

# 2013 - 2014 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  
**Eleventh Annual General Meeting** of the Association  
will be held at  
**5:00 p.m. on the day of Thursday, June 19, 2014**

1. To receive the report of the Directors to the Members.
2. To receive and approve the audited financial statements for the Association for the period ended March 31, 2014.
3. To appoint an Auditor for the Association for the ensuing year.
4. To elect Directors of the Association to hold office for a two-year term
5. 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, 2014

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Margaret Easton  
Secretary

Please RSVP to Linda Hall - [administration@bccrns.ca](mailto:administration@bccrns.ca)

# BC ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY RESPONSE NETWORKS

## ELEVENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

### AGENDA

**DATE:** Thursday, June 19, 2014  
**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

**5:20**

#### **Agenda of AGM - June 19, 2014**

#### **Minutes of Tenth Annual General Meeting - June 20, 2013**

#### **Financial Report**

- Audited Financial Statements for 2013/2014  
(Separate Document)  
- Norm Grdina, CGA
- Appointment of the Auditor - motion

#### **Report of the Board to the Members - Jill Hightower/Kathleen Cunningham**

#### **Report of the Executive Director - Sherry Baker**

#### **Report of the Nominating Committee - Sherry Baker in the absence of the Chair**

#### **Election of Officers**

**6:00**

#### **Adjournment**



# BC ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY RESPONSE NETWORKS

## TENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

### MINUTES

**DATE:** Thursday, June 20, 2013  
**TIME:** 5:00 pm  
**PLACE:** By Teleconference

1. Welcome, Co-Chair, Leanne Lange
2. Roll Call, Sherry Baker, Executive Director

**PRESENT:** 45 Voting plus 18 Non-Voting

#### BOARD

Leanne Lange  
Elsie Gerdes  
Kathleen Cunningham  
Glenn Hope  
Joe Scaletta  
Jill Hightower  
Linda Myers  
Susan Harland  
Phil Hall

#### CRNs

Abbotsford (1)  
Castelgar (2)  
Chilliwack (2)  
Comox/Courtenay (2)  
Cowichan Valley (1)  
Kamloops (1)  
Kaslo (1)  
Kelowna (2)  
Mt. Waddington (2)  
Nelson (2)  
Vernon (1)

#### NON-VOTING STAFF

Shirley Gust  
Linda Hall  
Heather Archer  
Heather von Ilberg  
Kathy Doerksen  
Micki Smith  
Erin Evans  
Tim Rowe  
Pam Alcorn  
Ellen Boyes  
Christine Spinder  
Barb Kirby  
April Struthers  
Jane Osborne  
Louise Tremblay

#### OTHER

Debbie Andersen - Seniors Secretariat  
Norm Grdina - Morrow & Co.

#### ABSENT CRNs

Beaver Valley

North Shore (2)  
Penticton (4)  
Prince George (2)  
Quesnel (2)  
Shuswap (1)  
Smithers (2)  
Sunshine Coast (1)  
Tri Cities (1)  
Vancouver Aboriginal (1)  
Vancouver Downtown Eastside (1)  
Vancouver Kitsilano (1)  
Victoria (1)  
White Rock/South Surrey (1)

Bella Coola  
Cowichan Lake  
Hope  
Langley  
Mission  
Revelstoke  
Salmo  
Summerland  
Vancouver West End  
Vancouver South Granville  
Kitsilano

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

**4. Agenda of AGM - June 20, 2013**

Additions/Changes to the agenda:

Norm Grdina of Morrow and Company will present the Financial Statements

**Motion:** Accept the Agenda of AGM - June 20, 2013 as amended

**Moved:** Kathleen Cunningham

**Second:** Elsie Gerdes

**Opposition:** None

Motion Carried

**5. Motion:** Accept the Minutes of Ninth Annual General Meeting - June 21, 2012

**Moved:** Elsie Gerdes

**Second:** Pat Petrala

**Opposition:** None

Motion Carried

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

**Moved:** Phil Hall

**Second:** Glenn Hope

**Opposition:** None

Motion Carried

**6. Appointment of the Auditor**

**Motion:** That subject to receiving a fair and reasonable quote from Morrow and Company the Association appoints Morrow & Company as its auditor for the 2013- 2014 year. AND to determine the fairness of the quote, the Association may initiate a Request for Proposal for auditing services.

**Moved:** Glenn Hope

**Second: Elsie Gerdes**  
**Opposition: None**  
Motion Carried

**7. Report of the Board to the Members - Leanne Lange presented a report of Board**

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

**Moved: Leanne Lange**

**Second: Pat Petrala**

**Opposition: None**

Motion Carried

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

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

**Moved: Jill Hightower**

**Second: Christine Ragneborg**

**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.

**Kathleen Cunningham**

**Jill Hightower**

**Linda Myers**

**Susan Harland**

**Moved: Leanne Lange**

**Second: Joe Scaletta**

**Opposition: None**

Motion Carried

**11. Motion: Adjournment**

**Moved: Susan Harland**

**Second: Phil Hall**

**Opposition: None**

Motion Carried

Meeting adjourned at 5:50 pm.

**Report of the Co-chairs, Board of Directors  
To the Eleventh Annual General Meeting  
June 19, 2014**

We are pleased to provide the 2013- 2014 report from the Board of Directors of the BC Association of Community Response Networks.

During this period the organization has continued to flourish and grow throughout the province. The leadership of our Executive Director coupled with the expertise and commitment of the staff and community volunteers continues the development of community networks in the province. We are grateful for the ongoing financial support from the Ministry of Health and the BC Gaming Branch helping us achieve our goals and objectives.

In April 2014 the Second Summit was held which again provided an opportunity for the Board and staff to meet together. The meetings included a full day work shop: It's Not Right - Neighbours Friends and Families. Board members experienced the dedication and enthusiasm of mentors from across the province. We gained personal understanding of what is happening in the CRN movement across the province.

During the year we have seen the increased opportunities for our Executive Director to profile the organization at academic conferences, provincial meetings, workshops and community based CRN events. There are many achievements that our Executive Director will share.

Our Board Directors make significant contributions to the Association during their terms of office. This year we acknowledge Elsie Gerdes for the Nominating Committee; Kathleen Cunningham and Susan Harland for their extensive work on revising sections of the organization's By-Laws; Phil Hall who continues to liaise with First Nations Communities; Glenn Hope continues to be faithful in signing cheques; Margaret Easton prepared a response to the Federal Financial Consumer Protection Consultation which was well received and led to an invitation to attend the Financial Consumer Code roundtable discussions in Toronto (by phone) and in Vancouver.

Elsie and Margaret are retiring from the board after six years of service. On behalf of all the members of the Board we acknowledge the special contributions they have made to the society and the CRN movement. We extend a warm welcome to Kelley Williams and Lillian Allison to the Board.

We thank everyone for their efforts and dedication to the goals and objectives of the organization. In the coming year we will be building on achievements made. As of March 31, 2014 we had 108 communities involved in the CRN movement.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Jill Hightower and Kathleen Cunningham - Co chairs**



ANNUAL REPORT  
2013-2014



**BC ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY RESPONSE NETWORKS**  
**Report of the Executive Director**  
**To the Eleventh Annual General Meeting**  
**June, 19, 2014**

## **INTRODUCTION**

The last year has been very busy for all of the BC CRN members and contractors as we have developed policies and procedures to accommodate our rapid growth. We are constantly reminding ourselves that our main function is to bring the community agencies and service providers together so that they can determine how to best deal with the issues of abuse, neglect and self-neglect.

We want to acknowledge and thank the **Ministry of Health** for the funding they have provided so that the BC communities can be safer and freer of abuse. Our local CRNs and volunteers are truly appreciative of the support from the **BC Gaming Branch** which makes their activities possible.

We have had a full complement of mentors supported by Team Leaders, Heather and Kathy and have grown to 45 CRNs with signed contracts representing 108 BC communities. Projections are for 12 more CRNs with 20 communities to come on board in the next year.

As with any organization our size, we are having to adjust to staff changes as they occur. We are sorry to be saying good-bye to **Jeannie Boyce** in Smithers and we're happy to welcome **Belinda Lacombe** from Houston to look after the north-west region. **Ellen Boyes** decided to retire at the end of March and **Karen Bunner** has come on to mentor the eastern Fraser Valley. **Jane Osborne** has moved to Nanaimo so **Kari Chambers** has agreed to come on as the mentor for the North Shore/Sea to Sky region and **Jane** will be taking on part of the region on Vancouver Island being made vacant by the retirement of **Pam Alcorn**.

The team leaders have each prepared a report which follows this report so I invite you to take a look at their reports and meet the special folks who are working so diligently for the BC CRN and for their communities.

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

**Ben Kadel** of Emotus Operandi presented the findings of the second year of the development evaluation and found that: "Overall, the results are very positive, showing evidence across nearly all measures of growth and improvement since the 2012 survey. Levels of involvement and stages of CRN development generally correlate positively with perceptions of trust, coordination, and outreach." He continues to be supported by mentor, **April Struthers**.

We hired **Catherine Atyeo** to assist us with our public messaging. Sample press releases have been distributed to all the mentors for use by their coordinators. Messaging is being standardized and a work plan for the coming year has been drafted.

In the Fall we received a grant for \$25,000 from the **RCMP Family Violence Initiative Fund** to support the training of all our mentors in delivering the “**It’s Not Right - Neighbours, Friends and Families**” workshops. This enabled each of the Team Leaders’ teams to meet in person for a day of training in November. They all then delivered at least one workshop before the end of March. The material stresses the importance of “bystander engagement” in the prevention of abuse and neglect and has some very powerful video scenarios which greatly enhance the learning. We were fortunate to have a full-day of training from the national trainers during our 3-day Summit in April.

Two workshops were presented by conference call to the **Better at Home** Coordinators in an effort to encourage them to utilize the CRNs in their communities as a way of developing relationships with their community partners.

With the adopting of the “**Together to Reduce Elder Abuse**” strategy by the provincial government, a Council of 14 leaders in the various sectors has been formed to lead its implementation. I have been an active part of this whole initiative and sit as a member of the Council. The work of the BC CRN is instrumental in achieving many parts of the strategy and it is good to have the recognition of our funders and partners of the important work we are doing at the grass-roots level.

The BC CRN is also playing a major role in the Canadian Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse pan- Canadian “**Discovery: Promising Practices and Successful Strategies to Prevent and Address Elder Abuse in Canada**” project funded by New Horizons for Seniors. We are looking after all the financial management for the project and have hired **Jim Poole**, the BC CRN Financial Advisor, to take on the responsibility for this project. I sit on the management committee for the project along with colleagues from Nova Scotia, Ontario, Manitoba and Alberta.

We were able, with the incredible support of our co-chair, **Kathleen Cunningham**, and assisted by board member, **Susan Harland**, to completely re-write the BC CRN Bylaws. This was a major accomplishment and I am truly grateful for this help.

We attended the **Elders Gathering** in Prince George in July and were able to continue to network and invite First Nations communities to form their own CRNs - or participate in a larger group. With the guidance of board members, **Phil Hall**, **Lillian Allison** and **Kelley Williams**, along with the excellent work being done by mentors, we have gained more and more acceptance in the communities throughout the province.

Our monthly **Provincial Learning Events** continue to attract participants. Usually we have between 40 and 70 on the line. Topics for this year included: Representation Agreements; Dementia and Capacity; Community Living BC; Divisions of Family Practice; First Nations Health Authority; Police-based Victim Services; Meeting the Financial Services needs of Canada’s most Vulnerable Populations.

We worked with all the staff and board to put together a **Strategic Plan** which will help guide our work for the next few years. This was done as part of the annual “Summit”.

All our documents, bylaws, plans and resources are posted on the website [www.bccrns.ca](http://www.bccrns.ca) and are updated regularly.

In closing, I would like to thank the board of directors, our administration contractors, **Linda and Shirley**, the Team Leaders and mentors and the contractors - **Ben Kadel** (Evaluation), **Catherine Atyeo** (Communications), **Eric Greenwood** (Tech support), **Bonnie Nilsen** (Webmaster), **Jim Poole** (Financial Advice), **Doug Waymark** (bookkeeper), **Eric Baylow** (Vancity), **David Leung** (Auditor - Morrows & Co.). Also thanks to **Sue McIntosh** and “Come Share” for the use of the office space.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Sherry Baker**  
Executive Director

## TEAM LEADER REPORTS

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

This year has seen a steady growth in new CRNs, strengthening long-time CRNs, developing the skills of Mentors, work with First Nations communities and spreading the influence of the Association throughout the Province to ensure that we can eventually stop adult abuse and neglect - together.

#### **New CRNs:**

Kitsilano	Tri-Cities
Nanaimo	Vancouver Aboriginal CRN
Newton	Downtown Eastside

#### **Mentors:**

- **Ellen Boyes - Fraser Valley East** - Abbotsford, Mission, Chilliwack & Hope CRNs (Ellen retired at the end of April so a new Mentor, Karen Bunner will be in place as of May 1)
- **Christine Spinder - Fraser Valley West** - Langley, Tri-Cities, Vancouver Aboriginal CRNs; working on developing Burnaby and New Westminster and Kwantlen CRNs
- **April Struthers - North Vancouver Island & Sunshine Coast** - Bella Coola, Sunshine Coast, Mt.Waddington/Port Hardy, Comox/Courtenay CRNs; working on developing Campbell River, Port Alberni and Parkesville CRNs
- **Pam Alcorn - Vancouver Island South** - Victoria, Cowichan Valley, Cowichan Lake, Nanaimo CRNs; working on developing Gabriola Island and Ladysmith CRNs
- **Louise Tremblay - White Rock, Surrey, Delta, Richmond** - WRSS, Newton CRNs; working on developing Delta and Richmond CRNs
- **Barb Kirby - Vancouver** - West End, South Granville, Downtown Eastside, Kitsilano, Marpole/Oakridge/Kerrisdale CRNs
- **Jane Osborne - Sea to Sky and North Shore** - North Shore CRN; working on developing Squamish/Whistler and Mt. Currie CRNs (Jane is moving to Nanaimo so there is a new Mentor, Kari Chambers, as of May 1)

### First Nations Work:

- Numerous connections at Health & Information fairs, meetings and workshops with Sts'ailes, Kwantlen, Tzeachten, Cheam
- First Nations Health Authority Mental Health & Substance Use forum - Chilliwack BC
- Developing "In a Good Way" document
- Elders Gathering - Prince George - July 9 & 10

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

Since attending the INR/NFF training in London Ontario, last June with Heather - the other Team Leader and our ED, Sherry, the BC CRN has encouraged Mentors to present the workshops in their regions. With a grant from the RCMP, we were able to bring the mentors together in November at two regional workshops to do training in INR/NFF. This initiative is part of a Canada-wide education and awareness raising campaign to engage the general public in ways to intervene appropriately when they see behaviour and treatment of older adults that is not "right".

Team Leader, Kathy, and Alison Leaney, national INR/NFF Trainer, delivered an INR/NFF workshop to the BC Crime prevention Symposium in November.

### Other Team Leader Activities:

- **Better at Home** webinar - Introduction to BC CRNs - a workshop delivered to the **Better at Home** coordinators.
- Presentation to the BC Senior Peer Counsellors at their AGM in June.
- Participation in WEAAD events in June in Abbotsford, Chilliwack and Victoria.
- **Decision Tree** workshop, together with the PGT and BC CRN as part of the launch of the Mission CRN.
- Personnel work - helping mentors develop work plans, reviewing goals and work performance, hiring and training new Mentors.
- Participating in monthly Management Team teleconferences and a number of "in-person" meetings.
- Participating in Provincial Learning Events and Communities of Practice teleconferences
- Regular email and telephone contact with Mentors and some personal visits and travel as budgets allow.
- Planning and delivering the April 2013 Summit - a 3-day training time for mentors and a time for Board and staff to plan and learn together. Another Summit was held in April 2014. This format looks like it will become an annual event. It is one of the only times that Mentors, Board and other BC CRN contractors can meet, get to know each other and together learn about and plan the continuing work of this growing organization.

### Kathy Doerksen

Team Leader - Fraser Health, Vancouver Coastal and Vancouver Island

## 2. Interior Health and Northern Health

It has been my pleasure over this past year to work with a team of 7 Regional Mentors serving communities and CRNs in the Interior and North of this big province of ours. I have learned a lot about the realities and diversity of these areas, the varied faces of adult abuse and neglect and the universality of the CRN concept to accommodate these differences and build a prevention and safety net for vulnerable adults.

The Mentors Team for the Interior and North are engaged, passionate about their work and skilled at connecting to community. The growth of CRNs in these areas has been very gratifying resulting in all 7 regions now active in the provincial CRN movement. We have seen new communities join in and former CRNs revitalized. This appears to be a pattern that will be repeated in 2014-2015.

Thompson Cariboo Shuswap CRNs:	Kamloops, Secwepmec*, Shuswap, Revelstoke, Williams Lake
Okanagan CRNs:	Kelowna, North Okanagan, Penticton, Summerland
West Kootenay-Boundary CRNs:	Beaver Valley*, Castlegar, Kaslo, Nelson, Salmo,
East Kootenay CRNs:	Cranbrook*, Creston*
North East CRNs:	Fort St John*
Northern Interior CRNs:	Lakes District*, Quesnel, Prince George
North West CRNs:	Houston*, Smithers

\* new in 2013-2014

My thanks to **Marian Anderberg** (TCS), **Micki Smith** (OK) **Heather von Ilberg** (WK-B), **Keri Rhinehart** (EK), **Erin Evans** (NE), **Tim Rowe** (NI) and **Jeannie Boyce** (NW) for their commitment and hard work. Jeannie has now retired from her Regional Mentor position; the new Mentor for the region is **Belinda Lacombe** - a valued addition to the team already.

The introduction of the It's Not Right Neighbours Friends and Families program to the BC CRN has been another positive development. With funding from the RCMP we were able to hold an Interior/North team training session and meeting that was followed by pilot workshops in 6 out of the 7 regions. We added to our knowledge on delivering the It's Not Right workshop at the 2014 BC CRN Summit and are excited about working with the CRNs and delivering it to their membership and community members.

The 2014 Summit was a great 3 days of learning, sharing and building our provincial team to better serve the regions they work in. We have a number of new tools for CRN use that were introduced at the Summit and will be rolled out to CRNs over the next months by the Mentors. With the growth in CRNs and the Regional Mentors team as a Management Team we have developed policies and procedures to structure and guide our work, forged new partnerships, updated and created new resources and embraced new technologies.

All in all a very busy but satisfying year. I look forward to reporting back to you in 2014-2015 - I am sure it will be another year of positive outcomes as we work toward stopping adult abuse.

Respectfully submitted,

**Heather Archer**

Team Leader - Interior and North

## REPORT OF THE NOMINATION COMMITTEE

June 19, 2014

### Proposed Board of Directors 2014 - 2015

During March to April 2014, 2 new board members were appointed to sit as directors until the annual general meeting in June, 2014. They are **Kelley Williams** (McBride) and **Lillian Allison** (Cawston). We were delighted to welcome them and were pleased that Lillian was able to attend the Summit in April - along with her caregiver/husband, Casey. Both Kelley and Lillian have agreed to let their names stand for election at the AGM.

We are sorry to be saying goodbye to **Elsie Gerdes** (now of Victoria, formerly of Armstrong) and **Margaret Easton** from Port Coquitlam. They have both served on the board for six years and are required, through the Bylaws, to step down. They will both be sorely missed. Elsie was the Board Liaison to the Mentors and chaired the Nominating Committee. Margaret served as co-chair and, more recently, as Secretary. We wish them both well as they find other ways to make their communities better places for older adults to live and thrive.

We are also sad to say goodbye to **Glenn Hope**. He has served the BC CRN faithfully as the Treasurer for the past two years. He is finding that the pressures of business do not give him the time he needs to fully participate as a BC CRN board member.

There are 2 directors who have completed their 2<sup>nd</sup> term of their two-year terms and are letting their names stand for re-election. The date of their first election is recorded with their biography.

#### 1. Phil Hall - Chilliwack

2012

Phil started working for the Sto:lo 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 will take over as Treasurer for the 2014-2015 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.

There are 2 board members who were appointed during the spring on 2014 and have agreed to stand for election for a two-year term.

## 1. 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.

## 2. 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.

There are 4 board members who were elected to the board in 2013 and are starting the second year of their two year term

## 1. Kathleen Cunningham - North Vancouver

2013

Kathleen Cunningham has 22 years' experience in the estate and trust industry. In 2009 she completed her Master's in Policy Studies at the University of New South Wales in Sydney Australia and in 2010 she joined the office of the Public Guardian and Trustee of British Columbia as the Provincial Coordinator, Vulnerable Adult Community Response. In 2011 she worked with the office to implement the new and amended personal planning and adult guardianship legislation. In her new role as Manager, Legal and Legislative Projects, she continues to work on projects related to abuse, neglect and self- neglect, with a focus on financial abuse. In 2013 she will complete a Graduate Diploma in Social Innovation at the University of Waterloo.

Ms. Cunningham's professional activities include a variety of local and national roles with the Canadian branch of the Society of Trust & Estate Practitioners. She is a member of the Law Society of British Columbia and is a past Director of the BC Law Institute, the parent organization of the Canadian Centre for Elder Law. Ms. Cunningham has been an active participant in law reform initiatives in the field of adult guardianship, powers of attorney and trust law. Most recently, she was a member of the BC Law Institute Committee on the Recommended Practices for Wills Practitioners Relating to Undue Influence which released its report and guide in October 2011. She has written and spoken on a variety of related topics.

Kathleen has been instrumental in the development of a new set of Bylaws for the BC CRN. She has served as Co-chair with Jill Hightower for the past year. They have agreed to continue in this role for the 2014 - 2015 year.



## 2. Susan Harland- White Rock

2013

Susan Harland brings a combination of social work management, financial business, and community development experience. Currently the President of Fraser Valley Water Polo Club, Founder and Executive Director of a micro board for the support of an adult to live independently; and previous board member of the Surrey Foundation where she started the Youth Advisory Council.

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.

Susan helped with the new Bylaws and was always available to help with the monthly cheque signing. She has agreed to let her name stand as Secretary for the 2014-2015 year.

## 3. 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 Aging 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.

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.

Jill has been a very supportive mentor to the Executive Director and has served as Co-chair with Kathleen for the past year. She has agreed to continue on as Co-chair for the 2014-2015 year.

#### 4. Linda Myers - Kelowna

2013

Linda is a Registered Social Worker with 32 years of experience in health care. She works in the Regional Professional Practice Office of Interior Health as a clinical specialist for adult guardianship and Designated Agency adult protection for adults who are vulnerable to abuse, neglect or self-neglect and unable to seek assistance on their own. Linda has been appointed as Interior Health's key contact on Adult Guardianship for the Public Guardian and Trustee of British Columbia.

She has served on the Board of the Social Workers in Health Society of BC and as Past President of the BC Psychogeriatric Association. She is also a member of the B.C. Association of Social Workers.

Linda earned a Certificate in Health Law at Osgoode Hall Law School in Toronto in 2011.

Linda has been a very strong advocate for CRN work in the Interior Health region of the province.