



Greetings!

Welcome to the **January** 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/>.

Canadian Resource Centre for Victims of Crime
Visit: <http://www.crcvc.ca>
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Ottawa's first shootings of the year, OPS implementing new strategies.

Police in Ottawa began their year by investigating a [pair of shootings](#) in Chinatown and Barrhaven, and a widely covered shooting on January 8th on Gilmour Street resulted in the death of an 18-year-old male. [Ottawa Police Chief Peter Sloly](#) has announced, in the wake of these events, that the Ottawa Police will be developing and implementing new strategies to address these, and other acts of violence in the city of Ottawa throughout 2020. One of these strategies is the implementation of three new [Neighbourhood Response Teams](#) that will "prevent and reduce firearm violence along with other associated violent street crimes."

[Sloly](#) notes that the implemented strategies will have a long-term focus, and aim to "better address related crime, social disorder, community safety and well-being issues." Furthermore, [Sloly](#) indicates that when the police's street violence and gang strategies are implemented into specific communities, the impact made will be significant. Importantly, the overall goal of these targeted strategies is to further develop the Ottawa Police as a [community](#) and neighbourhood based policing organization.

The Gilmour street shooting happened at an Airbnb, soon after the company had established a neighbourhood [support tool](#) on its website. The tool allows community members to comment on the

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

QUICK LINKS

Chat & Text Support

CRCVC's 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** and other info, please click [here](#). *Hoping to connect with you soon!*

The City of Ottawa has [accepted the civil responsibility](#) for the Westboro Bus Crash. This announcement will not impact the current criminal court case involving the driver of the bus.

Reports of sexual assault have more than [doubled in Sarnia](#), with much praise being given to the #MeToo movement for reducing the stigma around sexual assault reporting.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau paid tribute to the victims of the [La Loche shooting](#) at its fourth anniversary. The government announced it would provide funding to the La Loche community in 2019.

Irvin Waller calls for governments to [meet international standards of](#)



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business's operations. Notably, issues of gun violence and death are becoming synonymous with Airbnbs. In the past [15 months](#), there has been a pair of homicides and several shootings occurring at Airbnb properties. The lack of face to face security vetting, and the lack of security and safety during massive gatherings or when parties occur adds to the potential opportunity for violence in Airbnb properties.

Becoming aware of such concerns, in November of 2019, Ottawa City Council [proposed](#) a number of regulations for short term rental properties to adhere to. The regulations would [mean](#) that property owners would have to use more care when renting their property and have more regard to who they are renting their property to. However, [Airbnb was opposed](#) to the regulations, arguing that they were unfair for property owners. Despite Airbnb's protests, the regulations are planned to be [implemented](#) by the City Council, however, it may take all of 2020 as City Council will first need to amend many bylaws and regulations.

City councillor [Catherine Mckenney](#) has provided a resource on neighbourhood trauma for anyone impacted by the shooting and is emphasizing, the need for community support to deal with the event. Mckenney's resource for neighbourhood trauma can be viewed [here](#).

The Costs of Trauma

Recovering from a mental or physical injury can take time, but it often also requires money. Specifically, when it comes to [gender-based trauma](#) the difficulty in the ability to access services, and the cost of those services can be expensive. [Julie Lalonde](#), a women's rights activist and public educator, commented on the topic through a Twitter post, noting that in cases of sexual assault, the victim carries a significant financial responsibility that can end up being long-term if adequate services are not initially accessed because the trauma from the experience could take longer to resolve.

The cost of the financial fees for services can also have an impact on the emotional recovery process itself. These costs can also involve "less-obvious costs" such as in [Lalonde's](#) case when she found

[victim assistance and invest in preventing victimization.](#)

A national organization representing Inuit women in Canada is [calling for a radical shift in the way police work is done in the North](#) in light of findings in a new report released recently that has uncovered "systemic racialized policing" in the Arctic.

Trois années plus tard, des victimes de l'attentat de Québec [toujours pas indemnisées](#).// Three years later, the victims of the Quebec mosque shooting still not compensated. (*please note, article is in French only*)

Read the [recommendations from the Federal Ombudsman for Victims of Crime](#) to the Canadian Minister of Health for improving access to mental health care services for victims and survivors of crime.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Ottawa Monthly Drop-in Support Group for "Loss to Violence"

The drop-in support group for family members of homicide victims addresses the gap in support within the community and offers a place for peers to support each other in healing.

Please "like" the CRCVC [Facebook page](#) or email crcvc@crcvc.ca to stay updated about the support group. We welcome all family and loved ones to join us!

Where: Room p107, P Building, Algonquin College, 1385 Woodroffe Ave, Nepean, ON K2G 1V8



herself paying about \$150 per year simply to redirect her mail to a P.O. box, in order to keep herself safe from her stalker.

The difference between urban and rural residence also impacts the cost of services. In urban areas, there is a wider variety and number of services, but costs can be high. In rural areas, fewer options exist, and travel costs can get in the way of services. For [Lalonde](#), the winter weather in the rural community where she lived made attending appointments difficult. Even when services are easily accessible to those in rural communities, sharing information can be difficult because of stigma, with [Lalonde](#) noting that sometimes people prefer accessing services outside of their community, for privacy reasons.

Considering all of the smaller, individual costs associated with healing, the collective costs for healing in Canada are quite large. A 2013 report by [Kate McInturff](#) at the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives indicates that intimate partner violence and adult sexual assault cost around \$12 billion a year in Canada. The biggest cost attributing to this value is the cost of accessing mental healthcare. To offset this cost, [Lalonde](#) believes that the government should introduce federal subsidies, which is similar to something that the Trudeau Government promised in 2015 but that, as of right now, has not come to fruition. Until such a strategy does come into play, the costs for trauma will continue to cause difficulty for those having experienced trauma and wanting to recover.

The government of Canada is responding to the recent crash of Flight 752, which has caused the death of multiple Canadians.

On [January 8th 2020](#), Ukraine International Airlines Flight 752 was shot down near Tehran by an Iranian weapon system. Initially, Iran denied involvement. The flight had 176 people on board, including 57 Canadians and 29 foreigners who were permanent residents of Canada. [Iran](#) has admitted that they caused the crash, by shooting a surface-to-air missile. The government of Canada has [responded](#) to the crash by extending its "deepest condolences to the families and loved ones of the victims" and calling this a "national tragedy".

When: Last Thursday of February 2020

Women's March Ottawa 2020

In solidarity with the global marches occurring around the world, Ottawa Women's March will be hosting a celebration event featuring local Ottawa speakers, poster making and a photo booth.

When: March 7th at 10:00 am

Where: Parliament Hill

For more information [click here](#).

Violence link: Animal Abuse and Woman Abuse

Join Crime Prevention Ottawa (CPO) to learn about disturbing trends linking animal abuse and intimate partner violence. Keynote Speaker will give an overview of the research and what you can do if you are a victim of violence or assisting a victim of violence. She will be followed by local experts who are building solutions for families caught in this cycle of violence.

When: Friday, March 6 2020, from 9:30 a.m. to noon

Where: Ben Franklin Place, 101 Centrepointe Drive, The Chamber

Panellists' remarks will be in English only with PowerPoints in both English and French. Questions will be encouraged in both official languages.

[R.S.V.P. to register](#)

[SNAPSHOTS](#)



In response to these deaths, the [government of Canada](#) is offering “short-term financial support for families of Flight 752 victims who were Canadian citizens or permanent residents.” This short-term support offers \$25,000 for each victim and is intended to help the families with financial costs, such as funeral arrangements and potential travel. In addition to this financial support, [Prime Minister Justin Trudeau](#) has stated that “We expect Iran to compensate these families.”

[Mr. Trudeau](#) is also urging that Iran send the damaged black-box flight recorders to France so that they can be analyzed quicker than they would be in Iran. The countries that lost citizens in the crash gathered in London and issued a statement together. In the [statement](#), they urged Tehran, to “conduct a comprehensive investigation of the disaster and offer to deliver “closure, accountability, transparency and justice for the families and loved ones of all the victims”. An International Coordination and Response Group to support the families of the victims has been [formed](#) by some of the countries that lost citizens.

At this moment, the [Government of Canada](#) has also sent a team to the crash location to “provide expertise and support to ongoing investigative efforts” as well as support for the families in the area.

For further information, including who to contact if you are a Canadian who has been affected and in need of consular assistance, please click on this [link](#).

For further information about victim needs following a terrorism attack or a mass victimization event, please click [here](#)

Our hearts go out to the 176 lives lost on board Ukraine Airlines Flight PS752. Our sincerest condolences to all the loved ones of the victims who lost their lives in this tragedy.

Former Indian Day School Students Can Now File for Compensation

Individuals who were victims of the Indian Day Schools will now have the opportunity to submit claims for [compensation](#) for the abuse and violence they experienced while attending the federally operated day schools as of January 13th, 2020. This comes as a result of a settlement approved by the Federal Court, and that would help more than [120,000](#) survivors. The [deadline](#) for applications for compensation is July 13th, 2022.

Indian day schools operated separately from residential schools, so day school students were left out of the 2006 Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement that recognized the damage inflicted by residential schools and established a \$1.9 billion compensation fund.

The current settlement provides Indian Day School survivors compensation anywhere [between \\$10,000 and \\$200,000](#) depending on the abuse that was suffered. Furthermore, the settlement involves the establishment of a [legacy fund](#) dedicated to wellness and healing.

Statistics from Ottawa’s Shootings in 2019

[Ottawa Police](#) responded to 72 reports of shootings where a bullet was fired throughout 2019, but that number is only six less than the 78 shootings responded to by police in 2018. [Amy Gagnon](#), an Ottawa Police Constable and spokesperson, said that most of these shootings were targeted, meaning that the shootings



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occurred as the result of an argument or involved members of organized crime. Additionally, the shootings responded to by police are not concentrated in a specific neighbourhood. The Ottawa Police have also [seized](#) 68 firearms this year.

Notably, gun violence in Ottawa has significantly [increased](#) since 2013, when the number of shootings was only 32.

Ottawa Police are in [contact](#) with the Toronto Police to learn about different strategies to prevent gun violence. Constable [Gagnon](#) also indicates that Ottawa is not the only large Canadian city reporting increases in shootings, meaning that the issue is “cultural.”

The [Ottawa Police Services Board](#) is in the process of establishing recommendations on how Ottawa Police can further work towards tackling the issue of gun violence, with a report planned to be completed soon.

Joint investigation by government in the case of murdered woman but does there need to be further reform?

The Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) and Parole Board of Canada (PBC) will jointly conduct an [investigation "into all of the circumstances that led to the tragic death of Marylène Levesque,"](#) Public Safety Minister Bill Blair said, after the woman was found dead in a hotel room in Quebec. The man accused of Levesque's second-degree murder is 51-year-old Eustachio Gallese that been on day parole since



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March 2019 for the 2004 killing of his former spouse. PBC had denied the offender full parole in September 2019 but had extended his day parole with several conditions, such as being required to report any relationships with women (sexual or otherwise). That being said, the board heard from the offender's parole officer, at the aforementioned hearing, that while living in a halfway house, the offender had been allowed to have his "sexual needs met". A spokesperson for the PBC said that "the joint investigation will examine all the circumstances surrounding the incident and take whatever measures are necessary to avoid anything like it ever happening again."

Meanwhile, Stella, a Montreal organization for sex workers, says the death of 22-year-old Marylène Levesque shows why the government should focus on decriminalizing and destigmatizing all aspects of prostitution. Sandra Wesley, Stella's executive director, said that "[violence against women is deeply engrained in the sex trade, with society telling sex workers who are victims of violence that what happens to them is their fault.](#)" However, Wesley said it will take more than parole board reform to prevent violence against sex workers. She pointed out the former federal Conservative government failed to act on a 2013 Supreme Court ruling that found the existing law makes it virtually impossible for a sex worker to operate in a safe and secure environment. This is because as long as sex work remains stigmatized and is in a legal grey zone, as it is now, sex



workers are forced to hide from authorities, making them more vulnerable to victimization. Wesley also said that sex workers continue to be murdered but rarely get such media attention.

SPOTLIGHT ON RESEARCH

Canadian Femicide Observatory for Justice and Accountability Femicide Report 2019



The Centre for the Study of Social and Legal Responses to Violence (CSSLRV) launches survey to examine potential for Women's Police Stations to address gender-based violence in Canada

Women's Police Stations (WPS) first emerged in Latin America over 30 years ago and have since grown exponentially in countries across the Global South, recognizing that



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the burden of violence against women and girls is distributed unequally, and significantly higher in low- to middle-income countries. Even in high-income countries, however, violence against women and girls is distributed unequally with rates significantly higher for some groups of women and girls due to their marginalization and/or related vulnerabilities, including Indigenous and racialized women and girls, poor women, women living in rural, remote and northern regions of the country, women with disabilities, and older women. Therefore, the documented impacts of WPS for reducing violence underscore WPSs as initiatives that warrant serious consideration in other countries, including Canada, as a more effective method than traditional models of policing for responding to violence against women and girls.

To begin this dialogue in the Canadian context, the Centre for the Study of Social and Legal Responses to Violence, University of Guelph, has launched a survey to explore whether the innovative strategies used by Women's Police Stations in Latin America can inform approaches to prevent gender-based violence against women (including sexual and domestic violence) in other parts of the world, such as Canada and Australia. The Canadian project is being led by CSSLRV Director, Dr. Myrna Dawson, in collaboration with Dr. Kerry Carrington, Queensland University of Technology, Australia, who has conducted a similar survey in Australia. Dr. Carrington has



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conducted ground-breaking research on WPSs in Buenos Aires, Argentina, where there are 128 Women's Police Stations with about 2,300 officers (see: <https://research.qut.edu.au/pgv/>). Buenos Aires currently has one of the lowest rates of femicide (1.25 per 100,000) in Latin America – where more than half the countries with high femicide rates are located. The femicide rate in Buenos Aires is also less than the global average (1.3 per 100,000).

The CSSLRV on-line survey has been designed to capture professional and community perceptions about the potential for Women's Police Stations in Canada. You must be over 18 years of age and reside in Canada to participate. **No prior knowledge of Women's Police Stations is required.** The practices are demonstrated through a series of questions and a short video included in the survey. An understanding of Women's Police Stations and how they approach the policing of gender-based violence will become clear as the participant proceeds through the survey and responds to the questions. The link to the survey is here: <https://uoguel.ph/1jqik>.

