



National Justice Network Update



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Welcome to the **June** issue of the *National Justice Network e-Update*, a publication of the Canadian Resource Centre for Victims of Crime. PLEASE SHARE THIS **FREE** NEWSLETTER WITH YOUR COLLEAGUES OR HAVE THEM SIGN UP TO RECEIVE IT DIRECTLY AT: <http://crcvc.ca/en/newsletter/>.

Canadian Resource Centre for Victims of Crime

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Department of Justice
Canada

Ministère de la Justice
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LINKS OF INTEREST:

[Policy Centre for Victim Issues](#)

[Federal Ombudsman for Victims of Crime](#)

[National Office for Victims](#)

[Victim Services, Correctional Service Canada](#)

[Information for Victims, National Parole Board](#)

CORRECTIONS CANADA PREVENTS VICTIMS FROM TOURING PRISONS; OMITTS THEM FROM CORPORATE PRIORITIES

The CRCVC is perplexed by the Correctional Service of Canada's recent policy change that prevents victims from touring the institution where their offender is housed. CSC has put a halt on all victims' visits until a "national policy" is developed.

Since our incorporation, the CRCVC has helped facilitate prison tours for victims with no concerns by prison officials. We recently received requests from victims wishing to tour Frontenac and

UPCOMING EVENTS

TEE OFF FOR VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE!

Victims of Violence will be hosting their first annual "It Shouldn't Hurt to be a Child" Golf Tournament on August 19th in Ottawa. All proceeds from the tournament will go to the Victims of Violence Canadian Centre for Missing Children, and will help to fund programs related to preventing crimes against children and assisting victims. Visit <http://victimsofviolence.on.ca> to register.

"UNDERSTANDING FAMILIES OF HOMICIDE" OCTOBER 19TH, 2011

Lean on Me and the Hamilton Police Service will be presenting a conference on Understanding Families of Homicide. The conference will include a panel of speakers presenting the Hamilton Model of Supporting Families of Homicide, survivors and their personal reflections as well as a presentation from acclaimed Psychologist Dr. Lori Triano-Antidormi.

Visit www.lean-on-me.org to register and learn more.

"CREATING CONNECTIONS" SYMPOSIUM



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Warkworth institutions in Ontario and contacted the wardens for permission. The tours were approved by the respective wardens and the victims made travel arrangements. Both tours were suddenly cancelled during the federal election campaign. CSC stated that they must remain politically neutral. The victims were informed that their tours would not be rescheduled until such time that CSC developed a national policy regarding tours for victims.

The two mothers that are attempting to visit these institutions are appalled by the inability to tour the facilities. Drunk driver Nicholas Piovesan killed Corrie Lamoureux-Houle's daughter, Jazmine, on Father's Day 2009, along with two other teens. Lamoureux-Houle is astounded that victims are treated in this manner. "I think I just would feel a bit of comfort, realizing that he is locked up, that he has rules to follow". The mother of the other victim, a 17-year old survivor of rape, cannot be named because of a court order, is curious about CSC's reasoning behind delaying her visit. "What are they afraid of? I want . . . some closure for myself and the closure for me is being able to see how he lives." Both mothers feel their rights are being infringed, especially because CSC continues to allow other members of the public to tour prisons.

The CRCVC's letter to CSC Commissioner Don Head expressing our disappointment with the current treatment of victims and the hiatus in victims' visits caused by the drafting of a national policy remains unanswered.

Correctional Service of Canada further disappoints victims and their advocates this month by adding to their corporate priorities, but failing to mention victims at all. CSC's new corporate priorities are:

1. Safe transition to and management of eligible offenders in the community.
2. Safety and security of staff and offenders in our institutions and in the community.
3. Enhanced capacities to provide effective interventions for First Nations, Métis and Inuit offenders.
4. Improved capacities to address mental health needs of offenders.
5. Strengthening management practices.

NOVEMBER 28-30, 2011

Public Safety's National Office for Victims, in partnership with the Department of Justice's Policy Centre for Victim Issues and the National Joint Committee of Senior Criminal Justice System Officials (NJC), will be hosting an international symposium on victim issues, November 28-30th, 2011 in Ottawa, Ontario. "Creating Connections" is attempting to bring together stakeholders in the criminal justice and correction systems to identify connections between agencies and foster improved interactions to provide a more effective voice for victims of crime. For more information visit, www.publicsafety.gc.ca

"THE ROAD TO RESILIENCY"

The Saskatchewan Association of Police Affiliated Victim Services Inc. (SAPAVS) will be holding a conference in Saskatoon from March 20-22, 2012.

The conference is intended to provide professionals in the fields of victim services, justice, policing, mental health, social services, corrections and direct service providers across Saskatchewan and Canada with educational sessions to augment the current knowledge required in their respected fields. Individuals that attend the conference



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6. Productive relationships with increasingly diverse partners, stakeholders, and others involved in public safety.

The CRCVC is left wondering why victims are not a priority for CSC management despite the Conservative government's strong public allegiance to victims and survivors of violence.

OREGON SUPREME COURT DECLARES VICTIMS HAVE THE RIGHT TO WITNESS ALL COURT PROCEEDINGS

On May 27th, the Oregon Supreme Court declared that it is a victim's right to be present at court hearings. In fact, it is so crucial that the victim be present, the sentence of a local defendant was thrown out and he will be resentenced so that his victim can be present. The ruling is a strong reminder to judges, prosecutors and defence attorneys that criminal cases cannot be resolved without the victim present if they have specified they want to be involved in the criminal proceedings.

"It is a significant victory for victims of crime here in Oregon to make sure their voices are heard," said Meg Garvin, Executive Director of the National Crime Victim Law Institute in Portland and a clinical professor at Lewis & Clark Law School. Garvin said the decision is gaining national/international attention because the justices clearly noted what must happen if a victim's rights have been violated.

The case that prompted the high court's decision is known as the Beaverton case. The Beaverton case saw Ivey Wayne Barrett charged with stalking his estranged wife, Linda Barrett. During the case, Linda told a victim advocate that she wanted to be notified in advance of important hearings and wished to take part in the case. She filled out the necessary paperwork and was told there would be a hearing on February 28 but it wasn't necessary for her to be present. Her ex-husband, Ivey Barrett was not expected to plead or be sentenced at the hearing but because of negotiations that took place before the hearing he pled guilty to misdemeanor stalking and was sentenced to two years probation,

will gather the necessary skills that assist service providers in interacting with victims of crime or traumatic events.

SNAPSHOTS

WALK 4 JUSTICE, 2011

This year marks the 4-year anniversary of the Walk4Justice from Vancouver, British Columbia to Ottawa, Ontario. Gladys Radek and Bernie Williams co-founded the Walk4Justice in January 2008 in response to the many Aboriginal women who have gone missing and are murdered across Canada.

2011's Walk4Justice campaign began in Vancouver on June 21st and will wind its way throughout Canada and conclude in Ottawa with a rally on September 19, 2011 (for a map of the route click [here](#)).

The route plan has been designed to visit as many communities as possible to honour all of the missing and murdered women the Walk4Justice aims to represent. To learn more about the Walk4Justice please visit, <http://fnbc.info/walk4justice>.

CANADIAN GOVERNMENT UNVEILS 'KANISHKA PROJECT' TO HONOUR AIR INDIA VICTIMS AND FIGHT TERRORISM

On the 26th anniversary of



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60 days in jail for violating a restraining order, and numerous mandatory treatments. After finding out about her ex-husband's plea, Linda requested that the sentencing be thrown out and asked that he be resentenced in her presence. The judge declined saying that it was not an option under Oregon state laws.

The case was taken to the Supreme court where it was agreed that the case be sent back to the lower court for re-sentencing. Currently, it is unclear as to when Ivey Barrett will be re-sentenced, as he has a warrant out for his arrest for disregarding the terms of his probation. Linda Barrett intends to be present for the hearing and speak on her experiences caused by the actions of Mr. Barrett.

NB INCREASES ONSITE SUSPENSIONS FOR DRUNK DRIVERS

Bill 54, which declares that motorists found with a blood-alcohol concentration between .05 and .08 percent will have their driver's license suspended immediately for a mandatory seven-day period, came into force in New Brunswick on June 24. The extended suspension replaces the current 24-hour license limit. Across Canada, drivers who have a blood alcohol concentration of .08 (higher than 80 millilitres of alcohol in 100 millilitres) can be charged with a criminal offence. On a global scale, laws in Canada and the United States are lagging in comparison to countries such as the Australia, the Netherlands and most of Europe where in some cases, .05 percent is the point at which criminal charges can be laid. However, most provinces in Canada have legislation that allows police to impose short-term license suspension on drivers with blood alcohol levels exceeding .05 percent.

This year in New Brunswick, there have been 18 fatalities on roads policed by the RCMP. Of those, 46 per cent were alcohol-related. Last year, 73 people died on roadways in RCMP jurisdiction and alcohol was believed to have been a factor in about 40 per cent of those.

Victims and officers are equally pleased with Bill 54.

the tragic Air India bombing, Prime Minister Stephen Harper unveiled a new memorial to honour the 331 victims in Lachine, Quebec. As well, the PM announced the \$10-million Kanishka Project, which will provide funding for such things as conferences, publications and major research projects to help Canada build the knowledge base needed to effectively counter terrorism.

With the unveiling of the 4th and final monument, Canada has four memorial sites located in Ottawa, Lachine, Toronto and Vancouver. All are dedicated to the victims and families of the Air India tragedy.

Canadians must never forget one of Canada's most horrendous acts of violence, and stand in solidarity with the victims and their families, as they continue to mourn the loss of their loved ones.

BC RELEASES ONLINE HUMAN TRAFFICKING COURSE FOR SERVICE PROVIDERS

The province of British Columbia has released an online course to address the devastating crime of human trafficking. The course was created in response to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime report that stated human trafficking is the second most lucrative form of organized crime behind drug trafficking. Canada is not immune to





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"The government has done well. It was time for them to open their eyes to victims and their families. People will surely pay attention knowing they can lose their license for a longer time. It will make people think twice. The man who killed my daughter took everything from me. I promised my daughter Francesca that for as long as I live, I will fight impaired driving. I don't want any other mothers to live through the grief I have," said Liette Savoie, of Saint-Simon.

RCMP traffic manager Claude Tremblay said the .05 per cent limit will give police officers an additional tool to keep motorists who drink and drive off the roads. By lengthening the 24-hour suspension to seven days it will impose more of an inconvenience for motorists and in turn, provide more of an incentive for them not to drink and drive.

IQUALUIT WOMAN PLANNED TO LEAVE HUSBAND BEFORE KILLINGS

Vivian Sula Enuaraq thought about leaving her husband numerous times throughout their troubled 11-year relationship, but faced many challenges that made that option very difficult. Her sister, Jolene Arreak, said Vivian had few friends and supports and did not have the funds for the airfare out of the northern community. The hurdles that she faced in trying to leave, plus being a mother to two young children, all contributed to the fact that Vivian remained in such a dangerous situation.

The Sunday before Vivian's murder she spoke with her sister and confided that she was preparing to leave her husband for good. She was planning to pack her bags and move with the children to a women's shelter in a nearby village. Three days after speaking with her sister, Jolene found out her sister and nieces were dead. The RCMP located the body of Sylvain Degrasse lying next to a rifle in an Iqaluit cemetery which led police to the family home where the bodies of Vivian and her daughters Alexandra, 7, and Aliyah, 2, were found.

Jolene was shocked at the discovery, despite her fears that something terrible might happen. She

human trafficking and is often a transit, destination and source country. Vancouver is seen as having a significant role in the movement of trafficked persons.

The course has been designed to aid service providers that are in positions that may come into contact with individuals who have been a victim of trafficking. The content of the course is broken down into for modules including; how to define human trafficking, how to respond to human trafficking and, how to recognize and help a victim of trafficking.

The goal of the course is to enable service providers to work with a trafficked person in the same manner across British Columbia. The overall focus of the course is to help the provider better recognize, protect and assist people who may have been trafficked and to help maintain their human rights.

For more information on Human Trafficking: Canada is not Immune can be found [here](#).

EDMONTON HONOURS VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The Angel street project was initiated in Iqaluit in 2007 to honour victims of domestic violence and has now been initiated in Edmonton. The city of Edmonton is renaming



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warned her sister last Christmas that she believed her and her daughters were in danger. "I told her, 'If you stay with him, he always puts you down, and some day he might kill you.' And then she started crying and we cried for a while. She said the only reason she stayed is for her two girls. She didn't want them to grow up without a father."

TORONTO COURTS INTEGRATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND FAMILY COURT CASES

A new initiative in Ontario aimed at minimizing the difficulty for families in crisis is merging a limited number of family and domestic violence courts. The Integrated Domestic Violence Court intends to serve individuals dealing with family court issues as well as criminal charges related to domestic abuse. A Toronto courthouse will be taking part in a pilot project with the possibility of expanding all across the province. It is the hope of the province, judiciary system and community organizations that the Integrated Domestic Violence Court will resolve difficult family issues quicker, with less conflict and lower costs with a one-case, one-judge approach.

The current system requires individuals dealing with both family court and a domestic violence related charge to navigate two different processes with the potential for conflicting orders. "It can create havoc in the family," said Peter Griffiths, the Associate Chief Justice of the Ontario Court of Justice. "The emphasis in this court really is on a more mediated, less adversarial system."

Ontario's Attorney General Chris Bentley said the court is largely aimed at helping women, who are overwhelmingly the victims of domestic violence, but will also benefit children and the family unit as a whole. "You want to hold offenders accountable for what they've done," he said. "You want to safeguard victims and families from any future harm, but you also want to resolve the issues that are outstanding as effectively as you can so that families can get on with the future."

Many victim service providers believe the court is well over due and will benefit women and the family unit as a whole. The court is based on a model currently in place in New York and will have a community resource worker that can connect families to services that can address the issues that brought them to the courts in the first place.

Participation in the courts is completely voluntary as it is not a trial court. If an individual wishes to face a trial, the case would return to the jurisdiction of criminal court. While the court is still in the early stages cases will be heard bi-weekly on Fridays.

where Jasper Avenue meets 101A Avenue "Angel Way".

The sign artist, Gloria Neapetung, has suffered through domestic violence from a young age and has stated, "I am hoping people in the world see the sign and understand people can change from being violent to soft. I am still learning," said Neapetung. At the unveiling of Angel (Okisikow) Way Council Karen Leibovici said, "We know that domestic violence affects people of all ages and all cultures and all socio-economic status ... What we are trying to do is build a city that's safe for everyone."





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HOW MUCH DO CANADIANS KNOW ABOUT VICTIMS OF CRIME?

How many Canadians have knowledge of the services available to victims of crime? A study released in May by the Department of Justice discovered some alarming statistics regarding Canadian citizens and their awareness of compensation programs and support services for victims. In Canada, victim services have been on the rise over the past two decades and an understanding of a victim's needs has been exposed during this time.

Recent data was collected by an outside collection firm during the dates of September 7 through 23, 2010 and involved all provinces and territories. More than two thousand (2006) randomly selected individuals responded to the survey and were questioned in regards to their knowledge of current victim services. Alarming, 42 percent of respondents stated they had no knowledge of victim services in Canada, with females reporting a slightly higher level of awareness than males. Of the respondents, 19 percent stated they were a victim of crime over the last twelve months and only 25 percent of these victims accessed victim services. It was noted that most relied on the help of family members and friends post victimization. When presented with the question of what a crime victim may need after being victimized 53 percent said professional counselling, 28 percent support, 19 percent medical aid and 16 percent financial help/justice.

Within the study the data revealed that over half of young Canadians (aged 18-24) have no knowledge of victim services and the options that are available to them. To reach these demographics and others it was noted that most citizens gained their knowledge about victim services through media resources such as radio/television (36%) and newspapers (27%).

More information regarding this study and others can be found in the [Victims of Crime Research Digest](#) that was released by the Department of Justice in May 2011.

