



# Meet the ECHO Hub Team

2025

The ECHO Hub Team consists of individuals who bring varied subject matter expertise (e.g., lived and living experience, clinical care, social services, Indigenous perspectives, among others) to support the planning and delivery of the ECHO sessions. The Hub Team supports participant learning by sharing expertise, tips, tools, and resources, and is central to the success of the ECHO program.

# Andrea Carter

She/Her

## Manager, Training & Evaluation

Andrea Carter is the Manager of Training and Evaluation at the Aboriginal Housing Management Association. Over the past 15+ years, she has worked in non-profit, community-based organizations in a variety of roles including front-line outreach, education, evaluation and senior leadership.

Andrea has participated in national and international research projects with a focus on preventive and support services related to mental health, substance use, sexually transmitted and bloodborne pathogens.

Andrea has a bachelor's degree in non-profit management and is certified as a Public Participation Professional.



- **Community Engagement**
- **Evaluation**
- **Harm Reduction**



# Anita David

She/Her

## Lived Experience Strategic Advisor

Anita has transformed her lived and living experience into a career in mental health and substance use advocacy, engagement, research and education. In 2019, Anita became the very first patient partner at BCMHSUS and co-chairs the Patient Family Experience Council, as well as the Lived Experience Advisors and Partners (LEAP) team.

In 2022, Anita joined the BCMHSUS Strategic Initiatives team as a Lived Experience Strategic Advisor. Anita participates in the Provincial Mental Health and Substance Use ECHO as a Hub Team member, ensures meaningful engagement of people with lived and living experience in the Research Challenge and collaborates on the activities of the Provincial MHSU Network.

In addition, Anita is deeply involved in patient-oriented and community-based research through community groups, health authorities and universities. She also trains and supports peer researchers through the Canadian Mental Health Association and is involved in the creation of the Recovery College - YVR. Additionally, Anita co-chairs the Hallway Group lived and living experience council, through the Mental Health Commission of Canada. Most recently, Anita was appointed to the inaugural Lived Experience Council through the Global Leadership Exchange. Through her personal and professional experiences, Anita has found passion and purpose.

- **Community-Based/Patient-Oriented Research**
- **Engagement with PWLLE & Family Partners**
- **Mental Health**



# Lisa Evans

She/Her

## Manager, Services & Community Development

Lisa Evans is the Manager of Services and Community Development - Housing for Community Living B.C. (CLBC) where she is responsible for the BC Housing portfolio, Home Sharing, housing relationships with community partners, and working with government partners to increase inclusive, accessible, and affordable housing opportunities for individuals with Diverse Abilities. She acknowledges with gratitude that the lands on which she lives, works, and plays are on the traditional and unceded territories of the Snuneymuxw Peoples.

Lisa is passionate about her work and dedicated to supporting individuals who are CLBC eligible and present with complex needs. She strives to ensure they have access to the supports and services necessary to live inclusive and healthy lives while maintaining their autonomy, and providing them with opportunities that support their independence.



- **Developmental & Intellectual Disabilities**
- **Community Engagement**
- **Housing**



# Heather Fulton

She/Her

## Psychologist

Heather Fulton is a Psychologist at Royal Columbian Hospital where she is responsible for Psychiatry Resident Psychotherapy Training, specifically CBT and Motivational Interviewing. She is also a Professor in the Department of Psychology and a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at UBC.

Heather has extensive experience across the spectrum in concurrent disorders, starting in 2003, from volunteering in grassroots organizations and non-profit service delivery, to academic research and teaching, to working in tertiary, outreach, and private care settings. She also has an established private practice where she sees clients and family members regarding concurrent disorder and other mental health issues, as well as provides organizational consulting in implementing evidence-based mental health and substance use care.

Heather holds a Doctor of Philosophy in Clinical Psychology from Dalhousie University and Bachelor of Science from Queen's University. She lives in the Lower Mainland and enjoys kayaking and hiking.

- **Inter-Professional Education & Adult Learning**
- **Program Development & Evaluation**
- **Psychology**



# Sheila Lewis

She/Her/They

## MHSU Transformation Clinical Specialist

Sheila Lewis brings a strong background in leading mental health and gender-based analysis and in looking at issues of community health and well-being from an intersectional lens. Sheila is based in Kelowna, B.C. and currently holds the role of Clinical Specialist at Interior Health in the Mental Health and Substance Use Transformation portfolio, stewarding the implementation of Complex Care Housing for the Interior. Formerly, Sheila held the role of Provincial Women's Manager with Métis Nation of B.C. where she led research into the impact of provincial, regional, local, and national policies on the well-being of Métis women and their families. In this role, Sheila also worked with the Federal government in developing an action plan designed to respond to the calls for justice arising from the findings of the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Report.

Prior to joining Métis Nation, Sheila held various roles with the Interior Health Authority, including regional practice lead for Indigenous Mental Wellness as part of their mental health and substance use network, and the Indigenous Regional Knowledge Coordinator. Sheila has also worked with the City of West Kelowna, the Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society, the Okanagan Nation Alliance, the Okanagan Nation Emergency Transition House, the City of West Kelowna and University of British Columbia, Okanagan. Sheila also volunteers her time to support and facilitate Truth and Reconciliation Reading Circles designed to build and deepen community understanding of the 94 Calls to Action set out in the report.



- **Complex Social Issues**
- **Decolonization**
- **Housing Accessibility**



# Danny Nault

He/They

## Forensic Social Worker

Danny Nault is a Forensic Social Worker with BC Mental Health and Substance Use Services, where he supports high-risk offenders living with complex mental health and substance use challenges. Based on Snuneymuxw and Coast Salish First Nations territory, he brings over five years of experience with Forensic Psychiatric Services, along with a background in housing, income assistance, and overdose prevention work. Danny has a strong interest in borderline personality disorder and suicide prevention, shaped by deep personal connections - including the loss of a partner to suicide - and his own lived experience with mental health struggles and history of being an at-risk youth. These experiences continue to shape his passion for his work.

A proud member of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community, Danny is an advocate for equity, access, and inclusive care. He recently completed his Masters of Clinical Social Work through the University of Calgary, where he created and led 2SLGBTQIA+ educational and system change initiatives in BCMHSUS as part of his practicum.

- **Borderline Personality Disorder**
- **Forensics**
- **2SLGBTQIA+**



# Nooshin Nikoo

She/Her

Physician

Nooshin Nikoo, is a wife, mother, sister, daughter, aunt, settler on the unceded Sx̣w̱m̱əθkʷə́y̍əm (Musqueam) land, and a family physician who provides longitudinal primary care in BC.

She has been present in diverse spaces of healthcare system to connect silos and contribute to the redesign of care delivery model to the marginalized in past 15 years.

She is a compassionate medical meta leader with systems thinking lens aimed at enhanced healthcare delivery based on the indigenous principles of care & Indigenous Specific Anti-Racism fundamentals.



- Community practice
- Health of the marginalized & incarcerated
- Primary care



# Shirley Paulsen

She/Her

Family Lived Experience Strategic Advisor

Shirley Paulsen is a lived and living experience strategic advisor (family) to the Network, as well as a patient family partner for BCMHSUS. Shirley is a long-serving elected school trustee for her community of Abbotsford, currently chair of the Board of Education, along with provincial leadership in the various roles that governance brings. Governance, HR/LR, and policy are passions, but her career is as an event and partnership specialist.

In 2018, Shirley's son suffered a traumatic brain injury, among other things, when he was run over by a pick-up truck. Over time, he suffered from MHSU issues and eventually died from an accidental fentanyl overdose at just 24 years old. During those three years following his debilitating accident, Shirley learned that most services and programs did not address nor support the complexities of concurrent disorders. Before Jacob died, Shirley and Jacob spent time with various levels of government trying to find answers and support, but with little luck. During this time, Shirley's advocacy in this field increased to the point where she needed to go public with his story. She's striving to help others in order to leave things better than how she found them.

Éy swáye! I gratefully acknowledge that I live, work, and play on the traditional and unceded territory of the Semá:th First Nation and Mathxwí First Nation. With this, I respect the longstanding relationships that Indigenous Nations have with this land, as they are the original caretakers.

- Event & Partner Specialist
- Governance & Policy
- Presenting Jacob's Story: Losing a Son to Fentanyl



# Stephen Pelland

He/Him

## Peer Support Coordinator

Steve Pelland is the Peer Support Coordinator with the Community Transition Teams (CTT). CTT is a program that supports folks who are transitioning out of any of the 10 Provincial correctional centers in BC. Steve is responsible for providing mentorship and support to CTT's Peer Support Workers as well as providing direct client care as needed.

Steve has 20 years of lived experience of incarceration as well as substance use challenges and this experience uniquely equips him to relate with folks who are currently in a similar situation.

Steve is passionate about this work because he was once a client of the CTT program and his goal is to make sure that every client is provided the same opportunity that he was given.



- **Lived Experience**
- **Peer Support**
- **Transition out of provincial correction centres**



# Brianne Samson

She/Her

## Manager, Services & Community Development

Brianne Samson is the Manager of Services & Community Development - Health at Community Living B.C. (CLBC), where she oversees efforts to connect CLBC eligible individuals with necessary health care services. Her department not only supports CLBC Service Delivery teams, but also strives to align the support needs of CLBC eligible individuals with practices across various government and community sectors, including health and community living in British Columbia.

Brianne brings extensive experience from the social services and health sectors, beginning her career in Calgary, Alberta, completing her master's in occupational therapy through the University of British Columbia, and joining CLBC in 2009. Throughout her time at CLBC, she has held several key roles, including as a registered Occupational Therapist at the Provincial Assessment Centre.

Brianne is a white settler, acknowledging with gratitude that she works, lives and continues to learn, on the traditional and unceded lands of the Səlilwətaʔt təməxʷ (Tsleil-Waututh), Skwxwú7mesh-ulh Temíxw (Squamish), and Sxʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) Nations

- **Community Development**
- **Developmental & Intellectual Disabilities**
- **Occupational Therapy**



# Terri-Lee Seeley

Director, Professional Practice Allied Health

Terri-Lee Seeley is the BCMHSUS Director of Practice-Allied Health. She is responsible for leading allied health practice across the BCMHSUS programs. She has extensive experience in mental health and substance use, including concurrent disorders, and specializes in trauma-informed practice and social determinants of health.

Terri-Lee holds undergraduate degrees in psychology and social work, a master's degree in social welfare policy from McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario, and a Doctorate in social dimensions of health/social work specializing in trauma-informed care from the University of Victoria.

Terri-Lee lives, works and plays with deep sense of gratitude on the land of the Kwikwetlam people, known as Coquitlam BC. She enjoys travel, hiking and frolicking through the woods with her very active golden retriever.



- **Concurrent Disorders**
- **Social Determinants of Health**
- **Trauma-Informed Care**



# Devon Silvers

She/Her

Lead, Psychological Health & Safety

Devon Silvers is the Lead of Psychological Health and Safety for BCMHSUS where she is responsible for implementing the National Standard of Psychological Health & Safety across a variety of sites. She has extensive experience in Forensics, Operational Stress, Resiliency, and specializes in post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and Concurrent Disorders.

Devon holds a clinical master's degree in Counselling Psychology from UBC. She lives in the lower mainland and enjoys teaching yoga, meditation and Forest time with her family.

Devon has been working in mental health for over 20 years, and feels passionate about improving health care for residents of British Columbia.

- **Forensics**
- **Personality Disorders & PTSD**
- **Trauma-Exposed Professionals**

# Laura Wittkopf

She/Her

## Psychiatric Outreach Nurse

Laura Wittkopf is a grateful guest living in the Secwempc Nation as an outreach nurse and nurse prescriber with the Adams Lake Indian Band, based out of the Sexqeltqin Health Center.

She is responsible for supporting Adams Lake Band members and local First Nation Peoples with mental health and substance use, including with safer substance use, overdose prevention, education, prescribing Opioid Agonist Treatment (OAT), access to psychiatry, and treatment applications. She has extensive experience in Opioid Use Disorder and specializes in providing outreach services to clients who are living on and off reserve.

Laura has a passion for being an advocate for and ally to Indigenous Peoples, often sitting on higher-lever tables to challenge systems that historically and currently serve as access barriers to mental health and substance use services.



- Harm Reduction
- Opioid Agonist Treatment
- Policy

If you are interesting in joining the Provincial  
Mental Health and Substance Use ECHO as a  
Hub Team member please contact us at  
[echo\\_bcmhsus@phsa.ca](mailto:echo_bcmhsus@phsa.ca)