



Comité d'action du premier ministre  
sur la prévention de la violence familiale

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- 1) **CANCELLED: Trauma and Violence Intervention Research Conference: Promoting safety and well-being across the lifespan June 9-11, 2020**
- 2) **An Update from Anderson House**
- 3) **PEI Government new web page with Information on Family Violence Prevention Support during COVID-19**
- 4) **COVID-19 Mental Health and Addiction Supports**
- 5) **Talking to Youth About COVID-19**
- 6) **Safety Planning During COVID-19: Tips From Survivors For Survivors**
- 7) **Community Legal Information: Survey on Self-representation during the legal process**
- 8) **Fact Sheets on how to manage stress and reduce harms associated with using alcohol, cannabis and other substances due the COVID-19 Pandemic**
- 9) **The Learning Network at Western University: COVID-19 Webpage and Resources**

## **REMINDERS:**

- 1) **Save the Date: Take Back the Night, September 17**
- 2) **Community Legal Information: Response to COVID-19**
- 3) **Fergusson Foundation AGM Postponed**
- 4) **CBC News Series: Stopping Domestic Violence**

5) **Canadian Domestic Homicide Prevention Initiative for Vulnerable Populations (CDHPiVP) is seeking to interview survivors of severe domestic violence as well persons who lost someone to domestic homicide**

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**ANNOUNCEMENT DETAILS**

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**1) CANCELLED: Trauma and Violence Intervention Research Conference: Promoting safety and well-being across the lifespan June 9-11, 2020**

The Trauma and Violence Intervention Research Conference: Promoting safety and well-being across the lifespan that was to be held June 9-11, 2020 in London, Ontario has been cancelled. The Conference will be rescheduled to a later date.

**2) An Update from Anderson House**

Anderson House/PEI Family Violence Prevention Services have staff on hand at all times to help those impacted by family violence. While we have reduced our activities and put limits on much of our operation, we are still open and able to help. We know in times of crisis abuse can often worsen. If you or someone you know needs help, phone our crisis line at 902-892-0960/1-800-240-9894. This number is toll-free, anonymous and confidential. We are here for you.

Anderson House is still accepting new residents, however they will be screened and new guidelines for keeping the shelter residents and staff safe are in place. Outreach is also still available and if you call our crisis line we can connect you with services in your area.

Staff at Anderson House are being trained on a program that will allow individuals to send texts to our crisis and information line. This will be up and running soon and we will be promoting it as a new means for clients to reach us. When available there will be announcements on our website, social media, and government platforms that we encourage you to share.

**3) PEI Government new web page with Information on Family Violence Prevention Support during COVID-19**

We are living in a time where social isolation is necessary for the safety and health of Islanders. We recognize that there are a number of challenges that self-isolation can cause. The daily routine we have built for our households have changed and our greater community support network has changed. During these challenging times, there can be new or heightened risks of family violence. The harms can affect all members of the household, including children. It is critical that we ensure the health and safety of Islanders of all ages regularly and especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. Specific resources for individuals and families have been developed to address topics such as co-parenting and taking care of your mental health in these uncertain times. **If you need help, please reach out, there are many supports available to you across the province.**

For more information, please go to: <https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/information/social-development-and-housing/family-violence-prevention>

#### 4) COVID-19 PEI Mental Health and Addiction Supports

During this challenging time, the PEI Government has put in new Mental Health and Addictions supports.

They include:

- [Mental Health and Addictions Online, Phone, and Text-based Supports for Islanders](#)
- [Mental health programs from your home](#)
- [Supporting your Child or Youth through COVID-19: A Parent and Caregiver's Guide](#)
- [COVID-19 for Kids - How Can I Help: A Children's Workbook](#)
- [Coping with stress and anxiety](#)

#### 5) Talking to Youth About COVID-19

The Cybersafecare website was created to help parents and caregivers help keep kids safe online. With this goal in mind, we have decided to include information during the COVID-19 pandemic to help you with challenging questions and concerns that children and youth may have. With school being out, youth may be online more than ever before, both for educational purposes, and for socializing while isolating or self-distancing. Maybe more than ever, it is important to talk to children and youth about what they are reading and who they are interacting with online. There is a lot of information that kids are accessing about the pandemic – some of which is helpful and some sources that could be misleading and possibly harmful. Please check out <https://www.cybersafecarepei.ca/talking-youth-about-covid-19> for links to reliable, accurate resources and videos that can help spark your conversation.

#### 6) Safety Planning During COVID-19: Tips From Survivors For Survivors

A safety planning guide for survivors during Covid-19 has been made available by the US-based organization, Sanctuary for Families. The development of the guide was led by survivors and draws from survivors' and clinicians' expertise, as well as from safety planning models from the US National Domestic Violence Hotline, Sanctuary for Families, and Love is Respect.

The safety planning guide can be downloaded from the Sanctuary for Families website: <https://sanctuaryforfamilies.org/safety-planning-covid19/>. We have received permission to share the guide wherever we see fit as long as we use their web address.

#### 7) Community Legal Information: Survey on Self-representation during the legal process

Have you represented yourself in a family law situation? Community Legal Information wants to hear from Islanders! What worked, what would have helped? Take this quick survey, share your wisdom, to help us create a free resource for self-represented litigants on PEI.

Thank you for your time on this. We hope you and your loved ones are safe and healthy and we wish you the best into the future. If you have any questions or concerns, please us, we are happy to help.

The Survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NGCPKR9>

**8) Fact Sheets on how to manage stress and reduce harms associated with using alcohol, cannabis and other substances due the Covid-19 Pandemic**

The Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction (CCSA), in partnership with the Mental Health Commission of Canada (MHCC), has developed two fact sheets with tips on how to manage stress and reduce the harms associated with using alcohol, cannabis and other substances during the COVID-19 pandemic:

[Coping with Stress, Anxiety and Substance Use During COVID-19](#)

[Managing Stress Anxiety and Substance Use During COVID-19: A Resource for Healthcare Providers](#)

The documents are available for download from CCSA’s [COVID-19 resource centre](#) along with a collection of other resources on substance use and COVID-19.

**9) The Learning Network at Western University: COVID-19 Webpage and Resources**

Their new webpage offers a centralized hub for resources related to gender-based violence and the COVID-19 pandemic. It features the work of organizations across Canada, as well as key international research.

They will continue to update this webpage as further resources become available. If you have any resources you would like to share, please email them at [vawln@uwo.ca](mailto:vawln@uwo.ca)

The website can be found [here](#).

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**REMINDER DETAILS**  
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**1) Save the Date: Take Back the Night, September 17**

Please save the date for the Take Back the Night March and Information Fair being held Thursday September 17. More information to follow.

**2) Community Legal Information: Response to COVID-19**

Due to the current public health situation in PEI, CLI will not be accepting walk-in clients at this time. For legal information and/or the Lawyer Referral Service, please call us at 902-892-0853 or 1-800-240-9798 (toll-free) or e-mail us at [info@legalinfopei.ca](mailto:info@legalinfopei.ca).

Thank you for your understanding. We look forward to continuing to serve the community with legal information.

**3) Fergusson Foundation AGM Postponed**

Due to the evolving nature of COVID-19 and the current advice of NB’s Chief Medical Officer and Canada’s Chief Public Health Officer, the Fergusson Foundation is postponing our upcoming Annual General Meeting. The AGM will be rescheduled for later date.

#### 4) **CBC News Series: Stopping Domestic Violence**

CBC has released *Stopping Domestic Violence*, a CBC News series looking at the crisis of intimate partner violence in Canada and what can be done to end it. Articles are from all across Canada, and can be found at [cbc.ca/stoppingdomesticviolence](http://cbc.ca/stoppingdomesticviolence)

#### 5) **Canadian Domestic Homicide Prevention Initiative for Vulnerable Populations (CDHPVP) is seeking to interview survivors of severe domestic violence as well persons who lost someone to domestic homicide**

The Canadian Domestic Homicide Prevention Initiative for Vulnerable Populations (CDHPVP) is seeking to interview survivors of severe domestic violence or a family member, friend, or community professional who lost someone to domestic homicide between 2006 and 2016 in order to learn how to help prevent domestic homicide and domestic violence.

Participants for the study must be 18 years of age or older. The survivor or domestic homicide victim must be from one of the following groups:

- Indigenous Peoples
- Immigrants and/or refugees
- People living in rural, remote, and/or northern communities (*includes living in a location where services are not easily or quickly accessible*)
- Children exposed to domestic violence or parents/caregivers of children killed in the context of domestic violence

The domestic violence or domestic homicide case must be closed, meaning that there are no pending court or coroner investigations.

Participants must be safe and willing to have their interview audio-recorded. People can share their story with the CDHPVP research team by phone, video conference, or in-person. If needed, translation services are available, and travel and/or childcare costs will be covered. Participants will receive a \$50 honorarium for sharing their story.

For more information, or to participate in this project, please contact:  
CDHPVP Project Manager Anna-Lee Straatman at [astraat2@uwo.ca](mailto:astraat2@uwo.ca) or call  
The Centre for Research & Education on Violence against Women and Children at Western University at 519-661-2111 ext 81133, toll-free at 1-844-958-0522.

In the Maritimes region contact Cathy Holtmann, University of New Brunswick [cathy.holtmann@unb.ca](mailto:cathy.holtmann@unb.ca) or 506-458-7442.

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***THANK YOU!***

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**Premier's Action Committee on  
Family Violence Prevention Vision Statement**

**A society where all individuals are safe, respected and valued; where any form of violence is unacceptable; and where children, women, and men have opportunities to reach their full potential and contribute to the overall well-being of all families and communities.**

[www.stopfamilyviolence.pe.ca](http://www.stopfamilyviolence.pe.ca)