

Information *bulletin*

September 2013

Message from the Executive Director

Welcome to the Victim Services and Crime Prevention Division's Information Bulletin, a resource to keep you up to date on news, stories, and legislative changes happening across the province.

In this issue, you will learn about an innovative collaboration between the Surrey Women's Centre and the RCMP Missing Persons Unit and receive information on available training opportunities.

In the past couple of years, we have focused our training efforts on developing and deliver-

ing courses on specific topics to address priority issues including safety planning.

Today, we are excited to announce the launch of the new *Understanding and Responding to Elder Abuse E-Book* and video. The E-book is a tool for support workers in B.C. who work with older adults and contains interviews and video clips. Those interested in downloading these new materials, can visit our [training page](#).

Taryn Walsh
Executive Director

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Understanding and Responding to Elder Abuse E-Book and Video



In partnership with the BC Centre for Elder Advocacy and Support (BC CEAS) and with financial support from the federal Department of Justice, the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Branch is excited to announce the availability of a valuable, new tool for support workers in B.C. who work with older adults who have been abused and neglected.

The *Understanding and Responding to Elder Abuse E-Book* covers types of

elder abuse and risk factors, B.C. government programs and community services available for older adults who are abused and neglected, and practice tips on how to work with older adults who have been abused. The E-Book also includes resources, information, links, video interviews with local stakeholders, and role play video scenarios on how to address different types of elder abuse. The accompanying video covers the concepts of capacity, consent and

Get the E-Book and Video!

The free *Understanding and Responding to Elder Abuse E-Book* and video are now available on the [training page](#) of our website.

mental confusion with a specific focus on the issue of financial abuse.

This initiative is part of the B.C. government's commitment to prevent, recognize, and respond to the issue of elder abuse, as outlined in *Together to Reduce Elder Abuse - B.C.'s Strategy (TREA)*. The development of the TREA Strategy was guided with input received during province-wide consultations with sectors and individuals involved in elder abuse prevention, as well as with seniors and their families. Other initiatives related to elder abuse include the translation of [Help Starts Here: Abuse and Neglect of Older Adults](#) into Punjabi, Chinese and French.

Free training webinar!

Please join us for a free live webinar with Martha Jane Lewis, Executive Director of the BC Centre for Elder Advocacy and Support, who will introduce and review this new resource: *Understanding and Responding to Elder Abuse E-Book*. There will also be time for questions and answers regarding this resource, as well as general questions regarding the issue of elder abuse in B.C.

When: Tuesday, October 29th, 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Where: From your computer

Please register by October 16th by emailing your name and request to attend to admin@bcccas.ca. You will then receive a confirmation email and instructions to access the webinar via the People's Law School.



Community Accountability Program Training



On May 9th, 2013 the Ministry of Justice partnered with the Community Justice Initiatives Association to complete a series of regional trainings in restorative justice for contracted Community Accountability Programs (CAP). CAPs are volunteer-based agencies that provide restorative justice services in their local communities. These sessions were made possible through Civil Forfeiture funding.

The training goals were to:

- Ensure a consistent quality of service delivery by CAP groups, with particular attention to victims' needs and issues
- Increase the capacity of B.C.

CAP groups to accept referrals of increased diversity and complexity

- Provide opportunities for regional networking among agencies and a platform for future collaboration and information sharing

Since October 2012, four-day workshops were delivered in the Lower Mainland/Fraser Valley, Vancouver Island, Okanagan Region, Kootenay Region, and North/Central Region. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive with 96% of participants reporting to be satisfied or very satisfied.

A big thanks to everyone who participated.

Human Trafficking Training

OCTIP's successful online training course, *Human Trafficking: Canada is Not Immune*, is being updated! The revised version will be launched in early 2014, while the original course that was launched in 2011 will continue to be available online. Two of its new features will include more real-life stories from survivors of human trafficking as well as an assessment and certification process for those who complete the training. You can [access the training here](#).

If you would like to include your personal story in the training course, or if you have any questions, please contact Kirsten Hunter, Project Manager at Kirsten.Hunter@gov.bc.ca.

Indigenous Cultural Competency Online Training

Now Available for Volunteers and Support Staff!

Seats available! The Indigenous Cultural Competency online training course is now also available to volunteers and support staff of contracted victim service and violence against women programs, as well Branch funded provincial associations. Please visit our [training page](#) to download an application.

DV Safety Planning Online Training

We are pleased to extend free course registration for staff and volunteers in Branch funded victim service and violence against women programs through 2013/14.

Applications for registration can be [downloaded here](#).

In the Spotlight: Surrey Women's Centre's Missing Women's Network



The Missing Women's Network was created by the Surrey Women's Centre several years ago to assist the community to increase the safety of women and children reported missing to the police. In cooperation with the Surrey RCMP Missing Persons Unit and the BC Police Missing Persons Centre, the Missing Women's Network has helped to identify women and children who were reported missing, but who had actually safely relocated to escape gender-based violence.

The Missing Women's Network is a targeted list of key medical, legal, and social service providers across the region that are most likely to have contact with women and children fleeing violence. Through this network, the Surrey Women's Centre plays the role of an intermediary between the anti-violence sector (which includes transition houses, victim services and violence against women counselling and outreach programs) and the Surrey RCMP. The Surrey Women's Centre has formalized protocols with both the Surrey RCMP Missing Persons Unit and the BC Police Missing Persons Unit to help ensure better coordination for keeping women and children safe.

The Surrey Women's Centre regularly distributes fan-outs to the Missing Women's Network including information about a woman's or child's 'disappearance' or cur-

rent whereabouts. Since 2010, the Surrey Women's Centre has distributed 50 fan-outs. Thirty-six women and children have been found, 13 of whom were in a transition house. The Surrey Women's Centre has also assisted programs in Abbotsford, Delta, Maple Ridge, and New Westminster to locate missing women and children.

The Missing Women's Network helps ensure that missing women and children come to the attention of community service providers that are likely to come into contact with them. The program helps to build strong relationships between police and the anti-violence sector through regular communication about women and children at-risk.

We wish the Surrey Women's Centre continued success in helping women and children at-risk in the region.

Federal Department of Justice – Victims Fund

Time-Limited Operational Funding grants are available under the Victims Fund and are intended to provide funding to a limited number of victim-serving, non-governmental organizations (NGO) whose programs and activities are aligned with the Victims Fund and Government of Canada priorities. The maximum amount per recipient is \$75,000 per year for a two year funding period.



Applications for Time-Limited Operational Funding (TLOF) through the Victims Fund must be received between August 30th

and September 30, 2013, for the 2014-2016 funding period. No applications received after the closing date will be eligible for funding. Only applications that have been completed in full will be reviewed.

For additional information, please visit the [Department of Justice website](#).

Community Programs Unit

Branch Program Managers are available for all of our contracted community programs. Feel free to contact your Program Manager if you require assistance.



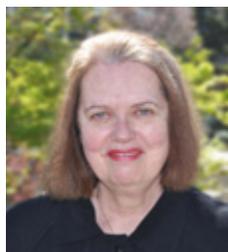
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We want to hear from you!

If you have feedback about this bulletin or would like to submit information about an innovative project to be featured in a future bulletin, please contact us at victimservices@gov.bc.ca.