Newton and Richmond on as new CRNs and are working at adding other CRNs in the Fraser Valley, Vancouver and the

Island. Although we have 2 CRNs in Surrey, we have much work to do in developing CRNs there as well as in New Westminster and Burnaby.

Working with new Mentors is always an exciting time. It helps the BC CRN look at the organization and the ways we work, through fresh eyes as we orient the new mentors, answer questions and explain the work we do. It is rewarding to see Mentors catching hold of our vision of safe communities where adults are valued, respected and free from abuse and neglect. Together we are stopping adult abuse, neglect and self-neglect.

The work the Mentors do to support CRNs and reach out to many parts of the province continues to inspire me.

### **First Nations Work:**

This year the focus of our work has been to develop a Community of Practice with our Mentors to explore new ways of working with our aboriginal communities and to learn from each other. As a result, we explored the “gifting” ritual at our April Summit and plan a day-long workshop for the mentors to take place in Fall 2015. A special thank you to **Christine Spinder, Belinda Lacombe and April Struthers** for taking the lead on this.

### **It’s Not right - Neighbours, Friends and Families for Older Adults (INR/NFF)**

A big training focus for our mentors was the “*It’s Not Right*” presentation. We have taken on this tool and will be the provincial body that spreads this tool throughout the province. It is an interactive presentation that harnesses the good intentions of neighbours, friends and families to become aware and engage appropriately in intervening and referring in order to stop abuse and neglect from continuing. It encourages people to move from being passive bystanders to recognizing signs of abuse and asking the right questions. It is telling communities that we all have a role to play in preventing abuse, neglect and self-neglect.

This year the BC CRN Management Team - **Sherry, Shirley, Sharon, Heather and Kathy** - have spent many hours reviewing and revamping policies, procedures, forms and other administrative tools that makes an organization run smoothly. With the growth of our CRNs and our impact provincially and nationally, this has been an important part to make us run smoothly, efficiently and professionally.

Thanks to my colleague, **Heather Archer**, Team leader for the Northern regions, we now use Google Drive to save and store forms and resources for our mentors to use. She has also spent considerable time in teaching us to be more efficient when using technology.

It is a pleasure to work with her, especially in developing our key training event for the Mentors each April. As we all work independently, these gatherings are key for us to develop a team approach to our work provincially.

Thanks to **Sharon and Shirley** for being the glue to links us all together. And a big thank you to **Sherry** for working tirelessly in raising our profile and growing this organization and

securing the funds that help us empower communities and individuals through coordination, collaboration and relationships building to stop adult abuse and neglect-together.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Doerksen

Team Leader - Fraser Health, Vancouver Coastal and Vancouver Island

## 2. Interior Health and Northern Health

It has been quite a year. A change to the Interior/North Regional Mentor Team occurred over the summer with **Keri Rhinehart** moving on to full time employment and **Bill Barger** joining the team as East Kootenay Mentor. It was fortunate that Bill and Belinda (NW) - who joined us in April last year- were able to take part in “It’s Not Right!” training in late summer with several other new Mentors, as the ability to deliver this workshop is a key component in connecting new communities to the CRN movement and supporting existing CRNs.

I believe the growth in CRNs across the province is directly attributable to the work of the Regional Mentors; they bring important skill sets to the work and with a travel support are doing great things. Technology definitely breaks down distance and enhances communication but face to face contact remains key to building the relationships that result in CRN development and sustain their operation. During this past reporting year we welcomed Prince Rupert, Kitimat, Terrace, Dawson Creek, Chetwynd, Beaver Valley and 100 Mile House to the CRN roster for the North West, North East, West Kootenay and Thompson Cariboo Shuswap regions. In some cases these CRNs represent a renewal of interest in the work of CRNs after many years of dormancy; others are brand new to our organization.

A key focus this past year was furthering our goal of being value-added to CRNs - not just in terms of Mentor services but also in resource materials, micro-grants, workshops and more. The CRN Community of Practice initiative is developing, we have an updated CRN Toolkit, a new Spreading The Word Awareness Campaign and Campaign Guide, a new CRN Coordinator/Leader Orientation, an updated website, and of course the ability now for our Regional Mentor team to train It’s Not Right Community Presenters in communities throughout their region. To support this next phase of our involvement with the It’s Not Right! Program we have developed a Program Delivery Guide and structure for all involved.

Learning individually and collectively in person and via technology continues to be a big part of our evolution as an organization- the annual Summit, It’s Not Right! Training, webinars, conferences, and the various tasks we take on build our knowledge, enrich our



work, focus us on our future and ultimately enhance our profile and awareness of the issue of adult abuse, neglect and self-neglect. As a Team Leader it is great to be part of such a learning community and culture as well as contribute to it.

Building connectivity has been another key goal this past year - where we envisioned it initially as connection within CRNs in a region, I think this goal has embedded itself in our organizational psyche and is growing way beyond our original focus of regional teleconferences, newsletters, etc. This is a good thing- the 5 CRN Gatherings to be held across the province this coming fall and winter will be further evidence of that.

I would like to thank my terrific Regional Mentor Team - **Marian Anderberg** (TCS), **Bill Barger** (EK), **Erin Evans** (NE), **Belinda Lacombe** (NW), **Tim Rowe** (NI), **Micki Smith** (OK) and **Heather von Ilberg** (WK-B) for their hard work, commitment and passion for this work. They inspire me (and their communities) ...and make me look good! And thanks also to the other members of the Management Team - **Kathy Doerksen**, my Team Leader counterpart for Vancouver, Vancouver Island and the Fraser Valley, **Shirley Gust** Coordinator of Programs and **Sharon Johnson** Director of Administration Services - I greatly value your collaboration and support. And last but not least thanks to **Sherry Baker**, Executive Director for guiding and sharing this unique journey with all of us as we work to stop adult abuse and neglect...together.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Archer  
Team Leader - Interior and North

## BC CRN THREE YEAR EVALUATION

### Report Summary

The following summary provides a snapshot of the analysis to date on the three years of evaluation research conducted between 2012 and 2015. Analysis is continuing based on feedback from the BC CRN Summit conducted in April 2015.

The evaluation looks at five broad areas: community attitudes, CRN working style, participation levels, relationships and networks created, and impact seen as a result of CRN work. Overall, results are positive in each of these categories.

The research is based on annual surveys of CRN members throughout the province. Surveys were conducted in the fall of 2012, 2013, and 2014. 530 completed surveys were gathered over the three years. This work was supplemented by a “mentor survey” to assess each local CRN’s “stage of development.”

Analysis includes simple frequencies, three-year trends, and cross-tabulations by level of involvement and stage of development. In addition, thematic coding was conducted on network relationships and impact seen.

We find a consistently strong level of community awareness about adult abuse from CRN participants with the vast majority of respondents indicating some level of community response to the problem. The percentage reporting an ‘effective response’ is relatively small (between 10 and 15 percent over the three years) but consistently increasing. Respondents to the survey consistently report a healthy working style in the local CRNs. The most commonly selected words to describe the CRN are “cooperative” “informal” “transparent” and “fair.” Very few respondents say the CRN is “formal” “unequal” “secretive” or “combative.”

Respondents were asked about their trust in CRN partners and their confidence in the CRN approach on a 7-point scale. Responses were generally positive with the average responses ranging between four and five points (slightly above the mid-point of the scale). In general, trust and confidence increases with levels of involvement.

Respondents were asked how many CRN meetings or events they participated in and how many years they’ve been involved in the CRN. As is common in many organizations, most respondents have limited involvement with a minority having very high levels of involvement.

Respondents were asked who they would turn to if they had a question about adult abuse and what organizations in the community they knew of who were working on the issue. Over the course of the study period, the number of individuals and organizations mentioned steadily increased and the level of specificity of those mentioned increased. Both are strong indicators of improved community networks.

Respondents were also asked if they had reached out to a new community or organization as a result of your involvement in the CRN. In 2013 and 2014, over half reported that they had, up from slightly under 50 percent in 2012.

In 2013 and 2014, respondents were asked if they had seen or heard about any positive impact as a result of the work of the CRN. In both years, over half reported that they had. Those who had seen or heard impact were asked to describe that impact and those responses were coded thematically. There was a subtle but important shift from more diffused forms of impact (such as “feeling connected to others interested in the issue) to more concrete community level impact (such as witnessing people in the community engaging in a conversation about the issue).

Ben Kadel PhD  
Emotus Operandi



Summary of Data Collected by BC CRN during year:

Year	CRNS	Communities	Events	Attendance	Volunteer Hrs.	Donations	Gifts in Kind
12-13	31	75	*	*	\$226,438	\$84,941	\$21,808
13-14	45	108	75	5298	\$249,603	\$60,029	\$21,193
14-15	52	116	146	7230	\$403,237	\$124,286	\$19,718

\* Did not track in 12-13

## BC Association of Community Response Networks

### Introducing the Board of Directors for 2015 - 2016

The new bylaws were passed at the AGM on June 19, 2014. This is the first year that they are being implemented. The call for nominations was distributed to all the members and the only nominations which were received and accepted were the four board members whose two-year term is expiring. The following excerpt from the bylaws was followed:

*According to the Bylaws of the Association the following procedure for nominations is now in place:*

#### **5.4.1 Nominations and voting for Directors**

*Nominations for directors must be received by e-mail not less than 30 days prior to the annual general meeting. In the event that there are more candidates than positions available on the board, ballots will be circulated to all members by e-mail not less than 14 days before the annual general meeting. All votes must be received not less than 7 days before the annual general meeting. Candidates shall be deemed to be elected in order of those candidates receiving the most votes until the maximum number of directors has been reached. Nominations from the floor at the annual general meeting will not be received.*

The following four board members were deemed elected:

#### **1. Susan Harland- White Rock**

**2013**

Susan Harland brings a combination of social work management, financial business, and community development experience. Past President of Fraser Valley Water Polo Club, Founder and Executive Director of a micro board for the support of an adult to live independently. She is a previous board member of the Surrey Foundation where she started the Youth Advisory Council. Susan has been the Secretary of BC CRN for the past year.

Her background in social work includes work with youth, families and adults with disabilities. With the Ministry of Children and Family Development she developed resources, participated in the development of policy and supported staff in the delivery of community services. She developed a business as a mortgage broker.

## **2. Jill Hightower - Sunshine Coast**

**2013**

Jill Hightower, MA, started her professional career in Canada as a M.A student and sessional instructor at Simon Fraser University. While continuing as an instructor for a time, she began working for Forensic Psychiatric Services of the BC Ministry of Health, and became the senior policy analyst. From 1991 to 1998 she served as Executive Director of the BC Institute Against Family Violence. On her retirement she partnered with Greta Smith and Henry Hightower PHD in a small research and educational consulting group with a specific focus on social and health issues affecting older adults. Jill has presented her research at North American, European conferences and community forums. In 2006 she co-authored a manual on programme standards for working with older abused women.

Jill has been honoured with the Senior Leadership Award of Simon Fraser University's Gerontology Research Centre. She was a member of the BC Premier's Council on Ageing and Seniors Issues. She is a Past President of the BC Centre for Elder Advocacy and Support, former Chair of the Sunshine Coast Seniors Network Action Group, a member on the United Nations Sub-Committee on Older Women (SCOW) of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women (CSW). She served a six year term as a member of the Inquiry Committee of the BC College of Psychologists. She also chaired the Sunshine Coast Community Health Council.

Currently she is a member of the Sunshine Coast Community Response Network; a member of the advisory committee for Older Women's Dialogue, a project of the Canadian Centre for Elder Law and serves on the advisory committee for the Atira House Participatory Evaluation of Ama House & Sava Centre-Ouest transition house services for older abused women fleeing abuse. She is working to establish a Friendship and Support Group on the Sunshine Coast for elderly women. She has served the last two years as a Co-chair of the BC CRN

Jill continues to advocate personally and professionally for older adults. Jill lives in Wilson Creek on the Sunshine Coast with her husband Henry and their two basset hounds, Morgan and Evan.

### 3. Ward Bertram

2015

Ward Bertram leads the financial planning and wealth management team for Prospera Credit Union's Fleetwood branch. Ward has worked in the financial services industry since 2000 and specializes in planning for business families and individuals with disabilities. He has worked in the cooperative system for a decade and is strongly committed to the democratization of expert financial advice and the removal of barriers between planning resources and those who need them. Ward holds both the 'Certified Financial Planner' and the 'Certified Professional Consultant on Aging' designations.

Ward has been a Surrey resident for 23 years and currently lives in Cloverdale with his wife and his three daughters.

### 4. Matt Scott

2015

Matt is the Island health clinical specialist for vulnerable or incapable adults. As a Registered Social Worker, for the last decade, Matt's focus has been helping develop and lead the adult protection work within both Vancouver Coastal Health and Island Health as designated agencies under the Adult Guardianship Act. Matt's earlier social work career was in mental health, child welfare, the criminal justice system, and civilian work for the Canadian Armed Forces.

Matt and his family live on an island off an island in the Salish sea.

The following board members have completed the first year of a two-year term

### 1. Phil Hall - Chilliwack

2012

Phil started working for the Stolo people 39 years ago as the Administrator of the Chilliwack Area Indian Council which was one of the first Tribal organizations to provide federally run programs and staff service (20) here in BC.

#### Memberships and Affiliations

- Past President of BC Coalition for Safer Communities
- Alderman (two terms November 1988 - November 1993) District of Chilliwack  
He was the first ever First Nations person to be elected to public office in Chilliwack
- Past Chief and Council member of Skowkale First Nation
- Chairman/Vice-Chairman of the National Native Drug and Alcohol Advisory Board in Ottawa and BC region

- Member of the BC Medical Association of First Nations Board

Phil has two adult married children and one grandson.

Phil has agreed to continue to act as an advisor to our mentors on First Nations interventions. He has served as the Treasurer of the BC CRN for the past year.

## **2. Giuseppe (Joe) Scaletta - Victoria**

**2012**

Joe is a retired Social Worker. He is the Grandfather of 4 plus one granddog.

During his career, he worked in child welfare, adult psychiatry and geriatric psychiatry. In 1989, he started the Elderly Outreach Service, the first BC Mental Health Services community mental health program for seniors and coordinated that program for the last 21 years of his social work career.

He was active in the Adult Guardianship Legislation from early on and was a member of the steering committee that developed the Practice Guidelines for Designated Assessors under the AGA and the Practice Guidelines for Health Care Consent under the Health Care Consent and Care Facility Admissions Act. The AGA is used to protect vulnerable adults. Joe has presented extensively on elder abuse and the use of legislative options to protect vulnerable seniors.

## **3. Lillian Allison - Cawston**

**2014**

Lillian is a member of the Okanagan Nation and the Lower Similkameen Indian Band. She is an elder who speaks and understands the Okanagan Language. Lillian was disabled as a result of two car accidents and lives in a wheelchair. She is accompanied and supported by her caregiver/husband, Casey. She has been a member of the BC Aboriginal Network on Disability Society; was part of the Joint Aboriginal Management Committee; was on the CLBC Transformation Committee; served a term on the Vancouver Foundation Funding Committee for Families with Children with Autism; and she served on the Elders Advisory Council for the Ministry of Children and Families.

The BC CRN board is delighted to have Lillian as an active and informed member who brings great wisdom and experience to their deliberations.

#### 4. Kelley Williams - McBride

2014

Kelley is the Executive Director of the Robson Valley Support Society in McBride. In 2010 - 2012, she was the President and CEO of the Kitamaat Valley Education Society doing change management for industry and trades based training in the private sector. Kelley has also done contract work with We'suwet'en First Nation; Lax Kw'alaams Band' and Yekooche First Nation as well at Metis Nation British Columbia. Currently, she volunteers as a Hospice Counsellor and Palliative Support Worker. In 2002, Kelly received the Lieutenant Governor's Silver Medal for Community Involvement and Academic Excellence and was on the UNBC International Honour Society in 2003.

Kelley's long and deep understanding of the north west and north central part of BC will serve the BC CRN board well as CRNs continue to be brought into the BC CRN in the years to come.

For further information go to [www.bccrns.ca](http://www.bccrns.ca) or contact Sherry Baker, Executive Director at [ed@bccrns.ca](mailto:ed@bccrns.ca)