



Draft 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Presented January 26, 2023



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Supporting Documents

An archive of Annual Reports from the Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee (VFCYJC) and a regularly updated wealth of supporting documents, resources and links to relevant organizations in the Greater Victoria region can be found at the VFCYJC website. victoriafamilycourt.ca

Territorial Acknowledgement

The Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee meets on the unceded Coast Salish Territory of the Lekwungen-speaking and WSÁNEĆ nations. We acknowledge and thank the Lekwungen-speaking peoples, also known as the Songhees, Esquimalt and Beecher Bay First Nations communities for allowing us to live on their lands.

The VFCYJC further acknowledges that the Capital Region spans the traditional territories of Coast and Straits Salish and Nu-u-chah-nulth peoples and that, by virtue of being represented by all 13 municipalities, our committee is responsible to help build respectful and enduring relationships with our First Nations neighbours.

CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Members shall at all times conduct themselves with propriety, decency and respect and with the understanding that all members of the committee and guests are to be treated fairly with dignity, courtesy, and empathy.
2. Members understand that the meetings often discuss issues where confidential personal identifying information is included. Any such confidential information shall be treated as confidential and not discussed outside of the committee.
3. Members shall act in a manner that fulfills the mandate and the mission of the Victoria Family Court & Youth Justice (VFCYJ) committee;
4. Members shall respect the due process and the authority of the Chair, Vice-Chair or the Presiding Officer;
5. Members shall give fair consideration to diverse opinions and viewpoints;
6. Members shall demonstrate professionalism, transparency, timeliness, accountability in completing tasks undertaken by the committee;
7. Members shall strive to attend all meetings, sending apologies to the Chair for necessary absences.
8. Members will prepare for the meeting by reading the agenda, papers and any emails before the meeting.
9. Members if they need to clarify anything about the agenda, process or mandate contact the Chair.
10. Members agree to arrive on time for the meeting and strive to stay to the end.
11. Members are encouraged to fully participate in the meeting.
 - a. Listen to what others have to say and keep an open mind.
 - b. Contribute positively to the discussions.
 - c. Be concise
 - d. Be respectful of others opinions and time
 - e. Minimize the side conversations
12. Members shall have the best interests of the VFCYJ committee in mind at all times.
13. Members shall draw attention to any potential conflicts of interest that may arise in the meeting.
14. Members shall fulfil any responsibilities assigned to them at the meeting and be prepared to report back on your progress at the next meeting.
15. Each member of the committee will receive a copy of this Code of Conduct.



2022 VFCYJC MEMBERSHIP LIST

Marie-Terese Little, Chair, Councillor, District of Metchosin
Adam Flint, Vice-Chair, Communications Subcommittee Chair and Citizen Rep. Town of View Royal
Cynthia Day, Past Chair and Councillor, City of Colwood
Bill McElroy, Treasurer, CRD Appointee and Capital Region Action Team on Sexually Exploited Youth
Marcie McLean, Priorities Subcommittee Chair, Councillor, District of Highlands

Leslie Anderson, Councillor, Alternate, District of Highlands
Jeff Bateman, Councillor, District of Sooke
Nathalie Chambers, Councillor, District of Saanich
Barbara Fallo, Councillor, Town of Sidney
Heather Gartshore, Councillor, District of North Saanich
Wendy Hobbs, Trustee, School District 62
Lynda Hundleby, Councillor, Town of Esquimalt
Gordon Irving, Citizen Representative, Central Saanich
Zeb King, Councillor, Central Saanich
Ron Mattson, Councillor, Town of View Royal
Terri O'Keefe, Councillor, Alternate, Town of Sidney
Ryan Painter, Trustee, School District 61
Stewart Parkinson, Councillor, Alternate, City of Colwood
Esther Paterson, Councillor, Oak Bay
Patricia Pearson, Councillor, Alternate, District of North Saanich
Sarah Potts, Councillor, City of Victoria
Matt Sahlstrom, Councillor, City of Langford
Margot Swinburnson, Trustee, School District 62
Daleen Thomas, Citizen Representative, Central Saanich

2022 resource agency representatives

Justin Douglas, Restorative Justice Victoria
Mia Golden, Mobile Youth Services Team and Crime Reduction and Exploitation Diversion program.
Gillian Lindquist, Executive Director, Restorative Justice Victoria
Gord Magee, Mobile Youth Services Team
Sara Radford, Program Manager, Pacific Centre Family Services Association
Colin Tessier, Executive Director, Threshold Housing

THREE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

2018-2021

The VFCYJC will be reviewing its next three-year strategic plan in 2023.

Mission:

To facilitate connections between municipal and First Nations governments, school districts, service providers, and the broader community in order to educate and advocate on the challenges and shortfalls facing youth and families who may come into contact with the justice system.

Vision:

Families and youth have access to timely and appropriate supports within their communities so that they may achieve their full potential.

Goals:

1. Increase awareness of the issues facing families and youth involved with the justice system, and raise the profile of the Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee.
 - a. Identify gaps in services.
 - b. Support youth initiatives.
2. Pursue and promote meaningful reconciliation with the Indigenous community.
 - a. Committee members participate in Cultural Competency Training
 - b. Acknowledge and reduce the over-representation of Indigenous people in the justice system.
3. Advocate for policies and initiatives that improve outcomes for families and youth who may come in contact with the justice system.
 - a. Give a platform to youth/ amplify youth voices.
4. Support equity of access to resources across the region.
 - a. Help other organizations leverage their resources in support of families and youth.
5. Facilitate collaboration between community service providers and governance bodies in the interest of better supporting youth and families.



CHAIR'S REPORT



It's my honour to present this report as the chairperson of the Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee for 2022/23.

By far the most significant news for us this last year is that the VFCYJC has formally become a delegated commission of the Capital Regional

District (CRD) as approved by the CRD Board of Directors.

This followed an extensive two-year review that involved multiple participants including all of us on the committee, our dedicated working groups and CRD staff members. The process was arduous and taxing yet also entirely positive, respectful and necessary for a long-standing organization like our own.

I would like to extend my gratitude, in particular, to our own Marcie McLean, Esther Paterson, Jeff Bateman, Bill McElroy and Vice-Chair Adam Flint for their strong participation. We were able to guide the committee through the pandemic and through to the positive end of the CRD review. There is no question the review would not have been possible without the dedication of Steve Carey, the CRD's Senior Manager, Legal Services and Risk Management. Mr. Carey dedicated well over 100 hours of his valuable time and has guided us with expertise, patience and good humour throughout.

This new chapter opens 56 years after the first incarnation of the Committee was formed by the City of Victoria with initial representation from Victoria, Oak Bay, Esquimalt, and Saanich. Since then, it has grown to include participation from throughout the CRD – local governments, school boards and citizen representatives included.

In brief, our goals are two-fold: To educate and to advocate.

To **educate** by providing a safe space within which regional decision makers and leaders can meet and learn from those doing the frontline work and take these lessons home to their own councils, service providers and local contexts.

To **advocate** for service agencies as they work on behalf of families and children throughout the CRD. (This last year our focus was on Greater Victoria's Mobile Youth Services Team, whose Mia Golden and Gord Magee are regular attendees at VFCYJC meetings. Their vital work with children in crisis on Victoria's mean streets requires increased financing, human resources and, above all, guaranteed and stable long-term funding.)

With new and returning appointees now assigned from our municipal and school board partners following the October elections, the Committee is positioned to complete this exciting period of transition and return refreshed to the work it was doing pre-pandemic.

Among our objectives ahead:

- Review and renewal of the VFCYJC Strategic Plan
- Revival and refresh of our Sub-Committees, a number of which have gone dormant during the pandemic and the CRD review.
- A relaunch of the Grants and Priorities program to support initiatives that will enhance the quality of public education and youth advocacy
- Implementation of the "Experience Matrix" lens for current and future committee membership to ensure a majority of our members have experience in education, health, probation or welfare.
- Re-engagement with front-line service agencies to remind them of the Committee's role and encourage their presence at future meetings.

Thank you for your support this year and in the months ahead. With the able assistance of committee members, our steering committee, CRD staff and our loyal long-time secretary Marnie Essery, I look forward to working with everyone to demonstrate the VFCYJC's renewed relevance and commitment to the region's young people and their families.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie-Térèse Little, PhD

Chair, Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee and Mayor, District of Metchosin.

VICE CHAIR'S REPORT



I am proud to have spent the past several years working alongside such a dedicated, caring and hard-working group as we have here at the VFCYJC.

The completion of the CRD review and approval of the Board of Directors is a major step for us and I would like to thank everyone involved.

Without the help of Marie-Térèse Little, Esther Paterson, Marcie McLean, Marnie Essery and Jeff Bateman this work would not have been possible.

As Marie-Térèse stated, our two main goals are to educate and to advocate. To me, the real benefit of the committee is that education piece. Being able to hear from and learn from those of you on the front-lines is incredible, and to bring that back to our organizations and councils is vital to us being able to advocate on their behalf.

We hope to receive many applications this year for our grants, much thank you to Marcie McLean for all of her work on the Priorities Subcommittee! This year she put incredible time and attention into the Priorities (grants) Application form, as well as creating the new policies and progress document.

Communications is a key role of what we do here. Sharing the good work accomplished in our community happens daily via our social media channels. Without the support of Jeff Bateman, who diligently makes these posts, we would not have near the presence that we have.

Priorities and Communications are just two of our Sub-committees. See page 9 for some information on the rest. We are looking for some new volunteers to step into some of these roles. Generally, the time commitment is minimal and these are a great way to get to know your fellow committee members!

We look forward to getting back to face-to-face meetings again in 2023. COVID has been hard on a lot of committees like ours. Without that opportunity to come together and share time it is easy to drift apart. With our new location at the CRD we now have a great option for hybrid meetings.

Thank you for all of your support through these last couple of years. Here's to a fantastic 2023!

Respectfully submitted,

Adam Flint

Vice Chair, Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1.126 Vic Family Court & Youth Justice Committee
Fiscal year Jan-Dec 2022

OPERATING COSTS:

Internal Allocation
Honoraria
Meeting Costs
Operating - Other Costs
Third Party Payments
Third Party Funds Return on Transition

TOTAL OPERATING COSTS

TOTAL COSTS

Internal Recoveries
Recoveries - Other

OPERATING COSTS LESS INTERNAL RECOVERIES

FUNDING SOURCES (REVENUE)

Balance C/F from Prior to Current year
Interest Income
Grants in Lieu of Taxes
Requisition

TOTAL REVENUE

(Surplus)Deficit

2022
BOARD
BUDGET

2022
JAN-DEC
ACTUAL

2023
PRELIMINARY
BUDGET

318.00
400.00
-
-
15,717.00
(32,204.34)

16,035.00 (22,840.34)

16,035.00 (22,840.34)

-
-

16,035.00 (22,840.34)

(157.00)
-
(878.00)
(15,000.00)

(16,035.00) (16,802.92)

- (39,643.26)

321.00
5,450.00
39,228.00

44,999.00

44,999.00

44,999.00

(29,121.00)
(768.32)
(878.05)
(15,000.00)

(44,999.00)

-

- Format subject to change.
- Fiscal year is January to December in alignment with all CRD services.
- Expenses from December 2021 have been captured at part of the current fiscal year.

Detail

Meeting Costs

December 2021 Secretarial 400.00
January 2022 Secretarial 400.00
Zoom Reimbursement 224.00
February 2022 Secretarial 400.00
March 2022 Secretarial 400.00
April 2022 Secretarial 400.00
May 2022 Secretarial 400.00
June 2022 Secretarial 400.00
July 2022 Secretarial 400.00
August 2022 Secretarial (Including WCB) 408.20
September 2022 Secretarial (Including WCB) 408.20
October 2022 Secretarial (Including WCB) 408.20
November 2022 Secretarial (Including WCB) 408.20
December 2022 Secretarial (Including WCB) 408.20

5,465.00

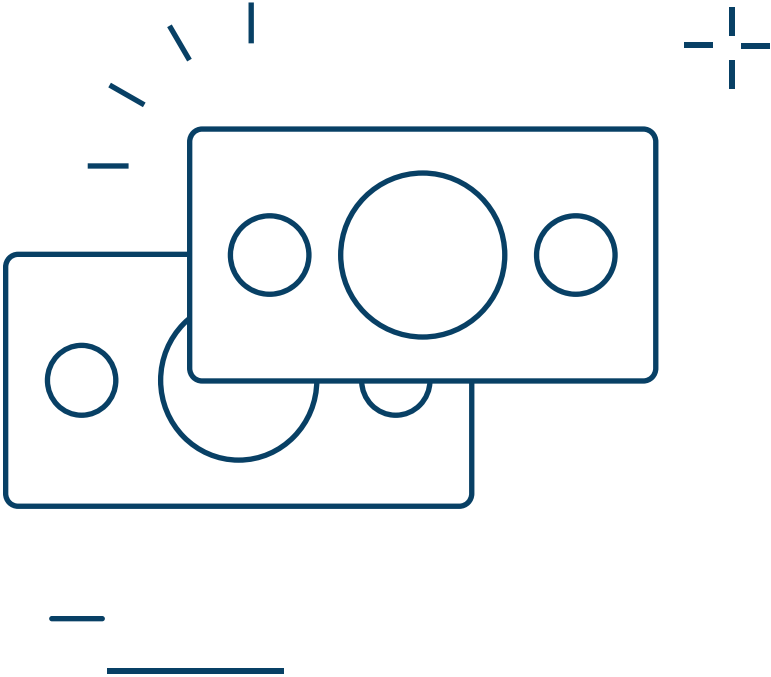
Operating - Other Costs

Cheque Fee 6.00
Honeycomb Webworks (annual website hosting fee) 175.00

181.00

2023/2024 BUDGET

| Revenue | | Totals |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| CRD Grant | \$15,000.00 | \$15,000.00 |
| | | |
| Expenses | | |
| Secretarial | \$4,800.00 | |
| Office | \$1,200.00 | |
| Lunches | \$4,000.00 | |
| Special Events (Co-sponsoring, such as tco2, Restorative Justice, youth criminal justice workshops, registration fees, etc | \$2,000.00 | |
| Equipment (Computer, peripherals) | \$1,000.00 | |
| Professional development (Conferences, displays) | \$1,000.00 | |
| Website maintenance | \$1,000.00 | |
| Total | \$15,000.00 | \$15,000.00 |



SUB-COMMITTEES

Groups met virtually in 2022 to discuss the following areas: i) Mandate/Procedures; ii) Succession Planning; iii) Priorities; and iv) Finances and CRAT. Recommendations were forwarded in turn to the main committee.

Our established Sub-committee protocols remain intact: We ask that members join one of the Sub-Committees to assist in developing materials to bring forward to the main committee. Meetings may be held via email, at any appropriate venue, and chairs may incur expenses up to \$200 to facilitate meetings without advance approval. Chairs are encouraged to present a motion to the main committee for extraordinary expenses. Our goal is to make it easier for volunteers to meet while still maintaining fiscal accountability. The practice has been to try to reserve funding for work that supports youth and families while also supporting those who give freely of their time and expertise.

Communications supports outgoing communications, website design, Facebook and Twitter accounts.

Priorities reviews completed applications in conjunction with existing VFCYJC policies and makes a recommendation in the form of a proposed motion together with their rationale to the main committee for their consideration at a regular meeting.

Court Watch coordinates Indigenous Court and regular Court House visits to observe and report on the circumstances for youth and families.

Youth & Family Matters brings information to the main committee on Family Matters, Youth Matters and monitors the circumstances that youth and families encounter during separation, divorce, and custody arrangements as well as documenting hot button issues for youth and encourages youth involvement.

CRAT stands for Capital Region Action Team for Sexually Exploited Youth. It advocates with expertise meet to address sexual exploitation, grooming, pimping, coercion, youth sex work and pornography.

Youth Mental Health has been a VFCYJC focus because of the strong correlation between mental health, young offenders and recidivism. Resolutions put forward with VFCYJC input to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) have resulted in more youth service centres (FOUNDRY as well as school-based health clinics) and a BC-wide coalition to help coordinate needs and resources, including liaison with provincial ministries.

The BC School Centred Mental Health Coalition coordinates agencies, ministries, unions, parent associations, and school boards to meet regularly to increase supports for mental health and ensure healthy environments for students and instructors. VFCYJC members can sign up to attend via its portal: www.bcscmhcoalition.ca

PRIORITIES SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

During 2022, the Priorities Sub-committee took the recently adopted Recommendations by the Victoria Family Court & Youth Justice Committee (VFC&YJC) and created the following Policy & Process which was supported and adopted by the VFC&YJC at their meeting of April 28, 2022.

The following is the report which appeared on that meeting agenda, which was adopted.

PRIORITIES – GRANTS & Applications

During 2022, the Priorities Sub-committee took the recently adopted Recommendations by the Victoria Family Court & Youth Justice Committee (VFC&YJC) and created the following Policy & Process which was supported and adopted by the VFC&YJC at their meeting of April 28, 2022. The following is the report which appeared on that meeting agenda which was adopted.

April 28, 2022

Re: Priorities Grants write-up for Victoria Family Court & Youth Justice Committee (VFC&YJC) for future inclusion in the Committee's Orientation Manual, and, its Terms of Reference and/or, its Constitution.

This former draft was prepared by Marcie McLean current Chair of the VFC&YJC Priorities Sub-committee with assistance from Esther Paterson, and falls from existing procedures and the adopted recommendations from the Priorities Working Group which met in August 2021 to review the correspondence received from CRD Staff Steve Carey dated Feb. 26, 2021 in particular Appendix H to that letter and, also Steve Carey's letter of Aug. 23, 2021, both of these past letters were in regards to the Capital Regional District (CRD) Review of the VFC&YJC which included: mandate, finances, governance and communications. As mentioned above this paper speaks to the matter of granting for VFC&YJC and the Priorities Application form, Process and Policies.

It is intended that a draft of this write-up will go forward to the main VFC&YJC for their consideration in the near future and then, incorporated into the above noted VFC&YJC documents and the VFC&YJC website.

Priorities Applications: Process, Policies and Procedures

COMPOSITION of the PRIORITIES SUB-COMMITTEE (sub-committee):

The sub-committee will consist of up to 5 voting members of VFC&YJC, and shall include the duly appointed Chair, Treasurer, and the sub-committee Chair.

CONSIDERATIONS of PRIORITIES APPLICATION(S) for a GRANT: (Process, Procedure and Policies)

Grant application package information and the process, will be available in web-based format, and will include a detailed check list of the required information, deadlines and who to submit their applications to.

The Grant application must be submitted by the posted deadlines in duplicate to the attention of VFC&YJC, Chair of Priorities sub-committee and VFC&YJC Secretary. Applicants should allow 30-90 days for processing the application and will receive a letter from the Chair of VFC&YJC advising them of the Committee's decision.

There may be up to (2) two uptakes for grant applications in one calendar year and must be received by the end of March or December. The Application must be fully completed providing all of the requested information including the organization's financial statements for the previous year.



All fully completed Applications will be reviewed by the Priorities sub-committee. The sub-committee Chair will be responsible for inquiries and clarifications, and will circulate relevant information to sub-committee members electronically. Through their considerations the sub-committee will provide their recommendation for each application as well as, their rationale for each qualifying application in the form of a resolution to the main VFC&YJC for their considerations and their vote.

Please note: Approved grant applications might not receive the full amount of their requested grant amount.

Information requirements of applicants for potential grants:

Grant Application information requirements must include the following:

1.1. Required Information

- 1.1.1. Name of organization
 - 1.1.2. Address of organization
 - 1.1.3. Purpose of the organization
 - 1.1.4. Name of person applying
 - 1.1.5. Contact person's name, email address, and phone number
 - 1.1.6. Alternate contact person's information same as above
 - 1.1.7. Listing of Board of Directors names and positions
 - 1.1.8. Is your organization a registered society in BC?
 - 1.1.9. If yes, what is the name of your society and your number under the BC Society Act?
 - 1.1.10. Does your organization have charitable status registered with Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) under their Charitable Directorate?
 - 1.1.11. Is your organization a business?
-
- 1.2. Project name, location, start date, and completion date.
 - 1.3. Experience and/or qualifications of staff who will be responsible for the Project; history of similar or related projects. Include information on volunteers who will participate in the project.
 - 1.4. Financial Statement of the organization's previous year and their budget for the current year
 - 1.5. Total amount of grant being requested and proposed use of grant funds. Include information on funding requests made to other commissions, societies, governments, agencies, or other groups for this project.
 - 1.6. Indicate if the grant request is for one-time or recurring project.
 - 1.7. Provide any previous grant requests and amount made to VFC&YJC with their dates, and indicate if approved or not.
 - 1.8. Declaration that funds not used for the approved project will be returned to Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee via cheque, within sixty days of conclusion of the project.

2. Criteria for qualifying expenses excludes salaries, capital items, not businesses other than not-for-profits but may include project website development, guest speaker(s), advertising, venue rentals, etc.

3. Objectives

- 3.1. The statement of intended outcomes within the application will be used to assess success of the project to accomplish goals.
- 3.2. Applicant's statement must demonstrate in some detail the service(s) that your proposal would provide for youth and families of the CRD that ties in with the mandate for VFC&YJC.
- 3.3. Applicant's statement must indicate how your proposal will help educate and bring awareness to youth and families living within the CRD about reducing risks and reducing potential involvement with the judicial court systems.

4. Reporting to Victoria Family Court & Youth Justice Committee at conclusion of project

- 4.1. The applicant must agree to provide a brief summary report on the outcomes of the project. The report will be submitted in written format, and, if warranted, there may be an expectation or request to present the summary report in-person at a meeting of the Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee.

5. Other:

- 5.1. Applicant acknowledges it has reviewed Victoria Family Court & Youth Justice Committee mandate which will be attached to all grant applications.
- 5.2. Victoria Family Court & Youth Justice Committee title, name or logo will not be used without prior written consent of the Committee.
- 5.3. Grants may not be used for the purpose of producing revenue for the applicant, or for purposes that are outside of the scope of the project.

6. Uptake Dates for submissions

- 6.1. Completed applications must be submitted to the VFC&YJC Grants subcommittee Chair and the Secretary and be received in the months of March or December in each calendar year.
- 6.2. Application process is approximately 60-90 days.
- 6.3. The Chair of the Grants subcommittee will consult with CRD staff in regards to the process for issuing/distributing cheques to applicants following VFC&YJ Committee decision.
- 6.4. NOTE: The Priorities Working Group deferred discussion on threshold amounts of grants (not presently used).
- 6.5. Chair of Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee will notify the applicant in writing of the Committee's decision. A template letter will be created for this purpose.
- 6.6. Process for distributing cheques will be coordinated with CRD.
- 6.7. NOTE: The Working Group's goal is that the future VFC&YJC grant application will be revised and improved, and the CRD will prepare a draft grant application for Priorities Sub-committee for review and input.



Please note: that it is understood by VFC&YJC that all approved Priorities Applications will be required to enter into an agreement with the Capital Regional District (CRD); therefore, time should be allotted by the applicant for that additional process.

Please further note that: This above document was endorsed by the Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee at their regular meeting of April 28, 2022.

Update: Please note that on above item 6.1, that there has since been an adopted motion by VFC&YJC to have Priorities - Grant Applications received for consideration by the end of February.

Also in 2022, the Chair of the Priorities Sub-committee provided the adopted Recommendations from the Priorities Working Group to Capital Region District (CRD) staff with the intention of working with them collaboratively in bringing together a revised and improved granting application including template letters for communicating to potential applicants.

For your reference, the VFC&YJC approved granting Priorities Application materials are located within this 2022 Annual Report's Appendix, under title: CRD 2022-2023 Grant Process Decision and Direction Report dated Sept. 29, 2022. The Committee endorsed Alternative 1 of that report at their Nov. 24, 2022 meeting.

The Priorities Sub-committee is very grateful for all of the volunteer time that the Priorities Working Group contributed to this process and the generous assistance from CRD staff in particular Steve Carey.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcie McLean

Priorities Sub-Committee Chair, and Councillor Highlands

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

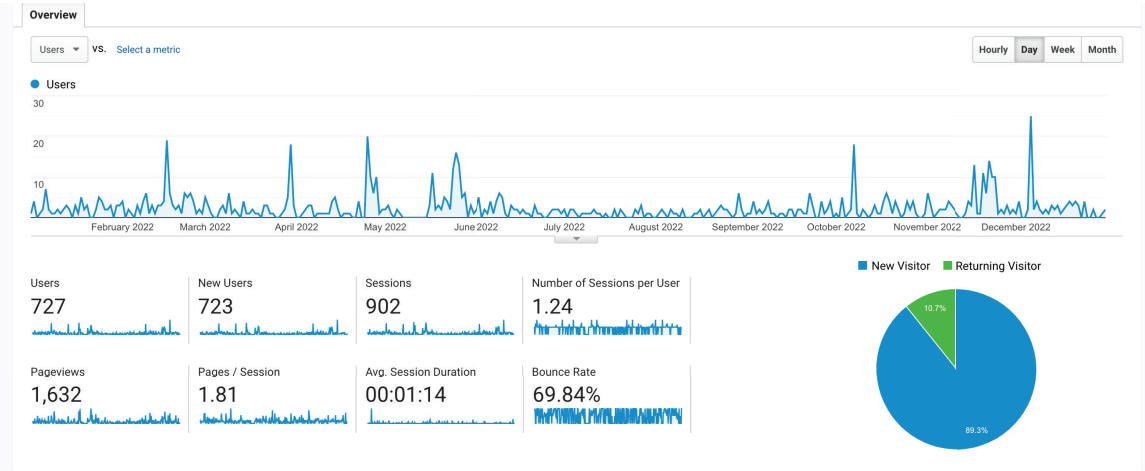
www.victoriafamilycourt.ca | www.facebook.com/vfamcourt | www.twitter.com/vfamcourt

Having a strong, regularly updated on-line presence is intended to elevate our profile, better serve our members and provide timely information to the public. It anchors the Committee’s outreach and reporting functions alongside our AGM reports (which we ask our members to share with their respective organizations) boards and councils, and Chair Marie-Terese Little’s yearly presentations to the CRD.

The password-protected members-only section was created as an area to share information securely with VFCYJC members. This section includes steering committee and all member meeting agendas, minutes, confidential correspondence, presentations and reading materials. The intention is to eliminate the volume of email currently sent to committee members.

An additional feature of the website’s home page is its integration with our social media accounts. This allows website users to quickly navigate to their chosen network to find additional content and to share it with others. Our Twitter feed (@vfamcourt) has been busy since 2014, and our Facebook page (/vfamcourt) is now into its third year of regularly updated content.

Google analytics for January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022



Members are encouraged to interact on social media – bring the community in!

If you have any general or specifically related content you’d like us to share -- articles, events, training opportunities, reports, news, etc. -- please email the links to Marnie Essery at vfamcourt@gmail.com and she’ll forward them to the committee for posting. Visiting, liking and sharing our Twitter and Facebook posts is much appreciated.

Many thanks to my fellow member of the Communications Sub-Committee Jeff Bateman, who maintains the Twitter and Facebook accounts and generates advocacy letters at the Committee’s direction – this year on behalf of the Mobile Youth Services Team (MYST).

Thanks also to VFCYJC Secretary Marnie Essery for her considerable help and support, with everything.

Respectfully,

Adam Flint

Chair, Communications sub-committee



SUCCESSION PLANNING WORKING GROUP

The Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee established a Succession Planning Work Group to review criteria for appointing voting and non-voting members to the Committee.

The Youth Criminal Justice Act, Provincial Court Act BC, and CRD Bylaw 4453 stipulate the VFC&YJ Committee ensure a majority of members have experience in education, health, probation, or welfare.

The purpose of the review was to identify knowledge and/or expertise of existing Committee members, and to aid recruitment and orientation training for new members.

In its report, copied below, the Work Group recommended that the stipulated experience be interpreted to have a broad scope of meaning, including mental health, addictions, Indigenous and restorative justice, family law and other issues that affect youth in our communities.

In the context of the broad scope of meaning, it was recommended that non-voting resource members may include representatives of the Ministries of the Attorney General, Education, Children and Family Development, Public Safety and Solicitor General, Restorative Justice Health, Housing and Social Development, Police Forces and First Nations.

In September, 2021, the VFCYJC approved the recommendations as outlined in the Succession Planning Work Group Report. The recruitment package was updated to consider services that are consistent with the needs of youth and families.

Submitted by,

E. Paterson, Chairperson

May 15, 2022

VFCYJC Experience Matrix Draft

Ad Hoc Committee Recommendation:

THAT the Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee approve the VFC&YJC Experience Matrix Draft dated May 15, 2022 as presented (or amended), and

FURTHER THAT the Ad Hoc Committee be instructed to work with the CRD Corporate Services to develop a recruitment package for presentation at a future meeting of the VFC&YJ Committee.

Background

At a Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee meeting held on September 22, 2021, the Committee received the Succession Planning-Meetings Work Group Report dated August 16, 2021, and approved the motion to adopt the recommendations contained in the report, and further recommended the Resolution and Report be sent to the Capital Regional District Board and Staff. A letter conveying the VFC&YJ Committee resolution and report was sent to the attention of Steven Carey on October 18, 2021

February 9, 2022: The Capital Regional District Board approved Bylaw No. 4453, a bylaw to continue The Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee as a Delegated Commission.

The following is an excerpt from Bylaw 4453:

COMPOSITION AND ELIGIBILITY

- 3. The VFC&YJ Committee shall have the following number of voting members, up to a total of 23, each having one vote:
 - (a) Up to seven individuals as Capital Regional District appointed representatives under section 7;
 - (b) Thirteen municipal council representatives, who may each have an alternate, under section 8; and
 - (c) Three school district representatives, representing School Districts 61, 62, and 63, under section 9.
- 4. Available openings for voting membership vacancies will be advertised by November of each year of a vacancy in a term in aw form acceptable to the appointing organization.
- 5. A majority of members have experience in education, health, probation, or welfare.
- 6. Members must represent the interests of their community or organization to the best of their ability.

Experience

The Succession Planning-Meetings Work Group Report included the provision to institute a matrix to identify knowledge and/or expertise of existing VFC&YJ Committee members, to aid recruitment and orientation training, and to fill gaps where expertise is required. The Youth Criminal Justice Act, Provincial Court Act BC, and CRD Bylaw 4453 stipulate the VFC&YJ Committee ensure a majority of members have experience in education, health, probation, or welfare. The VFC&YJ Committee further approved the Success Planning-Meetings Work Group recommendation that the stipulated experience be interpreted to have a broad scope of meaning that includes mental health, addictions, indigenous and restorative justice, family law and other issues that affect youth in our communities. In the context of the broad scope of meaning, it was recommended that non-voting resource members may include representatives of the Ministries of the Attorney General, Education, Children and Family Development, Public Safety and Solicitor General, Restorative Justice Health, Housing and Social Development, Police Forces and First Nations.

Commitment

Voting Members will be appointed for a term of 2 years, to a maximum of 6 years, and be prepared to attend VFC&YJ Committee meetings held at least 6 times per year (2 – 3 hours), and to participate in a sub-committee.

Matrix:

| | | |
|------------|------------|----------|
| Employment | Experience | Interest |
|------------|------------|----------|

Legislation References:

- Federal Youth Criminal Justice Act (SC 2002)
- Provincial Court Act BC
- Canadian Charter Rights and Freedom
- UN Convention on Rights of the Child
- Family Court Youth Justice Committee
- Family Law Act (BC) 2013
- BC Declaration Act (2019) on the Rights of Indigenous People
- Truth and Reconciliation Report (94 calls to action)



Education

- Disabilities
- Inclusion
- Social Justice curriculum
- At-risk behavior/attitudes
- Advanced Education and Skills Training

Health

- Food Security
- Mental Health
- Addictions
- Abuse/Exploitation

Probation

- Goals: crime prevention/rehabilitation and re-integration and meaningful consequences
- Intervention/Prevention
- Restorative Justice
- Indigenous Law/Gladue rights & principles

Welfare

- Protective Services
- Youth & Family services and support
- Safe school and after school care
- Housing
- Adoption and Fostering
- Indigenous (Bill C-92)

Notes:

VFC&YJ Committee must also consider best methods and practices for communication to reach a broader recruitment audience in the CRD communities.

CAPITAL REGION ACTION TEAM REPORT

It has been a very difficult year for CRAT. Due to Covid, CRAT did not meet in person or by Google Meet, largely because we were unable to get a quorum for our meetings. Many of the agencies that send a representative to CRAT did not keep up their representative. What made it even more difficult was the fact we did not sponsor Taking Care of Ourselves, Taking Care of Others (TCO2) to put on presentations in schools, and that we put our graphic novel project on hold.

As our expenses have been limited due to our limited activities, as of December 2022, we had approximately \$10,509.54 in our account. Our only expense this year was the renewal of our website for \$183.75. We are in a healthy financial position due to a bequest to CRAT of \$12,000 in 2020, for our graphic novel project. Our books are kept by the Municipality of Oak Bay, and we are very grateful for their donated services.

Because we did not meet formally and were unable to hold elections, Bill stayed on as Chair, until we can meet again.

Because of Covid, we were unable to make our presentation of a Certificate of Appreciation to Helen Hughes, one of the founders of CRAT. Unfortunately, Helen passed away this year, after serving more than 20 years with CRAT.

CRAT has been caught up in the uncertainty over the reorganization of The Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee, as we are one of its subcommittees. This has not been completed yet and we have not had a chance to see how this structure will impact on CRAT.

One of our members, Mia, has completed a movie about the sexual exploitation of youth in the Greater Victoria area. Mia works closely with Gord Magee, the Mobile Youth Services Team (MYST) coordinator. They report that the instances of sexual exploitation of youth is increasing. It is mainly happening online, so is not as visible as it once was. There is also a lot of evidence that gangs are getting more involved in the sex trafficking of youth.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill McElroy

CRAT Chair





October 7, 2022

Attention: Regional Governance Council - Integrated Police Units

c/o Paula Kully, Executive Assistant, Oak Bay Police Department (pkully@oakbaypolice.org)
Kevin Murdoch, Co-Chair, RGU-IPU ("Kevin Murdoch" <kmurdoch@crd.bc.ca>)

Re: Increased funding and staff resources for MYST/CRED

The Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee is writing to urge the Regional Governance Council to continue its efforts to secure increased staffing and resource funding for the Greater Victoria Mobile Youth Services Team (MYST) and its critically important collaborative work with the Pacific Centre Family Services Association's Crime Reduction and Exploitation Diversion (CRED) program.

An alarming and urgent presentation by CRED's Mia Golden at a recent committee meeting generated a request by our members to write the Regional Governance Council – IPU expressing strong continued support for her partnership with MYST and colleague Constable Gord Magee from the Victoria Police Department.

The pair have been regular attendees at VFCYJC meetings in recent years, providing ongoing updates to the committee's mix of municipal councillors and Capital Regional District appointees about the mounting crisis experienced by vulnerable youth in the region.

Golden and Magee have a case load of 200+ young people at risk throughout Greater Victoria. Many are still in school and present as average teenagers who participate in sports and extracurricular activities while also dabbling in risky behaviours that can quickly spiral out of control. A sadly familiar litany of often tragic outcomes – drug addiction, gangs, exploitation and sexual trafficking included – can result.

They are the only police officer and counsellor duo working this supremely challenging beat in the region, and the hours they can dedicate are severely limited. "We go from one fire to the next," Golden said. "There are just the two of us, and we are barely keeping heads above water."

The VFCYJC ask:

i) That the Regional Governance Council advocate to the Province of British Columbia for increased resource funding and staffing for MYST/CRED street teams. At a minimum, one additional CRED counsellor/MYST police officer team is required immediately.

ii) MYST appointees from regional police departments turnover every three years on average. It can, however, take an extended period for an individual to develop the unique skills required to deal effectively with vulnerable youth and to develop relationships with these youth. We agree with Ms. Golden that extending MYST postings to up to five years makes excellent sense.

To repeat, this is a critically urgent matter that requires quick action. “We are frankly overwhelmed by the size and scope of the crisis on our streets,” Golden told us. “This service model demonstrably works and we continue to experience wins as we intervene with young people and support both them and their parents. Yet we urgently need more help.”

Thank you to the Regional Governance Council for hearing this message and your good work to date. Please continue your likely ongoing efforts to secure additional support and ongoing reliable support for MYST/CRED.

Sincerely,

Marie-Terese Little, Chair
Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee

cc Premier David Eby
cc Hon. Murray Rankin, Attorney General
cc Hon. Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General
cc Hon. Sheila Malcolmson, Minister of Mental Health and Addictions
cc CRD Chair Colin Plant
cc CRD Vice Chair Maja Tait
cc CRD Municipalities
cc SD#61, SD#62, SD#63, SD#93

Attachment: Appendix: Summary Report on Mia Golden’s April 28 VFCYJC presentation



Appendix: presentation by Mia Golden, Mobile Youth Services Team, Crime Reduction and Exploitation Diversion (CRED) program director with the Pacific Centre Family Services Association.

Context and Issues

- Victoria is a harbour town, and as such is an increasingly notorious prime location for gang activity, drugs and sex trafficking
- BC declared a public health emergency in April 2016 in response to the rise in drug overdoses and deaths. Coroners Service statistics show that there have been 9,013 unintentional illicit drug toxicity deaths in British Columbia since then (through March 31, 2022).
- Encouraging drug addiction in teenagers is a proven way to control and make them dependent on abusive figures. Youth in the Victoria region are being used as mules for drugs to Vancouver and Washington state.
- A decade following Amanda Todd's tragic death, cyber-bullying, extortion and sexual harassment remain a huge issue yet has become so normalized that many youth no longer regard it as a big deal. "The explosion of social media, easy access to the internet and pornography, and the normalization of highly sexualized and often violent content are all issues that contribute to the exploitation of young people," said Golden.
- Predators seeking to groom and socialize (condition) young people have been dramatically enabled by social media. In the past, they were in plain sight while lurking in malls, parks and outside schools. Now they operate in the virtual shadows.
- Predators scan social media seeking evidence that a young person is vulnerable or having a bad day. They then act with a variety of direct and subtle strategies that include friending, meet-ups, favours/gifts, desensitization, drugs/addiction, "sextortion," threats and outright ownership.
- Gang recruitment occurs on the street, at parties and also on social media. Children in the region as young as 12 are being enlisted and are wearing gang colours. There is a danger of minimizing this behaviour as youthful indiscretion. Abbotsford's 856 gang started small yet has evolved into a Canada-wide organization. Victoria-based WCGF (West Coast Goat Fuckers) was responsible for 200+ police files in 2014 alone, including assault with a weapon.
- Most young people on the street carry pepper spray for self-defence. Some have knives, replica guns and, in some cases, actual firearms.

- There are numerous ways in which vulnerable youth find themselves in serious trouble.

Golden offered several case studies as examples:

i) An 18-year-old girl newly arrived from Quebec was turned into a prostitute by her thirtysomething boyfriend (aka pimp), who set her up in a Victoria hotel and marketed her through Leo's List. MYST/CRED offered information and support, which she declined, claiming she did not have a pimp.

ii) A 22-year-old whose violent boyfriend, a member of Victoria's Norteno (aka XIV) gang and a drug trafficker, branded his name on her face and induced her into a heavy drug addiction (she is now clean and sober); and

iii) Three teenaged sisters from a stable, loving family in the region who were introduced to crystal meth and exploited by a man in his 40s (later convicted; two of the sisters are doing well today, however the third remains trapped in addiction).

- Gaps and barriers include: systemic issues; lack of sufficient staff and operational resources for front-line case workers; outdated legislation (i.e., reforms to the BC Infants Act regarding youth consent in particular); lack of sufficient early intervention programs; denial of emerging or even full-blown problems by youth and parents alike; vicarious trauma (experienced by parents, caregivers and professionals), social bias and more.

Signs of Progress

- Supporting both young people in crisis where they're at on the streets while also being an essential go-between with them and their often helpless, overwhelmed parents is a key role for the MYST/CRED street team.

- The system, while stretched well beyond capacity, is positioned for improved outcomes through early intervention strategies that include education, collaboration, communication, parenting support and other resources. These strategies are becoming more sophisticated through engagement by parents, schools, police, probation officers and others community resources.

- MYST/CRED maintains vital ongoing partnerships with provincial ministries and government agencies; Victoria and regional police departments; CRD municipalities and school districts; and the Capital Region Action Team for Sexually Exploited Youth (CRAT/SEY), which is affiliated directly with VFCYJC.

- Safer Schools Together, based in Surrey, BC, works closely with Victoria-region school districts to monitor open-source social media content related to student and staff safety. Among other danger signs, it looks for key words that may indicate grooming activities by predators.



- There is strong and encouraging short and longer-term direction from the Province of BC to address the crisis, including investing in community based mental health and social services so there are more trained front-line workers to help the vulnerable; expansion of the successful 'situation table' model that connects front-line workers from different health, safety and social service sectors; and a commitment to keeping our streets safer from gangs and guns.

- A growing number of service providers are working with vulnerable youth in the Greater Victoria region, among them Pacific Centre Family Services Association, The White Hatter, Safer Schools Together, Youth Empowerment Society, Kiwanis Youth Society, Sanctuary, the Victoria Native Friendship Centre, Deborah's Gate, Canadian Centre for Child Protection, Children of the Street Society, cybertip.ca, needhelpnow.ca, the Victoria Child Abuse Prevention and Counselling Centre, Discovery Youth Services and The Foundry.

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RESTORATIVE JUSTICE VICTORIA

While [Restorative Justice Victoria](#) is not a VFCYJC Sub-Committee, most restorative justice organizations in BC began with involvement of a Youth Justice Committee and we are particularly proud to support the one operating in the Greater Victoria region.

Each organization is unique in response to the needs identified in our communities. The VFCYJC was a contributor to RJV's evolution in Victoria – funding the production of video presentations, supporting youth-led initiatives, and facilitating volunteer education through the provision of resource materials.

Restorative Justice Victoria is very much a success story, overcoming the differences in the provision of police services to become an organization of accomplished, skilled volunteers who can be relied on to support better outcomes for all participants who access this 'accountable option' after a crime.

RJV's volunteers are asked to provide these better outcomes for increasingly complex cases throughout the CRD even while RJV funding remains critically insecure. No less than 15 resolutions about restorative justice were sent to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities between 1999 and 2018 calling on the provincial government to support restorative justice. While 11 of these resolutions were carried by the UBCM membership, substantial action is still required.

Learn about RJV's referral process at rjvictoria.com/referring-agencies

«Skilled volunteers are welcome. As a small non-profit organization, RJV is only able to accomplish all that we do with the help of our volunteers. Whether you volunteer on cases, in the office, or at a fundraiser, you are part of a compassionate and dedicated group that is supporting justice in our community.»

Keep track of RJV activities in its monthly email newsletter, available by request.



BC RESOURCES DIRECTORY

Anxiety BC

www.anxietybc.com

BC Mental Health & Substance Use Services

www.bcmhsus.ca

Canadian ADHD Resource Alliance

www.caddra.ca

Chatterblock (Parenting Resources)

www.chatterblock.com

Dr. Ross Greene, Collaborative Communication

www.drrossgreene.com

Families for Addiction Recovery

www.farcanada.org

Foundry (Health & Wellness Resources for Youth)

www.foundrybc.ca

Kelty Mental Health Resource Centre

www.keltymentalhealth.ca

Kids Help Phone

www.kidshelpphone.ca

Need2

Suicide Prevention Information and Support

www.need2.ca

Trans Lifeline

1-877-330-6366

Two-Spirit, Trans, Queer & Allied Youth

Drop-in and Family Support

250-475-7624

Vancouver Island Crisis Line

www.vicrisis.ca

Youth in BC

Crisis Intervention Services

www.youthinbc.com

Youthspace

Online chat for youth/young adults to age 30

6 – 11 p.m. daily

Texting support 778-783-8565

Island Sexual Health

Text line for youth with sexual health questions and concerns.

250-812-9374

First Call BC Child and Youth Advocacy Coalition

www.firstcallbc.org

Advance the interests of children and youth through public education, community mobilization and public policy advocacy.

BC School Centred Mental Health Coalition

www.bcscmhcoalition.ca

Office Representative for Children and Youth

www.rcybc.ca

Serves children, youth and families who need help dealing with the child-serving system.

Disability Resource Centre

www.drcvictoria.com

Indigenous Perspectives Society

www.ipsociety.ca

Offerings include Cultural Perspectives Training and Gladue Report Writing.

Indigenous Corporate Training Inc.

www.ictinc.ca

Crisis and Trauma Resources Institute – Canada

ca.ctrinstitute.com

Training and resources for mental health, counselling skills and violence prevention.

Ku'uus Aboriginal Crisis Services

1-800-588-8717

Capital Region Action Team

www.crat.ca

Mobile Youth Services Team (M.Y.S.T.)

www.pacificcentrefamilyservices.org/crime-reduction-exploitation-diversion

Restorative Justice Victoria

www.rjvictoria.com

Appendices

Appendix A

The Capital Region District Board of Directors approved Bylaw No. 4453 “Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee Commission Bylaw No. 1, 2022” at its meeting of February 9, 2022. The bylaw is on the following pages.

Appendix B

VFCYJC M.Y.S.T. advocacy letter, October 7, 2022.



CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT
BYLAW NO. 4453

A BYLAW TO CONTINUE THE VICTORIA FAMILY COURT AND
YOUTH JUSTICE COMMITTEE AS A DELEGATED COMMISSION

WHEREAS:

- A. Under Bylaw No. 2560, *Family Court Committee Extended Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1*, 1997, the Capital Regional District (“CRD”) continued a service to operate, participate in and fund a *Provincial Court Act* family court committee created for the capital region, as well as to provide funding to approved youth justice initiative involved third parties;
- B. Since the 1960s, the Victoria Family Court Committee, also known as the Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee, has operated as an advisory body, first as a committee of the City of Victoria then of the Capital Regional District, and continues to operate for the coordination and grant-making benefit for regional youth and family justice initiatives;
- C. The Board wishes to set out clearly the community mandate of the Committee in a commission bylaw and ensure it has legal status and delegated authority to continue its work;

NOW THEREFORE, the Capital Regional District Board in open meeting assembled hereby enacts as follows:

CREATION OF COMMISSION

- 1. A commission is hereby established, to be known as the “Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee” (hereinafter the “Committee”), and shall be a continuation of the Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee presently operated in the capital region.

DELEGATED AUTHORITY

- 2. The Committee is hereby delegated all of the administrative powers of the Regional Board with respect to the service set out in Bylaw No. 2560, *Family Court Committee Extended Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1*, 1997 (the “Bylaw No. 2560”), that is, the funding, participation, and operation of the Committee and the granting of funding to youth and family issues; and the Board’s ability under s.263(1)(c) of the *Local Government Act* to provide assistance to youth and family groups as contemplated by Bylaw No. 2560, other than assistance to business.

COMPOSITION AND ELIGIBILITY

- 3. The Committee shall have the following number of voting members, up to a total of 23, each having one vote:
 - (a) Up to seven individuals as Capital Regional District appointed representatives under section 7;
 - (b) Thirteen municipal council representatives, who may each have an alternate, under section 8; and
 - (c) Three school district representatives, representing School Districts 61, 62, and 63, under section 9.
- 4. Available openings for voting membership vacancies will be advertised by November of each year of a vacancy in a term in a form acceptable to the appointing organization.

5. A majority of members must have experience in education, health, probation, or welfare.
6. Members must represent the interests of their community or organization to the best of their ability.

Capital Region Representatives

7. The Regional Board may appoint up to seven individuals as voting members of the Committee. Such appointments may be, but are not limited to, representatives of the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area, community members, representatives of youth and family justice organizations, municipal councilors, regional district Board members, or First Nations' representatives.

Municipal Representatives

8. Each municipal participant may appoint a municipal council representative as a voting member, and may appoint as an alternate voting member a member of the public or a municipal councilor to act in the absence of the municipal council representative, for a total of 13 municipal council representatives.

School District Representatives

9. Each school district in areas served by the Committee may appoint a representative as a voting member, for a total of three school district representatives.

Resource Members

10. The Committee may resolve to have any number of non-voting resource members, including individuals, service providers, organization representatives, public authorities, First Nations, or other groups working in the capital region in family court and youth justice initiatives.

TERM OF OFFICE

11. A member's term of office is from the date of appointment in one year to December 31 in the second year of appointment.
12. No voting member may serve more than six consecutive years on the Committee. A former member may be reappointed after one year of absence. Despite the term limit in this section, in unique circumstances, an appointing agency may reappoint its voting member for an additional term.

OFFICERS

13. By the end of February in each year, the Committee shall hold an annual meeting for the purpose of appointing officers (the "Annual Meeting"). The Committee shall select from among its voting members a Chair, Vice-Chair, and Treasurer, with voting by show of hands, or, if a secret ballot is requested by one-third of members present, by secret ballot.
14. The Committee may create additional officer roles it considers advisable and staff them with voting or non-voting members from time-to-time.
15. In the event of a vacancy, the Committee may select a voting member to fill an officer role until the next Annual Meeting.

DEATH, RESIGNATION, DISQUALIFICATION AND TERMINATION

16. A member's appointment ends on the end of term; resignation; death or incapacity; revocation of appointment; ceasing to be an employee, volunteer, elected official or officer of an appointing agency; or on the cessation of a municipal council voting member ceasing to be a municipal councilor.

MEMBER VACANCIES

17. In the event of a member vacancy before the end of term, the appointing organization may appoint an individual to complete the term. If not filled within a reasonable time, the Committee shall reported such vacancy to the Capital Regional District's Corporate Officer.
18. If a member is absent for more than two consecutive meetings with notice, the Committee shall contact the member to determine interest in continuing on the Committee. If absent for three consecutive meetings, the member may be removed by resolution of the Committee and the Committee shall alert the appointing organization, requesting appointment.

COMMISSION OBJECTIVES AND DUTIES

19. The Committee has the following objectives:
- (a) to identify, inform, educate, advocate for, and report on gaps in regional resources for youth justice and family court issues;
 - (b) to act as a resource for the public and youth and family organizations; and
 - (c) to encourage collaboration between and visibility of community services.
20. The Committee is hereby tasked with the following duties:
- (a) to meet at least four times per year to:
 - i. consider and examine community resources for family and children's matters;
 - ii. make recommendations to the court, the Attorney General, or others;
 - iii. solicit and consider applications for receipt of grant-funding; and
 - iv. connect family-and-justice-involved individuals, service providers, and government in a way that encourages collaboration and identifies service gaps;
 - (b) if requested by the court, to act a resource or assist as directed; and
 - (c) report annually to its member local governments and the Attorney General on its activities.
21. The Committee may, within its mandate:
- (a) take positions and advocate on policy initiatives, legislation, and services affecting families and youth justice in the region, in the name of the "Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee"; and
 - (b) undertake other activities consistent with the activities of a family court and youth justice committee, as permitted by law.
22. Subject to Capital Regional District bylaws, policies, and procedures, the Committee, in open meeting assembled or through supervised volunteers, may:
- (a) establish advisory groups to examine specific issues, who will report on their work;
 - (b) contract for support services, volunteer coordination, communications, feasibility studies, and other services and goods related to its objectives and duties;
 - (c) undertake necessary, incidental, or ancillary administrative tasks in order to effect its work.
23. If acting under referral or as otherwise directed under the *Provincial Court Act*, RSBC 1996, c 379, or *Youth Criminal Justice Act*, SC 2002, c 1, the Committee shall discharge its duties through one or more registered volunteers assembled for that purpose by resolution of the Committee, unless otherwise directed by the court.

24. All volunteers shall be supervised by the Committee or its appointed volunteer coordinator, if any; shall register with the CRD's Risk and Insurance Department; and must, if working with vulnerable persons or persons under 18 years of age, provide a recent criminal record check to CRD.

CONDUCT OF MEETINGS AND QUORUM

25. A quorum shall be seven (7) voting members.
26. The Committee must follow Bylaw No. 3828, "Capital Regional District Board Procedures Bylaw, 2012", when conducting a meeting (the "CRD Procedures Bylaw").
27. All meetings of the Committee must be held in a public facility and must be open to the public. Meetings may be in-camera, where authorized by law.
28. The Committee may meet by electronic means, where the requirements in the CRD Procedures Bylaw are met.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

29. In discharging the Committee's grant function, any member who considers themselves in a pecuniary or non-pecuniary conflict of interest shall declare a conflict, which may include:
- (a) where their appointing agency is a direct recipient of a grant or assistance; or
 - (b) where a member or their immediate family owes a fiduciary duty, as a director, senior manager, or employee of an organization receiving funding,
- and shall recuse themselves in accordance with the CRD Procedures Bylaw and the *Community Charter*, SBC 2003, c 26.
30. On a majority vote of the Committee, School District and non-voting members representing an organization with a direct pecuniary interest in a grant may be invited to present on their organization's application, but shall not be present for debate nor the vote on the matter.

BUDGET

31. Upon its establishment and by October 1 of each year, the Committee shall prepare an annual budget, which shall include estimates for administrative costs, operations, grants, and other expenditures, and shall submit such estimates to the CRD's Chief Financial Officer for Regional Board approval and inclusion in provisional and annual budgets.

RECORD KEEPING

32. The Committee shall comply with all public record keeping requirements under the *Community Charter*, *Local Government Act*, and other applicable legislation.
33. Records shall be stored at the CRD. Agendas shall be provided in advance of meetings in accordance with the CRD Procedures Bylaw and meeting minutes shall be provided after each meeting.



CITATION

34. This bylaw may be cited for all purposes as "Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee Commission Bylaw No. 1, 2022".

| | | | |
|-------------------------|----|--------|------|
| READ A FIRST TIME THIS | th | day of | 20__ |
| READ A SECOND TIME THIS | th | day of | 20__ |
| READ A THIRD TIME THIS | th | day of | 20__ |
| ADOPTED THIS | th | day of | 20__ |

CHAIR

CORPORATE OFFICER



October 7, 2022

Attention: Regional Governance Council - Integrated Police Units

c/o Paula Kully, Executive Assistant, Oak Bay Police Department (pkully@oakbaypolice.org)

Kevin Murdoch, Co-Chair, RGU-IPU ("Kevin Murdoch" <kmurdoch@crd.bc.ca>)

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Sincerely,

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Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee

cc Premier David Eby
cc Hon. Murray Rankin, Attorney General
cc Hon. Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General
cc Hon. Sheila Malcolmson, Minister of Mental Health and Addictions
cc CRD Chair Colin Plant
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cc SD#61, SD#62, SD#63, SD#93

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- There are numerous ways in which vulnerable youth find themselves in serious trouble. Golden offered several case studies as examples:

i) An 18-year-old girl newly arrived from Quebec was turned into a prostitute by her thirtysomething boyfriend (aka pimp), who set her up in a Victoria hotel and marketed her through Leo's List. MYST/CRED offered information and support, which she declined, claiming she did not have a pimp.

ii) A 22-year-old whose violent boyfriend, a member of Victoria's Norteno (aka XIV) gang and a drug trafficker, branded his name on her face and induced her into a heavy drug addiction (she is now clean and sober); and

iii) Three teenaged sisters from a stable, loving family in the region who were introduced to crystal meth and exploited by a man in his 40s (later convicted; two of the sisters are doing well today, however the third remains trapped in addiction).

- Gaps and barriers include: systemic issues; lack of sufficient staff and operational resources for front-line case workers; outdated legislation (i.e., reforms to the BC Infants Act regarding youth consent in particular); lack of sufficient early intervention programs; denial of emerging or even full-blown problems by youth and parents alike; vicarious trauma (experienced by parents, caregivers and professionals), social bias and more.

Signs of Progress

- Supporting both young people in crisis where they're at on the streets while also being an essential go-between with them and their often helpless, overwhelmed parents is a key role for the MYST/CRED street team.

- The system, while stretched well beyond capacity, is positioned for improved outcomes through early intervention strategies that include education, collaboration, communication, parenting support and other resources. These strategies are becoming more sophisticated through engagement by parents, schools, police, probation officers and others community resources.

- MYST/CRED maintains vital ongoing partnerships with provincial ministries and government agencies; Victoria and regional police departments; CRD municipalities and school districts; and the Capital Region Action Team for Sexually Exploited Youth (CRAT/SEY), which is affiliated directly with VFCYJC.

- Safer Schools Together, based in Surrey, BC, works closely with Victoria-region school districts to monitor open-source social media content related to student and staff safety. Among other danger signs, it looks for key words that may indicate grooming activities by predators.

- There is strong and encouraging short and longer-term direction from the Province of BC to address the crisis, including investing in community based mental health and social services so there are more trained front-line workers to help the vulnerable; expansion of the successful 'situation table' model that connects front-line workers from different health, safety and social service sectors; and a commitment to keeping our streets safer from gangs and guns.

- A growing number of service providers are working with vulnerable youth in the Greater Victoria region, among them Pacific Centre Family Services Association, The White Hatter, Safer Schools Together, Youth Empowerment Society, Kiwanis Youth Society, Sanctuary, the Victoria Native Friendship Centre, Deborah's Gate, Canadian Centre for Child Protection, Children of the Street Society, cybertip.ca, needhelpnow.ca, the Victoria Child Abuse Prevention and Counselling Centre, Discovery Youth Services and The Foundry.

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