

COMMUNITY

Prince George

Project:

RCMP Watch Training on Human Trafficking

City of Prince George, BC

Known as BC’s northern capital, Prince George is a city located on the traditional territory of the Lheidli T’enneh First Nations, with a population of approximately 76,000. Prince George is situated at the crossroads of Highway 97 (north-south) and Highway 16 (east-west), and at the confluence of the Fraser and Nechako Rivers.

The Prince George & District Elizabeth Fry Society, the RCMP Victim Services Program and the Carrier Sekani Child and Family Services Society have organized many events in Prince George over the past several years to address issues of human trafficking and sexual exploitation. In 2013 these community agencies joined together again to hold a “Train- the-Trainer” workshop with thirty-seven local service providers and participants in attendance.

Krista Levar, Prince George RCMP Victim Services Coordinator, assisted in the organization of the “Train-the-Trainer” session in Prince George. Shortly after taking the training on human trafficking, Krista designed a brief presentation and delivered it to every police officer in her detachment at the “watch briefing”. Every officer attends a watch briefing at the beginning of their shift.

**RCMP Officers Wallet Card
SIDE A**

**RCMP Officers Wallet Card
SIDE B**

Human Trafficking

*Exploitation in PG:
What it looks like*

- Sexual Exploitation
- Groomed to be involved in drug industry
- Forced labour or services
- Servitude
- Marriage under false pretenses

**Trafficking in Persons
S 279.01 CC adult (279.011 youth)**

- Indictable

Every person who recruits, transports, transfers, receives, holds, conceals or harbours a person, or exercises control, direction or influence over the movements of a person, for the purpose of exploiting them or facilitating their exploitation.

Human Trafficking

*Prince George Services
that can help*

- RCMP Victim Services **561-3329**
- Elizabeth Fry
Victim Services **563-1113**
- Native Friendship Centre **564-3568**
- Carrier Sekani **562-3591**
- AWAC **562-6262**
- Phoenix Transition House **563-7305**
- Legal Aid **564-9717**
- Immigration &
Multicultural Society **562-2900**
- UHNBC **565-2000**
- Sexual Assault Centre **564-8302**
- Native Court Workers **1-877-811-1190**



Krista also designed and distributed a simple, handy, wallet card describing the offence of human trafficking and the *Criminal Code* section numbers for each RCMP officer to keep with them at all times, as a reminder to investigate and explore charges for this crime when suitable.

The wallet card also lists service providers in the Prince George area that are able to assist emerging trafficked persons. These services also assist the RCMP when investigating a situation of human trafficking.

The card is reproduced here, and can be replicated in other communities as needed.

RCMP Constable Paul Starr from the Youth Support Team at the Prince George detachment commented on this project:

“I usually think of trafficking as domestic servitude or international smuggling but having the fact that human trafficking also covers sexual exploitation emphasized in a quick and simple training session broadened the scope of possible charges that I may not have considered prior to the training.”

Krista Levar made the following comment about the impact of this project:

“This opportunity allowed me to offer clear and concise definitions and explanations about the potential of using human trafficking charges in ways that otherwise may not have been utilized. In particular, the sexual exploitation piece and the trafficking within our own province from community to community generated the most interest among RCMP members.”