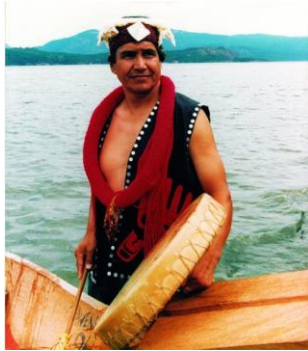


## Presenter Biographies – Up to All of Us, Board Voice Conference 2018

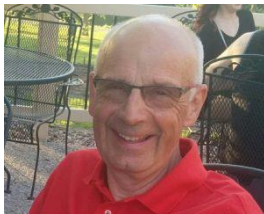


### **Alex Nelson**

*9:00am, Friday, November 16*

*Opening Keynote: In the Beginning, then TRC, and Natural Law*

Alex is a member of the Musgamagwx Dzawada'enuwx First Nations in Kincome Inlet and survivor of St. Michaels Residential School in Alert Bay. Sport has always been his vehicle for healing, and after completing his BA in Leisure Studies from the University of Victoria, he became a Senior Advisor to the Indigenous Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation Council. He helped create the Aboriginal Sport, Recreation and Physical Activity Strategy for BC (the first of its kind in Canada). Past executive director of the Victoria Native Friendship Centre, Alex is a founder of the Aboriginal Sports & Recreation Association of BC - at that time the only "recognized" Aboriginal sport organization in Canada. He has been a member of the Minister's Sport & Recreation Advisory Council of BC, among numerous other accomplishments. His belief in youth and community healing led him to establish the Kwagiulth Urban Suicide Prevention & Intervention Group, where he has conducted suicide prevention workshops for 18 years. Alex's work has been recognized with awards including the Queen's 125th Commemorative Medal for Community Services, Victoria Sports Leader of the Year and City of Victoria Honorary Citizen.



### **Gerry Olund**

*9:45am and 11:30 a.m., Friday, November 16*

*Lead Facilitator, Working Tables*

Gerry was born in Mission City, BC, and attended UBC and the University of Ottawa. Gerry is now retired after many years as a teacher, school counsellor and District Coordinator with School District #73 in Kamloops, and regional coordinator with the BC Education Ministry. Gerry has done volunteer work in Krygyzstan and Serbia since 2003. He has also worked at BC offshore schools in China and Korea; with the Education Ministry in offshore schools accreditation; and at Thompson Rivers University and UBC Okanagan. Since 2015, Gerry has been a board director with the Kamloops Society for Alcohol and Drug Services, which first opened its doors in 1973 as the Phoenix Centre. Gerry is presently Chair of the KSADS Board Development Committee, and a director for Board Voice Society.



### **Health Minister – Hon. Adrian Dix**

*10:45am, Friday, November 16*

*Health Unplugged*

Before his appointment as BC Health Minister in 2017, Adrian Dix was leader of the Opposition, 2011-2014. During this time, he played an instrumental role in advancing public policy changes in government. Prior to becoming an MLA, Adrian was the executive director for Canadian Parents for French, BC-Yukon Branch. First elected to represent Vancouver-Kingsway in 2005, he has forged a reputation as a passionate advocate for his constituents and their concerns,

and as one of the most effective members of the B.C. legislature. Adrian has consistently raised awareness of key issues and forced needed change in areas ranging from children in care, seniors, fair treatment of workers and protecting public health research. He is married to award-winning poet and writer Renée Saklikar.



**Don Davies**

*10:45am, Friday, November 16  
Health Unplugged*

Don is MP for Vancouver Kingsway, elected in 2008 and re-elected in 2011 and 2015. Don serves as the NDP Critic for Health. Prior to his current post, Don served as Official Opposition Critic for International Trade, Opposition Critic for Citizenship and Immigration and Multiculturalism, and NDP Critic for Public Safety and National Security. He is a Delegate to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and active in many community groups, including Tools for Peace, Co-op Radio, Lawyers for Social Responsibility, the Meridian Cultural Society, the Mount Pleasant Parent Advisory Council and the Dickens Community Group.



**Dr. Bill McMichael**

*10:45am, Friday, November 16  
Moderator, Health Unplugged*

After 35 years at the University of BC teaching socio-linguistics and research methodology, Bill returned in 2012 to the front lines of his 40-year involvement as community educator in the voluntary sector. He is on the boards of Pacific Community Resources Society, Board Voice, Canada Japan Society of BC and Vancouver Mokuyokai, and Past President of TESL Canada, the Centre for Canadian Language Benchmarks and Collingwood Neighbourhood House. He serves on the Pathways to Education Research Advisory Committee and organizing committee for TEDx East Van. His doctoral research mapped the settlement experiences of female refugee claimants in four Canadian cities and pioneered a translated interview protocol that is used with gendered, first-language focus groups. Bill has received awards including the Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Medal Award, BC Community Achievement Award and the Vancouver Mayor's Achievement Award of Excellence.



**Gyda Chud**

*12pm, Friday, November 16  
Lunch Panel – Serving Children and Youth*

Gyda is honoured to work with First Call BC Child and Youth Advocacy Coalition in taking leadership on child and youth advocacy. She has taught in the early childhood education programs at Langara and Douglas colleges, and at Vancouver Community College, where she served as ECE program coordinator and Dean of Continuing Studies. Gyda is chair of the Child Care Human Resource Sector Council and the Early Childhood Education Faculty Forum. With a passion for community work and volunteerism, Gyda sits on the board of the Westcoast Child Care Resource Centre,

the Coalition of Child Care Advocates of BC and the Community Legal Assistance Society. Gyda has recently begun to work with seniors' groups, seeing the commonality of issues in ensuring safe, healthy and productive lives for every age.



**Adrienne Montani**

*12pm, Friday, November 16*

*Lunch Panel – Serving Children and Youth*

Adrienne has been a social justice activist in Vancouver since 1976. She joined First Call BC Child and Youth Advocacy Coalition in 2000 and became Provincial Coordinator in 2005. She has served as Child and Youth Advocate for the City of Vancouver, and Chair of the Vancouver School Board. Some of her earlier leadership positions include being executive director of Surrey Delta Immigrant Services Society and Big Sisters of BC Lower Mainland. In 2012, Adrienne received the Above and Beyond Award from the Federation of BC Youth in Care Networks, given to a supportive adult recognized for improving the lives of young people in and from government care in BC. Other awards include the MOSAIC Human Rights Award, United Way Excellence in Action for Early Childhood Development Award, and Award of Excellence from the Federation of Community Social Services.



**Leslie Welin**

*12pm, Friday, November 16*

*Lunch Panel – Serving Children and Youth*

Leslie is Co-Chair of the Board Voice Society of BC and the Chair of the Clements Centre Society in Duncan, which focuses on enhancing the lives of adults with developmental disabilities and children with special needs and developmental challenges. She also serves on the Council of Partners for Success by 6. With 40 years of experience working with people as a teacher, therapist, small business owner, and on local and provincial committees and organizations, Leslie is a seasoned leader who brings a strong and well-informed voice to the table. Provincially, Leslie was part of a team that wrote the BC Foster Parent Education Curriculum, served on the BC Parent Visioning Working Group, and the Vancouver Island Child Welfare Advisory Committee. She is on the organizing committee of the local Board Meets Board initiative in Duncan that brings board directors together in dialogue about social and economic challenges and opportunities.



**Terry Anne Boyles**

Terry Anne is Co-Chair of the Board Voice Society of BC, and Chair of the board of directors for Family Services of Greater Vancouver. She brings expertise in public policy and post-secondary education. She was Vice-President, Colleges and Institutes Canada and President, Saskatoon Region Community College. Her board roles include the Aboriginal Human Resource Council of Canada, Canadian Congress for Learning Opportunities for Women, Habitat for Humanity – National Capital Region, the Red Deer Family Service Bureau, and the federal Advisory Committee on Literacy and Essential Skills.



**Vickie Cammack**

*1:30pm, Friday, November 16*

*Responsibility for Social Care – Isolation and Loneliness*

As founder and CEO of Tyze Personal Networks, Vickie is recognized for her inspiration and innovative solutions related to social networks and disability. Vickie focuses her attention on how best to provide support networks to people facing life challenges. She is Founding Director of Plan Institute, the Family Support Institute of BC, and co-founder of Planned Lifetime Advocacy Network (PLAN), which supports families to secure the future of relatives with a disability. Vickie has received the 2012 BC Community Achievement Award, the 2012 Queen

Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal of Canada, the Community Living Institute's Leadership Award, the Canadian Psychological Association's Humanitarian Award, and the SFU President's Club Distinguished Community Leadership Award, and in 2008 was named by the Women's Executive Network as one of Canada's Top 100 Most Powerful Women. She is co-author of *Safe and Secure – Six Steps to Creating a Personal Future Plan for People with Disabilities*.



**Holly Kavanaugh**

*1:30pm, Friday, November 16*

*Responsibility for Social Care – Isolation and Loneliness*

Holly is Vice-President on the AiMHi Board of Directors and has been with the organization since 2009. She joined Board Voice as a Director in 2015.

Holly and her husband live in Prince George, where she moved in 1986 from New Brunswick. She holds a Master of Applied Science degree from the University of Waterloo. She has worked as a school psychologist for School District No. 57 since 1986. Holly has a wide range of experience working with

students with special needs and is keenly interested in promoting the rights and interest of individuals with special needs.



**Rod Santiago**

*1:30pm, Friday, November 16*

*Responsibility for Social Care – Isolation and Loneliness*

Rod has been Executive Director of Abbotsford Community Services since 2010 after more than 20 years' experience in senior-level roles within the non-profit sector. He was drawn to ACS because of its reputation, scope and innovative staff. Rod has an Executive MBA from SFU and a BA in Religious Studies from TWU. He has also practiced embodied leadership, collective impact and community change, and intercultural dispute resolution. As well as being the Vice President of the General Services Panel of Community Social Services Employers Association of BC (CSSEA), Rod serves on the Advisory Committee of Peace and Conflict Studies at UFV, the Homelessness Action Advisory Committee of Abbotsford City Council, and is the Chair of the Abbotsford Community Development Council (ACDC).



**Jody Paterson**

*1:30pm, Friday, November 16*

*Moderator, Responsibility for Social Care – Isolation and Loneliness*

*2:45pm, Friday, November 16*

*Presenter, Next Steps in Social Policy Planning*

Jody is the new Executive Director of Board Voice (May 2018). She is a writer, editor and communications strategist with extensive experience writing for and managing B.C. daily newspapers, and has worked largely for the non-profit sector since 2004, first as ED of the sex worker-led non-profit Peers Victoria and then in BC and abroad to work with grassroots and activist organizations. Jody was a communications consultant with the Federation of Community Social Services of BC when Board Voice was taking shape around the FCSSBC table. She worked for almost five years with Cuso International in Honduras and Nicaragua, 2012-16.



**Sian Lewis**

*2:45 pm, Friday, November 16*

*EDs and Boards Workshop*

Sian has been Executive Director with Kamloops Society for Alcohol and Drug Services (Phoenix Centre) since 2011. Her career started with airlines in the Northwest Territories but after the birth of her daughter in 1992, Sian returned to school as a mature student to earn her BSW and MSW. Her social work career has focused primarily on mental health and addictions. She has worked as an alcohol and drug counsellor, in community development, family support services and victim services both in government and health authorities. Her passion for the field of addictions and mental health was initially driven by lived experiences with close family members. Sian recognizes the persistent barriers that face those with addictions and is committed to creating a well-resourced and well-connected system of care.



**Wendy Richardson**

*2:45pm, Friday, November 16*

*EDs and Boards Workshop*

Wendy has worked for The John Howard Society of North Island for almost three decades, and been Executive Director since 2007. She draws on her background in information technology, accounting, and human resources as well as her deep commitment to social issues. Wendy is appreciated by staff and other professionals in her network for her hands-on leadership style, openness, and continual efforts to cultivate a positive workplace culture that honours diversity. Wendy was born in Cornwall, England, and immigrated to Canada in 1985. She received the Intuit Canada Award for Management Information Systems while enrolled in the CGA program and went on to complete her MBA in Executive Management with specialization in Leadership at Royal Roads University in 2009. Wendy lives on Quadra Island with her husband.



**Tim Veresh**

*2:45pm, Friday, November 16*

*EDs and Boards Workshop*

Prior to joining PLEA Community Services as Executive Director, Tim was Executive Director of the John Howard Society of the Lower Mainland. He started his career in criminal justice, working as a childcare worker at Ranch Ehrlo Society and secure custody at the Paul Dojack Centre in Saskatchewan. He then spent 3 years in the private sector while completing his Criminology Diploma at Kwantlen College and then a Bachelor's Degree from Simon Fraser University. In 1997, he started working for the John Howard Society as a residence worker. During his career with John Howard he held several management positions. He spent eight years as Executive Officer of the Provincial Society. He is President of the BC Criminal Justice Association and Board Director with the Canadian Criminal Justice Association, PARCA, Douglas College Youth Justice Worker Program and Realize Strategies Cooperative.



**Meghan Currie**

*2:45pm, Friday, November 16*

*Moderator, EDs and Boards Workshop*

Meghan is a passionate advocate who works with diverse cultural populations and multi-generational groups toward promoting greater equity, diversity and inclusion for all. She is the Inclusive Technology Lab Coordinator at the University of BC, and Research & Enforcement Officer for the New Tree Fruit Varieties Development (Ambrosia) Council. Previously she was clinic coordinator for Options for Sexual Health, and held multiple research assistant and facilitator positions at UBC working on disability and accessibility issues. Meghan is a director of The Bridge Youth & Family Services and has served as a board member, community relations leader, advisory member and researcher with organizations such as Kelowna District Pro Choice Action Society, Options for Sexual Health, UBC Inclusive Technology Lab Advisory Council, and the Central Okanagan Women's Resource & Education Foundation.



**Ajit Sinha**

*2:45pm, Friday, November 16*

*Moderator, Non Profit Lifecycles Workshop*

Ajit (MSc MBA CPHR) is an HR professional who joined the board of Board Voice in 2017 and has been a member of the board for Abbotsford Community Services since 2014. Ajit supports both boards with a high-level working knowledge of human resources, from the functional to the strategic, focusing on results. He is business-minded with a strong understanding of how HR and people intimately influence the success of a business, and brings that knowledge to the non-profit sector. Ajit believes that you have to push past the status quo, and have courage to suggest new strategies and make them happen. He teaches teams to see problems and create solutions.



**Alison Brewin**

*2:45pm, Friday, November 16  
Non-profit Lifecycles Workshop*

Alison is the Executive Director of Vantage Point. A University of Victoria law graduate, Alison worked throughout the 1990s as political assistant to Margaret Mitchell and in non-profit management (East Side Family Place, West Coast Domestic Worker's Association). In 1999, Alison joined West Coast LEAF as Interim Executive Director. As Legal Director and then Executive Director from 2001 to 2011, she led the organization's work to advance women's equality in BC. Alison began working as a non-profit management consultant in 2010, eventually leaving West Coast LEAF for her full-time consulting practice, Alison Brewin Consulting. Her many clients included Vancity, BC Housing and the BC Civil Liberties Association. Alison also designed and teaches "Canadian Approaches to Non-Profit Management" in Simon Fraser University's Non-Profit Management Program. Alison is a lifelong learner in areas such as evaluation, facilitation, and community development. She is a trained Gender Audit Facilitator with the International Labour Organization.



**Steve Atkinson**

*4:15, Friday, November 16  
Lessons in Risk Management*

Steve has worked at Pacific Community Resources since 2002 in a variety of positions at all levels of the organization. Before moving to his current position as Director of Finance in 2015, he worked for 10 years in Employment Services. Steve has presented at numerous provincial and national conferences on topics such as employment programming best practices, recruitment strategies, website development and collaboration strategies. Steve holds a Master's in Business Administration from the University of Phoenix and a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Concordia University College of Alberta. Steve sits on the Board of Directors of the BC Career Development Association.



**Jessica Denholm**

*4:15, Friday, November 16  
Lessons in Risk Management*

Jessica has worked in the non-profit social services sector for nearly 30 years. Her work first began in clinical residential settings with dual diagnosis clients and then with youth. She came to the Family Services of Greater Vancouver in 1993 to assist in the development and operation of what was to become the new youth detox program and is still there. She later moved from program management into administrative management and has continued there for the last decade. Jessica has always had a keen interest and passion for quality improvement in social services work and is the agency's lead in accreditation, privacy, risk management, and CQI. Jessica holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology with a minor in kinesiology from Simon Fraser University, and a Masters Degree in Leadership from Royal Roads University. She is a former collegiate basketball player, coach and sports enthusiast.



**Joanne Hausch**

*4:15, Friday, November 16*  
*Lessons in Risk Management*

Joanne is Board Chair for Vancouver Women in Technology, and chairs the nominating committee for Family Services of Greater Vancouver. She is a socially conscious corporate consultant committed to helping boards balance social and fiscal responsibilities, and a professional accountant with a strong background in finance and corporate taxation, government incentives and corporate governance. In 2017 she completed the ICD-Rotman Directors Education Program and has over 35 years of board experience with non-profit organizations. She co-founded CanWIT BC and VanWIT, which support the advancement of women in technology, and StreetMeals and the StreetMeals Scholarship Fund, programs that supports at-risk and street-entrenched youth in Vancouver. Joanne is a published author of educational and technical courses, articles and papers and frequent speaker.



**Dr. Rick Ouellet**

*4:15, Friday, November 16*  
*Indigenization Strategies*

Rick joined Langara College as its first Director of Aboriginal Education and Services in August 2017. He has been Director of the Wabnode Centre for Aboriginal Services at Cambrian College in Ontario, Aboriginal Student and Community Development Officer at the University of British Columbia, and university lecturer. During his time at Cambrian, the college's Indigenous population tripled and Cambrian earned national recognition for efforts to reduce educational barriers and develop programs and partnerships in support of Indigenous learning, receiving the 2016 and 2017 CiCan Silver Award for Indigenous Education Excellence. Rick recently completed his PhD in Interdisciplinary Studies at UBC, and holds an MA in Archaeology and BA in History, both from SFU. Active in his community, Rick served for many years as spokesperson for the Council of Elders of the Descendants of Jasper Park, worked with Aboriginal youth in Vancouver. He co-founded SFU's First Nations Students Association



**Sean Condon**

*4:15pm, Friday, November 16*  
*Building and Strengthening Social Enterprises Workshop*

Sean is the social enterprise development advisor for Vancity Community Foundation, helping organizations to plan, launch, and grow their social venture while strengthening VCF's programs and community impact. Sean brings 10 years of social enterprise experience to this role as the founder of Megaphone, a magazine sold on the streets of Vancouver and Victoria by homeless and low-income vendors. Sean helped build Megaphone into an award-winning social enterprise that works with more than 300 marginalized people annually and puts more than \$100,000 into the pockets of vendors.



**Sue Anne Linde**

*4:15 p.m., Friday November 16*

*Moderator, Building Social Enterprise*

Sue Anne is Chair of the Board of Sunshine Coast Community Services. The non-profit's programs for those whose life circumstances make them especially vulnerable is what drew Sue Anne to do everything she can to give everyone an equitable life on the Sunshine Coast. Sue Anne's career in advertising and marketing spanned 35 years in Vancouver. As VP for Palmer Jarvis Advertising, Sue Anne led the account, media, and creative teams responsible for ICBC's Road Sense and Richmond Savings Credit Union (now Coast Capital) for over 10 years. She completed her career as Director of Marketing for Simon Fraser University's Faculty of Business. She retired in 2009, and moved to the Sunshine Coast in 2010. Sue Anne also serves as a Director on the Sunshine Coast Credit Union Board.



**Dr. Jennifer Charlesworth**

*6:30pm, Friday November 16*

*Dinner Remarks*

Jennifer is BC's Representative for Children and Youth, and has worked in the social and healthcare sectors since 1977. With a long history in front-line child welfare, social policy, program management and executive roles within government, she has been engaged in formative work on deinstitutionalization, community inclusion, mental health and youth services. Jennifer helped to implement the 1995 Gove Inquiry into Child Protection recommendations, and was on the executive team during the formation of the Ministry for Children and Families. In 2006, she transitioned into the non-profit sector and became Executive Director of the Federation of Community Social Services of BC. She founded the Leadership 2020 program for the Federation, has served on numerous community boards, and was a member of the Premier's Advisory Council on Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship. Jennifer lives in the traditional territories of the Lekwungen and WSÁNEĆ peoples.



**Linda Reid, MLA**

*6:00pm, Friday, November 16*

*Dinner Remarks*

Linda is MLA for Richmond South Centre. Her first electoral success in 1991 represented a breakthrough for the BC Liberal Party, and she has been re-elected to represent Richmond ever since. She is the longest-serving MLA in the current parliament and the longest serving woman in BC history. Linda previously served as the Minister of Advanced Education, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Chair of the Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians, Canadian Region, and Deputy Speaker. She has been minister responsible for Early Childhood Development and Child Care. She co-founded the Richmond Chinatown Lions Club and in 2012, won the Ethel Tibbits Award for Community in recognition of her leadership. Linda was honoured with the inaugural award for Outstanding Leadership by the BC Youth Parliament. She is also a Lions Club International Melvin Jones Fellow.



**Shane Simpson**

*9:00am, Saturday, November 17*

*Up To All of Us: Poverty Reduction in BC*

Born and raised in East Vancouver, Shane Simpson has lived, worked, and engaged in community-building activities in his community since 1971. He was first elected MLA for Vancouver Hastings in 2005, and re-elected in 2009, 2013, and 2017. He is Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction, and former Opposition Spokesperson for Economic Development, Jobs, Labour and Skills and Opposition Caucus Chair. In his professional career, Shane was Director of Policy and Communications for Smart Growth BC, Chair of the Vancouver City Planning Commission, Executive Director of the Worker Ownership Resource Center, Legislative Coordinator for the Canadian Union of Public Employees, and Coordinator and Fundraiser for the Ray Cam Cooperative Center. In 2002, Shane received the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal, and has been awarded the Governor General's 125th Anniversary Commemorative Medal for Community Service.



**Dawn Hemingway**

*9:00am, Saturday, November 17*

*Up To All of Us: Poverty Reduction in BC*

Dawn Hemingway is a Community Lead for Board Voice and Co-Chair of the Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction's Advisory Forum. She is Chair and Associate Professor in the UNBC School of Social Work. She is Co-Chair of the Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction's Advisory Forum and co-chairs Prince George Community Partners Addressing Homelessness. She serves on the board of a local shelter, a child and youth mental health agency, community advisory committees for the Better at Home initiative and the Council of Seniors, and Northern Health's strategic Elder Program Council. Dawn is on the steering committee of the Stand Up for the North Committee and a founding member of Northern FIRE (Feminist Institute for Research & Evaluation). Dawn has received a number of awards including the Canadian Association of Social Workers Distinguished Service and the Bridget Moran Advancement of Social Work in Northern Communities Award.



**Chris Friesen**

*10:45am, Saturday, November 17*

*A Conversation on Refugee Settlement*

Chris is a strong voice within the refugee and immigrant settlement sector and a sought-after speaker, media resource and research collaborator on immigration-related policies and programs. As Settlement Services Director at Immigrant Services Society of BC for over 25 years, Chris has been at the forefront of major immigration and refugee resettlement initiatives in BC and Canada, and played a key role in the development and construction of Vancouver's ISSofBC Welcome Centre. Chris currently serves as Chair and founding member of the Canadian Immigrant Settlement Sector Alliance and is Co-Chair with IRCC of the National Settlement Council. In 2013, he co-chaired the UNHCR Annual Consultation on Refugee Resettlement in Geneva.



**Tima Kurdi**

*10:45am, Saturday, November 17  
A Conversation on Refugee Settlement*

After witnessing the conditions her family was living having fled the Syrian war, Tima - hairdresser, mother and Canadian resident of many years - was unsuccessful in trying to sponsor her brother, his wife and their two boys safely into Canada as refugees. While seeking a way to get them out of danger, her time ran out. Her sister-in-law Rehanna and two nephews Alan and Galeb drowned while trying to cross by sea into Greece. The image of Tima's two-year-old nephew, lifeless on the beach, caught the media's attention and became a turning point in the refugee crisis. Tima now uses this tragedy as a catalyst to connect and inspire her audiences. Her plea for action is unforgettable: tragedy should not be a pre-requisite for social change. Tima established the Kurdi Foundation in honour of her nephews, and authored *The Boy on the Beach*, a poignant memoir about her family and their struggle to find safety.



**Cheryl Melder**

*11:30am, Saturday, November 17  
Closing Keynote Panel: Community Partnerships for Serving People in Crisis Situations*

Cheryl Melder is a Registered Clinical Counsellor with over a decade of experience working within the anti-violence sector. Her clinical experience has been focused on working with survivors of violence, and helping them to heal from the impact of trauma and abuse in their lives. She has worked in private practice and at the Surrey Women's Centre, where she provided counselling in addition to managerial support. Cheryl is currently the Manager for the Victim Services Program at Family Services of Greater Vancouver, and provides oversight for 13 different programs across seven different sites. Three of these programs are embedded with the Special Investigations Unit at the New Westminster Police Department.



**Andrea Wright**

*11:30am, Saturday, November 17  
Closing Keynote Panel: Community Partnerships for Serving People in Crisis Situations*

Andrea has a degree in Criminology from Simon Fraser University and brings a passion for social justice within the domestic violence sector. For the past 11 years she has been the victim support/outreach worker in the New Westminster Domestic Violence Response Team (DVRT). The DVRT pairs a New Westminster police detective with a Family Services of Greater Vancouver support worker to conduct specialized follow-up on cases of high risk domestic violence. Case-tailored plans are developed to increase safety for victims of domestic violence and hold abusers accountable for their actions. Andrea provides outreach services, information and support related to the Criminal Justice System, connections to appropriate community resources, and advocacy with legal and social agencies.



**Lisa Bolour**

*11:30am, Saturday, November 17*

*Closing Keynote Panel: Community Partnerships for Serving People in Crisis Situations*

Detective Constable Lisa Bolour has been a police officer with the New Westminister Police Department since 2015. Lisa was stationed as a Patrol Officer and is currently an investigator within the Special Investigations Unit (SIU) assigned as the Domestic Violence Investigator and the Elder Abuse Investigator. The Special Investigations Unit utilizes a partnership with Family Services of Greater Vancouver. The teams pair a specially trained detective with a community counsellor. The unit provides specialized follow-up on highest risk cases of domestic violence in the city of New Westminister. Case-tailored plans are developed to increase safety for victims of domestic violence.