

ABLERNI CLAYOQUOT HEALTH NETWORK 2018 TABLE OF PARTNERS BIOGRAPHIES

Penny Cote (Chair) was elected in 2005 as the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District Sproat Lake Director and is now serving in her 4th consecutive term. In 2015/2016 was re-elected as Chair of the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional Hospital District, Chair of the Alberni-Clayoquot Health Network, and sits on many other Regional Board Committees as an active participant in positive local government partnerships, including the inaugural 3 Treaty First Nations to the ACRD.





Dan Schubart is a retired teacher turned community activist whose activities have been centered on the Alberni Valley Transition Town Society, whose central theme is community resilience through awareness, reskilling, local food systems, housing, energy and enterprise. Resilience requires health, with the best outcomes seen through sustainable diet, activity and living situations.

Marie Duperreault is the Director for Port Alberni/West Coast Communities for Island Health. She started her career in Nursing in 2002 working in rural, remote Coastal BC communities. Marie completed her Master of Science in Nursing in October 2011 and became the director for Port Alberni/West Coast Communities in March 2015. Marie brings with her a wealth of knowledge and experience from working within many different healthcare disciplines. Her responsibility as the director is to develop & implement the integrated community care team and to develop supportive Health resources for hospital and community programs guided by her desire to improve the health status for Port Alberni/West Coast population





Laurie Bird is a resident of Ucluelet, with 2 fabulous adult children, who has recently welcomed two grandsons to the family. Currently a board member of the Ucluelet Food Bank, and a devoted beach walker and gardener.

Laurie has a Masters of Science in Nursing with an interest in health care education, and rural, family and population health. History of acute care practice in rural areas as well as community nursing in an urban environment. Instructor at North Island College for the last 12 plus years in health care programs.



Josie Osborne is the mayor of Tofino and vice chairperson of the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District. A self-described community builder and a strong advocate for local government communication and public engagement, Josie strives to build respectful and productive working relationships within and between communities, businesses, and governments.

Julie Miller-Rushton is the Regional Manager for Early Years initiatives with SBY6/United Way Central Northern Vancouver Island. She is responsible for managing the SBY6 initiatives in Cowichan, Ladysmith, Nanaimo, Parksville, Qualicum Beach, Port Alberni, West Coast, Comox Valley, Campbell River and Mt. Waddington regions. Julie is also active in the United Ways Impact development for the Alberni Valley and West Coast communities. She has an extensive background in early childhood endeavours, working with Huuayaht First Nations, Alberni Children First, Island Health, PacifcCARE Child Care Resource and Referral, AV Child Care Connections and several other initiatives working to enhance services for youth and senior citizens.



Julie believes the more people who walk together searching for answers, the more likely we are to discover what we seek.



Stefan Ochman was born and raised in Montreal. He graduated with a Bachelor in marine biology from McGill University, a Masters in Biology from Laval University and pursued Ph.D. studies in Oceanography at the Université du Québec a Rimouski. After working for the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, he did volunteer work starting a tilapia aquaculture project in Tunisia. Back in Canada, he worked for the Ocean Production Enhancement Network, Canadian Environmental Network and Environment Canada. After moving to BC in the 1990s, he first worked for the Reach for Unbleached! Foundation completing pulp mill monitoring workshops and wrote a Citizen's Guide to Pulp Mill Monitoring. He then moved to Bamfield to work for 17 years as Fisheries Manager for the Huu-ay-aht First Nation. He is now (semi) retired. He continues to do volunteer work with various organizations such as the Bamfield Huuayaht Community Forest Society.

Wes Hewitt is the Executive Director of the Port Alberni Shelter Society, which is a non-profit organization that was started in 1972, to serve the housing needs of the community. He is also the Chair of the City of Port Alberni Advisory Planning Commission and an active member of the Alberni Valley Community Stake Holder Initiative to End Homelessness. He spends time working to improve the community and himself through Free Masons and in his spare time he enjoys sailing and family.



Sandra Tate (Se cuk'lt'uulth, pronounced Shechuktoolth) is Ditidaht First Nation with roots up and down the island. Sandra currently holds one of two positions as the Nuu-chah-nulth Community Engagement Coordinator with First Nations Health



Jeff Kizuk is the director of operations for the ministry of Children and family development for Port Alberni and the west coast as well as Parksville/Oceanside. MCFD provides a range of services such as youth justice, child protection, Children and Youth Mental Health, Children and youth with Special Needs as well as Early Years programing. Jeff has worked, and lived, in the Alberni/Clayquot area for years but currently resides in Comox with his wife Jewel.





Anna Lewis is the chair of the Alberni Air Quality Council which is overseen by a non-profit and works with various community partners to work on improving air quality in and around the Alberni airshed. Anna's main passion is agriculture and she works for the ACRD as an agricultural support worker as well as overseeing two farms, one for the Hupacasath First Nation and a therapuetic farm for Canadian Mental Health Association. When not working on farming projects or other initiatives to try and improve the health and wellbeing of her community she can be found playing music, spending time with family and

Willa Thorpe is currently the Director of Parks, Recreation and Heritage with the City of Port Alberni, and has been fortunate to spend her entire career in sport and recreation throughout dry land, arenas, aquatics, fields and multi-sport complexes. She holds a Master's degree in Leadership from Royal Roads University, as well as a Bachelor of Kinesiology – Recreation and Sport Administration from the University of Regina. Willa is a strong proponent of "meeting people where they're at", and is always seeking opportunities to help facilitate programs and services that provide meaningful experiences throughout the community. In her spare time, Willa can be found volunteering throughout her community, with minor sport organizations, a variety of service groups/clubs, and at her daughters' school.





ALBERNI CLAYOQUOT HEALTH NETWORK PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT



Marcie DeWitt assumed the role of Coordinator for the Alberni Clayoquot Health Network in January 2015 and was an active participant in the network since its inception in 2012. Marcie has been engaged in community development in the Alberni Clayoquot region for the past 7 years, leading multidisciplinary networks, community engagement, planning and advocacy initiatives aimed at increasing overall health of children, youth and families. Marcie has a passion for social justice, when combined with her background in psychology and project management theses skills and attributes have led to a rewarding career building, leading and facilitating community driven process.

Shelli Lyle grew up in Port Alberni, attended Camosun College in Victoria and graduated with a diploma in Criminal Justice in 1986. Worked at Expo 86 as a security guard in the Ramses Pavilion and out on patrol on afternoon shift. Started with MacMillan Bloedel Limited at the Port Alberni Pulp and Paper Mill in 1986 working in many departments in the office and technical workers union until going on staff in 1995 in the Human Resources Department as an administrative assistant, training coordinator and disability management coordinator. After 22 years with the pulp and paper industry Shelli then went into the public sector and started working at the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District in 2010 as relief and in 2011 received a year contract to incorporate an online filing system, in 2012 took on the Alberni-Clayoquot Health network Administrative Assistant Role.





Dr. Paul Hasselback is the Medical Health Officer for Central Vancouver Island. Since 1990 he has held MHO positions across the 3 western provinces. A specialist in public health and preventive medicine trained in Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal. A family practitioner in rural Saskatchewan for four years. An MSc in epidemiology and now a Clinical Associate Professor at UBC and an Affiliate Clinical Professor at UVic. In 2000 he was bestowed the Canadian Public Health Association award for "an individual who has significantly advanced the cause, legitimized and stressed the responsibility for the state of the art of the public health". In 2010 he was awarded the National Specialist Society for Community Medicine President's Award for contributions to the specialty. He is a past chair of the Health Officer's Council of British Columbia and remains active in provincial and national endeavours to improve the public's health.