



VANCOUVER ISLAND REGION RESTORATIVE JUSTICE ASSOCIATION

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Minutes
Monday, May 28, 2018
10 AM – 3 PM

MEETING VENUE

John Howard Society Offices – 1585 Bowen Road, Nanaimo

Present: Clare Whelen-Sedaki (Provincial CAP Co-ordinator), Myles Morrison (President & Ucluelet), Jane Waterman (Texada Island), Kristine Atkinson (Campbell River), Bruce Curtid (Comox Valley), Richard Tarnoff (Ladysmith), Jacqueline McKenzie (Nanaimo), Genesis Hunt (Vice-President & Alert Bay), Ann Crockett (Ladysmith)

1. Educational Session: Claire Whelen-Sedaki – Provincial RJ Co-ordinator

Clare provided an update on developments in the CAP program and advised that the Ministry Working Group on RJ is being led by Marci Bezarabs (E.D. of CAP program).

2. Programme Updates- Reps that are attending provide an overview of what's up

Tofino-Ucluelet – has all new officers and Sgt. In the RCMP detachments
CJC – Campagnolo Lecture date is not finalized, but will be in September. CJC is doing a Transgendered Students Experience of Transitioning in High School workshop in November. We had a school district lock-down event file that was referred, as well as a bar shooting incident. We will be celebrating our 20th year of operations in October at our Volunteer Recognition Dinner.

Texada – is transitioning to become the TEXada-Powell River RJ program, based in Powell River with strong support. Barry Stewart is providing a training next weekend in PR>

Nanaimo – there has been a decrease in RCMP referrals but an increase in Crown referrals. There has been an expansion of the public education program through the College and the school district and an enhancement of the use of social media.

Campbell River – averaging about 60 files/year with a good range of files and a number of public education events and watch briefings.

Ladysmith – only 3 files this year (1 RCMP, 1 DFO, 1 Community Association). Met with Williams Lake and they have a greatly expanded number of crown referrals by being in court on remand day.

Alert Bay – the office is busy but RJ is done. They are re-doing their approach to referrals so that bands can make direct referrals.

3. Business Session

3.1 Minutes of Meeting Mar 19, 2018

That the minutes of the meeting held March 19, 2018 be adopted. CARRIED

3.2 AGM Planning – venue, content, arrangements, other issues

Caryl Wylie is arranging for the Bradley Centre in Coombs for the AGM; Gail is handling the catering.

The preferred order of speaking invitations (and person responsible) is:

1. Minister Eby or Minister Farnworth (Bruce)
2. Jim Cooley on complex cases (Myles)
3. Barry Stewart – RJ for non-violent protests such as Kinder Morgan (Jane)
4. Sue Sullivan – Victim Services Ombudsman (Gail)
5. Jim Wald – The Williams Lake Crown Referrals Project (Bruce)
6. Genesis Hunt – Indigenous Justice Programme – collaboration options (Bruce)

3.3 VIRRJA Executive

The nomination slate was finalized for the AGM:

Term from: 2018 – 2020

President	Genesis Hunt
Treasurer	Gail Jewsbury

Term from 2018 - 2019

Vice-President	Myles Morrison
Secretary	Jane Waterman
Director at Large	Bruce Curtis

3.4 Membership Report - Gail Jewsbury
- deferred to next meeting

3.5 Financial Report - Gail Jewsbury
- deferred to next meeting

3.6 VIRRJA Lobbying Update: Provincial Ministers, Local MLA's

There has been a lot of lobbying by the VIRRJA Executive carried out this Spring: VIRRJA's Lobbying document, called "The Future of Restorative Justice in BC" was drafted in accordance with the June decisions on it's focus and it was reviewed and revised through the Executive several times. It was then deployed through the following means:

- Curtis had personal conversations with Farnworth (Solicitor General and Min of Public Safety), Eby (Attorney General), Carole James (Deputy Leader and Finance Minister) at Government House July 18, 2017 (Swearing-in Day)
- The brief was filed with Attorney General, Solicitor General, Ministers of Education, Finance & Deputy Government Leader and the Premier July 20, 2017
- Curtis met with Ronna-Rae Leonard, MLA (Comox Valley) – Sep 19, 2017
- Jewsbury/Curtis met with Ms Sonya Furstenau, MLA (Cowichan Valley) & Deputy Leader of the BC Green Party – Nov 17, 2017
- Curtis met with Ronna-Rae Leonard, MLA (Comox Valley) requesting assistance in obtaining meetings with the Ministers – Feb 5, 2018
- Copies of Brief personally delivered to each of the Ministers, by hand, by Ronna Rae Leonard, MLA (Comox Valley) February 8, 2018
- Morrison, Hunt, Jewsbury & Curtis met with Eby, Attorney General and Ministry officials – April 9, 2018
- Curtis met with Kassandra Dyke, Ministerial Assistant to Minister of Health Adrian Dix – April 17, 2018
- Morrison, Hunt, Jewsbury & Curtis met with Farnworth, Solicitor General & Minister of Public Safety and Ministry officials – April 17, 2018
- Brief Filed with Minister of Health with a special emphasis on RJ & Elder Abuse – May 4, 2018
- Dyke (Ministerial Assistant to Dix) raised Brief with Minister who asked that we meet directly with the Health Ministry staff and expressing his strong interest in this area of RJ application – May 5, 2018

3.7 Yahoo's new privacy policy – (VIRRJA e-mail)

Attached

Concerns were raised over the VIRRJA e-mail through Yahoo and the change in their privacy policy. It was broadly discussed and it was decided

That we remain with Yahoo for the time being and investigate other options when the website is moved.

CARRIED

3.8 Provincial Association status and Lobbying Gail Jewsbury & Myles Morrison
 The Provincial Association met with Farnworth a week after VIRRJA's meeting. The Standing Committee has registered itself as the RJABC and they are the new Board, until the first AGM. The New Board has received a start-up grant to hire an ED and pursue charitable status. It is thought that both organizations and individuals will be eligible to be members. The AGM date has not yet been set.

4. Adjournment

Forth coming Meetings 10 Am – 2:30 PM: Saturday, October 13, 2018 AGM – Bradley Centre, Coombs