

April 1, 2010

		INT
	DW	
✓	GJ	JS
	KY	
	DB	

0100-20
R FCO 1.0

Mr. David Weber, Director
City Clerk's Office
2nd Floor, City Hall
Richmond, B.C. V6Y 2C1

Dear Mr. Weber:

Re: Delegation Request – Monday, April 26, 2010

We would like to request to attend as a delegation to Council on Monday, April 26, 2010 in order to present the 2009 Annual Report for the Richmond Family and Youth Court Committee (RFYCC).

Please notify us at the email addressES below with regard to the time for this presentation.

Yours truly,

Teresa Vozza
Teresa Vozza, Chair
Richmond Family and Youth Court Committee
tvozza@shaw.ca
gejobro@telus.net c.c.

TV/sj





Richmond Family and Youth Court Committee (RFYCC)

Annual Report

2009

RICHMOND FAMILY and YOUTH COURT COMMITTEE (RFYCC)
2009 ANNUAL REPORT

Table of Contents

1.	Background Information	2
2.	2009 Membership	3
3.	Co-Chairperson's Report.....	4
4.	Sub-Committee Reports:	
	a) Court Watch Committee	8
	b) Richmond Community Services Advisory Committee	8
	c) 2009 Conference Committee.....	10
5.	Mandate – Family Court Committee.....	12
6.	Youth Criminal Justice Act Mandate	13

Attachments:

2009 Family Court Statistics (attachment 1)
2009 Youth Court Statistics (attachment 2)
2009 Family Violence Court Statistics (attachment 3)
Family Violence 2009 Conference Information Package (attachment 4)
Family Violence 2009 Conference Round Table Discussion Minutes (attachment 5)

Background Information

The Family and Youth Court Committee is provided for in law under the Provincial Court Act and the Youth Criminal Justice Act.

The Committee is community based and is accountable to the Mayor and City Council, as well as to the Attorney-General of British Columbia. The Richmond Family and Youth Court Committee is the longest established Committee with continuous service in the Province since its establishment in 1964.

The Committee gathers information with respect to issues raised by the Court, its officers, clients and by the community. The Committee draws upon the support of the community and advocates for improvements in the justice system. Examples of presentations with relevant programs include: Youth Criminal Justice Act, Restorative Justice Program, Victim Assistance Program, Family Maintenance Enforcement Programs, etc.

The Richmond Family and Youth Court Committee makes submissions to the Attorney-General and other Ministers on proposed changes in legislation and administrative practices, which may have an effect on the delivery of youth and family court services. The Richmond Family and Youth Court Committee works as a liaison with other Family Court Committees on issues of mutual concern. We encourage Committee members to attend conferences to further their knowledge about best practices on issues facing their community and the justice system.

To achieve the mandate of "understanding and monitoring the legislation and administrative practises relating to the justice system", volunteer members of the Committee regularly attend both family and youth court. As impartial observers, they view cases involving applications made under: the Family Relations Act, Interjurisdictional Support Orders Act, Family Maintenance Enforcement Act, Child Family and Community Services Act, and the Youth Criminal Justice Act.

Issues and concerns arising from court watch activities are reported to the Family and Youth Court Committee at monthly meetings for follow-up action to effect improvements. These may include identified gaps in service, lack of adequate resources, or concerns regarding courtroom process.

Court watch volunteers make objective observations on courtroom procedures, while respecting and maintaining the privacy of individuals involved in the proceedings.

2009 Membership

Richmond Family and Youth Court Committee (RFYCC)

John Abelseth

Hadyn Acheson

Gerry Browne

Ron Dickson

Hatem Ela-Alim

Ally Hu

Raj Johal

Mashood Kamal

Debbie Nider

Janene Preston

William (Bill) Shayler

Mabel Tsang

Teresa Voza

Council Liaison: Councillor Evelina Halsey-Brandt

CO-CHAIRPERSONS REPORT

Membership Overview

In 2009 the Richmond Family and Youth Court Committee (RFYCC) started the year strong with a complement of 13 members and nine of these members made time to attend and observe court proceedings. Finally, Youth and Domestic Violence cases were observed during 2009 and this committee continued to be a familiar presence in the Richmond Court House.

Annual Conference

The majority of our time and efforts during 2009 was spent organizing the 2009 Annual B.C. Family and Youth Court Conference that was held on October 16-17, 2009 at the Executive Airport Plaza Hotel in Richmond. Late in 2008 a subcommittee of five committee members was struck, and for those members one to two additional meetings per month were required to: discuss and confirm presenters and speakers; continue to adjust the Conference agenda; confirm Conference package details and printing requirements; distribution lists; the registration process; and hotel requirements, to name just a few of the tasks the subcommittee handled. By September 2009, weekly meetings for this subcommittee were required up until the Conference date.

Unfortunately, in July 2009, just two and a half months prior to our Conference date, we were informed that the \$2,000 that had been provided to all previous Conference hosts by the BC Attorney General's office would not be provided to our committee for this Conference. This was troubling for our committee, and stalwart efforts were made by City of Richmond staff, Councillor Evelina Halsey-Brandt, and our committee to reverse this decision. We were unsuccessful.

The Conference did go ahead, though, with support from the community through additional sponsorship and the City of Richmond's in-kind assistance, and the Conference was a success. The great feedback we received from the attendees was heart-warming and we were delighted by the positive comments regarding the Conference organization, content, calibre of presenters and material provided. Organizing this Conference was an enormous undertaking by this volunteer committee, and we are so very grateful to the City of Richmond staff for their incredible support in making the event a success. A more detailed account of the 'Family Violence 2009 Conference', including agenda, registration process, outcomes and feedback can be found in the Conference Sub-Committee report on page 9.

Conferences Attended

Healing, Hope & Justice – March 5-6, 2009. Conference was held in Richmond, and organized by the Richmond Family Violence Prevention Network. It brought together speakers, presenters and interest groups from across Canada, the US and the UK, to discuss innovative responses to family violence prevention. Co-Chairperson Teresa Vozza, representing Touchstone Family Association, was on the Organizing Committee for this Conference. Janene Preston, Co-Chairperson, attended part of this Conference and represented the Richmond Family and Youth Court Committee.

Council Liaison

Councillor Evelina Halsey-Brandt was appointed to our committee as our Council Liaison for 2009. She was an incredible resource for information, materials and contacts for sponsorship when needed, and our Conference would not have been the success it was without her support. We thank her so very much and we are delighted that she will be returning as our Liaison for 2010.

Statistics

As part of our mandate, the Richmond Family and Youth Court Committee membership attend and observe Family Court cases. The number of cases our committee members can observe is determined by the availability of committee members to attend court on any specific day of the week. Committee members attended a total of 458 cases in 2009. Compared with the previous year, the number of observed cases dropped by approximately a third, due to the time involved on the part of committee members in hosting the Family Violence Conference in October 2009. Referring to Family Court graphs attached, approximately 60% of the individuals who attended Family Court were accompanied by legal representation, which is an improvement from the 47% noted in 2008, and Duty Counsel assisted approximately 15% of the individuals who attended Family Court.

With reference to the graphs attached, the Youth Court statistics show, in comparison with 2008, that legal representation for young offenders increased by 12%, while the attendance by an adult, other than council in court, also increased by 10%. The percentage of young female offenders also increased as the cases observed showed that 25% were female, and 75% were male, while in 2008 the majority of young offenders were male.

For Family Violence cases, the most common charge continues to be assault, and the victim is usually the partner. This is similar to the statistics of 2008. It is interesting to note that out of 49 files, 37 were adjourned without resolution.

This committee's mandate is to observe and report on court proceedings. We do not analyze the statistics taken. Committee members who do attend court, observe the proceedings and attend our monthly meetings do impart their knowledge and understanding of some of the important issues, which need to be addressed.

Going forward the Committee considers that the statistics taken for the different courts (Family, Youth, and Family Violence) should be reviewed and streamlined so that there will be consistency in the items reported. In this connection, the assistance of the Richmond Court, and other district Committees, are being solicited with a view to present to City Council more pertinent data.

During 2009 Committee members dedicated approximately 1,200 hours to Richmond Family and Youth Court Committee activities; half of those, a full 600 hours, were strictly dedicated to the Conference. The increase in volunteer hours over 2008 were due to the investment of time

involved in the organizing and executing conference details, resulting in a very successful Family Violence Conference in October 2009.

In Conclusion

It is with sincerest gratitude that we thank each and every committee member for an outstanding year! Without them, we could not have hosted such a successful Conference. Unfortunately, the success has also taken a toll on our membership, with only six of 13 members returning in 2010. This year we thank Ally Hu and Ron Dickson for serving on the committee. We also say goodbye to a number of people who filled key positions over the years: John Abelseth (Statistics), Hatem Ela-Alim (Conference Chair), Mashood Kamal (Court Watch Co-Chair), and Debbie Nider (Speaker Coordinator). A special recognition and thank you must go out to Janene Preston who served on this committee for seven years, with the last three years serving as Chair and Co-Chair. Her organizational and leadership skills kept us moving forward and provided the strong foundation we required to accept and successfully accomplish our goal of delivering an excellent Conference. We will sadly miss Janene, but wish her much success in her future endeavours.

Although we are fortunate to have had the Vancouver 2010 Olympics and Paralympics in our midst this winter, they have required the commitment of thousands of volunteers. This demand has left the volunteer pool rather dry and, as such, we have had reduced interest in our committee by anyone new. At this point in time, our membership remains at six and we will resurrect our volunteer recruitment in the spring of 2010.

The committee wishes to thank Mayor Malcolm Brodie and Richmond City Council for supporting us with a place to meet, an annual budget, and Committee Clerks to record our monthly meetings and prepare our Annual Report. We also want to thank the Mayor, City Council and the City Clerk's Office for supporting the committee financially and emotionally, and for providing excellent guidance and support to successfully host the BC Family & Youth Court Committee Conference in October 2009.

Respectfully submitted,
Janene Preston and Teresa Voza
Co-Chairpersons 2009

Presentations in 2009

We very much appreciated Debbie Nider's commitment to arrange a strong complement of speakers to present at our monthly evening meetings this year. Having these speakers attend our meetings provided a twofold benefit – our committee members heard from individuals in the community, and these speakers learned about our committee and our role as a City of Richmond Advisory Committee.

January: Chris Beresford, Director of the Family Justice Programs. As our committee would be hosting the Annual Conference later in the year, it was important that Mr. Beresford attend early in the year to provide us with updates regarding: (i) the Ministry's supporting role with resources and finances for our Conference, and (ii) the much anticipated website for BC Family and Youth Court Committees, and to ensure all avenues of communication were established.

March: Mark Thompson, Duty Counsel Lawyer. Mr. Thompson provided us with a very informative and detailed presentation on the Duty Counsel program in Richmond, and updated us on what was new in the program since our last presentation four years ago. The Committee was pleased that the Program is continuing and that more and more people are using the system, but it is concerned that Duty Counsel hours are being cut back to four hours per day, from six hours.

April: Judge Patrick Chen. Our committee was delighted to have a Judge speak at our monthly meeting and to hear his perspective on the Youth Criminal Justice Act, Child Protection cases, and Family Court.

May: Darlene Grieve, Assistant Coordinator of Richmond RCMP Victim Services. Ms. Grieve provided a very thorough overview of the types of support and services Victim Services provides in the community. This was very helpful to many of the committee members who hear Victim Services mentioned in the Court House, but are unsure about what these services are, and how they are provided.

June: Sylvia Tremblay, Family Services of Greater Vancouver. Ms. Tremblay presented on the subject of 'Human Trafficking' (usually women) and the role of Family Services in supporting these victims.

September: Haroon Bajwa, Program Coordinator, Richmond Restorative Justice Program. This program is an alternative for first time youth offenders who would otherwise start in the Court System. The program continues to be coordinated through Touchstone Family Association and the City of Richmond continues to help fund this program.

November: De Whalen, Richmond Women's Resource Centre. Ms. Whalen provided us with a great presentation on the Resource Centre and made particulate note that it is a non-profit volunteer organization with a very minimally paid staff complement that does extraordinary work in the community, supporting and enabling women to achieve their fullest potential.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Court Watch Committee

Co-Chaired by Bill Shayler and Mashood Kamal through 2009

Our Court Watch Sub-Committee involves attending court sessions regarding three jurisdictions: (i) Family Court, (ii) Youth Court, and (iii) Criminal Court (domestic violence). During early 2009, coverage was improved once training of new members was completed and they were included in the regular rotation. However, as the year progressed, the time commitment required for preparing for the Family Court Conference to be hosted in October, and other circumstances, our Court Watch attendance was affected. As a result, committee members were unable to attend all available court sessions, but did continue our important role of observers.

We continued to see more and more use of Duty Counsel at sittings of Family Court. This is so important to the efficiency of a local Court House, as several issues are settled on the day they are heard, as a result, return to court is not needed. Each Thursday the court appoints two Duty Counsels. With the Parenting After Separation (PAS) program in place, it is very obvious that parents come to court with the knowledge of what will transpire during the proceedings. PAS has been a very good tool for speeding up the court process. We have seen continuity in our judges, which only helps the process.

In conclusion, we wish to express our appreciation to the competent and courteous staff at the Richmond Provincial Court. Furthermore, it is important to acknowledge the helpfulness and cooperation of the Court Clerks, Registry Clerks and Sheriffs, as without their cooperation our role as court watchers would not be possible.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Shayler, Co-Chair, Court Watch Sub-Committee

Richmond Community Services Advisory Committee (RCSAC)

Attended by Gerry Browne, Vice Chair

The Richmond Services Advisory Committee (RCSAC) serves as an association of community groups, and comprises representatives from social, economic, political and cultural agencies within the City. The RCSAC endeavours to support community-based local initiatives by creating awareness and sharing information through its network. Funded by the City of Richmond, the RCSAC has served the City since 1979 by incorporating a diverse set of goals, both short and long term, in order to improve the well being of the community.

During 2009 we were able to provide a member to attend all regular meetings and serve on their Executive Committee. The opportunity to be represented on the RCSAC provides a connection to the programs and services offered by a vast selection of community organizations. The following are some examples of programs, presentations and Sub Committee activities observed:

- Ongoing Programs:

Space Needs Survey

Living Wage/Child Poverty

Member Financial Health Survey

- Presentations:

Official Community Plan

VANOC/Richmond Olympic Business Office

Richmond, South Delta Employment Resource Centers

City of Richmond Policy Planning and the Real Estate Services

Municipal Health Officer, Richmond Health Services

Social Planning Coordinator

- Sub Committee's Strategy/Initiatives:

Housing – work in collaboration with the City to address the need for stable housing and emergency shelters for the hard to house and those at risk of homelessness.

Youth – identify opportunities to support integrated youth services delivery models that accommodate the health, social and recreational needs of Richmond youth.

Support for Families – ensure community based services are family focused and that they strive to meet the needs of families.

Service Development – identify a method of continually updating service needs for Richmond.

Addictions and Mental Health – work in an advisory capacity to the City of Richmond on issues related to addictions and mental health, and enhance services, develop partnerships and identify funding sources.

Respectfully submitted,

Gerry Browne

2009 Conference Committee

On July 14, 2008, at its Council Meeting, the City of Richmond endorsed the idea that the RFYCC host the Family Violence 2009 Conference and the City contributed \$10,000 in cash and in-kind support. The RFYCC agreed that the volunteer members would do their best to solicit sponsorship to help cover the costs. The committee members committed that any unused Council funds would be returned to the City.

Immediately after receiving City support and funding, a sub-committee sprang into action to secure the Executive Airport Plaza Hotel as the venue for the conference to be held on October 16-17, 2009.

Regular sub-committee meetings were held to begin brainstorming ideas for interesting workshop topics as well as to identify qualified individuals to present the workshops. Simultaneously, ideas about the conference format, registration process, meal selections, guest list, conference packages, door prizes, presenter gifts, sponsorship, etc., were also being discussed. After many hours of careful deliberations, the 1 ½ day format was agreed upon and an agenda was created (Attachment 4).

In consultation with and support from the City Clerk's Office, it was determined that the entire on-line registration process could be accommodated by CivicInfo BC, a web-based resource that facilitates information sharing and collaboration among people who work or have an interest in BC's local government sector. Individuals interested in attending the conference were able to view all the workshops, make their selections and pay on-line via credit card to a secure site. CivicInfo BC then provided event management services by collecting the registration fees and creating a detailed list of registrants, including their workshop selections. The committee was extremely grateful for this service, as it made the whole registration process very efficient and painless.

The economy took a very negative turn in 2008. Consequently, registration numbers were lower than we had originally planned, provincial funding was cut, and sponsorship money was difficult to secure. Despite these barriers, we had approximately 87 people register and we received many generous donations. Through our sponsorship drive we received cash sponsorships from: The Great Canadian Gaming Corporation, Progressive Construction Ltd., Harmony Airways, The Milan and Maureen Ilich Foundation, Touchstone Family Association and the Law Society of BC. Although many merchants were unable to make cash donations, we did receive numerous quality door prizes that added a very positive element to the Conference activities.

The final Conference schedule included five guest speakers, eight workshops, a discussion panel and many networking opportunities, including a wine and cheese social on Friday evening. With the exception of one workshop being cancelled due to presenter illness, the rest of the Conference proceeded without incident. Additionally, formal round table discussions were facilitated for Family and Youth Court Committee members from other jurisdictions on Saturday after lunch.

As a result of these discussions, information was shared about how each of the five committees in attendance does business in their communities. This information was captured in the minutes of the meeting (Attachment 5) that were later distributed to each of the five Family and Youth Court Committees. It was also suggested at this meeting that the Vancouver Committee should host the next Annual Conference.

Feedback was solicited from each attendee through a Conference evaluation form that was included in each Conference package. Out of 73 attendees, 47 (64%) completed the evaluation form. The feedback revealed that 80% of respondents felt that the Conference program was relevant; 84% indicated it was interesting; 90% that it was timely, and 98% felt it was well organized. One City Councillor from another community wrote:

"I think it was an excellent Conference, very informative. I was here as a layperson with a long history of community involvement. I learned a lot about how things work, and look forward to bringing this back to my community, where I am now an elected official, I thank you very much Richmond for organizing this. You did a fabulous job, and are a great leader!"

These high ratings were due not only to the hard work and commitment of the committee members, but also to the invaluable guidance and support the Conference committee volunteers received from staff of the City Clerk's Office.

In summary, the volunteer members of the Richmond Family and Youth Court Committee hosted a very successful Conference. It was an informative and memorable event for all attendees. We are pleased to report that through the registration fees and cash sponsorship donations, we were able to self-fund the conference. We are therefore very happy to announce that we will be returning the entire \$10,000 seed money to the City. The City's initial donation gave us the strong foundation we needed to begin our work on the Conference, which ultimately resulted in an extremely successful conclusion. We would sincerely like to thank the Mayor and City Council for this opportunity.

Respectfully submitted,
The Family Violence 2009 Conference Sub-Committee

MANDATE OF THE FAMILY COURT COMMITTEE

Municipal authority to appoint Family Court Committees and the mandate and duties of persons appointed are set down as mandatory requirements in section (4) of the Provincial Court Act, Chapter RSBC 1996.

- (1) *A municipality must have a family court committee appointed by the municipal council in January of each year.*
- (2) *The members of a family court committee must include persons with experience in education, health, probation or welfare.*
- (3) *The members of a family court committee serve without remuneration.*
- (4) *If a court facility in which family matters are dealt with serves more than one municipality or area not in a municipality, the family court committee must be composed of representatives from each area served.*
- (5) *The municipalities involved must appoint one member of the family court committee as chair, and another as vice chair.*
- (6) *The family court committee must do the following:*
 - (a) *meet at least 4 times a year to consider and examine the resources of the community for family and children's matters, to assist the court when requested and generally, to make the recommendations to the court, the Attorney General or others it considers advisable;*
 - (b) *assist the officers and judges of the court, if requested, to provide a community resource or assistance in individual cases referred to the committee;*
 - (c) *report annually to the municipalities involved and to the Attorney General respecting their activities during the past year.*

MANDATE OF THE YOUTH CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACT

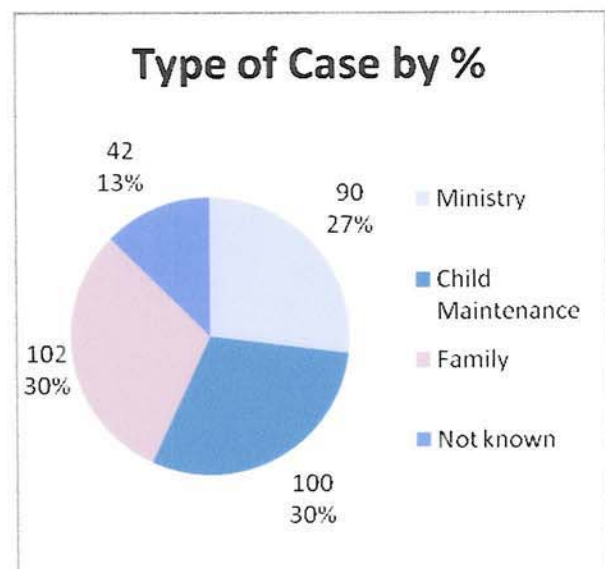
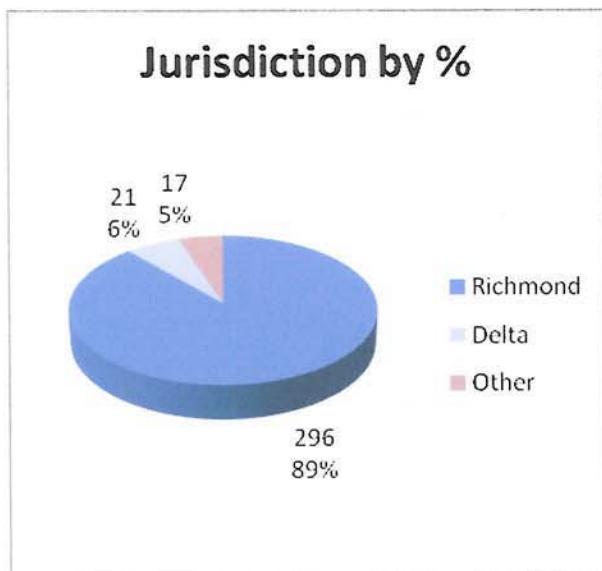
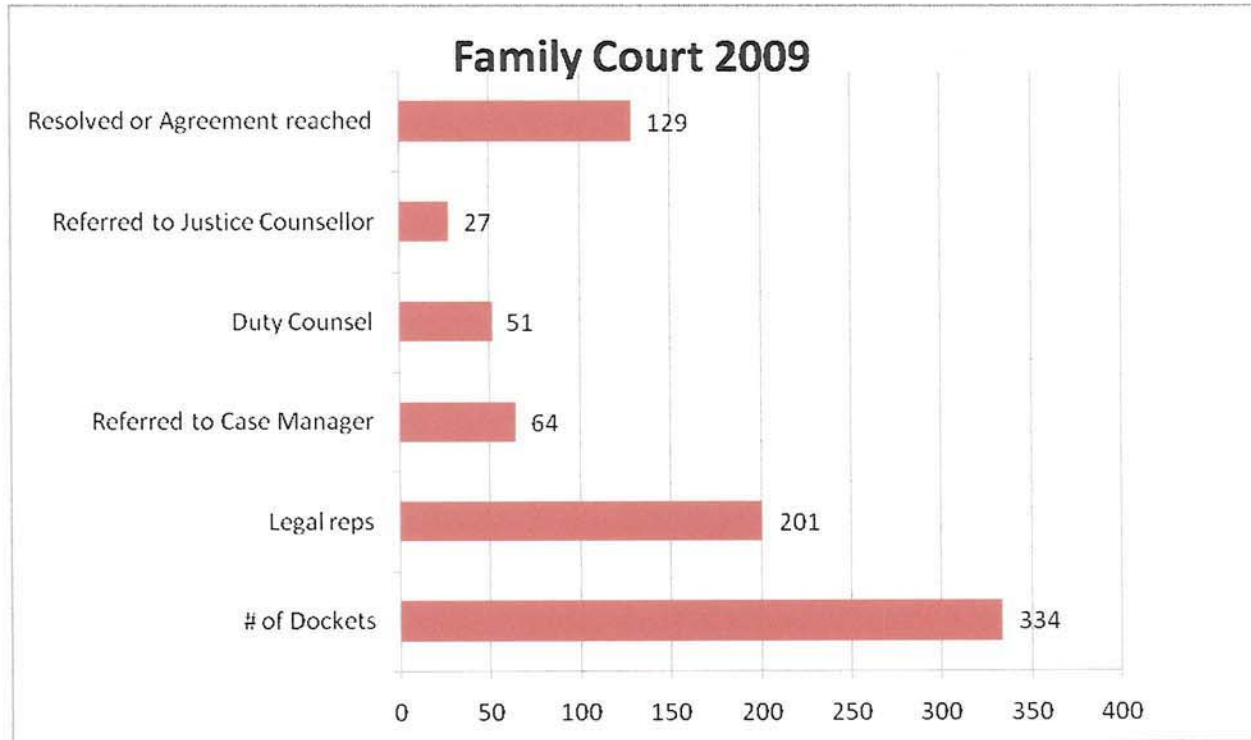
The desirability of maintaining community involvement in the provincially-administered juvenile justice system is addressed in Section 157 of the Youth Criminal Justice Act, which allows for the discretionary establishment of Youth Justice Committees in place of Juvenile Court Committees which had been serving a useful function.

Section 157 of the Youth Criminal Justice Act states that:

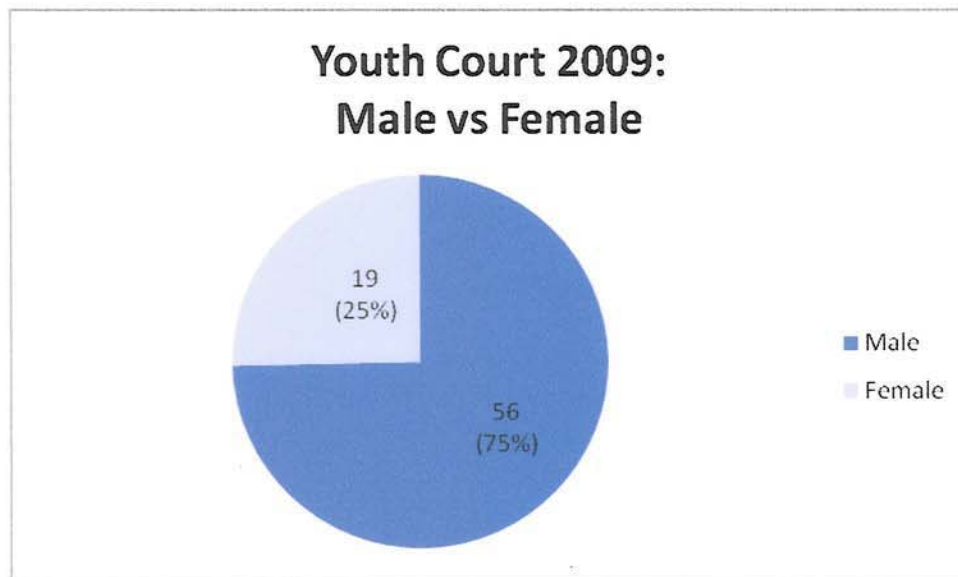
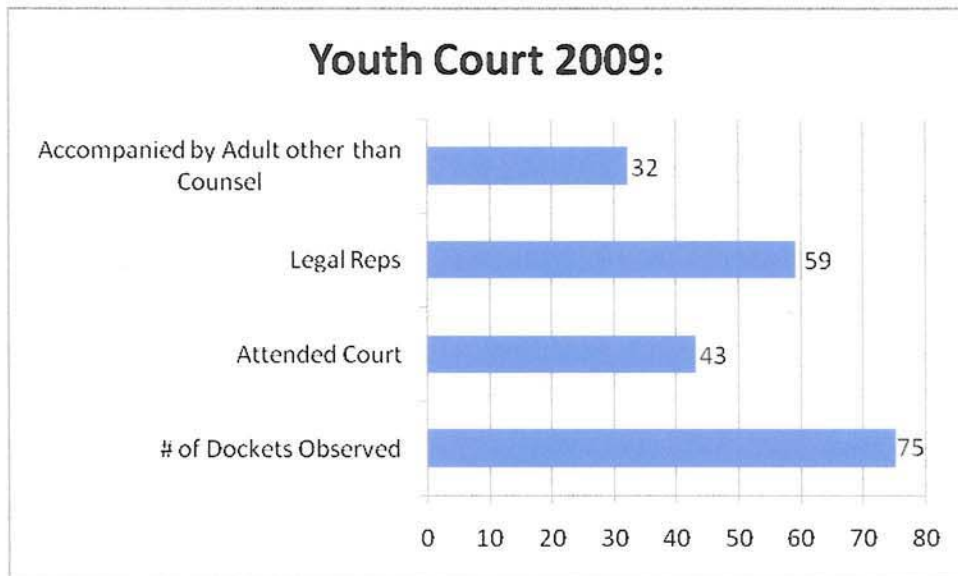
The Attorney General of Canada or a minister designated by the lieutenant governor in council of a province may establish the following types of community-based programs:

- (a) programs that are an alternative to judicial proceedings, such as victim-offender reconciliation programs, mediation programs and restitution programs;
 - (b) programs that are an alternative to detention before sentencing, such as bail supervision programs; and
 - (c) programs that are an alternative to custody, such as intensive support and supervision programs, and programs to carry out attendance orders.
-

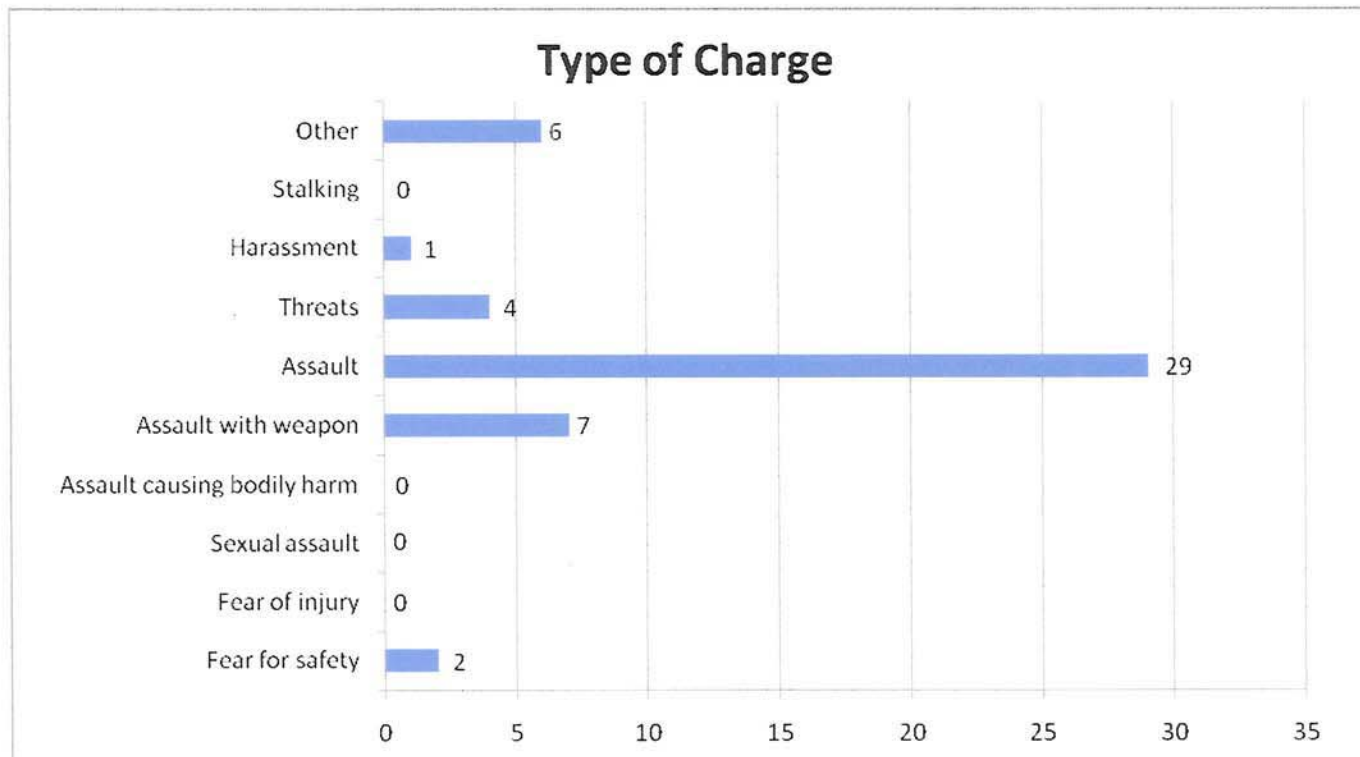
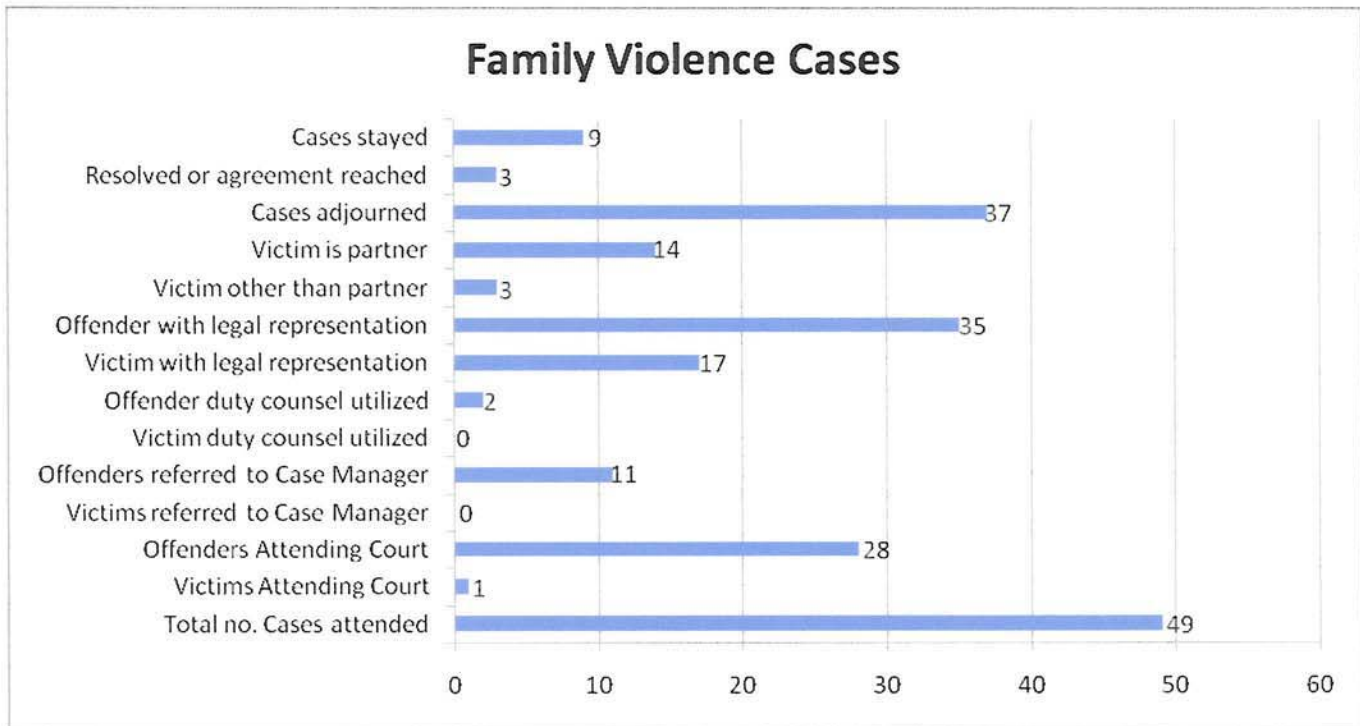
FAMILY COURT STATISTICS 2009

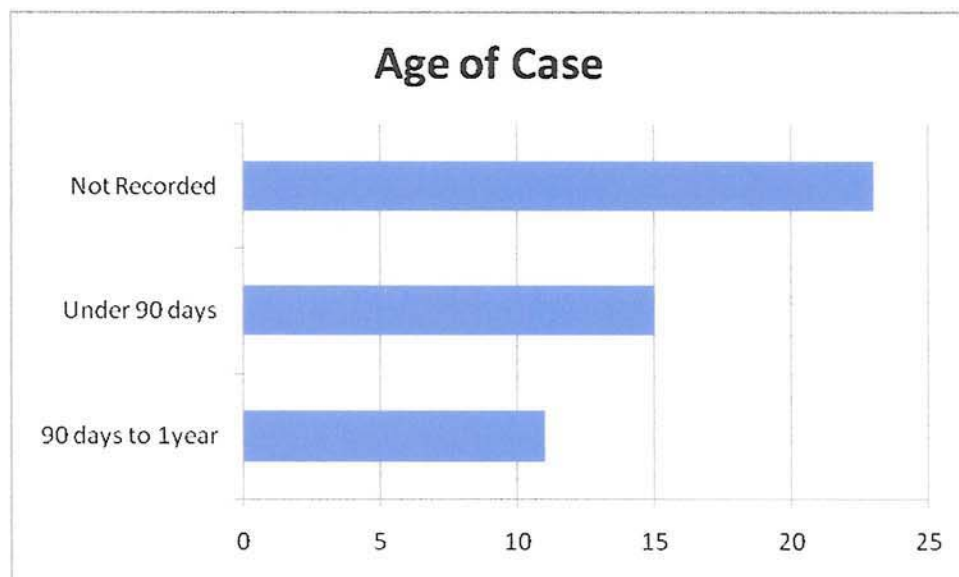
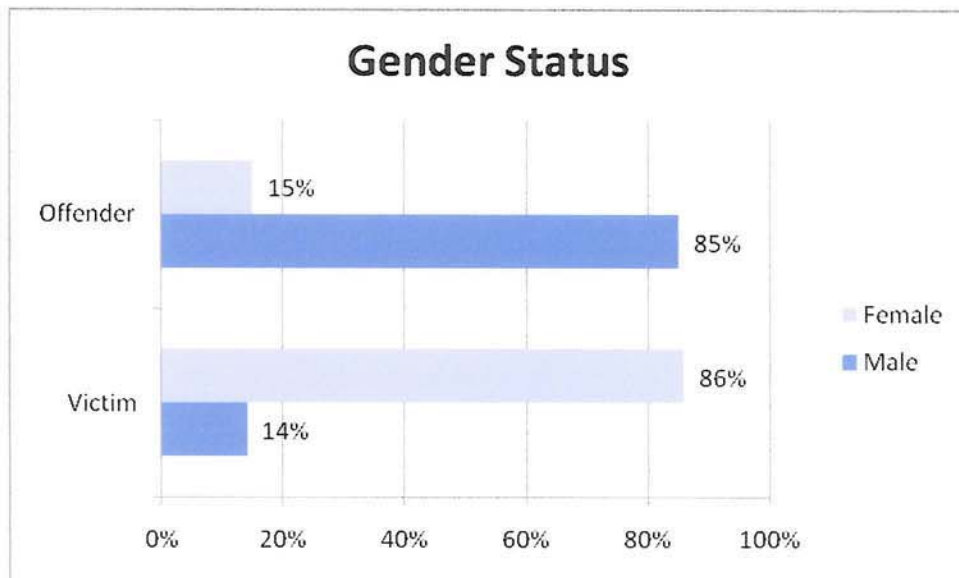


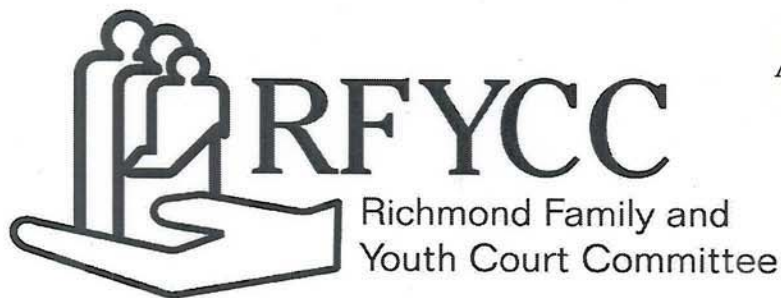
YOUTH COURT STATISTICS 2009



FAMILY VIOLENCE COURT STATISTICS 2009







Family Violence 2009 Conference

Hosted by:

The Richmond Family & Youth Court Committee

October 16-17, 2009

**Executive Airport Plaza Hotel,
Richmond, BC**

Generously Sponsored by:



**MILAN & MAUREEN
ILICH FOUNDATION**



Family Violence 2009 Conference

Schedule at a Glance

First Day - Friday, October 16, 2009

8:00 – 8:45 a.m.	Registration & Breakfast
8:45 – 9:15 a.m.	Introduction & Welcome Acting Mayor, Greg Halsey-Brandt Richmond RCMP Superintendent Renny Nessel
9:15 – 9:45 a.m.	Guest Speaker: Susanne Dahlin, Director, Victim Services and Crime Prevention Division, Ministry of Public Safety & Solicitor General
10:00 – 10:50 a.m.	Block A – Workshops (3 concurrent)
10:50 – 11:00 a.m.	Refreshment Break
11:00 – 11:50 a.m.	Block B – Workshops (3 concurrent)
12:00 – 12:50 p.m.	Lunch
1:00 – 1:50 p.m.	Panel Discussion
2:00 – 2:50 p.m.	Block C – Workshops (3 concurrent)
2:50 – 3:00 p.m.	Refreshment Break
3:10 – 4:10 p.m.	Guest Speaker: Allan Wade
4:15 – 4:30 p.m.	Closing Day Remarks
4:30 – 7:00 p.m.	Wine and Cheese social

Second Day - Saturday, October 17, 2009

8:30 – 9:00 a.m.	Breakfast
9:00 – 9:30 a.m.	Guest Speaker: Mr. Chris Beresford, Director of Maintenance Enforcement, Justice Services Branch, Ministry of Attorney General
9:30 – 10:20 a.m.	Guest Speaker: Judge Patrick Chen
10:20 – 10:30 a.m.	Refreshment Break
10:30 – 11:00 a.m.	Guest Speakers: Loraine Lundquist and Sherilyn Thompson
11:00 – 11:30 a.m.	Guest Speaker: Shirley Gust
11:30 – 11:45 a.m.	Closing Remarks
12:00 – 12:30 p.m.	Lunch
12:30 – 2:30 p.m.	Family & Youth Court Committees' Networking and Informal Discussions opportunity

Workshop Sessions

Block A - Concurrent Sessions

Friday, October 16th, 10:00am-10:50am

**Session A1 – Sexual Assault: The Hidden and Invisible Part of Violence
Against Women in Relationships**

Speaker: Wendy Potter, Provincial Health Services

**Session A2 – Domestic Violence from a Child Welfare Perspective –
Exploring Strengths and Needs**

Speaker: Helen Wong, MCFD Consultant

Session A3 – The Impact of Violence on Women and Children

Speaker: Huiling Wakely, CHIMO Crisis Services

Block B - Concurrent Sessions

Friday, October 16th, 11:00am-11:50am

Session B1 - Elder Abuse

**Speakers: Cpl. Nycki Basra, Richmond RCMP and Raj S. Johal, CFE
(certified fraud examiner), Retired Detective, Bellevue Police, Washington**

**Session B2 - Men and Masculinity: Helping Men Take Action Toward
Reducing Violence in a Family Context**

Speaker: Nir Yahav, Touchstone Family Association

**Session B3 – Held Hostage: When Addiction and Violence Coincide in
Families**

Speaker: George Passmore, Richmond Addiction Services

Block C - Concurrent Sessions

Friday, October 16th, 2:00pm-2:50pm

Session C1 – East Meets West: Challenges for Families

Speakers: King-lok Choi & Selina Ma, Touchstone Family Association

Session C2 – Practical Violence Risk Recognition

Speaker: Kevin Calder, Security Consultant

Session C3 - BC Society of Sexually Abused Men

Speaker: Don Wright, Executive Director

Panel Discussion

Friday, October 16th, 1:00pm-1:50pm

Family Violence Units

- **Langley RCMP**
- **New Westminster Police Service**
- **Richmond RCMP**
- **Vancouver Police Department**

Registration Fees

Early Registration Fees

Until June 30th, 2009

Conference fee: \$150.00

Registration Fees

After June 30th, 2009

Conference fee: \$175.00

Final Registration Deadline: September 30, 2009

(Click here to register on-line)

www.civicinfo.bc.ca/conference/family2009.asp

What's included?

Full conference fee includes: 2 day attendance, conference materials, breakfast (2), lunch (2) and wine & cheese event

Cancellation Policy

Prior to Sept. 1, 2009, refund minus \$75 administration fee.

No cancellation refund after Sept. 1, 2009.

Conference Registration Contact:

Richmond Family & Youth Court Committee

c/o City of Richmond

6911 No. 3 Road

Richmond, B.C. V6Y 2C1

Contact: City Clerk's Office

604-276-4007

Hotel Accommodations:

A block of rooms has been set aside for our Family Violence Conference 2009 under the name "Richmond Family and Youth Court Committee". Please contact the Executive Airport Plaza to book your room: 604-278-5555 or Toll Free 1-800-663-2878.

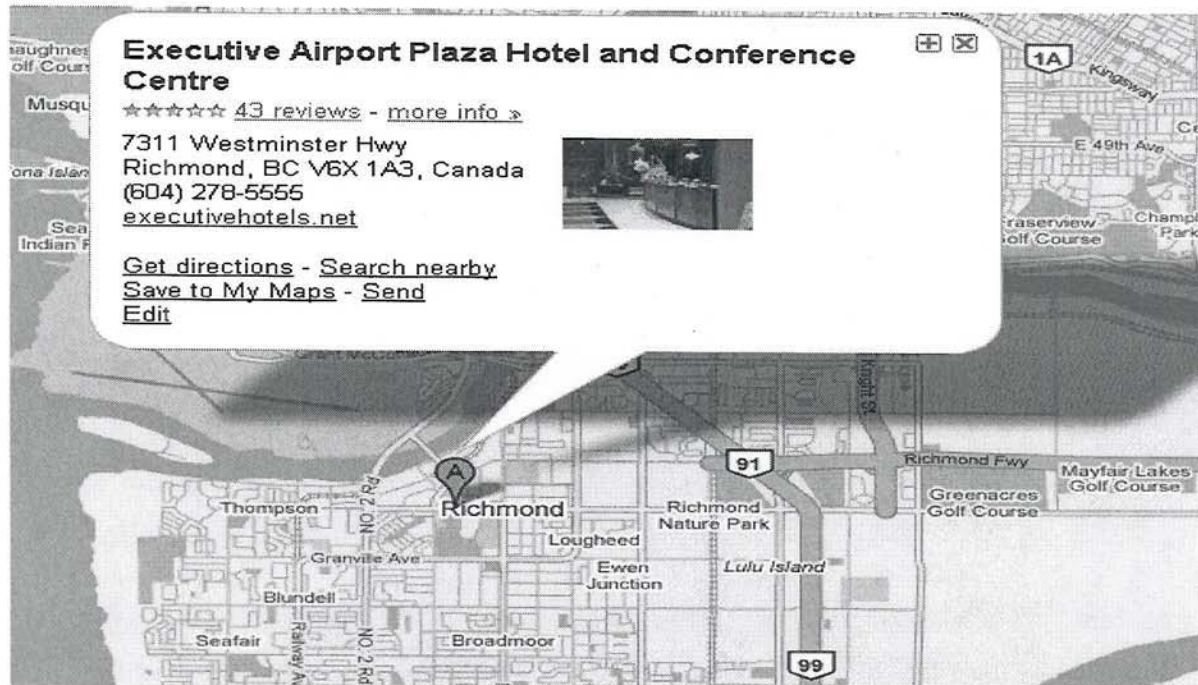
Email: conference09@ealim.com

On-line registration: www.civicinfo.bc.ca/conference/family2009.asp

Family Violence 2009 Conference

Conference Venue:

Executive Airport Plaza (Westminster Ballroom)
7311 Westminster HWY, Richmond, V6X 1A3



Hosted by: Richmond Family & Youth Court 2009 Committee

Janene Preston - Co-Chair
Teresa Vozza - Co-Chair
Gerry Browne - Vice Chair
Hatem Ela-Alim - Conference Co-Chair
Haydn Acheson
Ronald Dickson
Ally Hu
Raj Johal
Mashood Kamal
Debbie Nider
Bill Shayler
Mabel Tsang
Councillor Evelina Halsey-Brandt

**Richmond Family Violence Conference
October 15 & 17, 2009
Round Table Discussions**

Topics for Discussion

1. Where are court committees going in the future?
2. If we continue, where will the next conference be? Who will fund it?
3. Could we have Google groups?
4. How to get committees working together as Provincial body?
5. 13 FCC in BC. Attendees represent 60% or 5 Court Committees
 - Richmond
 - South Fraser
 - Vancouver
 - Tri-Cities
 - New Westminster
 - North Shore
6. What programs do Committees run? Where does funding come from?
7. How do Committees keep in contact with local courts?

Discussion

6. South Fraser
 - 20 members (14 + 6 Council members)
 - 2 year term; maximum 8 years
 - Programs:
 - a) Paper forum – victims
 - b) Website for Bullying
 - c) Awareness Campaign re drug addicted youth
 - d) Police sponsored Kids Club
 - e) Review of terms of reference
 - f) Gangs
 - g) Community Courts
 - funds come from each Municipality; cities are invoiced by committee
 - operating budget \$20,000/yr
 - meetings rotate through municipalities
 - Municipality provides meeting space and administrative support

Vancouver

- 20 members (19 + 1 Council member)
- 1 year term
- Programs:
 - a) Court appointed special advocates
- operating budget \$3,000/yr (??)

Tri-Cities

- 20 members (15 + 5 (?) Council members)
- 2 year term
- 5 Municipalities:
 - i) Coquitlam
 - ii) Port Coquitlam
 - iii) Port Moody
 - iv) Balcarra
 - v) Anmore
- Programs:
 - a) Restorative justice: Communities embracing restorative action (CERA)
 - b) Collecting information – what does City(ies) want from us?
 - c) Working with shopping malls re: Youth (no \$\$ to support)
 - d) Family Court ideas
 - e) Substance misuse
- No operating budget (\$1,000 in bank account)

New Westminster

- 11 members (10 + 1 Council member)
- Chairperson is Councilor
- 2 year term; 6 year maximum
- Programs:
 - a) Family Day Event (\$3,000-\$4,000 funded) - open to public; services available for families (Health, Sport, etc.)
 - b) Supportive letter writing for police officers, youth committee, victim services, etc.
- operating budget \$500/year

North Shore

- 22 members (19 + 3 Council members)
- 2 paid contract staff
- 3 Communities

- i) City of North Vancouver
- ii) District of North Vancouver
- iii) District of West Vancouver
- Programs:
 - a) Monthly presentations by community members to committee (Judge Rogers)
 - b) Strategic Plan: - more visibility in the community – “Community Conversations” re family issues
 - c) Youth and Alcohol use forum – November 25/09
 - d) Cyberspace Bullying Forum (last year)
 - e) Court Watch: Family, Youth and Domestic Violence
 - f) Violence Against Women Committee
 - g) Not enough time by Crown to establish relationships – “A Day in Court” – Police; Crown; Court Watch; Judge Rogers
 - h) Community Agency Tours – 1 hr/session
- Operating Budget unknown

Richmond

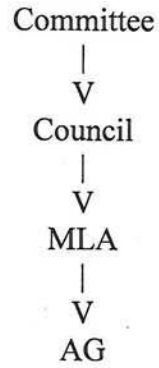
- 14 members (13 + 1 Council member)
- 1 year term, no maximum
- Programs:
 - a) Court Watch is principal activity (for over 30 years); Family, Youth and Domestic Violence
 - b) Annual Report presented to City Council and AG yearly (with recommendations)
 - c) Letters of support for local programs
 - d) Monthly presentations by community agencies
- Operating Budget \$1,500/year
- City provides meeting space and Administrative support

Intent of Legislation?? (Chris Beresford)

- began in 1970's
- to give communities opportunity to participate in the judicial system
- today, Legislation doesn't fit – “Legacy Legislation”
- be cautious in making demands
- looking for clarification and/or direction; not necessarily money
- Committees to ask MLAs re Terms of Reference
- Committees to ask Municipal officials re: local needs
- If Provincial Court Act changes, local officials may be consulted but “Be Careful What You Ask For”

Ask AG to designate Committee under “Youth Criminal Justice Act”

- may include:
- direct service work with young offenders (mostly handled by MCFD)



Items for Action:

1. South Fraser to provide information to all Committees re Youth Addiction
2. Vancouver to create "Google Group" for all committees to communicate
3. Suggestion that Vancouver will host the next conference in the next 12-18 months.