



Viki Samuels-Stewart

Viki Samuels-Stewart has worked in the areas of diversity, equity and inclusion, human rights, and conflict resolution for over 20 years, as an educator, trainer, mediator, investigator, and program developer. Viki has presented nationally and internationally, having been deemed an expert in systemic discrimination by the P.E.I. Supreme Court and as a presenter on diversity in Belfast, Ireland.

Viki is an independent consultant in the areas of mediation, conflict resolution, strategic planning, team building, diversity, and human rights. She specializes in workplace mediation and has conducted numerous mediations in both the private and public sector. Viki is also trained and experienced with restorative approaches to resolve conflict.

Prior to consulting, Viki worked with the Halifax Regional Municipality as a Conflict Resolution Consultant, providing mediation, facilitation, and advice on issues of personal harassment, discrimination, and conflict in the workplace. Additionally, she worked with Fire and Emergency in Diversity. Viki was the first Coordinator of Respectful Workplace with the Nova Scotia Public Service Commission.

With extensive experience working in the community, she was employed and volunteered with the North End Parent Resource Centre in Uniacke Square. Viki was Director of a halfway house for adult male offenders, the first Director of Adsum House, and worked as a parole officer for African Nova Scotian offenders with the John Howard Society. In the private sector, Viki worked as the first Equity Officer in the Atlantic Region for the Bank of Nova Scotia. As their first Director, she assisted with the implementation of the Halifax CeaseFire Project, a program which addresses gun violence in African Nova Scotian communities.

Viki graduated from Ryerson University with a Bachelor's in Social Work and has received extensive professional training in mediation, which includes participation in an intensive 5-day conflict resolution training program at the British Columbia Institute of Justice. Viki recently received certification in facilitating grief groups with members of the African Nova Scotian community who have lost family members to violence.

Viki received a 125 award from the RCMP for her work as a member of their National Advisory Committee on Visible Minorities and was included in the first edition of *Who's Who in Black Canada, 2005*. Viki also received the CEO's Appreciation Award in Recognition of her outstanding and dedicated work for the Nova Scotian Human Rights Commission in 2004. On December 15, 2022, Viki will receive the Queen Elizabeth 11 Platinum Jubilee Medal for her service to the community.

Viki is a past member and president of the well-known multicultural community choir, the Nova Scotia Mass Choir.