



**Minutes of the Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee meeting held Thursday April 24, 2025, CRD Boardroom, 6th floor, 625 Fisgard Street**

**Present:**

M. Little (Chair), K. Guiry (Vice Chair), J. Bateman (EP), C. Beaton (for C. Lervold) (EP), C. Chaytors (EP), S. Kim, K. Marshall (EP), B. McElroy (EP), M. McLean, T. O'Keefe (EP), M. Olsen (EP), E. Paterson, S. Rapoport (EP), S. Riddell, M. Westhaver (EP)

**Staff:** S. Orr, Senior Committee Clerk; M. Essery, Recorder (EP)

**Guests:** E. James, Umbrella Society; K. Petersen, Youth Empowerment Society; R. Labelle, Honeycomb Webworks (EP); J. McLaren, Access Pro Bono, (EP); R. Stanton, District of Highlands (EP)

**Regrets:** K. Armour, D. Brown, A. Holeton, C. Lervold, T. Vanwell

The meeting was called to order at 11:35 am.

**1. Territorial Acknowledgement**

Chair Little provided a Territorial Acknowledgement.

**2. Approval of the Agenda**

**MOVED** by S. Kim, **SECONDED** by M. McLean,

That the agenda for Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee meeting of April 24, 2025 be approved.

**CARRIED**

**3. Adoption of Minutes**

**3.1 Minutes of the Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee Meeting of January 23, 2025**

**MOVED** by K. Guiry, **SECONDED** by S. Kim,

That the minutes of Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee meeting of January 23, 2025 be adopted.

**CARRIED**

**3.2 Notes of the Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee Steering Committee meeting of April 10, 2025**

**MOVED** by S. Kim, **SECONDED** by S. Riddell,

That the notes of the Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Steering Committee meeting of April 10, 2025 be received.

**CARRIED**

**4. Chairperson's Remarks**

There were no Chair's remarks.

## **5. Presentations/Delegations**

### **5.1 Resource Agencies**

There were no presentations.

### **5.2 Jamie Maclaren KC, Barrister & Solicitor**

J. Bateman introduced J. Maclaren.

Jamie is Access Pro Bono's Founding Executive Director. He's a practising civil litigator and a former Executive Director of the UBC Law Students' Legal Advice Program and Pro Bono Law of BC. He volunteers as a law instructor for people overcoming homelessness and addiction and regularly provides pro bono legal services in his East Vancouver community. He's also a Life Bencher of the Law Society of BC. In 2019, Jamie conducted an external review of legal aid service delivery in BC for the province's Attorney General. [Jamie Maclaren](#), Executive Director, [Access Pro Bono](#), and author, [Roads to Revival: An External Review of Legal Aid Service Delivery in British Columbia](#) (Also see 2021 [VFCYJC advocacy letter to the Province re: this review](#)) He joined us for our 2021 Annual General Meeting and VFCYJC is delighted to welcome him back today. Mr. Maclaren shared a PowerPoint presentation with the committee. The link to the PowerPoint presentation will be emailed to committee members after this meeting. Mr. Maclaren was thanked for joining us and for his work.

### **5.3 Evan James, Manager of Strategic Initiatives, Umbrella Society:**

Evan presented the Grant outcomes report "Navigating Substance Use and Mental Health for Students" and presented the Umbrella Society for Addictions and Mental Health Grant Report. He expressed gratitude for receiving funding from VFCYJC and stressed the importance of meeting youth where they're at.

## **6. Committee Business**

### **6.1 Election of Treasurer**

The Chair called for nominations for the position of Treasurer of the Victoria Family Court & Youth Justice Committee for 2025.

M. McLean nominated E. Paterson. E. Paterson accepted the nomination.

The Chair called for nominations a second time.

The Chair called for nominations a third and final time.

Hearing no further nominations, the Chair declared E. Paterson for the position of Treasurer of the Victoria Family Court & Youth Justice Committee for 2025.

### **6.2 Annual Open House 2025, City of Victoria Ante Chamber, Wednesday, May 28, 3 to 6 p.m.**

There will be a future offline meeting about the invitations and reminders.

### **6.3. Integrated Regional Teams/Units for Greater Victoria 2022-2023 Annual Report (shared for the Committee's information by Marcie McLean)**

M. McLean spoke to Item 6.3.

Discussion ensued regarding hosting a panel discussion at a future meeting with the purpose of sharing and increased awareness between the regional police units.

## **7. Sub-Committee Business**

### **7.1 Priorities and Grants (M. McLean)**

**7.1.1 Evan James, Manager of Strategic Initiatives for Umbrella Society: Grant outcomes report re: the [Navigating Substance Use and Mental Health for Students](#) program.**

M. McLean spoke to Item 7.1.1.

**MOVED by M. McLean, SECONDED by K. Guiry,  
That this report be received for information.  
CARRIED**

### **7.2 Capital Region Action Team for Sexually Exploited Youth (B. McElroy)**

#### **7.2.1 MYST West Shore working group update**

B. McElroy spoke to Item 7.2.1.

**MOVED by B. McElroy, SECONDED by K. Guiry,  
That this report be received for information.  
CARRIED**

#### **7.2.2. CRAT Meeting notes of April 15, 2025**

B. McElroy spoke to Item 7.2.2.

**MOVED by B. McElroy, SECONDED by K. Guiry,  
That the CRAT meeting notes of April 15, 2025 be received for information.  
CARRIED**

### **7.3 Family and Youth Matters (R. Stanton).**

There was no report.

### **7.4 Court Watch (M. Little)**

#### **7.4.1 Discussion about need, feasibility and future of this sub-committee**

This discussion will be tabled until the June 26, 2025 meeting.

### **7.5. Communications (J. Bateman)**

#### **7.5.1. Website update –Honeycomb Web Services’ Ryan Labelle**

R. Labelle briefly shared recommendations on how to improve the committee’s website. R. Labelle will be invited back to the June 26, 2025 meeting and he was asked to email a proposal that would be shared with committee members.

**7.5.2. Future meeting speakers** – June 26 ~ Dr. Rebecca Nelems, author of the MYST Business Case Report; for consideration: Foundry’s Kathy Easton; BC Representative of Children & Youth Jennifer Charlesworth; Cedar Dodd, BC First Nations Justice Council; Cheryl Chaytors, Boys and Girls Club; representative of the Victoria Native Friendship Centre; representative from the Integrated Regional Domestic Violence Unit.

#### **7.5.3. SPLO Backgrounder updated April 15, 2025**

This was shared for committee members information.

#### **7.5.4. Deletion or pause on posting to the VFCYJC X account Communications**

J. Bateman spoke to Item 7.5.4.

**MOVED by J. Bateman, SECONDED by S. Kim,  
To pause posting on X account.  
CARRIED**

#### **8. Treasurer's Report**

There was no report.

#### **9. New Business**

There was no new business.

#### **10. Correspondence**

**10.1. Letter from The District of North Saanich, dated February 28, 2025**

**10.2. Letter from The District of Highlands, dated February 21, 2025**

**MOVED by M. McLean, SECONDED by S. Kim,  
That the correspondence be received for information.  
CARRIED**

#### **11. Notice(s) of Motion**

**11.1. Motion with Notice from Jeff Bateman submitted Jan. 23, 2025:**

**MOVED BY J. Bateman, SECONDED By K. Guiry,  
THAT Chair Little write BC Attorney General Nikki Sharma in support of recommendations raised with the Committee by the Be Amazing campaign's Cathy Peters, namely:**

- **Funding/training for law enforcement to better enforce the federal Protection of Communities and Exploited Persons Act.**
- **A BC provincial public awareness campaign.**
- **A human trafficking task force in BC similar to those in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario.**

**CARRIED**

#### **12. Adjournment**

**MOVED by K. Guiry, SECONDED by S. Kim,  
That the Victoria Family Court & Youth Justice Committee meeting of April 24, 2025 be adjourned at 1:23 pm.  
CARRIED**

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Chair

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Committee Clerk