



**Minutes of the Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee meeting held
Thursday, February 26, 2026, CRD Boardroom, 6th floor, 625 Fisgard Street**

PRESENT:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: M. Little (Chair), K. Guiry (Vice Chair), J. Bateman, J. Crawford, S. Kim, K. Marshall (EP), M. McLean, T. O'Keefe (EP), M. Olsen (EP), S. Rappaport, S. Riddell (EP), R. Stanton, T. Vanwell (EP), B. Gash, M. Westhaver (EP)

STAFF: T. Pillipow, Senior Committee Clerk, Legislative Services; M. Essery (Recording Secretary) (EP)

EP - Electronic Participation

Guests/Resource Members: K. Easton, Director of Implementation, Foundry BC, West Shore, Sooke & Port Renfrew; A. Schactman, Former Clinical Coordinator, Foundry BC, Victoria; H. David, Intern (UVIC), Foundry BC; R. Labelle, Honeycomb Webworks; K. Petersen, Operations Director, Youth Empowerment Society; J. Hunter, Executive Director, Youth Empowerment Society

Regrets: K. Armour, D. Brown, C. Day, C. Lervold, M. Wagner

The meeting was called to order at 11:34 am.

1. Territorial Acknowledgement

Vice Chair Guiry provided a Territorial Acknowledgement.

2. Approval of the Agenda

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

That the agenda for the Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee meeting of February 26, 2026 be approved as amended to move item 11.1. Motion with Notice to be considered under Committee Business as Item 6.2.

CARRIED

3. Adoption of Minutes

3.1. Minutes of the Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee Meeting of January 22, 2026

MOVED by S. Kim, **SECONDED** by J. Bateman,

That the minutes of the Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee meeting of January 22, 2026 be adopted.

CARRIED

3.2. Notes of the Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee Steering Committee meeting of February 12, 2026

MOVED by K. Guiry, **SECONDED** by S. Kim,
That the notes of the Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Steering Committee meeting of February 12, 2026 be received for information.
CARRIED

4. Chairperson's Remarks

The Chair thanked all for being here and reinforced that the committee's two aims are to educate and to advocate.

5. Presentations/Delegations

There were no delegations.

5.1. Resource Agencies

There were no presentations from resource agencies.

5.2. Foundry BC Presentation

Invited guests from Foundry BC delivered a [comprehensive overview](#) (PDF) of the peer-supported, on-demand, low-barrier services offered to British Columbians aged 12-24 both [online](#) and at 19 [Foundry locations](#) across BC (with 16 more in development). Some 56k individuals in this age group have opted in since 2018, many developing safe and trusting long-term relationships with staff.

Rooted in the [social determinants of health and wellness](#), Foundry [services](#) include primary care (physical and mental health, substance use support) as well as [employment](#), housing and food security supports. These address the urgent need for centralized, youth-centred interventions in the face of system navigation challenges, the barriers faced by marginalized youth and the rising tide of anxiety, youth suicides and overdose deaths.

While the Ministry of Health provides [start-up and annual funding](#), each branch must fundraise for operational needs such as drop-in counselling and administrative support. To that end, committee members were invited to become [Foundry champions](#) and do their part to raise awareness, identify donors and secure multi-year sustainable funding.

Leads on the following should be sent to Ms. Easton via [email](#).

- **Financial support:** Through direct contributions, allocating discretionary funds, or hosting/championing a fundraising initiative that benefits Foundry.

- **Community connections:** Introductions to local businesses, service clubs, foundations, and individual philanthropists who may be interested in supporting youth mental health in their communities.
- **In-kind contributions:** Support such as land opportunities, construction materials, professional services, advertising, or other community assets that can help reduce capital or operating costs.
- **Advocacy and awareness:** Using their platforms to raise awareness about Foundry's impact, champion youth mental health, and reinforce the importance of sustained investment in integrated youth services.

6. Committee Business

6.1. 2025 Annual Report

**MOVED by J. Bateman, SECONDED by K. Guiry,
To Amend 2025 Annual Report and circulate when final financials are
available.
CARRIED**

6.2. Motion with Notice: VFCYJC Advocacy Letter to Central Saanich Police Board Re: Mobile Youth Services Team (S. Kim)

**MOVED BY S. Kim, SECONDED BY S. Riddell,
That the Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee write a letter to the Central Saanich Police Board advocating for the Mobile Youth Services Team. This will include the Panel presentation notes and be copied to all partners as well as Victoria RCMP, West Shore RCMP, Central Saanich RCMP and Saanich RCMP.
CARRIED**

7. Sub-Committee Business

7.1 Priorities and Grants (M. McLean)

Priorities Chair M. McLean shared that the Priorities Committee had recently received a grant application from Shoreline and that this application will be reviewed in the near future.

7.1.1. Victoria Youth Empowerment Society – Final Grant Report (J. Hunter)

The Victoria Youth Empowerment Society presented information from their Final Report from a grant received by the Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee. They shared how grateful they were for the committee's support.

7.2. Capital Region Action Team for Sexually Exploited Youth

There was no report.

7.2.1. Formal Appointment of CRAT Chair

Congratulations to R. Stanton who is the new C.R.A.T. Chair. B. McElroy will help with the transition.

7.2.2. Presentation on the History and Purpose of CRAT

R. Stanton shared this information and will email it to our secretary so that it can be shared with our members and on our website.

7.2.3. Mobile Youth Services Team Update

Tabled until a future meeting.

7.3. Youth and Family Matters (R. Stanton)

R. Stanton provided the BC Coroner Service Report: Child Mortality in BC 2020-2024 for information.

7.4. Court Watch (M. Little)

M. Little will remain Chair. Thanks to B. Gash who has volunteered to help with this subcommittee.

7.4.1. Revival of the Sub-Committee to Focus on Legislation and Service/System Gaps

Tabled until a future meeting.

7.5. Communications (J. Bateman)

J. Bateman will remain Chair of the Communications Subcommittee.

7.5.1. Draft Calls to Action (M. McLean)

M. McLean is working on it. Tabled until a future meeting.

K. Marshall left the meeting at 12:50 p.m.

S. Riddell left the meeting at 12:52 pm.

7.5.2. VFCYJC Website (R. Labelle, Honeycomb Webworks)

R. Labelle submitted a Proposal for Enhancing Digital Engagement and Website Infrastructure.

There was no motion made as this money is already in our budget and the committee thanked Ryan for his work to improve the efficiency of our website.

7.5.3. Future Guest Speakers

The April 26 VFCYJC Guest Speakers will be M. Golden and L. Nelson from the Pacific Centre Family Services Association.

Other potential speakers identified for future meetings: Hon. Jodie Wickens, Minister of Children & Family Development; a representative from the BC Child and Youth Mental Health division; a representative from the Victoria Native Friendship Centre; Colin Tessier, Threshold Housing Society; a representative from the BC First Nations Justice Council; Hon. Nikki Sharma, Attorney General; and a representative from the Victoria Bar Association (sponsor of Law Day).

7.5.4. Open House 2026

A working group consisting of J. Crawford, M. Essery, K. Guiry, and M. Little was formed for the Resource Agencies Networking Reception. There was a suggestion of having youth speakers from the Youth Empowerment Society. A possible date is May 27, 2026 at the Victoria City Hall antechambers.

7.5.5. Draft Report on the Panel Discussion of October 23, 2025

Tabled until a future meeting.

8. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer J. Bateman reported on the process transferring CRAT funds from the District of Oak Bay to the VFCYJC account managed by the CRD.

9. New Business

9.1. Succession Planning and the Qualification Matrix

Committee members are encouraged to complete the Qualification Matrix and email it to vfamcourt@gmail.com.

A reminder that we're looking for CRD appointments and the CRD will advertise for interested individuals.

9.2. Future Meeting in Central Saanich or Another Host Municipality

Chair Little will liaise with S. Riddell about hosting the April 23, 2026 VFCYJC meeting in Central Saanich.

9.3. BC Coroner Service Report: Child Mortality in BC 2020-2024

The link to the final report is [here](#).

10. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

11. Motion With Notice

11.1. Motion with Notice: VFCYJC Advocacy Letter to Central Saanich Police Board Re: Mobile Youth Services Team (S. Kim)

Item 11.1 was moved to be considered as item 6.2.

12. Adjournment

MOVED BY M. McLean, SECONDED BY S. Kim,

That the Victoria Family Court & Youth Justice Committee meeting of February 26, 2026 be adjourned at 1:27 pm.

CARRIED

Chair

Committee Clerk