



The Path to Resilience: Crime Prevention and Community Safety and Well-being

April 30 – May 2, 2024
Fredericton, New Brunswick
Conference Report





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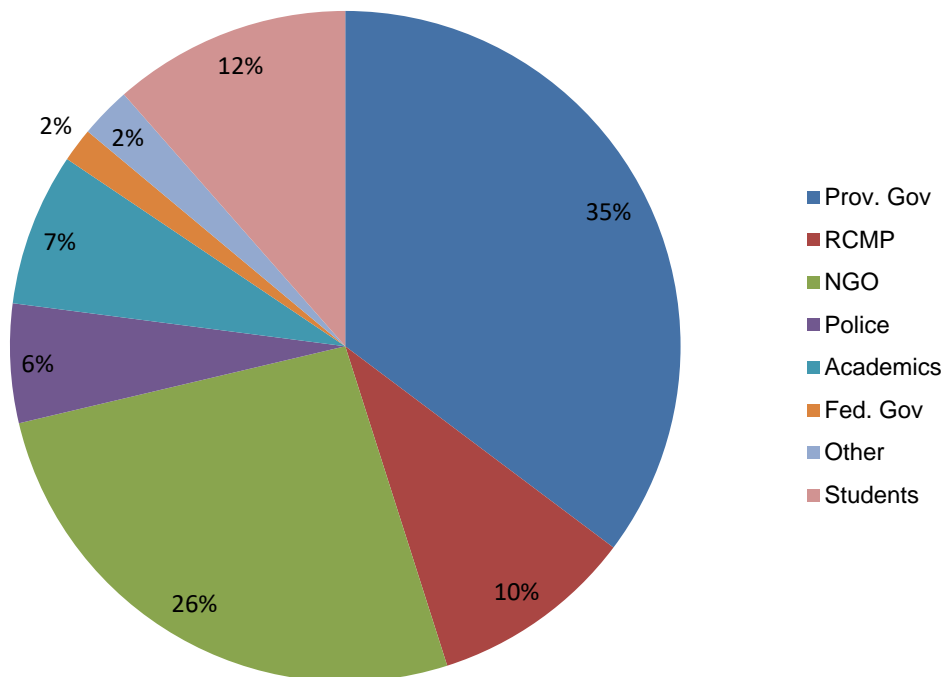
The Path to Resilience: Crime Prevention and Community Safety and Well-being

From April 30 to May 2, 2024, a provincial conference titled *The Path to Resilience: Crime Prevention and Community Safety and Well-being* was held in Fredericton, New Brunswick. This conference was hosted by the Department of Justice and Public Safety, the Crime Prevention Association of New Brunswick, St. Thomas University, the Centre for Criminal Justice and Policing Studies, and the Government of Canada. 131 interested professionals, academics, students, and police attended the conference to discuss challenges related to crime prevention and community safety in New Brunswick. The conference was an activity of New Brunswick's Crime Prevention and Reduction Strategy, which guided the topics of the conference:

- vulnerable youth,
- chronic repeat offending, and
- intimate partner violence.

The following is a summary report of *The Path to Resilience: Crime Prevention and Community Safety and Well-being* conference.

Participation
The Path to Resilience: Crime Prevention and Community Safety and Well-being





Day One

Conference Opening

Maraih Perley and Merl Millier, residing in Bilijik (Kingsclear First Nation), opened the conference and welcomed participants to Ekpahak (Fredericton).

Linda Patterson, President of the Crime Prevention Association of New Brunswick, and Autumn Locke, Senior Consultant with the Crime Prevention and Program Development branch (emcees) welcomed attendees and contextualized the conference within the spirit of diversity, inclusion, and collaboration.



10:30am – 11:30am: Keynote Address

The Weight of Reconciliation

Rose LeMay, CEO Indigenous Reconciliation Group

This presentation focused on humanity, morality, and compassion as a starting point to reconciliation. Land acknowledgments were noted as an opportunity to meaningfully recognize not only the land but also the Indigenous Peoples who care for it. It is an important step towards reconciliation, as it helps with establishing a sense of belonging and community building.



The lecture challenged the linear nature of Maslow's hierarchy, explaining that Indigenous communities may prioritize their needs differently and that self-actualization is not necessarily the goal. Emphasis was placed on the importance of acknowledging and confronting the painful aspects of history, particularly regarding the impact of residential schools on Indigenous communities. Rose LeMay highlighted the need for rewriting and correcting history to prevent such atrocities from happening again and proposed that compassion and morality are foundational to meeting other needs.

Rose LeMay's discussion was held around denial as a form of racism, such as denying Indigenous Peoples the right to share stories. Reconciliation involves the prerequisites of literacy and Indigenous representation in senior leadership, and it was suggested that the minimum step would be to initiate auditing programs for inclusion, applying an Indigenous lens, and building Indigenous partnerships.

11:30am – 12:00pm: Plenary Session

Bird in a Cage

Stephanie Francis, BSW, RSW, Spirit First Counselling and Consulting

This presentation highlighted the importance of cultural and spiritual revival to address health disparities in Indigenous communities.

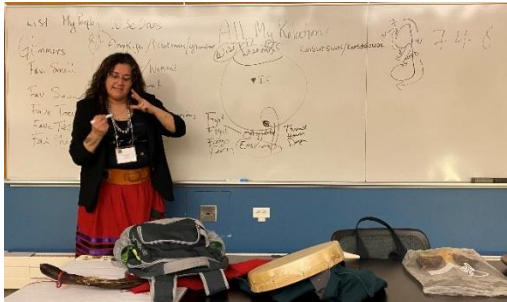
Stephanie Francis used the story of a caged bird as a creative way to speak about Indigenous experiences of trauma and colonialism, including residential schools, the 60's and Millennial scoops, and the loss of culture and language.



1:00pm – 3:00pm: Concurrent Sessions

All my Relations Framework

Stephanie Francis, BSW, RSW, Spirit First Counselling and Consulting



Stephanie Francis shared the importance of incorporating Indigenous ways of knowing into service delivery and evaluation frameworks to address health disparities and systemic issues faced by Indigenous Peoples.

The presentation also highlighted the ongoing impact of colonization, such as mistrust, safety, trauma, and negative health outcomes. Using a Two-eyed Seeing approach, Stephanie helped participants understand how the brain reacts to trauma and danger, emphasizing the interconnected nature of mind, body, and spirit. She emphasized the need to address systemic issues and implement the recommendations in the Truth and Reconciliation report. Despite trauma and ongoing challenges for Indigenous Peoples, Stephanie expressed hope for the future and gratitude for the support of her community.

Co-Creating Community Safety & Well-being

Felix Munger, Canadian Centre for Safer Communities

This workshop focused on the importance of collaboration, consultation, engagement, social inclusion, and the sense of belonging in relation to understanding the social determinants of health.

Felix Munger discussed the positives and negatives of collaboration, and how varying decision-making styles need to be taken into consideration when collaborating. Creating a robust community safety plan necessitates engaging in diverse consultations and partnerships with the broader public, community-driven initiatives, Indigenous communities, and more.



3:15pm – 4:30pm: Panel Presentation

Gender-based Violence Survivor Voices Panel

Colette Martin, Empowerment with Colette
Sarah Sherman, We're Here for You Canada

Gender-based violence survivors and advocates shared their powerful stories of finding strength and resilience after being subjected to violence. Colette Martin was a leading voice in New Brunswick's adoption of Clare's Law and has been raising awareness across the country about intimate partner violence. Sarah Sherman is the founder of *We're Here for You Canada*, a non-profit organization dedicated to providing care items to survivors of violence in hospital settings across New Brunswick and beyond.

They emphasized the impact of childhood trauma and the difficulty of breaking free from cycles of abuse. Despite their trauma and ongoing challenges, both speakers expressed hope for the future and gratitude for the support they have received as they advocate for a world without violence. They underscored the importance of sharing survivor stories to raise awareness and support others who may be experiencing similar situations.



Day Two

9:00am – 10:30am: Keynote Address

Introduction to Community Safety & Well-being in Canada

Felix Munger, Canadian Centre for Safer Communities

Felix Munger discussed common challenges faced across Canada, including issues related to substance use, mental health, homelessness, and food insecurity. He emphasized the importance of addressing root causes and risk factors of crime, such as poverty, discrimination, inequality, and marginalization.



A shift in language and focus has been observed from our traditional crime prevention approaches to a broader concept of community safety and well-being. Felix encouraged collaboration and action at the community level to address social inequalities, promote safety, and improve well-being, emphasizing the need for innovative approaches and a shift towards proactive, preventive strategies. The presentation demonstrated the process of safety planning, which includes conducting an assessment, identifying priorities, and implementing and evaluating programs and projects. Felix stressed the importance of collecting data and conducting assessments to understand local challenges and make informed decisions.

10:45am – 12:00pm: Panel Presentation

Planet Youth New Brunswick: An Upstream Community-led Approach to Prevention

Catherine Paulin, Cédric Landry, Trina Jones, Aaron Shantz, Shaun Kimball, Dr. Sarah Campbell, & Melanie Cormier

Planet Youth is a research organization that provides guidance in substance use prevention through a collaborative approach known as the Icelandic Prevention Model. New Brunswick has committed to implementing Planet Youth as a five-year pilot project in four locations: Woodstock, Saint John, Kent County, and the Acadian Peninsula.

Panelists from each pilot site discussed the importance of community collaboration, data-driven decision-making, and addressing systemic issues to promote youth well-being and prevent substance use. They highlighted ongoing initiatives of Planet Youth New Brunswick, and the broader collective and intergenerational impacts of working collaboratively. Participants noted that while addressing basic needs such as housing and food is crucial, human connection and community support, which serve as resilience factors for children and families, are equally important needs. Throughout the panel presentation, it was evident that providing positive childhood experiences is essential for promoting resilience and well-being among children.



1:00pm – 2:45pm: Breakout Sessions

Breakout Option 1: Justice-Involved Women

Playing Away with Mom: Sparking Imaginative Play with Children of Incarcerated Mothers

Dr. Susan Reid & Monica Landry, Centre for Research with Vulnerable Women and Youth, St. Thomas University

Dr. Susan Reid and Monica Landry shared *the Playing Away with Mom* program developed to help incarcerated mothers connect with their children through play to help break the cycle of intergenerational criminality.

They shared how, through mirrored play, structured storytelling, and creativity, meaningful relationships between children and their incarcerated parents can be maintained.



Bloom Where You Are Planted

Meghan MacEachern, Centre for Research with Vulnerable Women and Youth, St. Thomas University

Meghan MacEachern introduced *Bloom Where You Are Planted*, a project delivered at the Nova Institution for Women. This strength-based program involves leveraging horticultural therapy, positive psychology, and skills building to enable incarcerated women to identify and reflect on their own strength and resilience.



Meghan highlighted that interaction with post-secondary education in any capacity can reduce recidivism by 45-75%, identifying a need to enhance access for all organizations to work with incarcerated individuals.

Let's Talk Human Trafficking

Elizabeth Clark, Elizabeth Fry Society of New Brunswick

Framing human trafficking as a form of modern slavery, Elizabeth defined and highlighted the different forms of human trafficking, which account for \$32 billion USD of the global economy. Elizabeth shared that 96% of victims are female, and while reporting rates are low, most human trafficking for sexual exploitation is domestic.

The presentation highlighted gaps in understanding the strategies exploiters use and public education and awareness about the issue. It also addressed the need for ethical and safe money lending to facilitate escape from trafficking situations.



Breakout Option 2: Working Towards Change

Changing Directions

Dr. Mary Ann Campbell, Centre for Criminal Justice and Policing Studies, University of New Brunswick

Dr. Mary Ann Campbell presented a four-year pilot project for justice-involved individuals in New Brunswick who demonstrated persistent offending behaviours. The *Changing Directions* project (2018-2022) was piloted in Moncton and Miramichi (year 1 to 4) and Saint John (year 3 and 4). The program model was based on best practices for intervention with the target population.



Dr. Mary Ann Campbell expressed the need to focus on life stabilization and readiness. The *Changing Directions* project was successful in educating Probation Officers on how to better intervene and work with their clients. Evaluation results suggest that the *Changing Directions* project targeted the persistent offending client group as intended and showed a reduction in recontact and reconviction rates.

Youth Crime Prevention Programming: Understanding Youths' Perceived Needs

Olivia Reilly & Dr. Mary Ann Campbell, Centre for Criminal Justice and Policing Studies, University of New Brunswick

Olivia Reilly presented her study on youth perceptions of what they need from a crime prevention program. She discussed the *Intercultural Youth Initiative Program* from the John Howard Society, which aims to address the social determinants of crime through promoting empowerment, belonging, and shared responsibility. Five themes were identified and explored: leisure activities, support systems, life changes, self-identified problems, and negative outlooks. The most prominent finding from the study was the importance of lengthier programs for the target population, as youth need longer-term support.

Incremental Validity of Self-reported Strengths Over Criminogenic Risk Factors in Youth Risk Assessment

Narissa M. Rodgerson, Olivia Reilly, & Dr. Mary Ann Campbell, Centre for Criminal Justice and Policing Studies, University of New Brunswick

Narissa and Olivia presented findings from their study which looked at two questions: 1) Does including youth's self-reported strengths improve the ability of risk assessment tools to predict future delinquent behavior? and 2) Are the differences in youth's self-reported strengths based on gender or ethnicity?

The study showed that self-reported strengths had limited predictability and did not contribute to the prediction of future behaviour, even with the risk assessment tool. The study also demonstrated that although there were no significant differences between gender in reporting strengths, there was a significant difference in areas of optimism and health consciousness in relation to ethnicity.

Breakout Option 3: Youth

Portage: Treating Addiction in Youth through a Trauma-informed Lens

Kyle Bolt & Melanie Steeves, Portage Atlantic

Portage Atlantic is a substance use rehabilitation center for adolescents aged 14 to 21. Kyle Bolt and Melanie Steeves' presentation focused on the importance of a therapeutic community approach to addiction treatment. They identified that 70% of adolescents receiving treatment for substance use have a history of trauma.

A therapeutic community treatment approach focuses on self-help, mutual support, peer-to-peer role modeling, reality therapy, and motivational interviewing. Portage offers a two-year after care program with weekly follow-ups, support groups, and assistance in addressing relapse post-treatment. After-care support is crucial for maintaining long-term recovery. Recognizing that trauma is often intergenerational, Portage supports the whole family to address underlying issues, with family support groups and workshops that focus on topics such as positive parenting, healthy communication, self-care, and empowerment.



Restorative Justice in New Brunswick

Kelsey MacDonald-Cain, Justice and Public Safety

Kelsey MacDonald-Cain discussed the current national focus on Restorative Justice and New Brunswick's effort to align with this priority. Restorative Justice is both a philosophy and a practice that emphasizes a principle-based approach to justice, focusing on meaningful accountability, reconciliation, and community involvement. Indigenous communities across the globe have practiced Restorative Justice. Restorative Justice in New Brunswick acknowledges its Indigenous roots and seeks to collaborate with Indigenous justice programs and communities, recognizing their wisdom and guidance.

Restorative Justice is offered through Diversion programs for both youth and adults in New Brunswick, with eligibility criteria focusing on factors such as age, acceptance of responsibility, and voluntary consent. Kelsey shared plans to pilot the NB Restorative Justice model in provincial correctional environments, starting with conflict between incarcerated individuals and potentially expanding to other points in the justice system.

Indigenous Youth Justice Program

Liam Gould, Mi'kmaw Legal Support Network

The Mi'kmaw Legal Support Network (MLSN) aims to help Indigenous youth escape the cycle of violence and avoid criminal records, while also breaking the cycle of trauma within families. MLSN was created to bring justice support programs for all Indigenous Peoples across Nova Scotia who are in conflict with the Law.

Liam Gould, Youth Facilitator, expressed that MLSN encourages youth to focus on the future and making positive changes in their lives. The MLSN offers the *Mi'kmaw Customary Law Program*, an *Indigenous Court Worker Program*, a *Gladue Program*, victim support services, bail verification and supervision, an *Indigenous Youth Justice Program*, and the *Partners in Learning and Change program*.

3:00pm – 3:30pm: Plenary Session

The SNAP® Program in New Brunswick: An Evidence-based Program Reducing Gun and Gang Violence

Kristal LeBlanc, Courage Centre: Beausejour Family Crisis Resource Centre Inc.

The *SNAP (Stop Now and Plan)* program was introduced in New Brunswick in response to the need for services in rural francophone areas. The program targets children aged 6 to 11 who have behavioural issues, low self-esteem, and self-control problems. The *SNAP* program involves 13 weekly sessions, for both children and their caregivers, to help them practice cognitive-behavioural therapy principles, self-control, problem-solving skills, and emotional regulation. *SNAP* aims to reduce future criminality, improve school performance, and provide hope to families.

Kristal expressed that early intervention is the solution, stating that approximately 75% of children who start offending before the age of 12 are at considerable risk of continuing down this path. Of those who have completed the program in NB, 92% stated that *SNAP* has helped them calm down, control their anger, and solve problems, and 86% of participants shared that *SNAP* provided tools to help them stay in control and express their feelings in healthy ways. The *SNAP* program has expanded to multiple sites in New Brunswick, including Shediac and Saint John, with plans to continue expansion to other regions.



3:30pm – 4:00pm: Plenary Session

Men's Experiences of Domestic and Intimate Partner Violence: Research and Resources

Darian Curtis, Daryan Dort, Libby Howatt, Mia Stewart & Dr. Cathy Holtmann, Muriel McQueen Fergusson Centre

St. Thomas University Social Work students Darian, Daryan, Libby, and Mia completed their Social Action Placement with Dr. Cathy Holtmann, exploring men's experiences of domestic and intimate partner violence. They found that toxic masculinity and societal perceptions of masculinity were significant barriers preventing men from seeking help and speaking out about their experiences with violence. Men may fear being labeled as violent individuals and may blame their behaviours on their partners, further complicating their engagement with support programs.



The research findings underscore the urgent need for tailored services and support systems for men experiencing violence. The students advocated for reframing societal norms around masculinity and creating safe spaces for men to seek help and support.

4:00pm – 4:30pm: Plenary Session

Strength at Home

Kristal LeBlanc, Courage Centre: Beausejour Family Crisis Resource Centre Inc.

The *Strength at Home* program was developed as a trauma-informed, evidence-based behavioural prevention program for individuals who engage in intimate partner violence (IPV). It was designed to address the needs of high-risk offenders and bridge the gap in programming for this population. The program utilizes a psychoeducational approach to challenge core beliefs and behavioural patterns of participants. It focuses on decoding social stimuli, understanding cognitive processes, and developing coping strategies, while also addressing trauma-related issues and shame.

Participants with co-occurring issues such as substance use or mental health disorders may require additional support before fully engaging in the program. Coordination with other services and treatment providers is crucial to addressing complex needs effectively. *Strength at Home* is being delivered online and in-person by the Courage Centre in Shediac.



Day Three

9:00am – 10:30am: Keynote Address

Igniting Change Using Science and Success

Dr. Irvin Waller, University of Ottawa

Dr. Irvin Waller discussed the growing movement advocating for a shift from punitive justice to restorative justice. This movement aims to address the root causes of violence and prioritize prevention over punishment. Victims and advocates are calling for change, emphasizing the need for prevention strategies that address the underlying factors contributing to violence. The focus is placed on reducing behaviours associated with anger, disappointment, and trauma through evidence-based interventions.

Effective violence prevention requires strong leadership, sustained funding, and a commitment to evidence-based approaches. Relying solely on reducing recidivism will not significantly change overall crime rates, and while essential to rehabilitate offenders, it will not address the root causes of crime. Long-term solutions like universal childcare, family therapy, and public health initiatives are vital for preventing crime by addressing underlying social issues. Dr. Irvin Waller stressed the importance of collaboration between government agencies, community organizations, and other invested partners for successful crime prevention efforts.



10:45am – 12:00pm: Panel Presentation

Integrated Service Delivery

Jessica Forbes, Diedre Smith, Todd Cormier, Kim Foster, & Bill Innes

Jessica Forbes, Integrated Service Delivery (ISD) provincial coordinator, was joined by subject matter experts Diedre, Todd, Kim and Bill to discuss the ISD model. ISD is a local and regional governance and service delivery framework that enables partners to better work together, using a coordinated and integrated approach to meet the needs of children and youth. ISD is intended to address gaps in services for early assessment and interventions for children, youth, and families.



The panel emphasized that while Child and Youth Mental Health Teams are commonly associated with ISD, all youth serving agencies have a place within the framework.

Poster Presentation

A Home to Keep Them Home

Christine Wark, Elizabeth Fry Society of New Brunswick

Christine Wark's poster highlighted a collaborative project between the community and the *Elizabeth Fry Society of New Brunswick MyPlace Housing Team*. Christine introduced the topic of therapeutic housing as a social determinant of justice and provided a qualitative and demographic history of the project.

MyPlace provides stable, therapeutic housing to criminalized women and gender diverse persons, in addition to food stability, education, family reunification, counselling, and social support building. Ultimately, the project's goal is to provide the opportunity and space for change and connection to community.



Other Displays Included:




Portage Atlantic



IMVisible NB



Love Shouldn't Hurt

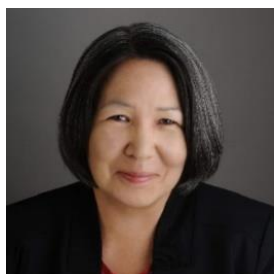


Appendix A: Biographies



Maraih Perley is a Wolastoqiyik Woman from Neqotkuk, residing in Biliik. She is a Knowledge Holder and a Language Speaker. Maraih is the Case Manager for the Community Services Recovery Fund Project with Turning Leaf Foundation.

Merl Millier is a Piikani man from Alberta, and a band member with Biliik Kingsclear. He is a Sacred Pipe Carrier and a helper.



Rose LeMay is an unrelenting champion for the inclusion and wellbeing of Indigenous Peoples. As a facilitator and trainer in cultural competence and anti-racism, she has supported thousands of Canadians from coast to coast to deepen their understanding and capacity for reconciliation. When speaking to her audience, she can take people through difficult topics of racism and reconciliation to find common ground and hope for the future.



Stephanie Francis is a Mi'kmaq woman, with ancestry in Wolastokuk. She is now a member of the Sitansisk Community (Saint Mary's First Nation). Stephanie, m'estepeganajit ka'amit epit, has experience and wisdom gained through life and ceremony. Coupled with a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Social Work, she has been able to learn a unique skill set in translating Indigenous knowledge and worldview, while honoring the spirit of the teachings from those who have come across her life's journey. Other experiences include a child/youth support counsellor at a First Nations Women's Shelter, a Primary Worker at a women's federal correctional institution, a government liaison (Department of Health & Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls), the founder of the youth group SMYLE (St. Mary's Youth Leadership & Enrichment), and more. Stephanie started her own business called Kikehtahsuwiw, which means "it heals" in the Wolastoqewik language, and later renamed to *Spirit First Counselling and Consulting*. The goal of the business is to continue to provide short term crisis management, individual and group debriefings, emergency community crisis response management, and delivering workshops and training on Decolonizing Trauma & Creating New Neural Pathways. The service at *Spirit First Counselling and Consulting* will support people in reflecting on where they come from, where they are, and what direction they need to go in to live a life of peace, balance, and harmony. People are seeking a purposeful and balanced life, and Spirit First can provide the sacred space in which to do so.



Sarah Sherman is a survivor of intimate partner, family, and sexual violence. As an advocate, she works to educate and raise awareness on gender-based violence and inequities. Her non-profit *We're Here for You Canada* provides immediate and free support to patients in emergency rooms who are victims of intimate partner violence. With a career in social services, event planning, and a lifetime of volunteering, she works tirelessly to empower youth on healthy relationships.



Colette Martin is the mom of three beautiful grown boys. As a survivor of intimate partner violence, and despite her journey with PTSD, Colette is passionate about helping others. Within a short time, she has built a community to raise awareness and educate others on intimate partner violence and Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women. New Brunswick's Disclosure to Protect Against Intimate Partner Violence Act, was passed in her honour in December 2022. Colette did not allow her trauma to be her ending; she turned her pain into passion and power so that others do not suffer the same long recovery journey she endured. In July of 2023 Colette was part of a short documentary filmed in Waterloo, Ontario called *She is Your Neighbour: A Short Documentary*.



Felix Munger – Originally trained as a psychiatric nurse, I have experience in mental health and addiction (including harm reduction), in community safety, EDI (equity, diversity, inclusion), and organizational capacity development and collaboration. I have over 25 years of experience facilitating strategic planning, priority setting, and collaboration building across Canada with a wide range of stakeholders including equity-deserving and Indigenous communities. I hold a master's degree in environmental studies and a PhD in community psychology. Most recently, my work focuses on the impacts of climate change on community safety/security at the local level. I joined the Canadian Municipal Network on Crime Prevention in 2015. I regularly present nationally and internationally (including but not limited to German Crime Prevention Congress, European Forum on Urban Security, World Health Organization, International Centre for the Prevention of Crime) and have served as an expert advisor in urban safety including as a validator for the International Guidelines on Safer Cities and Human Settlements for UN Habitat. I also teach and supervise students at Laurier University. I reside in Waterloo Region, Ontario, which is the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee, Anishinaabe, and Neutral peoples.



Catherine Paulin, Community Development Coordinator, Fundy Regional Service Commission – Of Acadian origin, Catherine studied social work before moving to Saint John, where she explored different avenues before finally working as a community development coordinator. Social inclusion and equity are values she holds dear, so she was quick to jump at the chance to become co-director of the Planet Youth project in her region. Mother of two teenagers and a hockey enthusiast, in her spare time she can be found either driving her minivan to her children's various sports and social activities, or on the ice playing hockey.



Cédric Landry is Director of Community Development at the Commission Services Régionaux Péninsule acadienne, working for the well-being of his community through various areas including regional transportation, public safety, and affordable housing. A graduate in information management and business administration from the Université de Moncton, he believes in community involvement and investing in youth. Involved in the Hautes-Terres minor soccer association, he promotes physical activity and the outdoors. Married to Joannie, he is the proud father of Benjamin and Maxime.



Mayor Trina Jones is the Mayor of the Town of Woodstock and an active member, and proud supporter, of the Planet Youth local coalition team for Woodstock.



Aaron Shantz works with the United Way as a Strategic Coordinator from the MFR school in Saint-Louis-de-Kent. His job is to support young people in the community related to school drop out, mental health, parental neglect, homelessness, addictions and lack of social services. He works as a volunteer with the National Farmers Union of NB, the Kent Wellness Network and Grace Church in Bouctouche. For fun, he helps out on the farm, works restoring the Acadian Forest on their woodlot and goes exploring with his boys, Griffen and Clem. His love for good food and working the land encapsulates his belief that everyone deserves access to a healthy lifestyle, both physically and mentally.



Melanie Cormier is a Senior Program Advisor with Public Health New Brunswick and project lead with Planet Youth New Brunswick. Melanie is particularly interested in upstream prevention and action on the social and commercial determinants of health. She has worked in Public Health for over 10 years with a range of experiences working across important population health topics such as substance use prevention, healthy food environments, school health promotion, and harm reduction.

Joining the Planet Youth Panel were *Cst. Shaun Kimball*, Community Resource Officer from the Woodstock Police Force and *Sarah Campbell*, Research Manager for Social Pediatrics.



Dr. Susan Reid, ONB, is the Director of the Centre for Research with Vulnerable Women and Youth (CRVWY) at St. Thomas University, and a Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice. She has been working with vulnerable children and youth in carceral and community settings as a way to understand their experiences and raise their voices through her teaching and research for the past three decades. More recently, Dr. Reid has taken the principles of youth engagement to co-create programming with women in carceral settings. Her work in the university classroom provides active engagement of students, often through experiential learning, and field experiences with women and youth who are incarcerated. Dr. Reid was awarded the highest civilian honour (Order of New Brunswick) for her work with vulnerable populations and social justice. She is also a recipient of the Crime Prevention Association of New Brunswick Hall of Fame award.



Monica Landry has recently been brought in on an internship with the Centre for Research with Vulnerable Women and Youth (CRVWY) at St. Thomas University working as an intern on the *Playing Away with Mom* project. With her personal lived experiences and being a child of an incarcerated parent, Monica will provide an empathetic and academic approach. She is currently a candidate for a double major in Criminology and Sociology with a minor in Psychology at St. Thomas University (Spring 2024). Monica has also completed a certificate in Experiential Learning that has allowed her to gain some meaningful connections in the community and was also the wellness activity coordinator for the Mental Health Society at St. Thomas University (2021-2023). Monica is passionate about mental health and giving youth a voice, and having that voice be heard.



Meghan MacEachern is the Assistant Director of the Centre for Research with Vulnerable Women and Youth (CRVWY) at St. Thomas University. For the past seven years she has worked with Dr. Susan Reid to co-create strength-based, trauma-informed programming with women and youth who are criminalized in both provincial jails and federal prisons. She is a part-time instructor in the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice at STU. She has been a volunteer with Correctional Service Canada for the past 10 years, and is passionate about sport, wellness, and holistic health. Through the Centre, Ms. MacEachern and Dr. Reid have supported two flagship programs with youth – *Youth Matters* – and women – *Women's Matters* – in conflict with the law.



Elizabeth Clark is the Director of Education and Advocacy at the Elizabeth Fry Society of New Brunswick, where she oversees the *It's My Life: A survivor centered approach to end human trafficking* project, and the Volunteer Court Liaison Project. She is a PhD student at Dalhousie University, where she works with the Resilience Research Centre, and she works as Research Coordinator for the Canada Research Chair on Sexual Violence at the Université de Moncton.



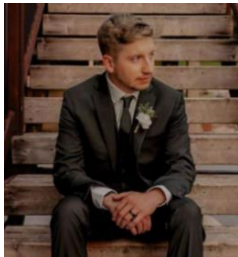
Dr. Mary Ann Campbell is a Professor of Psychology at the University of New Brunswick (Saint John Campus) and Director of the Centre for Criminal Justice Studies & Policing Research (CCJS-PR). The CCJS-PR's mission is to generate, disseminate, and translate knowledge on diverse aspects of the criminal justice system and the people working in and impacted by it. Dr. Campbell's area of focus is on forensic and clinical psychology. She blends these areas across two branches of research: 1) developing and evaluating evidence-based policy and practices that inform the work of professionals within criminal justice systems aimed at reducing and preventing criminal behaviour in youth and adults, and 2) broad applications of police psychology, with emphasis on evidence-based practices for how police do their work (e.g., decision-making for use of force, mental health crisis call responding, approaches to intimate partner violence) and the psychological health of public safety personnel and their work contexts. Dr. Campbell is a long-term member of the New Brunswick Justice and Public Safety Roundtable on Crime and Public Safety. Dr. Campbell received her master's degree in clinical psychology from Lakehead University (1998) and her Doctoral degree in Clinical Psychology from Dalhousie University (2004).



Olivia Reilly is a master's student in the Psychology Department of the University of New Brunswick – Saint John Campus and works under the supervision of Dr. Mary Ann Campbell at the Centre for Criminal Justice Studies and Police Research (CCJS-PR). Being a part of the CCJS-PR has led to Olivia being involved in diverse research projects, one being a crime prevention program called the Intercultural Youth Initiative (IYI), on which Olivia serviced as an evaluation project coordinator. Olivia's primary area of research interest involve vulnerable populations and evidence-based interviewing/interaction approaches in police contexts. Specifically, she has examined police officer's interview approaches with sexual assault victims, police officer's interactions with persons during a mental health crisis call and plans to research victims of crime and police officers' decision processes regarding the approaches they would use to interview them. Olivia is starting her Doctoral degree in Experimental Psychology at the University of New Brunswick in the Fall of 2024.



Narissa M. Rodgerson (she/her) is a master's student of Experimental Psychology at the University of New Brunswick in Saint John and works with the Centre for Criminal Justice Studies & Policing Research (CCJS-PR). Her area of focus is in forensic and correctional psychology, with her thesis focusing on improving the understanding of protective factors and how they impact youth risk assessments. Currently, Narissa is also involved in projects related to the role of personality traits in IPV risk assessment and restorative justice processes.



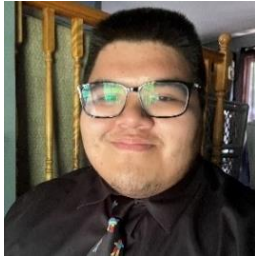
Kyle Bolt is the Aftercare Counsellor at Portage Atlantic, a rehabilitation centre for youth ages 14-21 who are struggling with addiction. Kyle is responsible for supporting youth in their initial steps towards social reintegration post-treatment. He facilitates recovery support groups in Fredericton and Moncton, as well as Portage's family support group. Kyle holds an Honours Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology from the University of Ottawa and is currently pursuing a master's degree in counselling at UNB Fredericton.



Melanie Steeves is the Social Worker at Portage Atlantic, a rehabilitation centre for youth ages 14-21 who are struggling with addiction. Melanie is responsible for supporting youth in residential treatment as well as within their initial steps towards social reintegration post-treatment. She facilitates the recovery support group within the Saint John area, as well as Portage's family support group. Melanie holds both a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminology and Psychology from St. Thomas University and a Bachelor of Social Work degree from Dalhousie University. She is currently pursuing a master's degree at Yorkville University.



Kelsey MacDonald-Cain (she/her/hers) is the Senior Consultant for Diversion and Restorative Justice Services, with the Community and Youth Justice Services Branch of JPS. Kelsey is passionate about the principle-based approach to restorative justice, innovative conflict resolution, and justice transformation. Kelsey graduated with her first class MA degree in International Relations from King's College London, and her first class BA degree in International Development from Dalhousie University.



Kwe' Ni'n Teluisi Liam Gould (Hello, my name is *Liam Gould*), Youth Facilitator at Mi'kmaw Legal Support Network under the Indigenous Youth Justice Project. I am 25 years old living in Eskasoni First Nations, Nova Scotia; the largest Mi'kmaw Community east of Montreal. I graduated from Dalhousie University in 2022 with a Bachelor of Arts degree, then began working with Mi'kmaw Legal Support Network as the new Youth Facilitator under the new program, The Indigenous Justice Youth Project. The Project goal is to help support Indigenous Youth involved with the Child welfare system ages 13-17 who are at risk of being in conflict with the law in surrounding communities across Cape Breton Island. I have years of experience working with Indigenous youth in sports and recreation in the community of Eskasoni. When I am not a facilitator, I am a very outgoing person. My hobbies include spending time with my family, weightlifting, and video games. I am a young man who loves being a Facilitator, and I hope one day to be seen as a role model for all youth in Cape Breton Island.



Kristal LeBlanc is the CEO of the Courage Centre operated by the Beausejour Family Crisis Resource Centre. She holds a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's degree in Applied Health Services Research from the University of Prince Edward Island. From 2017 to 2019, LeBlanc worked with various community partners to embark on a \$4.3M capital campaign to build the first Centre of excellence in trauma-informed practice for victims and perpetrators of crime, located in Shediac, N.B. LeBlanc has been recognized for her work in community through various awards including a Woman of Distinction Award, Chamber of Commerce Women of the Year President's Award from the Chamber of Commerce of Cap-Acadie, Top 20 under 40, a Rotary 101 Resilience Award, as well as a recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal.



Dr. Catherine Holtmann is Professor and Chair in the Sociology Department and served as Director of the Muriel McQueen Fergusson Centre for Family Violence Research from 2015 to 2024. Her research expertise includes religion and gender, and immigrants and family violence.



My name is *Daryan Dort*, and I am from Saint John, New Brunswick. I am a third-year student at St. Thomas University and just completed my first year of the two-year Bachelor of Social Work Program. I currently work at Capital Family Services where I spend time as a youth support worker, working with youth residing in specialized community support residences.



My name is *Darian Curtis*. I am 23 years old and graduated from St. Thomas University in the Spring of 2023 with a Bachelor of Arts degree, with a major in psychology and a minor in criminology. I am currently working towards my Bachelor of Social Work degree at St. Thomas University.

Mia Stewart, St. Thomas University Social Work Student.




My name is *Libby Howatt*, and I am originally from Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. Currently, I'm in my fourth year at St. Thomas University, having just completed the first year of the two-year Bachelor of Social Work program. My passion lies in mental health and addictions, and I'm eagerly looking forward to diving deeper into these areas next semester and exploring potential paths after graduation. I will be working alongside the Indigenous Child Protection team at the Department of Social Development and Seniors, Prince Edward Island. In this role, I'll be collaborating with delegated social workers to provide investigation services, focused Intervention, or children services to the Abegweit and Lennox Island First Nation communities.



Amy Fitch is a program facilitator at the Centre Courage Centre (Beausejour Family Crisis Resource Centre), in Shediac, New Brunswick. Since 2017, she has been working in the family violence sector and facilitating the men's group programs for those who use abusive behaviours. She also offers the program individually to adults who exhibit abusive behaviours. For over 15 years, Amy has been working with non-profit organizations and vulnerable populations. In 2020, she received her certification as a Strength at Home service provider. She was a member of the expert working group of specialists who contributed to the 2022 research study *Recognizing Critical Expertise: A Knowledge and Skills Framework for Intimate Partner Violence Specialists*. Due to illness, Amy's presentation was delivered by Kristal LeBlanc.



Dr. Irvin Waller, Professor Emeritus at University of Ottawa, has traveled the world to over fifty countries over fifty years giving keynote speeches and advising governments, NGOs, and international agencies on using science, comparative knowledge, and reason to end violent crime. He has advised the World Health Organization, Inter-American Development Bank, and the World Bank. He has authored four influential books, such as *Less Law, More Order*, *Rights for Victims of Crimes*; *Smarter Crime*



Control, and most recently *Science and Secrets of Ending Violent Crime*. He has international accolades for his role in pioneering the United Nations' Victim Magna Carta, which has influenced the International Criminal Court and changed crime policy from Japan to Mexico. He also has received recognition from governments in Europe and North America for his contributions in shifting the world agenda to embrace prevention. He has been a member of numerous national and international commissions and advisory groups to UN agencies. Among them is the US National Criminal Justice Commission and South Africa's Task Force on Safety and Security (during the Mandela years). He is a popular public speaker in English, French or Spanish. His MA and Ph.D. from the University of Cambridge are in economics and criminology.



Jessica Forbes is a civil servant and community advocate, championing causes such as youth mental health, housing equality, and early intervention services. She has dedicated her career to improving services for high-risk communities, having taught kindergarten in a First Nations Community in Northern Alberta, worked on the *At Home/Chez soi* Project, as a Housing Program Supervisor for NB Housing, and as a delegate for the Child and Youth Advocate's Office. Since 2022, she has worked as the Provincial Coordinator for Integrated Service Delivery, helping unify service delivery across all children serving programming in New Brunswick. Jessica lives in Moncton with her husband and their two daughters.

Joining Jessica were *Diedre Smith* from Justice and Public Safety, *Todd Cormier* from Anglophone South School District, *Kim Foster* from Horizon Health Network, and *Bill Innes* from the Department of Social Development.