



Douglas Dunn, Executive Director

I am committed to improving the quality of life for the youth of British Columbia and I have spent the last seven years working with Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Fraser Valley, B.C. Council for Families and several other child focused social welfare organizations in that pursuit.

About Douglas Dunn, M.B.A., C.F.R.E. (Certified Fund Raising Professional) I consider myself an entrepreneur having started my first company at age 11. I have been active in the not-for-profit sector as a development expert for over 30 years. As a Rotarian as well as founder, director and member of over 30 non-profit organizations, I have been active in a diverse range of organizations ranging from the Fine & Performing Arts to E-Commerce.

Why I love my job: *"The opportunity to work with the SOS Children's Villages B.C. was irresistible. I am delighted to join the SOS team and embrace their community driven focus which is making such a significant contribution to changing the lives of foster children and vulnerable youth in B.C."*



Marilyn Madden, Director of Corporate and Major Donor Stewardship

Marilyn has had an extensive, successful career as a sales and marketing specialist in the Corporate sector. Her background is within the credit card and financial industry, where she held the position of a Director in Merchant Acquisition. Marilyn is able to cultivate strategic partnerships and build long-term relationships to seek and deliver increasing funding opportunities.

In addition to her professional achievements, Marilyn is active in her community, supporting local school fundraising efforts, volunteering her time and knowledge at Career Days in high schools, and as a guest speaker at SAS workshops on financial planning.

Marilyn was also an active Board Member at Just Beginning Flowers – a non-profit society dedicated to helping train women, through their social enterprise flower shop and school, to re-enter the workforce. Marilyn spent several years assisting in fundraising activities and creating corporate opportunities.

Marilyn has had an on-going relationship with SOS Children's Village BC for a number of years due to programs taken by extended family members.

Why I love my job: *"I'm a storyteller and what storyteller doesn't want to share a great story. SOS Children's Village BC began thanks to an inspirational couple, Lois and Gilles Bouchard, who recognized that foster children were falling through the gaps. My job is sharing their story and the stories of all the talented children and youth, and their families, that SOS BC current support and the many more we will reach in the future"*



Raymonde Delisle, Finance Officer

Raymonde runs her own accounting business and has been involved in the field for over 20 years. Raymonde's compassion for children in need has kept her loyal to SOS BC for 11 years now. Away from work, Raymonde loves to tend to her garden, enjoy her grandsons and cook passionately for her family.



Shelina Jamani, Office Manager

Shelina first worked with children and their families over 25 years ago, and the road though windy, has come full circle. Although Shelina has been with us a short time she has a sound understanding of not-for-profits. Shelina has been on the Board of Directors for The Doula Services Association for nearly 4 years, an organization that supports birthing mums, their families and their communities. Shelina has successfully planned and organized many fundraising events and workshops, and will continue to show this same support for SOS Children's Village BC. Shelina has a wonderful, caring, happy family; she loves to bake and strongly believes naps are good for you.

Why I love my job: *"What's not to love, I get to entertain and be entertained by all sorts of adorable curious children, which makes for a lovely work week. I love my job because as well as supporting my colleagues who are making such an impact on the lives of foster children and children at risk in BC, I'm keeping true to what I want in my life. I want to wake up every morning in a good mood, I want to look forward to the day ahead, and I want to return home excited for what may come."*



William Brennan, Manager of Communications

William has worked in the non-profit sector since graduating from Simon Fraser with a Bachelor of Communications, minoring in Geography. Starting as the summer student for SOS BC in 2007, William has remained a part of the organization ever since, transitioning into a volunteer after that position ended. He managed all website updates and the launch of SOS BC's first e-newsletter, even while living in London! From 2008 to 2012, William was Development Coordinator at the Vancouver Symphony.

He loves travelling and recently completed a six month adventure living abroad in London, England and exploring different areas of the United Kingdom, Belgium, and the Netherlands. William has a passion for hiking, blogging, writing, and movie-going. In the summer of 2012, he finally conquered The Lions with his sister, an unforgettable achievement. He enjoys playing video games and spending time with his younger brother who is in his last year of elementary school. William resides in Burnaby and supports mental health, progressive, and environmental issues.

Why I love my job: *"Having a stable and supportive family is so important in shaping a child's happiness and future, and being part of a charity that recreates this dynamic through the Village model for foster children is a great privilege. Having grown up in North Vancouver and lived in the region my whole life, it's exciting to be part of the only SOS Children's Village in Canada - B.C. always blazes its own path!"*



Heidi Trautmann, Grants Officer

Heidi and her family immigrated to Canada in 1983. Heidi was educated in Germany in Business Administration (equivalent to a BA in Canada), and completed the Master Trade education in Fur, Leather & Textile Art. She acquired a Legal Secretary Diploma after arriving in Canada.

Heidi and her husband Reiner worked and enjoyed the Northern lifestyle for six years in the communities of Aklavik and Tuktoyaktuk in the Northwest Territories. They developed the standards and implemented a Canada-wide recognized apprenticeship program at Aurora College-Inuvik Campus, in the High Arctic.

Heidi has worked for the last 18 years in the not-for-profit sector. She enhanced and started social enterprises, developed business plans, and followed her passion of writing proposals. In her spare time she enjoys skiing, fishing, hunting, gardening, canning, and baking.

Why I love my job: *"SOS Children's Villages had been part of my life growing up in Germany and Austria. As a child, I am thankful to have experienced the joy of giving when we shared our Christmas gifts with the children at SOS Kinderdorf. Now the circle is closing and I have the opportunity to be part of a great team enriching the lives of vulnerable youth and children. I deeply believe in the philosophy of: Every child deserves a safe and loving home."*



Dr. Lise DeLong, Doctor of Neuropsychology, Clinical Director

Dr. DeLong has been working as a Developmental NeuroCognitive Specialist for the past 18 years. Located originally in Indiana she has expanded her business, [Cognitive Connections](#), throughout the U.S. and now Canada.

She created a platform of rehabilitation - called NeuroCognitive - that assists in trauma, depression, anxiety, and learning disabilities. Regulating sleep patterns and using a process of Neurofeedback, she has created a process that re-trains cortical activity while remediating brain domains.

Dr. DeLong built upon her basic education of Special Ed, Deaf Education, and Music Therapy, which helped her create a Fine Arts school to teach children that were flunking out of mainstreamed schools. This specialized brain-based school lasted for 15 years as she developed individualized cognitive plans needed to assist learning patterns.

Why I love my job: *Dr. DeLong has been reminded daily of her love for her job as parents cry their gratitude that their child is learning and happy. She sees families find a connection which allows a new relationship to emerge. She also helps spouses find solutions to cohabit in a way that was impossible before NeuroCognitive training. Lastly, the most significant reminder of the love for her work comes when a nonverbal child hugs her and says their first words.*



Rachel Madu, Clinical Lead

Rachel is a family therapist, zealous for healing in relationships. She began her career in counselling in 1998. Rachel has provided counselling services to youth in high-risk situations, parents seeking reunification with children in care, adoptive parents seeking support, birth parents with children with emotional challenges, and now foster caregivers and their children.

Rachel has a Masters of Arts in Counselling Psychology from Simon Fraser University and training and experience in Trauma Focused Cognitive Behaviour Therapy. Her thesis on the relationships of adults who grew up in foster care, can be found here:
<http://summit.sfu.ca/item/12196>.

Rachel's greatest areas of research and experience encompass attachment security in relationships and trauma. She provides individual, couple, family and group therapy. Rachel also enjoys facilitating groups, workshops and seminars to diverse audiences.

Why I love my job: *"I have the honour of journeying with individuals through the most challenging, emotional, intimate and vulnerable parts of themselves. I get to see individuals come from places of brokenness and move toward healing and strength. I get to see relationships move from conflict and hurting toward closeness and nurturing. It is a privilege to come to work at SOS Children's Village BC."*



Doug West, Manager of Autism Services

Doug has been working with children and families since 1991 and has a wealth of experience in Program Management and Service Coordination for individuals who have behavioral and mental health challenges. He has worked with the Vancouver and Surrey School Districts, as well as several large private and public organizations in the Greater Vancouver Regional District. Trained as a child & family counselor, art therapist, & neurofeedback practitioner, Doug has been working closely with families who have children with Autism Spectrum Disorder since 2005 leading and mentoring teams of staff who implement programs and has a strong knowledge of disorders usually first diagnosed in childhood. Doug has a passionate interest in neuroscience and the brain's ability to change itself. He provides neurofeedback in conjunction with counselling and art therapy to create a powerfully therapeutic effect.

Why I love my job: *It involves helping challenged individuals acquire the skills they will need in order to be successful in reaching their goals and dreams.*



Kistie Singh, Learning Program Coordinator/Teacher and Village Coordinator

Kistie is the Program Coordinator and Teacher for our Learning Club located in various Surrey and Langley schools. In 2011 she graduated from SFU with a BA in Education accompanied with her BA in English Literature. She also specializes in Creative Writing, Environmental Education, and Aboriginal Education. Though working in a classroom setting is an ideal place for a new teacher, Kistie found a deeper passion working for non profit where her services would benefit those who need it most in the communities she works in, carving a niche of sorts as an Educator. Apart from giving her time to the program and her students, Kistie spends a great deal of time with music, playing guitar, singing, and dancing. She is a true believer in celebrating life and all the love that comes with it.

Why I love my job: *"I love my job because I know I'm making a difference in the lives of kids who see me every week. To know that I've helped someone get through a hardship, whether it be school or in their social and home lives, I'm grateful knowing I've helped students understand, develop, and grow. Knowing you made a difference and you were able to be that beam of support when a student most needed you has been humbling and I am rewarded when students eagerly run into class ready to start our session with huge smiles."*



Frauke Reddick, Art Therapist

Frauke obtained her diploma in Art Therapy in 2006 and started working with children and families at SOS Children's Village, BC the same year. She enjoys facilitating creative projects at the village such as painting murals and making Christmas crafts, but spends most of her time conducting individual expressive therapy sessions with children from the village and the community. Frauke works with children and their care-givers to foster potential and address the emotional and cognitive challenges they may be experiencing.

Why I love my job: *Frauke loves her job because of the warm-hearted individuals she works with and encounters every day.*



Akeiko Rawn, Narrative Therapist

I am narrative therapist - what's that you might ask? It's about taking a position of curiosity, to co-discover the untold, neglected and perhaps forgotten stories of identity. Together we explore preferred alternatives and take problems to task. It has been our collective experience that problems have been known to convince even the most confident of people to believe they are failures, using cultural references, norms and any evidence they can sneak in.

In session, humour and creativity sit on my working team to help unpack unruly life weeds. We might use comics, poems, letters, certificates or art-based projects as part of the process.

After completing a double minor undergraduate degree in Psychology and Dialogue, I was selected for the inaugural cohort of the Master of Narrative Therapy program. This was a collaborative initiative between the Dulwich Centre and the University of Melbourne. Over the past 9 years I have received continual professional development through the Vancouver School for Narrative Therapy and I commit to the registration / volunteer coordination for their annual international conference.

My work experience with kids in foster care began in 2006. I have also had the opportunity to work alongside many students in classrooms informed by the neurodiversity movement, which became the focus for my thesis: "Co-constructing Classroom Support: A Multi-Storyed Approach". I am currently working as a school counsellor, and provide neurofeedback, one to one, and family therapy at SOS BC.

Why I love my job: "I hear the genius ways in which people have responded to their life experiences - bearing witness and participating in the production of stories that offer places of possibility. Developing these plots that hold unique wisdom is nothing less than my life being enriched with each and every story."



Jeff Prasad, Behavior Consultant

Jeff Prasad has worked with youth and children diagnosed with Autism and a variety of developmental disabilities since 2001. He has experience and training in Behaviour Consultation, replacing problem behaviours, teaching new skills, and working closely with parents and caregivers to improve overall happiness and quality of life. Jeff has enjoyed working in a variety of non-profit organizations, in school districts, privately with clients, and in postsecondary institutions. Jeff received his Bachelor of Education in 2006 and is working diligently to complete his Master of Education in Applied Behavioral Analysis with an Emphasis in Autism.

Jeff has a passion for working with youth to develop their strengths and foster independence. He has developed strong Social Skills and Life Skills curriculums. He believes in creating programs and strategies that utilize strengths and skills to address individual's needs while building self-esteem. Jeff values building relationships and fostering lifelong growth and development.



Jeff loves his job because he really enjoys fostering new skills and empowering youth and families to overcome any challenges they face. He enjoys helping people find their strengths and teaching new skills and strategies to improve their quality of life and take steps towards independence.



Barbara High, Manager of Retail Fundraising and Volunteer Coordinator (Steveston)

I am proud to say I recently celebrated 10 years of service to SOS. I manage the Steveston Thrift Store and coordinate a team of dedicated volunteers, well I try too, some coordinate me! I bring to the organization I believe, passion, sense of humour and dedication for the work we do at SOS.

***Why I love my job:** "Recruiting and training new volunteers and the challenge of evoking passion and understanding of our vision for SOS."*



Vera Gover, Store Manager (Kerrisdale)

I grew up in a small German Town on the French/Swiss Border and immigrated to Vancouver in 1971. For the past 20 years I have been running my own home business that has enabled me to travel throughout all of the US and Canada. I am married with 1 daughter and have been working at the Kerrisdale Thrift store for almost 7 years.

***Why I love my job:** "My work gives me the satisfaction of knowing that I can make a difference in somebody's life."*