



National Justice Network Update



March 2014

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Greetings!

Welcome to the **MARCH** 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/>.

Thank you to our Carleton University placement student, Pragma Shail, for her assistance writing and compiling this e-newsletter.

Want to [print the newsletter](#)?

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Visit: <http://www.crcvc.ca>
Email: crcvc@crcvc.ca
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Cost of violent crimes topped \$12-billion in one year: Justice Canada study

Violent crime in Canada comes with a massive financial toll, to victims and to the justice system, says a new Justice Canada report.

Five types of violent crimes that occurred in 2009 had an economic impact of \$12.7 billion, says the detailed accounting of dozens of factors, from medical care and lost wages to court and social welfare costs.

The study is the department's fourth since 2011 to examine the cost associated with crime in Canada, all of them focused on the burden placed on victims.

The latest research looked at every case of assault, criminal harassment, homicide, robbery, and sexual assault and other sexual offences, that occurred in 2009.

Excluded were cases in which there was a spousal relationship, which was the special subject of a previous study. The project drew on police and court databanks as well as surveys from Statistics Canada.

NATIONAL VICTIMS OF CRIME AWARENESS WEEK EVENTS:

Acting on Faith

When: April 8th, 2014

Where: St. Giles Presbyterian Church, 174 First Avenue (at Bank St.) Ottawa, ON.

This full-day workshop will examine the relationship between spirituality, pastoral psychotherapy and victim healing from trauma.

Psychotherapists from the [Ottawa Pastoral Counselling Centre](#) who practice trauma through a spiritual approach will be having a Panel Discussion at the event. They will explore their professional experience in pastoral psychotherapy by engaging in participant workshops.

For registration information, contact Kathryn Bliss at kbliss@ccjc.ca or visit the [CCJC Website](#).

Webinar: Victim Impact Statements in Canada: Past, Present and Future

Date: Thursday, April 10, 2014

Time: 02:00 PM EDT

Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes

Host(s): Marie Manikis, Priscilla de Villiers, Peter Sampaio

This webinar will provide an overview of the application



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By far the largest single cost — \$4.8 billion of the total — was attributed to sexual assault and other sexual offences, crimes in which more than 90 per cent of victims were women.

Victims bore most of the costs for all five types of crime, \$10.6 billion, with criminal justice system and third-party costs far behind.

"The victims bear the greatest burden of the impacts, much of it intangible, and family, friends and employers can also be burdened," the authors conclude.

"The impacts are eventually felt by all Canadians in the form of public spending on the justice system and social services."

This area of research was pioneered in the United States, United Kingdom, and Australia. It is known well in helping display economic effects of the changes in crime rates therefore providing governments with ideas on what resources to place time and effort in.

"Understanding and being aware of the costs of crime, particularly as they impact victims, can result in more effective and timely crime interventions," said department spokesman Andrew Gowing.

He adds that such research allows Canada to move a step forward in fulfilling its commitments under the UN Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women.

The results of this study make it clear to the CRCVC that hundreds of millions in federal resources must be allocated for services for victims of crime and the prevention of crime in Canada. The federal department of Justice says it has spent \$120 million since 2006 for victim-oriented initiatives, some delivered by the provinces. This number is minute compared to what crime actually costs victims directly and what is spent on criminal justice system responses. It is time to develop a federal policy and a national action plan to combat violence against women in all forms with major funding committed to address this pervasive problem.

of Victim Impact Statements in the criminal justice system in Canada and how it has evolved over the past 10 years and looking in to the future.

The Victim Justice Network, a non-profit national organization whose mission is to establish an online-based network to better serve and support victims of crime, will host the webinar. [Register online.](#)

Taking Action Conference

When: April 9, 10 & 11, 2014
York Regional Police and Victim Services of York Region have partnered to host a conference to recognize National Victims of Crime Awareness Week.

The first day will be initiated by the following individuals who will be addressing specific topics:

- Dr. Bobby Smith who will be discussing the Will to Survive and dealing with the aftermath of trauma.
- Dr. Bill Webster who will look at traumatic loss and the 10 needs of grieving people.
- Priscilla de Villiers from the Office for Victims of Crime.

The second and third days will be a two-day Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Training Program that gives the participants and opportunity to receive a Group Crisis Intervention





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Rape Culture Concerning at University of Ottawa

Concerns are being voiced about a growing "rape culture" on campuses after two serious allegations of sexual misconduct involving University of Ottawa students.

First, four student leaders resigned after a private Facebook chat involving sexually threatening banter about the President of the student federation was made public online. Next, the university suspended its men's hockey program as police investigate a complaint of sexual assault while the team was on a road trip in Thunder Bay.

Anne-Marie Roy, president of Ottawa University's student federation, said that she was unable to remain silent when she heard of the explicit remarks that were being made about her on Facebook. One comment suggested that Roy should be "sexually punished." She also stated that what has happened to her is very common.

"It seems like rape culture is very ingrained in the way some of these men are thinking, and it's very normalized – so much that discussing these matters in a private conversation is OK," Roy said.

Students and staff must speak out when they hear sexually aggressive conversations or jokes about rape. The University of Ottawa should consider implementing a proven program such as the [Green Dot](#), which includes presentations to students during frosh week. The presentations encourage students to learn to intervene to stop fellow students engaging in behavior likely to lead to sexual assault or victimization. Research shows that the program is very successful in mobilizing interveners.

A community coalition of women's advocates wrote an open letter concerning the impact these acts have had, [Click Here](#) to read it.

Public Sex Offender Registry Coming Soon, says Peter MacKay

The names and addresses for some sex offenders could soon become public as the federal government

Certification.

Cost (per person):

Day One - \$75

Days Two and Three - \$245

All Three Days - \$300 (best value)

For Registration and other information please contact Constable Lesley Gilder at 1-866-876-5423 ext. 6649 or 1803@yrp.ca.

Murder is not Entertainment!

When: Tuesday April 08, 2014 from 9:15AM - 12:15PM

Where: Studio Theatre at Centrepointe Theatres
101 Centrepointe Drive
Ottawa, Ontario

Presenters:

Yvonne Harvey - Co-founder CPOMC and Manager, Education and Community Outreach.

Andy Kahan - Victims' Advocate for the City of Houston, Texas.

Please register early by e-mail to cpomc@rogers.com or by calling CPOMC (613) 492-1978. [Read more here](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Gatehouse Two-day Transforming Trauma into Triumph Conference

When: April 28th and 29th from 9:00am – 4:00pm

Where: The Toronto Police College - 70 Birmingham St., Toronto, ON, M8V 3W6 – Theatre Two

Cost: \$175

A two day conference highlighting new and emerging approaches that



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announced a new bill at the end of February aimed at combating sexual predators.

A public, high-risk child sex offender registry is just one of the nine proposals highlighted in the proposed "*Tougher penalties for sexual predators act.*"

Justice Minister Peter MacKay made the announcement at the [Sheldon Kennedy Child Advocacy Centre](#) in Calgary. He said a child's right to safety trumps an offender's right to privacy.

"This isn't to encourage vigilantism," MacKay said. "It's to encourage protecting children from past proven behaviours."

Canada does currently have a sex offender registry but the names and personal information of those on the list are not public. Under the new proposal, personal information about high-risk child sex offenders for whom a public notification was issued will be available to the public. Among the other proposals in the bill — which was formally introduced in the House of Commons Feb. 26 — are plans to share more information about offenders with the United States.

It's not clear what the criteria would be for that information-sharing to take place but MacKay says the decision would likely be made on a case-by-case basis and in consultation with police. As well, the legislation proposes making it legal for spouses of those facing child pornography charges to be compelled to testify against their partner.

Sexual abuse survivor and well-known NHL player, Sheldon Kennedy, supports this legislation and believes that it is our job to do something about such cases and help those who can be helped. He was abused by his coach, Graham James, early in his hockey career and has been working to erase the negative stigma that comes along with being a victim of such abuse.

"These kids are vulnerable," he said. "It's our job as adults and as systems and as people that have influence over children to make a difference."

support adult victims of childhood sexual abuse with guest speakers, working groups and discussions on social transformation and transformational learning. Representation from International based agencies supporting survivors of childhood sexual abuse. [Click here](#) for the registration form.

14th Annual Missing & Exploited Children Conference

When: May 13th – 15th, 2014

Where: Fort Garry Hotel, Spa and Conference Centre

The goal of this three-day training conference, which is attended by law enforcement members, social workers, educators, prosecutors, counselors, lawyers, medical professionals and government policy analysts, is to broaden the knowledge of those involved in child protection surrounding the issues of missing and exploited children. The MECC will provide a deep insight into the investigation of child victimization, dealing with children in trauma, and offer a glimpse into the victim's experiences.

Online registration with direct online payment is available. Alternatively, a registration form may be downloaded from the site and can be mailed or faxed directly to the Canadian Centre. For a list of the Speakers, please visit the ProtectChildren [website](#).

Don't forget to register early





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Kimberly's Law

Kimberly Proctor was tragically murdered by two of her peers on March 18th, 2010 in Victoria, British Columbia. The convicted murderers are Kruse Wellwood, 16, and Cameron Moffatt, 17.

The Proctor family is advocating for changes that can help those who have lost someone in a similar manner and are hoping to avoid such a situation from happening again to someone else.

Teaming up with Victoria Lawyer, Troy DeSouza, the family took the findings from Kimmy's investigation into account when coming up with possible reforms that could be proposed. They were able to come up with several changes that should be applied to the Federal and Provincial Governments with respect to young offenders. These proposed changes are mentioned in the new Kimberly's Law.

The seven proposals in Kimberly's Law are as follows:

1. Threat Assessment Protocols
2. Mandatory Counselling and Treatment
3. Parental Responsibility
4. Transfers to Adult Court
5. Publication of Young Offender Names Upon Guilty Plea
6. Truth in Sentencing
7. Interim Custody

The last four proposals seek to build upon recent amendments that have been made dealing with young offenders. The family strongly hopes that the public helps them in this mission with Kimmy's name.

To sign the petition, please visit the [Kimberly's Law Website](#) and print off the petitions (federal and provincial).

Vincent Li Given Right to Unescorted Trips

In July of 2008, a 22-year-old man, Tim McLean, lost his life in a very violent manner aboard a Greyhound bus on the TransCanada Highway. Forty-year-old Vincent Li was the man who committed this horrific act. He is a schizophrenic and as a result was found Not Criminally Responsible for his actions, which meant he would go for treatment in a forensic mental

for the conference [HERE](#) and reserve your room with the special promotional rate. Spaces fill up fast!

Please contact conference manager Alanna Murray with any questions you may have at (204) 945-1757 or by e-mail at mecc@protectchildren.ca.

NOVA's big 4-0!

The National Organization for Victim Assistance is turning 40! To celebrate, come to the 40th NOVA Conference.

When: August 17-20th, 2014

Where: Palmer House Hilton, Chicago

The NOVA Conference is the longest-standing national training conference of its kind, bringing together hundreds of professionals and volunteers serving those harmed by crime and crisis.

- 110 workshops
- Nationally-recognized subject matter experts addressing new & emerging issues
- Scheduled networking opportunities to learn & laugh with peers

To celebrate their anniversary, NOVA's Conference registration will be \$40 less than it was last year. Don't wait and register [here!](#)

Weekend Forgiveness Retreat

Consider attending a weekend forgiveness retreat in the beautiful, natural setting of Ontario's Algonquin Park with





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health hospital instead of going to prison.

Earlier this month, Li was given the right to leave the mental hospital without any supervision or escort, as a result of the Review Board's annual ruling. This will be the first time he will not be supervised in public since the gruesome event.

Psychiatrist Dr. Steven Kremer said that Li's delusions have desisted and he is not a violent patient.

McLean's mother, Carol DeDelley is not convinced and states that there is no proof that Li will continue to take his required medication if he is unsupervised. "He poses no threat in care. I propose they keep him in care so he's not a threat," she said.

Federal Public Safety Minister Steven Blaney feels a similar way about the decision. "The provincial decision to grant Mr. Li unescorted trips around town is an insult to Tim McLean, the man he beheaded and cannibalized," Blaney wrote in a news release from Ottawa. "Canadians expect that their justice system will keep them safe from high-risk individuals." The federal government has proposed several changes to [legislation governing the treatment of mentally ill accused persons](#), which has been studied by both House and Senate committees. At the end of March, the Standing Senate Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs presented their report with observations.

Victims of Crime: How do we better meet their needs?

By Dana Lambert-Minichilli

On March 3, 2014, the Smart Justice Network hosted an evening event at Algonquin college entitled, *Victims of Crime: How do we better meet their needs?* which included keynote speaker Carolyn Solomon, a panel presentation from panelists Ben Roebuck, Steve Sullivan, and Chelby Daigle, as well as a community dialogue guided by Heidi Illingworth. The evening was dedicated to exploring whether the needs of victims of crime are being met given the reliance on the criminal justice system. Are we as community members, family members and politicians doing enough to meet

Katy Hutchison and Shannon Moroney, who have partnered with Northern Edge, a stunning Eco-Lodge on Kawawaymog Lake, to offer you three days (August 22-24) to explore the forgiveness process and what it could mean in your life. You'll engage in experiential activities that connect you to your story as you listen and share with others on the retreat. If you work in a healing profession, you'll also gain skills and ideas for working on forgiveness with your clients. [Click here](#) for more information.

CACP Victims of Crime International Forum

"Empowering Victims through Partnerships."

When: September 28-30, 2014

Where: Delta Ottawa City Centre, 101 Lyon Street, Ottawa, ON

This forum is meant to achieve the following goals:

- To enhance the capacity of Canadian Police, Criminal Justice, Government Agencies and Victim Advocates / services to respond effectively to the needs of victims of crime.
- To focus National attention on the needs of victims.
- To showcase and promote promising and effective practices.
- To advance collaborative learning in support of such



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victim's needs?

CRCVC Board member, Carolyn Solomon, whose son Kevin was murdered on January 9th, 1997, shared her disappointment with the criminal justice system and lack of support she received as a victim of crime. Although the man who murdered Carolyn's son received a life sentence without parole for 25 years, Carolyn did not feel satisfied. Seventeen years after the murder of her son Kevin, Carolyn went to the offender, for answers. Through CSC's Restorative Opportunities Program, Carolyn met with her son's killer face to face. It was an experience that left her feeling better than the criminal justice system ever did.

Victims' needs are both unique and plentiful. The criminal justice system and we as a community are not meeting the needs of victims. There was a general consensus among the participants at the event that what is being done to meet victim needs is not enough. Panelists Ben Roebuck, Chelby Daigle, and Steve Sullivan discussed, in respect to their area of study and expertise, recommendations to improve victims' lives as a community. Ben Roebuck recommended providing housing, which would significantly decrease the risk of victimization among youth and other individuals struggling with homelessness. Housing can also help victims in their healing journey and it can preserve the dignity of people in our community. Chelby Daigle recommended that we try to rehabilitate offenders instead of just punishing them, in order to help diminish the frequency of people going in and out of the criminal justice system. Chelby also recommended that we increase funding to help improve services available to victims and also make more resources available to victims in need of support. Finally, Steve Sullivan recommended that we provide counselling and community services to victims when they decide they want and need them. Steve suggested we get rid of the limitations made by governments as to when victims can access services and support.

Law & Order star fights for justice for Detroit rape victims

Actress Mariska Hargitay was shocked to learn that

practices across policing, criminal justice, government agencies and victim advocate / services organizations.

- To advance new and common measures of success.

[Click Here](#) to register online!

SNAPSHOTS

CRCVC Media Guides

AVAILABLE for shipping

Our bilingual publication "[IF THE MEDIA CALLS: A GUIDE FOR CRIME VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS](#)" has been revised and reprinted in March 2013 and is now available for FREE shipping to victim services, police and NGOs across Canada. The media guide provides victims with information about the focus of media; the impact of media on victims; the risks/benefits of speaking to the media; modern technology; tips for interacting with the media and high-profile cases. We gratefully acknowledge funding from the Department of Justice Victims Fund. Call 1-877-232-2610 to order or email us: crcvc@crcvc.ca.

European Day of Remembrance of Victims of Terrorism

March 11, 2014, marked the 10th anniversary of the Madrid train bombings that killed 191 persons and injured at least 1800 people commuting to work. Ten years later, the physical and





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thousands of rape kits in Detroit and across the United States that have been left sitting in storage without being processed, allowing sexual predators to remain free on the streets. Hargitay joined Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy to announce legislation that will soon be introduced to state lawmakers that is aimed at setting guidelines and deadlines for rape kit tests to be processed.

Over 11,000 sexual assault kits, some dating back to the 1980's, were found abandoned in a Detroit Police storage facility back in 2009. Not long after the rape kits were discovered, Worthy pushed to start the processing with Michigan State Police.

So far, 1,600 rape kits have been processed, resulting in the identification of about 100 serial rapists and ten convicted rapists, according to Worthy. She told reporters that perpetrators have moved on from Michigan to commit similar crimes in 23 other states.

Hargitay, best known for her role as Sergeant Olivia Benson on the television drama Law & Order: Special Victims Unit has also become an advocate for real life victims of sex crimes. She founded the Joyful Heart Foundation that works to "heal, educate and empower survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence and child abuse."

Nationally, an estimated 400,000 rape kits have gone unprocessed, allowing rapists to remain free and their victims to wonder if they will ever see justice.

"These rape kits in Michigan are over 25 years old," said Worthy. "We want to make sure we deal with the victims mercifully, honestly and genuinely."

Fourteen prosecutions have resulted from what is being called the "Detroit Rape Kit Project", including the case of DeShawn Starks, 32.

On February 19, 2003, Starks pretended to be having stomach pains as he approached a woman who was returning to her home in Detroit, according to prosecutors. Starks pulled out a gun, robbed the woman, and then drove her to a wooded area where he raped her. The woman's unprocessed rape kit remained in storage for ten years until Worthy's office launched their investigations into the abandoned rape

mental wounds of the victims who survived are still not healed. The European Union has devoted 11th March to remembering all victims of terrorist attacks in Europe and elsewhere in the world.

The CRCVC's very own Chair, Susheel Gupta, flew to Spain to attend special Remembrance Day events with the Spanish Royal family. A decade on, Spain still carries the scars of what the country's interior minister describes as the country's "worst ever terrorist attack".

For more on the Madrid bombings and the anniversary, please visit: <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-26526704>.

Call for Participants: CRCVC to develop an e-guide for victims of mentally ill offenders

The CRCVC is hoping to speak to victims impacted by mentally ill offenders across Canada. We are developing an e-resource for family members that will share the experiences of victims who have been through the Review Board process because the accused in their case was found Not Criminally Responsible on Account of Mental Disorder or Unfit to stand trial. This is a project funded by the Victims Fund at Justice Canada. Please contact us if you would like to participate – crcvc@crcvc.ca or 1-877-232-2610.





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kits. DNA linked Starks to that case.

Prosecutors say Starks went on to rape another woman in 2003. That rape kit was also placed in storage and left unprocessed for ten years.

On November 19, 2013, investigators say Starks struck again, raping two friends as they were walking home from a family gathering.

Starks was just sentenced to 45 to 90 years in prison.

