

What is VoCo?

Welcome to **VoCo**, vocational counselling support for adolescent survivors of childhood cancer.

VoCo is here to help you make plans for further education or employment.

We understand that adolescents and young adults who have been treated for cancer or chronic blood disorders may have missed significant amounts of school and may also have chronic health concerns or learning disabilities.

We have a Vocational Counsellor available to meet with you to discuss concerns related to your future employment, educational or training plans. Services offered include:

- Post-secondary options and plans, and graduation requirements
- Identifying strengths and limitations, if any, when making post-secondary plans
- Scholarships, loans or other funding programs
- Post-secondary education or training programs

- Special arrangements, such as academic accommodations for those with physical or academic limitations
- Employment services for help with resume, interviews, and more
- How to tell potential employers about your strengths and limitations
- Volunteer opportunities to try out a type of work or school and obtain a current reference
- Technology supports that may help you with using computers or other types of work

Your VoCo Team

Alison Stewart is a vocational counsellor who meets with young people who are:

- Completing high school
- Wanting to complete high school
- Planning to continue their education at a post-secondary school
- Looking for employment or employment training
- Looking for assistance to apply for government benefits or other programs

Angela Pretula is an Oncology Follow-Up Nurse Clinician who cares for patients once they are 2 years off treatment until approximately 16 years of age.

Marion Nelson is an Oncology Follow-Up Nurse Clinician who cares for patients from the age of 16 and minimum 2 years off treatment. She will continue to see them until they are transitioned into Adult Health Care.

Dana Anderson is a Neuro-oncology Follow up Nurse Clinician who cares for neuro-oncology patients once they are 2 years off treatment until they are at least 5 years post treatment and ready to be transitioned into Adult Health Care

Physician

Sheila Pritchard is the Medical Director of the Follow up Clinic

Where do I go?

Please check in at the Long Term Follow-Up desk in the regular outpatient Oncology Clinic first. Alison Stewart, the Vocational Counsellor, will come to the reception area to meet you and to show you to her office.

Appointments

Appointments are generally one and a half hours long. You can bring a friend or parent(s) if you like, as well as any information about your previous school or work experience that you think might be helpful. **Please make every effort to keep your appointment or call in advance to reschedule or cancel.**

To Make an Appointment

Please contact Alison Stewart

Contact Information:

Vocational Counsellor:

Alison Stewart
Phone: (604) 875-2345 ext.7078
(Tuesday and Thursday mornings only)
Email: astewart5@cw.bc.ca

Long Term Follow-Up Nurse Clinicians

Angela Pretula
Phone: (604) 875-2345 ext.7126
Email: apretula@cw.bc.ca

Marion Nelson
Phone: (604) 875-2345 ext.4827
Email: mnelson@cw.bc.ca

Dana Anderson
Phone: (604) 875-3578
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Websites: www.bcchildrens.ca
www.kidscancer.bc.ca



An agency of the Provincial
Health Services Authority



Vocational Counselling

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Oncology/Hematology/BMT
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