

**For Further Information:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:  
Saanich Peninsula Restorative Justice  
PO Box 2102  
Sidney, BC V8L 3S6

**Saanich Peninsula  
Restorative Justice**

Saanich Peninsula Restorative Justice is a community-based initiative staffed by volunteers trained in restorative justice principles and practice.

It has the support of several local institutions and operates under the Ministry of Justice guidelines.

We facilitate community restorative justice conferences as an alternative to the court system, facilitate restitution and girls' circles in district schools, and train volunteers in restorative practice and process.

**Community Partners**

- Beacon Community Services
- Central Saanich Police Service
- District of North Saanich
- Municipality of Central Saanich
- School District #63
- Sidney/North Saanich RCMP
- South Island Wellness
- Town of Sidney

**How to Get Involved**

We welcome anyone interested in learning more about Restorative Justice in our community to contact, by phone or email, either Executive member listed on this brochure.

A criminal record check is required of all volunteers. Guests are welcome at any of our general meetings.

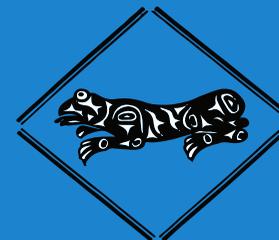


**For further information or inquiries, please contact:**

Sue Saunders, Chair  
Phone: 250-652-5274  
Email: crabdip@shaw.ca

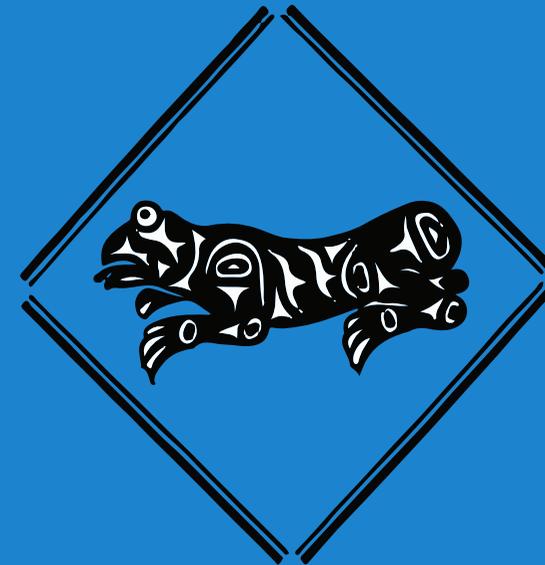
Andrea Safavi, Secretary  
Phone: 250-721-1969  
Email: andreasafavi@gmail.com

*The FROG – designed by Rico Underwood. The FROG represents growth, creativity, balance and transformation. The four directions point to the mental, physical, emotional and spiritual qualities of life-in-community.*



RJ Logo:©Rico Underwood

**SAANICH  
PENINSULA  
RESTORATIVE  
JUSTICE**



**Justice Begins  
in the  
Community**

## Restorative Justice through Community Conferencing

The community conference is a formal meeting facilitated by trained program volunteers and involves the victim and offender with families or other supporters, as well as other community members.

The goal of the conference is to have participants reach an agreement which:

- repairs the harm caused by the offending behaviour;
- provides restitution to those harmed; and
- restores relationships.

This process is initiated on the recommendation of the police, school principals or Crown Counsel when they believe it will provide more benefit than the formal court process.

### Other Conference Characteristics

- Organized and led by trained volunteer facilitators
- Outcomes belong to the participants
- Held in a neutral community location
- Safe settings for all participants to tell their stories

## Who is Eligible?

- A member of the community who has been harmed and who wishes to participate in a restorative process as an alternative to court.
- Youth and adults who could be charged with an offence under the Criminal Code including, but not limited to, theft, possession of stolen property, vandalism, break and enter, fraud and mischief.
- The person who caused harm must acknowledge the essential facts of the harm caused and must be willing to accept responsibility for his or her actions.
- The person who caused harm must be willing to participate in a face-to-face conference and comply with the terms of the agreement signed at the end of the conference.

## Confidentiality

The conference is a confidential process between the facilitator and the participants. Statistics of conferences and their outcomes are tracked and recorded by the program and police for evaluation purposes only.

## The Benefits

### For Victims

- A safe place to tell the offender how the incident has affected them
- An opportunity to understand the offender's behaviour
- An increased chance of receiving restitution
- An opportunity to help the offender repair the harm

### For Offenders

- An opportunity to understand the harm suffered by the victim
- An opportunity to avoid a criminal record
- An opportunity to acknowledge responsibility for the harm caused
- An opportunity to make things right and restore the relationship

### For the Community

- Speedy resolution
- Cost effective
- Reduced risk of re-offence
- An opportunity for peace making



## Please Indicate Your Interests

Community volunteers committed to, and trained in, the philosophy and practice of Restorative Justice and Restitution operate Saanich Peninsula Restorative Justice.

At least once a year the program offers training for volunteers to learn how to be community conference facilitators, school volunteers, mentors, trainers and public speakers.

The public is welcome to attend general information meetings, held once every two months.

Please let us know how you might like to get involved or what additional information you might like to receive.

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