



**CHILLIWACK RESTORATIVE JUSTICE
AND YOUTH ADVOCACY ASSOCIATION**

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45877 Wellington Avenue
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Who We Are

Chilliwack Restorative Justice and Youth Advocacy Association was incorporated in June 1998; a volunteer based organization focused on delivering programs and services in the areas of crime prevention and public safety as well as fostering a safe and caring community through restorative approaches.

Vision/Mandate: Engage, Connect, Restore. Individuals are empowered to take accountability and responsibility for their actions and behaviours with the intent to repair harm, rebuild relationships and restore communities.

Board of Directors

Executive Committee

Dwayne Farlin
Jim Simmill
Robert LeComte
DJ Pohl

Chair
Vice Chair
Treasurer
Secretary

Directors

Courtney Glendinning
Daniel Coulter
Edna Warick
James Morgan
Mike Straiton
Tom McMahon

Ex-Officio

Damian Fleming
Darlene Wahlstrom
Jonathan Blair

RCMP Ex-Officio
Victim Services Ex-Officio
Crown Counsel Ex-Officio



Message From Board Chair

It is my distinguished privilege as Chair of the Board of Directors to say a few words reflecting on the 2015 – 2016 year. Chilliwack Restorative Justice & Youth Advocacy Association has successfully operated in the Chilliwack community for over 15 years. We continue to provide relevant and timely restorative services to the communities of Chilliwack, Agassiz, and Hope.

The Board has undergone changes again this past year and I would like to acknowledge some of those changes. I would like to recognize the service of Board member, Robert LeComte, Administrative Assistant, Debbie Biggin and outgoing Executive Director, Leanna Kemp. On behalf of the Board, I thank you for your service.

Thanks to our staff, Kaley Varty, Karla Woelbern, and Rylee Pryor for their support and commitment to the organization. Kaley has now been with the organization for almost two years and Karla is new to the organization and is looking after our school based programs. Rylee is our program assistant helping in multiple areas of the organization.

The Organization is currently on the hunt for a new Executive Director to fill the shoes of Leanna who resigned her position in late October. Leanna has stayed on with the Organization to assist with the transition to a new ED which is greatly appreciated. The Organization has made great strides this year in Fund Development, Program Development and Community Awareness.

We remain focused on enhancing our community profile with fundraisers such as the Semi-Annual Bike Sale and our largest fundraiser, Denim and Dice. Our staff was instrumental in expanding events and introducing new events which allow us to earn a portion of the fundraising requirements necessary to meet our budgetary needs. We are also very excited to be able to continue a pilot education program at several schools in Chilliwack where we are working with staff and youth on preventative measures and alternatives to suspension to name a few.

The ongoing positive community presence of our program continues to be reflected in the level of commitment of our volunteers, who put in a tremendous amount of hours. Our volunteers are clearly our most valuable asset, who quite frankly, are the backbone of this organization and I would personally offer a big thank you for their dedication and tireless efforts. Collectively, we are doing a fantastic job!

It has been my honour to Chair the board for the past year and to have been a part of the Board for the last 8 years.

Sincerely,
Dwayne Farlin



Committee Reports

Programs and Volunteer Committee

The committee's mandate is to assist the Executive Director and Program Coordinator in the creation of restorative and preventative programs in the areas of crime prevention and public safety as well as fostering a safe and caring community through restorative methodologies.

Programs currently implemented in the communities' school district are Classroom Conversations, ACES (Accountable, Connected, Empowered and Supported), Be Chill and SPAR (Speak Out, Play Out, Actions, Recreation).

The most utilized program by the school district is Classroom Conversations. Currently Classroom Conversations is underway in two schools this fall and commencing in two additional schools in January. There are four schools on a waiting list for the 2018 - 2019 school year. CRJYAA employs a coordinator to manage this very robust and in demand program.

The most recognizable programs of service the committee oversees are the CAP (Community Accountability Panel) and CJF (Community Justice Forum) models to address the restorative needs of the community. These models are followed to provide restorative action to persons who are in conflict with the law and other areas of discord. The objective is to hold people accountable for their behaviour, reconnect them to the community, and to repair the harm caused by their actions.

In order to obtain success with any of the aforementioned programs the committee is responsible for the recruitment and retention of volunteers. Volunteers are the cornerstone and vital to this organization. The committee is charged with developing strategies to keep volunteers informed, engaged, and valued. There are opportunities for volunteers to employ their own special skill sets in the programs and on committees.

The committee's overall goal is to provide quality programs and services to the community of Chilliwack through the commitment and hard work of its volunteers.

Mike Straiton
Programs and Volunteer Committee Chair



Committee Reports

Community Awareness and Fund Development Committee

We have been very active and working to educate the community and our various partners on the benefits of our organization.

We have partnered with Chilliwack School District to deliver prevention programs called Classroom Conversations. We are pleased to advise that the school youth program expanded from a pilot project and is now being facilitated in additional schools this year. Students are taught about the Buddy Bench program during the Classroom Conversations and upon successful completion of the program each school will receive their very own Buddy Bench to use in their playground. The benches are funded by community partners and the concept helps foster friendships and eliminates loneliness. The idea is to encourage all students to make a friend and be a friend!

In order to provide information to the public and our partners, we attended a number of community service groups, the City of Chilliwack Public Safety Advisory Committee and provided briefings to senior management at the RCMP in Chilliwack, Agassiz and Hope as well as attending the Watch Briefings to share information with the general duty members. We have streamlined the referral process from the RCMP and will continue to liaise with the detachments in the upcoming year.

Our office has been using print media, radio, and many social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to convey our messaging to the public. We have launched and continue to improve our new website which is a great tool to communicate what we do throughout the year.

As we know, it takes a team of dedicated volunteers to organize and run fund raising events! We held three major fund raising events this past year: The Longest Running 50/50, Denim and Dice, Corks & Caps, and two Bike Auctions. Each of these events were successful due to the hard work of everyone who pitched in.

Moving forward, I am excited to be working with everyone in the various fund raising activities and in promoting the excellent programs that we have been providing to our communities.

Jim Simmill
Community Awareness and Fund Development Chair



Message From Program Director

Our organization has 3 staff members, all very passionate about Restorative Justice and Youth Advocacy. They work alongside a group of dedicated volunteers, whose time, expertise, and passion are greatly valued.

We have seen tremendous growth in this past year in the variety and complexities of our Restorative Response referrals. We are eager to continue to grow in the ways we can serve the Chilliwack community and surrounding areas.

Our school based program Classroom Conversations worked with over 600 students grades 3-6. We have secured a 2-year funding commitment with SD33 and look forward to continuing our growth. We also received a substantial contribution from First West Foundation to support this program.

We played a key role in leading and supporting multiple community initiatives. Rise Above the Ashes was a partnership with Murray Honda Chilliwack and Big Steel Box. This fire relief campaign raised over \$5000 in cash as well as over \$5000 in needed goods to ESS centers in Chilliwack and Kamloops. Pop Up in the Park was a joint effort between Downtown Business Association and the City of Chilliwack. The goal was to create a positive atmosphere in the downtown area by having unique events happening in the Five Corners Park.

As we move towards 2018, Chilliwack Restorative Justice and Youth Advocacy Association will continue to develop, grow and enhance our current programs. We look forward to participating in community efforts that aim to engage, connect, and restore individuals with programs, services, and activities within our community.

I would like to thank our Board of Directors led by Dwayne Farlin; my staff Kaley Varty, Debbie Biggin, Rylee Prior, and our newest addition Karla Woelbern; as well as our summer students Rebecca Gasparac, and Taylor Allenby. Finally, I would like to personally thank all of our dedicated volunteers.

Sincerely,
Leanna Kemp



Staff & Volunteers

Staff

Kaley Varty
Karla Woelbern
Rylee Pryor
Taylor Allenby
Rebecca Gasparac

Program Coordinator
School Program Coordinator
Assistant Program Coordinator
Classroom Conversation Facilitator
Classroom Conversation Facilitator

Volunteers

Aaron Pete
Alanna Diebert
Angus Haggarty
Anne-Marie Paddon
Ashley Chouinard
Ashley Heaps
Barb Bergsma
Bill Lillicrap
Bryan Stokes
Carolyn Ferrer
Denise Desrochers
Dennis McGregor
Dick Clegg
DJ Pohl
Elicia Peterson
Edna Warick

Erza Mjekiqi
Harmin Bains
Heather Mcghie
James Morgan
Jan Legere
Jessica Boisjoli
Jessica Weiss
Jim Simmill
Judy Jones
Karen Ng
Kelsey Ablitt
Ken Gaglardi
Kim Goodman
Mike Straiton
Meagan Pitcher
Peter Massy

Raema-Jean Schneider
Rob Bennie
Sabina Bains
Sarah Crisp
Sharlene Harrison-Hind
Sharon Blaker
Sharlyn Lam
Teresa Laynes
Teresa Witzke
Terri Taylor
Tori Kuhn
Trena Gauthier
Trevor Johnson
Wayne Gilmour
Wendy Croshaw
Xiao-Jie (Gigi) Hua



Supporters & Sponsors



365 Productions
 Abbotsford Entertainment Centre
 Ascend Fitness
 Bella Clothing Boutique
 Bravo
 Button Box
 Cheam Mountain Golf Course
 Chilliwack Chiefs
 Chilliwack Golf Course
 Decades Coffee Club
 Fresh Slice Pizza Chilliwack
 Hampton Inn by Hilton

Jim's Pizza-Downtown
 Jolly Miller Pub
 Kal Tire
 Ken's Tire & Wheel
 Lakeside Beach Club
 Little Village Shoe Store
 Marcom Signs & Graphics
 Minter Country Garden
 MKKM Men's Wear
 Mount Cheam Lions Club
 Optimist Club of Chilliwack
 Panago

Real Canadian Superstore
 Rendezvous Restaurant
 Safeway
 Sardis VQA
 Save on Foods
 Simpson Notary
 Starbucks
 Subway
 Valley Proactive Orthotics
 Vancouver Canucks
 Vancouver Whitecaps
 Voila Lash Lounge



Programs and Services

Restorative Response



- A diversion program from the traditional court system; this program empowers individuals to take accountability and responsibility for their actions and work to repair harm, rebuild relationships and restore communities.
- Community Justice Forums (CJF) and Community Accountability Panel (CAP)
- Mentoring
- Community Dialogues are also held with various organizations throughout the community such as Sto:lo and Sardis Doorway.

Classroom Conversations



- Restorative practices cultivate a culture in which everyone feels they belong. They build a sense of community in which every member; students, teacher, parent volunteer, aides- feel that they are seen, heard and respected.
- Restorative Practices build community and can help set things right when the integrity of the community is challenged by harmful behaviors.

ACES (Accountable, Connected, Empowered and Supported)



- Support for youth who are involved or at-risk of becoming involved in the justice system. This program is partnered with Chilliwack Community Services and serves their REAL Program youth and Chilliwack School District's Ed Center Outreach Program youth.
- The focus is a restorative approach in combination with recreational activities, guest speakers and interactive dialogues. Empowering youth to take accountability and responsibility for their actions and reconnect with the community in a pro-social way.

Be Chill (Balance, Community, Honesty, Integrity, Lifestyle and Learning)



- Be Chill is run in partnership with Studio B Yoga & More and snacks are provided by The Local Harvest Market.
- Be Chill is a youth program that incorporates the foundations and values of yoga and restorative justice with everyday life skills. Full of educational workshops and fun activities that are designed to engage, empower, and connect Chilliwack youth with each other and within their community.

SPAR (Speak Out, Play Out, Actions and Recreation)



- SPAR is a partnership with Chilliwack Community Services
- This program is designed to utilize circle dialogue to facilitate conversation on 11 specific topics followed by a structured recreational activity to address alternate learning styles, engage imagination, build self esteem and confidence, and put new learning into action.



Benefits of Our Programs

Restorative Response Programs:

All too commonly in the traditional Criminal Justice System we are unable to fully address what factors may have contributed to the crime, however with Restorative Justice we are able to learn, communicate and grow from the initial incident, paving the way for a healthy reintegration into the community.

Clients who complete our program are able to reflect and come to terms with the harm caused by their actions. Through a resolution agreement created specifically for each offender's circumstance, we present each of our clients with the opportunity to give back to their own community, and restore the harm done to all affected parties. Over the years we have facilitated thousands of resolution agreements for youth to senior citizens that include anything from restitution payments, counseling, to community service work.

Victims also have the opportunity to share their perspective and actively participate in the process. By addressing both the victim and offender's needs, we are able to contribute more to a community where its members can feel safe and move forward from the incident; this gives the victim a chance to ask questions, find closure, and heal from the incident.

Prevention Programs:

As a form of crime prevention, we also work with both the school district and community agencies to offer a wide variety of youth programs. There is always a focus on developing important core values and strategies to live a healthy balanced life.

Focuses include: self care, teamwork, accountability, communication, responsibility, conflict resolution, goal setting, etc.

We also aim to improve relationships between staff, students and the community to foster a healthy support system for youth for the future.



How To Get Involved

Serve On the Board of Directors

The board of Chilliwack Restorative Justice & Youth Advocacy Association is responsible for the highest level of decision-making and legal authority in the organization. By law, it is ultimately accountable for, and has authority over, the organization's resources and activities. The board articulates and communicates the organization's vision to the membership and community. Through policy, the board defines the parameters within which the organization will carry out its work.

Annually the members of the Association elect Directors to guide the Association and act as advisors. If your talents are more suited for this type of work, you may wish to consider volunteering as a director. We will happily provide your name to the Nominating committee.

Become an Association Member

Chilliwack Restorative Justice & Youth Advocacy Association is a democratic association incorporated under the Society Act of British Columbia. Community members may purchase a tax deductible (income tax receipt issued) annual membership of \$10.00 per year (Sept 1-Aug 31). As a member you will enjoy a voice in the governance and management of the association. We will keep you informed and up to date on the activities of our Society including programs, services, special events, funding needs, and opportunities to volunteer.

Become a Program Volunteer

You can help by volunteering as a "Mentor" and/or as a Restorative Panel Facilitator. As a facilitator of a Restorative Panel you will guide all parties through the restorative process leading to a Resolution Agreement. Each client that goes through the program is paired with a mentor who provides connection and accountability for the individual to complete their resolution agreement. Training is provided.

Become a Sponsor

We have a variety of sponsorship opportunities that help us provide various programs to assist in crime prevention and fostering a safe and caring community through restorative approaches. You may choose to sponsor a specific program, training initiatives for both staff and volunteers, or provide a general donation. For more information please contact the office.

Become a Work Placement Sponsor

As a community business you would provide various opportunities for our clients to complete their community service hours allowing individuals to comply with resolution agreements. To learn more or get set up please contact the Program Coordinator at 604-393-3029.