

Melanie Scott

OBJECTIVE

To continue to utilize my social work skills providing education, training, professional development, and consulting to those working within social welfare.

EXPERIENCE

Instructor, Caring for First Nations Children Society, Victoria, BC. — 2008-2011

Provided training, for delegation and on best practices, for social workers in Aboriginal child welfare agencies. Provided training for supervisors and boards of Aboriginal child welfare organizations. Additionally, provided training for support services personnel, such as family support and family preservation workers.

Associate Community Services Manager, Ministry for Children and Family Development, Fraser Region, Aboriginal Services — 2007-2008

Responsible for Aboriginal services for Circles 3 & 6, Maple Ridge/Pitt Meadows, Tri-Cities, Burnaby, and New Westminster in the Fraser Region. Services included delegated, support, and community services moving towards Aboriginal Authority. Responsible for practice, contracts, and budgets.

Child & Family Services Director, Xyolhemeylh Child & Family Services, Chilliwack, BC. — 2002-2007

Provided leadership and direction to supervisors and staff in a fully delegated Aboriginal child welfare agency providing services to twenty-three bands and Aboriginal people off reserve from Hope to Langley on the south side of the Fraser River and Hope to Mission on the north side of the Fraser River in British Columbia. Responsible for policy, program, and case practice standards and development, audits and reports, communications, coordination, liaison and networking, and developing and implementing innovative child welfare programs. Duties included case consultation and direction, ensuring compliance to legislation, practice standards and policies, conducting employee evaluations, supporting staff training, contract negotiations, and fiscal accountability. Additionally, I sat as the British Columbia representative on the National Advisory Committee for federal child welfare, as well as participating on committees in British Columbia such as the Aboriginal Operational & Practice Standards and Indicators development and review committee, the Aboriginal Social Work Training Curriculum committee, the Alternate Dispute Resolution working group, and the Tri-Partite Co-Chairs committee in addition to various other working groups.

Practice Consultant and Trainer, Xyolhemeylh Child & Family Services — 2001-2002

Responsible for case consultation and direction for complex or conflictual child and family service cases, practice decisions, and training and mentoring of staff. My duties included assessments, case reviews, research on best practice, developing practice tools, training for communities, Elders, caregivers and staff, audits and reports, and back up to the Director.

Team Supervisor, Xyolhemeylh Child & Family Services — 1998-2001

Responsible for supervising and directing a multi-disciplinary team including child protection, guardianship, family support, resources, counseling, and youth support. My duties included community liaison, developing regional work plans, fiscal accountability, training and support, and as part of the management team, developing policies, procedures, and protocols.

Social Worker, Xyolhemeylh Child & Family Services — 1997-1998

Responsible for investigating child protection concerns, risk assessments and risk reduction plans, court procedures, case management, plans of care and all guardianship functions.

Sessional Instructor, Fraser Valley University, Abbotsford, BC. - 1997-2001 and 2007-2009

Delivered courses in the Human Services/Social Work Department. Taught a second year and a fourth year field placement course, Introductory Communications, Introduction to Social Welfare, Social Work Practice with Individuals, and Family Dynamics. I also taught Family Dynamics for the Carrier peoples as part of their A&D certification.

Family Outreach Worker, Abbotsford Community Services, Abbotsford, BC. — 1996

Counseled families, referred by the Ministry of Children and Families, at risk of having their children apprehended. Facilitated parenting skills and life skills in both the short-term and regular outreach programs.

Supervisor, Coordinator, Counsellor, Mission Community Services, Mission, BC. — 1988-1994

Responsible for starting and running the Youth Suicide Prevention Program and Teen Line covering Mission, Maple Ridge, and Abbotsford and supervising the Crisis Line and Family Advancement Programs. Counseled individuals and families, trained and supervised staff and volunteers, and facilitated educational workshops for schools and communities. Responsible for budgets, proposals, and reports. Produced a video on youth suicide prevention, presented on a panel at the annual Suicide Prevention Convention, started the peer counseling program in the Mission elementary

schools, chaired the Adolescent Resource Committee to start a youth centre, and co-chaired the Child and Youth Committee in Mission. I was also on the advisory boards for the Adolescent Psychiatric Program at Mission Memorial Hospital and the Citizen's Advisory Committee at Mission Medium Institute.

EDUCATION

Master of Social Work, University of British Columbia — 1996-1998 Focus on clinical practice, policy and theory. Participated on the Research Planning Committee for the School of Social Work Research Day and moderated a session on health issues.

Bachelor of Social Work, University College of the Fraser Valley - 1994-1996 Graduated on the Dean's List and was the student representative to the Faculty of Social Work. My third year practicum was as a Probation Officer and my fourth year practicum was in Psychiatric Social Work.

TRAINING

- Facilitating workshops and seminars
- EMDR Level I and II
- Counseling individuals, families, and groups
- Investigation and assessment skills
- Critical incidence stress debriefing
- Conflict resolution and mediation
- Peer counsellor training
- Working with sexual abuse survivors
- Anger management
- Suicide prevention
- Research
- Budgeting
- Report and proposal writing
- Curriculum development
- Computer skills