

Tracy Samra - Bio

Tracy Samra was appointed Chief Administrative Officer for the City of Nanaimo on March 7, 2016. As Nanaimo's top civil servant, Tracy is responsible for carrying out decisions passed by Council through the overall management of the City's administration and budget. On a daily basis she provides leadership and direction to a professional and diversified group of some 700 employees delivering essential services to Nanaimo's 86,000 residents.

As a senior public sector administrator and lawyer, Tracy holds 20 years experience working with federal, provincial and First Nations governments in the areas of governance, policy development and service delivery.

Tracy began her legal career at Davis LLP and also worked as an Associate at Canada's largest law firm, Borden Ladner Gervais, where she provided counsel to Bay Street clients in energy and business. In 2003 she was appointed Senior Adjudicator for the Indian Residential Schools Adjudication Secretariat and later became the Executive Director of the Strategic Policy Branch for the Province of British Columbia's Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation. In 2008 Tracy was selected as the Associate Regional Director General for Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada.

Since 2001, Tracy has appeared as a regular presenter and keynote speaker at conferences in Canada, South America and New Zealand where she has led discussions on First Nation's development, law and energy development. Today she is currently a lecturer at Vancouver Island University on the subjects of natural resources management and indigenous rights.

Tracy is a graduate of the Canada School of Public Administration and hold degrees from the University of Ottawa (Master of Laws) and the University of Victoria (Bachelor of Laws). She has been a member of the Law Society of British Columbia and the Law Society of Upper Canada. In 2005 she gained admission to the Alberta Law Society before her hometown community - Saddle Lake Cree Nation, in Treaty No. 6 territory - during an all-First Nation ceremony held on First Nation land. It was the first such event in Alberta's history.

Tracy and her husband are avid outdoor trekkers and have a blended home of cats and dogs.