



Ivan Wong

Ivan has felt extremely blessed to have a role working with the strong and resilient youth in care community. He has been engulfed by the love and compassion since starting in this organization as a volunteer in 2014. As a Program Coordinator at the Federation of BC Youth in Care Networks, he hopes to provide the most memorable and exciting experience for everyone. Ivan has a passion for health and fitness as well as discussions about social justice, history, politics, science and technology.



PeerNetBC

PeerNetBC has been helping people connect since 1986, providing resources for peer groups and peer-led initiatives. Their resources and services are available across B.C. and include online, rural, First Nations, multicultural, and youth engagement initiatives. PeerNetBC is a non-profit, registered charitable organization with a wealth of resources to share with individuals, peer support groups, and peer-led initiatives.



Leslie Varley

Leslie Varley is the Executive Director of the BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres. Leslie is a member of the Nisga'a Nation and came to the BCAAFC from the BC Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA) where she served as the Director of Indigenous Health for the past 8 years. Prior to her time at PHSA, Leslie worked as a contractor with many Indigenous organizations and also served as a negotiator with the Ministry for Child and Family Development (MCFD). She has completed her Masters in Business Administration and brings a wide range of Indigenous cultural and western knowledge to the position. Leslie has demonstrated a deep understanding of Indigenous ways of knowing and being, and a firm commitment to building the cultural competency of thousands of individuals working in the public service.

FCSSBC OCTOBER 2016 CONFERENCE: RECONCILIATION AS A CONTINUOUS WAY OF BEING

October 12–14, 2016

Vancouver Airport Sheraton Hotel
7551 Westminster Highway, Richmond, B.C..

THE FEDERATION
of COMMUNITY SOCIAL SERVICES of BC



SAVE THE DATES

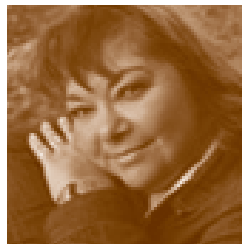
FCSSBC 2017 Social Policy Forum and Members General Meeting
February 16-17, 2017 | Victoria Marriott Inner Harbour, Victoria, B.C.

FCSSBC 2017 Current & Emerging Issues Conference and AGM
June 22-23, 2017 | The Penticton Lakeside Resort, Penticton, B.C.



Chief Dr. Robert Joseph

Chief Dr. Robert Joseph, O.B.C. is a hereditary chief of the Gwawaenuk First Nation who has dedicated his life to bridging the differences brought about by intolerance, lack of understanding and racism at home and abroad. As one of the last few speakers of the Kwakwaka'wakw language, Chief Joseph is an eloquent and inspiring Ceremonial House Speaker. He is currently the Ambassador for Reconciliation Canada, a member of the National Assembly of First Nations Elders Council and an Honorary Witness to Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC). He has served as the Executive Director of the Indian Residential School Survivors Society, as Chairman of the Native American Leadership Alliance for Peace and Reconciliation and Ambassador for Peace and Reconciliation with the Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace.



Monique Gray Smith

Monique Gray Smith is a mixed heritage woman of Cree, Lakota, and Scottish descent and is the proud Mom of 13 year old twins. Her career has focused on fostering paradigm shifts that emphasize the strength and resiliency of the First Peoples in Canada. Her leadership in the field of Aboriginal Education led her to create a resource called The Ripple Effect of Resiliency: Strategies for Fostering Resiliency with Indigenous Children. Monique's first published novel, *Tilly: A Story of Hope and Resilience* won the 2014 Burt Award for First Nation, Métis and Inuit Literature. Her first children's book, *My Heart Fills with Happiness* was released in February 2016 and has been on the BC Bestseller list since being released. She has been sober and involved in her healing journey for over 25 years.



KAIROS Canada

Through KAIROS, 11 churches and religious organizations work together in faithful action for ecological justice and human rights. Through KAIROS, ordinary Canadians of faith and conscience work together for extraordinary change. Fifteen years ago, the Aboriginal Rights Coalition worked with Indigenous elders and teachers to develop an interactive way of learning the history most Canadians are never taught. The Blanket Exercise was the result; it has since been offered thousands of times and was last completely updated in 2013.



Sherry Small

Sherry Small is Nisga'a, from Laxgalts'ap (Greenville). Her Nisga'a name is Anhluut'uukwsim Gaak, meaning having spiritual and moral worth. Sherry has worked as an advocate for 29 years, using education and culture as tools for community change. She works to strengthen the spirit as a way of supporting community healing on intergenerational levels, and to empower individuals through sharing tools to influence change. Sherry has worked in non-profit organizations, all levels of government and faith organizations. She has recently completed her MEd Curriculum & Instruction: Justice, Law & Ethics in Education from SFU.



Wedlidi Speck

Wedlidi Speck is a member of the Namgis First Nation from Alert Bay. The Namgis are part of the Kwakwaka'wakw cultural group located on the northern end of Vancouver Island. Culturally, Wedlidi traces his roots to the Kwakwaka'wakw, the Nuuchanulth, and Island Comox and his DNA says also the British Isles. Wedlidi is the hereditary head chief of his mother's clan and he is a spiritual leader and storyteller in the larger Kwakwaka'wakw indigenous community. Wedlidi is currently the Director of Aboriginal Organisational Development with the Ministry of Children and Family Development. He works with the Strategic Human Resources Branch and informs work on indigenous cultural agility, cultural safety and Aboriginal Recruitment & Retention.



Jennifer Charlesworth

Jennifer Charlesworth is a visitor in the Coast Salish Territories and lives in Victoria. Her career in child, youth and family services and community work spans almost 40 years. She was the Executive Director of The Federation of Community Social Services of BC for five years and has also worked in community based child and family serving agencies, four social development and health ministries, the Cabinet Secretariat, a philanthropic foundation, a university, and has lead her own consulting firm. She was appointed to the BC Council on Social Innovation in 2011 and was a co-author on the Council's report to government on social innovation. Jennifer has a PhD in Child and Youth Care, and is an MBA student at Oxford - Brookes University in Oxford, UK pursuing specialties in social innovation, entrepreneurship, and coaching.



Jerica Fraser

Jerica Fraser is an Indigenous educator from Hamilton, Ontario and a Steering Committee member for the 4Rs Youth Movement. She identifies as a Mohawk/Métis person with Irish and Scottish roots. Jerica recently completed her Masters in Education in Social Justice with a collaborative program in Aboriginal Health Studies. Her passion is working with Indigenous youth and educating non-Indigenous youth about Indigenous people and their unique stories and lived experiences. In her free time, she likes to spend time and hike with her husband Rob and their dog Geronimo.



Chris Buchner

Chris has been a Program Manager at the Federation of BC Youth In Care Network since 2009. At the Fed, he manages the running of Youth Retreats (SCMs), Leadership Trainings, and YouthSpeaks. Since 2003, he has dedicated his work to improving the lives of young people in various ways. He's been a champion for ensuring meaningful youth engagement, creating safe spaces and social justice. Chris' other passion is music. He's been playing the French horn since high school and studied horn performance at McGill University. He plays in the West Coast Symphony, the Vancouver Philharmonic Orchestra and also freelances around the Lower Mainland.