



2005

NATIVE COURTWORKER™

AND COUNSELLING ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



a helping hand to Justice.

THE NATIVE COURTWORKER AND COUNSELLING ASSOCIATION OF BC PROVIDES CULTURALLY APPROPRIATE SERVICES TO ABORIGINAL PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES CONSISTENT WITH THEIR NEEDS. OUR SERVICES ARE ACCOMPLISHED BY ASSISTING ABORIGINAL PEOPLE INVOLVED IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM; PROVIDING ACCESS TO COUNSELLING AND REFERRAL SERVICES FOR CLIENTS WITH SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND DETOX SUPPORT ISSUES; ADVOCATE SERVICES FOR ABORIGINAL FAMILY AND YOUTH. OUR DEDICATED EMPLOYEES ARE RESPONSIVE TO THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY BY PROVIDING QUALITY, INNOVATIVE AND EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS WHERE PEOPLE ARE TREATED WITH DIGNITY AND RESPECT.



I N M E M O R I U M

George Watts | MAY 31, 2005.

Board member
and past President
of NCCABC
George Watts
passed away
last year



George Watts, former Board of Directors member representing the western half of Vancouver Island and Past President of NCCABC, passed away on May 31, 2005. From the Tsheshaht First Nation of the Nuu-Chah-Nulth, he was 59 when he passed away suddenly. He left his wife Matilda, sons Ken and Robert and daughter Cecilia.

George graduated from high school in 1963 and went on to study chemical engineering and education at U.B.C. He left university to become the band manager for Tsheshaht and rose to become President of the Nuu-Chah-Nulth Tribal Council.

He occupied many of the most influential positions with aboriginal people in B.C. and Canada including President of the Union of B.C. Indian Chiefs, Acting Chief Councillor of Tsheshaht First Nation, Special ARDA Board member, Canadian delegate to the International Labour Convention on Indigenous Rights, Canadian Delegate to the World Convention to fight Racism, delegate to the U.N. Conference on Indigenous Rights, and many others. George began his fight for the rights of aboriginal people thanks to Pierre Trudeau. The government had published a "White" Paper on the future of aboriginal people. It called for

assimilation. George immediately became recognized as a leader in the struggle to oppose the White Paper. That would transform into a fight to settle the land question and a fight to get D.I.A. out of the lives of aboriginal people. Hugh Braker, NCCABC President and nephew of George Watts, remembered George's tireless work for aboriginal people in conflict with the law. "George often said that to succeed we had to address the root causes of the problems," he said. "George said that if we just helped people in prison, or in court, it would not solve the problems. He knew we had to stop them from getting there in the first place. That meant creating jobs, giving aboriginal people control of their lives and government and culture and getting rid of institutions that were oppressing us like residential schools and DIA." "George was instrumental in shaping the NCCABC into what it is today. He encouraged me to become a member of the Board and to eventually run for President. The association I became President of reflects his legacy."

The voice of George Watts will be sadly missed in British Columbia and in all of Canada. He was a tireless champion of aboriginal people. At the same time we are all better for the legacy he left and the work he did.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

This past year the Association has placed its energies into a wide range of activities designed to support existing programs and to take on new initiatives.

We rose to the challenge in several notable ways:

BUILDING THE VISION FOR OUR FUTURE

This year the association held a Five year strategic planning session in October 2005 at the St. Eugene's Mission Resort in Cranbrook BC. Participants included Board of Directors, management staff, trainers, and representatives from three Aboriginal Restorative Justice Programs. Our thanks is extended to Theresa Wesley, Faith Tait and Mary Brown.

The purpose Planning Workshop was to establish a five-year strategy for the Association, and also identifying measurable support goals for 2006. Together the business planning team developed the 2006 Support Goals and made commitments to achieving these goals. Currently the business plan is still being drafted, and many people are working hard towards building our vision and strengthening our organization.

This planning session was very successful in identifying our future strategic goals.

ABORIGINAL JUSTICE FORUMS

The Association has hosted three forums on aboriginal people and justice in British Columbia in the past year. These forums have been attended by a cross-section of people from various groups, organizations and government branches in British Columbia that offer justice system related services to aboriginal people.

These sessions have assisted the participants to better understand the justice system services that each

group, organization and government branch offers to aboriginal people and to see what is working and what has not worked. Participants were asked to make a short presentation on the following three topics:

- 1) What justice system services does your group, organization or branch of government offer to aboriginal people.
- 2) What justice system services that you offer have shown positive results or "seem to work"?
- 3) What are the continuing challenges that you have identified in the field of providing justice system services to aboriginal people. What does not work.

The third session was held on in August 2005 at the Squamish Nation Recreation Centre. The session was an information exchange made up of representatives of over fifty groups who were in attendance. They were asked to make a ten minute presentation on the three topics listed above.

While the criminal justice system is often the focus of discussions on aboriginal people and the justice system, we asked a broad cross-section of participants to attend.

With the future planning of our fourth aboriginal justice forum to be held March 2006, we are sincerely grateful to the aboriginal community, organizations and government ministries who shared their expertise to this very important forum.

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The NCCABC is very appreciative of the input of all those who attended our planning session at Cranbrook. This gave us some very helpful input to our goals and strategies for the next five years. The attendance and involvement of three Aboriginal Restorative Justice programs enriched the participation.

THE NCCABC BOARD OF DIRECTORS IS A COMMUNITY-ELECTED BODY REPRESENTING THIRTEEN REGIONS THROUGHOUT B.C.



This year the association held a Five year Strategic Planning session in Cranbrook in order to to establish a five-year strategy, and to identify measurable support goals for 2006.



TRAINERS MODEL

This year the association has undertaken a pilot project training model which incorporates existing Native Courtworkers in six regions throughout the province to be trained as trainers, as well as to develop curriculum which describes day to day skill requirements for Courtworkers.

Using existing training resources, the Department of Justice, Aboriginal Courtworker Program Logic Model and manual, the trainers designed a day to day operational manual for new and existing Courtworkers. Trainers have also provided training for new Courtworkers hired within their respective regions. Trainers have been provided with skills such as public speaking courses and other relevant training requirements to enhance the expertise they already possess. We wish to acknowledge the hard work of Ben Cardinal, Karla Olinek, Pamela Scora, Darryl Shackelly, Naomi Williams and Les Taylor, who have contributed their time in the success of this project. They are a valuable resource to the association and their communities

TRADE MARKS

This year we are pleased to report that Public Notice of Section 9 (Official Marks) Native Courtworker and NCCABC Native Design now exist in the Canadian Trade-marks Office registry as official marks. This protects our association's name and logo from being used by others.

STAFFING

We would like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of our senior Alcohol and Drug Counsellor Gilbert Ducharme. Gilbert has worked at the downtown office for the past 18 years and will retire at the end of January 2006.

We wish Gilbert all the best in his future endeavours. We are certain that Gilbert will continue to help aboriginal people lead healthy lifestyles long after his retirement.

TERRY FOX RUN

For the past five years, employees have participated and raised money for events such as the Terry Fox Run. Our thanks to Gerri McLean, Detox Support Worker who helped organize the event.

ORDER IN COUNCIL | *see right* »

The granting of the Order in Council by the Province of B.C. ensures that the existing operational mandate of Native Courtworkers is in line with what is required under section 802.1 of the Criminal Code.

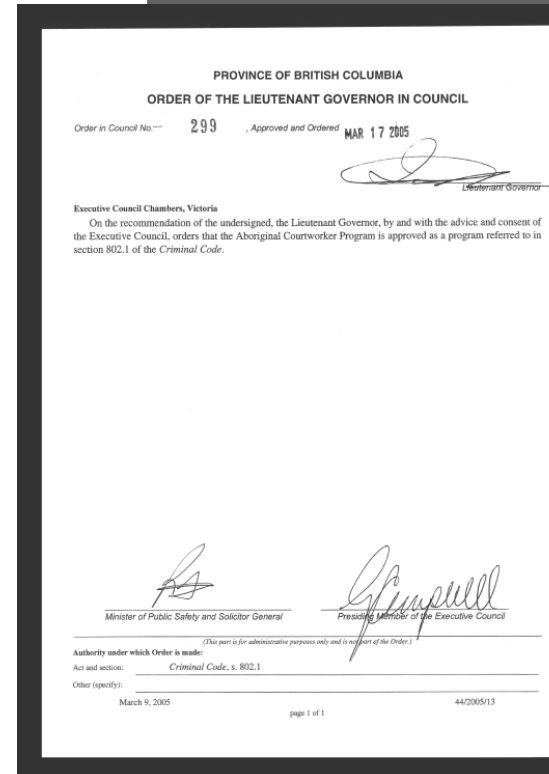
UNITED WAY OF THE LOWER MAINLAND

We continue to be a proud member agency of the United Way of the Lower Mainland. We appreciate receiving the Employee Gold Award once again for an outstanding contribution to our community through support of United Way.

The NCCABC Board of Directors continue to lead the association into the future and support our communities and workers.

Respectfully

Hugh Braker
President



March 17, 2005
Order in Council
granted to NCCABC by
the Province of B.C.



NATIVE COURTWORKER SERVICES ARE FREE OF CHARGE FOR ALL INDIVIDUALS OF FIRST NATIONS, METIS AND INUIT DESCENT



Attending the Aboriginal Justice Forum.



REGIONAL REPORTS

Lower Mainland | Northern Interior | North Coast



"In an environment like this, "thank you" is the greatest treasure of all"

Hello all! Every year it seems to get busier and busier, writing reports, compiling data, and writing needs analysis. Then writing the proposals and more reports, it seems like it never ends. I know that we are all in the same boat out there and my hats off to you all who take the time to get involved and provide the service or write the reports - all your work does make a difference, keep up the great work!

I would especially like to thank my staff for the hard work they do every day! Some days are busier than the day before, but they continue to work for our Aboriginal communities.

Over the past couple of years we have noticed an increase in a problem we all face. Year after year, for most of our lives, most of us can and do put up with it, and we have learned to deal with it appropriately. What I am talking about is "Discrimination".

The greatest challenge we have is putting an end to discrimination against Aboriginal people who are physically or mentally disabled, in addition to our people who have alcohol and drug addictions. These two groups face public and private policies that restrict their access to appropriate health care, employment and public benefits, in turn it discourages them from seeking treatment. This also robs them of hope for recovery. A public display of discrimination victimizes an individual and leads to physical or mental abuse if it is not dealt with appropriately and in a timely fashion. We must help to stop discrimination by advocating for our clients needs and ensure that those needs are met without discrimination, ensuring a healthier and safer community for our physically and mentally disabled.

DETOX SUPPORT PROGRAM

The Detox Support Program has been doing exceptional networking and partnership developments throughout our Aboriginal community and with other non-Aboriginal agencies. The program has had a

very successful first year with a 70% success rate. The concept of the program is to catch the Aboriginal clientele who are about to graduate from the Detox centre and return them to the community. The Detox support workers assist the clients return to the community and support him or her accessing social assistance, seeking residence, accessing our Alcohol and Drug services and Aftercare services such as AA Meetings and recreational activities. As part of the Alcohol and Drug team, the Detox Support Program assists the client to carry out their aftercare recovery plans. Many thanks to Vancouver Coastal Health Aboriginal program to recognize that this type of service is exactly what is needed and an essential component of a recovery team. Detox workers report that their client percentage for alcohol addiction is approximately 90%. The remaining client percentage is inhalant addiction and a few injection users.

ALCOHOL AND DRUG PROGRAM

The Alcohol and Drug Outpatient Team has had an increase in successes this year. Our admissions for Alcohol and Drug services are from clients who have not identified any external referrals accounting for about 50% and those who are encouraged to seek treatment by their family members and/or friends account for about 20%. Referrals through the Detox Support Worker program and from other agencies are about 30%. Our reports indicate the primary drug abuse is methamphetamine, or cocaine and crack abuse. One notable change is the steady increase with methamphetamine abuse and a lower abuse of alcohol and continuous abuse of marijuana and other inhalants.

The highest percentage of clients served by the Alcohol and Drug team has been those individuals with three or more criminal charges and or more arrests within the last two years. There has been a noticeable increase in referral and client walk-ins in search of our service. This specific group has had the greatest impact of success and we credit this to our Native Courtworkers and Detox Support program interventions.



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I N M E M O R I U M

Perry Shawana | JUNE. 2005



Perry Shawana, former Board of Directors member (1991-1993) for the Prince George region passed away in early June, 2005.

➔ Born in Blind River, Ontario, Perry Shawana was a member of the Serpent River First Nation, Likh C'ibu, Muka (Bear) Clan-Anishanabe. As an aboriginal lawyer he lived in Prince George with his partner Warner. Perry also passed away from a massive heart attack. He was only 41 years of age but had already made a substantial contribution to the aboriginal people of B.C. He had many friends in the aboriginal law community including lawyers and judges, courtworkers and justice community staff. While on the Board of the NCCA, Perry regularly took an active part in discussions and initiatives.

Perry's criminal and family law practice in Prince George was busy. He would often be teased about the number of divorces he did and how it was remarkable anyone was still married in Prince George with him up there. In 2002 Perry became an associate professor and Chair of First Nations Studies at the University of Northern B.C. His memorial service at the University was attended by a very large crowd of people and the numbers of those attending spoke to the respect he had in the communities of the North. Perry had worked hard to encourage aboriginal students to attend university, to

establish aboriginal curriculum in the University and to give the First Nations a voice at U.N.B.C. Perry passed away while enrolled for his PhD at the University of Victoria.

Perry had three brothers and three sisters and grew up in Northern Ontario. Hugh Braker, NCCABC President remembered Perry for the sense of humor he had. "Like many aboriginal people, Perry loved to tease," Braker said. "His wit was sharp, and at times could be a bit cutting." "I pitied those in government or industry or academia, who frustrated or angered him because they often suffered the worst of his barbs!"

Renee Taylor, Director and Supervising Lawyer of the UBC First Nations Legal Clinic said, "We are all amazed at the many and significant accomplishments that Perry achieved in his short professional life, just seventeen years, not to mention the committed and compassionate manner in which he carried them out." "His life.....simply must be celebrated."

Perry Shawana was taken from us too far too early and we regret the loss of what could have been.

Key factors that influence Alcohol and Drug misuse is the high unemployment rate, low education, substandard housing or over crowded rooming houses, community resources with large waiting lists for housing, food banks, and emergency shelters. More and more individuals are sleeping in doorways and under bridges, and there is presently no relief in sight for the existing Aboriginal resources. As an Aboriginal service agency at times we feel helpless not being able to provide a housing solution and food for some of our clientele, in turn sending the client to a another line up. We must work together to ensure that this new government understands what our communities need.

The Alcohol and Drug Team is continuing its public education in Alcohol and Drug Relapse Prevention and this year they are hoping to have some prevention workshop initiatives for children in keeping children free from alcohol by targeting groups between the ages of 9 to 15 years old.

Today we are lucky to have success in our Aboriginal clientele and those who have tasted their success are grateful, and are returning to our office, to volunteer their support to those who are in need of support after our facilitation of A&D service. We have been blessed to have Aboriginal individuals wanting to help those who are facing what they have now escaped - that is what I call success!

RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

Since the Government report on Residential School settlements, we have had an increase in telephone calls and walk in requests for information on where the client can fill out Residential School Claims and where Aboriginal clients can have assessments completed for the claims. In addition, the clients are referred for Residential school counselling, an increase of approximately 20%.

Our office receives requests for information very specific to Residential Schools. Lawyers want reports on our client's attendance to each of our programs, assessments made, and their outcomes or information specifically indicating there is a direct link from Residential Schools to their addiction and or being directly related to Residential Schools. We respond to these requests individually, and show that these requests are becoming an epidemic from some advocates and clients hoping

for quick settlements. We may support this type of action but confidentiality is our key factor in writing these types of reports. We advise clients who are requesting this information that they should have a lawyer represent them.

MENTAL HEALTH

Our team of Native Courtworkers, Alcohol and Drug Counsellors, Detox Support Workers and Family Advocates indicate that referrals made from Mental Health providers and Health Care providers account for 5% and referrals from School Counsellors account for 1%.

We are very involved in all aspects of an Aboriginal clients needs, and sometimes those needs involve the mental health services, which is very high on our priority list of service delivery for Aboriginal individuals. We will attempt to utilize every community resource that our community has to offer an Aboriginal person with physical or mental disabilities.

We refer our Aboriginal clients who we believe could best be served by the Aboriginal Mental Health Liaison worker. The Mental Health Department has one Aboriginal Mental Health Advocate to help bridge the gap for Aboriginal individuals who are less stable and still very reluctant to become involved with professional interventions.

Vancouver's Aboriginal Mental Health Liaison oversees all the clients needs once referred. In addition the Aboriginal Mental Health Liaison is also responsible for sitting on task forces, committees and government bodies to educate and promote Aboriginal mental health issues and developing solutions for Aboriginal clients who have been diagnosed with a physical or mental disability. This is a lot of work for one person, considering Mental Health is not just an issue in Vancouver - it is throughout the province, and we must network to gain support for more Aboriginal Mental Health Liaison providers throughout BC.

NATIVE YOUTH AND FAMILY ADVOCATES

All of our Aboriginal clients have one thing in common - they all have families and a community they come from. Whether they need assistance with a criminal matter or child apprehension, they need their family and community support. This



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Gilbert Ducharme

This year of change has seen the retirement of Gilbert Ducharme as our Alcohol and Drug Counsellor for the past eighteen years. We are certain that Gilbert will continue to help aboriginal people live healthy lives.



year, our Vancouver Aboriginal Family Advocate has been busy dealing with requests for assistance from Vancouver, North Vancouver, Richmond, Burnaby, Squamish, Pemberton and Surrey. Criminal Court seems easy compared to Family Court matters. Criminal Court involves one or two persons to deal with a client's matter. Whereas, Family Court matters have a team of up to five members - sometimes against a single mother who is unemployed and has no family for support and a community that is supporting the spouse, so it becomes an up hill battle.

Currently NCCABC has three Family Advocates, located in Vancouver, Prince George and Terrace. The Family Advocates are guided by the principles that the Child's safety is the priority.

Family Advocates gather as many resources together for the family, and are guided by family values, family reunification, which is focused on keeping the family together, and child safety as a guide. The Family Advocates rely on Cultural and Traditional Guidance coupled with assessments from professionals to assist the Aboriginal family to stay together.

The percentage of Aboriginal family referrals is 60% from other agencies, 20% referrals from Family members, 20% walk-ins and telephone inquiries. The remaining 10% involves Aboriginal fathers in criminal court who have been charged with a crime and want to ensure their families are taken care of by the Aboriginal Family Advocate.

NATIVE COURTWORKERS

The Native Courtworkers deal with criminal court processing and making referrals to our Alcohol and Drug team as a part of sentencing or requests from the client for treatment of an addictions problem. 30% of the client base is walk-ins to our office seeking assistance with criminal court matters that have had one or more past charges but have not yet attended court for one reason or another. Criminal Court interventions are 50% percent of the client base, which is meeting the clients at the court house. 15% are clients in custody and the remaining 5% of clients have been referred by family members.

The Native Courtworker utilizes all the Aboriginal resources within his or her community in assisting a client with the understanding that there are many variables involved in working with the Aboriginal client. A principle of the Native Courtworker is the Restorative Justice process that involves the Aboriginal community from Elders to young adults as a part of the behavioral changing process to initiate an ultimate healing change in the individual versus incarceration.

Youth Court shows an increase, particularly noticeable is an increase in Aboriginal female youth - practically matching the same numbers for Aboriginal youth males in court. Most initiatives target young Aboriginal males and we think that this must be re-evaluated and new initiatives must be looked into for young female offenders or crime prevention activities targeting young Aboriginal females.

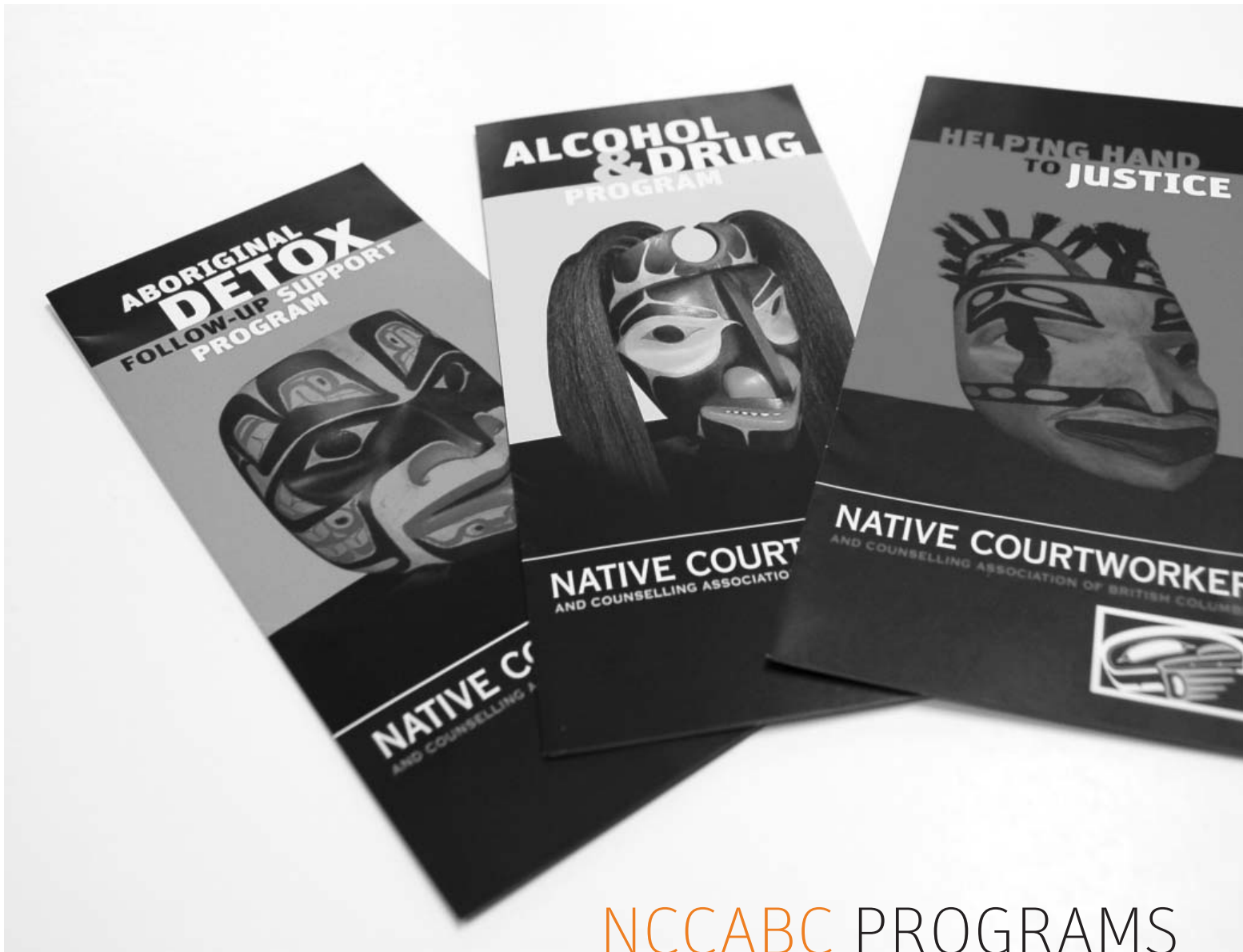
This year of change has seen the retirement of Gilbert Ducharme as our Alcohol and Drug Counsellor for the past 18 years. He worked in Vancouver and Surrey. Gilbert was tireless in his endeavor in helping our Aboriginal people from across Canada. Gilbert had set a pace for the remaining Alcohol and Drug Counsellors, and that pace will be hard to maintain, but the Alcohol and Drug Team members are up for the challenge. So come on down and join in to our groups or refer a friend for a one-on-one session.

"We do make a difference" with individuals, their families and within our Aboriginal communities. So thank you "Native Courtworkers", "Detox Workers", "Alcohol and Drug Counsellors", "Family Advocates" and "Administrative support staff" and our Board of Directors to our Practicum Placement Students who are seeking to advance their careers and gain experience and skills, you all have done great work, thank you for all your help. I believe that our Aboriginal team of professionals helps to create safer communities throughout British Columbia.

Thank you all!

Arthur Paul | Regional Manager

A HELPING HAND TO JUSTICE



NCCABC PROGRAMS

The NCCABC is a provincial organization with a 33-year history of providing services to Aboriginal people in conflict with the law. The Native Courtworker Program assists Aboriginal people with the courts by providing legal options and referrals to other agencies such as legal aid, alcohol and drug treatment, debt and family counselling and Aboriginal Restorative Justice programs. We also assist individuals to court, and speak on their behalf, if appropriate. Court proceedings include criminal and youth courts. The Association's Alcohol and Drug Program and the Aboriginal Detox Program is centered in Vancouver's Gastown and Surrey offices. It offers help to Aboriginal persons who suffer from alcoholism or drug abuse. Specific services include substance abuse counselling, one-to-one counselling, and referral to detox centres, rehabilitation and residential centres. Staff also provide follow-up and aftercare treatment and offer support to various recovery programs.

2005 | THE YEAR IN PICTURES





DANIEL LABORDI RAPHAEL



The Association's Alcohol and Drug Program is centered in Vancouver's Gastown and Surrey offices and offers help to Aboriginal persons who suffer from substance abuse.

PERSONAL DATA:

Daniel Labordi Raphael
Born at Lytton B.C., and raised at Lytton and Agassiz B.C.

PERSONAL PROFILE:

My Family is very large, ranging from Chilliwack, Seabird Island, Boothroyd, Lytton, Lillooet, Spences Bridge, Merritt, and Vanderhoof.

I became an Alcohol and Drug counsellor, wanting to help First Nations- youth, adults, families and communities, to look at what Alcohol and Drugs are doing to them and for them.

The reasons for choosing to work for the Native Courtworkers for so long was, because of the helping hands to Justice and assisting aboriginal people to become healthier and satisfied with their lives, free of using and abusing Drugs and Alcohol.

EDUCATION:

- Graduated from Agassiz Secondary High School
- 1980 Graduated with 2 year University/College
- Diploma program-(Chilliwack/Abbotsford campus) in the field of Social Services
- 1985 Graduated with 2 year University/College
- Diploma program-(Chilliwack/Abbotsford campus) in the field of Criminal Justice (known as Criminology today)

WORK EXPERIENCE:

- March 11, 1996 Addiction Counselling Training with the Ministry of Health Department
- October 4, 1999 Introduction to Alcohol and Drug Services- Chilliwack Practice
- Ministry of Child and Family- Province of B.C.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- April 24,1992 Certification of Achievement
- Sexual Abuse Counselling- Level 1

FUTURE PLANS:

- 1) Attend Law school
- 2) Become an elected chief for my band or
- 3) Simply just retire on my son's ranch at Lytton and saddle up a horse and ride through the sunsets, playing my guitar.

INTERESTS:

- 1) Carving
- 2) Playing my guitar
- 3) To learn First Nation Jewellery making

South Coast | Southern Interior



Over the past year, the NCCABC continues to excel by meeting the needs of our clients and in addition, we continue to increase our knowledge of aboriginal justice issues by our involvement in local community initiatives.

So our decision-making methods must be as responsive and informative as possible to the ever changing needs of aboriginal justice. We do this by our involvement with the many different projects, committees, boards, societies, studies and efforts made in our communities and our Province. And we have had our share of this in 2005. Our Courtworkers additional role as parents, relatives, family, and grandparents (for some of us) on a daily basis contribute to the success of our work as professionals. This is what makes our Association unique and beneficial.

Appreciation goes out to our employees, Board of Directors, Management team and all their families. Our work, as employees, and how we work together with the agencies in our communities maintain this success.

2005 has seen some staff changes in the southern interior. This year we welcome aboard Native Courtworker Margaret Snow in Vernon; Sylvia Bradt, Native Courtworker in Bella Coola; Jason Hance, Native Courtworker in Quesnel and a welcome back to Jack Kruger, Native Courtworker in Penticton. Jack worked with us for a few years as a courtworker back in the 1980's. We need to also say thanks to some new contract workers Angelina Brock, Native Courtworker in Victoria and Crystal Adolph (office support) in Kamloops.

Most of these new employees have gone through a training process that we are very excited about. Over this past year there have been some real changes to how we train new employees. A CD was created that outlines the necessary training skills to start out in the field of court work. With the combined efforts and contributions of some senior staff, our training material has gone through a much needed revision.

We also thank Les Taylor in Port Hardy, Georgia

Colclough in Campbell River, Naomi Williams in Nanaimo, Pam Scolah in Cranbrook, Beverly Quilt in Williams Lake, Rae-Anne Saskamoose in Kamloops and Boyd Gallic in Port Alberni. These employees sustain the creditability that NCCA has by their commitment to their work. We are particularly excited for Boyd Gallic this year. Boyd received a call from the Mayor of the city of Port Alberni to sit on the hiring panel for a new commander at their RCMP detachment. We also welcome Mary Brown to the Board of Directors for the Bella Bella / Bella Coola Region.

This past year the association has taken part in many forums. There are two that I want to mention; first of all the Restorative Justice forum at Kelowna put on by the RCMP. Many aboriginal RCMP officers from around the province, attended to talk about the community justice panels in their area and how they can, as officers, work with the Restorative Justice programs. There were many presentations, information folders and ideas on how restorative justice can be supported. This group agreed that it will be necessary to meet again in a year to see how the new objectives, planned at this workshop, worked out. The second was the homelessness forum at Victoria. There were many service agencies, homeless people and politicians in attendance. Topics such as housing, crime rates, employment and health services were on the agenda.

The NCCA is also very appreciative of the input of all those who attended our planning session in Cranbrook. This gave us some very helpful input to our goals and strategies for the next five years. The attendance and involvement of the Restorative Justice Workers in the province enriched the participation.

Early in 2006 we look forward to our fourth Aboriginal Justice Forum planned for March 2006. We also look forward to the Aboriginal Restorative Justice Conference in mid February 2006.

Thank-you

Gordon Edwards. | Regional Manager



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From the moment a case is referred to the VATJS staff go to great lengths to ensure all the support is in place for the offender to begin the process of reparation and reconciliation.

VANCOUVER ABORIGINAL TRANSFORMATIVE JUSTICE SERVICES

➔ The past year, while not without its challenges, gave the Vancouver Aboriginal Transformative Justice Services (VATJS) many things to celebrate. Now in its sixth year of operation, the VATJS has further entrenched itself as an integral service provider to the urban aboriginal community, particularly those who come in contact with the law. The VATJS is committed to provide offenders, and just as importantly victims of crime, a meaningful and more culturally appropriate alternative to the mainstream criminal justice system.

From the moment a case is referred to the program, the VATJS staff go to great lengths to ensure all the support is in place for the offender to begin the process of reparation and reconciliation. Following an initial meeting where VATJS staff carefully explain the “transformative process” to the offender, victims are contacted and offered the opportunity to participate. In some cases, the victim will decide their participation is not required and are comfortable with the fact that the offender has acknowledged his or her wrong-doing and that an appropriate healing plan will be in place at the conclusion of the community forum. In many cases, “corporate victims” are involved and a representative from the corporation will participate. An example of this is when a break and enter occurs or an act of vandalism is committed against a business premises. No single individual is directly harmed, however the business is disrupted as a result of the criminal act and is in effect victimized.

The most important part of the transformative process is the community council forum. Although a great deal of work is required to adequately prepare for the forum, this is the time where the offenders fellow community members work together in developing a plan to address the root cause of the offenders behaviour. During the community council forum participants discuss the offense, its effects on the victim and / or community, and what internal condi-

tions manifest themselves into some form of wrongful behaviour. For example, it may be revealed that a case of theft under \$5000 was committed to support the offender’s drug addiction in which case drug treatment would form part of the healing plan.

Much of the success of the VATJS can be attributed to the strength of the community council and the dedication of the Elders who participate in the forums. The community council is made up of trained volunteers from all walks of life that are genuinely committed to the well being of the community as a whole. The common thread with all community council members is the recognition of the fact that no one is infallible and the desire to assist in turn can contribute to community in a positive manner. The Elders give generously of their time and provide cultural and spiritual guidance throughout the community council forum.

Providing overall direction to the VATJS is another group of volunteers known as the Aboriginal Caucus. Representatives from various aboriginal community services agencies meet on a quarterly basis to deliberate a broad range of issues including program funding, new areas of service delivery, and ways to improve overall operations. The Aboriginal Caucus remains free for the most part of any government or political influence. This is particularly important in ensuring the process is culturally unique and truly community driven. The Aboriginal Caucus also strives to include representation from Aboriginal women’s groups, youth and Elders in addition to those involved in the delivery of justice related services to the Aboriginal community.

One of the biggest challenges discussed at the Aboriginal Caucus level is that of adequate and on-going funding. In late 2005, the Federal Department of Justice indicated that the Aboriginal Justice Strategy may not be renewed for a third five-year term. Instead, federal funding may be devolved to the province. While it is far too early to suggest the VATJS may be adverse-

ly affected, there is fear any deviation from the current funding scheme could get caught up in different agendas. The good news is that it is likely Ministry of Public Safety & Solicitor General would administer the funding for all BC Aboriginal programs. Rob Watts of the Ministry of Public Safety & Solicitor General has been an important ally and strong supporter for the VATJS over the years.

In other financial news, it appears that support from Lu'ma Native Housing Aboriginal Homelessness Initiative will be extended for a further 10-month term. This renewal will allow Kimberly Graham, Community Outreach & Homelessness Assistant, and Jason Burnstick, Youth Services Coordinator, to continue their valuable service through 2006 and into the first quarter of 2007.

Addressing the needs of at-risk and / or homeless clients and community members in need of general assistance complements the work of other VATJS staff and is consistent with the holistic approach of the program. In a very short period of time, this stream of funding has allowed the VATJS to establish a service that is heavily relied upon to provide advocacy and assistance to the Aboriginal community on a wide-ranging spectrum. In 2005, 550 clients walked through our doors and were offered assistance with issues such as housing, taxation, employment insurance, welfare, etc.

Jason Burnstick meanwhile is focused on the needs of the youth. The VATJS will look to Jason to work closely with the Vancouver Police Department, Youth Probation, and community agencies to increase the number of youth referrals to the program. In 2005, VATJS experienced an exciting and perhaps one of the most pivotal developments is the strengthening the relations between the Vancouver Police Department and VATJS, more importantly the overall relationship between VPD and the Aboriginal Community.

This year, VPD Constable Mike Matheson, the Native Liaison Officer teamed up with Jason Burnstick and encouraged three youth to participate in the annual Pulling Together Canoe Journey 2005.

For each of the youth, the experience has been one they won't soon forget. They spoke of how challenging it was yet how much they enjoyed it. During the practice runs the youth began to realize how challenging the trip was going to be and the amount of



teamwork involved. Mike Matheson stated, "The trip certainly brought out the best of them".

As with every case, Jason follows up after any event and when he spoke with one of the youth in particular Jason stated that, "There was an obvious change in one of the youth when he was speaking to him about the trip. There was a very different and enlightened person he was speaking to, one that could not have said enough about the Journey and one who was looking forward to next year".

Also noteworthy, in early 2005 Christine Smith-Parnell formally assumed the role of Program Director following the departure of Barry Warhaft. While Barry's significant and long standing contribution will not be soon forgotten, it is with great comfort and confidence that the reigns of leadership from an operational standpoint are handed over to an equally competent and dedicated individual. Christine has been involved with the VATJS since its inception and brings to the position a wealth of skills and experience. In addition, it is fitting and appropriate that an Aboriginal woman with high profile and respect within the community lead the VATJS as we move forward. Filling Christine's former position as Justice Coordinator is newcomer Deana Michel. With a degree in Criminology along with her experience as a Community Council volunteer since January 2003, Deana is able to capably step right into the role.

On a final note, the statistics for 2005 reveal a small decrease in the number of adult referrals to the program. The VATJS will work closely with the NCCA in an effort to increase referrals appropriate for the program and to deal with a wider range of offences. Than VATJS will also work with the NCCA on broad initiatives intending to reverse the trend of over-representation of Aboriginal people in contact with the criminal justice system.

Much of the success of the VATJS can be attributed to the strength of the community council and the dedication of the Elders who participate in the forums.



2005 STATISTICS

CLIENTS ASSISTED

Description		Adult	Youth
Client Gender	MALE	4629	657
	FEMALE	1243	291
Previous Conviction	YES	4167	496
	NO	1705	452

CHARGES

Category	Adult	Youth
Homicide (1&2 degree murder, manslaughter, infanticide)	20	1
Attempted Murder	34	4
Robbery (firearms, other offensive weapon)	108	23
Sexual Assault (aggravated sexual assault, with weapon, other)	174	16
Sexual Abuse (other sexual offenses)	233	46
Major Assault (assault with weapon level 2,3, bodily harm)	452	52
Simple Assault - Level 1	1367	125
Kidnapping and forcible confinement	13	3
Abduction (person <14, <16 contravening custody order, no order)	2	1
Arson	22	5
Weapons and Explosives (prohibited, restricted)	191	17
Break and Entere (business, residences, other)	276	84
Fraud and Related (cheque, credit card, counterfeiting, other)	183	5
Theft < or > \$5,000 (bicycles > \$1000, from Motor vehicles)	1298	181
Possession of Stolen property (have stolen goods)	412	96
Property Damage/Mischief	290	64
Morals (gambling & betting house, gaming)	5	2
Morals Sexual (procuring, prostitution, indecent acts)	66	6
Public Order offenses(disturb peace, obstruct, trespass at night)	190	24
Admin of Justice - Breach, etc	1909	378
Other Criminal Code Offenses, eg. Impaired Driving	1328	41
Trafficking or Importing Drugs	256	19
Possession of Drugs	178	8
Other Federal Statutes	346	3
Provincial Offenses Excluding / Traffic (Liquor, Securities)	56	1
Provincial Statute Offenses Traffic	164	5
Criminal Code Offenses	280	20
Reserve Local ByLaw	7	0



In 2005 NCCABC provided assistance to a total of 5,872 adults and 948 youth offenders



2005

NATIVE COURTWORKERTM AND COUNSELLING ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



Contact Directory

REGION 1

TITLE	NAME	TELEPHONE	FAX	EMAIL
Board of Director	Margaret Belcourt			
Regional Manager	Arthur Paul	604-687-0281	604-687-5119	apaul@nccabc.com
Native Courtworker				
Fort St. John	Ben Cardinal	250-785-5516	250-785-5519	ncca@pris.ca
Dawson Creek	Marlene Hall	250-782-7335	250-782-7329	bccw37@pris.bc.ca

REGION 2

TITLE	NAME	TELEPHONE	FAX	EMAIL
Board of Director	Charles McKay			
Regional Manager	Arthur Paul	604-687-0281	604-687-5119	apaul@nccabc.com
Native Courtworker				
Prince Rupert	Val Mowatt	250-624-4621	250-624-3897	ncca@citytel.net
Smithers	Louise Wilson	250-847-2133 #260	250-877-5097	nccwc@wetsuweten.com
Terrace	Frances Stanley	250-638-8558	250-635-8105	ncca.fstanley@telus.net
Youth/Family Advoc.				
Terrace	Brian Grant	250-638-8558	250-635-8105	nccabc@telus.net

REGION 3





TITLE	NAME	TELEPHONE	FAX	EMAIL
Board of Director	Ken Edzerza			
Regional Manager	Arthur Paul	604-687-0281	250-687-5119	apaul@nccabc.com
Native Courtworker				
Prince George	Annette Maurice	250-614-2683	250-563-9955	amaurice@shawcable.com
Vanderhoof	Karla Olinek	250-567-2636	250-567-2637	kolinek@hwy16.com
Youth/Family Advoc.				
Prince George	Patricia Jackson	250-562-9513	250-563-9955	nyfa@shawcable.com





REGION 4

TITLE	NAME	TELEPHONE	FAX	EMAIL
Board of Director	Marilyn Baptiste			
Regional Manager	Gord Edwards	250-755-1916	250-755-1281	nccage@shaw.ca
Native Courtworker				
Williams Lake	Bev Quilt	250-398-6818	250-398-6819	bev.quilt@shaw.ca
Quesnel	Shelley Gerow	250-991-0319	250-991-0268	shelleygerow@shawcable.com

REGION 5

TITLE	NAME	TELEPHONE	FAX	EMAIL
Board of Director	Mary Brown			
Regional Manager	Gord Edwards	250-755-1916	250-755-1281	nccage@shaw.ca
Native Courtworker				
Bella Coola	Sylvia Bradt	250-799-5673	-	ncourtworker@belco.bc.ca
Bell Bella	Les Taylor	250-949-8343	250-949-7201	ltaylor@cablerocket.com

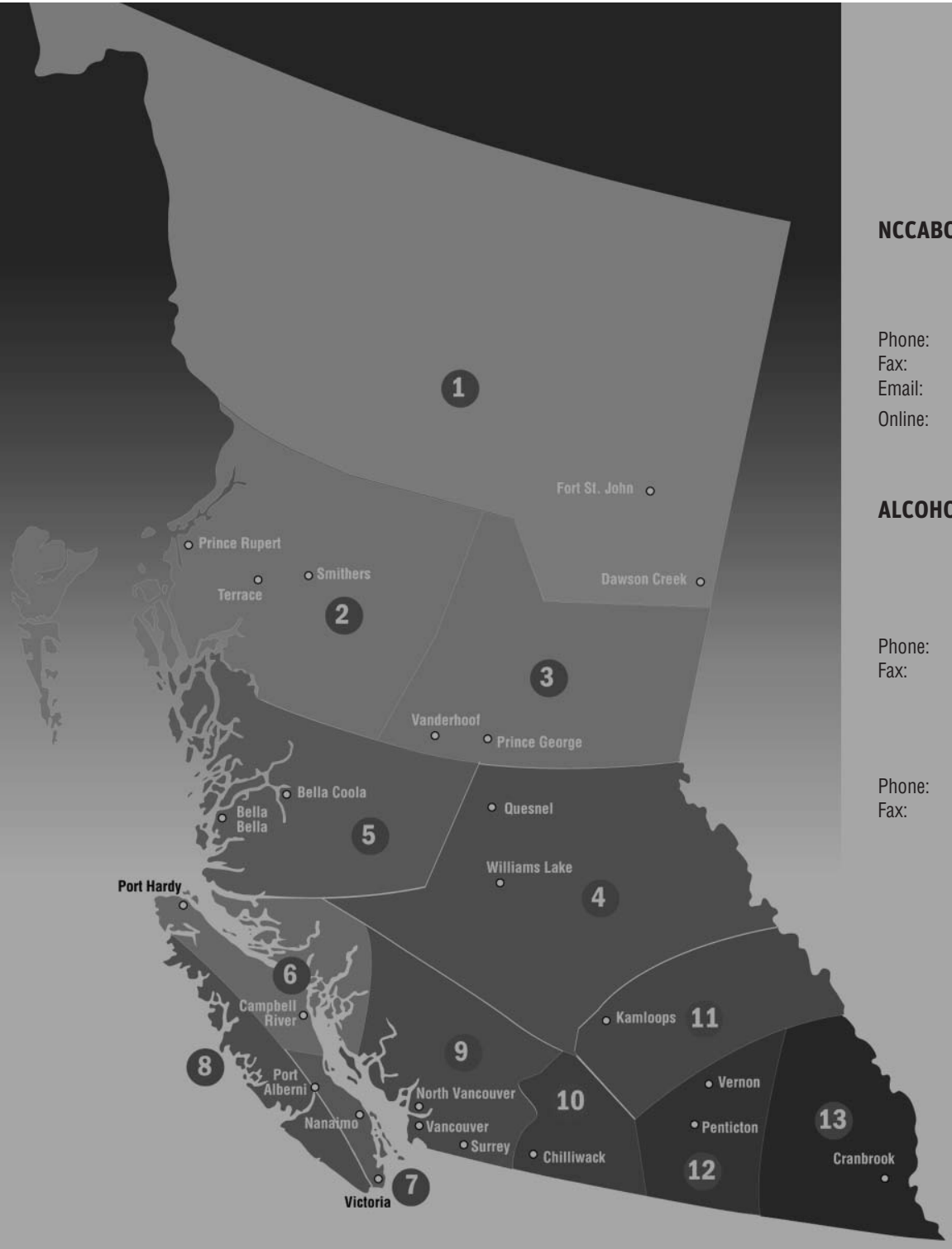
REGION 6	TITLE	NAME	TELEPHONE	FAX	EMAIL
	Board of Director	Lynn Lidberg			
	Regional Manager	Gord Edwards	250-755-1916	250-755-1281	nccage@shaw.ca
	Native Courtworker				
	Port Hardy	Les Taylor	250-949-8343	250-949-7201	ltaylor@cablerocket.com
	Campbell River	Georgia Colclough	250-923-2809	250-923-2726	gcolc@island.net
REGION 7	TITLE	NAME	TELEPHONE	FAX	EMAIL
	Board of Director	Dallas Brock			
	Regional Manager	Gord Edwards	250-755-1916	250-755-1281	nccage@shaw.ca
	Native Courtworker				
	Nanaimo	Naomi Williams	250-755-1916	250-755-1281	ncnan@shaw.ca
	Victoria	Angelina Brock	250-386-6717	250-386-6760	djo@island.net
REGION 8	TITLE	NAME	TELEPHONE	FAX	EMAIL
	Board of Director	Hugh Braker			
	Regional Manager	Gord Edwards	250-755-1916	250-755-1281	nccage@shaw.ca
	Native Courtworker				
	Port Alberni	Boyd Gallic	250-724-3143	250-724-3110	bgallic@island.net
REGION 9	TITLE	NAME	TELEPHONE	FAX	EMAIL
	Board of Director	Terry La Liberte			
	Regional Manager	Arthur Paul	604-687-0281	604-687-5119	apaul@nccabc.com
	Admin. Assistant	Lalita David	604-687-0281	604-687-5119	ldavid@nccabc.com
	Native Courtworker				
	Vancouver	Darryl Shackelly	604-687-0281	604-687-5119	dshackelly@nccabc.com
	Vancouver	Claudia Williams	604-687-0281	604-687-5119	cwilliams@nccabc.com
	Vancouver	Karen Osachoff	604-687-0281	604-687-5119	kosachoff@nccabc.com
	Robson St. Courts	Flora Raynes	604-660-7455	604-660-7455	fraynes@nccabc.com
	Surrey Courts	Norma Shepert	604-572-2293	604-543-3151	nshepert@nccabc.com
	N. Van Courts	Janet Baker	604-981-0225	604-981-0225	jbaker@nccabc.com
	A & D Counsellors	Dan Raphael	604-687-0281	604-687-5119	draphael@nccabc.com
		Jackson Dionne	604-687-0281	604-687-5119	jdionne@nccabc.com
		Earl Quewezance	604-687-0281	604-687-5119	
	A & D Intake Worker	Tabitha Paul	604-687-0281	604-687-5119	tpaul@nccabc.com
	Surrey A & D Coun.	Kelestine Duguay	604-588-8430	604-588-8430	tduguay@nccabc.com
	Detox Supp. Worker	Gerri MacLean	604-687-0281	604-687-5119	gmaclean@nccabc.com
		Rodeny Olinek	604-687-0281	604-687-5119	
Youth/Family Advoc.	Ramona Woelke	604-687-0281	604-687-5119	rwoelke@nccabc.com	
Elder Advisor	Margaret Harris	604-687-0281	604-687-5119		

REGION 10	TITLE	NAME	TELEPHONE	FAX	EMAIL
	Board of Director	Henry Hall			
	Regional Manager	Arthur Paul	604-687-0281	604-687-5119	apaul@nccabc.com
	Native Courtworker				
	Chilliwack	Nicole Peters	604-792-5535	604-792-5535	nicpeters@shaw.ca
REGION 11	TITLE	NAME	TELEPHONE	FAX	EMAIL
	Board of Director	Edith Fortier			
	Regional Manager	Gord Edwards	250-755-1916	250-755-1281	nccage@shaw.ca
	Native Courtworker				
	Kamloops	Rae Anne Sasakamoose	250-828-7949	250-828-7969	raerae@shawbiz.ca
REGION 12	TITLE	NAME	TELEPHONE	FAX	EMAIL
	Board of Director	Jon Spotted Eagle			
	Native Courtworker				
	Vernon	Margaret Snow	250-545-1264	250-545-8885	nccavernon@shawcable.com
	Penticton	Jack Kruger	250-490-9513	250-493-5302	ncca_penticton@telus.net
REGION 13	TITLE	NAME	TELEPHONE	FAX	EMAIL
	Board of Director	Troy Sebastian			
	Regional Manager	Gord Edwards	250-755-1916	250-755-1281	nccage@shaw.ca
	Native Courtworker				
	Cranbrook	Pamela Scolah	250-489-2464 ext. 4	250-489-5760	pscolah@ktunaxa.org

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE



TITLE	NAME	TELEPHONE	FAX	EMAIL
Executive Director	Darlene Shackelly	604-985-5355 #302	604-985-8933	dshackelly@nccabc.net
Executive Assistant	Carol-Ann Nickel	604-985-5355 #301	604-985-8933	cnickel@nccabc.net
Director of Finance	Alice Louie	604-985-5355 #307	604-985-8933	alouie@nccabc.net
HR Program Manager	Mel Morgan	604-985-5355 #305	604-985-8933	mmorgan@nccabc.net
Accounts Payable	Karthigesu Ravi	604-985-5355 #306	604-985-8933	acctspay@nccabc.net



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THE NATIVE COURTWORKER & COUNSELLING ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
WISHES TO THANK THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR GENEROUS FUNDING AND SUPPORT

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HEALTH AUTHORITY | MINISTRY FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT | THE LAW FOUNDATION OF
BRITISH COLUMBIA | DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, CANADA | LU'MA NATIVE HOUSING SOCIETY | SHUSWAP
TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM | CITY OF LANGELY | ACCESS | UNITED WAY OF THE LOWER MAINLAND

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