BACKGROUNDER

2017 Award recipients and summary profiles

Corrections Exemplary Service Second Bar for 40 years’ service:

Stan Leong’s Corrections career spans more than 40 years; he began as a probation officer in 1974. Recently, he returned from retirement to help integrate services to Vancouver’s Downtown Eastside at Downtown Community Court and supervise highly visible community work service. Stan is renowned for his great attitude, sense of humour and computer expertise.

Corrections Exemplary Service Bar for 30 years’ service:

Since joining Community Corrections in 1977, Lawrie Bay has become synonymous with excellence in providing information to the courts for consideration in sentencing and is known and respected among judges. Currently based in Chilliwack, he has worked in offices across the Lower Mainland.

In various acting deputy warden roles, Vancouver Island Regional Correctional Centre’s (VIRCC) Dave Gordon has led many projects benefiting both inmates and staff. Notably, he was part of an award-winning team that pioneered a case management approach to support successful reintegration of clients into the community.

With 34 years in Saskatchewan and BC Corrections, Marlen Schuck is an exemplary leader and mentor whose kind, gentle demeanour works effectively with inmates with mental health needs. He has worked in Community Corrections but enjoys front-line interaction with inmates, and currently works at VIRCC.

With over 30 years in adult and youth corrections, Fraser Regional Correctional District warden Don Tosh has been instrumental in developing an array of inmate programs, ranging from farming and animal husbandry, to work and shop programs, to peer-driven inmate programming focused on appropriate social interaction and interpersonal skills.

Kathy Wilson has spent her entire Corrections career at VIRCC, starting in electronic monitoring and moving up the ranks to serve as a correctional supervisor since 2000. Kathy goes the extra mile for inmates, holding them to high expectations and caring about their success. This focus also is reflected in her work on fundraising and wellness initiatives with colleagues.

Though she began her corrections career in Edmonton nearly 36 years ago, Colleen Turnley has been with Burnaby Youth Custody Services since 1986. A nursing supervisor, she is a recognized leader in the area of health care services.

Kimberly Dawn McKinney retired in January after 32 years in B.C. youth custody and probation. A leader in case management services and trauma-informed youth custody practice, Kimberly launched the suspension process for enforcement of deferred custody and supervision in the community orders for the Province.
Corrections Exemplary Service Medal for 20 years’ service:

Ali Alibhai began as an auxiliary probation officer in 1992, obtained a permanent position the next year and is now the local manager at the Tri Cities Community Corrections Office. A caring leader, he excels in providing his staff with opportunities to grow and develop. He helped to pioneer the provincial quality assurance process and is now involved in updating it.

A self-motivated, high-performing team leader, Kevin Bishop began as an auxiliary security officer at Nanaimo Correctional Centre in 1995, moved to a supervisory role in 2004 and into management in 2006, and has served as an acting assistant deputy warden on many occasions.

As the senior probation officer at the Surrey North Community Corrections office, Elena Henriksson quickly distinguished herself supervising extremely high-risk and complex clients. Last year, Surrey RCMP recognized her for helping to co-ordinate timely intervention with high-risk individuals, which mitigates the risk of a crisis before it requires an emergency response.

For more than 20 years, Cassandra Howes has demonstrated her natural leadership abilities as a correctional officer at the Kamloops Regional Correctional Centre. As a member of the centre’s Critical Incident Response Team for much of her career, Cassandra assisted many of her colleagues through some very challenging periods, continually demonstrating her composure, professionalism, kindness and empathy for everyone around her.

A great mentor and an expert in building and emergency systems, Sam Rai began as an auxiliary correctional officer in 1995, earned several awards as a Critical Incident Response Team member, and is now a control and facility management supervisor at Surrey Pretrial Services Centre (SPSC).

Delta/West Surrey Community Corrections’ local manager Rick Gill, who began as a probation officer in 1995, has been instrumental in overseeing delivery of domestic violence programming through his work with the Relationship Violence Prevention Program and its cultural edition.

Known for providing a caring ear to colleagues and tailoring programming to enhance case management of individual inmates, Kamloops Regional Correctional Centre’s (KRCC) Terri Haggerty has been recognized for her work with the security contingent for the 2010 Olympic Games and for saving the life of a suicidal inmate in 1997.

A pillar of support for inmates and mentorship to colleagues, SPSC’s Cheryle Ismirnioglou became a correctional officer in 1991 and has twice won the peer-nominated award for outstanding community leadership as someone who volunteers their time and demonstrates an exceptional commitment to her community.

Nanaimo Correctional Centre assistant deputy warden Charlene Arcuri has consistently sought new challenges, accepting acting duties as a correctional supervisor and, later, temporary appointments as a deputy warden. An ambassador who has promoted BC Corrections at public events, she’s been recognized for outstanding work in support of recruitment.
KRCC’s Darren MacKenzie pursued his interest in corrections after graduating high school in 1989, the same year the centre opened. With a lifelong commitment to developing his knowledge and experience in successive roles, Darren now acts as an assistant deputy warden and is highly regarded as a leader, supervisor and mentor.

Over 25 years at five youth and adult custody centres, Ford Mountain Correctional Centre’s Devlin Onucki has helped young offenders develop social skills and sex offenders develop insight and higher levels of control. An assistant deputy warden of operations, he plays a major role in occupational health and safety, emergency services and preparedness.

With 24 years of service, Fiona Pardy has served in Delta, Surrey and Burnaby as a Youth and Adult Probation Officer and a Family Court Counsellor. Currently the Youth Justice Consultant for South and East Fraser and Chair of the Provincial Restorative Justice Conferencing group, her passion lies with practice, training, mentoring and policy.

Vanessa Pike started her career in Dawson Creek in June 1997 as both a Youth and Adult Probation Officer. In the 20 years since she has been a valued team member, mentor to students and new staff, and advocate for her clients, serving in various capacities in Fort St. John, Sechelt, Prince George and the North before settling into her current role with Surrey Youth Probation.

Throughout her 21 years in youth justice, Lisa Romanuik has worked to bring training opportunities to youth justice staff and support the policy changes needed for roll-out. Always ready for a new adventure, she was instrumental in the redesign of the youth probation officer training program to its current online model.

Working in probations since 1994, Jason Fanshaw has been a champion of promoting positive outcomes for high-risk youth, families and victims. Passionate about social justice, he is considered a practice expert who expands his own technical and practical knowledge, makes himself accessible to others and assists with the development of professional learning opportunities for other youth justice staff.

Cory Mann began his career at Prince George Youth Custody services 27 years ago as an auxiliary security officer and is now the acting director of programs. Considered collaborative and a leader by example, his consistent approach highlights his outstanding ability to listen, understand and respond.

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