

Regional Capacity Building Highlights

Sea to Sky Corridor; Third Party Reporting of Sexual Assault; November 1, 2017: This one-day training was held in Whistler for the Sea to Sky Corridor communities (Squamish, Squamish Nation, Whistler, Pemberton, Lil'wat Nation, N'Quat'qua, Samahquam and Skatin Nation).

As one of the areas in the province of BC that does not presently have access to CBVS programs locally, the Sea to Sky corridor is part of the pilot to expand the types of community programs that can facilitate Third Party Reports to include STV Outreach and Counselling programs (MPSSG) as well as other key community programs that have been locally developed to fill this gap. The training was one day in duration and covered the background of the provincial Third Party Reporting Protocol, in depth technical information regarding facilitating Third Party Reports with sexual assault survivors, and steps in developing and maintaining the local Third Party Reporting interagency protocol.

Campbell River and Comox Valley; Third Party Reporting of Sexual Assault; February 7, 2018:

This one-day training was held on K'omoks territory in Black Creek for the Campbell River and Comox Valley Regions. This included the communities of Campbell River, Courtenay, Comox, Gold River, Sayward, Quadra Island, Black Creek, Fanny Bay Hornby Island and Denman Island. Port Alberni CBVS also attended the training. With the assistance of the TPR provincial Work Team, Campbell River and Comox Valley CBVS, PBVS and RCMP agencies are in the process of creating local TPR protocols.

Campbell River CBVS provides services to survivors of sexual assault in Campbell River and the outlying communities of Quadra Island, Sayward and Gold River. The Campbell River VIR committee focuses on addressing victim

service gaps and improving coordination in response to sexual assault and prevention. Comox Valley CBVS provides services to survivors of sexual assault in the Comox Valley from the Black Creek boundary in the north to Fanny Bay in the south; including Hornby and Denman Island. The Comox Valley has an established protocol between CBVS and PBVS intended to facilitate a seamless delivery for victims of crime, as well as a Violence Against Women in Relationships (VAWIR) committee which focuses on prevention, education/training possibilities, trending issues and program updates.



Cariboo Regional ICAT training was held at 100 Mile House on February 21, 2018.

Robson Valley; Third Party Reporting of Sexual Assault; February 22, 2018:

This one-day training was held on Secwepemc territory in Valemount for the Robson Valley. As one of several smaller regional centres in the province of BC that does not presently have access to CBVS programs locally, the TPR provincial Work Team is working with the Robson Valley Support Society and RCMP in developing capacity to provide the TPR protocol within the Robson Valley, including with this training attended by the two staff attached to the Stopping

the Violence Counselling and Outreach programs, the RCMP, and many other key referral agencies in the Robson Valley.

Robson Valley Support Society has been working to address victim's service gaps from Dome Creek to Albreda to the Alberta boarder, through their local CCWS, with a focus on Sexualized Assault Response and Prevention. The development of the Third Party Reporting protocol is part of enhancing this and other work of the Robson Valley CCWS.

Capacity Building Highlights

Grand Forks; VAWIR Training; November 7, 2017: This VAWIR capacity building session was well attended with 25 service providers from police, MCFD, health and addictions, transition house, hospital and restorative justice.



Northern travels – the TPR training team leaving Kwadacha via Tsay Keh Dene on the RCMP Force plane: L-R are Jayson Davidson, Tsay Keh Dene/Kwadacha RCMP; Morgen Baldwin, CCWS Regional Coordinator; Heather Wojcik, CCWS Legal Analyst; and Sgt. Stephanie Ashton, BC RCMP Crime Prevention Services. Photo: Pilot Paul Beaudry

Kwadacha; Third Party Reporting of Sexual Assault: Access to the Criminal Justice System for Marginalized Victims of Sexual Assault; November 7, 2017: This one-day training was held in Kwadacha, BC and focused on training for TPR Protocol partners with Kwadacha Band Council and Tsay Keh Dene/Kwadacha RCMP. The afternoon portion of the session was also attended by RCMP North District representatives. The training covered the background of the provincial Third Party Reporting Protocol, in-depth technical information regarding facilitating Third Party Reports with sexual assault survivors, and steps in developing and maintaining the local TPR interagency protocol.

Grand Forks; Working Together to Respond Collaboratively to Highest Risk Domestic Violence; ICAT Capacity Building; November 8, 2017: CCWS delivered this training in collaboration with RCMP and MCFD to 17 participants including representatives from RCMP, Police-Based Victim Services, MCFD, Boundary Family and Individual Services Society, Boundary Women's Coalition, Interior Health and a local restorative justice program.

Prince George; Third Party Reporting of Sexual Assault; February 20, 2018. This one-day training was held in on Lheidli T'enneh territory in Prince George and focused on training for TPR Protocol partners from Prince George, as well as key referral agencies in Prince George and Burns Lake. Several communities in the province have other types of community programs that facilitate TPRs in addition to Community-Based Victim Services, including Prince George. The Surpassing Our Survival (S.O.S.) Society was one of the agencies that pioneered Third Party Reporting prior to the development of the BC TPR protocol, and continues to provide the TPR option, along with the Prince George & District Elizabeth Fry Society CBVS program. The Prince George Native Friendship Centre joined the training as part of the expansion of community program types under the BC TPR protocol to include Indigenous support services.

EVA BC Annual Training Forum 2017; Third Party Reporting: A Report from the Provincial Work Team; November 16, 2017: This workshop, delivered to 30 participants from across the province, provided an opportunity to learn about the provincial protocol from the TPR Work Team, and to hear about the work currently underway at the provincial level to increase the use and effectiveness of the TPR option.

EVA BC Annual Training Forum 2017; VAWIR/VIR and Sexual Assault Coordination Committees: Leadership Challenges and Lessons Learned; November 17, 2017: This workshop, delivered to 30 participants from across the province, provided current leaders/coordinators, as well as those interested in developing coordination initiatives, an opportunity for consultation and sharing of challenges, tools, and lessons learned.

Trends and Emerging Issues

CCWS is a forum for discussing the challenges of policy and program implementation and resolving those challenges. When communities identify issues such as those below, CCWS Regional Coordinators work with community stakeholders to address the issue at the local level. When an issue cannot be addressed at the local level and CCWS recognizes a province wide “trend” emerging, we endeavour to address the issue at a provincial level through the CCWS Working Group.

ICAT Training for Lawyers and Judges: Need for Crown Counsel, criminal defense, family law lawyers and judges to have training on ICATs and domestic violence risk factors in general. Several communities across the province have stated that while awareness and knowledge of ICAT’s purposes and protocols has increased, lawyers and the judiciary could benefit from more information.

Transfer of TPR Forms within BC: In situations where the survivor makes a Third Party Report (TPR) in one police jurisdiction about a crime that happened in another jurisdiction (within BC), the BC TPR protocol for both CBVS and Police asks CBVS to forward the TPR Form to their local detachment/department, which then forwards on to the relevant police agency of jurisdiction.

Since the creation of the provincial police TPR liaison position with the March 2017 Enhanced TPR Protocol, the practice for transferring TPRs between police jurisdictions has been evolving and the TPR Work Team is engaged in discussion and action planning to streamline this process. Communities with questions about the transfer of TPR forms within or outside of BC can contact CCWS at ccws@endingviolence.org or 604.633.2506 ext.15.

Subpoenas to Direct Service Workers: Direct service anti-violence workers report they are receiving subpoenas more frequently than in the past. The subpoenas may come from Crown or defence counsel. In addition, police are seeking statements from anti-violence workers, especially if they are present when police interview the victim (at victim’s request), or if the worker has contact with the victim after the crime took place, but prior to them giving a statement to police. CCWS concludes that the confusion and distress is happening partly because anti-violence workers do not have access

to current information and support about relevant police, Crown and court processes or how to safeguard their clients’ information and records.

Bail Variance: Where an assault occurs in an intimate relationship leading to arrest and release with bail conditions (often dictating that the accused may not have contact with the victim), the situation may arise where the accused seeks to vary the bail conditions by consent. Where the accused seeks to vary the no contact conditions, it is critical to ensure the victim is connected to victim services for safety planning, information about available resources, and informed decision making about whether and how the victim will have contact with their partner/former partner. It is important for police and Community Corrections to be informed of the application so that they may relay any concerns to Crown about the proposed variations.

This issue was raised to CCWS by a few communities, including at a number of ICAT trainings. CCWS raised this issue at the CCWS Working Group meeting in October 2017. This Work Team was formed to determine the scope of the issue and, based on findings, identify actions needed to increase safety and collaboration.

Two meetings have been held to date, on November 20 and December 15, 2017. An initial review of applicable policy, legislation, and practice so far has yielded the following information:

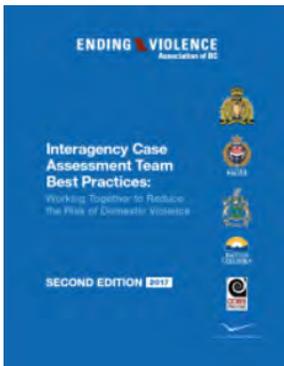
- Practice varies from community to community depending on the relationships between various players and ad hoc processes that have been created.
- Some effective local practices exist where the victim is connected and victim services, police, community corrections, and other relevant players are informed and involved.
- Some communities have expressed a desire to identify best practices so that there is clarity regarding roles, responsibilities, and expectations.

Visit us online

endingviolence.org/prevention-programs/ccws-program/

Resources

View CCWS resources and publications online at: <http://endingviolence.org/research-publications/>



Find ICAT information and links at: <http://endingviolence.org/prevention-programs/ccws-program/interagency-case-assessment-teams-icats/>



Find links to Third Party Reporting materials at: <http://endingviolence.org/prevention-programs/ccws-program/third-party-reporting-tpr/>

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VAWIR Committee Conference Call

The most recent VAWIR Committee call was held on February 13, 2018. Twenty-two participants discussed the #MeToo movement and how media attention on sexual assault and harassment has changed their work in recent years, especially since Fall 2017. Call participants also shared coordination successes in their communities and any efforts they have been undertaking to reanimate their committees during times when it loses energy or focus.

Provincial Working Group

The most recent Working Group meeting took place in Vancouver on February 27, 2018. The next meeting is slated to take place on October 23, 2018.

To see a current list of Working Group members, please visit <http://endingviolence.org/prevention-programs/ccws-program/ccws-working-group-members/>



L-R: CCWS Regional Coordinators Gail Edinger and Kristi Yuris stop for a quick photo while delivering training at 100 Mile House in February 2018.