

# Network Leadership Meeting 2026

Honouring  
our  
journey  
**Growing  
forward  
together**



# Network Leadership Meeting

## Welcome to our 2026 Foundry Network Leadership Meeting!



This gathering brings together leaders from across the Foundry network, whether your centre is open and serving your community or you're engaged in the important work of developing a new centre. We are grateful for the First Nations communities who have joined our network, bringing the strength of their knowledge and perspectives.

Over our two days together, we'll have a chance to connect, highlight the incredible work of our network, learn from one another, and share our experiences and challenges.

Most importantly, we want to hear from you as we shape our next steps, together. Along with our network leaders and representatives from Foundry Central Office, we are honoured to welcome:

- Chief Ian Campbell of the Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh Nation and the Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh Canoe Family
- Denise Findlay, Shanelle Brillion and Angie Brinoni with Gathering Our Medicine
- Elder Ruth Alfred from the Namgis Nation in Alert Bay
- Foundry's provincial youth and family advisors (on Day 2)
- Ian Boeckh and Marni Pearce with the Graham Boeckh Foundation

We are grateful for the partnership between the Graham Boeckh Foundation and Bell Let's Talk, whose support made this gathering possible. Thank you to Ian and Marni for taking time to be with us and for your continued support and engagement in this work.

As we celebrate 10 years of Foundry, it's a time to reflect on how far we've come, the impact we've had and all the exciting opportunities ahead.

Thank you for being here and thank you to the teams in your communities who do this important work every day.

Karen Tee and Steve Mathias  
**Co-Executive Directors**

## Land Acknowledgement

We respectfully acknowledge that our gathering takes place on the unceded, traditional and ancestral territories of the x<sup>w</sup>məθkwə́yəm (Musqueam), Cayuse, Umatilla, Walla Walla, S'ólh Téméxw (Stó:lō), Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group, s'cəwaθenaʔtəməx<sup>w</sup> (Tsawwassen) and Stz'uminus Peoples, who have cared for these lands and waters since time immemorial.

We recognize that we have traveled from communities across the province to be here. We carry with us connections to many lands, Nations and territories, and we hold gratitude for the diverse places that support the work we do. We give thanks for safe travels, for the opportunity to gather on this land and for the responsibility we share to listen, learn and act with respect and care.

## A warm welcome

We are thrilled to have about 30 of our Provincial Youth and Family Advisors join us for **Day 2**. This is the first time advisors are joining the event, and it is an important step to ensuring their voices and perspectives are included in our discussions and learnings. Please join us in welcoming them!

## A special thanks

This gathering is made possible through the partnership of the **Graham Boeckh Foundation** and **Bell Let's Talk**.

Their shared commitment to youth mental health is helping to strengthen and expand access to integrated services for young people and families across British Columbia through Foundry.

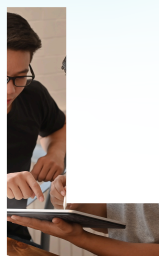
**Bell**

Fondation  
**Graham Boeckh**  
Foundation



# Agenda

## Day 1 May 26



<p><b>Breakfast, Registration &amp; Connection</b> Look for your regional table!</p>	<p><b>8:00-9:00am</b></p>	<p><b>Thanks to our MCs</b> Julie Zimmerman and Erica McLean</p>
<p>Ceremonial Opening</p>	<p>9:00-9:30am</p>	<p>Chief Ian Campbell and Skwxwú7mesh Canoe Family</p>
<p>Opening Remarks</p>	<p>9:30-9:45am</p>	<p>Foundry's Co-Executive Directors Karen Tee and Steve Mathias</p>
<p><u>Keynote Session</u> <u>When Relationship Is the Prescription</u></p>	<p>9:45-10:45am</p>	<p>Welcome! Dr. Denise Findlay</p>
<p><b>Morning Break</b></p>	<p><b>10:45-11:00am</b></p>	<p><b>Snacks &amp; refreshments</b></p>
<p><u>Supporting Youth Who Experience Increasing Distress and Complexities</u></p>	<p>11:00-12:15pm</p>	<p>Carmen De Menech, Rachel Foster, Kirsten Marchand, Toni Carlton &amp; Elise Durante</p>
<p><b>Lunch and Networking</b></p>	<p><b>12:15-1:00pm</b></p>	<p><b>Enjoy the buffet!</b></p>
<p>Wellness Activity</p>	<p>1:00-1:20pm</p>	<p>Let's Groove! Join Karen Tee &amp; Kassia Skolski</p>
<p>Critter Activity</p>	<p>1:20-1:45pm</p>	<p>Facilitated by Erica Mclean &amp; Sydney Hamilton</p>
<p><u>Measuring What Matters Together</u></p>	<p>1:45-3:00pm</p>	<p>Julia Langton, Basia Pakula, Karen Tee &amp; Gregg Loo</p>



# Agenda

## Day 1 Concurrent Sessions

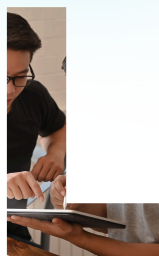
<b>Afternoon Break</b>	<b>3:00-3:15pm</b>	<b>Please make your way to your breakout session room</b>
<u>Peer Support, Voice and Decolonizing Practices</u> <b>Rm: Dinsmore</b>	3:15-4:15pm <b>Concurrent</b>	Anne Liao, Cassandra Lucke & Amy Reid
<u>Transforming Your Centre Through Indigenous Wellness and Relational Practice - Gathering Our Medicine</u> <b>Rm: Richmond</b>	3:15-4:15pm <b>Concurrent</b>	Shanelle Brillion, Angie Brinoni & Denise Findlay
<u>Substance Use Health Services: Barriers and Facilitators to Implementation</u> <b>Rm: Cambie</b>	3:15-4:15pm <b>Concurrent</b>	Amelia Birch, Kaelin Fleming & Dorothy Easton
<u>Supporting Youth and Families in Rural and Remote Communities</u> <b>Rm: Plaza</b>	3:15-4:15pm <b>Concurrent</b>	Christine Swain, Michelle Oakley, Heather Glenn-Dergousoff, Julia Hayos & Acasia Preston
<u>Indigenous Co-Leadership and Relationality. <i>ṭikxawiṭikimik</i> for all things to be connected – Foundry East Kootenay as a Relational Model of Indigenous Inclusion</u> <b>Rm: Bridgeport</b>	3:15-4:15pm <b>Concurrent</b>	Jacquie Dust & Smokii Sumac

Concurrent session signup will be available 8:00am-noon the morning of!



# Agenda

## Day 2 May 27



<p><b>Breakfast, Registration &amp; Connection</b> Look for your regional table!</p>	<p><b>8:00-9:00am</b></p>	<p><b>Thanks to our MCs &amp; Bingo hosts</b> Elise Durante &amp; Seren Friskie</p>
<p>Human Bingo Activity</p>	<p>9:00-9:30am</p>	<p>Let's Play!</p>
<p>Welcome of Youth and Family Advisors</p>	<p>9:30-10:00am</p>	<p>Our appreciation to Elder Ruth</p>
<p><u>10 Years of Transforming Access to Care and Strategic Plan Update</u></p>	<p>10:00-10:45am</p>	<p>Foundry's Co-Executive Directors Karen Tee and Steve Mathias</p>
<p><b>Morning Break</b></p>	<p><b>10:45-11:00am</b></p>	<p><b>Snacks &amp; refreshments</b></p>
<p><b>Join us for the River Journey Activity</b> A Celebration of 10 years of Foundry</p>	<p>11:00-12:15pm <b>Concurrent</b></p>	<p>Interior Region <b>Rm: Cambie</b></p>
<p><b>Join us for the River Journey Activity</b> A Celebration of 10 years of Foundry</p>	<p>11:00-12:15pm <b>Concurrent</b></p>	<p>Northern Region <b>Rm: Richmond</b></p>
<p><b>Join us for the River Journey Activity</b> A Celebration of 10 years of Foundry</p>	<p>11:00-12:15pm <b>Concurrent</b></p>	<p>Island Region <b>Rm: Bridgeport</b></p>
<p><b>Join us for the River Journey Activity</b> A Celebration of 10 years of Foundry</p>	<p>11:00-12:15pm <b>Concurrent</b></p>	<p>Fraser Region <b>Rm: Plaza</b></p>
<p><b>Join us for the River Journey Activity</b> A Celebration of 10 years of Foundry</p>	<p>11:00-12:15pm <b>Concurrent</b></p>	<p>Vancouver Coastal Region <b>Rm: Dinsmore</b></p>
<p><b>Lunch and Networking</b></p>	<p><b>12:15-1:15pm</b></p>	<p><b>Enjoy the buffet!</b></p>

# Agenda

## Day 2



<u>A Learning Health System Approach to Improving Job Development in the Foundry Work &amp; Education Program</u> <b>Rm: Plaza</b>	1:15-2:20pm <b>Concurrent</b>	Matt Wenger & Galen Exo
<u>Primary Care Operations and Practice across Foundry Core Services</u> <b>Rm: Cambie</b>	1:15-1:45pm <b>Concurrent</b>	Amelia Birch & Karen Giang
<u>Social Media for Centres in Development</u> <b>Rm: Richmond</b>	1:15-1:45pm <b>Concurrent</b>	Miks Haeusser & Michelle Rogers
<u>Bringing Findings for Foundry to Life: An Advisor-Centred Co-Design Space</u> <b>Rm: Bridgeport</b>	1:15-2:20pm <b>Concurrent</b>	Ayah Has, Jagdeep Hayre & Tasfiyah Kabir
<u>Behind the Yes: How Funders Really Decide</u> <b>Rm: Cambie</b>	1:50-2:20pm <b>Concurrent</b>	Molly Loudon & Marni Pearce
<u>Not Hard to Reach: Rethinking Youth Engagement</u> <b>Rm: Richmond</b>	1:50-2:20pm <b>Concurrent</b>	Seren Friskie, Sydney Hamilton, Erica McLean & Ari Spence
<b>Afternoon Break</b>	<b>2:20-2:35pm</b>	<b>Please return to the Ballroom</b>
Service Expansion Naming Engagement Activity	2:35-3:00pm	Miks Haeusser, Dan Nixon, Acasia Preston & Stef Costales
River Journey Shareback	3:00-3:45pm	Dan Nixon
Closing Remarks and Witness Shareback	3:45-4:15pm	Toni Carlton

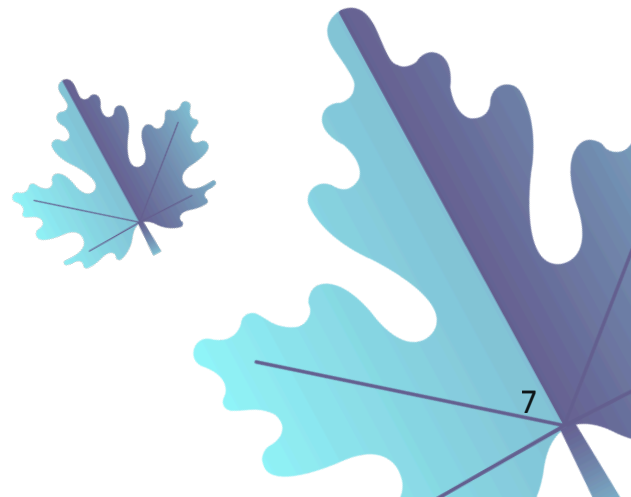
# Meet Our Keynote Speaker

## Dr. Denise Findlay (she/her)

Tselkxáliya (Dr. Denise Findlay) is a Skwxwú7mesh scholar-practitioner from the village of Xwemélch'stn and holds a PhD in Education from Simon Fraser University. She is a published academic author with a scholarly foundation in the Philosophy of Educational Theory and Practice and is a recipient of a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Canadian Graduate Scholarship for her community-based research.

Denise has extensive experience supporting children, youth and families navigating complex emotional and relational challenges. Her clinical and applied work at the Maples Adolescent Treatment Centre shaped her understanding of the relational conditions necessary for healing, particularly the impact of disconnection, stress and unmet attachment needs on young people's well-being.

Denise also has extensive experience educating mental health and health care practitioners and other helping professionals, translating complex developmental, relational and cultural insights into meaningful, practice-based approaches.



## When Relationship Is the Prescription

Tuesday, 9:45am

Rm: Ballroom

While young people may arrive at Foundry seeking support for specific challenges, something deeper often lies beneath: an unmet need for connection. Each youth is an individual, yet each is shaped by a complex web of relationships that influences who they are. Many are navigating a growing relational gap—experiencing disconnection from family, community and a deeper sense of belonging.

This keynote invites leaders and service providers to shift their lens: to recognize when the relationship itself is the most essential and effective response. While clinical interventions play an important role, they cannot replace the conditions that young people need in order to feel safe, seen and held in a relationship.

Drawing on her work as a member of the Squamish Úxwumixw and founder of Gathering Our Medicine, Dr. Denise Findlay will share how this relational, intercultural, family- and community-centred framework is being taken up in Foundry to fill the relational void many youth experience. This approach supports service delivery that is inclusive, cross-culturally safe, and developmentally and trauma-informed—while focusing on strengthening relationships between youth, service providers, families and community.

Through story, reflection and practice-informed insight, we will consider how relational approaches can transform the way we understand and respond to youth well-being. This is both a reframing and a call to action: to recognize, celebrate and prioritize relationships as the foundation of care, and to intentionally cultivate conditions in which young people can truly thrive—while supporting those who walk alongside them to make a profound and lasting difference.

# Day 1 Session Outlines

## Supporting Youth Who Experience Increasing Distress and Complexities

Tuesday, 11:00am  
Rm: Ballroom

This session is a follow-up that was voted a top priority for centres who find there is an increasing number of young people facing complex and acute situations who are accessing service. In this session, we will have a mix of presentations, dialogue and sharing of promising practices related to the realities of supporting youth and those who care for them, as we all face an increasingly complex and distressing world.

## Measuring What Matters Together

Tuesday, 1:45pm  
Rm: Ballroom

How we measure, and what we measure, has evolved significantly over the past 10 years at Foundry. This session is a starting point for a broader conversation about our shared approach to “meaningful measurement” across the network.

We will reflect on how measurement has been used to date, acknowledge challenges and share where we are heading based on input and feedback from the network. The session will include a brief presentation followed by regional table conversations.

Our aim is to create space for honest dialogue about how measurement can support and empower youth, while also raising practical questions and considerations from centres about how to make this work in day-to-day practice.

## Peer Support, Voice and Decolonizing Practices

Tuesday, 3:15pm  
Rm: Dinsmore

This session draws on peer voice and research to explore the gap between how peer support is intended to function within integrated youth services and how it is experienced by peers themselves. Drawing on Indigenous and relational frameworks, the session will invite centres into honest conversations about what influences whether peer knowledge is supported and utilized to create change, and what gets in the way. Participants will explore how to have hard conversations, be open and receptive to feedback, and integrate that feedback in ways that assist peer support to be truly transformative.

## **Transforming Your Centre Through Indigenous Wellness and Relational Practice - Gathering Our Medicine**

**Tuesday, 3:15pm**  
**Rm: Richmond**

Despite strong intentions and expanded access, many youth fall through the gaps of fragmented systems. Gathering Our Medicine offers a different starting place, understanding relationship not as care enhancement but as the foundation for meaningful engagement, safety, clinical intervention and healing.

Grounded in traditional wisdom and aligned with Foundry's commitment to Indigenous wellness and integrated care, this session explores how shifting from urgency and role-based intervention toward relational practice can transform service delivery. When we begin to see belonging, kinship, identity and connection as central to wellness, we also begin to recognize that many youth challenges are rooted in unmet relational needs.

## **Substance Use Health Services: Barriers and Facilitators to Implementation**

**Tuesday, 3:15pm**  
**Rm: Cambie**

Join us for an interactive session exploring the implementation of substance use health services and supports in Foundry centres. We'll share updates on Foundry's emerging substance use health service planning model, followed by collaborative group work to help identify barriers, facilitators and new opportunities to support the implementation of substance use health services across the network. Your insights will directly shape how we move forward on strengthening substance use health supports across centres. If you want your voice to influence how we support youth substance use health, and you'd like some swag, join us!





# Day 2 Session Outlines

## 10 Years of Transforming Access to Care and Strategic Plan Update

Join us for highlights of our 10-year journey to transforming access to care and a look at what's coming.

Wednesday, 10:00am  
Rm: Ballroom

## A Learning Health System Approach to Improving Job Development in the Foundry Work & Education Program

Job development is a key element of Foundry's approach to increasing employment and education opportunities for youth through the Foundry Work & Education Program (FWEP). However, job development has been an area of difficulty for many teams across the network. This presentation will review how a Learning Health System approach was taken in FWEP to develop solutions to support job development based on learnings from youth and staff across the network.

Wednesday, 1:15pm  
Rm: Plaza

## Primary Care Operations and Practice across Foundry Core Services

In this presentation, we will outline how Primary Care Operations and Practice is integrated across Foundry's core services. We will explore how Primary Care operationalizes and supports wholistic health for young people, providing a foundation for comprehensive wellness. Additionally, we will introduce key documents recently developed to assist centres in establishing and sustaining strong, effective Primary Care teams. These documents are intended for centres in development as well as open and operating centres. And we've got swag for you!

Wednesday, 1:15pm  
Rm: Cambie

## Social Media for Centres in Development

Wednesday, 1:15pm  
Rm: Richmond

Join Michelle and Miks for answers to common questions about establishing a social media presence for a new/in development Foundry location. Topics covered will include security and privacy considerations, using short-form videos, incorporating content created by youth and caregivers, following brand guidelines and how to target different audiences effectively. The session will end with an opportunity for attendees to share their own experiences with social media and ask questions.

## Bringing Findings for Foundry to Life: An Advisor-Centred Co-Design Space

Wednesday, 1:15pm  
Rm: Bridgeport

Curious about what young people across the province are saying and how their voices can shape what comes next? This session brings Findings for Foundry to life through interactive activities, collaborative interpretation and knowledge sharing. Step into the shoes of youth and family advisors to explore how they transform complex findings into clear, compelling infographics. Whether you're passionate about turning research into actionable insights or simply curious to learn more, this low-barrier space offers room for exploration, creativity and connection. If you're looking for a session that sparks ideas and impact, you won't want to miss this!

## Behind the Yes: How Funders Really Decide

Wednesday, 1:50pm  
Rm: Cambie

What drives funders to say yes and stay engaged for the long term? In this candid fireside chat, hear from one of Foundry's longest-standing partners on what sparks interest, builds trust and leads to meaningful, sustained support. Bring the questions you have always wanted to ask a funder and gain practical insight into how to turn funders into champions who help grow peer interest and momentum.

## Not Hard to Reach: Rethinking Youth Engagement

Wednesday, 1:50pm  
Rm: Richmond

In this short interactive workshop, we will tap into the collective wisdom of the Foundry network and provincial advisories to explore best practices for engaging with Indigenous and equity-denied youth.

# Speaker & Facilitator Biographies

*Alphabetical by last name*

## Amelia Birch (she/her)

Amelia is the Practice and Implementation Lead, Primary Care and Substance Use Health. She is a graduate-trained Registered Nurse with Certified Practice. At Foundry, she prioritizes and encourages strength- and equity-based approaches in health care delivery. She lives in Kimberley, on the unceded and occupied territories of the K'tunaxa Nation, with her spouse, two kids, a teenage niece and two dogs.

## Angie Brinoni (she/her)

Angie is a Master of Education candidate, accredited addiction counsellor and Gathering Our Medicine facilitator supporting Indigenous engagement, culturally grounded program development and systems change across BC and Canada. Her work integrates trauma-informed practice, Indigenous pedagogy and relational approaches that strengthen culturally safe, respectful services for communities, families and organizations. Angie is a mother and grandmother married to a Cree-Métis man.

## Shanelle Brillion (she/her)

Shanelle is a Cree/Métis woman from Treaty 6 & 8 territories. She is a proud citizen of MNBC and member of Wapsewsiipi Swan River First Nation (Alberta). She has supported Indigenous-centred healing initiatives since 2014 and hopes to share stories from her work experience at the Maples Adolescent Treatment Centre and community experience that lend to the framework of Gathering Our Medicine.

## Toni Carlton (she/her)

Picture this: Lights dim, crowd roars and Toni's walkout song blasts—"Burn It to the Ground" by Nickelback—because nothing says "Let's torch mental health barriers!" like that pyro-packed anthem. This Provincial Services Director struts out, pinning bureaucracy, suplexing service gaps and body-slamming stigma in the ring of rural resilience. Indigenous roots from T'Sou-ke Nation fuel her signature move: collaborative chokeholds on fragmented care.

## Carmen De Menech (she/her)

Carmen, the Operations Manager for Foundry Prince George since 2020, runs on equal parts spreadsheets, strategy and sheer force of will. Find her power-walking through the woods with her dog, blasting loud music. Her walk-out song is “Satellite” by Rise Against—because nothing says “I will passionately organize this situation” like a soundtrack that blends hope, grit and enough underlying rage to keep things interesting.

## Jacque Dust

Jacque is the *ṭikxawiwikimik* Foundry East Kootenay manager, with over 18 years of working with the Ktunaxa Nation in various capacities. Jacque can often be found digging in her garden, emulating her favorite animal the groundhog



## Elise Durante (she/her)

Elise walks through life with an internal soundtrack that she debuts in meetings. She’s the proud human of two cute and increasingly unprofessional dogs. In her imagined wrestling career, Elise’s walk-out song is “California Love” by Tupac—as a tribute to her roots and because this Lead for Service Implementation and Integration brings vibes and unreasonable enthusiasm. Her opponents feel confused but welcomed.

## Dorothy Easton (she/her)

Dorothy is a Services Coordinator who supports Foundry centres across the Fraser region. She has a background in policy and research, and enjoys working closely with centre teams to strengthen services for youth and their families.

## Galen Exo (he/him)

Galen works within the Foundry Central Office team as the manager of the Foundry Work and Education Program. He supports the delivery of the program across the network.

## Kaelin Fleming (she/her)

Kaelin is a Policy Analyst and Master of Public Health graduate with a passion for policy and system change. Her work is centred around weaving together multiple forms of knowledge and evidence to support policy. Outside of work, Kaelin is an outdoor enthusiast who finds joy in any form of activity in nature, particularly those that can include her dog!

## Rachel Foster (she/her)

Rachel, the Clinical Lead/Assistant Manager at Foundry K'omoks/Comox Valley, runs on coffee, good vibes, great stories and being an Auntie to her beloved little people. She brings big heart energy, championing creative arts therapies and social services that shake things up—pushing for equity, justice and meaningful social change. Her walkout song is “Zombie” by The Cranberries—a bold, goosebumps-inducing, grab-the-mic-and-go-for-it anthem.

## Seren Friskie (she/they)

Seren is an Equity & Engagement Specialist with Foundry, a research analyst at University of Victoria and a community advocate. Their work focuses on advancing anti-racist and culturally safe practices across youth mental health systems, with a particular focus on Indigenous and equity-denied youth. They have experience in youth health research, sexual health research, community organizing, anti-racist practice and more!

## Heather Glenn-Dergousoff (she/her)

Youth are navigating challenges in an ever changing and divisive world, and Foundry plays a vital role in supporting a sense of belonging. As Interim Executive Director of Foundry Kootenay Boundary, Heather strongly believes the services and supports that Foundry offers will help youth be the best versions of themselves and give them the tools they need to overcome obstacles.

## Karen Giang (she/her)

Karen is the Medical Lead at Foundry Central Office, living and working on the unceded territories of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations. She works as a family physician across multiple Foundry centres. In her FCO role, she supports primary care implementation across the network, including clinical practice, team-based care, education, training and contract and funding initiatives.

## Julia Hayos (she/her)

Julia has the privilege of working with the caring, highly qualified and compassionate team of providers across BC as Manager of Foundry Virtual BC. She is committed to being part of the solution, ensuring that all youth and families can receive care when and where they choose. The service complements and builds on the strengths of community services through hybrid models of care.

## Sydney Hamilton (she/her)

Sydney's story is defined by being a learner and following different curiosities. She is Métis, and her family is originally from Lac la Biche, Alberta, and across Europe. She has lived on Treaty 7 territory and later moved to the unceded territory of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) people to attend the University of British Columbia where she is an uninvited guest.

## Miks Haeusser (they/them)

Miks is a Communications Specialist at Foundry Central Office, supporting centres' communications work and connecting centre-level work to provincial communications initiatives. Before joining FCO, Miks worked at Foundry Victoria as their Communications & Operations Coordinator.



## Ayah Has (she/her)

Ayah is a youth advisor who is a settler on the traditional, ancestral and unceded lands of the Coast Salish Peoples, specifically the Musqueam, Kwantlen and Tsawwassen nations. She has been with Foundry's provincial youth advisory for the past 4 years and is grateful for all the learnings and opportunities for advocacy along the way.

## Jagdeep Hayre (she/her)

Jagdeep is a proud mom of two teens, a dedicated family advisor and member of the Family Engagement Leadership Table at Foundry Surrey Central. She has a Support and Development role at FamilySmart, supporting peer support workers as they walk alongside families. She believes in empathy, connection and strong communities, and she enjoys spending time in nature and exploring quirky coffee shops.

## Tasfiah Kabir (she/her)

Tasfiah is Foundry's Knowledge Translation Coordinator and a B.Sc+ Masters in Management graduate with a passion for bridging gaps between impactful research and public understanding. Engaging with youth through UNICEF Canada, UBC iGEM and BC Children's Hospital informs her commitment to translating evidence into accessible tools that support understanding and action. She enjoys teaching Karate and making music.

## Julia Langton (she/her)

Julia is the Director of Research, Evaluation & Data at Foundry, turning big questions and messy information into insights people can use. She loves collaborative problem solving and learning alongside youth, families and communities. Outside of work, she's curious, creative and always up for conversation over a yummy meal.



## Anne Liao (she/her)

Anne is a Youth Peer Support Coordinator who was one of the OG Youth Peer Support Workers with Foundry Virtual BC in 2020. Learning, unlearning and relearning ways to decolonize their way of life is an ongoing journey informed by their living experience. They have two purrbabies, dabble in watercolour and poetry, and are studying to be a naturopathic doctor.

## Cassandra Lucke (she/they)

Cassandra is a Youth Peer Support Coordinator, supporting training and connection across the network. With over seven years of frontline youth peer support experience, Cass brings a relational, lived-experience-informed approach grounded in curiosity, collaboration and care — for both peer support workers and youth and families. In her free time, Cass enjoys creating art, learning and playing outdoors with her puppy, Loki.

## Gregg Loo (he/him)

Gregg is an Operations Manager with Vancouver Coastal Health, responsible for Richmond's Child and Youth Mental Health and Substance Use portfolio. As a Registered Clinical Counsellor, Gregg was utilizing Feedback Informed Treatment (FIT) in his work and is also a Certified Trainer with the International Center for Clinical Excellence. When not working, he's busy shuttling his children to various activities.

## Molly Loudon (she/her)

Molly is a Provincial Director at Foundry, bringing over 15 years of fundraising experience across BC and Canada. She has worked with youth-serving organizations including Variety – The Children's Charity and Big Sisters, and she is passionate about building partnerships that drive lasting community impact.



## Kirsten Marchand (she/her)

Kirsten is a Research Scientist, bringing brainpower, curiosity and equal parts science and sparkle. She mixes and matches research methods like a pro DJ to spotlight the magic of integrated youth services. Her kitchen dance parties with her kids are powered by the PNAU, Elton John and Dua Lipa remix of “Cold Heart.” Good research—and a good beat—go a long way.

## Steve Mathias (he/him)

Steve is co-Executive Director of Foundry and, like Karen, has been involved with Foundry since its establishment. Steve is a youth psychiatrist by training and still works at St Paul’s Hospital clinically. He is father to Anna, Amelie and Elise, partner to Leane and loves walks on the North Shore with his Golden Doodle Clifford and the Canucks when they aren’t terrible.

## Erica McLean (she/her)

Erica is an Indigenous Wellness Coordinator with Foundry with an intention of supporting communities and the Foundry network to bring Indigenous ways of knowing and being into our work.

## Michelle Oakley (she/her)

Michelle is the Project Lead of Foundry Kootenay Boundary.



## Marni Pearce (she/her)

Marni is Vice President, Youth Mental Health at the Graham Boeckh Foundation. She leads efforts to transform youth mental health systems through integrated youth services and cross-sector collaboration. Her experience spans government, academia and the non-profit sector as an educator, counsellor, researcher and policy-maker. Marni chairs the Mental Health and Wellness Funders’ Affinity Group, a pan-Canadian network advancing aligned philanthropic impact.

## Basia Pakula (they/she)

Basia is Foundry's Lead, Strategic Integration, focusing on how data, evaluation and practice come together in meaningful ways to support learning and improvement. Their work centres on equity and making measurement more useful for youth, families and providers. Basia is an adoptive parent and can often be found playing tennis.

## Acasia Preston (she/her)

Small communities have unique strengths that are often overlooked in larger decision-making spaces. As a Leader for Service Implementation & Integration, Acasia is passionate about amplifying rural voices to highlight both their strengths and challenges.

## Amy Reid (she/her)

Amy oversees Foundry's youth and family peer support. She and the peer support team believe relationship is foundational and share a passion for safe, consistent and sustainable practice. Amy lives in the East Kootenays, is a parent and spends time outdoors whenever she can. She brings her professional and personal experience to centring lived and living experience in this work.

## Michelle Rogers (she/her)

As the Social Media & Digital Content Officer at Foundry Central Office, Michelle leads the social media strategy across our provincial channels, including the development of social media content, campaigns and digital partnerships.

## Smokii Sumac (he/they)

Smokii is a member of the ʔakisq̓nuk First Nation and the Cultural Lead at ʔikxawiq̓kimik Foundry East Kootenay and the host agency Ktunaxa Kinbasket Child and Family Services Society. Smokii is a scholar, poet and artist who provides cultural and LGBTQIA2S+ supports and programming.

## Ari Spence (they/them)

Ari is an Equity & Engagement Specialist with Foundry, where they have the privilege of collaborating with youth, families and service providers from across the province to advance health equity.

## Christine Swain (she/her)

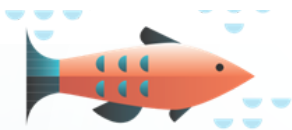
Christine is the Manager of Foundry Port Hardy and can often be found working in her garden or walking along her beloved ocean.

## Karen Tee (she/her)

Karen is Co-Executive Director of Foundry and a clinical psychologist. Recently, she has been overseeing service and standards development and implementation, as well as model integrity. When she isn't at work, Karen is either ballroom dancing or reading – historical fiction mysteries being her favourite.

## Matt Wenger (he/him)

Matt works within the Foundry Central Office team as a program implementation leader. In his role he supports both peer support services and work, education and community services.





## Acknowledgements

A heartfelt thank you to our honoured guests, presenters, facilitators, youth and family advisors, organizers and community members who made the Network Leadership Meeting such a success. Your insight, collaboration and shared commitment created a meaningful, inspiring gathering. We are truly grateful for your time, voices and ongoing partnership.

Sincere gratitude to the meeting organizers for their hard work behind the scenes to bring everyone together in such a welcoming and thoughtful way.

### Thanks to our partners

This gathering is made possible through the partnership of the **Graham Boeckh Foundation** and **Bell Let's Talk**.

Their shared commitment to youth mental health is helping to strengthen and expand access to integrated services for young people and families across British Columbia through Foundry.



**Network Leadership Meeting**  
**Post-Event Survey**  
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