



## VANCOUVER ISLAND REGION RESTORATIVE JUSTICE ASSOCIATION

**Minutes**  
**Saturday, February 25, 2017**  
**10 M – 3 PM**

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

Ladysmith – program now has 12 volunteer and is much more robust, new emphasis on schools, elders

Comox Valley – the website was stolen which precipitated a need to completely re-build it, offering a Mental Health and Addictions and RJ 2 day workshop at the beginning of March with Alana Abramson, Campagnolo Lecture this year is April 27 at the Sid Williams Theatre in Courtenay with Adrienne Clarkson and John Ralston Saul in Dialogue and Conversation – tix through Sid Williams Theatre website box office. There is also a fundraising dinner on Wednesday April 26 at Crow Islae \$100 – with a generous tax receipt.

Gold River – very few referrals, RCMP are supportive but there are “few appropriate files” to refer

RJ Vic – Probation referrals (based on court-orders where judge asks if both parties are interested); Susan Anton told RJ Vic that government can't fund RJ directly but it is providing resources through the Civil Forfeiture Fund.

Ucluelet – no DFO referrals lately, few other files referred, did a CJF training in Prince Rupert

Alert Bay – Genesis is working on his own as Mike and Pearl haven't been with the program for some time, RJ ha been put on hold in the interim and they are trying to re-structure for the coming year to bring long term volunteers on to paid staff positions.

Texada – needs growth in referrals – looking for volunteers to get its capacity up; thinking that RJ has to become mainstream and funded.

Duncan – City and Municipality both providing funding, spoke to Council, referrals are down.

Provincial RJ Committee (Myles/Gail reporting) – decided to be the body to establish a provincial RJ association – working on implementation details

### 2. Educational Session:

2.1 Discussion of how your programme trains volunteers

Deferred to later in the meeting

## 2.2 Directions for 2017, review of Strategic Plan, additions/priorities

Deferred to later in the meeting

### 3. Business Session

#### 3.1 Call to Order

#### 3.2 Minutes of Meeting June 20, 2016

That the Minutes of the VIRRJA Meeting held June 20, 2016 be approved.

CARRIED

Minutes of AGM, Oct 22, 2016 (for information only)

That the Minutes of the AGM held Oct 22, 2016 be received.

CARRIED

#### 3.3 VIRRJA Secretary resignation/replacement

In the absence of any names coming forward, Curtis will continue on an interim basis. Genesis may have a volunteer who would be willing to take it on.

#### 3.4 Membership Report - Gail Jewsbury

Currently there are 9 members, more to be renewed. Dues for the year 2017 were set at \$25.

That the Membership Report be received as presented.

CARRIED

#### 3.5 Financial Report - Gail Jewsbury

There is a current balance of \$5,487.

That the Financial Report be received as presented

CARRIED

#### Signing Officers

That Curtis/Jewsbury be retained as the signing officers for the current year.

CARRIED

#### 3.6 Discussion of revised meeting schedule for 2017

After a discussion of the various issues around meeting dates, it was moved:

That the meeting dates for VIRRJA be set as Tuesday, April 4 and Tuesday, June 6, 2017 in Nanaimo.

CARRIED

### 3.7 Venue, theme, preliminary plans for 2017 AGM & Conference

Crofton Community Centre (will also do catering) and Duncan Community Centre were agreed as options for venue

That Gail be authorized to complete arrangements and pay required fees. CARRIED  
Theme: RJ Across the Spectrum was agreed

Speakers:

Jessica Rourke – presentation from the dissertation on Forgiveness

Brenda Morrison – on the process/outcomes of RJ at the Dalhousie Dental School

Kay Hutchinson – post conviction, post release RJ

Jane Osborne – RJ and seniors abuse

A Panel – all speakers invited to participate

Agreed that Gail will make contact on possible availability and fees and report to the April Meeting.

### 2.1 & 2.2 Deferred Items

#### 2.1 Discussion of how your programme trains volunteers

There was a general discussion of how programs are to be able to train their volunteers now that the RCMP is not providing free training. It was noted that there are several RCMP certified trainers on the Island, but there are fees that must be charged to cover the costs. There are also multiple other trainers that do various other forms of RJ training, but they also charge.

#### 2.2 Directions for 2017, review of Strategic Plan, additions/priorities

It was agreed that there should be an added emphasis for the current year in light of the provincial election:

- Local programs should attend all candidates meetings and ask RJ questions.
- Jessica & Myles will develop Q's and A's for use with new Cabinet members and critics when appointed after the elections
- Ask them what information they need from u to support expanded RJ services

## 4. Adjournment