

CCIE (<https://ccie.educ.ubc.ca>) invites you to attend an online webinar:


"Virtual Justice": How Indigenous Courtworkers supported clients during COVID and why it matters.

Co-Sponsor: Indigenous Research Support Initiative, Peter A. Allard School of Law, Native Courtworker and Counselling Association of BC

Tuesday, December 6, 2022 **5:30-7:00pm** **on Zoom**

Registration Link: <http://bit.ly/30KxikG>

SAVE THE DATE

See next page for speaker bios 



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
Indigenous Research Support Initiative
VP Research & Innovation



**PETER A. ALLARD
SCHOOL OF LAW**
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



The Speakers:

Esther Armstrong, Indigenous Courtworker and Project Co-Researcher

has been Court Worker and Justice Coordinator for Carcross/Tagish First Nation in Southern Yukon for the past two years. She has a MA in Criminology and prior to her current role she worked in harm reduction and housing non-profit organizations. Esther is originally from a small farming town in rural Ontario but is grateful to have been able to call the Yukon home for the past 8 years.

Shari Olsen, Indigenous Courtworker and Project Co-Researcher

was born and raised in the Northwest Territories. After graduating high school, she completed a BA- Sociology and Psychology (U of Calgary) focussed on Criminology. Her intention was to become a lawyer, but after finishing her degree and returning home, she found the Court Worker program fulfilled her interest in the justice system. Shari has been a Court Worker for 25 years and enjoys the challenges and helping people navigate the Courts.

Andrew Thornton (PhD, Sociology and Equity Studies, OISE/UT), Nanaimo Centre for Justice, Education and Research

previously taught undergraduate and graduate students in sociology, education, physical education and sport sciences in Canada and UK. He's lead transdisciplinary research on housing, homelessness, therapeutic community, work, education, sport, and popular culture. He's published and presented his work at national and international conferences and supervised numerous MA and PhD projects to completion. Andrew is currently developing community-based research capacity in Nanaimo through the NCJER.

John McCormick (MA, LLB), Nanaimo Centre for Justice, Education and Research

has focussed his work for nearly 3 decades on community development – internationally, nationally, regionally, and locally. For the past 8 years he's been focused on Nanaimo as the Nanaimo Region John Howard Society's Executive Director from 2016-21, and as co-creator of Nanaimo's Centre for Justice Education and Research (NCJER). He holds a BA in Business Administration (UWO), JD (Osgoode Hall Law School), and MA in Public Policy (UVic).

Larissa Rutquist, Manager: Indigenous Courtwork Program, Policy Implementation Directorate, Department of Justice Canada

leads the Indigenous Courtwork Program (ICP) with Justice Canada where she works with Indigenous Courtworkers and provincial partners to help Indigenous people involved in the criminal and family justice systems access fair, just, equitable and culturally relevant treatment. She is also leading the federal response to the call for increased access to Gladue Reports.

Handel Wright (PhD), Professor: Director of Centre for Culture, Identity & Education

is Senior Advisor to the President on Anti-Racism and Inclusive Excellence, Director of the Centre for Culture, Identity and Education, and Professor of Education, University of British Columbia. He is co-editor of the book series African and Diasporic Cultural Studies (University of Toronto Press) and Associate Editor of the journal Critical Arts. His recent publications include the co-edited book, *The Nuances of Blackness in the Canadian Academy* (University of Toronto Press, 2022). Dr. Wright's community engagement includes membership on the Mayor of Vancouver's Advisory Committee on Black History Month and the City of Vancouver's External Advisory Committee on Equity and Diversity. Prof. Wright is also a member of the Scarborough Charter Inter-Institutional Steering Committee.

Ngai Pindell, Professor of Law and Dean of Allard School of Law

is the dean of the Peter A. Allard School of Law at the University of British Columbia. After graduating from Harvard Law in 1996, he practiced community development law in Baltimore, MD. He joined the William S. Boyd School of Law at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, in 2000 and went on to hold a variety of senior administrative rolls including Vice Provost and Special Advisor to the Executive Vice President and Provost.



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