



VIRRJA

## Vancouver Island Region Restorative Justice Association

*Advancing restorative justice on Vancouver Island, the  
Sunshine Coast and all Gulf Islands*

VIRRJA Annual General Meeting 2023  
Oct 23, 2023 ~ 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM ~ Zoom

### MINUTES

#### **Attendees:**

##### **Board:**

President:	Richard Tarnoff	Community Circle RJ Society
Secretary:	Sue Saunders	Saanich Peninsula RJ
Board Member:	Nicky Hadwell	RJ Victoria
Board Member:	Molly Willie	Whelalau Indigenous Justice
Board Member:	Jan Smalley	RJ Program of the Sunshine Coast

##### **Members:**

Karen McKinnon	Comox Community Justice
Jessica Terezakis	RJ Salt Spring Island
Myles Morrison	West Coast RJ
Donna Schmirler	RJ Program of the Sunshine Coast
Lindsey Button	RJ Program of the Sunshine Coast
Brandy Gallagher	Cowichan Valley RJ
Liz Cox	Saanich Peninsula RJ

##### **Associates:**

Darlene Gage	RJ Salt Spring Island
Kya Dalton	Tech Support
Kelly Chessman	Presenter: North Shore RJ
	RJ in Education Coordinator
Lyndsay Johnston	Presenter: North Shore RJ
	Restorative Response Facilitator

##### **Regrets:**

Jaq Foster	RJ Victoria
Siobhan Brown	VIRRJA Secretary, qathet Community Justice
Sandy Anweiler	Port Alberni RJ

1. Meeting **Called to Order** at 6:35 PM by President Richard Tarnoff
2. Attendees introduced themselves and gave land acknowledgment.
3. Approval of **Oct 2022 AGM Minutes**: Moved by Richard Tarnoff, Second by Myles Morrison. CARRIED
4. Approval of **2023 AGM Agenda**: Presentation will show: "North Shore Restorative Justice Society's Youth Programming and Learning" . Motion to approve as amended: Moved by Richard Tarnoff, Second by Myles Morrison. CARRIED
5. **President's Address** was presented by Ricard Tarnoff. (Copy of remarks are in the Annual Report 2023)
6. **Annual Report 2023** was reviewed by Sue Saunders. Members complimented on the content and visuals.
7. Committee updates were deferred to provide the presenters sufficient time. All members are encouraged to consider joining any of the 5 VIRRJ Committees: (Education, Communication, Membership, Financial, Decolonization)
8. **Election of 2023-2024 Board of Directors**: The approved slate was provided at the September General Meeting: Three board positions are open and the slate contained three members: Janet Smalley, Molly Willie and Sue Saunders. Richard moved to accept this slate of three nominees. Motion was carried.

**Presentation:**

**North Shore Restorative Justice Society's Youth Programming and Learnings**

**Presenters: Kelly Chessman, Lyndsay Johnston**

**Content:** Through this presentation, the North Shore Restorative Justice Society will share insight into their youth focused programming, touching on the preventative programming done in schools, the restorative response programming done in community, and the youth centered and focused programming led by and for youth. Questions about programming are welcomed!

This session was recorded. Please check the website for the link. [www.virrja.ca](http://www.virrja.ca) (home > members > minutes)

- In school sessions are seen as being preventative
- Focus on building conflict capacity
- Run Labs in the summer to allow students to develop programs to support peers.
- Book recommendation "Becoming Kin: An Indigenous Call to Unforgetting the Past and Reimagining Our Future" by Patty Krawec
- Support for youth from beginning to the conclusion of making amends

- Community Service partners are important to offer options for making amends
- Apology letter is named "Accountability letter" which has more ownership of the issue
- Regular meetings with the RCMP watches keeps a positive relationship

Members had the opportunity to ask questions and share ideas with respect to youth in schools and in the community.

Members shared final thoughts about the presentation and connected with fellow members.

Meeting Adjourned 8:30 PM

Minutes submitted:  
Sue Saunders  
VIRRJA secretary  
Oct 25, 2023

