



Greetings!

Welcome to the **SUMMER** 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 & FRIENDS OR HAVE THEM SIGN UP TO RECEIVE IT DIRECTLY AT: <http://crcvc.ca/en/newsletter/>.

Want to [print the newsletter](#)?

Canadian Resource Centre for Victims of Crime
Visit: <http://www.crcvc.ca>
Email: crcvc@crcvc.ca
Phone: 1.877.232.2610

CRCVC Comedy Night Fundraiser: thank you!

For our first ever comedy night fundraiser, we managed to sell out of tickets! In total, we raised \$1667. We wanted to thank everyone who helped make this happen. Every ticket purchased, every donation, every shared post on social media- we appreciate it and we couldn't have done it otherwise. Big shout out to all of our wonderful sponsors as well (please see below), as without them, we would not have had such wonderful raffle prizes.
Have a great summer :)

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QUICK LINKS

Consider supporting our work with victims and survivors by making a donation to the CRCVC and make a difference that counts. Click [here](#) to donate.

Chat & Text Support

CRCVC has a chat and text support for victims of crime who wish to access information as well as emotional support.

Text: Our number is 613-208-0747.

Chat: Please access through our [website](#).

For **hours of operation** or other info, please click [here](#).
Hoping to connect with you soon!

Government investing \$22M to combat "absolute evil" of online child pornography. Read more [here](#).

Urge your representative to adopt mandatory education on sexual assault for lawyers applying to become provincial or territorial judges. Sign [this letter](#) to your representative to show your support for justice for sexual assault survivors.

After a lengthy [search](#) for the two men who have been charged with the death of a B.C man and suspected in the death of two others in B.C., the RCMP believes to have



National Justice Network Update



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A mid-year report on femicide in Canada shows the extent of the issue

The Canadian Femicide Observatory for Justice and Accountability (CFOJA) has published a mid-year report for 2019. The [report](#) brings attention to the amount of women and girls killed by violence in Canada since the beginning of 2019. Between January 1st and June 30th of 2019, a [total](#) of 60 women and girls were killed by violence and are considered victims of femicide. These individuals varied between the ages of 5 months and 83 years old, with the average age being 43 years old. [Indigenous](#) victims continued to be overrepresented in femicide, as they represented 15% of the total number of victims but only around 5% of the total population. In total, there were nine victims who were Indigenous, while another two were thought to be.

According to the CFOJA, during this time period, there was a [total](#) of 58 incidents that resulted in the violent death of women or girls, out of which nine incidents have remained unsolved. Out of the other 49 incidents which were solved, there has been a total of 53 people identified as accused persons. The [primary accused](#) in the cases are between the ages of 15 to 90 years old, with the largest age group being between the ages of 35 to 44 years old (33%) and the second largest being 65 years and older (20%). The majority of the primary accused person in the cases were males, representing 85%. The CFOJA also presented information on the [relationships](#) between the victims

[found the bodies](#) of the two fugitives.

To support the Guns and Gang Violence Action Fund and thus to combat guns and gangs, the Canadian government invests [\\$1.8M in Newfoundland and Labrador](#) and [\\$2.7M in New Brunswick](#).

An [entrepreneur](#) created a mobile phone app in Grande Prairie, AB, which allows people to alert others about local crime.

The [mayor of Ottawa](#), Jim Watson, is looking into CCTV cameras for the ByWard Market after multiple homicides in the area.

There is now a [second settlement](#) announced in the RCMP sexual harassment case, this time for women who work with the RCMP as volunteers or municipal and contract employees.

The [federal government](#) will have to pay \$900 million to the plaintiffs in a class-actions lawsuit that alleges sexual misconduct in the Canadian Armed Forces.

[Crime Prevention Ottawa](#) has published a document titled "Creating a Culture of Prevention: How Ottawa is addressing violence against women".

The [Ontario Coalition of Rape Crisis Centres](#) published an infographic on what Ontario sexual assault centres do.



and the accused. According to them, these relationships were primarily intimate relationships (37%). Homicides in these types [relationship](#), where it occurs in the context of intimate partner violence, is “the most commonly-recognized form of gender-related killing worldwide” and is also referred to as intimate femicide.

Other information gathered by the CFOJA revolved around the locations in Canada of the femicides. The [location](#) with the highest number of femicide cases was Ontario (21), followed by Alberta (14) and British Columbia (10). Despite having the highest total number of cases, Ontario did not have the highest rate of femicide. Rather, the location with the highest rate of femicide was Alberta (0.65 per 100 000 women/girls) and was followed by Manitoba (0.59 per 100 000 women/girls). Most of the incidents occurred in an urban setting (64%), followed by the rural setting (22%), with the “small town” setting having the lowest amount (14%). The rural setting was overrepresented based on the proportion of Canadian population in this setting (16%).

The CFOJA remembers the victims of femicide on their website. A [list](#) of all the women and girls in Canada who were killed by violence, in 2018 and to date in 2019, can be found on their website.

Uber is implementing new programs to help raise awareness of sexual assaults during Uber rides and to help victims of human trafficking

Recently, the rideshare company Uber has made some changes and implemented new programs to help with certain types of victimization, including sexual assault. Nearly [1 in 3 women](#) have been a victim of sexual assault or domestic violence in their life. With the creation of new apps such as Uber and Lyft, there is a new space where sexual violence could occur. For example, numerous Uber drivers have been charged with sexual assault in the United States and similar incidents have seem to be happening in Canada. In Toronto, an Uber driver is facing [2 counts of sexual assault](#) and there is a possibility of more victims. Given the severity of this type of crime, it is pressing that initiatives be created to deal with this problem and businesses have started taking steps towards

According to the information, these centres have supported 16 550 survivors in one year.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The 2019 Canadian Violence Link Conference

The Canadian Violence Link Conference by Humane Canada is about bringing together different sectors (Social workers, police officers, animal cruelty enforcement personnel, anti-violence advocates, politicians, bureaucrats, crown prosecutors, animal welfare advocates, policy experts, veterinarians and RVTs) to learn and collaborate on the links between animals and people and how they affect all Canadians and how they support ending these crimes, and providing a solution to all victims.

When: November 22-22,2019

Where: Toronto, Ontario

To sign up (and for costs) please click [here](#).

SNAPSHOTS

Bus driver shares her story of sexual harassment while working for OC Transpo

A bus driver of the public bus service in Ottawa, OC Transpo, has recently [shared](#) her experience with sexual harassment at the company. After sharing her story, [Jamie Bailey](#) has been “overwhelmed by the response from co-workers, many with similar stories”. She has received messages from others working for the company, both women



National Justice Network Update



increasing awareness of sexual assault, including Uber.

Uber has already made steps towards bringing awareness to the problem. A few years ago, in response to the problem, Uber provided [5 million dollars](#) towards prevention initiatives for sexual assault in the United States. By partnering with numerous recognized organizations such as the National Network to End Domestic Violence and NO MORE, they have discussed with these experts different methods that they could use to increase awareness surrounding the issue of sexual assault. They have since implemented different methods, including in-app technology that informs its users of the issue, employee education and training on sexual assault, a new app feature called "Real-Time ID Check" which allows users to verify if the correct person is transporting.

Recently, Uber has announced that it will also be bringing its '[Driving Change](#)' campaign to Canada in order to prevent sexual assault and domestic violence. This announcement is part of a much bigger multi-million-dollar global Driving Change Initiative. Several Canadian organizations are partnering with Uber for this initiative, including YMCA Canada and the Woman Abuse Council of Toronto. [According](#) to Uber, these partnerships "will help raise awareness and will also combat gender-based crimes in Canada".

In addition to initiatives being made to help raise awareness and prevention of sexual assaults in Canada, Uber is also working towards helping victims of [human trafficking](#). Uber will be working in collaboration with The Canadian Centre to End Human Trafficking, and drivers for the company can use the new Canadian Human Trafficking 24/7 Hotline launched by the organization. [In addition](#), tips have been given to drivers, riders and Uber Eats couriers on how to spot human trafficking as well as how to report it. Barbara Gosse, the CEO of the Canadian Centre to End Human Trafficking has spoken about the new initiatives, [saying](#) "Uber driver-partners and their passengers can play a unique role in assisting potential victims and survivors of human trafficking. This collaboration demonstrates how companies,

and men, who have experienced similar things. She [stated](#) that "the most underlying thing is they're all afraid to speak or go to management" and that many of her colleagues "feel prevented from speaking out because of the culture at OC Transpo".

[Bailey](#) has worked for the bus service for four years and has experienced sexual harassment from her very first day on the job. On that first day, in 2015, a man approached her and made inappropriate comments. After this encounter, a woman approached Bailey and told her to "be careful, they like blondes around here". [Bailey](#) also experienced physical sexual harassment, in addition to the verbal sexual harassment experienced. In one case, she was on a break when "a fellow driver grabbed and kissed her". She also said that "off-duty drivers would track her in the computer system and show up when she was taking breaks".

Bailey did speak out about the issue to those involved with OC Transpo. Last summer, she [spoke](#) to her union and then her supervisor, but both responses were a disappointment. She stated that her supervisor, union president and superintendent "decided my complaint was a normal part of our day-to-day work life at OC Transpo". Once Bailey got in touch with John Manconi, the city's general manager of transportation,



individuals, and communities can work together to prevent and end this crime.”

The fight against guns in hopes of reducing violent crime in Canada continues

The [Danforth shooting](#) that happened on July 22, 2018 in Toronto has changed the lives of many people. During the incident, two people were killed and thirteen people were injured. Included in those injured is [Danielle Kane](#), who continues to experience the aftermath of the shooting, both on a physical and psychological scale. Incidents like this one, and others like the École Polytechnique shooting in Montreal, bring into question gun safety in Canada. Given the violent nature of guns, there has been public concern regarding the use of firearms within Canada. With incidents like the Danforth mass victimization, [there](#) has been increased pressure on the government to change the current gun laws and has made gun control a nationwide conversation.

Guns are a current problem across the country, including in Nova Scotia, where [over 2,000](#) guns have been seized by the police within the span of 2 years. According to the police, most of these firearms were identified as being rifles, shotguns and handguns. There has been growing concern by citizens who wish to see these machines banished. Selina Carter, who has lost multiple loved ones because of shootings, [states](#) “I hope they find them all and just burn them, it’s a great loss to me, it’s a pain you can’t heal”. Retired sergeant Jim Hoskins from the Halifax police also spoke out on the issue, specifically on handguns, [explaining](#) that they “are built for one reason and that’s to kill people”. Jooyoung Lee, a professor from the Sociology department of the University of Toronto, [stated](#) that “a lot of the times the guns that are used in shootings are, at one point in time, purchased legally then diverted.”. This brings into question whether stricter laws on legally purchased guns would influence the amount of illegally purchased guns.

The topic of guns and fighting gun violence is also present in the government. The Honourable Bill Blair, Minister of Border Security and Organized Crime

things started to happen. According to Bailey, Manconi was “supportive”. [Manconi](#) has said that the city “put together a working group on the issue and is developing a new mandatory class for all employees”.

[Father](#) of Danforth shooting victim speaks out on gun control

On July 22nd, 2018, Faisal Hussain went on a shooting spree through Toronto’s Greektown. He shot multiple people, including the daughter of [Ken Price](#), who is currently speaking out about Canada’s need for stricter gun laws. [Police](#) Chief Mark Saunders recently gathered the victims and their families to share with them the outcome of their nearly year-long probe into the incident. During this meeting, those attending were informed that Hussain had experienced mental health issues for a long period of time, had harmed himself and had somehow gotten access to a gun. Police do not know how Hussain got access to the handgun, but they did discover that the handgun had been purchased legally in Saskatchewan.

After hearing this information, [Price](#) made the decision to push for stricter gun laws. Price stated that “it’s a risk in society to allow gun ownership to be as pervasive as it is, especially handguns”. He has also thought a lot about how the gunman could have been stopped and he has focused on



Reduction, recently [launched](#) an “examination of a ban on handguns and assault-style rifles in Canada”. In [response](#) to this, the Office of the Federal Ombudsman for Victims of Crime (OFOVC) has provided input on the situation and shared a summary of recommendations on how to topic, and they include:

- [Recommendation 1](#): Implement a total ban on handguns and assault-style rifles, in conjunction with a buyback program.
- [Recommendation 2](#): Take into consideration the link between firearms and gender-based violence (GBV), including human trafficking, in the dialogue on guns.
- [Recommendation 3](#): Enhance federal leadership on providing supports and treatment to victims of gun violence to ensure victim restoration.
- [Recommendation 4](#): Further limit transportation authorizations for restricted and prohibited firearms.
- [Recommendation 5](#): Restore controls on sales of non-restricted firearms requiring that gun dealers record the firearm sales of rifles and shotguns.
- [Recommendation 6](#): Bring into force the Firearms Marking Regulations.
- [Recommendation 7](#): Invest in data collection and research on firearm violence in Canada in order to better determine its individual and collective consequences.
- [Recommendation 8](#): Broaden the dialogue to include all types of firearms.

This submission was done to ensure that “perspectives on victimization” are also a part of the dialogue surrounding these gun laws. The OFOVC is in support of the total ban of handguns and assault-style rifles, and [according](#) to the office, this could be “an effective option for reducing crime involving firearms, helping to keep Canadians safe, and reducing victimization”. For further details, click [here](#).

“the intersection between mental health and access to guns”. [Patrick McLeod](#), whose daughter was present during the shooting, has expressed similar views on the restriction of handguns. He has stated that “you’ll never solve this completely, but you want to make it harder for the bad guys to get weapons”. Crime Reduction Minister Bill Blair has also [spoken](#) out, saying that “more needs to be done on gun violence” but that no changes will occur before the elections in October. According to [Price and McLeod](#), those impacted by the shooting are planning on making gun restriction an election issue. Price has said that he and other families of victims “just want to see action taken”.

[SPOTLIGHT ON RESEARCH](#)

Report on violent crimes committed against young women and girls in the provincial North and Territories published.

On July 4th, a [report](#) titled “Police-reported violent crimes against young women and girls in Canada’s Provincial North and Territories, 2017” was published by statistics Canada. The report included various statistics that represented the disproportionate amount of violent crimes faced by young women and girls in the northern parts of Canada. [According to the report](#), young women and girls were the most at-risk for violence in this



Protecting yourself from scams and how to's

The [Royal Newfoundland Constabulary](#) took part in an article about how people can protect themselves from scams and what they should do if they have become a victim of one. One thing that people should look out for, according to [Const. James Cadigan](#), is if someone is requesting personal information from you. He stated to "never provide personal information over the phone or through any Internet or online systems". In cases where someone over the phone asks for your personal information, tell them that you will call them back at a number that you know. In addition, do not send money to someone that you've met online and be careful when corresponding by email or online in general. If a message comes by email or online from someone you know, but it seems strange, contact the person directly. It's also important to remember is that if the situation seems too good to be true, for example someone calls to tell you that you have won a large prize, it probably is and should not be trusted. Lastly, he explained that if you receive a call that seems to be from the Canada Revenue Agency, keep in mind that the actual agency not threaten you or use nasty language, they will not leave personal information on an answering machine, they will not ask for your personal information by text or email and they will not ask you to make payments using prepaid credit cards.

In cases where you suspect you might have been scammed by someone, there are steps that should be taken. The [Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre](#) informs people to "first gather as much information as possible, including documents, receipts, emails, and text messages". They also suggest calling your local police and informing the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre about the incident. In addition to them, the centre also suggests informing any financial institutions involved, including "a bank or credit union, a credit card company, a money-service business, or an internet payment service provider". In cases of identity fraud, the centre suggests that the victim put an alert on their accounts and report it to Equifax and TransUnion. Finally, in addition to all of this, victims of scams should share their stories with those in their lives, as it can help educate others about the dangers of getting scammed.

area of Canada. Despite accounting for only 7% of Canada's female population aged 24 and younger, this population represented 17% of all young female victims of violent crimes reported to the police. The results of the report show that the rate of violent crimes faced by women in this age group in the North is three time higher than it is for those in the South. [In addition](#), they were victims of violent crime at the highest rate, for sex and age groups, in both the North and the South.

The [report](#) also listed the crimes that made up the majority of the violence crimes against this population. These were physical assaults (63%), sexual offences (24%) and criminal harassment or threat-related offences (10%). The [report](#) also showed that during the period between 2009-2017, this population had experienced 74 homicides, of which 56 of the victims were Indigenous. Additionally, more often, the perpetrators of these crimes were intimate partners, casual acquaintances or family members of the victims. Those accused were also more likely to be identified by the police in the northern parts of Canada, although they were equally as likely to be charged by the police as those in the South. Also, the [highest](#) rates of violent crimes against this population were in northern Saskatchewan and northern Manitoba.



For more information on the Desjardins data breach, and what to do in case you have been affected, please click [here](#).

An inquiry was completed in regard to changes in nursing homes after the Wettlaufer homicides

The [report](#) on the inquiry relating to the homicides committed by Elizabeth Wettlaufer and how to prevent a similar situation from happening again was recently published. The report [called](#) for changes to be made to fix the “systemic vulnerabilities” that made it possible for a registered nurse, Wettlaufer, to murder people who were residing in nursing homes. [Between](#) 2007 and 2016, nine people were killed by Wettlaufer in two nursing homes in southwestern Ontario. Her crimes only came to light once she decided to herself in and confess everything. The report that was published came from the public inquiry on the situation that was headed by Justice Eileen Gillese. Gillese [stated](#) that “the best way to prevent similar tragedies is to strengthen the long-term-care system”.

There were a [total](#) of 91 recommendations made in the report, which included more funding and grants to be put towards nursing homes. Despite mentioning the need for more funding, the report did not state how much funding would be needed to address all the recommendations. [Merrilee Fullerton](#), Ontario’s minister of long-term care, spoke out regarding the recommendations and funding. She promised that there would be “new funding to address the recommendations”. She also spoke to the families of the victims and informed them that they “are taking immediate action” and that they “will spend the next year acting on what we heard today”. The [most concrete commitment](#) that was discussed by Fullerton is that they will “table a study in the legislature by this time next year on the status of the government’s progress on implementing the recommendations”.

Families of the victims have spoken out in regard to the report. [Jon Matheson](#), who lost his mother, Helen, because of Wettlaufer said “I got some closure, I guess” after the report was published. He also stated that “You get more closure each time something good comes out of it, and if the good keeps happening, it gets easier to deal with,”. The daughter of victim

The results of the study are not surprising to [Hilda Anderson-Pyrz](#), who is a member of the Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak and someone who is raising awareness on issues that Indigenous women in northern Canada are facing. Anderson-Pyrz was quoted saying “we look at a lot of our Indigenous women and girls who are living in extreme poverty and living in third world conditions in First Nation communities in the north and they don’t have access to housing, economic opportunities, quality education, food security, access to quality health care,” and that “when you’re living like that, of course there’s going to be higher levels of violence because you’re so limited in what resources are available to you.”.

Statistics Canada has recently released new data on police-reported crimes.

Statistics Canada has released its entire report on [police-reported crime statistics](#) for 2018. These include statistics on crimes such as homicide, sexual assault, violent firearm offences, hate crimes and fraud. For the [fourth consecutive year](#), police-reported crime in Canada has increased (by 2% in 2018). This increase was the result of [higher rates](#) of different police-reported offences, with the top two offences being fraud and level 1 sexual assault (without a weapon or evidence of bodily harm). There has also been an [increase](#) of police reported



James Silcox, [Joanne Birtch](#), also spoke about the report saying that “it makes me feel a little better about what happened”. The report was dedicated to the victims and their loved ones.

DID YOU KNOW?!

The National Office for Victims (NOV) has developed five main publications, which are available free of charge, to help victims of federal offenders better understand federal corrections and conditional release:

1. *Canadian Victims Bill of Rights Act*, available here:
<https://www.publicsafety.gc.ca/cnt/rsrscs/pblctns/vrvw-vctm-bll-rghts/index-en.aspx>;
2. *Helping Victims Prepare for the Release of a Federal Offender*, available here:
<https://www.publicsafety.gc.ca/cnt/rsrscs/pblctns/prpng-vctms-rls-fdrl-ffndr/index-en.aspx>;
3. *Overview of Federal Corrections and Criminal Justice – Victim-Centred Information and Assistance*, available here:
<https://www.publicsafety.gc.ca/cnt/rsrscs/pblctns/vrvw-vctm-cntrd-nfrmtn-ssstnc/index-en.aspx>;
4. *An Information Guide to Assist Victims – Federal corrections and conditional release*, available here:
<https://www.publicsafety.gc.ca/cnt/rsrscs/pblctns/2016-gd-ssst-vctms/index-en.aspx>;
5. *Victims of Crime: Staying Informed*, available here:
<https://www.publicsafety.gc.ca/cnt/rsrscs/pblctns/vctms-crm-styng-nfrmd/index-en.aspx>.

All publications are also available online to be viewed or downloaded. To order free paper copies of these publications, visit

crime in multiple parts of Canada.

Statistics Canada has also recently published data tables on police-reported homicides in 2018. In total, they have released 11 data tables which summarize the data that has been gathered about these police-reported homicides. The data published includes information on different aspects of police-reported homicides, such as the rates of homicide, the types of homicides, homicides rates based on various characteristics and locations, data relating to Aboriginal identity, and outcome of the investigations. The data released shows a total of [651](#) homicides in 2018, which is a rate of 1.76 per 100 000 population. This is slightly lower than the number from last year, which was 666. Out of those 651 homicides, at least [140](#) of the victims had Aboriginal identity. The area with the highest amount of police-reported homicides was [Toronto, Ontario](#), with a total of 142 homicides. More data can be found at the following [link](#).

Statistics Canada has also recently published data on cybercrime, hate crimes and organized crimes. There is a total of 6 data tables which helps demonstrate the data collected in 2018 on these crimes. A total of [32,968](#) [cybercrimes](#) were reported to the police in 2018, which is a rate of 89.4 per 100 000 population. This continues the



National Justice Network Update



<https://www.publicsafety.gc.ca/cnt/cntrng-crm/crrctns/rdr-pblctns-en.aspx>.

For more information please visit the NOV's website at <https://www.publicsafety.gc.ca/cnt/cntrng-crm/crrctns/ntnl-ffc-vctms-en.aspx> or contact NOV at ps.nationalofficeforvictims-bureaunationalpourlesvictims.sp@canada.ca.

trend from recent years of the number rising, as it was 27,829 in 2017 and 23,996 in 2016. More data can be found at the following [link](#).

A recent study has brought to light the amount of sexual assault cases treated by Ontario doctors

A [study](#) completed by researchers from the Ottawa Hospital Research Institute and ICES shows the amount of sexual assault cases that Ontario doctors and emergency departments saw, between the years of 2002 and 2016. The researchers used hospital reporting data and physician billing codes to determine the number and according to the study, the total of cases seen in this setting was 52 780. The victims included in this number are from all genders, income levels and regions of Ontario, but the majority are women. According to the study, 86% of the cases involved women. Katherine Muldoon, one of the authors of the study and a senior research associate at The Ottawa Hospital and fellow at ICES, [stated](#) that "what this is showing is lending more evidence to the fact that this is a huge social, societal problem, and that our extreme cases in the hospital, we're still picking it up across all sexes and ages". The other author of the study, Dr. Kari Sampsel, [stated](#) that "this is a global health crisis".



National Justice Network Update



The [study](#) helped provide a number of total cases, as well as an idea of the data regarding case characteristics and which were more frequent. The majority of the cases from the data involved emergency departments. For females, the highest frequency of assaults was between the ages of 15 to 19 years, whereas for males it was between the ages of 0 to 4 years old. Out of the total amount, there were 896 cases where victims were 60 years old and over. There was also a total of 1 458 cases that were revictimizations. In addition, the data in this field is [hard to calculate](#), as not all sexual assaults follow the same process. Some victims will access medical help while others might not and might go to the police, access victim services or tell anyone about their experience.