



Vancouver Island Region Restorative Justice Association

Advancing restorative justice on Vancouver Island, the Sunshine Coast

Annual General Meeting 2021 ~ October 26, 2021 Zoom Video Conferencing ~ 10 AM - 12:30 PM MINUTES OF THE MEETING

ATTENDEES:

Alberni Valley	Laurie Mooney
Arrowsmith	Caryl Wylie
Community Circles RJ Society (Ladysmith)	Richard Tarnoff, Deanna Wrate
Community Justice Centre (Courtenay, Comox)	Bruce Curtis
Saanich Community Justice Initiative	Amanda McPherson
John Howard Society of Nanaimo	Beth Stupple
Ladysmith RJ	Carmen Hildebrandt
qathet Community Justice (Powell River)	Siobhan Brown
RJ of the Sunshine Coast	Jan Smalley, Donna Schmirler,
RJ Victoria	Rachael Seeley, Carol Larsen
Saanich Peninsula RJ	Sue Saunders, Liz Cox
Saltspring Island RJ	Darlene Gage, Jan Slakov
Warmland RJ Society	Allen Peabody, Brandy Gallager
West Coast RJ	Myles Morrison
Independent Practitioner	Gail Jewsbury

REGRETS: Jane Waterman (qathet)

Welcome and Open Round:

Members introduced themselves, their program and their Indigenous territory, followed by a update from each program and an opportunity to pose questions and ask for input on topics of interest. Many reported on recent AGM meetings, a drop in referrals from RCMP, training opportunities (Deanna, Carol L, Caryl, Darlene) school programs (Carol L, Allen, Darlene) as well as a new initiative "RJ Cafe" (Deanna) and on-line training (Caryl). We welcomed "new" members: Rachael, Beth, Amanda, Carol L.

The VIRRJA December General meeting will allow all programs to gather again to discuss topics of interest and update on programs.

Minutes from the 2020 AGM

Gail moved to approve

Second: Amanda

Motion carried

Financial Report

Submitted in writing prior to the meeting by Treasurer, Gail Jewsbury
Balance Sheet 2021: for period 1 Sept 2020 to 31 Aug 2021
(General Account, Special Donation Account, Civil Forfeiture Account).

Total: \$37,005.06

Gail moved to Accept report Second: Caryl **Motion Carried**

Revision of Bylaws

The Bylaws Committee submitted their report in writing prior to the meeting.

Gail moved for approval Second: Myles

Discussion: Amanda asked about 7.2 regarding Risk management and advised stating at least 2 number of signatures required to build in safeguards. Response by Gail stating the Bylaws are intended to be general and the specific procedures are covered in the Policy Manual which cover this requirement.

Motion carried

Committee reports (written submissions included in these minutes)

Communication Report - Sue. (New website and logo)

Education Report - Richard. (Diverse topics, welcome input)

Membership Report - Sue (for Jane) (Values statement in Nov and renewal info)

Indigenous Values and Diverse Communities - Richard and Jan (in review)

Elections: The follow slate was presented by the Membership Committee (* newly elected to the Board)

President 1 year term	Richard Tarnoff, Community Circles RJ Society
Vice-President 2 year term	Amanda McPherson*, Saanich Community Justice Initiative
Secretary, 2 year term	Sue Saunders, Saanich Peninsula Restorative Justice
Director-at-Large 2 year term	Jan Smalley*, RJ of the Sunshine Coast
Director-at-Large 1 year term	Siobhan Brown*, qathet CJ
Director-at-Large 1 year term	Deanna Wrate*, Community Circles RJ Society

Moved to adopt: Myles Second: Donna **Motion carried**

Acknowledgement of Retirees and Honorary Members

Retirees from the Board : Bruce Curtis and Jane Waterman were acknowledged and thanked for their years of work and support of VIRRJA.

Honorary Members: As Founders of VIRRJA the following were given a lifetime membership to VIRRJA and a small gift of thanks will be mailed. Congratulations and much gratitude to Caryl Wylie (“get ‘er done”), Etta Connor (“a firecracker”) and Bruce Curtis (‘steady and calm at the helm’). Pearl Hunt was also a Founder and was acknowledged at the previous 2020 AGM

Guest speaker: Mitch Walker, Director of Gladue Service, BC First Nations Justice Council

Richard (Education Committee) introduced our Guest, Mitch Walker who took us through a powerpoint presentation on the history of Gladue and current Gladue Approach with an opportunity for members to ask questions.

A copy of his powerpoint is included in the Minutes.

Contact :

Mitch Walker, Gladue Services

mitch@bcfnjc.com

1-778-940-3519

1-778-214-2930 (Cell)

103-3500 Carrington Road, Westbank, BC V4T 3C1

Mitch's presentation was very well received and he welcomed members to contact him for any further discussion or information.

Feedback and Closing

- Feedback on the topic was very positive and many expressed interest in further learning and training. Consider "Indigenous Perspective Society" for training,
- Many expressed gratitude to the newly appointed Honorary Members for their contribution to VIRRJA since it began in 2009.
- Bruce and Caryl were very grateful for the recognition
- Member programs are looking forward to small group discussion in the future and opportunities to discuss issues and solutions faced by individual programs.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 PM