

Curriculum Vitae of Bernice Hancock
RE: Panel Presentation – Muskrat Falls Inquiry

Work and Volunteer Experience:

Bernice Hancock lives in Stephenville and is the Executive Director of the Community Education Network (CEN), a non-profit organization which serves rural and remote communities throughout Southwestern Newfoundland. CEN works in collaborative partnership with a host of government and community agencies to promote life-long learning opportunities through partnership development and the facilitation of a wide variety of community-based programs and services including prenatal/postnatal support; early years programs for young children and families; youth engagement and support; adult basic education; employment programs; mental health and addiction outreach services; housing support; and violence prevention initiatives. Bernice currently also serves as Co-Chair of the Bay St. George Status of Women Council, Co-Chair of the Newfoundland and Labrador Association of Family Resource Programs, Member of the Stephenville Economic Development Committee, and is a Board Member of the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing and Homelessness Network.

For over thirty years she has worked in community with a variety of organizations including the Bay St. George Community College, (presently College of the North Atlantic); John Howard Society; Bay St. George Coalition to End Violence; Bay St. George Status of Women Council; Department of Justice, Community Corrections Division (Victim Services and Probation Services); Community Action Committee Family Resource Program; and the Community Education Network.

Education and Training

Bernice's educational background is in the field of Community Studies and Project Management, Business Administration, and Adult Education. Her formal education includes a B.A. in Community Studies, Diploma in Business Administration and a Certificate in Adult Education. She is also a certified First Aid/CPR Instructor Trainer and Psychological First Aid Instructor with the Canadian Red Cross and a trained facilitator in several Family/Parenting Programs.

Personal/Family Background

Bernice Hancock is from the west coast of Newfoundland. She grew up in Corner Brook in a large family of nine children. For the past thirty-five years she has lived and raised her family in Stephenville where she has worked and volunteered in a variety of organizations which serve people and communities throughout the southwest coast of the island. She and her husband have two grown sons who have chosen to live and work in Newfoundland. Her life and work experience provide both a rural and gender lens to community social and economic development and the impacts of the rising cost of living on marginalized populations as well as working class individuals and families.