

Aboriginal Suicide and Critical Incident Response Team Training



Kwa-kwela – Xulit tu mustimuxw

- To give another chance in life (Kwagiulth)
- To bring back to life (Coast Salish)

“Give another chance at life”



ASCIRT's Mandate

Kwa-kwela Xulit tu mustimuxw is rooted in the belief that the *community can mobilize itself*.

ASCIRT partners with communities and provides the necessary training and support for the community to develop its own response to critical incidents and suicide.



Cormorant Island Response Team (Alert Bay, BC)





Youth Empowerment and Tribal Journeys

- We deliver Youth Empowerment training to Youth Workers / Role Models which includes cultural teachings and promotes traditional values of the Coast Salish and Kwakwakw'wakw First Nations
- Youth Workers / Role Models were asked to invite an 'at-risk' friend to participate in Tribal Journeys





2010 Youth Empowerment Training

First participants completing program at Lake
Cowichan, BC



ASCIRT 2011

ASCIRT Coordinator/Mentor

- Provides training/workshops to communities
- Assists community-based response teams
- Youth Empowerment program
- Liaison with communities
- Collaborates with Community Service Providers



The Community Is The Medicine Workshop Series

- **Community Wellness Workshop** - *Culture is the key. Impact of colonization, to recognize the power of the cultural values and draw upon community strengths.*
(2 Days)
- **Opening the Circle** - *Developing Community Wellness/Response Teams* (3 Days)



The Community Is The Medicine Workshop Series

- **Through the Pain** - Responding To A Suicidal Person
(3 Days)
- **In Case of Emergency** - Critical Incident Response
The first 48 hours C-ASCIRT team will be able
development of a Critical Incident Response Protocol
and simple effective trauma prevention tool.
(1 Day)



The Community Is The Medicine Workshop Series

- **Reaching Out - Responding To A Person In Crisis**
This workshop will provide the knowledge, skills and strategies necessary to understand and respond to community members overwhelmed by a personal crisis.
(3 Days)



The Community Is The Medicine Workshop Series

- **Beyond Fear** - Responding To Grief & Trauma

This workshop will provide the C-ASCIRT with *advanced* knowledge, skills and strategies necessary to understand and respond to community members struggling with grief and/or trauma

(3 Days)



IN CLOSING

“First Nations for First Nations”

Kwa-kwela Xulit tu mustimuxw provides
values-driven and culturally-centered service

Through training and critical incident support,
the ASCIRT staff is here to support
communities as they develop their capacity
to respond to crisis and suicide.

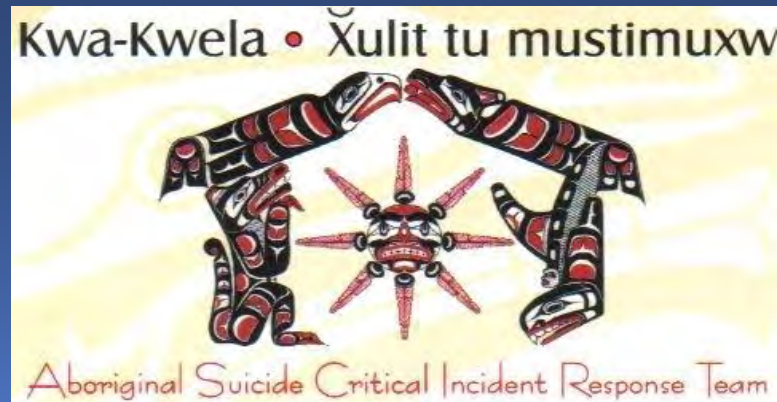


Thank you!

Hay-ceep q'a siem

Gilakasla





Website:

<http://www.intertribalhealth.ca>

Toll Free: 1-877-777-4842



Protocol and building relationships with First Nation Communities

“Wata” Christine Joseph

Kwakiutl Elder, Elder Advisor

Fort Rupert, B.C.



Working Collaboratively in the North Island Region

Michel Therrien

Aboriginal Support Worker

Ministry of Children and Family Development

Port Hardy, BC



Working Collaboratively in the North Island Region

Child and Youth Mental Health Team

- Who we are
- What we do



Working Collaboratively in the North Island Region

Child and Youth Mental Health Services

- Who can make a referral?
- Referral process in three steps



Working Collaboratively in the North Island Region

Child and Youth Mental Health Team

- Digitization Project



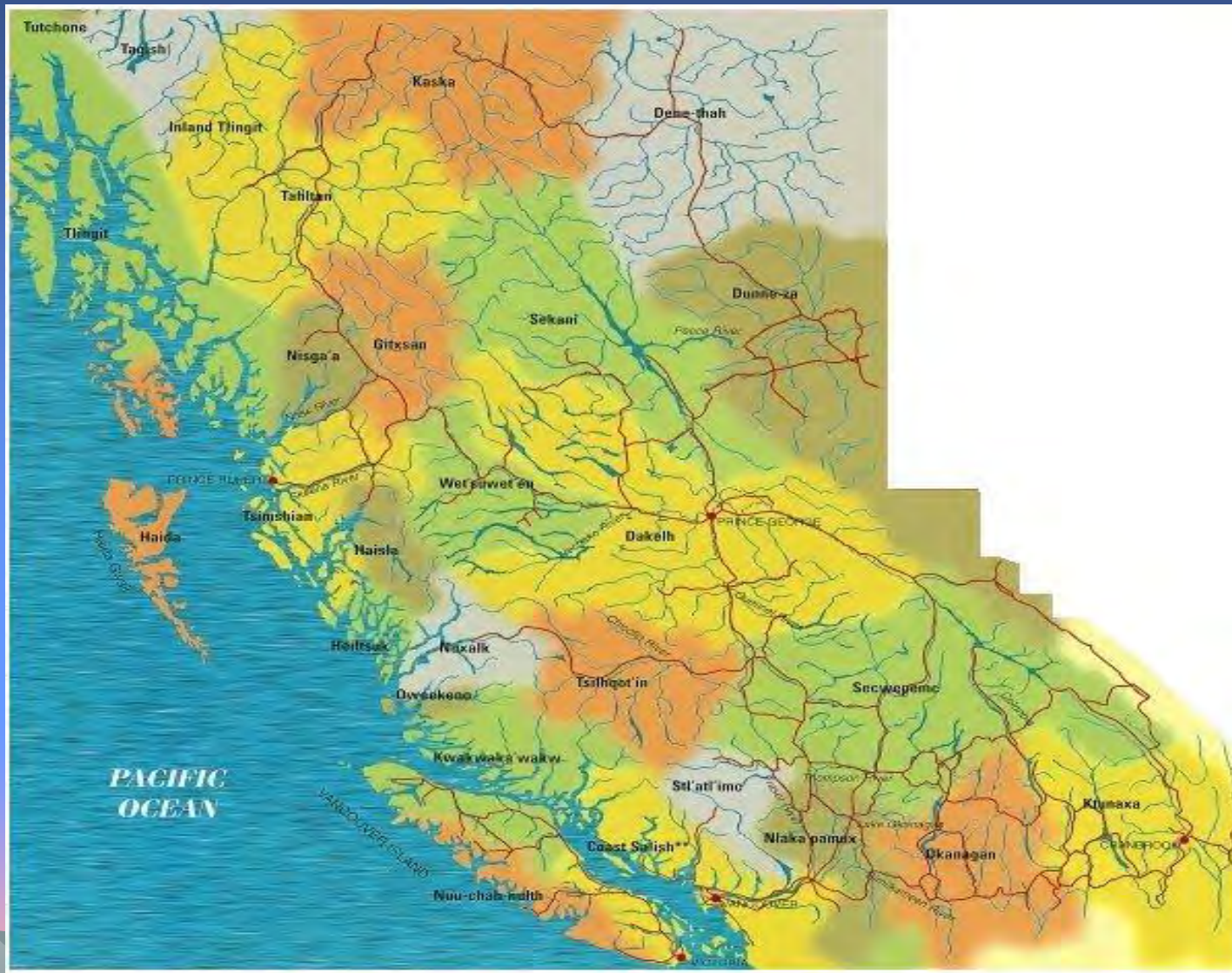
North Vancouver Island Youth Wellness Camp: The Journey

**The Long, Bumpy Road to Wellness;
Confronting the Harsh Reality
Of Suicide!**

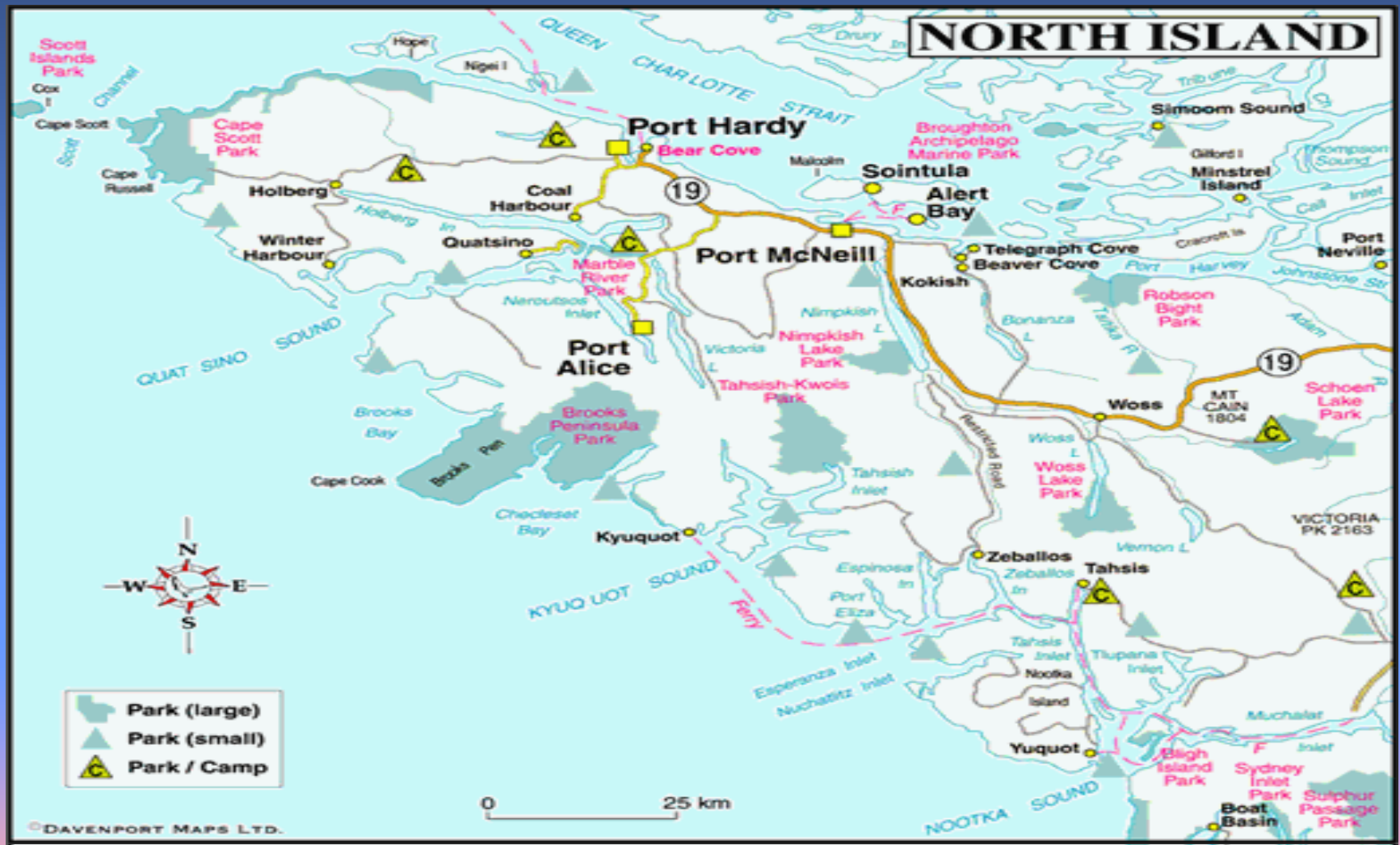
Pearl Hunt & Michael Jacobson-Weston
Whe-La-La U Area Council



The Province of B.C.



Kwakwaka Territory of North Coast



The Beginning

- Georgina Speck perceives the dire need of the Youth of the Gwa'Sala-Nakwaxda'xw (G-N) First Nation
- Formation of a steering committee
- First meeting: Georgina sets out the concerns that have arisen when G-N youth present at the Hospital showing suicidal ideation and released with no parental contact/follow-up.



The Journey in Brief

- Steering Committee initiates work on protocol
- Service Provider meeting at P.H. Friendship Centre (60+ in attendance) to invite ASCIRT
- Esther Charlie of ITHA presents at follow-up meeting re: ASCIRT
- North Island Communities raise money for presentation by Dr. Martin Brokenleg



Journey continues

- Circle of Courage presentation at P.H. Civic Arena
- Concurrently ASCIRT training being planned for Alert Bay
- Concurrently “Gift of Life” celebration planned
- Suicide Protocol meetings still on-going
- Elder Willie Walkus hired as G-N Community Support worker by C & Y Mental Health
- Second “Gift of Life” celebration



Other Accomplishments

Annual Youth conferences/camps

- 2008-Port Hardy Youth Conference
- 2009-Alert Bay Youth Conference
- 2009-Woss (Wa'as) Lake Youth Suicide Prevention & Intervention Camp
- 2010-Port McNeill Youth Conference
- 2010-New Vancouver Youth Wellness Camp
- 2011-Fort Rupert Youth Conference.
- 2011-Kingcome Youth Wellness Camp.



North Island Youth Wellness Camp

- First Youth Camp was entitled “suicide prevention and intervention.” 48 youth, their families, and support staff attended totaling over 200.
- MCFD, Child & Youth Mental Health, Inter-Tribal Health Authority, Band support staff. i.e. Youth Workers, Summer Students, community advocates, and elders were our support staff.



N.I.Youth Wellness Conference

- Trainers from ITHA along with Elders held circles with the youth to discuss suicide prevention
- Circles were also held for parents, grandparents, and family members to build their skills and knowledge to support youth who maybe struggling.
- Numerous cultural and traditional activities



IN CLOSING

Two important words in the Kwakwaka language:

- Sasamans
- Kwala'yu

Thank-you

Gilakasla!





Participants in front of Tsatsisnukwomi Big House



Leonard Williams (standing) teaches all ages the art of cedar weaving.