



Exploring Cultural Considerations for Brain Injury Support



Speakers include:

RCMP Superintendent John Brewer

Jodie Millward

Health Manager

National Inquiry into the Missing and Murdered
Indigenous Women and Girls

Lilian Wong

Disability Alliance BC, Chinese Speaking
Brain Injury Support Group

Dr. Mel Kaushansky

Registered Psychologist

Dr. Sundeep S. Thinda

Registered Psychologist

General Registration

\$95.00 per person

(Group rates and subsidies are available)

Friday, October 27, 2017

8:30 am to 3:30 pm

Cascade Community Church
35190 Delair Road, Abbotsford, BC



Agenda – Friday October 27, 2017

8:00 am – 8:30 am	Registration, Continental Breakfast
8:30 am – 8:45 am	Welcome Address – John Simpson
8:45 am – 10:15 am	Superintendent John Brewer
10:15 am – 10:45 am	Break
10:45 am – 11:15 am	Dr. Mel Kaushansky
11:15 am – Noon	Lillian Wong, RSW, MSW, MA Working with Chinese Brain Injury Survivors
Noon – 1:00 pm	Lunch
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm	Dr. Sundeep S. Thinda
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Jody Millward, M.A. First Nations Health Authority
3:00 pm -	Closing Comments

Cascade Community Church
35190 Delair Road, Abbotsford, BC



Speakers & Presentations

Welcome Address - John Simpson



Bio: John Simpson was born and educated in Dublin, Ireland and became involved in rehabilitation in 1969 as an insurance adjuster. He was involved in the Rehabilitation Department of ICBC in 1979 and developed a keen interest in the area of brain injury. In 1981, he began providing case management services through his own company, Simpson Rehab Management. John was a founding board member of the BC Head Injury Association in 1982 and served on the boards of the Canadian Paraplegic Association and Cheshire Homes Society. He founded the Fraser Valley (East) Brain Injury Association in 1997 and although he retired in 2001, continues to serve in a variety of volunteer and consultant roles within the organization.

John Simpson was a pioneer in the movement to improve services for people with acquired brain injuries. For over thirty-five years, he has advocated for families and survivors of brain injury, writing to and meeting with government officials, funders and service providers. Mr. Simpson was recognized in 2016 with the Governor General of Canada’s Caring Canadian Award for his work in the brain injury field.

Presentation Title: First Nations Health Authority (FNHA) history, role and where we are going – Jodie Millward, M.A.

This presentation will discuss the history of why the FNHA exists, how we came to be and where we are going. We would like to discuss the importance of cultural awareness and sensitivity when working with Aboriginal populations; explore what role traditional and spiritual wellness plays in healing and outline barriers to Aboriginal people accessing services.

Presenter: Jodie Millward is the Mental Wellness Advisor for the First Nations Health Authority in the Fraser Salish Region. She has recently become the Health Manager for the National Inquiry into the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls as well.

She is a Metis woman from Alberta who has been a visitor in this territory for the past 16 years. She has had the honour of working with the FNHA for the past 2 ½ years.



Jodie has a Masters in Counselling Psychology from Adler University and specializes in working with addictions and trauma in a way that combines the best of our western and indigenous ways of healing.

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Know your limits, play within it.





Presenter: Superintendent John Brewer,
Officer in Charge Enhanced Community and Aboriginal Policing
Services; “E” Division.

Superintendent John Brewer joined the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in March 1994. Over the course of his service, he has been assigned to duties ranging from General Duty to Aboriginal and Community Policing throughout British Columbia as well as International Policing in Afghanistan.

He was first posted in Nanaimo, British Columbia in 1994 where he worked in General Duty, Drug Enforcement and Community Policing. In 2002 he received his first promotion and transferred to Richmond Detachment. In 2004, he was transferred to Elkford Detachment as the Detachment Commander.



He was then promoted to Sergeant and moved to Victoria as the Advisory Non –Commissioned Officer for Aboriginal Policing on Vancouver Island. In 2007, a dispute arose on Spat Mountain between several First nations and developers of the Bear Mountain Resort near Victoria. At the time, this was the largest private development in Canada. He led the liaison and mediation between Five First Nations, The Developer, The Province of BC and the Municipality of Langford to a successful conclusion. Sgt. Brewer was awarded a Commanding Officers Commendation and British Columbia Meritorious Service Medal for mediating a peaceful settlement at Bear Mountain. In 2009 Chief Adam Dick, Hereditary Chief of Kwakwaka’wakw First Nations, honored him for his work in developing the RCMP procedures and policies of the Heritage Conservation Act of British Columbia. In a ceremony, at the Mungo Martin Big House in Victoria, Sgt. Brewer was adopted into Chief Dick’s Wolf Clan and given his traditional clan name.

In 2008, he was commissioned to the rank of Inspector as the Officer in Charge of Operational Development Unit in Operations Strategy Branch. In 2010 he served as the NATO Senior Police Advisor in Afghanistan for the Afghanistan Border Police where he was awarded the United

States Superior Service Medal for actions during his tour of duty. Upon returning to duty in British Columbia in 2011, he served as the Audit and Compliance Officer for “E” Division. In 2013, he became the Officer in Charge of “E” Division Professional Standards enforcing the RCMP discipline process in the province. In 2015, after serving as a Regional Duty Officer for the Lower Mainland District, he assumed role of Officer in Charge of “E” Division Aboriginal Policing Services and was promoted to Superintendent on September 01, 2016 as the Officer in Charge of Enhanced Community and Aboriginal Policing Services.

Superintendent Brewer is a proud member of the Lower Simikameen Indian Band - Smalqmix. He was born in Penticton and raised in Princeton, British Columbia. The son of a logger, he lived and worked throughout Haida Gwaii, Vancouver Island and the Interior of British Columbia. He and his brother, Cole Brewer, are the most recent of four generations of RCMP members in his family. He is married to Wendy, who works as the Community Health Nurse for Tsawwassen.



Presenter: Dr. Mel Kaushansky has practiced as a Registered Psychologist in the Province of British Columbia since 1989, having completed a Ph.D. from Simon Fraser University. His specialty is in Neuropsychology, assessing children and adults with varying neurological disorders and typically planning rehabilitation programs to improve their functioning at home and in the community. He also holds a Master's degree in Special Education, obtained in 1973, and has spent his working life addressing the needs of handicapped children and adults. He has also worked in private and public clinics in that capacity, as well as taught psychology in post-secondary settings within the Province. He has been qualified as an expert in the Supreme Court of British Columbia as well as in Washington State.

Presentation: Working with Chinese Brain Injury Survivors – Lilian Wong, RSW, MSW, MA

This presentation will focus on working with Chinese brain injury survivors and their families with respect to exploring culturally influenced health behaviours and discussing possible ways to improve cultural competency.

Presenter: Lillian Wong, RSW, MSW, MA has facilitated the Vancouver Brain Injury Support Group since 1992 and the Chinese-speaking Brain Injury Support Group since 2005. Her work as a social worker, counsellor and disability advocate offers her daily opportunities to work with culturally diverse disabled populations. Born and raised in Vancouver of immigrant parents and herself a brain injury survivor, Lillian has the unique perspective of what living with a brain injury is like across two dissimilar cultures. She presently works at the Disability Alliance BC.



Presenter: Dr. Sundeep S. Thinda has worked in various roles as a Registered Psychologist in British Columbia, providing psychological assessment and treatment throughout the Metro Vancouver region since 2004. He was a rehabilitation psychologist at Back in Motion Rehab. for 7 years and has been in independent private practice since 2011. Dr. Thinda is also the founder and Clinical Director of Lifebalance Groups, a mental health group rehabilitation program in Surrey, BC that integrates yoga and fitness (in-house) with psychological treatment (English and Punjabi/Hindi). He is qualified as an expert in clinical and rehabilitation psychology in the Provincial and Supreme Courts of BC. He has also been an adjunct instructor in the Psychology Department at Kwantlen Polytechnic University for over a decade. He currently teaches the senior level Kwantlen Rehabilitation Psychology class.

Dr. Thinda provides services in English, Punjabi, and Hindi and he has presented extensively on topics related to clinical and rehabilitation psychology including cultural considerations in treatment.

Dr. Thinda will be speaking about brain injury and disability in the Indo Canadian community.



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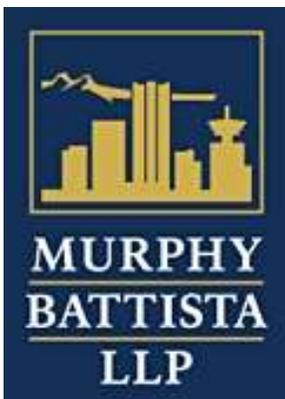
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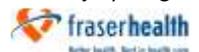
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Workshop Location

Cascade Community Church, 35190 Delair Road Abbotsford, BC

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