

A CONFERENCE TO INSPIRE CREATIVITY, IDEAS, AND RELATIONSHIPS THAT ADVANCE THE WELL-BEING OF OUR COMMUNITY

January 29, 2014

WELCOME

Welcome to the Groundswell 2014 conference. This conference is designed to inspire creativity, ideas and relationships that advance the well-being of our community. This event is timely because we are moving through a period of enormous change. Forced to shift our reliance on the resource industry during a time of global uncertainty, we are challenged to find our way. At the same time we have new opportunities rising, including those emerging because of the treaty process.

Today's universities are called to civic and community engagement, to collaborate to help address our most pressing issues. Vancouver Island University is committed to our region and to the well-being of Vancouver's coastal communities. We are so very appreciative that we have the resource of our First Nations community in this effort as well as broad support from local individuals, groups, organizations, and businesses.

The paddle at the front of the gymnasium is an important symbol. Chief Shawn Atleo (A-in chut) was Vancouver Island University's first Chancellor. He wanted to give a gift that signified a journey because he comes from a canoeing and whaling culture. Paddles signify moving together, pulling together, working together in a canoe. When in big water, people are completely relying on others in a canoe. The paddle represents the journey in both a physical and spiritual sense: when the paddle is being stroked in the water, we can only see half of it. The spiritual side we cannot see. The paddle is beautiful but functional.

The full story of the paddle is at the back of the program. The first story of the paddle reminds us that we are in this canoe together. Regardless of race, ethnicity, culture, religion, gender, ability, background, experience, opinions, and beliefs, we are in this canoe together. The Groundswell conference provides an opportunity to consider the journey we are on, to examine where we are heading, and how we will get there.

Our presence here together reconfirms our commitment to this place and to one another. We hope the activities we have planned indeed inspire and engage you. Your participation propels our journey. Welcome. (Cheh Cheh Hum)



The First Story of the Paddle

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

8:30 - 9	Registration
9 – 9:15	Welcome First Nations Elders and Conference Planners.
9:15 – 10:00	Moderated Panel - Reframing Our Future This moderated panel will include 3 youth citizens with a vision for our future. They will focus on key questions about defining community.
10:00 – 10:30	Key Note Speaker – Al Etmanski Breathing Life into Innovation. Paying tribute to the vital role passionate amateurs play in taking care of each other and their surroundings.
10:30-10:45	BREAK Please use your complimentary refreshment tickets.
10:45 – 11:20	Moderated Panel - Emerging Heroes This moderated panel will include 3 local citizens who take action to promote change. They will respond to key questions about engagement and contribution.
11:20 – 12:15	World Café Experience in Breakout Rooms After a brief introduction in the gym, participants will move to breakout rooms. SD 47 facilitators assisted by VIU students and community members will lead a World Cafe experience. This session is an opportunity to discuss thoughts and ideas from the morning activities and consider how they might inform our thinking and influence decisions as we move forward.
12:15 – 1:30	LUNCH Catered by the Young Adult Community Kitchen. Served in the gym. Lunch is by donation. Display tables hosted by local groups, organizations, and businesses will be available in room 134, 135, 148.
1:30 – 2:00	Key Note Listeners - What's Taking Shape?
2:00 – 3:15	Breakout Workshops Participants will move to breakout rooms and participate in the workshop they signed up for.
3:15 – 3:30	BREAK Please use your complimentary refreshment tickets.
3:30 – 4:30	Key Note Listeners - What's Taking Shape? What Next? Key Note Speaker and Conference Coordinator - Closing

NOTE: Film Maker – Claudia Medina and Graphic Recorder Wayne Hanson will be documenting our conference experience throughout the day. Participants are invited to visit room 151 during the Lunch break to be interviewed on film by Claudia Medina.

MODERATED PANEL - REFRAMING OUR FUTURE

When we reflect on the well-being of our community we naturally begin thinking about our younger citizens and their future. We want them to stay in our region and to thrive in this community. This moderated panel will include 3 youth citizens with a vision for our future. They will focus on key questions about defining community. The task for conference participants is to practice listening deeply.

Facilitator: Joel Benson - Joel is a theatre performer who moved to Powell River three years ago to pursue creative opportunities in this incredibly fertile community. He volunteers with CJMP Radio, and facilitates workshops in voice, slam poetry, and physical theatre.

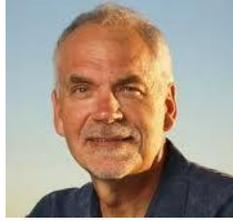
Panelists:

Devin Pielle - Devin Pielle is a 22 year old female from Sliammon First Nation. She has a 5 month old daughter who keeps her on her toes day and night. Devin is on Sliammon youth council, and has participated in a language revitalization program called first voices which can be found online. Devin is very active in her culture and is always spending time with her family.

Ruby Barclay – As a graduate from an outdoor education experience, Coast Mountain Academy opened many doors for Ruby. Creating diversity in our communities, empowering outdoor education, and creating options surrounding individual learning environments in our town are some of her many aspirations post-graduation. She now has been encouraged to further her studies in transformative therapies such as wilderness therapy, as her passion for instilling confidence in our next generation's leaders grows.

Aisha MaGrath - A passionate activist engaged in environmental and social challenges. Aisha is involved in community gardening projects like Permaculture and the CRC garden, local festival volunteer, and Coast Mountain Academy student.

My Personal Thoughts and Reflections:



KEY NOTE ADDRESS –BREATHING LIFE INTO INNOVATION,
AL ETMANSKI

Al is a curator, author, blogger (www.aletmanski.com), advocate and social entrepreneur specializing in innovative, multi-sector solutions to complex societal challenges. He is a founding partner in the national collaboration, Social Innovation Generation (SIG). (<http://sigeneration.ca>) SiG is dedicated to scaling up innovative solutions to deeply rooted social problems and exploring new methods of financing the social sector. His new book on social innovation should be out soon. Al is an Ashoka fellow, (<http://canada.ashoka.org>) and a faculty member of John McKnight's Asset Based Community Development Institute (ABCD) www.abcdinstitute.org He is co-founder of Planned Lifetime Advocacy Network (PLAN)(www.plan.ca). He proposed and led the successful campaign to establish the world's first savings plan for people with disabilities – the Registered Disability Savings Plan (www.RDSP.com). There are now more than a Billion dollars in deposits.

My Personal Thoughts and Reflections:

MODERATED PANEL – EMERGING HEROES

Our definition of leadership is changing rapidly. Increasingly we see that the leader is not just the person elected or in charge. It's not necessarily the charismatic person at the front of the room. Rather it is the citizen who is passionate about an issue and who acts to advance the well-being of us all. This moderated panel will include 3 local citizens who took action to promote positive change. They will respond to key questions about engagement and contribution.

Facilitator: Zoë Ludski – Zoë Ludski has a diverse background in both creative and technical work. As a Transmedia Artist her projects include 42 Fish, a weekly radio show on CJMP 90.1 FM, sound design for theatre and video and writing for broadcast and stage. She has developed programs and curricula in leadership, arts education, and social justice for adults and youth. Zoe is also the Program Director at CJMP, Powell River Community Radio Society.

Panelists:

Ron Berezan - Ron brings together a lifetime of exploring wild spaces with his passions for growing food and building community into the practise of permaculture design. Ten years ago, he started The Urban Farmer, a permaculture design and organic gardening business that serves communities throughout western Canada and beyond (see www.theurbanfarmer.ca).

Leta Burechailo - Leta is an outdoor enthusiast and local family physician with a community focus and special interests in child/adolescent health and nature-and-health connections. Her passions have converged in a few forms over the years - she was one of the birth mothers of the Wild Women Cycling Club and she currently coordinates the Discover-Imagine-Grow Schoolyard (DIGS) enhancement project at James Thomson.

Michelle Zutz - Purveyor of Kegs Michelle is a straight shooting, wise cracking, determinedly country mother of three, energized by the passion of her commitments. She is irreverent, boisterous and out-spoken. After 10 years on the international circuit with Ritchie Brothers Auctioneers, Michelle now calls Powell River home. Her enthusiasm for her kids, community and company are evident in her zest for life and infectious good cheer. Give her a call, mention beer...you'll see!

My Personal Thoughts and Reflections:

WORLD CAFÉ EXPERIENCE

SD #47 Facilitators, assisted by VIU students, will lead a Word Café experience. This session is an opportunity to discuss the thoughts and ideas from the panel presentations. We will consider how what we have learned might inform our thinking and influence our actions as we advance the well-being of our community.



My Personal Thoughts and Reflections:

LUNCH

When your World Café experience is finished, please return to the gym for lunch. Lunch is by donation and is catered by the Youth Action Community Kitchen.



The generous support of VIU, Inclusion BC, and PREP Society have enabled us to serve this meal. Our thanks also to the Let's Talk Trash team, the Community Resource Centre and the Sunshine Music Festival for helping us make this a Zero Waste event. It is our hope that you will continue your conversations through the lunch break and get to know one another. There are also 25 Display Tables showcasing local groups, organizations and businesses. Please visit them in rooms 134, 135, and 148.



Powell River Employment Program Society

PLEASE VISIT THE CONFERENCE DISPLAY TABLES

Many groups, organizations, and businesses contribute to our well-being. We invite you to visit rooms 134, 135 and 148 during the lunch hours to learn about some of these. While you visit the display tables and talk to the representatives hosting the tables, consider what they do that advances our well-being. Consider how you could help. Consider where the gaps might be and how they could be filled. BE INSPIRED.



Room 134

- Open Mind
- Townsite Brewing Inc.
- PR Voices
- Westcoast ACCESS
- Tourism Powell River
- Malaspina Land Conservancy
- Powell River Brain Injury Society

Room 135

- Powell River Sustainability Stakeholders' Reward Program
- Vital Signs
- Educare Functional Learning Systems; The Pack Press
- Terracentric Coastal Adventures Ltd.
- Powell River Association for Community Living
- Sunshine Organics and Ecosystems
- The Powell River PEAK

Room 148

- Powell River Living Magazine
- Coast Mountain Academy and the Outdoor Ecological Learning Department of School District #47
- Powell River Dollars
- Career Link
- Skookum Food Provisioners Cooperative
- PREP Society including Family Place, (Welcoming Communities, Safe Harbour, Interfaith Mosaic, Literacy, Immigrant Services Office and BOND)
- Edie Rae's Cafe and The Old Courthouse Inn
- Powell River Regional Economic Development Society – Business Retention and Expansion Program
- Let's Talk Trash
- First Credit Union

Interviews for Documentary Film – Room 151



Claudia Medina with the assistants of Zoë Ludski and Lisa Millar will be interviewing conference participants in Room 151 during the lunch break. If you would like to share your story about contribution or your thoughts about the conference please join her. Completed photo consent is required.

BREAKOUT WORKSHOP DETAILS

Information about the workshop you registered for and the room number are on the back of your name tag.

Nature Based Learning and Re-Inhabiting Shared Places

Presenters: Willow Dunlop, Karin Westland, Ryan Barfoot¹

Workshop Description: We start with the recognition that the all issues are environmental issues and most of our problems (social, political, economic, etc...) are rooted in our displacement. How can we mend this gap? How can we better understand our unique place in the greater ecosphere? How can we re-inhabit this cherished world?

Through the use of song, art and poetry we will explore the following:

- Some of the theoretical cornerstones of “nature deficit”
- Current research as it pertains to human/nature connections
- Our personal connections to loved places
- The relationship between (bio)diversity, nature, place, and self-identity

Through guided poetic writing, participants will have the unique opportunity to probe deeply into their connection with nature and place. A co-created poem (presented as spoken word), reflecting our shared connections to nature and places that have shaped who we are as individuals in a profoundly (bio)diverse collective, will emerge.

Room: 134

Capturing Compassion

Presenters: Chris Bratseth, Darren Bennett and Brooks Secondary Students

Workshop Description: This session will explore photography, in particular photovoice as a method for creating positive, community change. Photovoice is used to help individuals represent their community by taking pictures, discussing these images and constructing narratives that will help them take action. Participants will gain valuable skills in documenting and creating meaningful change in Powell River. This session will also introduce The Compassion Challenge - an event to challenge the entire community of Powell River - individuals, companies, schools and non-profits - to commit acts of compassion. On May 23, 2014 the community of Powell River will be challenged to document 10,000 acts of kindness in one day. Projects might include school beautification, tree planting, promoting peace, creating art for seniors or cleaning up graffiti in the community. A reflective exercise focusing on how community involvement is connected to wellness will close the session. Participants will contribute to collective, community wellness map!

Room: 135

¹ All Presenter Bios are included at the back section of the program.

First Nations Experience

Presenters: Tla'amin Elders – Elsie Paul, Eugene Louie and John Louie
Facilitated by Marlane Christensen

Workshop Description: The focal point for the hour long presentation will be a historic timeline dating back to the mid-1700's. The presentation will take the workshop participants through key points of the history of the Tla'amin people right through to 2015 or 2016. The presenters will recognize both negative impacts and positive opportunities. They will raise awareness of the potential for economic growth and success. The timeline will be the focus of the anticipated artifact. The presentation will end with comments about self-government or treaty implementation on the effective date.

Room: 148

Leadership Impact: Renewing Self and Others

Presenters: Sandra McDowell, MA

Workshop Description: Participants will learn about the Legacy Leadership® model, with the focus on leaders developing other leaders for long term growth and sustainability. The 5 Best Practices within the model embody the importance of vision and accountability, and the significance of relationships, inspiration, collaboration and inclusion. Participants will leave this session with a better understanding of leadership, their circle of influence, and the learner-judger mindset. The session is designed for aspiring and established leaders. Participants will be encouraged to re-evaluate and fine tune their leadership approach to ensure they are achieving their desired impact.

Room 151

Creating Community – Sharing our Gifts Through Art

Presenter: Sandy McCartie, MSW, RSW, BCATR

Workshop Description: A brief overview of Asset –Based Community Development will lead into a communal art-creating project with the directive towards visually depicting how individual assets and gifts build healthy community. A communally created art product along the lines of a mandala will emerge.

Room: 152

My Personal Thoughts and Reflections:

THE PEOPLE WHO CONTRIBUTED TO GROUNDSWELL 2014

Breakout Workshop Presenters

Ryan E. Barfoot

Ryan was eating dirt from day one. When the rains came and earth worms sought refuge on roadways, Ryan brought them to grassy salvation. From the land where the Eastern Hardwood forests meet the Canadian Shield, the rivers, lakes and valleys have always been Ryan's home. At 16 Ryan got his first job as a wilderness guide and ever since has been refining his practice and trying to better understand the conditions which make the profound probable. After graduating from the University of Victoria he completed his Bachelor of Education specializing in Outdoor and Experiential Learning at Queens University. Ryan completed a Masters of Education in Curriculum Development and Implementation at Simon Fraser University. His research interests include transformative education, contemporary Rites of Passage, place-based and ecological learning environments. Ryan has delivered environmental education programs at the grassroots and governmental level. He has worked with Parks Canada, BC Parks, the National Forest Service and the National Parks Service before building the Outdoor & Ecological Learning department for the Powell River School District. He also chairs the district Sustainable Schools Committee and is the program coordinator for the Coast Mountain Academy. Ryan has piloted new sustainability programs with the BC Ministry of Education, and speaks / delivers workshops in the areas of Environmental and Nature-based Education. With a passion for pretty much everything, he puts his heart and soul into all he does. Ryan is guided by his belief that a better world is possible and relentlessly endeavours to be a net benefit to the whole. He, his wife Karin, and son Wren currently live in the old Townsite (Powell River) on the Sunshine Coast BC, Canada.

Darren Bennett

Darren Bennett is a local secondary school teacher who has also instructed at the University of Victoria. He holds a Masters degree in visual arts. He has had success developing, building and sustaining innovative digital media and psychology programs through a passionate approach to education.

Chris Bratseth

Chris Bratseth is a secondary school teacher at Brooks and an instructor at Vancouver Island University. He holds a Masters degree in education. Chris has experience speaking to audiences around the world on the power of compassion.

Marlane Christensen

Marlane Christensen is a proud member of the Sliammon Nation where she currently resides with her husband, Tom, and her family. Currently, Marlane is the Manager of Training and Development for VIU. She also manages her own consulting business, *Common Ground Consulting*. Marlane is working toward her MA in Leadership, Health Specialization through Royal Roads University and plans to graduate in Fall 2015.

Willow Dunlop

Willow Dunlop began working with youth as a peer leader at Brooks Secondary School in Powell River. She went on to work in Vancouver in youth programs focused on community outreach and health education. Willow attended Simon Fraser University, earning degrees in English and Teaching, but was lured back every summer to Desolation Sound to work with eco-tour guides at Terracentric Adventures. During this time, Willow also pursued four years of training and became certified as a practitioner in the Hakomi Method: a therapeutic form of assisted self-study.

Growing up on a co-operative family farm in Lund, Willow fondly remembers wearing gum boots or bare feet, depending on the season, and spending summer nights camping at the beach or swimming in bioluminescence. Willow is deeply rooted in the region, and is delighted to be teaching in her home town. Away from the over-stimulation of the city, Willow is able to be more present in her relationships and all that she does. She appreciates the joy she feels when she smells low tide or hears the sound of wind swaying the tree tops. Willow relies on the natural environment to keep her healthy and inspired. She hopes that through her teaching, she will encourage Powell River youth to feel a strong sense of place, and a motivation to become stewards of this magnificent region.

Eugene Louie

Eugene Louie is an accomplished elected leader and respected Elder of the Sliammon Nation. As a Council Member, Eugene's focus has been health and environmental stewardship, youth, and recreation. Eugene is a respected Elder in Sliammon where he lives with his wife, Linda, and their large extended family.

John Louie

John Louie works on behalf of the Tla'amin Community Health Services as an advisor and counsellor. John has been instrumental in assisting survivors of residential school through the reconciliation process which continues today, and is a survivor himself. John is a respected leader and young Elder in Sliammon where he lives with his wife, Mary, and their large extended family.

Sandy McCartie

Sandy McCartie has worked in the community living movement for most of her adult life. Currently, she is an instructor in social work and disability studies at VIU and a clinical counsellor and Registered Art Therapist in private practice in Powell River.

Sandra McDowell

Sandra has extensive communication, marketing, coaching and leadership experience. She has studied Marketing, attained a Master of Arts in Leadership, received a Certified Executive Coach (CEC) designation, and was a recipient of a National and International Young Leaders Award. Sandra is certified to facilitate Expedition Coaching® and Legacy Leadership® workshops for small or large groups. Sandra is passionate about leadership development, coaching, corporate culture and employee engagement. Sandra shares this passion within her organization, and externally through speaking and workshops. As a senior leader for First Credit Union for over 15 years, she understands the challenges that businesses face. As VP of Communications & Culture, some of her most recent responsibilities include collaboration to develop a culture of relationship building, internal coaching, and leadership development. She is described by others as being inspirational, heartfelt, and someone who makes things happen. She 'shows up' as a leader and a coach with vibrancy and tenacity for accomplishment.

Dr. Elsie Paul

Dr. Elsie Paul is an accomplished Tla'amin Elder with a background in Social Development and Justice Reform. Dr. Paul is currently an Elder in Residence at VIU and has been on the Board of Directors for the Tsow Tun Le Lum Society treatment center for the past 25 years. Elsie has spent her life and career in service to others. She received an honorary doctorate degree from Vancouver Island University in 2010.

Elsie is a respected elder in Sliammon where she lives with her large extended family. Elsie Paul is one of the last surviving mother-tongue speakers of the Sliammon language. In her remarkable book set to be released in April 2014, *Written as I Remember It, Teachings (ʔms ta aw) from the Life of a Sliammon Elder*, Elsie collaborates with her granddaughter, Harmony Johnson, and a scholar, Paige Raibmon, to tell her life story and the history of her people, in her own words and storytelling style. Raised by her grandparents who took her on their seasonal travels,

Elsie spent most of her childhood learning Sliammon ways, teachings, and stories. She shares this traditional knowledge with future generations in *Written as I Remember It*.

Karin Westland

Karin Westland's life has been narrated by many landscapes. From her childhood in rural Colorado to her youth in the lake country of Northern Ontario, wild places have shaped who Karin is. With a strong connection to nature, Karin pursued a Bachelors of Arts in Environmental Geography and English from the University of Victoria. From there, she made her way to Kingston Ontario to pursue a Bachelor's of Education in Outdoor and Experiential Learning at Queen's University. Recently Karin completed her Masters of Education at Simon Fraser University. Over the last 12 years, she has worked as an Outdoor and Sustainability Educator in the non-profit sector, National Parks, and the public education system. As cofounder and teacher in the Sustainability and Ecological Education Department in the Powell River School District, she has had countless opportunities to connect young people with the outdoors in a meaningful way. In her current position as the Sustainability Coordinator with the Powell River School District, Karin works with the Ministry of Education on related pilot projects and presently oversees the implementation of a variety of district-wide sustainability initiatives including Destination Conservation and our district's sustainability newsletter, The Green Glance. Karin is inspired by community, music, and running long distances on rainy west coast days. With a strong vision that a more sustainable world is possible, she continues to keep an open mind, dedicating herself wholly to making the world a more equitable and sustainable place to live.

Conference Organizers

Sara Blum

Based in Powell River, BC, Sara is the Coordinator of the Powell River Diversity Initiative (PRDI), an organization that promotes understanding, acceptance, and celebration of human diversity. Building relationships with a wide variety of people from all walks of life is one of Sara's key strengths. Her aptitude in this area has helped her to connect with a variety of organizations, agencies, and individuals and build lasting relationships that brings to life the work that PRDI is doing. As the PRDI Coordinator, Sara can be found writing funding proposals, managing existing projects, and developing new diversity-related projects. She is an avid traveler and someone who has been a newcomer to other cultures therefore has some understanding of how important it is for people to begin to have a feeling of belonging to the community within which they live.

Maureen Mason

Maureen has worked as a Faculty Associate in the Faculty of Education at Simon Fraser University for the past 15 years. Her interest is in processes for community engagement that build understanding, support genuine inclusion and reflect elements of deep democracy. More specifically she is interested in ways to include ALL voices so power is re-distributed and cultural currency shared.

Malerie Meeker

Malerie is an Adjunct Faculty Member in Health and Human Services at VIU. She currently teaches in the Disability Studies Diploma program and has been with VIU since 2002. In addition to teaching at VIU, Malerie has a consulting and training business, working with government and non-profit agencies across Canada. The majority of Malerie's career has been in the community living sector - as an early childhood educator, special education assistant, program staff, supervisor and executive director, educator, and facilitator. She completed a Master of Arts in Leadership at Royal Roads University in May of 2003. Malerie writes that what is most important about her is that she is a mom and grandmother, with five adult children and six grandchildren. Her partner John is retired and an avid fly-fisher. When she is not working, her favourite past times are traveling with John and her lap top (not a fly rod!!) and pottering in her veggie garden.

David Morris

David Morris is the Executive Director of Powell River Model Community Project for Persons with Disabilities and Director, Employment Services, Advocacy and Innovation for the Powell River Association for Community Living. In addition, he serves on the board of the Powell River Regional Economic Development Society. David has worked extensively in promoting the rights of persons with multiple barriers and creating accessibility for all persons in the community.

Janet Newbury

Janet Newbury is an Assistant Professor at the University of Victoria where she enjoys research and teaching, and is an engaged member of the Powell River community. She serves on a number of local committees and boards including the Powell River Diversity Initiative, Powell River Voices, the Sunshine Musicfest, and the Community Resource Centre. The rest of her time is usually spent socializing around a table or fire, running, reading, and writing.

Paul Schachter

Paul Schachter is lawyer involved in community facilitation and human rights. He is President of the Powell River Employment Program (PREP) Society, Vice President of the Powell River Community Foundation and a Director of the Powell River Diversity Initiative (PRDI), the Society for the Advancement of Local Sustainable Agriculture (SALSA) and the Pacific Region International Summer Music Academy (PRISMA). He is the Chair of the Catalyst Paper Corporation-Community Stakeholder Committee. He also serves as a Director of the BC Civil Liberties Association.

Rob Southcott

Rob represented PR Voices on the committee. He brought context and vision to the conversation. Rob is contributing his enormous skill to our day as our conference First Aid Attendant.

Alison Taplay

Alison coordinates Disability Studies for Vancouver Island University. This innovative second year program builds on the School and Community Support Worker program, providing important pathways to degree opportunities. In this capacity she has developed expertise as an adult educator and now uses blended delivery models to make Powell River programs accessible to the BC Coastal Region. She brings nearly 30 years of experience in the community living sector in both BC and Ontario to her teaching practice as well as expertise in K-12 classroom settings. She has extensive experience facilitating personal networks within the context of building community capacity. She is passionate about social justice, citizen engagement, and sustainable community development and is now conducting community-engaged research funded by the Vancouver Foundation. Alison sees innovation as an essential tool for change. She serves on the First Credit Union Board of Directors and is a member of Inclusion BC, and the Powell River and Region United Way. Her personal interests include hiking, kayaking, gardening and sustainable living.

School and Community Support Worker Practicum Students

Megan Barker
Joanie Chestnut
Jacqueline Cockwell
Tracy Copp

Arlene Doyle
Stu Ellis
Taralyn Gray
Jan Hilton

Tanya Kurtz
Lisa Millar
Rebecca Nygard
Jaime Seale

Jeff Stekman
Angelina Williams

World Café Facilitators

Wendy Adams

Wendy Adams has lived in Powell River since the young age of 5, growing up behind 'the lake'. She attended SFU, earning a Bachelor of Education and returned to Powell River with her husband, to raise their family close to Grandmas and Grandpas. Wendy loves teaching young children, is currently the Professional Development Coordinator for the school district, and the Vice-President of the BC Primary Teachers Association. She enjoys hiking, gardening and playing at the beach.

Joanie Chestnut

Joanie Chestnut is partway through the SCSW programme at VIU. She is a resident of the Comox Valley where she is involved in various community building projects and leadership activities with local and international students. Her work as a massage therapist and as a support worker for a man with a brain injury gives her tremendous respect for the human body and mind and the ability to make change.

Pamela Ellis

Pamela Ellis was raised in Powell River. She moved to Vernon, Kelowna and Victoria to complete her Bachelor of Science and a Post Degree Professional Program for Teaching. She moved back to Powell River and teaches at Brooks Secondary School. She is very glad that she and her husband decided to move back here to raise their family in this wonderful community.

Stu Ellis

Stu grew up in Vancouver, loved the outdoors, so he got a degree in Forestry at UBC, and afterward became a Registered Professional Forester. He enjoyed a career in the forest industry on Vancouver Island from 1975 until he retired in 2009. Still having some energy and wanting a purpose for his life, he enrolled in the Vancouver Island University School and Community Support Worker Program. He is anticipating making a positive difference in the lives of a few people with disabilities. He also wants to make a positive difference in the lives of his wife, three children and five grandchildren.

Jan Hilton

An example of lifelong learning and multiple careers, Jan is nearing completion of the School and Community Support Worker program. Jan is excited to help co-facilitate the café, and experience the energy that the exchange of ideas generates.

Caroline Hoekstra

Caroline Hoekstra grew up in Powell River. After high school, Caroline attended the University of Victoria and completed an undergraduate degree in elementary education. Caroline returned to her hometown, beginning her career teaching on Texada Island. Over the years, Caroline has taught grades Kindergarten to grade 8, as well as teaching the Apprentice Choir at the Academy of Music. Recently, Caroline completed her Masters of Education through the University of Calgary. Currently, Caroline teaches a grade 4/5 class at Westview Elementary School.

Jacqueline Mckinty

Jacqueline was born and raised Victoria B.C. She attended the University of Victoria and completed a Bachelor of Arts. After graduation, she moved to Texada Island and began her teaching career as a Kindergarten Teacher. Throughout her teaching career, she has taught both Elementary and Middle School students. She has worked as a

special education teacher and a school counselor. She is presently living in Powell River and enjoying her job teaching grade 3/4 at Westview Elementary.

Maureen Mason (see above)

Young Adult Community Kitchen

Young Adult Community Kitchen (YACK) is a free drop-in cooking program where 17-25 year olds can come to cook, chat and eat together. Every Friday at 12pm we gather at the Community Resource Centre kitchen and try out all kinds of different recipes and foods. We learn about food and cooking as we go along (sometimes we have guest chefs along to teach us new recipes), but mainly we just have fun creating and sitting down to a great meal each week. If you would like to join us, contact Program Coordinator Vanessa Sparrow at yack@prepsociety.org, or find us on Facebook.

Vanessa Sparrow, Coordinator

Vanessa is an experienced community developer and health educator who moved to BC ten years ago from Sydney, Australia. She coordinates the Young Adult Community Kitchen (YACK) and has just taken on the role of Food Security Program Coordinator for Powell River. She is a passionate vegetable grower and home cook, and can't believe her luck that she gets to live here and talk about food all the time.

Dana Percy, Program Assistant

YACK Participants: Angela Hicks, Arialyn Zlatner, Bradley Badger, Gary Thornton, Jordyn McGregor, Marie Little
YACK Volunteer: Liz Lane

Vancouver Island University

Contracted Services

Graham Mahy, In a Fix Building Maintenance
Melany Hallam, Maywood Design
Food for Thought Café, Source Club

Our Staff

Thanks to the entire VIU team for their support. Special mention to:

Michael Boquist, Programmer Analyst, Web Management
Barb McKay, Campus Services Clerk, Powell River Campus Administration
Jody Patterson, Technician, Computer Services Powell River
Arlette Raaen, Campus Principal
Judy Scott, Technician Support Representative, Computer Services Powell River
Ann Trousdell, Senior Library Assistant/Bookstore Clerk – PR, Library Administration

A special thanks to the VIU Instructors who rearranged their schedules and classrooms to accommodate the conference.

Elders in Residence

Dr. Elsie Paul
Eugene Louie

Vancouver Island University Research and Scholarly Activity Committee (VIURAC)

Thanks to the Research and Scholarly Activity Committee who awarded Alison Taplay a grant of \$4000 to develop and host this community engaged research conference at the VIU Powell River campus.

**OUR SPECIAL THANKS
TO THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS THAT CONTRIBUTED TO THE SUCCESS OF THE
GROUNDSWELL 2014 CONFERENCE**

Inclusion BC

-who donated and prepared participant nametags, sponsored lunch, and provided t-shirts for our hosts.



The Powell River Association for Community Living

-who donated tables and other equipment.



The Powell River Diversity Initiative

-for creating the film Defining Diversity, Creating Community. Your work has inspired so many.



**AND FINALLY, TO THE DEFINING DIVERSITY: CREATING COMMUNITY PROJECT LEADS AND
COMMUNITY SUPPORTERS.**



Powell River Employment Program Society



We are grateful for our support from the

vanouver
foundation

THE FIRST STORY OF THE PADDLE

Chief Shawn Atleo (A-in-chut), Vancouver Island University's first Chancellor, wanted a gift that signified a journey because he comes from a canoeing and whaling culture. Paddles signified moving together, pulling together, working together in a canoe. When in big water, people are completely relying on others in a canoe. The paddle represents the journey in both a physical and spiritual sense: when the paddle is being stroked in the water, we can only see half of it. The spiritual side we cannot see. Being part of a team in the water is something that touches a person forever, just like the experience of attending school. The paddle was made by Brian Bob, Qwuyutsapulth of the Coast Salish/Uclulet, who now lives in Sna naw as (Nanoose). The gift of the paddle represents the journey people go on while following their educational goals. It is made of yellow cedar, and although it is very beautiful, it is functional. The salmon were included to signify the journey. They leave, but travel upstream to come home. That is why we educate our youth with the hope that they will bring back their learning to their communities. The copper points are the eggs of the salmon glinting with suggestion at the connection to the next generation. Although this paddle is beautiful artwork, it is given with the hope that it will be used. Dip it in the water the first day of a significant journey; dip it again on the last day. Use it as a talking stick or in ceremonies. Keep it where people can touch it, feel it, and hold it. It will start to turn, fade, as part of its journey, and this honours the living culture.

(Retrieved from <http://pr.viu.ca/campus/documents/FirstStory.pdf>)

