

## Human Trafficking in 2018 – Current Policing Landscape

Human trafficking is challenging from a policing perspective because it is unlike traditional police work, and requires more than a typical policing response.

Traditional policing responses to crime have relied on visible, generally easily identifiable sets of facts and circumstances.

Addressing human trafficking requires a multi-disciplinary, holistic and multi-sector collaborative approach because of the vulnerability of victims and the complexity and nature of the crime.

Human Trafficking is growing as a criminal activity. The OPP documented “actual occurrences” of confinement, kidnapping, abduction, and human trafficking as having increased by 28.5% from 2016 to 2017.<sup>1</sup>

### Challenges for Policing in relation to Human Trafficking

The nature of human trafficking involves a number of factors that make it one of the most difficult crimes to assess and detect – on-line exploitation and grooming of victims, inability to identify victims, reluctance of victims to self-identify and testify, the transient nature of offences as well as the lack of community and law enforcement awareness.

These, as well as other factors, require police officers to look for more subtle clues or indicators of human trafficking and provide a response that is more tailored to the needs of victims.

#### *Cross Jurisdictional*

Human trafficking offences are cross jurisdictional. They may occur in more than one policing jurisdiction, either intra-provincially, inter-provincially or internationally.

#### *Electronic Evidence*

International investigations create additional challenges for police to navigate laws in different jurisdictions, as well as challenges associated with gathering electronic evidence originating or stored, outside of Canada. Cellular phones and other electronic devices are encrypted, which can create an obstacle for police attempting to quickly access electronic and digital evidence.

<sup>1</sup> OPP Annual Report 2017, page 59.

Exhibit: National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls		
Location/Phase: <u>Parts 2/3 St. John's</u>		
Witness: <u>Tina Chalk</u>		
Submitted by: <u>Julian Roy</u>		
Add'l info: <u>P02-03P04P0101</u>		
Date: <u>OCT 15 2018</u>		
Initials	I/D	Entered <sup>1</sup>
<u>63</u>		<u>14</u>

### *Social Media and the Internet-Capitalizing on Anonymity and Invisibility*

The use of social media and the internet have provided opportunities for traffickers to find vulnerable women and girls; to target them and develop relationships with them more quickly than traditional in-person social relationships.

The internet provides traffickers with the ability to remain anonymous, and access to an exponentially increased number of potential victims.

This anonymity, as well as jurisdictional issues and lack of proximity between the trafficker and potential victim, lowers the risk of police detection by making evidence gathering more difficult.

### *Anonymity/Highways*

Ontario's network of highways contributes to challenges for police by providing mobility for traffickers to travel across police jurisdictions within Ontario, and across other provinces and into the United States.

A large amount of human trafficking activity occurs via highway, which requires a different type of policing response because it is not easily observable. The volume of highways and traffic in Ontario, coupled with Ontario's geography, makes human trafficking very difficult to detect.

### *Anonymity/Hotels, Motels, Online Vacation Rentals*

Temporary lodging such as a hotel, motel or a residential vacation rental property, provides human traffickers with access to an increased volume of anonymous locations to engage in trafficking. Employees of these businesses may not recognize activity as human trafficking, or know what to do if they suspect it.

### *Lack of understanding/awareness of scope and proximity of Human Trafficking*

Increased police and public awareness of the indicators and prevalence of human trafficking, is required.

Human trafficking is often associated with urban centres, however, there is a need to increase awareness that rural and remote communities are also at risk.

### *Lack of Accurate Statistical Data for Indigenous Women and Girls*

One of the challenges for policing in relation to human trafficking is the lack of statistical data clearly identifying the scope of human trafficking. There is currently no formal mechanism in Ontario for gathering data in relation to human trafficking involving Indigenous victims.

The nature of the offence results in the fear of victims reporting to police. Additionally, the relationship between victims and police often results in underreporting of offences.

### *Victim Vulnerability*

Often, victims of human trafficking do not realize they are being targeted and victimized. Traffickers frequently target vulnerable girls by creating a façade of a love relationship and convincing the victim that they share an emotional bond.

Young persons from small communities can be attracted to bigger cities, which may also contribute to vulnerability. Vulnerability can be increased when young persons need to leave their community for medical treatment, or school.

Poverty can also be a factor in victim vulnerability. Traffickers may provide necessities as well as gifts to potential victims in the early stages of victim grooming.

Many of the factors that make victims vulnerable to human trafficking correspond to the vulnerability of Indigenous women and girls.

### **OPP Policy Framework<sup>2</sup>**

- OPP policy is referred to as Police Orders, and contains policy and guidelines for OPP employees.
- They are issued by the Commissioner of the OPP and are developed in accordance with the requirements of the Adequacy Regulation, and the standards contained in the Policing Standards Manual.
- Police Orders:
  - Communicate clear expectations of professional practice
  - Provide consistency across the province
  - Provide accountability and can result in discipline if orders are not complied with

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<sup>2</sup> Overview of Chief Superintendent Mark Pritchard's Evidence, Tab A, Exhibit 126, Ontario Provincial Police Book of Documents, Institutional Hearing on Police Services and Practices, Regina, SK, pps 8-9



## **OPP Policy on Human Trafficking**

Human trafficking is described in the Criminal Investigation Management Procedures (2.7.4).

The Criminal Investigation Management/Procedures policy requires a uniform member, upon determination of a major crime, including human trafficking, to notify the immediate supervisor who shall notify appropriate criminal investigation supervisory personnel.

The uniform member is also required to include all available information in general occurrence reports related to the human trafficking occurrence prior to completion of their daily shift.

The Area Crime Sergeant (ACS) is responsible, in consultation with the Regional Criminal Operations Manager, for determining the most appropriate investigative response and for assuming the lead responsibility for the investigation.

The Criminal Investigation Management Procedures policy is currently being revised to require notification of the Criminal Investigation Branch Assigning Officer by the POC, where an occurrence involves multi-jurisdictional offences involving trafficking of persons.

For all other human trafficking occurrences, the notification will be made by the Regional Criminal Operations Manager to the manager of the Anti-Human Trafficking Coordination Team.

Criminal Investigation Management Procedures set out in Police Orders identifies human trafficking as a Benchmark Crime<sup>3</sup>.

A Benchmark Crime is a major crime or offence that warrants investigative expertise, and which may require a rapid response consisting of OPP employees, equipment or other resources.

Uniform OPP members are required to immediately notify their supervisor, who is required to notify the appropriate criminal investigation supervisory personnel. They are also required to include all available information in general occurrence reports related to a major crime, prior to the completion of their shift.

An ACS, following notification, is required to consult with the manager of Crime Prevention and Investigations in order to:

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<sup>3</sup> OPP Police Orders 2.7.2, Criminal Investigation Management Procedures, Tab 2, Ontario Provincial Police Book of Documents Institutional Hearing on Police Services and Practices, Regina, SK



- Determine the most appropriate investigative response and notify the regional Community Services Coordinator (CSC).
- Remain responsible for assessing the ongoing appropriateness of the investigative response; and
- Assume the lead responsibility in an investigation and be responsible for all supervisory duties such as notification/approvals in relation to that investigation.<sup>4</sup>

### **Major Case Management (MCM) and Human Trafficking**

The MCM Manual was updated in December 2017 to include Trafficking in Persons as a major case, as well as requirements for threshold and non-threshold cases.

#### ***Criteria Offences (deemed to be major cases)<sup>5</sup>:***

- a) homicides as defined in subsection 222(4), Criminal Code, and attempts;
- b) sexual assaults, and all attempts (for the purpose of this standard, is deemed to include sexual interference, sexual exploitation and invitation to sexual touching);
- c) trafficking in persons as defined in section 279.01, 279.011 or 279.04, Criminal Code, and attempts as defined in section 24(1) Criminal Code;
- d) occurrences involving non-familial abductions and attempts;
- e) missing person occurrences, as outlined in this Ontario Major Case Management Manual;
- f) occurrences suspected to be homicide involving found human remains;
- g) criminal harassment cases in which the offender is not known to the victim; and,
- h) any other types of cases designated as a major case pursuant to this Ontario Major Case Management Manual.

#### ***Threshold Offences:***

The following major case occurrences are deemed to be threshold offences and shall be assigned to a Primary Investigator who shall undertake the investigation:

- a) all major cases which are serial or predatory in nature;

<sup>4</sup> OPP Police Orders 2.7.3, Criminal Investigation Management Procedures, Tab 2, Exhibit 132, Ontario Provincial Police Book of Documents Institutional Hearing on Police Services and Practices, Regina, SK

<sup>5</sup> Major Case Management Manual pps. 67, Tab 4, Exhibit 133, Institutional Hearing on Police Services and Practices, Ontario Provincial Police Book of Documents, Regina, SK

- b) any major case that is linked to another major case within the same or another jurisdiction with the exception of human trafficking cases unless the criteria specified under section 3 of the Data Entry Standards section for Non-Threshold Major Cases within this Manual is met.
- c) sexual assaults and attempts (for the purpose of this standard, is deemed to include sexual interference, sexual exploitation and invitation to sexual touching) in which one or more of the following factors is believed to exist:
  - i) the occurrence involves an offence in section 272 (carries, uses, or threatens to use a weapon/imitation; bodily harm; party to the offence) or section 273 (wounds, maims, disfigures or endangers life) of the Criminal Code;
  - ii) the offender is known to have been or suspected to have been previously involved in a similar offence;
  - iii) multiple victims within a single offence;
  - iv) multiple sexual acts;
  - v) the use of restraints, bondage, disguise(s) by the offender;
  - vi) the use of photographic, video or audio equipment to record the offence;
  - vii) the removal of a personal item(s) of the victim from the scene by the offender (e.g., driver's license or article of clothing as a souvenir);
  - viii) scripting (i.e., the offender forces the victim to recite words/phrases or engage in prompted dialogue);
  - ix) the use of a con or ruse by the offender to lure the victim including the use of the Internet, chat lines or dating services;
  - x) the commission of any other offence in conjunction with the sexual assault  
(e.g., criminal harassment, forcible confinement, administration of a noxious substance or suspected administration of a noxious substance intended to incapacitate);
  - xi) the victim is under the age of 16 years and the offender is a person in a

position of trust or authority or is a person with whom the victim is in a relationship of dependency;

***Non-Threshold Offences:***

The following major case occurrences are deemed to be non-threshold offences and may be assigned to an officer who is not a Primary Investigator and has the knowledge, skills and abilities to undertake the investigation in accordance with the criminal investigation management plan of the police service:

- a) sexual assaults including sexual interference, and attempted sexual assaults, sexual exploitation and invitation to sexual touching where the factors listed in 2(d) (above) are not believed to exist;
- b) sexual assaults including sexual interference, and attempted sexual assaults, sexual exploitation and invitation to sexual touching with a suspect known to police when the conduct is not predatory or serial in nature and any of the following circumstances are present:
  - i) the victim and suspect are in a familial relationship including genealogical blood lines or common-law union, and shall include adoptive parents/siblings, step parents/siblings and legal guardians;
  - ii) the victim and suspect have a previous relationship;
  - iii) the case involves historical sexual offences (e.g., an offence reported more than a year after having been committed); and
  - iv) any sexual assault where a suspect has been identified and arrested within 14 days.
- c) in sexual assaults with an unknown offender where the factors listed in 2(d) are not believed to exist;
- d) trafficking in persons as defined in section 279.01, 279.011 or 279.04, Criminal Code and attempts as defined in section 24(1), Criminal Code;
- e) criminal harassment cases in which the offender is not known to the victim; and,
- f) missing persons, where police have yet to ascertain whether foul play is involved when the individual remains outstanding and unaccounted for 30 days after being reported missing.



**The following Non-Threshold major cases trigger the data-entry requirements:**

1. For non-threshold major cases, tombstone information shall be entered, indexed, researched and cross-referenced into the Minister-approved software:

- a) a summary of the offence providing the date and time, location and circumstances;
- b) the name and personal identifiers of the victim;
- c) the name and personal identifiers of the accused, suspect or person of interest; and,
- d) any other relevant investigative information that may, in the opinion of the Case Manager, assist in the early detection of serial or predatory behaviour;

and where there is evidence of serial or predatory behaviour, the data entry procedures for threshold cases shall be followed.

2. Missing persons, where police have yet to ascertain whether foul play is involved, and where the individual remains outstanding and unaccounted for 30 days after being reported missing, the data entry procedures for threshold cases shall be followed.

3. Trafficking in persons as defined in section 279.01, s. 279.011 or 279.04, Criminal Code, and attempts as defined in section 24(1) Criminal Code, where one of the following criteria exists, the data entry procedures for threshold cases shall be followed.

- a) The occurrence involves the use of a firearm;
- b) Kidnapping;
- c) Torture;
- d) Sexual Assault committed by the offender involving oral, vaginal, or anal penetration;
- e) Aggravated assault;
- f) Use of restraints, bondage or disguise

All police services in Ontario are now required to use major case management for threshold and non-threshold cases, as specified within the manual.

Additionally, all police services are required to add tombstone data related to certain human trafficking, non-threshold major cases.

MCM, and the use of PowerCase software, can identify common links between occurrences in the database. Notifications of potential linkages are automatically sent to each involved investigator for their review, and acknowledgement of each notification is required.

The Ministry is currently reviewing the viability of enhancing the PowerCase software to allow real-time secure access to information in the database and which would provide a Human Trafficking investigator the ability to prospectively review the data to identify potential linkages ahead of notifications being sent out to individual investigators at potentially multiple police services.

Currently, only the Akwesasne Police Service currently uses MCM<sup>6</sup>. The Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services has offered PowerCase software and access to the MCM database to all self-administered First Nations Police Services.

### **OPP Response to Human Trafficking**

- 2005: Criminal Code offences added for trafficking in persons
- 2008: The OPP Provincial Organized Crime Enforcement Team (POCET) provided a strategic response to border-related organized crime enforcement in Ontario. POCET focused on suppressing the smuggling of various commodities, including humans. POCET initiated three human trafficking investigations.
- 2010: The OPP joined Ontario's Joint Working Group on Violence Against Aboriginal Women composed of 10 ministries and 5 Indigenous partners (ONWA, OFIFC, Metis Nation of Ontario, IFN, and COO). Generally stated, the mandate of the working group focused on the prevention and reduction of violence against Indigenous women and their families.
- 2011: The OPP partnered with Treaty Three Police, Anishinabek Police Services and Nishnawbe Aski Police Service to proactively conduct a provincial intelligence probe known as Project Lookout. Project Lookout focused on identifying human trafficking activity taking place in jurisdictions policed by the

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<sup>6</sup> This corrects information previously provided by Ontario that three First Nations police services currently use MCM.

OPP and within First Nations. Project Lookout ran from March 2011 until March 2012.

- The OPP also delivered four human trafficking training sessions to other police services in Thunder Bay, London, Orillia and Kingston. All Ontario police services, the 9 self-administered First Nation police services, as well as OFNPA officers were invited to attend.
- The OPP consulted with 35 law enforcement agencies and developed partnerships with 45 non-governmental agencies and Indigenous organizations and participated in several human trafficking committees. These committees had discussions with Indigenous organizations in Thunder Bay and Winnipeg to highlight the links between Ontario and Manitoba.
- 2013: The OPP undertook a review of human trafficking following a presentation to OPP senior executives on the results of the Human Trafficking Probe. OPP met with the Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC) to share information on Project Lookout and to learn about the NWAC's work in promoting education about healthy relationships and risks associated with human trafficking.

The information the OPP learned from consultation with NWAC was incorporated into human trafficking training sessions. The information assisted with training officers in relation to empathy, as well as understanding the cycle of victim and trafficker dynamics.

- 2014: Human trafficking was made a Benchmark Crime requiring CIB notification. CIB case were managers trained in human trafficking investigations. Human Trafficking awareness training was provided for approximately 800 frontline OPP officers.
- 2014: The OPP began coordinating Operation Northern Spotlight in Ontario
- 2016: In March, the OPP Anti-Human Trafficking Working Group was created and developed a proposal for Ontario's Anti-Human Trafficking Strategy.
- 2016: On June 30, the Province of Ontario launched an anti-human trafficking strategy. Ontario's strategy includes the following four major pillars:
  - **Prevention and Community Supports** to increase awareness and understanding of the causes of human trafficking, and improve community



services like housing, mental health services, trauma counselling, and job skills training to meet the immediate and long-term needs of survivors.

- **Justice Sector Supports** to improve the identification, investigations and prosecution of human trafficking cases, including effective intelligence-gathering.
- **Indigenous-Led Approaches** that will support culturally relevant services and responses – designed, developed and delivered by and for Indigenous communities.
- **Provincial Coordination and Leadership** Ontario's Provincial Anti-Human Trafficking Coordination Office supports community coordination including law enforcement, justice, social, health, education, and child welfare sectors to implement a collaborative and integrated government-wide response to human trafficking.

The Ontario strategy has committed funding intended to increase awareness, improve coordination between law, justice and social services and provide victims with appropriate supports.

One of the initiatives under **Justice Sector Supports** involved the creation of the OPP Anti-Human Trafficking Investigation Coordination Team.

As part of Ontario's analysis for its strategy, the OPP engaged with Ontario's municipal and First Nations police services in order to ascertain their investigative capacity and needs in relation to human trafficking and reported their findings to the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services.

The OPP held a series of consultation meetings with municipal and First Nations police partners in the fall of 2016, which included participants from 39 police services.

The following First Nation police services were represented during the consultations:

- Anishnabek Police Service
- Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service
- Rama Police Service
- Six Nations Police Service
- Treaty Three Police Service

The following themes emerged from these consultations:

- Education and training

- Capacity
- Coordination
- Victim Care

- 2016: In November, the OPP's Anti-Human Trafficking Investigation Coordination Team was formed.

The OPP has delivered human trafficking presentations to police services and other stakeholders. In 2016, 2442 individuals received training and in 2017, 4496 individuals received training.

- 2017: In September, the OPP delivered awareness and education sessions in Shoal Lake 39 and White Dog First Nations on human trafficking and missing persons.
- 2017: The OPP hosted the Anti-Human Trafficking Conference, Barrie September 11-12, 2017<sup>7</sup>
- 2017: The OPP hosted the Anti-Human Trafficking Conference, Kenora September 20-21, 2017<sup>8</sup>
- 2017: The OPP became operationally involved in Operation Northern Spotlight.
- 2017: Working groups facilitated the exchange of information between the OPP, municipal and First Nation Police Services.
- 2017-2018: Between November 2017 and March of 2018, the OPP delivered four two-day Interdiction of the Protection of Children training sessions.
- 2018: In May, the OPP Anti-Human Trafficking Unit became fully operational with 10 permanent staff.
- 2018: on October 4, the UCCM Police Service held awareness event focusing on missing and/or unidentified murdered persons, with a Human Trafficking Indicators workshop presented by the OPP<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> Anti-Human Trafficking Conference Program, Barrie, September 11-12, 2017

<sup>8</sup> Anti-Human Trafficking Conference Program, Kenora, September 20-21, 2017

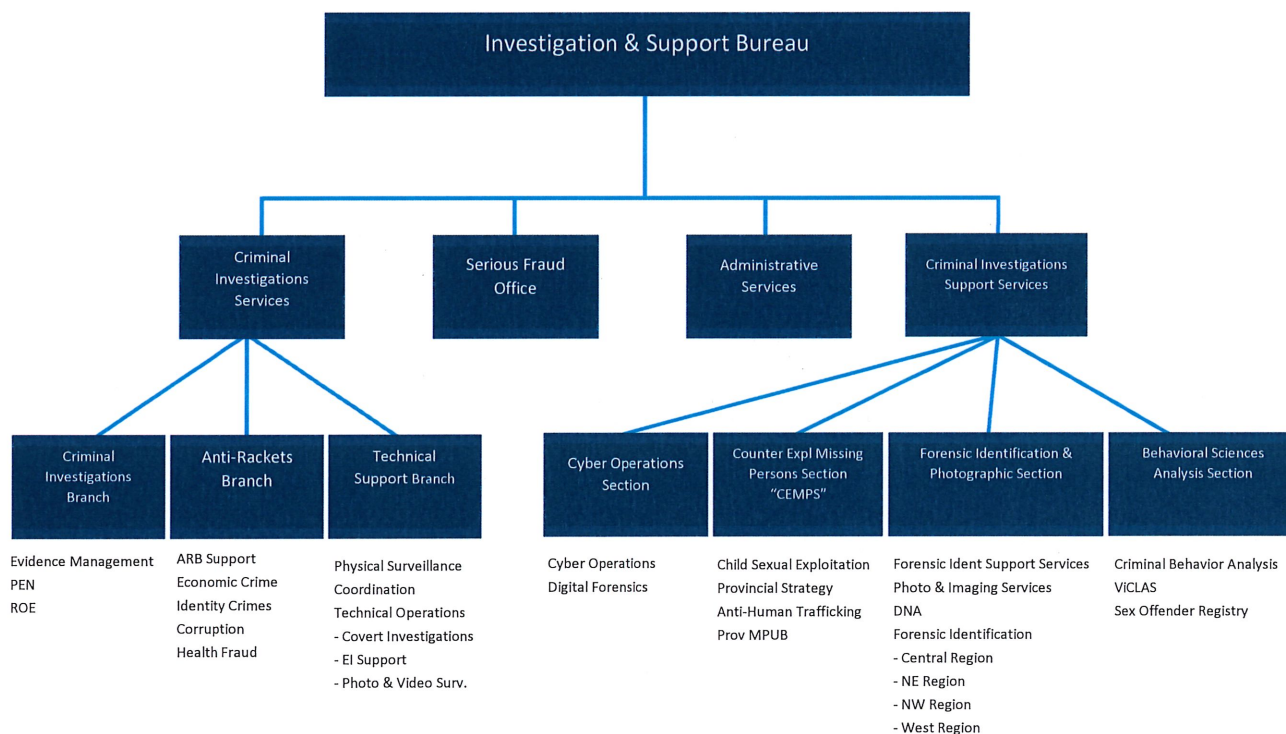
<sup>9</sup> Missing Person Awareness Day, Mantilouin Island, October 4, 2018

## OPP's Anti-Human Trafficking Investigation Coordination Team

The OPP Anti-Human Trafficking Investigation Coordination Team is located within the Counter Exploitation and Missing Persons Section of Criminal Investigation Support Services (CISS), of the Investigation and Support Bureau (ISB).

Criminal Investigation Support Services (CISS) provides criminal investigation support expertise for the OPP. It includes the Behavioural Sciences and Analysis Section, Forensic Identification and Photographic Services Section, Cyber Operations Section as well as Counter Exploitation and Missing Persons Section. CISS is also responsible for the implementation of the Cyber Strategy.

## Investigation and Support Bureau Organization Chart



The Counter Exploitation and Missing Persons Section includes three sections, the OPP Anti-Human Trafficking Investigation Coordination Team (the Team) and the OPP's role



within the Ontario's Strategy to End Human Trafficking, the Child Sexual Exploitation Unit and Provincial Strategy to Protect Children from Sexual Abuse and Exploitation on the Internet, and the Missing Persons and Unidentified Bodies Unit.

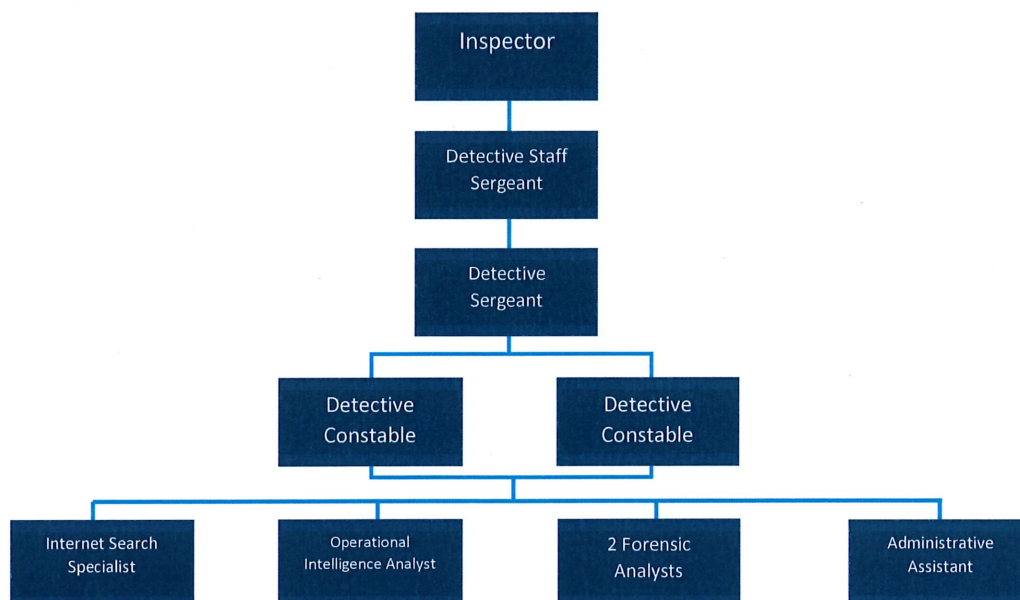
These three sections were included under the management of Inspector Chalk deliberately by the OPP, because of the relationship between the types of offences, and the victims.

Every police officer on the Team, except for one, has completed the OPP's Indigenous Awareness Training (IAT), and the civilian members of the Team are expected to complete training by December 2018.

Like other units within the OPP, the Team can access the expertise of the Indigenous Policing Bureau as needed, which also includes members of the Provincial Liaison Team (PLT).

The OPP also has a Victim Response Support Unit (VRSU) which currently provides consultation and guidance in relation to sexual assault investigations. Additionally the VRSU can also be a resource to assist officers involved in human trafficking investigations.

#### **OPP Anti Human Trafficking Investigation Coordination Team Organization Chart**



This team-based, victim-centred approach, involves the OPP, municipal and First Nations police services, Crown prosecutors and community victim service providers.

It also includes collaboration with agencies such as the Canada Border Services Agency, Correctional Services, The RCMP Human Trafficking National Coordination Centre, victim advocacy groups, Children's Aid Societies and other interested groups.

Members of this Team also assist in missing persons investigations and members of the Missing Persons and Unidentified Remains Unit assist with human trafficking investigations given the linkages between the two types of investigations (runaways or missing or murdered Indigenous women who may also have been human trafficking survivors).

On a weekly basis, the Team reviews data in relation to missing person data in order to identify potential human trafficking cases.

The Team also participates in Missing Person Awareness Days by providing presentations and information in relation to Human Trafficking.

- 2018: Anti-Human Trafficking presentation provided during Missing Persons Awareness Days as follows:
  - August 8 – Train the Trainer- Treaty 3 Police
  - August 9 – Community Day- Rat Portage First Nation
  - September 6 – Train the Trainer-Fort William (Anishnabek Nation Police)
  - September 7 – Community Day – Fort William First Nation
  - September 12 – Community Day – Pikangikum First Nation
  - October 3 – Train the Trainer- UCCM Police Service
  - October 4 – Community Day – UCCM Police Service

To combat trafficking in persons the OPP Team works collaboratively with justice sector and community service partners. Partner agencies are encouraged to: adopt and maintain victim-centered supports including education and prevention; hold offenders accountable; and ensure the provision of a wrap-around approach for survivors by engaging all available community supports.

The OPP Team participates in the Reclaiming Freedom Rebuilding Lives Anti-Human Trafficking Coalition of Simcoe County. This is an example of community mobilization involving various sectors of the community including an Indigenous Friendship Centre, Indigenous Community and Family Services, victim services, housing services, police services including both the OPP and a First Nations Police Service, traditional Indigenous Healing services and the involvement of health services. The role of the coalition is to coordinate the development and adoption of a seamless response protocol and longer term transition plan for trafficked women, children and youth in Simcoe County<sup>10</sup>.

The Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services (MCSCS) provides annual grant funding to allow police services to dedicate resources to work towards the adoption and maintenance of victim centered supports. Working groups are established, and participating services come together routinely to share information and intelligence and to develop and enhance strong collaborations to tackle this multijurisdictional crime.

The OPP Team distributes the grant funding on behalf of the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services.

In 2017, funding was distributed to 22 municipal and First Nation police services. In 2018, 35 services were provided with funding from the provincial government.<sup>11</sup>

Police services receiving grant funding are expected to report back a summary of their initiatives and efforts undertaken in exchange for the grant funding.

### **The Future: Working More Closely with Indigenous Communities and Survivors**

The OPP is in the process of developing a strategy to work more closely with Indigenous people:

- The OPP has recently been given approval to present to the Human Trafficking Lived Experience Roundtable;

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<sup>10</sup> Reclaiming Freedom Rebuilding Lives Anti-Human Trafficking Coalition of Simcoe County, Terms of Reference.

<sup>11</sup> Ontario Provincial Police, 2017 Annual Report, p. 31



- The OPP has engaged with self-administered First Nations police services to discuss how the OPP can support efforts to address human trafficking.
- The OPP is seeking to develop a liaison with Indigenous organizations such as ONWA to learn more about and access their expertise in anti-human trafficking efforts aimed at Indigenous women and girls.
- Additional Missing Person Awareness Days
  - October 16 (tentatively) - Train the Trainer- Akwesasne Police
  - October 17 (tentatively) – Community Day-Akwesasne
  - November 14 – Rama First Nation
- The OPP has also received inquiries from the Wikwimikong Police Service as well as the Anishnabek Police Service expressing interest in partnering with the OPP to host Missing Person Awareness Days.
- Ontario's FILU has also contacted the OPP expressing interest in partnering to host Missing Person community workshops with the OPP.
- Three additional sessions will be jointly delivered with Treaty 3 police. Additionally, the OPP is organizing similar education sessions to be held on all nine self-administered OFNPA territories.

### **Victim Services – OPP Role and Responsibility**

OPP Police Orders provides that all employees are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the victim services available within the community that they are working in and, providing information about and making referrals to services for victims when appropriate.<sup>12</sup>

Additionally, OPP members-in-charge of investigations are required to ensure that victims and /witnesses are able to contact them and, to keep the victim or victim's family informed when investigations are ongoing. They are also responsible for, providing an overview of the criminal justice system and, providing the dates, locations and outcomes of all significant judicial proceedings.

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<sup>12</sup> Police Orders 3.1 Victim Services

## **Victim Response Support Unit (VRSU)**

In 2017 the OPP created the Victim Response Support Unit to provide consultation and guidance regarding sexual assault investigations at the regional level.

The Unit conducts random reviews of sexual assault cases in order to provide oversight and accountability for sexual assault investigations.

Human Trafficking cases quite often include sexual assaults. The Anti-Human Trafficking Investigation Coordination Team is consulting with the VRSU in order to determine whether this oversight process could be applied to Human Trafficking cases.

## **Police Training in Relation to Human Trafficking**

The Ontario Police College launched the provincial Human Trafficking Investigator course in January 2018.

- The Basic Constable Training Course has a 90 minute component based on the Human Trafficking Investigator course, which has been delivered to each new recruit class since January 2017.

Additionally, Human Trafficking modules are contained in the following courses:

- The Criminal Investigator Training course has a Human Trafficking Case Study
- The Sexual Assault Investigator Course has a 90 minute component based on the Human Trafficking Investigator course
- The Ontario Major Case Management Course discusses Human Trafficking as a threshold offense in the Fundamentals of Ontario Major Case Management component

## **OPP Academy/Internal OPP Training**

The OPP also has its own Provincial Police Academy where it provides additional training to its recruit police officers as well as ongoing training to its existing officers.

- March 20, 26, and 28, 2012 – Frontline Officer Human Trafficking training days (available for up to 600 officers)
- October 3, 2017 – Human Trafficking Officer Training Day (approx. 125 attendees)

- June 2018 – OPP Constables Conference, Human Trafficking Awareness Presentation
- November 2017- March 2018 – OPP delivered 4 two day Interdiction for the Protection of Children (IPC) Training Sessions), approximately 400 officers attended.
- Components for courses – Criminal Investigator Training Course, Sex Assault Investigators Training Course, Front-Line Supervisor's Course, Ontario Major Case Management Course, Highway Enforcement Training (HET) Course – all include a 90 minute Human Trafficking module which has been developed by the Anti-Human Trafficking Coordination Team
- Human Trafficking Key Indicators (May 2018, Recruits)
- Human Trafficking – September 2018, ongoing, Recruits, 90 minutes

### **Public Awareness – Human Trafficking**

In addition to the Missing Persons Awareness and Human Trafficking Days being hosted within Indigenous communities, the OPP has also raised awareness through presentations delivered to sector specific agencies/bodies including:

- The hospitality sector, including hotels and motels;
- Schools, universities;
- Probation and parole;
- Canadian Border Services Agency;
- Hospitals, Health units and medical students;
- At risk youth;
- Sexual assault centers,

### **Proactive Anti-Human Trafficking Initiatives**

#### **Interdiction for the Protection of Children (IPC)**

Interdiction for the Protection of Children is a training program designed to provide advanced concepts, and to make front line officers aware of the variety of resources available to assist them in establishing the status of a child who may be missing, exploited, or at risk of exploitation and what courses of action are immediately available.



The training provides officers with information about the overlap between missing children, child exploitation and human trafficking, as well as an introduction to indicators to be aware of in their front line day to day duties.

The training was developed in the United States. In November 2017, members of the OPP attended a Train the Trainer session presented by the Texas Department of Public Safety.

Since then, the OPP have provided a number of training sessions to approximately 400 officers. The training was delivered to OPP officers, as well as First Nations police officers working in communities located near areas where the training was delivered.

The OPP is also supporting with the Canadian Centre for the Protection of Children. Specifically, the OPP is supporting two initiatives related to the prevention of victimization of children: Commit to Kids and Kids in the Know.

The OPP is engaging with United States Department of Homeland Security in order to develop an awareness campaign similar to their Blue Campaign, which specifically raises awareness in relation to human trafficking.