

2024 Pounamu Taonga Award Recipient

Gerald Bent

In 2007, Gerald graduated from Simon Fraser University (SFU) with a B.A. in Anthropology and a B.Ed. as a second degree. Since 2008, Gerald Bent has worked at the Correctional Service of Canada (CSC), working with the Indigenous, Métis, and Two-Spirit inmates who are currently incarcerated or on a conditional release to the community. Gerald has held many roles at the CSC and is currently on assignment working at the Pacific Regional Headquarters (RHQ) office as Project Officer in Indigenous Initiatives. As Project Officer, Gerald supervises seven Indigenous Liaison Officers (ILO's). Gerald also works on a variety of project management endeavours and opportunities that contribute to the development and delivery of a range of Indigenous supports and programs that are geared towards assisting Indigenous offenders who are on a healing journey/path to reintegration to the community or to their traditional territory.

In 2011, Gerald reapplied to Simon Fraser University to study Criminology and Indigenous studies. In 2017, Gerald completed his