

# Regional Forum on Housing First Best Practices

Thursday, October 15, 2015

## BIOGRAPHIES



### PANELISTS

#### *Jodi Sturge, Deputy Director, Lookout Emergency Aid Society*

Throughout her career Jodi has managed multi-disciplinary staff teams in a variety of positions which included monitoring employee performance and creating staff development plans. Her history ranges from periods of time with BC Housing to current member of the Regional Steering Committee to End Homelessness to a working Temporary Weather Shelter.

Prior to joining the Lookout Society, Jodi served as the Director of Homelessness Initiatives at Elizabeth Fry Society. She brings a tremendous amount of experience, education and understanding of the work we do.

Jodi describes herself as collaborative, innovative and resourceful with a keen focus on time management and attention to detail. Jodi holds a Master's of Science (Health Geography) as well as Post-Graduate Diploma (Business Geographic's) and Bachelor of Science (Environmental and Economic Geography). As Deputy Director at the Lookout Society, Jodi takes on a Leadership role in determining solutions to homelessness and identifying best practise in program delivery.

#### *Wes Everaars, Development Director, Lookout Emergency Aid Society*

Wesley Everaars joined Lookout Society after spending three years with Keys: Housing & Health Solutions in Surrey. Wes has worked in the non-profit sector for more than 20 years.

His experience includes assignments in Europe and Third World countries, where he worked with refugees from war-torn countries. Over the years Wes has worked with various non-profit organizations with mandates dealing with at-risk and high risk population. Wes has a Masters of Education in Administrative Leadership from Simon Fraser University with a focus on collaborative management approaches.

With his diverse background Wes brings a vast knowledge and expertise plus lived to the sector. As Director of Development, he is involved in event planning, proposal writing, community capacity building and finding creative ways to end homelessness. Wes also oversees the Property Management portfolio and is involved in developing best practises and innovations in providing solutions within the Housing continuum.



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### Laura Caron, Director of Clinical Services, RainCity Housing & Support Society

Laura has more than 15 years of experience in providing mental health services across diverse areas of practice in both Alberta and BC. More recently, Laura has been involved in leading local Housing First initiatives for Vancouver based RainCity Housing and Support Society. Initially, Laura lead the Vancouver based Housing First Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Team during the nationwide At Home/Chez Soi research demonstration project funded by the Mental Health Commission of Canada between 2009 and 2013. Since 2014, Laura has moved to a senior leadership role within RainCity where she now is responsible for directing three unique scattered-site Housing First programs that support individuals experiencing chronic or episodic homelessness in the Fraser Health and Vancouver Coastal Health Authorities.

Laura is a Registered Psychiatric Nurse who has received a Diploma in Psychiatric Nursing from Douglas College, and Bachelors in Health Science in Nursing from the University of Saskatchewan. Laura has also graduated with a Masters in Business Administration with a specialization in Healthcare from The Sauder School of Business at the University of British Columbia.

## INTEGRAL STRATEGY ROAD MAPPING - WORKSHOP PRESENTERS

### Bob Yates, Yates, Thorn and Associates

Bob Yates is a leader in innovative community planning and is continually striving to improve the quality of communities through his consulting work. He is one of the few professionally trained planners in Canada who work across the spectrum of community social and economic planning.

Bob is noted in particular for his innovative processes, his desire to connect silos and promote collaboration, and for his commitment to community consultation, especially including children and youth. His company Yates, Thorn & Associates is a member of the Alberta and Canadian Recreation and Parks Associations, the BC and Canadian Institute of Planners, and the International Play Association.

Bob actively contributes to his community through volunteer work with organizations supporting education, health and youth. He has served as a Director of the Capital Health Board, and Chair of its Quality, Utilization and Planning Committee. He has also served on the Greater Victoria Hospital Board and its Foundation.

**Bob has co-facilitated a number of Strategy Roadmaps project, most recently:**

- For the Victoria Foundation on regional food security,
- For Metrolinx, the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area Transportation Authority on a Provincial Strategy for Active and Sustainable School Transportation.



## Regional Forum on Housing First Best Practices: October 15, 2015 - Biographies

### Keith Jones, MSc, CMC, P Biology, Collective Impact Coach

Keith is energetic, engaging, attentive, facilitative, creative, innovative, fun and ceaseless connector. He cherishes complex, multi-stakeholder, collaborative challenges in strategy, change, innovation and transformation. Keith's eclectic set of skills and knowledge have allowed him to engage in a remarkably wide range of challenges and opportunities in the areas of community resilience, economic development, wellness, health, chronic diseases, infectious diseases, science and technology, research & development, product marketing and sales, forestry, agriculture, food, fibre/ bio-economy, ecology, conservation, energy, water, and oceans. He has worked on projects in the public sector, private sector, with First Nations and non-profits (social profit sector) in British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario, the US and Africa. Keith is a Certified Management Consultant (CMC) operating as an independent consultant R. Keith Jones & Associates since 1996 based out of Victoria BC. Most of Keith assignments are done in collaboration with other high calibre consultants that share the same values and principles. For further details please see — <https://ca.linkedin.com/in/rkeithjonesandassociates>

