

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology Board of Governors

Member Biographies

Terena Hunt

Terena Hunt is currently a strengthening families worker for the Squamish Nation Ayas Men Men Child and Family Services. The foundation of her work is Aboriginal healing practices coupled with psychology and neuroscience. Previously, Ms. Hunt worked as a family preservation counsellor for the Vancouver Aboriginal Child and Family Service Society, and as an aboriginal liaison officer and a community coordinator for the Correctional Service of Canada. Active in her community, she was a previous director for Natures Own Enterprises. Ms. Hunt holds her Native Adult Instructor diploma from North Island College, an Associate of Art Degree from Nicola Valley Institute of Technology and her Bachelor of Social Work degree from the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology.

Lennard Joe

Lennard Joe is General Manager of Stuwix Resources Joint Venture. Previously Mr. Joe was Owner of Grizzly – Man Resource Management Ltd. He has over 29 years of forestry and business experience. Mr. Joe is a member of the Nlaka'pamux First Nation. Active in his community, he is President of Scwexmx Tribal Council, is a Board of Director for the National Aboriginal Forestry Society and BC Indigenous Business Investment Council. Mr. Joe also is an Advisor to Chief and Council for the Shackan Indian Band. Mr. Joe is a Registered Professional Forester. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Natural Resources Conservation from the University of British Columbia and a Diploma in Conservation Wildlife Management from Selkirk College.

Lindsay Borrows

Lindsay Keegitah Borrows (Chippewas of Nawash First Nation) is a lawyer and researcher at the Indigenous Law Research Unit at the University of Victoria Faculty of Law. Previously she was a lawyer at West Coast Environmental Law, where she worked on the RELAW (Revitalizing Indigenous Laws for Land, Air and Water) Project. Her work supports Indigenous communities to revitalize their traditional laws for application in a contemporary context. She has worked with many legal traditions including Anishinaabe, Haí'zaqv, Māori, Mi'kmaq, nuučaañuł, St'át'imc, Denezhu, and Tsilhqot'in. Lindsay is also passionate about story-telling, writing and language revitalization. She published a book of creative non-fiction entitled, "Otter's Journey through Indigenous Language and Law" (UBC Press, 2018). Lindsay received her J.D. from the University of Victoria, and her B.A. from Dartmouth College. She is a graduate of the Banff Centre's Indigenous Writing Program (2014), and the Writer's Studio at SFU (Fiction, 2019).

Melissa Louie

Melissa Louie, Kahahxstahlas, is a Coast Salish and Syilx lawyer. She is a Citizen of the Tla'amin Nation, located north of Powell River, BC and also has family ties to the Penticton Indian Band. Melissa holds a BA degree in Criminal Justice from UFV and a Bachelor of Laws degree from UBC. Since becoming a lawyer in 2008, Melissa has worked to support First Nations participating in treaty negotiations and in the treaty implementation process (including constitution development, legislative drafting and the establishment of governing structures). Melissa has developed broad and practical experience in providing legal and strategic advice on a wide-range of issues through her work with the First Nations Summit, a province-wide political body. In addition, she has relevant experience at the international-level in advancing Indigenous rights through United Nations mechanisms in supporting the former North American representative to the United Nations Permanent Forum on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Melissa also currently serves on various Committees and Boards.

Maynard McRae

Maynard McRae is a teacher at the Sensisysten House of Learning with the Westbank First Nation and has been since 2008. He currently teaches language and culture but has held other positions at the school, including Principal. Active within his profession and in his community, Mr. McRae previously served on the First Nation Education Steering Committee Working Group. He holds his Bachelors of Science and Education degree from Thompson Rivers University and his Masters of Education degree from the University of British Columbia - Okanagan.

Joseph (Joe) Bevan

Joe Bevan was a Capacity Development Manager for the First Nations Financial Management Board. Previously Mr. Bevan was Chief Negotiator for Kitselas First Nation. Active in his community, he was Chair of the First Nations Major Projects Coalition and First Nations Finance Authority. Mr. Bevan also was a Director for First Nations LNG Alliance. He holds an Associate Degree in Business Administration from Coast Mountain College.

Paul Donald

Paul Donald is a member of the Simpcw First Nation. Mr. Donald is Director of Business Development with the Simpcw Resources Group. Previously he was Executive Director for Little Shuswap Lake Band and Chief Executive Officer for the All Nations Trust Company. Active in his community, Mr. Donald is on the Board of Governors for Nicola Valley Institute of Technology. Previously he was Chair of the Simpcw Resources Group, President of the Council for the Advancement of Native Development Officers, and Vice President of Kamloops Native Housing Society. Mr. Donald also was on the Board of the Kamloops Aboriginal Friendship Society. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from Simon Fraser University.

Sashia Leung

Sashia Leung is a proud Wet'suwet'en Chinese woman from the Witset First Nation. Ms. Leung is Director of International Relations and Communications for the British Columbia Treaty Commission. Previously she was Associate Director of Process for the BC Treaty Commission. Active in her community, Ms. Leung is Chair of the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology and a Board Member of the Banff Forum. Previously she was Co – Chair of the Canadian Roots Exchange and a Board Member of Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver. Ms. Leung holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and First Nations Studies from the University of British Columbia.