

#### Anti-racism Speaker Series

Hosted by:

**Dr. Keri Ewart - MET** Faculty and Anti-Racism and Community Outreach Coordinator and

**Dr. Samia Khan -** Faculty Member in Curriculum and Pedagogy and 2021-2022, MET Director

Presenter: <u>Kasari Govender</u>
BC's Human Rights Commissioner







### Land Acknowledgement

The UBC-Point Grey Campus, on which the Master of Educational Technology is run, is on the traditional, unceded, and ancestral territories of the **Musqueam people**.



#### Masters of Educational Technology (MET)



UBC MET



#### Purpose of the Anti-Racism Speaker Series

#### Inclusivity

Responsibility
educators and
leaders have to
facilitating and
support anti-racist
approaches and
strategies

Digital tools to support equity, diversity, inclusivity



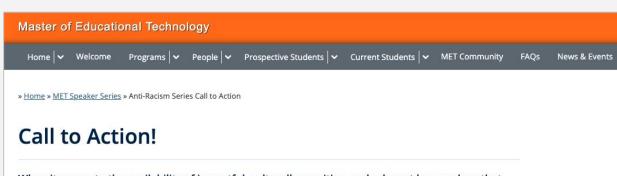
Changing dynamics of the digital age

Addressing systemic racism

Focus on anti-Indigenous, anti-Black and anti-People of Colour

Enhance and transform learning environments and learning cultures





When it comes to the availability of impactful, culturally sensitive, and relevant lesson plans that address anti-racism there are very limited resources available.

We are inviting all interested individuals to submit a lesson plan that aligns one of the presentation in the MET Anti-Racism in the EdTechnosphere speaker series and your curriculum in an attempt to create good quality anti-racism resources to put in the hands of educators.

You are asked to follow the lesson plan template provided and the submission criteria. All lesson plans are required to be submitted no later than, June 30, 2022 for review. Some lesson plans will be chosen to be published on the MET website and may receive a grant offered by Edith Lando Virtual Learning Center to create additional digital resources which support your lesson plan. All lesson plan entries including grades K-12, post-secondary, and graduate studies are encouraged and welcomed.

You can also share your story, ideas, and steps towards change at #UBCMETAnti-racism on Twitter!

Read the assessment criteria.

Download the Lesson Plan Template.

Submit Lesson Plan



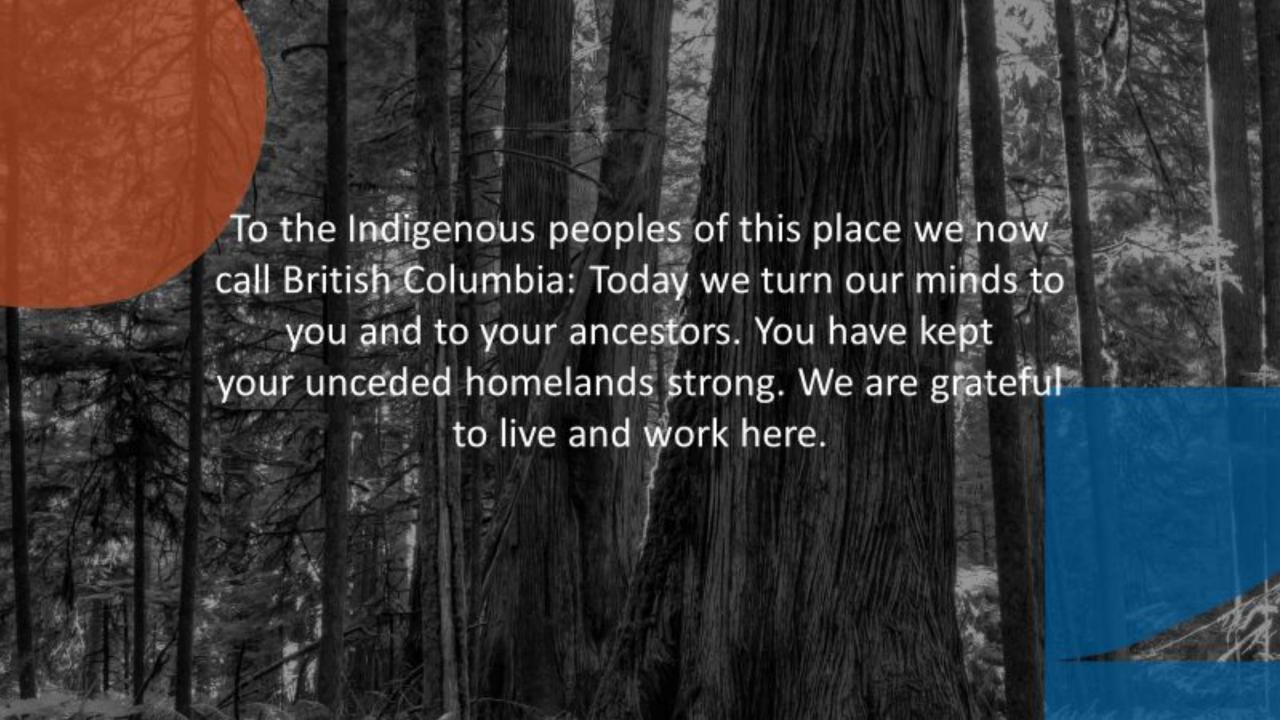
### Call to Action Challenge



# Equity is safer: human rights considerations for policing in BC

**KASARI GOVENDER**, HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSIONER MAY 2022





#### Overview

- 1. Background on BCOHRC
- 2. Introduction to policing work
- 3. How we did this work, including use of data to promote systemic equality
- 4. Findings on systemic inequities in policing
- 5. Q&A

#### **BCOHRC Mandate**

To address the root causes of inequality, discrimination and injustice in B.C. by shifting laws, policies, practices and cultures.



### Reforming policing in BC

### Our submissions to the Special Committee on Reforming the Police Act

- Submissions to the Committee with recommendations to address systemic racism in policing
- Accompanied by a large research report which gathered data about the disproportionate impact of police practices on Indigenous people, Black people and others

"First Nations governments are not wanting to operate with the Big Brother mentality that we've all been groomed into believing in relation to what data does to us — it's more like we want to come from the grandmother perspective. We need to know because we care."

Gwen Phillips, Ktunaxa Nation, BC First Nations Data Governance Initiative Champion



### How did we do this work?

#### How we did this work

- Consultations
- Research
- April 2021 police data requests
  - Data requests sent to Vancouver PD, Nelson PD and the Surrey, Duncan and Prince George RCMP detachments.
  - Requested demographic data for a 10-year period on: mental health/well-being checks; arrests and detentions; and strip-searches.

#### Research report

- ☐ Largest study of policing data in Canada
- Data shows significant racial disparities, primarily affecting Indigenous and Black people

#### **Community and Nation Engagements**

- The Grandmother Perspective includes the need for us to brief affected community organizations and First Nations groups and to seek their views on release of the data report
- We reached out to every Nation whose territories intersect with the police department data

#### Research Report Key Findings

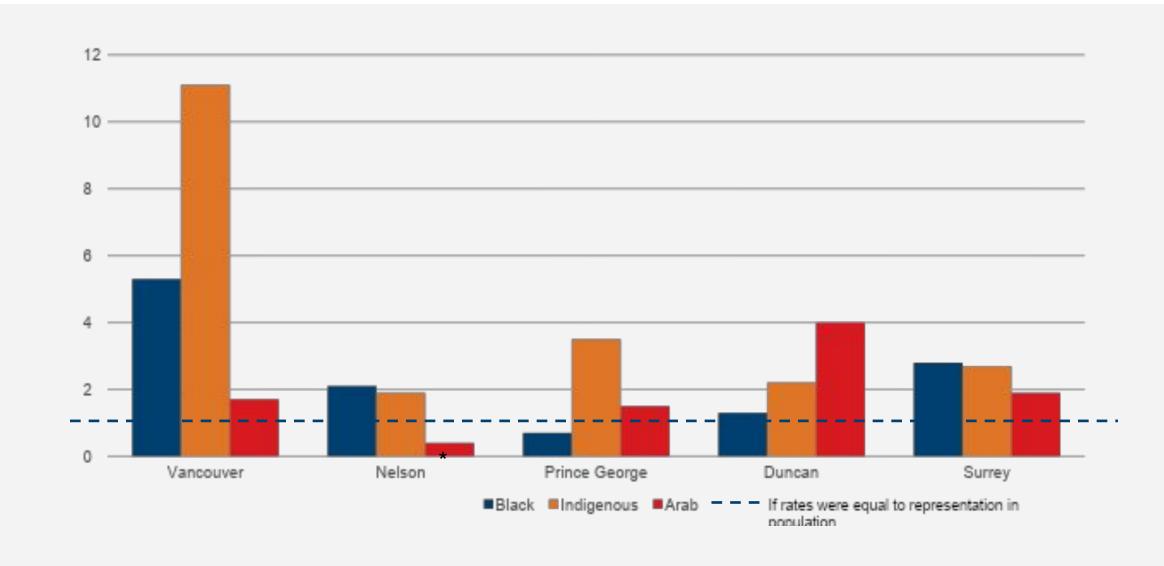
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The results of this examination are disturbing. Indigenous and Black people are either grossly or significantly overrepresented in British Columbia arrest statistics. ... [and] a great deal of police activity involves people living with mental health issues. Indigenous, Black and Arab/West Asian people are also significantly overrepresented in these types of police interaction. Racial disparities likely result from a combination of higher rates of offending, police bias and civilian reporting practices. Regardless of the cause, the overrepresentation of Indigenous, Black and other people of colour in police statistics is a problem that can no longer be ignored. Both government and police officials must make the reduction of racial disparities a priority.

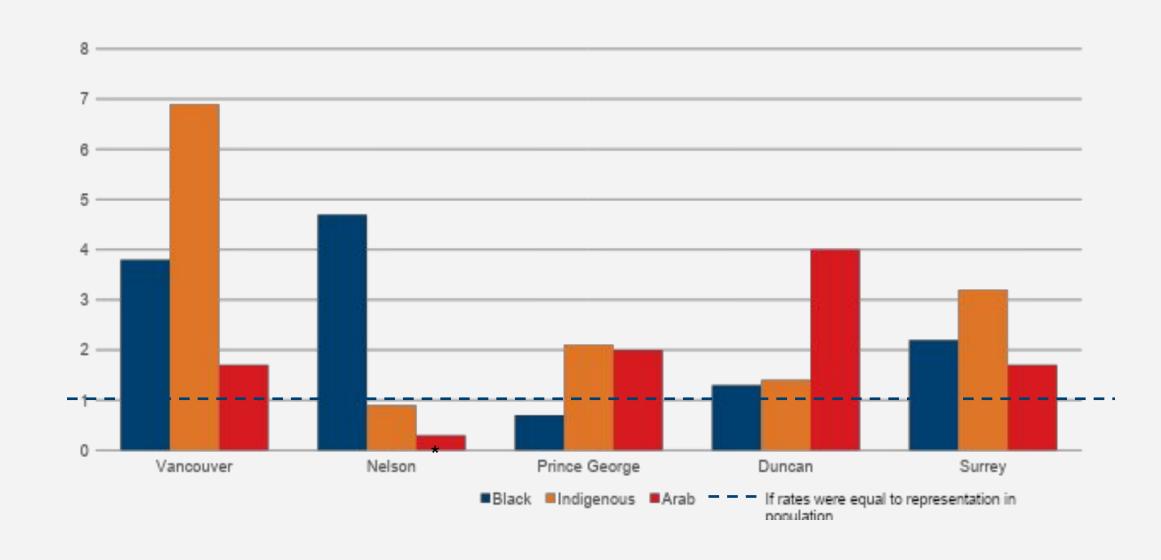
— Dr. Scot Wortley, Racial Disparities in British Columbia Police Statistics



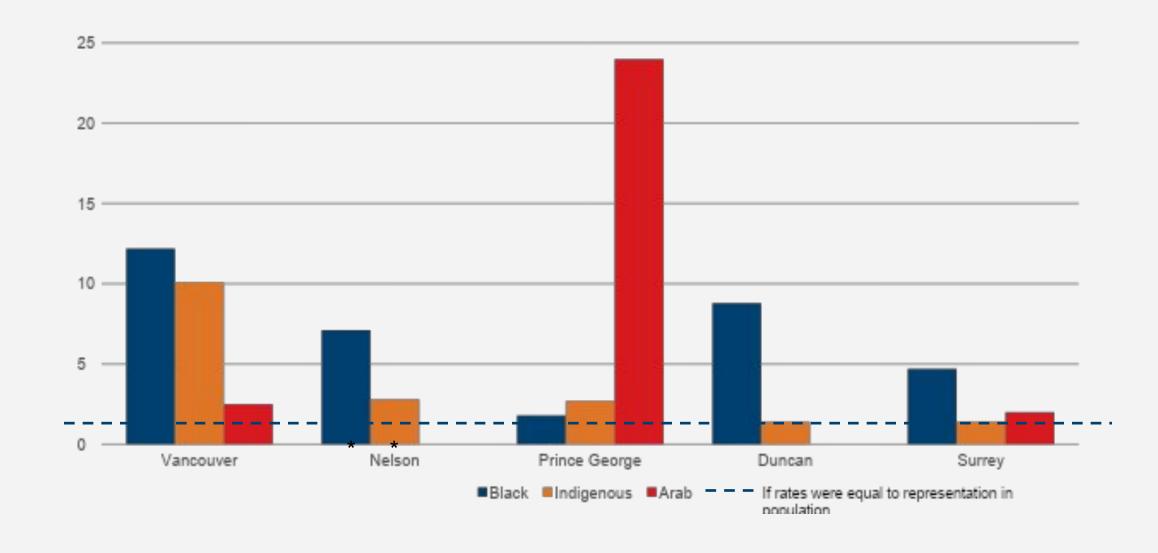
#### Arrests and chargeable incidents



#### Mental health incidents



#### **Strip searches**



#### Key Findings on gender

- Compared to their presence in the general population,
   Indigenous women are grossly overrepresented in arrests involving the Vancouver Police Department and significantly overrepresented in arrests involving both the Surrey and Prince George RCMP.
- For example, Indigenous women are more than 15 times more likely to be arrested in Vancouver than white women.

#### **Key Findings - causation**

3 theories offered to explain the disparities:

- the bias thesis
- the civilian bias thesis
- the offending thesis

All three are the result of colonialism and systemic racism

## BCOHRC's written submission to SCORPA



#### **BCOHRC's Key Findings**

- The time for debate about whether systemic racism exists in policing is over, particularly but not exclusively, as it effects Indigenous and Black people in British Columbia. It is time to act.
- The analysis of data from police services confirm what communities have long been saying.
- These racial disparities are not necessarily only the product of bias in policing practices. Systemic
  racism within many systems leads to the over criminalization of people who are Indigenous, Black or
  otherwise marginalized.
- Police forces alongside other actors in the justice system and across government have an obligation to proactively tackle systemic inequalities that impact Indigenous people and Black people in particular and other groups

### BCOHRC's SCORPA Key Recommendations

- 1. Realizing B.C.'s obligations to Indigenous Peoples
- 2. Disaggregated Data
- 3. Street Checks
- 4. Detasking the Police
- 5. Police Accountability

#### Where we are now



#### Key next step: detasking

- Committee recommendation #4:
  - Create and appropriately fund a continuum of response to mental health, addictions and other complex social issues with a focus on prevention and community-led responses and ensuring appropriate first response. This includes: a) Increasing coordination and integration across police, health, mental health, and social services. b) Integrating mental health within 911 call options.



### Thank you Visit bchumanrights.ca for

Visit **bchumanrights.ca** for more resources or find us on social media

@humanrights4bc





#### Questions





#### Call to Action Challenge

#### **Anti-Black Racism Lesson Plan Submissions due:**



#### Call to Action!

#### Anti-Racism in the EdTechosphere Speaker Series

#### Join us in creating an online resource of anti-racism lesson plans to support K-12 students!

In partnership with the Edith Lando Virtual Learning Centre, we are working to build an online resources of antiracism curriculum to support in-person and online teaching and learning of K-12 students across the country.

Read the assessment criteria.

Download the Lesson Plan Template.

Submit Lesson Plan



#### **Up Next for the Anti-Racism MET Speaker Series**



Dr. Sheliza Ibrahim

A Just World: Reimagining an Anti-Racist Pedagogy for STEM Futures



met.ubc.ca