

April 18, 2018

NOTICE OF POSITION: MEMBER OF BC ABORIGINAL JUSTICE COUNCIL

Applications are being sought from persons interested in participating as a member of the BC Aboriginal Justice Council (BCAJC).

The BCAJC is composed of 7 individuals: One (1) representative appointed by each of the respective political organizations of the First Nations Summit (FNS), Union of BC Indian Chiefs (UBCIC) and the BC Assembly of First Nations (BCAFN), according to their own protocol and accord of appointments, for a total of three (3) representatives; one (1) representative appointed from the Board of Directors of the Native Courtworker and Counselling Association of BC; and three (3) representatives with expertise in Aboriginal Justice in BC, on or off reserve, to be jointly appointed by the respective organizations of the NCCABC, BCAFN, FNS, and UBCIC.

Background

The BC Aboriginal Justice Council has been active since July 2015.

In 2007, the First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC), which consists of the BCAFN, FNS and UBCIC, held a BC First Nations Justice Forum to provide an opportunity for collaboration on issues related to First Nations justice. The Justice Forum resulted in a draft BC First Nations Action Plan, which was distributed for approval to all BC First Nations. Resolutions for its implementation were subsequently passed in support of the Council.

In 2013, the Native Courtworker and Counselling Association of British Columbia (NCCABC) initiated work on the Justice Council with the FNLC, approving a strategic direction outlined in “Better Outcomes for Aboriginal People and the Justice System: An NCCABC Strategy Framework to Reduce the Overrepresentation of Aboriginal Children, Youth and Adults in the Child Protection and Criminal Justice Systems in BC”. In 2014 work was reinitiated by the NCCABC with the FNLC through the passing of additional resolutions, with NCCABC acting as host agency of the BCAJC.

As the host agency, NCCABC is responsible for securing and administering the required resources needed for the Justice Council in addition to establishing work plans to support ongoing operations.

The BCAJC members are appointed for a fixed term of three years. This is the 2nd term of the BCAJC.



Purpose

The BCAJC is a multi-agency leadership initiative that convenes regularly to prioritize actions based upon resolutions of the BCAFN, UBCIC, FNS and NCCABC. The Justice Council aims to:

- Challenge approaches that contribute to the growing overrepresentation of Indigenous children and youth in the care of government, and Indigenous men and women in incarceration; and
- Productively engage with the government to advance effective strategies that can achieve better outcomes for our people in the justice system.

The BCAJC is accountable to all Indigenous people in BC. The Justice Council reports to, and takes direction from, the NCCABC, BCAFN, FNS, and UBCIC through regularly scheduled meetings with the NCCABC and the First Nations Leadership Council and the assemblies of its member organizations.

The BCAJC communicates on a regular basis with First Nation Leadership, Indigenous people, and the BC public, of its ongoing work.

The success of the BCAJC is exhibited by its significant work to date, including:

- The signed Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Attorney General, the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General and the BCAJC regarding the development of an Indigenous Justice Strategy.
- A statement from the BCAJC on the criminal justice system in Canada in response to the verdict in the murder trial of Gerald Stanley. <http://bcajc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/BCAJC-statement-on-Colten-Boushie-Verdict-11-Feb-2018-Final.pdf>
- A statement from the BCAJC on the not-guilty verdict in the trial of Raymond Cormier for the murder of Tina Fontaine. <http://bcajc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/BCAJC-statement-on-Tina-Fontaine-Verdict-26-Feb-2018-Final.pdf>

Required Skills and Qualifications

Applicants must have the following skills and qualifications:

- Expertise in the justice system as it impacts Indigenous and First Nations people both on or off reserve
- Knowledge of Indigenous and government issues in BC
- Knowledge and understanding of roles and responsibilities of a member on a council, board, or other governing body
- Experience in how Indigenous justice intersects with other sectors, which may include: Health, Children and Families, Education
- Leadership experience and proven capacity to work collaboratively—this might be from a variety of settings such as Band level, justice system, academic, etc.

Personal Attributes

Applicants must exhibit the following personal attributes:

- High ethical standards and integrity in professional and personal dealings



- Appreciation of accountability to the public
- Ability and willingness to raise/deal with potentially controversial issues in a manner that encourages/maintains dialogue
- Commitment to work from a non-biased perspective promoting equality for women and men
- Flexibility, responsiveness and willingness to consider others' opinions
- Capable of wide perspective on issues
- Ability to listen and work as a team member
- No direct or indirect conflict of interest with a member's responsibility to the organization
- Strong reasoning skills

Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Be of Indigenous ancestry and currently reside in British Columbia
- Have experience in Indigenous justice
- Be willing and prepared to attend at least 4 regular meetings annually and one possible province-wide forum on justice issues, and be willing to participate in sub-committees of the BC Aboriginal Justice Council

Time Commitment

The BCAJC meets as required, no less than four times per year. These meetings take place in-person or via teleconference.

Remuneration

Individual Members of the BCAJC are compensated for their involvement in alignment with all federal and provincial rules and guidelines.

Application Process

The deadline for interested applicants to submit a resume and cover letter stating their qualifications is 4:00 p.m. on May 15, 2018.

Please submit to the following:

Attention:

"Notice of Position"

Darlene Shackelly, Executive Director

Native Courtworker and Counselling Association of BC 207-1999 Marine Drive

North Vancouver, BC V7P 3J3

Via email: dshackelly@nccabc.net

All documents referenced in this notice and other guiding documents can be found at:

<http://bcajc.ca/information-and-updates/>