

**Betty Wasyliw**

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**Subject:** FW: My script presentation to Federal Justice Committee re prostitution in Canada

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**From:** [ca.peters@telus.net](mailto:ca.peters@telus.net) <[cathy@telus.net](mailto:cathy@telus.net)>

**Sent:** March 9, 2022 7:41 AM

**To:** Email - [info@strathconard.ca](mailto:info@strathconard.ca) <[info@srd.ca](mailto:info@srd.ca)>

**Subject:** My script presentation to Federal Justice Committee re prostitution in Canada

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**\*\* NOTICE:** This email is from an external source.\*\*

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Dear Chair Brad Unger and Regional District Directors,

Yesterday was **International Women's Day** and I envision a future where women and girls can dream.

And accomplish all that they want without fear of exploitation.

And a future where their lives are valued and protected.

Attached is my presentation script to the **Federal Justice Committee on February 11, 2022.**

**ASK: to present to your Council or stakeholders.**

I am available for presentations in May 2022, and October-November 2022.

**ASK: that you write the Federal Justice Minister to strengthen and enforce the "Protection of Communities and Exploited Persons Act".**

Sincerely, Cathy Peters

BC anti-human trafficking educator, speaker, advocate

Be Amazing; Stop Sexual Exploitation

[beamazingcampaign.org](http://beamazingcampaign.org)

1101-2785 Library Lane, North Vancouver, BC

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604-828-2689

## 5 Strategies for Police:

- 1. AWARENESS:** All Police need to be aware of the issue and **know the law**. Take HT training courses (Police Knowledge Network, OCTIP; Office to Combat Training In Persons). Read “Invisible Chains” by UBC law professor, Benjamin Perrin. Google:[beamazingcampaign.org](http://beamazingcampaign.org) Incorporate the **United Nations 4 Pillars** in a local strategy to combat trafficking: **Prevention, Protection, Prosecution, Partnerships**.
- 2. ADDRESS DEMAND:** Until there is a **deterrent for demand**, this crime will increase. Johns, the buyers of sex, facilitators, profiteers need to be targeted and charged; this is the Federal law (**Protection of Communities and Exploited Persons Act**).
- 3. SCHOOL LIAISONS:** Develop positive and strong liaisons with elementary and high school students. Young people are vulnerable and are being targeted. “Education is our greatest weapon”. **Cyberspace safety training** is needed for youth/parents. **Canadian Centre to Protect Children** (Manitoba) who run Cybertip.ca.
- 4. INVENTORY SCAN:** Assess your community. Look for sex ads (Backpage, Craigslist, the newspaper, Georgia Strait); these will lead you to the buyers and sellers. List the businesses that are endemic to HT: escort services, modelling agencies, casinos, adult entertainment centers, tattoo parlours, holistic health centers, nail spas, day spas, unregistered massage parlours, strip clubs, cheap hotels and bars. Be aware of their services/clientele. List all your community resources to support victims.
- 5. BEST PRACTICES:** Valiant Richey is the OSCE- the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe- Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating trafficking in Human Beings for 57 States and 1 billion people. **In Canada:** Halifax police addresses the North Preston and Preston “Finest” gang, RCMP operated “Northern Spotlight Operations”, London Ontario has veteran frontline worker and police educator Megan Walker (1-519-432-2204) from the London Women’s Abuse Center, Montreal vice unit, Peel Region Police in Hamilton, Winnipeg police and former MP Mrs. Joy Smith (who introduced our Human trafficking laws in Canada) with the Joy Smith Foundation and the Tracia Trust in Manitoba, York police in Toronto with survivor Casandra Diamond of Bridge North, Ontario has a strategic plan with a Human Trafficking Coordinator, **Washington State** with former Congresswoman Linda Smith and NGO “Shared Hope”; Seattle using Nordic Model. Dallas Police Department, Houston City Council have extensive training in sexual exploitation/human trafficking. **Sweden** has successfully implemented and funded the Nordic Model of Law for the past 22 years: contact Detective Inspector Simon Haggstrom head of the Stockholm Police Prostitution Unit (his work is to charge johns).

## 8 strategies for Cities and Municipalities to consider:

1. Learn about the issue at [www.beamazing](http://www.beamazing) campaign.org. Follow Human trafficking expert in Canada former Manitoba MP Joy Smith at [www.joysmithfoundation.com](http://www.joysmithfoundation.com). and her **National Human Trafficking Education Centre**. Have staff take the BC OCTIP (Office to Combat Trafficking in Persons) **free online course**. Encourage police to take HT course on the **Police Knowledge Network**.
2. Incorporate the United Nations 4 Pillars in a local strategy to stop Human trafficking/sexual exploitation: **Prevention, Protection, Prosecution, Partnerships**.
3. **Prevention**: raise awareness in community. **Children of the Street** (Plea) does school and community programs. Encourage “Men End Exploitation” movements: Moosehide Campaign, Westcoast Boys Club Network. Support porn addiction services for youth; “Fightthenewdrug” program recognizing the public health effects to youth of viewing violent sexual material. Use communications to raise awareness: Candian Centre to End Human Trafficking has FREE posters, wallet cards. Calgary has “Not in My City” campaign, Ontario has “Saving the girl next door program”, the RCMP has the “I’m Not for Sale” campaign.
4. **Protection**: help victims, have exit strategies in place, consider 24-7 “wrap-around programs” Salvation Army “Deborah’s Gate”, Covenant House, Servants Anonymous, Union Gospel Mission.
5. **Prosecution**: increase policing budget, training and priorities. Have “buyer” deterrents in place, enforce the law; **“Protection of Communities and Exploited Persons Act”** which addresses **“demand”**- the profiteers, facilitators, buyers of commercially paid sex.
6. **Partnerships**: Train community stakeholders: Health care workers, fire department, municipal business licensing managers, educators, businesses to recognize human trafficking/sexual exploitation. **Fraser Health Authority** has a human trafficking protocol, Surrey Fire department is trained to recognize HT indicators. Train judges/Crown Counsel/criminal justice system.
7. **Partnerships**: Collaboration: with other cities and municipalities at local government associations, Police agencies and RCMP, 3 levels of government (civic, provincial, federal); UBCM, FCM with Resolutions.
8. Do not accept or support the full decriminalization of prostitution because the vulnerable (Indigenous women and girls, new migrants) in our communities are the targets being lured, groomed and exploited for the sex industry. **Goal**: safe, healthy, vibrant communities that are fit for families, youth, children and all vulnerable populations.

**National Human Trafficking Hotline Number: 1-833-900-1010**

## **Forensic Nursing Service @ Fraser Health**

Fraser Health Authority has designed a **Human Trafficking Screening Protocol**, with the following sample questions:

What type of work do you do?

Can you leave your job or situation if you want?

Can you come and go as you please?

Have you been threatened if you try to leave?

Have you been physically harmed in any way?

What are your working or living conditions like?

Where do you sleep and eat?

Do you sleep in a bed, cot or on the floor?

Have you been deprived of food, water, sleep or medical care?

Do you have permission to eat, sleep or go to the bathroom?

Are there locks on your doors and windows so you cannot get out?

Has anyone threatened your family?

Has your identification for documentation been taken from you?

Is anyone forcing you to do anything that you do not want to do?

**Evaluation of safety:** Are you feeling safe right now? Is it safe for me to talk to you? Do you have any concerns for your safety? Is there anything I can do for you?

## **INDICATORS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND SEXUAL EXPLOITATION**

Recognizing potential red flags and knowing the indicators of human trafficking is a key step in identifying more victims and helping them find the assistance they need.

**Common Work and Living Conditions:** The individual(s) in question:

Is not free to leave or come and go as he/she wishes. Is under 18 and is providing commercial sex acts. Is in the commercial sex industry and has a pimp / manager. Is unpaid, paid very little, or paid only through tips. Works excessively long and/or unusual hours. Is not allowed breaks or suffers under unusual restrictions at work. Owes a large debt and is unable to pay it off. Was recruited through false promises concerning the nature and conditions of his/her work. High security measures exist in the work and/or living locations (e.g. opaque windows, boarded up windows, bars on windows, barbed wire, security cameras, etc.)

### **Poor Mental Health or Abnormal Behavior**

Is fearful, anxious, depressed, submissive, tense, or nervous/paranoid. Exhibits unusually fearful or anxious behavior after bringing up law enforcement. Avoids eye contact.

### **Poor Physical Health**

Lacks health care. Appears malnourished. Shows signs of physical and/or sexual abuse, physical restraint, confinement, or torture.

### **Lack of Control**

Has few or no personal possessions. Is not in control of his/her own money, no financial records, or bank account. Is not in control of his/her own identification documents (ID or passport). Is not allowed or able to speak for themselves (a third party may insist on being present and/or translating)

### **Other**

Claims of just visiting and inability to clarify where he/she is staying/address. Lack of knowledge of whereabouts and/or do not know what city he/she is in. Loss of sense of time. Has numerous inconsistencies in his/her story.

This list is not exhaustive and represents only a selection of possible indicators. Also, the red flags in this list may not be present in all trafficking cases and are not cumulative. Learn more at [www.traffickingresourcecenter.org](http://www.traffickingresourcecenter.org).

# Preventing Child Sex Trafficking in BC

***Buying and selling children for sex is one of the fastest growing crimes in Canada, and it is happening in communities across BC.***

**Globalization, unregulated technology, lack of law enforcement and inadequate prevention education** is allowing this crime to grow globally.

Human sex trafficking (HT) involves the recruitment, transportation or harbouring of people for the purpose of exploitation through the use of force, coercion, fraud, deception or threats against the victim or person known to them. It is known as modern day slavery. According to the US State department's annual global report on trafficking in persons (TIP), Canada is a source, transit and destination for sex trafficking. (<https://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/>)

Child sex trafficking is a lucrative crime. It has low costs and huge profits; a trafficker can make \$280,000 per victim, per year. The average age of entry into prostitution in Canada is 12-14 years of age, although traffickers are known to target younger children. Traffickers seek young victims both to service the demand for sex with those who look young, and because these victims are easier to manipulate and control.

The biggest problem in Canada is that people do not know there is a problem; therefore, child sex trafficking is expanding in the dark. Every child can be a target and a potential victim, but learning about this issue is the first step.

## **Five things that parents can do to help prevent their children from being lured into sex trafficking:**

### **1. Set a high standard of love within your home**

The way you define and express love shapes your children's self-image, confidence and opinions of future relationships. Treat them the way you want their future partners to treat them. Help them to distinguish between real love and empty promises or cheap gifts.

### **2. Talk to your children about sexual abuse**

According to the US Department of Justice, someone in the US is sexually assaulted every two minutes, of which 29% are between the ages of 12-17. Let your children know that if anyone has or ever does hurt them, they can talk to you. This is the most important thing you can say. Don't assume they have not been hurt by sexual violence before. Leave the door open for your child to talk about past circumstances that they haven't shared with you.

### **3. Talk to your children about sex trafficking**

Discuss ways children and teens are targeted for sex trafficking. Let them know that traffickers specifically try to woo young girls and boys with promises of a better life – whether it's promises of love and attention, or promises of nice things and trips. Traffickers can be male or female, even classmates. Traffickers may even use kids to recruit other kids.

### **4. Talk to your children about the dangers of social media**

It is important to provide practical safety tips, such as: don't share personal information on the internet; don't accept Facebook requests from unknown people; NEVER share naked photos of yourself with anyone; and tell a parent or a trusted adult if you feel threatened or uncomfortable online. Children also need help defining friendships. Teach them that a friend is not someone you met yesterday and that a "friend" on Facebook is not the same thing as a friendship.

### **5. Pay attention to your children**

Monitor your children's social media accounts. Look for ways to meet their friends, their friends' parents and those they hang out with. Be alert to boyfriends who are much older, or friendships that tend to isolate your child from other friends or family. Notice if your child has new clothing items, makeup products, cell phone or other items and ask how they acquired them.

#### **Resources and Links:**

- Covenant House (crises program for ages 16-24): [info@covenanthousebc.org](mailto:info@covenanthousebc.org), 604-685-7474
- Internet Safety Tips: [www.Cybertip.ca](http://www.Cybertip.ca)
- Fraser Health Forensic Nurse Service
- Kids Help Phone: 1-800-668-6868
- Office to Combat Trafficking in Persons (OCTIP): 1-888-712-7974 (24/7 interpretation available), 604-660-5199, [octip@gov.bc.ca](mailto:octip@gov.bc.ca)
- Plea Community Services Society (assisting youth 24/7): [onyx@plea.bc.ca](mailto:onyx@plea.bc.ca), 604-708-2647
- Vancouver Rape Relief and Women's Shelter (24/7): 604-872-8212, [info@rapereliefshelter.bc.ca](mailto:info@rapereliefshelter.bc.ca)
- RCMP: Victims of Human Trafficking National Headquarters (24 hours): 1-866-677-7267
- Trafficking Resource Centre (USA): [www.traffickingresourcecenter.org](http://www.traffickingresourcecenter.org)
- VictimLinkBC (24/7): 1-800-563-0808 Ministry of Public Safety, BC
- Youth Against Violence (24/7): [info@youthagainstviolenceline.com](mailto:info@youthagainstviolenceline.com), 1-800-680-4264

#### **Authorities Contacts:**

- RCMP: [www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca](http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca); 1-855-850-4640 OR 1-800-771-5401
- Ministry of Child Protection Services: 1-800-663-9122 or 604-660-4927 (24 hours) or 310-1234 if a child is in danger to reach Ministry of Child and Family Development
- Crime Stoppers : 1-800-222-TIPS (8477)

**National Human Trafficking Crisis Hotline Number: 1-866-528-7109**

#### **About the Author:**

Cathy Peters raises awareness of Child Sex Trafficking to all three levels of government in British Columbia, police agencies and the public. She is a former inner city high school teacher and has volunteered for two Members of Parliament (John Weston/BC, Joy Smith/Manitoba). She has made hundreds of presentations, including to City Councils, School Boards, Police Boards, high schools, universities and law enforcement agencies.

For information about her prevention education presentations, please contact Cathy Peters at [ca.peters@telus.net](mailto:ca.peters@telus.net)

#### **Additional Resources:**

**Children of the Street Society (Coquitlam)** provides prevention education in BC schools; 25,000 students last school year Grades 3-12. They have an excellent website with tools/resources listed for every community in BC:

<https://www.childrenofthestreet.com/>

**Joy Smith Foundation (Manitoba)** provides prevention education, resources and an overview of human sex trafficking Canada: <http://www.joysmithfoundation.com/>

**Shared Hope International (Washington State)** sponsors The JuST (Juvenile Sex Trafficking) Conference in the USA; an event that spotlights the most pressing issues in the anti-trafficking field. Visit: [www.justconference.org](http://www.justconference.org) for more information.

A MODERN EQUAL SOCIETY DOES NOT BUY AND SELL WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

# **SEX TRAFFICKING** is a **BOOMING** industry

## **DEFINED:**

**SEX TRAFFICKING** occurs when someone uses force, fraud or coercion to cause a commercial sex act with an adult or causes a minor to commit a commercial sex act. A

**COMMERCIAL SEX ACT** includes prostitution, pornography and sexual performance done in exchange for any item of value, such as money, drugs, shelter, food or clothes.

**It thrives because there is serious demand.**

**Buyer:** fuels the market with their money

**Trafficker/pimp:** exploits victims to earn revenue from buyers

**Victim:** includes both girls and boys who are bought and sold for profit

Traffickers find victims through: Social network, Home/neighborhood, clubs or bars, internet, school, and lure them through promises: Protection, Love, Adventure, Home, Opportunity.

**TRAFFICKERS USE:** FEAR, VIOLENCE, INTIMIDATION, THREATS

to ensure compliance and meet demand.

The **common age** a child enters sex trafficking is **13 years old**; too young and naïve to realize what's happening. (10-12 years of age in larger urban centers).

Society may call it **PROSTITUTION**, but Federal Law calls it **SEX TRAFFICKING**.

Because of social stigma or misinformation, victims go:

**UNIDENTIFIED** (silenced by fear and the control of the trafficker),

**MISIDENTIFIED** (pigeonholed into treatment for only surface issues).

**So**

Sex trafficked children are instead treated for: drug abuse, alcohol abuse, domestic violence, delinquency, teenage pregnancy, STDS, abortion...all masking the true need...FREEDOM.



DATE

The Honourable David Lametti,

Minister of Justice

House of Commons

Ottawa, ONTARIO K1A 0A6

Dear Honorable Minister Lametti:

Thank you for taking on the position of Minister of Justice which speaks for the rights of women and works to foster improved conditions and opportunities for First Nations peoples of Canada.

I am writing as a concerned citizen to request the following actions:

1. The enforcement of the Protection of Communities and Exploited Persons Act (Bill C-36);
2. Additional funding and programs to help transition trafficked persons out of prostitution; and
3. Additional funding and programs to educate the public with respect to the law and the continued victimization of prostituted persons by johns (buyers of sex- the demand).

Without addressing the demand for buying sex, we cannot hope to reduce the supply of victimized persons.

Ending human trafficking, sex trafficking and prostitution in BC is an important gender equality and human rights issue, particularly as these issues disproportionately affect Canada's First Nations peoples.

Canada's new laws on prostitution put our nation at the forefront of global change towards a more just society. This law must be enforced and given time to assess its value.

A MODERN EQUAL SOCIETY DOES NOT BUY AND SELL WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

I look forward to hearing back from you regarding my request.

Sincerely, YOUR NAME, YOUR RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

DATE

The Honourable Mike Farnworth  
Solicitor General and Public Safety Minister  
PO Box 9010 Stn Provincial Government  
Legislative Buildings  
Victoria, British Columbia V8W 9E2

Dear Honorable Minister Farnworth:

Thank you for your work thus far on combatting human trafficking in BC and for the work of the Office to Combat Trafficking in Persons.

I am writing as a concerned citizen to request the following actions:

1. The enforcement of the Protection of Communities and Exploited Persons Act (Bill C-36) throughout the province;
2. Additional funding and programs to help transition trafficked persons out of prostitution; and
3. Additional funding and programs to educate the public with respect to the law and the continued victimization of prostituted persons by johns (buyers of sex- the demand).

Without addressing the demand for buying sex, we cannot hope to reduce the supply of victimized persons.

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Sincerely, YOUR NAME YOUR RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS