Erica Littlewolf  Presentation Title: “Decolonizing Restorative Justice” w/ Christianne Paras

Erica Littlewolf is Northern Cheyenne from southeastern Montana. She attended college at Black Hills State University in Spearfish, South Dakota and double majored in Psychology and Native American Studies. She currently works for Mennonite Central Committee Central States with the Indigenous Visioning Circle. Erica has had the opportunity to travel extensively around the globe meeting with Indigenous Peoples and works to build solidarity and address oppressive patterns. She is committed to the work of decolonization, authentic relationships, historical trauma and traditional healing methods. She applies her life experience, with formal and informal education to social justice issues and how they affect Indigenous people, especially women.

Michaela McGuire (Jaad Gudghiljiwah)

Presentation Topic: Decolonization of Justice through the formation of a Haida (Nation) Justice System.

Michaela McGuire (Jaad Gudghiljiwah) is a current PhD Student in Simon Fraser University’s School of Criminology. Michaela’s ancestry is Haida, Ojibwe, British, and Irish. Her research interests include Haida justice, decolonization, and resurgence, Haida identity & belonging, racism against Indigenous peoples, Indigenous rights and sovereignty, self-governance, Indigenous women, and corrections.

Christianne Paras  Presentation Title: “Decolonizing Restorative Justice” w/ Erica Littlewolf

With over 20 years’ experience in the restorative justice field, Christianne is an accomplished facilitator with expertise in a variety of practice models including victim offender dialogue, family group conferencing, and peacemaking circles. She is currently the Executive Director of Restorative Justice Association of British Columbia (RJ ABC). She is one of the founding directors of the association, and previously served as Chair of the Board of Directors.

In her previous roles, Christianne established the annual one-day Widening the Lens Symposium, which explored issues around equality, diversity, and inclusion in restorative justice, and created a variety of social justice-related community initiatives including the Building Vibrant Communities Workshops, Community Dialogue Series, and Speak Out which provide opportunities for seniors and youth to engage in dialogue on issues such as identity, power, violence, and justice. She has also provided training for organizations across Canada and the US, and facilitated numerous referrals from police and various community agencies.

Christianne is also a longtime anti-oppression and anti-racism facilitator with the North Shore Multicultural Society, providing workshops in schools and organizations across the Lower Mainland. She is one of the co-founders of Reclaiming Our Truths & Stories (ROOTS), an organization that offers consultation and restorative justice training from an anti-racism, anti-oppression, and decolonial lens, and an instructor at Simon Fraser University. Christianne holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree (with Recognition) in Criminology from Simon Fraser University, and a Diploma in Criminology from Douglas College. She is a published researcher and author, and has been involved in a wide variety of research projects on topics such as safety in seniors’ living spaces, online gambling, race and the criminal justice system, and restorative justice. More recently, she is one of the authors featured in Colonizing Restorative Justice: Voicing Our Realities. She is known as a passionate, reflective, and ethically grounded practitioner who brings authentic presence and insight into her facilitation practice and training.
Douglas S. White, Q.C., J.D.

Coast Salish name: Kwulasultun
Nuu-chah-nulth name: Tiishin
Métis name: L'om for é de shenn (Michif) / Mistikominâhtik napîw (Plains Cree)

Doug is a practising lawyer (called to the Bar of British Columbia in January, 2008) and negotiator for First Nations across the country. He is also: the Chair of the BC First Nations Justice Council; Co-Chair of BC’s Provincial Advisory Committee for Indigenous and Specialized Courts and Related Initiatives; and, Director of the Nanaimo Port Authority (appointed by the provincial government in July, 2019).

He is a member, former Chief (2009-2014), and former Councillor (2016-2020) of the Snuneymuxw First Nation in Nanaimo, BC. From 2010 to 2013, he was a member of the First Nations Summit Task Group and the BC First Nations Leadership Council working on common issues with BC First Nations and advocated on their behalf with the governments of British Columbia, Canada and internationally at the United Nations. He was also the Director of the Centre for Pre-Confederation Treaties and Reconciliation at Vancouver Island University from 2014-2020.

After completing his B.A. in First Nations Studies (with distinction) from Malaspina University-College (now Vancouver Island University), he graduated from the Faculty of Law at the University of Victoria in 2006 and was called to the Bar of British Columbia in January 2008. He has been granted Distinguished Alumni Awards from both Vancouver Island University (2013) and the University of Victoria (2015).

He was appointed as Queen's Counsel on Dec. 21, 2020.