



# NETWORK TO ELIMINATE VIOLENCE IN RELATIONSHIPS

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## NEVR 2026 Annual Conference

### *Putting Policy into Practice: A Pathway to Prevention*

#### COLLABORATION WALL

The following summarizes the key themes that emerged from the insightful input shared by attendees on the conference stickies wall.

##### **Professional Development/Aware:**

- ✚ Coercive control: need for training, support and validating through legislation
- ✚ Coercive control training, specifically language to use with police, collaboration with the police and more education of police.
- ✚ Training for frontline staff to broaden their understanding of red flags in relationships.
- ✚ Tech platforms as agents of change in violence elimination and education
- ✚ Review NEVR's book, [Making Sense of a Global Pandemic](#) and share with your teams.
- ✚ Bridging the right community connections for client support
- ✚ Linking GBV approaches to elder abuse approaches (BC CRNS)
- ✚ Arrange for staff training on IPV and strangulation response.

##### **Prevention/Early Help/Family:**

- ✚ More focus is needed for prevention.
- ✚ Prevention campaigns: primary prevention starting pre-conception and continuing across the life span.
- ✚ Increase reach of elder abuse and prevention campaign.
- ✚ Early prevention education; awareness of resources; links to education
- ✚ Increasing early prevention education for vulnerable communities, e.g immigrant families
- ✚ Collaboration across systems and organizations

- ✚ More service provider knowledge (police MCFD) around forensic nurse examinations
- ✚ Learning about women's app created by VLMFSS
- ✚ Create/have programs in schools about healthy relationships
- ✚ More accessible resources, free programs for positive relationships.
- ✚ Prevention is before crisis. How can we improve prevention services?
- ✚ Sharing the information regarding CHAYN/Bloom online resources to share with victims.
- ✚ Awareness of healthy conversations in family around tough situations.
- ✚ Curating awareness and prevention among newcomers for support and resources available in the community.
- ✚ Early intervention in IPV situations.

### **Safe Housing/Transitions/Income Security:**

- ✚ More stable housing options for women and kids fleeing abuse
- ✚ More supports for women having immigration status issues and are fleeing abuse.
- ✚ More flexible job opportunities for women who never had an opportunity to work in their relationships.
- ✚ More free childminding supports or daycares for women who need these urgent supports.
- ✚ We need more transition houses + second stages.
- ✚ The Kaur and Singh movement stood out the most. It is something every woman can relate to.
- ✚ Importance of safe spaces for women + queer 2S people.

### **Social & Medical/Mental Health/Counselling, Etc:**

- ✚ How to best support victims before they are ready to disclose.
- ✚ Implementation of forensic nursing into more hospitals, specifically northern health and more education for nurses.
- ✚ Expand current program (counselling) to formally include family violence.
- ✚ Consistent and faster access to forensic nursing throughout the province. It is needed for IPV and other forms of violence and is needed in the community rather than hospital based.
- ✚ How to best support victims before they are ready to disclose.
- ✚ Move forensic nurses into the community for easier (less intimidating) access
- ✚ Increased availability of forensic nurse examiners
- ✚ Research men's access to medical forensic exams
- ✚ Advocating, listening, listening, collaborating, taking initiative, empathy and curiosity.

### **Legal Responsiveness/Legislative Reform/Justice:**

- ✚ Police reform and IPV education
- ✚ Family re-unification: legal structure
- ✚ Criminal courts & RCMP holding men more accountable instead of multiple reports having to be made.
- ✚ VAWIR policy oversight.
- ✚ Understanding the interactions between MCFD, FLA & criminal justice (+impact on service delivery).
- ✚ More legal support for middle class families who are falling between the cracks
- ✚ More services in multiple languages or access to interpreters
- ✚ Complexities of IPV and rigidity of the system
- ✚ The hard work that child protection workers do
- ✚ Contemplating how systems can fill in the gaps to support clients when they make reports/call for help
- ✚ Contemplating how we can be more preventative while still supporting those in crisis.
- ✚ Links, connections and gaps between people, community and the system
- ✚ I would like to see better collaboration between child protection, family, + criminal law proceedings + actions
- ✚ The amount of human effort it takes to move through the system collaboratively but even with that effort, how effective collaboration is for survivors and outcomes
- ✚ Complexity of reporting & assessing coercive control.
- ✚ Absence of high level policy men's support and involvement in this work.
- ✚ Advocating for every newcomer client to have access to immigration lawyers.
- ✚ More legal education for our clients.

### **Awareness & Public Education:**

- ✚ Expanding awareness, tools and resources for my agency to implement
- ✚ Focus on research and education related to strangulation in IPV
- ✚ Accessible information for new immigrants regarding their rights and laws
- ✚ How can Youth Unlimited help Abbotsford Restorative Justice get connections into more schools through existing relationships.
- ✚ Importance of online platforms, social media to boost awareness of new resources e.g Bloom
- ✚ CCB education advocacy & Interagency collaboration.
- ✚ Increased advocacy for northern region FNP
- ✚ Creation of educative tools for young adults and adolescents on strangulation & healthy relationships
- ✚ Education for families on healthy relationships, before violence happens.
- ✚ Healthy relationship education to the middle/high school students
- ✚ Intersectionality, advocacy & awareness elderly, need for push of funding

- ✚ To provide early education to couples, not individuals as part of settlement program
- ✚ Creating a stronger link between IPV resources and supports and those for elder abuse.
- ✚ Ethical storytelling ideas.
- ✚ Having Restorative Justice healthy relationships be facilitated to youth in Surrey.
- ✚ Role & support of good communication
- ✚ Importance of recognizing warning signs
- ✚ Awareness of community services as it seems not everyone knows the local resources.

#### **Intervention/Treatment:**

- ✚ Culturally sensitive interventions
- ✚ Bridging existing resources rather than creating new ones
- ✚ The ongoing need for safety and accountability, and the role of social pressure to maintain silence vs. the strength of a supportive community
- ✚ Discussing with leadership & our service provider possibilities to expand and/or improve some of the programs provided to our families.
- ✚ Stages of intervention and digital intervention
- ✚ Assisting/educating individuals to receive support, forensic testing after IPV/sexual abuse, child abuse, elder abuse
- ✚ Promote education on early prevention at places of work interfacing with vulnerable populations
- ✚ People feel formal systems aren't working
- ✚ Importance of hearing and listening to the voices of victim survivors and acting on what's learned and heard
- ✚ We need more clinical counselling and support to children and youth impacted by MCFD involvement and IPV.

#### **Cultural Healing & Support: Individual, Family, Community:**

- ✚ Internal IPV team in all child protection organizations teach culturally appropriate assessment
- ✚ Culturally, justice and advocacy can look so different and the systems designed don't always reflect that.
- ✚ Community & cultural approach (existing networks)
- ✚ Digital advocacy, help seeking is not linear and micro community of practice
- ✚ Cultural bias
- ✚ The power of advocacy and providing safety
- ✚ Breaking through fears with our clients to support them in remembering their voice.
- ✚ Self confidence and moving towards positivity
- ✚ Be mindful of immigration/refugee perspective when assessing safety.