

A Historical Who's Who in metro-Vancouver Neighbourhood Houses (NHs)

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Neighbourhood houses are a vital part of Vancouver communities and thousands of people have been active in them as volunteers, leaders, and staff. Given the grassroots nature of neighbourhood houses, however, very little historical memory exists on the individuals who have shaped – and have been shaped – by them. This project addresses this absence.

The following list of individuals has been compiled through research conducted in various archives and from census searches, in the offices of the Association of Neighbourhood Houses of B.C., and in metro-Vancouver neighbourhood houses themselves. Information has also been gleaned from secondary and online sources. While the utmost attention has been given to verify all information, some inaccuracies may exist.

Please note that living individuals who are born after 1930 are not included in this document.

If you know of individuals that should be added, please email Dr. Eleanor Stebner (estebner@sfu.ca).

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David Eric Adair (1942-2002) – Mount Pleasant neighbourhood organizer and founding director of Mount Pleasant NH from 1976 to 2002

Born in Chambly, Quebec; BA from Sir George Williams University [Concordia] (1967) and MA from Simon Fraser University (1970); worked with the Vancouver Inner City Service Project (1966-1972), a program initially for theological students to understand and address urban problems, but expanded to include students of all disciplines; broadcaster on CBC's Afternoon Radio Show and the Klahanie TV series; active in the BC Camping Association.

Hugh (1887-1977) and Rose (1899-?) [née Smith] Beattie – started what became North Shore NH in 1939

Hugh Beatty was born in Elora, Ontario, and lived in Theodore, Saskatchewan, before coming to BC in 1912; he served with the 153rd (Wellington) Battalion with the Canadian Over-Seas Expeditionary Force (1915-1919) and was an engineer; during WWII he served with the Irish Fusiliers (1940-1946); he did janitorial work

at Queen Mary Elementary School (1938-1952); Rose was born in 1899 in England and immigrated to Saskatchewan in 1920 and then on to Vancouver; she was a housewife and mother to six children; after the Beattie's attic became too small for the number of children who needed a place to gather, Rose gathered together neighbours to discuss the needs for children, they approached city council and received an old building for \$1 per year.

Dorothy Beckett (ca. 1881-1962) – administered Alexandra Fresh Air camp from 1921 to 1946 and was crucial to its development; appointed secretary to the Alexandra orphanage board in 1922

Born in England, she arrived in Vancouver in 1898; married Chas Harry Beckett, an accountant, and mothered three children; she and her husband are interred in Sunnyside Lawn cemetery (Surrey).

Sarah Bowes (1834-1911) – early matron at the Alexandra orphanage, 1892 to 1894

Born in Ontario where she became active in the Women's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU); moved to Vancouver circa 1886 and became an WCTU city missionary associated with the Homer Street Methodist Church in the mid-1880s; gave lectures ("The juggernaut of Christendom" [1887] and "Labour and greatness" [1890]; matron of the WCTU's Victoria Refuge Home (1894), and matron of Victoria court-house and Victoria Oriental Rescue Home (1896-1899); wrote for the WCTU monthly *Home Cheer* publication; active in numerous women's causes including writing a report on Girls' Industrial School (1904-1909) to present to the University Women's Club to collaborate in seeking better laws for the protection of women and children; returned to Ontario in 1910. [See Shelly D. Ikebuchi, *From Slave Girls to Salvation: Gender, Race, and Victoria's Chinese Rescue Home, 1886-1923*, UBC Press, 2015]

William Dennis (Denny) Boyd (1930-2006) – popular (and sometimes controversial) Vancouver Sun journalist and advocate of NHs

The Association of Neighbourhood Houses gave him an award for "outstanding leadership and service" in 1982 when they were attempting to raise money to construct a new building for Gordon NH; received the Order of BC in 2005; see his memoir, *In My Own Words* (Vancouver: Douglas & McIntyre, 1995).

John Bismark Braithwaite (b. 1929) – North Shore NH boys' worker (1956-1959) and then director (1959-1980)

Born in Toronto of Barbadian descent; received BA (1951), BSW (1955) and MSW (1956) from the University of Toronto; was hired as the first black youth worker at St. Christopher House (Toronto) after he finished his BA; as director at North Shore NH, he started working with the Squamish peoples almost immediately, making the neighbourhood house one of the first organizations in the metro area to do so; North Shore city councilor (1972-1976, 1983-2002); consultant to Vancouver's Aboriginal Friendship Centre and Kiwassa NH; worked with the Squamish Band Council to form their own recreational and social services programs; founding

member of the BC Black Action Coalition Committee; received National Black Award (1973) and an award from the Black Historical Society of BC (1983).

John T. Brown (1839-1904?) and James England (b. 1864?)– incorporated the Alexandra Non-Sectarian Orphanage and Children’s Home of Vancouver in 1894 under the Province’s Benevolent Societies Act of 1891

“The objects of the society as set forth in the memorandum of incorporation are: (a) to acquire the Alexandra hospital property; (b) to engage in works of a benevolent, moral and charitable and philanthropic nature; (c) to do all other acts in any way incidental or conducive to any of the above purposes, including the holding, investing and administering of any money or real or personal property for the use or benefit of children. The first trustees or managing officers are to be Magdalene Howden Browning, James England, Fanny Haskett, David Evans and Charles A. Schooley, who shall manage the affairs of the society until the 14th February, 1895, when their successors are to be appointed.” [*Victoria Daily Colonist*, 1894-12-28]

Pat Buckley (?) – first executive director of Cedar Cottage NH, 1960-1963, then worked at Gordon NH while she “continued her studies”

Little is known of this woman; was assistant director at the Kitsilano Community Centre (1952-1954), the first woman assistant in a Vancouver community centre; worked for a year with Seattle Parks and Recreation prior to her appointment at Cedar Cottage.

Lillian Mary Carscadden (ca. 1910-?) – early social worker at Alexandra NH

From Red Deer, Alberta; MSW from UBC (1951) which won the 1952 Social Work Alumni prize (\$25!); worked for the Family Welfare Bureau of Greater Vancouver in mid-1950s.

Sam "Casey" Chessa (1926-2009) - played sports at Gordon House and the GH coach gave him a chance to play for the Vancouver Blue Bomber football team in the Canadian Junior League championship in 1947

"The kids who grew up in the West End stick together...and part of the reason is because of the close ties we felt for each other through our membership in the different programs the centre provided for young people" ("Gordon House: 40th anniversary reunion planned," by Ed Cosgrove, C of V Archives, Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood Association, Clippings); was owner/operator of Black Top Cabs in Vancouver.

Juliette (née Sysak) Cavazzi (b. 1926) – popular Canadian Broadcasting Corporation singer from the 1950s to 1970s, who started singing at Alexandra House as a kid

Born in St. Vital, Manitoba, she came with her family to Vancouver when she was ten years old; started to sing professionally in 1940 at the Hotel Vancouver; received the Order of Canada in 1975 and inducted into Canada’s Walk of Fame in 1999.

Charles J. Christopherson (b. 1920) – active in the Mount Pleasant community and president of the Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood Association

He was also involved in the William Morris Society, and was one of a group of parents who founded the New School (1962-1977), a progressive experiment based on the pedagogy of John Dewey and A. S. Neill.

Bill Duncan (b. 1925?) – first executive director at the Kitsilano NH, 1976 to 1987

Born in Memphis, Tennessee, he served in the African-American mechanical unit in the U.S. army from 1943 to 1945; received a business administration degree (LeMoyné-Owen College, Memphis) followed by a MSW degree from the University of Michigan in 1955, only the second African American to be awarded a MSW from the U of Michigan; worked in Michigan and Illinois, including South Chicago, where Martin Luther King had an office next door to him; he moved to Montreal after the assassination of King in 1968 and then to Vancouver in 1976.

Maurice “Mo” Egan (b. 1924) – first director of City of Vancouver Social Planning, (1968-1979), during which time five NHs were opened

Born in Smith Falls, Ontario; his first job was working for the CPR in 1941 and joined the Navy in 1944; played football with the Toronto Argonauts (1945); received BSW and MSW (1956) from McGill University; City of Ottawa councilor (1965 to 1966 and 1967 to 1969); a founder, along with residents Bessie Lee and Mary Lee Chan, plus others such as Mike Harcourt and Margaret Mitchell, of the Strathcona Property Owners and Tenants Association (SPOTA) in 1968, which stopped a proposed freeway through the neighbourhood of Strathcona; according to Elmer Helm, he recognized the importance of NHs and community development, but didn't support “some of the radical kind of things that were happening.” An article in *The Province* (August 1968) stated that he was actually against neighbourhood houses.

John Howard Toynbee Falk (1881-1950) – first Vancouver director of the Vancouver Welfare Federation (1930-1935), an organization that developed into the United Way and was a huge financial support to the Alexandra orphanage and camp

Born in Liverpool, England, he was the first cousin of Arnold Toynbee and, as a student at Oxford, he volunteered at Toynbee Hall; he arrived in Canada via Russia and London in 1906 and worked briefly for the Northern Grain Company in Winnipeg, where he met J. S. Woodsworth; worked at Christodora House in New York City (1906-1908) before accepting an invitation from Woodsworth to return to Winnipeg to take on the general secretary position of the Associated Charities; headed the Halifax volunteer workers in 1917 after the maritime explosion; invited to organize and head the McGill School of Social Workers (1918-1922) and became key in organizing the Montreal Council of Social Agencies, which he headed (1922-1929), when he was invited to Vancouver to do a survey regarding organizing social service agencies; left Vancouver to become president of the New York City Community Chest; died in Amherst, Massachusetts.

Bernice Gerard (1924-2008) – active in Alexandra NH and Gordon NH as a youngster

Born in BC and adopted as a baby by an aboriginal family, she became a well known international Pentecostal preacher and radio broadcaster; she founded the Fraserview Pentecostal Church, co-founded the Pacific Academy, and was the first Pentecostal chaplain at UBC and SFU; she served as city alderman from 1977 to 1980 during which time she opposed nude sunbathing at Wreck Beach, lead the protest against the 1979 film, *Caligula*, and spoke against the 1980 civic proclamation of Gay Unity Week; the Vancouver Sun named her the most influential 20th century BC religious figure in the year 2000.

Percy Gomery (1881-1960) – 40-plus year involvement with Camp Alexandra

He was involved in labour and union arbitration; active as vice-president (1932-1933) and president (1932-1933) of the Vancouver Little Theatre Association; an automobile enthusiast and promoter; see his book *A Motor Scamper 'Cross Canada* (1922).

Kathleen “Kay” Gorrie (1895-1986) – head of Gordon House from 1943(?) to 1949, was a nationally known NH leader

She had been a concert soprano in the 1920s before studying social work at the University of Toronto (graduated in 1926), where she also taught part-time (1932-1941) and worked as the executive secretary of the Toronto Welfare Council (1932-1941); she left Gordon NH to head the University Settlement in Toronto (1949-1955); retired in 1955 and moved back west.

Helena Gutteridge (1879-1960) – board member of Alexandra Orphanage

Born in England where she trained as a tailor and had experience as a union organizer and suffragette, she came to Canada in 1911; became the only woman executive on the Vancouver Trade and Labour Council and organized the Women’s Employment League in 1914; first woman elected to Vancouver City Council in 1937; worked for women’s suffrage, the protection and rights of labourers (including Asian workers), better housing, and against “white slavery.”

Helen Hall (1892-1982) and Paul Kellogg (1879-1958) – American advisors in the development of Alexandra NH

Both were well-known and respected leaders in the settlement/neighbourhood house movement when they visited Vancouver in June 1938 in conjunction with the Canadian Conference on Social Work (followed by the U.S. National Conference in Seattle); a married couple, she was then the head of the Henry Street Settlement in New York City, and he was the editor of *The Survey*, the leading journal of social work and social reform; they are said to have made a significant contribution to the transition from the Alexandra orphanage and children’s home into the Alexandra NH, which started on a “skeleton basis in April 1938, and on a full time basis” in October of that year. [9th Annual Report of the Vancouver Council of Social Agencies 1938]

Elmer Joseph Helm (b. 1927?) – youth worker at Gordon NH (1953), then director (1955), and the first director of the Alexandra Neighbourhood Services Association (now the Association of NHs in BC) in 1966

Born on Vancouver Island, he received his BA (1950), BSW (1951), and MSW (1952) from UBC; retired from the association in 1990; awarded the Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2013.

Laura Holland (1883-1956) – first professionally trained social worker in Vancouver

Born in Montreal, she lived part of her youth in Nova Scotia; initially entered St. Mildred's College (Toronto) to train as a concert pianist but then studied nursing at the Montreal General Hospital, graduating in 1914; worked with the Canadian Army Medical Corps (1915-1919) in France and Greece and was awarded a Royal Red Cross medal; she started to study social work at Simmons College (Boston) in 1919; then worked for the Ontario Red Cross and as a social worker for the Toronto Public Health Department before coming to Vancouver in 1927 to re-organize the Children's Aid Society during which time she received much criticism from some for trying to implement new laws regarding children, women, and adoption; taught in the UBC social work program (1929-1943) and in its public health program; then headed the Neglected Children, followed by the Child Welfare, department for the provincial government; was named Commander of the British Empire by King George V in 1934, and awarded an honorary doctorate from UBC in 1950.

Lillian Jasper (year of birth/death unknown) – founder of the Sunny Seniors group at Alexandra NH and Kitsilano NH in 1960

Jeni LeGon (1916-2012) – taught dance at the Kitsilano NH in the 1970s and 1980s

Born in Chicago, Illinois, she was one of the first African American solo woman tap-dancers and worked with performers such as Ethel Waters, Fred Astaire, and Bill ("Bojangles") Robinson; she had 24 film credits between the years 1936 and 1952; moved to Vancouver in 1969 and was hired by Bill Duncan, director of the Kitsilano NH, to teach dance, where she was a living legend; the National Film Board of Canada released a documentary on her in 1999.

Ken Leitch (ca. 1936-1975) – elected Neighbourhood Services Association president in 1974, and NSS set up trust fund in his name upon his death

Mary Louise (née Carre) MacDonald (1913-2014) – first president of the Canadian Association of Neighbourhood Houses (1963) and board member and president of Alexandra Neighbourhood Services

Born in Toronto, she received her BA in modern languages from the University of Toronto and moved to Vancouver (the home town of her husband) in 1945/46; Lieutenant Governor of BC presented her with a certificate in honour of her volunteer work in 1966, and she received the Queen's 25th Anniversary Medal in

1977 for her community work; in 1993 she was awarded special recognition by the Federation of BC Naturalists and BC Nature; a long time member and leader in the White Rock Christian Science Church.

Helen Gregory MacGill (1864-1947) – worked with the Alexandra Orphanage residents and staff in her role as BC’s first juvenile court judge (and BC’s first woman judge), and active in the early years of Alexandra NH

Born in Hamilton, Ontario, she was a graduate of Trinity College (now University of Toronto) with a BA and MA (1889); became a journalist writing on topics related to women’s and children’s rights; upon moving to Vancouver, she was a member of the group of women who founded the Vancouver Crèche in 1909; appointed 1st female judge (juvenile court) in BC, 1917-1920 and 1934-1944; she wrote *Story of Vancouver Social Services plus Laws for Women and Children in BC* (1943). “One of Canada’s best known early feminist reformers, she has generally been portrayed as a maternal or ‘social’ feminist, more concerned with welfare and other reform measures affecting women and children than with principles of women’s rights, more interested in the vote as a tool for social reform than as a symbol of women’s equality” (Margaret Hobbs, *Equality and Difference*, 1993).

Grace (née Woodsworth) MacInnis (1905-1991) – staunch supporter of NHs and first BC woman Member of Parliament (1965-1974)

Born in Winnipeg, Manitoba, she was the daughter of J.S. and Lucy Woodsworth; BA from the University of Manitoba with further study at the Sorbonne in Paris; a founding member of the Commonwealth Co-operative Federation, which became the New Democratic Party; member of the BC Provincial Legislature (1941-1945); received numerous awards including the Governor General’s Award (1979), Canadian Labour Conference Award (1982); a housing co-op in Vancouver is named after her; wrote *J.S. Woodsworth: A Man to Remember* (1953); established the Lucy Woodsworth Trust for Children (administered by the Alexandra Foundation) in honour of her mother; “seen as an early and passionate fighter for human rights and justice, staunch supporter of choice in reproduction, worker for many social and human services that were of particular benefit to women and children” (Rosemary Brown, *Being Brown*, 1989).

May MacLean (year of birth/death unknown) – first president at Kiwassa NH (1949)

Little is known about this woman apart from her apparently being a “lovely lady”; Her “great delight was talking to the Nursery School children and having a hotdog with them” (*Kiwassa Neighbourhood Services Association Annual Report* 1976); Kiwassa NH has named a non-profit family housing complex after her.

Ethel Elizabeth [née Krecsy] Marlyn (1917-2015) – longtime volunteer at Gordon NH

Kay (Kathleen Elizabeth) McKenzie (year of birth/death unknown) – director of Gordon House, 1949-1951?

Little biographical information can be found on this woman, even though she was very influential in the early years of neighbourhood houses in Vancouver; she may have later worked as the executive secretary of the Community Chest and Council. Mackenzie is her married name.

Hope Joan McKiel (1924-2006) – active volunteer at Cedar Cottage from 1986 to death

Born in Vancouver, lived in Calgary during her early years before returning to BC; worked for TC Telecom from the early 1950s to 1963; she and her husband adopted a daughter in 1965.

Margaret A. [née Learoyd] Mitchell (b. 1925) – worked for Neighbourhood Services Association from mid-1960s until 1974

Born in Cayuga, Ontario, she has a BA from McMaster University (1947) and MSW from the University of Toronto; did field work at University Settlement (Toronto) while a social work student; worked for the International Red Cross and in 1953 served in Japan and Korea; met her husband while working with refugees in Vienna, and they moved to Vancouver in the 1960s; hired by Alexandra Neighbourhood Services to work in community development, a program which lost its funding in 1974; co-wrote *Don't Rest in Peace – Organize!* with Cathie Goldney (1975), which discusses the importance of community organizing and significance of information centres in empowering low-income citizens; key in transitioning Frog Hollow Information Centre into a neighbourhood house; Member of Parliament (New Democratic Party) for Vancouver East 1979 to 1993; first MP to address the Chinese Head tax in House of Commons and violence against women, and spoke for the rights of women to be recognized in the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms* (1982); published her memoirs, *No Laughing Matter* in 2008; established a fund for women's scholarships with the Vancity Community Foundation; quote from Mitchell – “poor people need money rather than service” (p. 94, *Don't Rest in Peace*).

Bob Morris (b. 1924) – president of Neighbourhood Services Association of Greater Vancouver (1969/70) and president of the Canadian Association of Neighbourhood Services (1978?)

Born in Vancouver, he is a second generation Vancouverite and operated a family wholesale business; his doctor suggested that he become involved in Alexandra NH and he first became the treasurer and then the president; he was active in NHs, locally and nationally, for over thirty years.

William “Bill” A. Morrison (1906/7-?) – hired as superintendent at Camp Alexandra (1938) and then first director at Alexandra NH

Went to New York State from Vancouver in 1929 and became the superintendent of the Albany Orphan Asylum (1929 to 1932), then head of the Five Points House of Industry in Manhattan (1932 to 1935), then the executive director of Flatbush Boys Club (1935 to 1938): “I had always been interested in Boys' Club work, having done some in Vancouver as a voluntary worker before coming here,” he said, “and since I

was anxious for some experience in working with the child in a community rather than the institution, I came to Flatbush" (*Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, 12 January 1936).

Harry (Henry) McFarlane Morrow (1915-2013) – director of Alexandra NH, 1940s to early 1950s?

Received his BA, BSW and MSW degrees from UBC (1948); was also a United Church minister and served as assistant minister at First United Church (Vancouver); executive director of University Settlement in Toronto (1954-1966), where he was the first head who did not reside at the settlement and the first man to direct it in its history; president of the Canadian Association of Social Workers, 1965-1966; became the first head of the social work department at the University of Windsor in 1966 later the director of the School of Social Work before retiring in 1981.

Olivia [née Bisnar] Mott (1939-2012) – social worker at Gordon House for almost 40 years

An immigrant from the Philippines, she earned her BA in sociology at UBC (1961), where she was active in the International House, the United Nations Club and Varsity Christian Fellowship; she then completed her BSW and MSW at UBC and worked at Gordon NH from 1966 to her retirement in 2010.

Harold Parker (year of birth/death unknown) – first full-time director of North Shore NH from 1943 to 1945

He was active as a volunteer at the house before being hired as director; was instrumental in organizing the Sports' Planning Committee of North Vancouver; resigned in 1945 stating a lack of support from the board; elected to District of North Vancouver in 1951.

Sarah Jane (née Wales) Salsbury (ca. 1846-1926?) – one of the members of the Women's Christian Temperance Union responsible for opening the Alexandra Non-Sectarian Orphanage and Home for Children in 1891

Born in England, she married William Ferriman Salsbury (1847-1905?) in 1870; her husband became a financial executive for the CPR, was a member of the Vancouver Board of Trade and a city alderman (1893-1894); she had five children and was a member of the Church of England.

Marjorie Scarfe (1931-2015), one of the founders of Collingwood NH in 1985

A single mother of two children, she volunteered for the International Order of Foresters and later worked in the catering business, during which time she was active in her community; was a founding member of the Collingwood Policing Centre in 1994 and the centre will be renaming its dog patrol, the "Margie Scarfe Pooch Patrol; she, along with Terry and Chris Tayler, Don Van Dyke, and Derek Murphy, founded the Joyce Station Area Planning Association and the Collingwood NH to provide a safe environment for their children and community.

Laurie (Bobbi) Senft (1947-2015) – advocate for the Collingwood neighbourhood and its historical preservation

An elementary school secretary for 25 years, she was an advocate for her community; awarded the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2012 for her dedication in preserving Fire Hall 15 and Carleton School's old two room schoolhouse, current location of the Green Thumb Theatre; a Celebration of Life open house was held at the Collingwood NH.

James Douglas Shaw (1930-2015) – active volunteer at Cedar Cottage NH

Born in Lancaster, England, he moved to Vancouver in 1970; worked as an engineer for the B.C. Ferries Corporation; also volunteered for Meal on Wheels and SS Master Society.

George Simmons (year of birth/death unknown) – one of the individuals responsible for founding the Cedar Cottage boys' club, which developed into the NH

Leona Smith (1912-2004) – an active member and volunteer at Frog Hollow NH

Born in Armstrong, B.C., she worked at the WCB for 25 years and was a member (chartered) of the Eastern Star, Squamish Branch, in addition to her active and long-term participation at Frog Hollow NH.

Marjorie J. Smith (1907-1957) – first full time social work instructor at UBC (1943) and, when social work became a department in 1945, its first head, where she was responsible for placing social work students at Alexandra NH and Gordon NH to do their field work

Born in Minnesota, she received her BA (University of Minnesota) and MA (University of Chicago); worked with FERA (Federal Emergency Relief Administration) in Washington State, family services in Worcester, Massachusetts, lectured at Smith College School for Social Work, and taught for the United Nations in Poland; was dean of the social work school at Washington State College before coming to Vancouver; wrote *Rural Case Work Services* (1943) and *Professional Education for Social Work in Great Britain* (1952).

Dave [David Andrew] Stevens (1953-2008) – started as dishwasher at Camp Alexandra and became director of the Sasamat Outdoor Centre in 1987

While still a teenager, he worked as a youth leader at Cedar Cottage NH; founding member of the Recreation Canoeing Association of BC; a national leader in developing the outdoor education movement; co-developed the Canadian Camping Association Roadmap project, which created websites and databases on summer camps; posthumously received the first annual BC Good Neighbour Award in 2008; a memorial fund was established by the Canadian Camping Association after his death

Ada May [née Corlett] Stevenson (d. 1944) – opened first kindergarten in Vancouver (1898) and taught at the Alexandra orphanage

Born in Chicago (year unknown), she arrived in Vancouver in 1893; taught at the Alexandra orphanage prior to her marriage to in 1910 and returned to it when she was widowed in 1915; she inherited property from her uncle, John Callister, upon his death and in 1942 donated the property to the city on the agreement that it be used for public and recreational purposes, and that it be called Callister Park.

Elizabeth V. Thomas (ca 1913-?) – lecturer and professor of social work at UBC in 1940s/50s

Born in Arkansas, she received a BA from Wesleyan College and a MS from New York School of Social Work (Columbia); hired as a professor of social work at UBC in 1945; taught university courses in community organization (identifying social needs and developing programmes to meet them) and “social group work,” which was in cooperation with field placements for students (often at Alexandra NH and Gordon NH); also taught extension classes on “group leadership” for social agency volunteers, worked with community groups, and was influential in helping the Marpole Community Association Group to create a community centre; already in the early 1950s, she was critical of recreational centres replacing community centres across Canada; was project director in developing an in-service training program for Washington State’s Aid to Families of Dependent Children social workers in 1966/67.

George Whiten (born?) – appointed executive director of Alexandra NH in 1958 and also worked for the Neighbourhood Services Association

Worked at a boy’s home (Weredale House) in Montreal before coming to Vancouver in 1936; he volunteered at the Alexandra orphanage before he was named the director of the Kiwanis Boys’ Club in 1937; received MSW from UBC where he also taught some courses; retired from the NSA in 1977; George Whiten Place, a 23 unit housing co-op for low income families, was opened in 1990 (located next to Frog Hollow HN).