

Services to Victims of Crime Project Update

November 18, 2015

Dear Service Provider,

In late September, we posted a high-level summary report of feedback we received through our Phase 3 online survey regarding the draft procurement plan. Since that time, we have continued to work through the feedback as we proceed with finalizing the plan.

I am writing to inform you that we are proceeding with our regular Program Application process for Fiscal Year 2016-17 contracts. Contract terms for 2016-17 will be 16 months running from April 1st, 2016 to July 31st, 2017. Contracted service providers can expect to receive Program Application packages within the next week or so.

We will proceed with plans for open procurement for contracted Victim Service and Violence Against Women Programs beginning in January 2017. This will include contracts in existing service areas at current funding amounts. It is anticipated that it may take until July 2018 before this process is complete. We continue to explore vendor training opportunities to assist service providers in responding to open procurement. Further information on vendor training and procurement timelines will be provided in the coming months.

In response to feedback, we have chosen not to proceed with a new funding formula or the creation of new service areas at this time. While most service providers agreed that proposed funding formula factors are transparent, consistent and responsive to previous feedback, there continues to be concern over the actual impact of a new funding formula on service providers and service areas. Further, while nearly all service providers support additional services across the province, many expressed concern about creating new service areas without new funding to support additional programming.

The Services to Victims of Crime Initiative has provided us with an important opportunity to consult on program design issues, service areas, a proposed funding formula, procurement timeframes and activities as well as draft Request for Proposal documents. The feedback we have received during each phase of consultation has helped us to continue to refine our approach. We appreciate all of the efforts you have made in bringing forward your thoughts, ideas and feedback.

We remain committed to providing you with regular updates on this initiative and will provide you with as much notice as possible with respect to the timing of procurement activities.

Please continue to contact us with any questions. Please contact your current Program Manager or Jamie Lipp, Director of Community Programs at jamie.lipp@gov.bc.ca or by phone at 604 660-1872. You may also contact Taryn Walsh, Executive Director at taryn.walsh@gov.bc.ca.

Sincerely,



Patricia Boyle, Assistant Deputy Minister
Community Safety and Crime Prevention Branch
Ministry of Justice

