

CANADIAN PRESENTERS
RESTORATIVE JUSTICE WEEK 2008
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
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Jennifer Llewellyn B.A. (McMaster), M.A. (Philosophy) (Queen's), LL.B. (Toronto), LL.M. (Harvard).

Professor Llewellyn is a professor at Dalhousie Law School in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. She is currently a Visiting Scholar of Law at Vanderbilt University Law School in Nashville Tennessee.

Her teaching and research is focused in the areas of restorative justice, truth commissions, international and domestic human rights law and Canadian constitutional law. She has written and published extensively on the theory and practice of restorative justice in both transitional contexts and established democracies.

She worked with the **South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission in 1997**, and **served as an expert witness on restorative justice for the Jamaican Commission of Enquiry in 2002**. She is currently assisting with the formulation of a national restorative justice policy for Jamaica as a senior consultant with the United Nations Development Programme.

She is **currently a member of the steering group for the Working Party's Restorative Peace-building Project which is exploring the role of restorative justice in peace-building and in relation to the work of the new United Nations Peace-building Commission**. She is also a member of the Working Party on Restorative Justice (WPRJ) of the Alliance of NGOs on Criminal Prevention and Criminal Justice in New York (a consultative body with the United Nations).

Ms Llewellyn previously served as a member of the Assembly of First Nations' Expert Task Group on Canada's Dispute Resolution Plan to Compensate for Abuses in Indian Residential Schools and advised the Assembly of First Nations during the recent Indian Residential Schools Abuse settlement negotiations with respect to the design of the Truth Commission for Indian Residential Schools.

Professor Llewellyn is also an academic/policy advisor to the Nova Scotia Restorative Justice Programme, and currently serves as the Director of the Nova Scotia Restorative Justice Community University Research Alliance (NSRJ-CURA), a collaborative research partnership between university and community partners funded through a five-year, million dollar grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

The NSRJ-CURA is focused on the institutionalization of restorative justice practice with particular attention to the example of the Nova Scotia Restorative Justice Program which is among the most comprehensive and developed restorative justice programs in the world.

Professor Llewellyn was a member of the Research Initiative on the Resolution of Ethnic Conflict at the Kroc Institute for Peace at Notre Dame University.

Professor Llewellyn is also an active member of the United Church of Canada, previously chairing its National Governance Committee. She has also worked with the Canadian Council of Churches and the World Council of Churches.

Danny Graham

Mr. Graham started his career as a defence lawyer with Nova Scotia Legal Aid and Pink Murray Graham. He started the Nova Scotia Restorative Justice Program in the mid-1990s, and later worked for Justice Canada to advance prominent national initiatives in the area of restorative justice, youth justice and anti-terrorism.

He served as the leader of the Nova Scotia Liberal Party from 2002 – 2004.

He is now the Chief Negotiator for the Province of Nova Scotia in the Mi'kmaq rights and title initiative. He is also currently working to develop and advance community peace strategies in various countries.

Mr. Graham has become a respected speaker and opinion leader in Canada on issues ranging from justice reform and restorative justice, to democratic renewal and citizen engagement. In a June 2007 profile, Progress Magazine stated that “(Danny) Graham is helping his community learn how to fan the flames of civic engagement – both within the next generation and across unconventional networks – so that the toughest of society’s challenges are tackled with compassion, creativity and fearlessness.”

Over a twenty-year period Mr. Graham has had experience in business, law, public policy and politics. He is the Chair of Envision Halifax, a citizen's coalition seeking to enhance community leadership and civic engagement in Nova Scotia.

**John Bailie,
Training and Consulting Coordinator,
International Institute for Restorative Practices (IIRP)**

John Bailie has provided restorative practices training and consulting in the United States and internationally.

In the United States, he has worked with the IIRP's SaferSanerSchools program to bring restorative practices to hundreds of schools, including those in at-risk areas of New York City, Philadelphia and Baltimore.

His training and consulting work also includes that with juvenile probation and children and youth agencies, as well as churches and religious communities. John is also an experienced restorative conference facilitator in adult and juvenile cases, including those involving felony-level offences.

A seminarian in the field of pastoral counselling, John is well-versed in the connection between restorative practices and faith. John spent many years as a counsellor for troubled and at-risk youth at a day-treatment alternative school operating entirely according to restorative practices.

An experienced community organiser, Mr. Bailie helped to organise nationwide and community campaigns for economic and social justice in support of the rights of the homeless and the working poor. He specialised in creating and mobilizing community networks and coalitions.

John brings to his work a thorough knowledge of labour issues and challenges faced by marginalized communities.

Lorraine Berzins,
Community Chair of Justice for The Church Council on Justice and
Corrections (CCJC), Canada.

Lorraine Berzins, who holds Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Montreal and a Masters of Social Work Degree from McGill University, is the CCJC's first appointee to this position.

She entered the justice field by working with prisoners in federal penitentiaries for men and women.

In August 1970, she was held hostage at knife-point by a prisoner for 8 hours. This experience has taught her firsthand that there is a powerful social construction of 'victim', 'offender', 'dangerousness' and 'police work' that does not correspond to real life.

The first person to be appointed Coordinator for the Female Offender Programme Coordinator in Canada, Mrs. Berzins worked for 14 years as a criminal justice policy analyst for Solicitor General Canada, on issues related to offender programmes, dangerousness, discipline, dissociation and solitary confinement.

In 1984 Lorraine left the government service to work with the Church Council on Justice and Corrections (CCJC) as an educator and advocate of justice responses that attend to the human and are more relational, participatory and healing for all parties affected, including surrounding family and community.

The CCJC is a national faith-based coalition of eleven founding churches, created in 1974, to promote more community responsibility for justice in Canada, with an emphasis on addressing the needs of victims and offenders, mutual respect, healing, individual accountability, community involvement and crime prevention.

Its mandate calls it to focus particularly on encouraging churches to take a leadership role in promoting safe justice options that can contribute to strengthening inclusive community relationships.

Ms. Berzins did volunteer work on youth justice issues in Latvia, a former Soviet state in Baltic Eastern Europe. **She was also employed at the Nunavut Department of Justice in Iqaluit, Canada, learning about Inuit traditional approaches to justice through the experiences of community justice committees in remote hamlets.**

Mrs. Berzins is a founding member of Women for Justice, a political action group to lobby for social justice for women. In 1997, she was appointed to a three-year term as member of the Advisory Council to the Law Commission of Canada. **She was also the recipient of the Public Education Award from the Canadian Criminal Justice Association.** She has served as a board member for a number of Ottawa voluntary agencies, including the Elizabeth Fry Society, Salvation Army Citizens' Advisory Committee, and Youth Services Bureau.

R. James Loewen,
Secretary of the Board, Church Council on Justice and Corrections

Mr. Loewen has been the National Restorative Justice Coordinator for the Mennonite Central Committee (MCC), Canada. He has the mandate to coordinate Restorative Justice Network of the MCC and Circles of Support and Accountability Network, as well as the Committee's Annual Restorative Justice Conference.

Between May 1999 and May 2002, he was appointed **Head of Conflict Management Minor/Lecturer at the Jamaica Theological Seminary**, during which time he was active in the work of the Swallowfield Chapel.

Mr. Loewen's current scope of responsibilities also includes the position to Conflict Training Facilitator, Diverse Church Groups.

His training in Conflict Resolution began in 1998 at the Justice Institute of British Columbia. In 2005 Mr. Loewen furthered his education in this area with a specialised course, "**Evocative Empathy – Victim's Voice Safe Justice.**"

His published works include:-

- The Restorative Justice Tree – a learning tool. A macromedia flash movie published by MCC Canada.
www.mcc.org/canada/restorativejustice
- "Relationship and Conflict" The Caribbean Journal of Evangelical Theology,
2001, 5th Ed.
- The Vineyard Christian Fellowship, MA Thesis 1997