

Valerie Spicer Bio
December 2017

Valerie Spicer is a 19 year member with the Vancouver Police Department (VPD). Val was recently deployed as a sergeant in District 1 Neighbourhood Policing Team. Her previous experience includes sergeant of District 1 Team 7, sergeant in the Vancouver Court and Detention section, five years as a beat officer in the Downtown Eastside, four years as a detective in property crime and youth squad, and four years in District 4 Team 7. Prior to joining the VPD, Val was the civilian coordinator at the Grandview-Woodland Community Policing Centre servicing the diversified Commercial Drive community.

In 2003, Val co-developed a Restorative Justice program based on Indigenous practices. This program called ReStart, aims to reduce the harms associate to illegal graffiti and 140 youth have participated since its inception. She also initiated the national graffiti conference called TAGS now in its 12 year. More recently, Val has taken on the VPD bicycle program and obtained instructor credential.

She holds a bachelor of Fine Arts from Concordia University (1991), a Master of Art History from the University of Montreal (1994), a Masters of Criminology (2005) and a PhD in Criminology from Simon Fraser University (2012). Val is an Adjunct Professor at UBC, an instructor at the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology an instructional setting based on traditional Indigenous practices, and instructs at SFU in the School of Criminology.

Val is also a senior research associate at the Institute of Canadian Urban Research Studies (ICURS) at SFU. Her other academic research areas include chronic property offending, juvenile risk predictors, problem oriented policing, environmental criminology, fear of crime, computational criminology, big data analysis and crime prevention through environmental design.