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### **CCWS SECURES ONGOING FUNDING**

Community Coordination for Women's Safety (CCWS) received ongoing funding from the Ministry of Community Services in April. This means that we can develop long term plans for the program while we continue to support communities across the province.

### **NEW DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE**

Check out the CCWS page on [www.endingviolence.org](http://www.endingviolence.org) to download our latest documents:

- Information Bulletin on RCMP VIR Policy Change
- Information Bulletin on Sexual Assault: This update was revised from the 2002 version.
- Summaries of the Cross-Regional Intersectoral Discussion Groups on Assaultive Men's Treatment and on Coordination as Prevention.
- Updated list of coordination initiatives across BC

### **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT—TRAINING AND SUPPORT**

Please contact Gail or Morgen, our Regional Coordinators, if you are interested in support or training for your community.

CCWS supports communities who are interested in or involved in violence against women coordination (i.e. bringing various sectors—police, community counselling, health, Crown, etc—together to address violence against women). We help communities start new coordination initiatives as well as working with communities that have been involved in coordination for years. We provide information packages, telephone and email support, in person training and facilitated strategic planning sessions.

Since April, we have worked with 43 BC communities: Abbotsford, Burns Lake, Chetwynd, Comox, Courtenay, Campbell River, Chilliwack, Cranbrook, Dawson Creek, Fort St John, Fort Nelson, Golden, Haida Gwaii (Masset, Old Massett, Queen Charlotte City, Sandspit), Hazelton, Houston, Kelowna, Nanaimo, Oceanside, Parksville, Penticton, Powell River, Prince George, Prince Rupert, Quesnel, Robson Valley (7 communities), Sechelt, Smithers, Squamish, Terrace, Tumbler Ridge, Ucluelet, Vancouver, Vanderhoof and Williams Lake.

### **SHARING INFORMATION WITH COMMUNITIES**

CCWS is in consultation with Victim Services and Community Programs Division (VSCPD) and Police Services, both of the MPSSG, regarding protocol for sharing statistics from these sources with coordination initiatives. CCWS has also arranged with Jane Coombe of the VSCPD to present information (about the division's historical and current work to support coordination) to rural and isolated regions on an annual basis. Please contact our Regional Coordinators if you have ideas or input for presentations by VSCPD in your community.

### **CCWS WORKING GROUP NEWS**

The CCWS Working Group members provide input on issues that relate to their field of professional expertise and identify local and provincial strategies to help enhance coordination and implementation of violence against women policies.

We are happy to announce that two new members will be joining our Working Group in November. Monika Chappell will be representing Pacific (and national) DisAbled Women's Network (DAWN), carrying on the work of the late Joan Meister, who was part of our Working Group until last year. Chief Superintendent Dick Bent has replaced Al Macintyre at RCMP E Division Headquarters and will be attending the CCWS Working Group meetings beginning in November. Wendy Von Tongeren Harvey, Crown Counsel at the Regional Crown office in New Westminster, will be joining the meeting as a guest. The Working Group includes the following work teams that are addressing urgent provincial level issues: protection orders enforcement, collaboration with court personnel, KGB statements, immigration and violence against women, s.810 peace bonds and assaultive men's treatment. Please contact the Regional Coordinators or Issues Analyst for more information on these issues.

### **CROSS-REGIONAL DISCUSSION GROUPS**

This month CCWS held two discussion groups on the topic of third party reporting. For a variety of reasons, such as fear of further violence, many people who are sexually assaulted will not make a formal report to the police. Third party reporting is an option for survivors to report the details of a sexual assault to the police anonymously. The report is made to a separate organization (the "third party"), who passes on the information to the police without identifying the survivor. This enables the police to look for and

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### **CCWS FUNDERS**

Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services  
National Crime Prevention Centre: Crime Prevention Partnership Program

evaluate trends, create a profile of the assailant, and take actions such as setting up patrols in the area. It also sets up a process for contacting the third party agency, should other victims come forward about sexual assaults with similar descriptions of what occurred, to assess whether the victim would consider making an official report. The discussion groups looked at the theoretical and practical implications of third party reporting, particularly for rural and isolated women and women who face particular discrimination. Summaries of the calls will be posted on our website and listserv.

### NEW PROJECTS TO ADDRESS PROVINCE WIDE ISSUES

- **Third Party Reports:** CCWS has begun the development of a provincial protocol to allow sexual assault victims who do not wish to report to police to submit a third party report to another agency. We are consulting with communities who have experience in this area; please contact us if you have information or ideas.
- **Tri-Ministry Protection Orders Task Group:** In partnership with Victim Services and Community Programs Division of MPSSG, CCWS continues to help the different sectors coordinate the enforcement of protection orders.
- **Roundtable on VAWIR:** CCWS is participating in planning a roundtable on violence against women in relationships being organized by the BCASVACP, BC/Yukon Society of Transition Houses and the BC Institute Against Family Violence. This is scheduled for February 2006.
- **New Police Guidelines:** CCWS has provided input into new guidelines for BC police (municipal and RCMP) regarding police release on an Undertaking To Appear (UTA). An Issues Update on this topic can be found on [www.endingviolence.org](http://www.endingviolence.org).
- **Issues Database:** CCWS is developing a plan for a web-based database that will track issues related to violence against women. These issues will be gathered through our work with communities. Keep an eye out for updates on this project.
- **Information Sharing:** With the assistance of MPSSG, CCWS has begun development of an information-sharing strategy to ensure that women who are at risk of domestic violence receive critical information about the accused's past violence. We will keep communities updated about this important initiative.

### BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Since May we have distributed over one thousand copies of our manual *Building Partnerships to End Violence Against Women*. Copies have been sent to every STV, CBVAP and TH program in BC. We have also received orders from all the provinces and territories. This document is currently being prepared for online distribution. We are very excited about the response to this publication—thanks to all of you who ordered extra copies and gave us great feedback about how the manual is being used. We've heard that people are using it for strategic planning at their coordination initiatives, for starting new partnerships and for evaluating existing ones. Just what we were hoping!

### SAFETY ISSUES PROTOCOL

CCWS has collaborated with RCMP "E" Division to develop an innovative new protocol that builds on our work to support communities in addressing issues at the local level. Through the Safety Issues Protocol (SIP), concerns that don't get adequately addressed at the local level now have another avenue. The SIP provides for CCWS representatives to bring issues that concern victim safety to the attention of the RCMP District Officer (there are four District Officers responsible for detachments in their area). District Officers have been notified of this procedure, a form has been developed for these occasions and CCWS is working on an information bulletin for communities regarding the SIP. In the meantime, if you have a case that involves RCMP policy not being followed that affects victim safety and have tried to address it at the local level with no success, please call any of the CCWS contacts or the Association office.

### CONTACT US

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### CCWS MANAGING PARTNER

BC Association of Specialized Victim Assistance and Counselling Programs