



MINISTRY OF CHILDREN, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Ontario's Strategy to End Human Trafficking

Overview of Initiatives

Ontario's strategy commits to a four-part action plan that includes a diverse range of perspectives from survivors, front-line community agencies, police and public safety representatives, and indigenous organizations.

Prevention and Community Supports

- Expand the **Youth-in-Transition Worker Program** to support youth leaving care who are at risk for human trafficking and expand protocols for children's aid societies and police services to include human trafficking
- Expand the **Victim Quick Response Program** and enhance the **Victims Crisis Assistance Ontario Program** to meet the needs of human trafficking survivors
- Review **Ontario Works** and **Ontario Disability Support Program** policies to improve access to supports for human trafficking
- Support wellness and physical education curriculum to address gender-based violence
- Provide accessible and culturally sensitive tools and resources for frontline health providers at Local Health Integration Network (LHIN)-funded community mental health and addictions agencies about best practices for supporting recovery from trauma for human trafficking survivors and their families
- Targeted enforcement and outreach activities at workplaces that employ temporary foreign (migrant) workers, identified through a new information sharing agreement with the federal government
- Provide orientations for health and safety inspectors about labour exploitation

Enhanced Justice Sector Initiatives

- Create **human trafficking intelligence** positions in the Criminal Intelligence Service Ontario (CISO) to increase the capacity to proactively identify human trafficking activities and coordinate intelligence efforts across the province
- Task the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) with engaging municipal and First Nations police services across the province to determine their investigative capacity and needs and to report back on its findings, with the intent of establishing an **Anti-Human Trafficking Investigations Coordination Team**
- Establish a **Provincial Human Trafficking Prosecution Team**, comprised of specialized Crown prosecutors who will undertake the prosecution of human trafficking cases and will provide ongoing training and legal advice to front-line Crowns and police across the province

- Develop and deliver enhanced human trafficking training to police investigators, prosecutors and **Victim/Witness Assistance Program** workers (V/WAP) so they can better identify, investigate, and prosecute human trafficking cases, and provide more support to survivors

Indigenous-Led Approaches

- Engage with Indigenous partners to identify key issues for future policy development specific to the needs of Indigenous human trafficking survivors
- Develop Indigenous-specific community services and supports through an Indigenous-led **initiatives fund**
- Establish Indigenous-specific **human trafficking liaisons** who will assist in providing targeted service-planning and delivery supports to Indigenous agencies and communities, as well as assisting non-Indigenous agencies seeking to provide culturally appropriate services to Indigenous survivors

Provincial Coordination And Leadership

Ontario is establishing a **Provincial Anti-Human Trafficking Coordination Office** that will:

- Coordinate implementation of all initiatives outlined in the strategy across ministries
- Coordinate the development of an evaluation framework to measure the success of the strategy's commitments
- Spearhead information sharing and collaboration across law enforcement, justice, social services, health, education, and child welfare sectors to improve responses to incidents and to better support survivors
- Assist in the implementation of culturally appropriate strategies for Indigenous people impacted by human trafficking, in partnership with Indigenous communities
- Administer an open and competitive call-for-proposals to expand and improve access to services for survivors of human trafficking in Ontario through the **Community Supports Fund**
- Support the collection of new research and data analysis relating to human trafficking prevalence in Ontario and best practice approaches to service delivery to help survivors heal
- Coordinate public education

Key Outcomes

- Offenders are held accountable
- Increased recognition and understanding among at-risk and targeted groups of the signs and patterns of human trafficking
- Integrated services for survivors from support to policing and prosecution
- Skills and tools for frontline professionals to identify human trafficking victims and activities
- Enhancement and sharing of information and research that respects the autonomy and rights of survivors across service providers and jurisdictions
- Changes in public attitudes and behaviours toward human trafficking

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Exhibit: National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls		
Location/Phase: <u>Parts 2/3 St. John's</u>		
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Date: <u>OCT 15 2018</u>		
Initials	I/D	Entered
<div>63</div>	<div></div>	<div>24</div>