



BC ASSOCIATION OF
Community Response Networks

Stopping Adult Abuse and Neglect ...Together.

2024-2025 ANNUAL REPORT



Land Acknowledgement



In upholding our vision and mission of the British Columbia Association of Community Response Networks, we individually and collectively acknowledge the unceded territories of all First Nations in British Columbia. We respect and acknowledge all First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples for their many contributions to the richness of our communities. This acknowledgment is expressed in gratitude for the opportunity for us to work across the province to reciprocate our efforts to establish meaningful relationships in our ongoing effort to end abuse of all kinds including adult abuse, neglect, and self-neglect.

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Mission, Vision, & Guiding Principles

Our Mission

To empower communities and individuals through coordination, collaboration, and relationship building to stop adult abuse and neglect – together.

Our Vision

Safe communities where adults are valued, respected, and free from abuse and neglect.

Our Guiding Principles

- Meaningful Participation
- which supports community capacity
- Power Sharing
- Assumption of adult's capability
- Being least intrusive
- Diversity, equity, inclusion & belonging

Photo credit: Shuswap CRN



Report

Chair of the Board of Directors June 2025

BC CRN has continued to grow and collaborate within our communities, bringing forth, in a variety of ways, the valuable information that assists individuals and their families to make healthy, effective, and informed decisions. Well done.

While I recognize that it can be a difficult process to reach individuals in the community, the CRNs continue to develop creative ways to engage and educate the individuals around the province.

The Board of Directors has also been busy with the transition from Sherry Baker, who for many years guided and built Community Response Networks around the province, to a new Executive Director, Heather Treleaven. The great work Sherry has done growing the association was very clearly recognized by the large turnout for her retirement celebration at the 411 Seniors Centre and the individuals who joined electronically.

The Board had a large number of applicants for the ED role, but Heather stood out. Since taking on the role, Heather has demonstrated her collaborative and organizational skills to ensure BC CRN continues to be supported through a variety of internal adjustments and resources. A huge thank you to the Board members who gave their time and expertise to review the applications and interview the applicants—all on top of their daily workload.

Our Board of Directors experienced some changes over the year, and I would like to recognize Elisse Tan who stepped away from



Sue McIntosh

the Board in January. Elisse was our representative from the Fraser Health Authority and a tremendous asset to the Board. Thank you, Elisse, for all your time, support, and input.

We were very fortunate to have Gurmit Sandu, Michael Volker and Dr. Balbir Gurm join the Board in the past year. These individuals bring a wealth of knowledge and expertise.

A recent presentation to the Board from April Struthers, the new Director of Knowledge Exchange, Research, and Learning, has refocused our strategic priorities to include:

- Renewing commitment to the network creation social change model
- Developing a Reconciliation Framework

2025/26 looks to be a busy and productive year ahead for the organization. Thank you to all the BC CRN Board and team members for taking the time to make our communities safer, more informed, and aware of resources.

Sincerely,
Sue McIntosh
Board Chair

Report

Message from the Executive Director

As I look back on my first year as Executive Director of BC CRN, I feel a mix of gratitude, humility, and hope. It's been a year of learning and growing — full of both challenges and deeply rewarding moments.

We're in a time of significant change. What we're seeing in the United States — increasing division, rising intolerance, and the rollback of hard-won rights — is deeply troubling. And while these shifts may feel distant, the effects are being felt here at home in Canada too. They're a clear reminder that we can't take anything for granted, especially when it comes to the safety and rights of vulnerable adults.

That includes older adults, 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals, people living with disabilities, racialized and Indigenous communities, and anyone who finds themselves on the margins. Now more than ever, we need to stand up for dignity, safety, and inclusion — for everyone.

What gives me hope is the strength and tenacity of the Community Response Networks across our province. These local networks are the foundation of BC CRN. They are powered by dedicated volunteers who show up, day after day, with one clear belief: that it takes a community to prevent abuse, neglect, and self-neglect. And they're right. No one person or system can do this work alone — it takes all of us.

This year, we welcomed new CRNs in several rural and remote as well as urban communities. Each of these communities brings new energy and insight to our shared



Heather Treleaven

mission. And with each new CRN, we strengthen our ability to listen, learn, and respond to what adults in our communities need to be safe and supported.

I'm incredibly lucky to work alongside a passionate and skilled Provincial Team — 16 Regional Mentors, three Directors, and two tireless Coordinators — who care deeply about what they do. I'm also grateful for the guidance and wisdom of our Board of Directors, who are bravely positioning BC CRN for maximum impact in the coming years. I'd like to give a sincere thank you to our Board Chair, Sue McIntosh, for her steady support in my first year. Her leadership has meant a great deal.

We are also strengthened by the partnerships we've built with key organizations across the province. Collaborating with groups like Seniors First BC, Family Caregivers of BC, Nidus, the RCMP, the Public Guardian and Trustee, Council to Reduce Elder Abuse (CREA), the BC Adult Abuse/Neglect Collaborative, and our provincial counterparts, allows us to amplify our impact, share vital knowledge, and coordinate our efforts in more meaningful ways. Together, we form a united front in the prevention of adult

Message from the Executive Director

abuse and neglect — a shared commitment that ensures no one is left behind.

BC CRN is deeply grateful to the Province of British Columbia, Ministry of Health, for their continued funding support. In these challenging economic times, it is especially important to have a government that recognizes the value and impact of preventing abuse and raising awareness at the community level.

To every BC CRN volunteer across the province — thank you. You are the heart of this network. You remind us that real change happens locally, through connection, trust, and compassion. Together, we are building safer communities where everyone can live with respect and dignity.

With gratitude,
Heather Treleaven
Executive Director



Photo credit: APNI (South Asian) CRN

Thank you, Elisse, for your dedication, insight, and service to the Association!

BC CRN has been very fortunate to have **Elisse Tan**, MSW, RSW, serve as a Director and Board Secretary on the BC CRN Board for the past several years. We are grateful for her time and have been enriched individually and collectively by her leadership, clinical expertise, and deep commitment to adult protection. Elisse brought over fifteen years of frontline and community-based health care experience to the Board, along with her perspective as a designated responder and coordinator under the Adult Guardianship Act. Her mentorship, education, and contributions—including her role in the Vancouver Coastal Health Re:Act Adult Program and as a presenter in our Provincial Learning Event series—have left a lasting impact.



Year at a Glance



145 Projects supported
for a total of \$286.44



94 Community
Response Networks



8 Provincial
Learning Events
offered



223 program
presentations
completed, reaching
4,377 people



11 issues of the
E-Connector
newsletter published



“It Takes A Community”
Infographic developed



Facebook Followers
increased by 9.4%
LinkedIn - New 2024



Report

Message from the Director of Administration

The Administration Team at BC CRN plays an essential role in supporting the organization's operations across finance, grants, data collection, programs, and communications. We also provide timely, responsive assistance to our Regional Mentors and CRN Coordinators as they engage with over 90 Community Response Networks (CRNs), reaching more than 265 communities throughout BC.

A Year of Transition and Growth

This year brought a notable transition with the arrival of a new Executive Director. As a team, we adapted our work plans to align with this leadership change, ensuring continuity in service delivery and organizational support.

Our data reflects a steady increase in outreach and engagement at the community and provincial levels. This growth speaks to the dedication of our networks and the continued relevance of our work across the province.

Finance and Funding

The Administration Team managed all financial operations, including budgeting, financial reporting, audit preparation, and funding applications. BC CRN also provides financial administration for the BC Council to Reduce Elder Abuse (CREA).

Core funding from the Ministry of Health, along with a successful application for the annual Charitable Gaming Grant from the Province of BC, enabled the ongoing delivery of programs and outreach initiatives aimed at preventing adult abuse, neglect, and self-neglect.



**Sharon Johnson,
CPA, CGA**

Community Outreach

Over \$400,000 in project grants and coordinator support was distributed to CRNs, enabling a wide range of community-led initiatives focused on awareness, education, and collaboration. Activities included:

- Partnership projects to strengthen coordinated community responses
- Outreach to vulnerable adults and frontline service providers
- Public awareness campaigns, especially around World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

We also developed *It Takes a Community*, a new visual resource that highlights the key components of a coordinated community response through a clear and compelling infographic.

Communications

This year, we produced and distributed 11 editions of the E-Connector Newsletter, reaching over 2,000 subscribers with updates on CRN activities, events, and important sector news.

We also hosted eight topical webinars—all recorded and made available on our website—

Message from the Director of Administration

and organized both the annual **Provincial Team Summit** and several CRN orientation sessions.

Our website remains a dependable and accessible hub of information for CRNs and the public.

Programs

We take great pride in the educational presentations delivered through our network of trained presenters. Our monthly rotating session model allows for regular onboarding of new presenters and extends our reach across the province.

Current program offerings include:

- *It's Not Right! Neighbours, Friends, and Families*
- *See Something, Say Something*
- *Spotlight on Ageism*
- *Introduction to BC CRN*
- *Extreme Clutter* (new this year and enthusiastically received)

We also delivered tailored presentations to caregivers, frontline responders, and community organizations across BC.

This work is made possible by the dedication and professionalism of:

- **Arlene Johnston**, Coordinator of Data, Grants, and Agreements
- **Nicole Bell**, Coordinator of Communications and Programs
- **Doug Newberry**, Program Implementation Manager
- **April Struthers**, Director of Knowledge Exchange, Research, and Learning

As we close out the 2024–2025 fiscal year, we are bidding a bittersweet farewell to Arlene Johnston, a long-standing contractor with BC CRN. After eight years of service, Arlene is retiring. We are deeply grateful for her commitment and contributions, and we wish her all the best in her next chapter.

We are proud of our accomplishments this year and remain steadfast in our commitment to supporting CRNs and communities throughout British Columbia.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Johnson
Director of Administration



Photo credit: Chinese CRN

Estimated Value of In-Kind Contributions

	# of CRNs	Communities	Volunteer Hours	In-Kind Contributions
2019	78	224	\$979,163	\$265,812
2020	80	232	\$998,363	\$403,919
2021	81	233	\$1,070,863	\$402,576
2022	86	261	\$1,191,725	\$430,591
2023	92	265	\$1,219,137	\$515,809
2024	94	265	\$1,617,510	\$528,079



Photo credit: Invermere CRN

Report

Message from the Director of Operations

2024–2025 has been a year of change, excitement, and growth.

Last spring we welcomed our new Executive Director, Heather Treleaven, as well as Lorna Penner, our new North East Regional Mentor, who succeeded long-time BC CRN supporter Laura Beamish. Thank you, Laura, for your dedicated work in the community.

In 2024, Vancouver Island North Regional Mentor Jennifer Lazenby took medical leave, and one of our Coordinators in the region, Cheryl Stinson, stepped in as Interim Mentor. Thank you, Cheryl, for your willingness to support during this transition.

Sadly, Jennifer resigned at the end of the year for health reasons. We will deeply miss having her as part of the Provincial Team. However, her extensive experience in the community led to an exciting development, and the Central Vancouver Island Region was created. We are pleased to welcome our new Central Vancouver Island Mentor, Cathy Holmes.

Also brand new to our Mentor Team is Nasra Mire who is taking over the Sunshine Coast Region from April Struthers who has moved into a new role with BC CRN. Congratulations Nasra, we are looking forward to getting to know you.

Sadly, we are also bidding farewell to longtime Mentor Marian Anderberg (Thompson Nicola Fraser Region) who has taken on a new full-time position in Kamloops and Sarah Gibson (North Shore, Sea to Sky,



Kelina Kwan, PhD

and Bella Coola Region) who is moving from the area. Both of these ladies have left indelible marks on the association and we will miss working with them. Also on the move is Eva Navrot (Cariboo Chilcotin Region) who will be living in Merrit and is taking over for Marian in the (Thompson Nicola Fraser Region).

I am honoured to work alongside so many passionate and skilled Regional Mentors who support the over 90 Community Response Networks (CRNs) across the province. Their commitment to strengthening community connections, raising awareness, and creating meaningful opportunities continues to advance our work and impact.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all the Mentors for their dedication and contributions over the past year:

- **Anjali Marshall** – North Central and North Western BC
- **April Struthers** – Sunshine Coast
- **Cari Taylor** – Vancouver Island South
- **Cheryl Stinson** – Vancouver Island North
- **Doug Newberry** – East Kootenay
- **Eva Navrot** – Cariboo Chilcotin

Message from the Director of Operations

- **Heather von Ilberg** – West Kootenay and Boundary
- **Jas Cheema** – Fraser Valley South and Fraser Valley East
- **Jennifer Lazenby** – Vancouver Island Central and North
- **Joanna Li** – Vancouver
- **Ken Kuhn** – Fraser Valley West
- **Lorna Penner** – North Eastern BC
- **Linda Martens** – Columbia Shuswap
- **Marian Anderberg** – Thompson Nicola Fraser
- **Micki Materi** – Okanagan
- **Sarah Gibson** – North Shore, Sea to Sky, and Bella Coola

In addition to supporting our Mentors, I have had the pleasure of working with a dedicated

Conference Committee—Anjali Marshall, Joanna Li, Micki Materi, Coordinator Sandi McCreight, and Executive Director Heather Treleaven—to plan for our 2025 Conference in October. I am thrilled that we will once again gather in person to connect, share, and learn from one another.

I am grateful for the privilege of working with our Regional Mentors and with the incredible colleagues on our Leadership and Administration Teams. Thank you for your support throughout the year. I look forward to another bright and exciting year ahead.

With gratitude,
Kelina Kwan
Director of Operations



Photo credit: Prince George CRN

BC CRN Regional Mentors

Provincial Team Members 2024-2025



**Marian Anderberg
Thompson**
Nicola Fraser



Jas Cheema
Fraser Valley East
(Langley, South Surrey,
White Rock, Delta)



Sarah Gibson
North Shore
& Sea to Sky



Cathy Holmes
Central
Vancouver Island



Ken Kuhn
Fraser West



Joanna Li
Vancouver



Anjali Marshall
North West &
Central Interior



Linda Martens
Columbia Shuswap

BC CRN Regional Mentors

Provincial Team Members 2024-2025



Micki Materi
Okanagan



Eva Navrot
Cariboo Chilcotin



Doug Newberry
East Kootenay



Lorna Penner
North East



Cheryl Stinson
North
Vancouver Island



April Struthers
Sunshine Coast



Cari Taylor
South
Vancouver Island



Heather von Ilberg
West Kootenay /
Boundary

Report

Message from the Director of Knowledge Exchange, Research, and Learning

I am pleased to step into the new role of Director of Knowledge Exchange, Research, and Learning for BC CRN. In this capacity, I am committed to fostering a strong learning culture within the organization and ensuring that quality, evidence-based educational resources, best practice sharing, and cultural sensitivity are integrated into every aspect of our work.

This role presents an exciting opportunity to support continuous improvement, drive innovation, and meaningfully contribute to the advancement of our collective knowledge and impact.

At a recent Board meeting, two strategic directions were approved: the development of a Reconciliation Framework for BC CRN, and a renewed focus on the self-organized network model as a driver of social change. We will be looking to our Indigenous colleagues to guide this journey and ensure our organization actively responds to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action.

Highlights

Securing funding to support our work is always a challenge. I'm pleased to report that BC CRN recently received a year-long grant from the BC Council to Reduce Elder Abuse (CREA). This grant supports a collaboration with Health Authority Social Workers and Indigenous Health Departments to update a national tool recognized for its strong cultural safety components.



April Struthers, MED, RCC

As a new Director, I was honoured to contribute to three sessions at the 2025 BC CRN Summit in early April. These included presentations on the network-building model, evaluation findings, and—alongside Mentors—a session mapping CRNs and partners. The Regional Mentors bring a wealth of knowledge and experience, and the opportunity to share and learn together is truly invaluable.

The upcoming BC CRN Provincial Conference in October presents another exciting opportunity to exchange knowledge and learn from CRN Coordinators across the province. Together with my colleague Ben Kadel, I look forward to leading a session focused on the collective impact of our CRNs, grounded in our annual developmental evaluation.

Finally, this new role allows me to contribute to ongoing national efforts with our provincial counterparts to develop impactful educational tools. An abstract has been submitted to the Canadian Association of Gerontology Conference in Montreal this October, offering a valuable opportunity to showcase the outstanding work of BC CRN on a national stage.

Respectfully submitted,
April Struthers
Director of Knowledge Exchange, Research
and Learning

Report

Annual Developmental Evaluation 2024

Aim. Act. Reflect.

Since 2012, BC CRN has been engaged in a multi-year developmental evaluation to better understand how we are growing and strengthening Community Response Networks (CRNs) across British Columbia. This year's report shares key findings from 2024 and reflects on our collective progress in supporting adult abuse, neglect, and self-neglect prevention and awareness building.

How We Evaluated

Our 2024 evaluation was based on:

- An annual province-wide survey of CRN Coordinators, Mentors, local affiliates, and—new this year—non-affiliates.
- Additional activity and participation data collected by the BC CRN Administration Team.

We organized our analysis using the five core goals outlined in our Strategic Plan:

1. Growing and Sustaining CRNs
2. Building Awareness
3. Engaging in Allyship
4. Ensuring Internal Capacity
5. Increasing Connectivity

Key Highlights from 2024

- **Sustained Growth and Strong Impact:** CRNs continue to grow in reach and depth, with consistent and meaningful community impact.



Ben Kadel, PhD

- **Increased Awareness:** Our biggest impacts remain in the areas where we strive to lead— greater awareness of adult abuse and neglect, stronger understanding of community resources, and improved collaboration across sectors.
- **Professional Awareness:** Nearly 90% of survey respondents said they believed health care professionals, law enforcement, and service providers for older adults are “very” or “somewhat aware” of adult abuse and neglect. Public awareness was rated lower, with just over half of respondents indicating that the general public is adequately informed.
- **Community Impact:** 68% of respondents reported witnessing positive effects from their local CRNs’ work, especially more educational events, better working relationships, and stronger feelings of connection to others addressing these issues.
- **New Voices and Perspectives:** For the first time, we asked all respondents how informed they feel about BC CRN activities. This new insight will help shape future communication and engagement efforts.

Annual Developmental Evaluation 2024

Opportunities for Growth

While we celebrate our successes, we also acknowledge areas for improvement and growth:

- **Strengthening Outreach and Networks:** Some Community Response Networks (CRNs) report decreasing outreach and network strength. We see an opportunity to revisit and deepen our understanding of allyship—especially how it can be tailored to the unique needs of specific communities.
- **Increasing Affiliate Engagement:** There's a clear desire among affiliates for deeper involvement. Local CRN coordinators are encouraged to create more opportunities for meaningful participation.
- **Investing in Learning and Development:** Mentors and Coordinators have expressed interest in more internal education, especially on topics like community development, abuse dynamics, and the Adult Guardianship Act.

- **Integrating Knowledge Across Teams:** Improving how we collect, share, and use administrative data will enhance collaboration and strengthen our capacity at every level.

Looking Ahead

As we continue this important work, we remain committed to learning, adapting, and growing alongside the communities we serve. Thank you to everyone who contributes to the Association. Your commitment helps create safer, more connected communities where everyone is empowered to act against abuse and neglect.

Together, we **aim**, **act**, and **reflect** — so that no adult is left without support.

Sincerely,
Ben Kadel, PhD
Evaluator



Photo credit: Williams Lake CRN

BC CRN Board of Directors



Susan McIntosh
Langley, BC
Joined: 2020

Susan McIntosh is passionate about building inclusive communities that empower, engage, and value older adults for what they have brought and are continuing to contribute to our communities.

Susan retired from her role as Executive Director with the Seniors Come Share Society, a position she held for 42 years. While working and raising her family, Sue completed her BA with a focus on Sociology and Psychology and grew the Society from one temporary part-time program to be 'the seniors' resource in Surrey/White Rock. Services now include three Day Programs for Older Adults and 26 community programs thanks to over 50 team members and 130 dedicated volunteers. Ongoing training and courses have helped Sue continue to grow her skills and connections to ensure that older adults have a strong voice and source for support.

Additionally, Sue has been actively involved with the BC CRN previously as a Board Member, Seniors First BC as Secretary and Chairperson as well as numerous community organizations.



Gurmit Sandu,
MSW, BSW, RSW
Surrey, BC
Joined: 2024

Gurmit is a Registered Social Worker with her Master of Social Work in Healthcare. She is currently working in a collaborative role as a frontline acute care practitioner and in her leadership position providing clinical supervision to hospital-based social workers. She brings nearly 15 years of social work experience within acute and community-based health settings. Gurmit has a strong passion for emergency prevention. Employed within Fraser Health Authority, she promotes ongoing psychoeducation, focuses on risk mitigation to reduce vulnerabilities, with a greater emphasis on empowering individuals through an autonomous lens so individuals have greater ability to make informed decisions about their care.

As a top priority, she promotes working in collaboration with her interdisciplinary teams and the local Fraser Health region communities. Gurmit takes great pride in supporting culturally diverse individuals and families to navigate their respective community and health care systems. Gurmit brings her experience as a designated responder mandated under the Adult Guardianship Act.

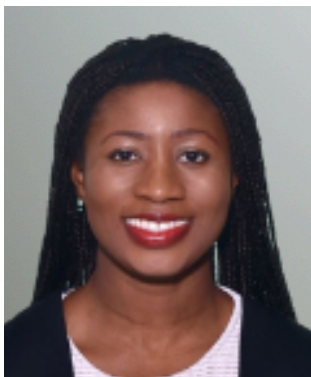
BC CRN Board of Directors

The following Board Members have been elected by acclamation for a two-year term:



Dawn Hemingway,
MSc, RSW, BA
Prince George, BC
Joined 2021

Dawn Hemingway is a long-time community activist residing in Northern BC. She is a retired Associate Professor in the UNBC School of Social Work, supervising graduate students in Social Work, Health Sciences and Gender Studies. Her research and teaching focuses on community-based organizing and policy development, including social determinants of health and quality of life in northern communities with an emphasis on the health of women and older adults. She continues her work as Professor Emerita. Dawn serves on the Leadership Council of the Northern Feminist Institute for Research and Evaluation, the Board of the Northern Central Labour Council and Intersect Youth & Family Services Society; co-chairs Community Partners Addressing Homeless; and serves on the Prince George Council of Seniors' Liaison Advisory Committee. Regional roles include an appointment to Northern Health's strategic Elder Program Council, Communications Coordinator for the BC Association of Social Workers Northern Branch and steering committee member for Stand Up for the North. Complementing local and regional work, Dawn's recent provincial roles have included an appointment as Co-Chair of the Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction's Advisory Forum for development of BC's first Poverty Reduction Plan (2017-2019); current appointment to the Council of Advisors for the BC Seniors' Advocate; and Vice Chair of Nidus Personal Planning Resource Centre and Registry.



Joyce Okofo Adjei,
RN, BScN, MSN, JD
Kamloops, BC
Joined: 2023

Joyce Okofo Adjei is a lawyer in Kamloops and a Registered Nurse (RN) with over 14 years of experience working with seniors as an RN in BC. As a lawyer, her practice involves family law, child protection services, and general litigation. Joyce works closely with her clients to unite them with their child(ren). She helps clients access legal, social, housing, transportation and health and wellness support. Joyce is also active in her community, serving, for example, as a frontline nurse and researcher for Interior Health during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Joyce holds a Master of Science in Nursing degree from York University, Toronto, and a Bachelor of Nursing and Juris Doctor (Law) degree from Thompson Rivers University.

BC CRN Board of Directors

The following Board Members have been elected by acclamation for a two-year term:



Dr. Gloria Gutman,
PhD
Vancouver, BC
Joined: 2017

Dr. Gloria Gutman developed and directed the Gerontology Department and Gerontology Research Centre at Simon Fraser University from 1982-2005. She served two terms as President of the Canadian Association on Gerontology (CAG), was President of the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics (IAGG) from 2001-2005 and President of the International Network for Prevention of Elder Abuse (INPEA) from 2009-2014. In 2005 she was the recipient of INPEA's Rosalie Wolf Award for her strong support of elder abuse prevention. In 2007 she was awarded the Order of British Columbia, in 2010 an honorary LLD by the University of Western Ontario and in 2012 a Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal by the CAG for her work in gerontology. She is an author/editor of 23 books among them *Aging, Ageism and Abuse – Moving from Awareness to Action* (Elsevier Insights 2010). Recently, Gloria was awarded a grant for an intergenerational project that will raise awareness of the risks of elder abuse in the LGBT community. In 2017 we were honoured to celebrate Gloria's receiving of the Order of Canada which recognizes her incredible contribution to the field of Gerontology.



Dr. Balbir Gurm,
RN, BSN, MA, EdD
Surrey, BC
Joined: 2025

Dr. Gurm is a community leader and award-winning educator at Kwantlen Polytechnic University. With 40 years of experience in healthcare and education, she advocates for system change to create culturally safe and inclusive environments. As the founder and facilitator of the Network to Eliminate Violence in Relationships (NEVR), she leverages multidisciplinary academic knowledge to address the pandemic of relationship violence. NEVR, comprising over 50 organizations including police, volunteer services, government sectors, and academics, embodies her commitment to equity and policy impact. Dr. Gurm co-edited and co-authored an open-access book to provide a critical understanding of the complexity of relationship violence and serves on various boards, such as the advisory committee to the Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport for the South Asian Museum Project, and the City of Surrey's Libraries Board. Her leadership and nursing excellence have earned her multiple awards, including two distinctions from the YWCA and the BC Excellence in Nursing Innovation from the Nurse and Nurse Practitioners of BC (NNPBC).

BC CRN Board of Directors

The following Board Members have been elected by acclamation for a two-year term:



Michael Volker
Vancouver, BC
Joined 2024

Michael spent the first 20 years of his career in the private sector working with retailers and manufacturers in upper leadership roles. Looking for an improved life work balance and a more meaningful career, in 2013 he moved to the non-profit sector. Over the past 12 years Michael has specialized in the operations side of non-profit management currently working as the Executive Director of 411 Seniors Centre Society. Michael is very familiar with financial management, working very closely throughout his career with financial teams - he enjoys developing and implementing financial and organizational strategies. He is also remarkably familiar with project management and especially how it relates to facility maintenance and operations. Michael is also very adept at sales, marketing and fundraising having led a number of successful marketing campaigns throughout his work history. In summary, Michael has leveraged his diverse and varied skills and experiences to be a well-rounded and uniquely qualified Executive Director of the 411 Seniors Society.

On a more personal note, Michael is a graduate of Simon Fraser University and a long-time resident of Vancouver where he lives with his lifelong partner and their cat in Southeast Vancouver. He has several passions including travel, racquet sports, stream keeping, swimming, and cycling around the city.



Photo credits: Maple Ridge/Pitt Meadows/Katzie CRN (left), Kaslo CRN (center), Chinese CRN (right)



BC CRN PROVINCIAL *Conference*

BC CRN is bringing together CRN members, Coordinators & Regional Mentors for an engaging conference focused on preventing adult abuse, neglect and self-neglect in BC.



TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7 - THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2025

River Rock Resort Casino – 8811 River Rd., Richmond, BC

Register here:



tinyurl.com/bccrnconference2025



BC ASSOCIATION OF
Community Response Networks

Stopping Adult Abuse and Neglect ...Together.

THANK YOU

For more information:



info@bccrns.ca



www.bccrns.ca



www.facebook.com/bccrns



www.linkedin.com/company/bc-community-response-networks



505-8840-210 Street, Box 349
Langley, BC V1M 2Y2

Thank you to the Province of British Columbia
for its unwavering support of our organization.



BRITISH
COLUMBIA

Photo credit: Chilliwack CRN

