



**Centre for Research & Education**  
on Violence against Women and Children

**1st Annual**

# Canadian Conference on the Prevention of Domestic Homicides

A Conference to Enhance Research and Practice  
Collaboration & Prevent Domestic Homicides

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**London ON Convention Centre June 14-16, 2009**

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safety planning  
risk reduction  
innovation  
public education  
understand





**1st Annual**

# Canadian Conference on the Prevention of Domestic Homicides

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## **Host:**

Centre for Research & Education on Violence Against Women and Children  
Faculty of Education, University of Western Ontario

## **Co-Hosts:**

Centre for Children & Families in the Justice System, London ON

Changing Ways, London ON

Children's Aid Society, London ON

London Police Services, London ON

Women's Community House, London ON

Victim Services Middlesex County, Victim Safety Project

Ontario Provincial Police

Social and Legal Responses to Violence in Canada Research Unit, University of Guelph

The FREDa Centre for Research on Violence Against Women and Children at Simon Fraser University  
in Vancouver BC

RESOLVE: Research and Education for Solutions to Violence and Abuse, University of Manitoba

RESOLVE: Research and Education for Solutions to Violence and Abuse, University of Calgary &  
University of Regina

Quebec Centre de recherche interdisciplinaire sur la violence familiale et la violence faite aux femmes

Muriel McQueen Fergusson Centre for Family Violence Research at the University of New Brunswick  
in Fredericton NB

Alberta Council of Women's Shelters

Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police

## **Purpose:**

The Conference is intended to enhance networking and partnerships amongst social science researchers, policy makers and practitioners (coroners, medical examiners, police, crown attorneys, child protection and anti-violence community agencies) in their review of domestic homicides across Canadian provinces and territories. The conference proceedings will focus on risk factors and systemic gaps in policies, training and resources that are related to domestic homicides. The ultimate goal of this work is to prevent domestic violence and save lives lost to these tragedies.

## 1st Annual Canadian Conference on the Prevention of Domestic Homicides

# At a glance

### Sunday June 14, 2009

6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Registration and Wine and Cheese Reception	Ballroom 1
7:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.	Reception & Plenary Address	
Neil Websdale Myrna Dawson	<i>Keynote Address: An International Perspective on Domestic Homicide Reviews: From a Culture of Blame to Understanding &amp; Prevention</i>	

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### Monday June 15

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	Registration and Continental Breakfast	
8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Welcome and Introductions	Ballroom 1

#### Morning Plenary:

Jackie Campbell Randy Kropp Val Campbell	<i>Risk Assessment, Safety Planning &amp; Risk Management: From Theory to Practice</i>	Ballroom 1
10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Break	

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#### Morning Workshops A

10:30 a.m. – Noon		
Jackie Campbell Dianne Finch Lissa Samantaraya-Shivji	<i>Danger Assessment in Shelters</i>	Ballroom 1
Helene Berman Robin Mason	<i>The Role of the Health Care System</i>	Salon C
Debra Heaton Glenn Shiel	<i>Development of OPP Strategies</i>	Salon A
Neil Websdale	<i>DV Death Review: From Theory to Practice</i>	Salon B
Stephen Hart	<i>The Role of Risk Assessment</i>	Theatre
Diane Turner Gisela Ruebsaat Tracy Porteous Jane Coombe	<i>Mobilizing Community in BC</i>	Salon D
Myriam Dubé	<i>Women's Shelters and Prevention of Domestic Homicide</i>	Salon E
Lucie Hénault	<i>Targeting Shelters: Establishing a Preventative Intervention Guide</i>	Salon E
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch	Ballroom 1

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**1:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.**

### Afternoon Plenary:

David Adams Jeffrey L. Edleson Robert Morris	<i>Understanding Domestic Homicide Perpetrators: Engaging Perpetrators in Community Intervention before the Tragedies</i>	Ballroom 1
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**2:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.**

Break

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### Afternoon Workshops B

**2:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.**

Jocelyn Coupal Richard Konarski	<i>The Langley DV Pilot</i>	Salon C
Deborah Doherty	<i>Prevention in Rural Communities</i>	Salon D
Marcus Juodis Stephen Porter	<i>Learning from Perpetrators</i>	Salon B
Sudha Shetty	<i>Battered Immigrant Women</i>	Salon A
Katreena Scott Colin King Narges Hosseini Holly McGinn	<i>Resistant Male Batterers</i>	Theatre
William Lucas Myrna Dawson Peter Jaffe	<i>Lessons from Ontario DVDRRC</i>	Ballroom 1
Molly Dragiewicz	<i>Backlash Against Feminism</i>	Salon E

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### Afternoon Workshops C

**4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

Pauline Jackson	<i>High Risk Offender Unit</i>	Salon A
Erin Williams	<i>Ottawa's Response to Femicide</i>	Salon C
Ubah Hersi Heather Kendall	<i>CAS/VAW Integrated Services</i>	Theatre
Verona Singer	<i>Hgh Risk Case Coordination</i>	Salon B
Yoshiyuki Takano	<i>Japanese Immigrant Women</i>	Salon D
Ruth Greenspan Norine Nathanson	<i>Ontario Bail Safety Project</i>	Ballroom 1
Maribel Gonzales	<i>Disarming Domestic Violence Project</i>	Salon E
<b>5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.</b>	<i>"Meet the Presenters" Wine and Cheese Reception</i>	Foyer Ballroom 1

**Tuesday June 16****7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.**

Registration and Continental Breakfast

**8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.**

Welcome and Introductions

Ballroom 1

**Morning Plenary:**Peter Jaffe  
Linda Baker  
Maureen Reid*Understanding the Risks to Children: From  
Collaboration to Prevention*

Ballroom 1

**10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.**

Break

**Morning Workshops D****10:30 a.m. – Noon**

David Adams

*Men Who Kill Their Partners*

Ballroom 1

Dermot Hurley

*Children's Trauma Narratives*

Salon B

Kelly Watt

*DV Fatality Review Teams*

Salon A

Nicole Allen

Jane Ursel

*DV Fatality in Manitoba and New Brunswick*

Salon C

Carmen Gill

B. MacKnight

Barb MacQuarrie

*Preventing Domestic Violence at Work*

Theatre

Jan Reimer

Anna-Lee Straatman

*Enhancing Victim Safety*

Salon D

Beth Jordan

*Cultural Competence*

Salon E

**Noon – 2:30 p.m.***Lunch and an Interactive Theatre Production  
Panel: Preventing Homicides Through Public Education*

Ballroom 1

**2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

Break

**Afternoon Workshops E****3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

Barb MacQuarrie

*Neighbours, Friends and Families*

Ballroom 1

Terry Swan

*Kanawayhitowin*

Salon C

Dada Gasirabo

*Voisin-es, ami-es et familles*

Salon D

Paul Lobsinger

*Family Violence Project of Waterloo*

Salon A

Jane Young

Pam Mank

Katreena Scott

*Caring Dads Program*

Theatre

Tim Kelly

Megan Walker

*Giving Voice to Silent Witnesses*

Salon B

Jan Reimer

Rina Arseneault

Gary Gibbens

*The Sobering Effect Program*

Salon E

Marianne Saint-Jacques

*Severe Female Perpetrated Intimate Violence &  
Substance Abuse*

Salon E



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## Sunday June 14, 2009

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6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

**Registration and Wine and Cheese Reception**

7:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

**Reception & Plenary Address**

**Ballroom 1**

*Welcoming Remarks*

**Peter Jaffe**, Academic Director of the Centre for Research and Education on Violence against Women & Children, University of Western Ontario

Greetings from **The Honourable Deb Matthews**, Minister of Children and Youth Services and Minister Responsible for Women's Issues

**Keynote Address: *An International Perspective on Domestic Homicide Reviews: From a Culture of Blame to Understanding & Prevention***

The past 30 years have been a period of significant transformation in social, legal, and public policy responses to domestic violence. The United States has witnessed a rapid growth in domestic violence death review committees that now exist in most states as a way of developing government and community strategies to prevent these tragedies. Dr. Websdale will discuss the development of the US DV fatality review committees and emerging issues in the movement. He will emphasize the importance of a culture of understanding rather than blame in these initiatives. Dr. Dawson will discuss what has changed in Canada as a result of increased public and professional attention targeting domestic homicide. She will highlight key issues including, legislative and public policy initiatives, changes in the characteristics of intimate partner homicide, a changing criminal justice response to these crimes and the increasing interdependency between criminal justice and community resources to respond more effectively to this violence

**Neil Websdale**, Director of the US National Domestic Violence Fatality Review Initiative

**Myrna Dawson**, Canada Research Chair in Public Policy in Criminal Justice, University of Guelph, ON



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## Monday June 15, 2009

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7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

### Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

### Welcome and Introductions

*Greetings - Province of Ontario*

**The Honourable Chris Bentley**, Attorney General of Ontario

### Morning Plenary:

**Ballroom 1**

#### ***Risk Assessment, Safety Planning & Risk Management: From Theory to Practice***

Risk assessment is a relatively new science that is used to measure the level of danger posed by a perpetrator of domestic violence on a victim. The results of a risk assessment can highly influence responses from police, courts, and other frontline workers that support the victim and manage the offender. When faced with a high risk case, effective risk management and safety planning is essential. This morning plenary will discuss the role of the police in conducting risk assessment, safety planning, and risk management with victims and perpetrators of domestic violence and how their role is received by the judicial system.

#### **Presenters**

**Jackie Campbell**, Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing, Baltimore, MD

**Randy Kropp**, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, BC

**Val Campbell**, Director, Alberta Relationship Threat Assessment and Management Initiative, Calgary, AB

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10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

### Break

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10:30 a.m. – Noon

### Morning Workshops A

**Ballroom 1**

#### ***Use of the Danger Assessment in Shelters: Real World Quantitative and Qualitative Data***

Both emergency shelter and transitional housing programs across the province of Alberta have been using the Danger Assessment with all residents as a basis for self assessment of level of danger and as a basis for safety planning. This workshop will present the qualitative (from residents, advocates and community stakeholders) and quantitative findings from an evaluation of the DA implementation as well as observations about the challenges of this kind of evidence based program implementation. Basic training on the Danger Assessment will also be provided for certification.

#### **Presenters**

**Jackie Campbell**, Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing, Baltimore, MD

**Dianne Finch**, Phoenix House, Medicine Hat, AB

**Lissa Samantaraya-Shivji**, Calgary Women's Emergency Shelter, Calgary, AB

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**Salon C*****The Role of The Health Care System in Preventing Femicide***

Much has been written in recent years regarding the role of health professionals in the prevention and treatment of women who have experienced intimate partner violence (IPV). At the same time, various initiatives have been recommended to assist health professionals in the identification of women at risk. The extent to which these initiatives have been embraced within health care settings has been sporadic and inconsistent at best. Health professionals have identified numerous barriers to the adoption and implementation of these recommendations. In this presentation, we critically examine the role of health care professionals and the health care system in the prevention of IPV and femicide.

**Presenters**

**Helene Berman**, Associate Professor, School of Nursing, and Chair, Centre for Research & Education on Violence Against Women and Children, The University of Western Ontario, London, ON

**Robin Mason**, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON

**Salon A*****The Development of Ontario Provincial Police Strategies in Threat Assessment for Domestic Violence Cases***

This workshop will provide an overview of the Threat Assessment Unit of the Ontario Provincial Police. Specifically, this presentation will discuss the process for requesting Threat Assessment Unit services, how the Unit categorizes risk, and the particular threat assessment tools that are utilized when determining risk in domestic violence investigations.

**Presenters**

**Debra Heaton**, Detective Sergeant, Ontario Provincial Police,

**Glenn Shiel**, Detective Sergeant, Ontario Provincial Police

**Salon B*****Understanding How DV Death Reviews Work in Communities: From Theory to Practice***

Domestic violence fatality reviews entail the identification of deaths traceable to domestic violence, the examination of systemic interventions in those cases, and the promotion of social change to reduce both domestic violence and domestic violence homicides. This presentation will address the concept of domestic violence fatality reviews, the research on domestic violence related deaths, the setting up of review teams, and the broader implications for prevention. Dr. Websdale will bring a practical perspective with some examples of challenges that communities face in dealing with these tragedies.

**Presenter**

**Neil Websdale**, Professor of Criminal Justice, Northern Arizona University, Tucson, AZ



## Theatre

### ***Preventing Domestic Homicide: The Role of Risk Assessment and Management***

Risk assessment and management are an essential part of practice in the criminal justice, healthcare, and public welfare systems. But can risk assessment and management help prevent domestic homicide? This session will describe the Structured Professional Judgment approach (SPJ), a research-based model of risk assessment, and how it can be used by agencies with diverse roles and responsibilities to develop, organize, and improve their delivery of services to enhance the safety of potential victims of domestic homicide.

#### **Presenter**

**Stephen Hart**, Department of Psychology, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, BC

## Salon D

### ***Mobilizing Government and Community Through Legal Strategy and Evidence Based Research — A Case Study Based on the Lee Inquest in BC***

This workshop is a panel presentation by those involved in creating BC's Keeping Women Safe Report, some of whom were also involved in the 2008 Lee Inquest into the death of five people. The Report was co-authored by a team that included community advocates, lawyers and government personnel. It outlined eight critical components for an effective criminal justice response to domestic violence and formed the basis of evidence led by the Ending Violence Association of BC, who had "participant" standing at the Inquest. The recommendations of the Report and Inquest process will be used as a case study to explore strategies for initiating change and in identifying continuing barriers to action around domestic violence and homicide.

#### **Presenters**

**Diane Turner**, Kelliher and Turner, Victoria, BC

**Gisela Ruebsaat**, Community Coordination, Women's Safety Program (CCWS), Vancouver, BC

**Tracy Porteous**, Executive Director of the Ending Violence Association, Vancouver, BC

**Jane Coombe**, Senior Policy and Legislative Analyst with the B.C. Victim Services and Crime Prevention Division, Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General, Vancouver, BC

### ***Family Separation, Women's Shelters and Preventing Domestic Homicides***

(Both Presentations in French with English & French Powerpoint Slides)

## Salon E

### ***Domestic Homicides in the Context of Family Separation***

(Presentation in French with English & French Powerpoint Slides)

This presentation looks at the increased risk of domestic homicide during the period of family separation and in the months that follow. The fact that the majority of these homicides are planned and often involve a weapon will be discussed. Additionally, this presentation will focus on the challenges that accompany the risks for partner homicide in the context of family separation, such as child custody and access.

#### **Presenter**

**Myriam Dubé**, Université de Montréal, PQ

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**Salon E*****Targeting Shelters: Establishing a Preventative Intervention Guide for Partner Homicide***

This session will focus on research and practice innovations in Quebec designed to prevent domestic homicide. Community agencies were provided with an intervention guide to improve assessment and intervention skills to prevent domestic homicides. Collaborative research examined how various types of professionals managed domestic violence cases with a high homicide risk. The findings were provided to shelters throughout Quebec for feedback and ideas on how to improve training, resources and broader awareness in this area. This session will present an intervention program aimed at workers in women's shelters. This guide provides workers in these shelters with the tools to face high-risk domestic violence, and to better screen and quickly intervene in situations where homicide of a female partner can be prevented, and to better inform women of the risk factors associated with domestic homicide.

**Presenter**

**Lucie Hénault**, Directrice Maison La Source, Sorel-Tracy, PQ

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**12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.****Lunch**

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**1:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.****Ballroom 1****Afternoon Plenary:*****Understanding Domestic Homicide Perpetrators: Engaging Perpetrators in Community Intervention Before the Tragedies***

Findings from Domestic Homicide Reviews suggest very few perpetrators sought or received any community intervention prior to the homicide. The findings point to a significant problem in engaging men in treatment before assaults escalate. Although there has been progress in charging policies and court mandated intervention, many perpetrators are still not receiving specialized assessment, intervention or case management approaches. The focus of this panel is on how treatment providers can effectively engage with and manage high-risk perpetrators of domestic violence. Discussion will be around community intervention programs, such as Partner Assault Response (PAR) programs and high-risk management teams, and the effectiveness of these programs in preventing domestic homicide. Ideas will be offered on how to engage with perpetrators of domestic violence and provide them with the appropriate support and intervention without compromising safety and accountability.

**Presenters**

**David Adams**, Co-Director, Emerge, Cambridge, MA

**Jeffrey L. Edleson**, Director, Minnesota Center against Violence & Abuse, St. Paul, MN

**Robert Morris**, Crown Attorney for the County of Huron, ON

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**2:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.****Break**

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2:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Salon C

## Afternoon Workshops B

### ***Innovations in the BC Response to High Risk DV Cases: The Langley Domestic Violence Project***

This workshop will discuss the Langley Domestic Violence Pilot, an innovative program that responds to high-risk domestic violence cases. The Langley Domestic Violence Project is in collaboration with the RCMP and Crown Counsel. The police follow the Domestic Violence Investigation Guide (DVIG) to structure the collection of evidence and manage victim safety. Both the police and prosecutors follow best practices in investigations and prosecution. The processing of these cases is victim-centered and inclusive of a variety of community and criminal justice system partners. High risk cases are investigated by a dedicated Domestic Violence Unit attached to the Serious Crime Section. Preliminary results have demonstrated a significant drop in recanting victims through this supportive approach.

#### **Presenters**

**Jocelyn Coupal**, Crown Prosecutor with the Ministry of the Attorney General, British Columbia

**Richard Konarski**, Inspector, Operations Support Officer, Langley RCMP Detachment, Langley, BC

Salon D

### ***Preventing Domestic Homicides in Rural Communities***

This workshop will discuss research on domestic homicides of women in New Brunswick from 1984 to 2005. By examining a variety of risk factors associated with the NB domestic homicides and contextualizing them within rural life, it is apparent that national domestic homicide risk studies do not always reflect the realities of women living in rural and small town New Brunswick. For example, women experiencing domestic violence and living in rural areas reported significant degrees of firearm victimization. This presentation posits that rurality itself may be a risk factor and it suggests, among other things, ways to mitigate firearms victimization of abused rural women.

#### **Presenter**

**Deborah Doherty**, Executive Director, Public Legal Education and Information Service of New Brunswick, Fredericton, NB

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**Salon B*****Missing Pieces: Learning from Perpetrators of Domestic Homicide***

A recent review indicated that only one of 35 major intimate partner homicide studies had examined information obtained from interviews with perpetrators. To address this gap in knowledge, we will highlight what we have learned from a study of 37 incarcerated domestic homicide perpetrators from two Canadian penitentiaries, including both comprehensive psychological assessments/assessment interviews and official criminal profile reports. This will include a discussion of our findings on the psychopathic personality and domestic homicide. Our new knowledge obtained from this research will be linked to prevention efforts and clinical practice.

**Presenters**

**Marcus Juodis**, Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS

**Stephen Porter**, Psychology, University of British Columbia – Okanagan, BC

**Salon A*****Risk Assessment and Safety Planning with Battered Immigrant women***

Immigrant battered women face the possibility of honour killings, dowry deaths, social shunning and cross-national abduction of their children. This workshop will address risk assessment and safety planning in the context of battered immigrant women and their advocates. The presentation will review the steps for helping women assess their legal and language needs, steps to take to prevent kidnapping and child abduction, and social support in the context of closed communities.

**Presenter**

**Sudha Shetty**, Director of the International Fellowship Program, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN

**Theatre*****Should We Be Especially Concerned About Male Batterers Who are Highly Resistant to Treatment?***

This workshop will examine a research study on male batterers resistant to treatment. The study examined whether a subsample of highly resistant batterers identified with a short self-report screening measure would show greater risk for lethality than other batterers. Overall, the findings suggest that treatment providers should respond with a heightened level of concern to male batterers who are highly resistant to intervention. Consideration should be given screening for resistant during intake into programs for male batterers and for assigning additional resources to intervention with this subpopulation of men.

**Presenters**

**Katreena Scott**, Department of Human Development and Applied Psychology, University of Toronto, ON

**Colin King**, OISE/University of Toronto, ON

**Narges Hosseini**, OISE/University of Toronto, ON

**Holly McGinn**, OISE/University of Toronto, ON



## Ballroom 1

### ***Lessons Learned from the Ontario Domestic Violence Death Review Committee***

The DVDRC is a multi-disciplinary advisory committee of experts that was established in Ontario in 2003 in response to recommendations made from two major inquests into the domestic homicides. The mandate of the committee is to contribute to the reduction in domestic violence generally, and domestic homicides in particular, by reviewing domestic homicide cases, identifying systemic issues of each case, and making recommendations to address these concerns. This workshop will outline the creation and operations of the DVDRC, the major themes in the recommendations around intervention and prevention of domestic homicide, and the future of domestic homicide review.

#### **Presenters**

**William Lucas**, Chair, Ontario Domestic Violence Death Review Committee, Office of the Chief Coroner, Toronto, ON

**Myrna Dawson**, Canada Research Chair in Public Policy in Criminal Justice, University of Guelph, ON

**Peter Jaffe**, Academic Director of the Centre for Research and Education on Violence against Women & Children, The University of Western Ontario

## Salon E

### ***Backlash Against Feminism: Implications for Domestic Homicide Prevention***

Efforts to impose de-gendered representations of violence against women and other forms of violence and abuse have serious implications for scholars and activists who work on violence. Since homicide shows such marked sex differences, this is one area that is obfuscated by the move to de-gendered language. This workshop will discuss why the move to de-gendered language is harmful to prevention efforts and suggestions for truly inclusive research and programming.

#### **Presenter**

**Molly Dragiewicz**, University of Ontario Institute of Technology

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4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Salon A

## Afternoon Workshops C

### *Criminal Organization and High Risk Offender Unit*

This workshop describes the Criminal Organization High Risk Offender Unit (COHROU), an innovative program of Manitoba Justice which manages the risk of the most lethal adults on probation in Winnipeg. The unit targets offenders assessed as the highest risk to reoffend in extreme violence, that have patterns of multiple victims, that use weapons, and have severe victim safety concerns. This program couples risk, need and responsibility with enhanced monitoring, surveillance and expedited arrests for non-compliance. Victim safety planning is an integral component of this multi-system approach.

#### **Presenter**

**Pauline Jackson**, Probation Officer - Criminal Organization High Risk Offender Unit  
Manitoba Justice, Winnipeg, MB

Salon C

### *Supporting, Connecting, Evolving: Ottawa's Response to Intimate Partner Femicide*

This workshop describes The Ottawa Coalition to End Violence against Women (OCTE-VAW), a coalition of organizations and individuals dedicated to ending violence against women and, through leadership, education, advocacy and political action, to promoting a coordinated response to women and their children who have experienced abuse. The presentation will consist of a project background, the themes we pulled out from the DVDRC recommendations, and plans for follow-up. This is an innovative initiative that focuses on systemic and cross-sectoral successes and gaps in policies, programs, training and resources that are important to the elimination of domestic homicides of women.

#### **Presenter**

**Erin Williams**, Executive Director, Ottawa Coalition to End Violence Against Women,  
Ottawa, ON

Theatre

### *CAS/VAW Integrated Services Project of Ottawa*

This presentation gives voice to a project over ten years in the making between the Children's Aid Society of Ottawa (CASO) and the Violence Against Women (VAW) agencies in Ottawa. The goal of the CAS/VAW Integrated Services Project (ISP) is to effectively increase the security of children by assisting their mothers to be safe. This workshop will illustrate the significance of having a collaborative service delivery which does not undermine the core beliefs and mandates of two very different sectors.

#### **Presenters**

**Ubah Hersi**, (VAW Counselor) Western Ottawa Community Resource Centre

**Heather Kendall**, (Child Protection Worker) Children's Aid Society of Ottawa



## Salon B

### ***The Use of High Risk Case Coordination to Prevent Intimate Partner Femicide: A Liberating or Controlling Experience?***

This workshop will discuss research on a high risk case coordination protocol in Nova Scotia. The protocol mandates that police and other service providers use a risk assessment tool to identify woman abuse cases as high risk for lethality. Information on the case is shared among service providers including police, crown, transition houses, men's treatment programs, child welfare and corrections. Support and information is provided to the abused woman and each service provider puts into place safety processes for the abused woman. How abused women perceive the protocol will be discussed.

#### **Presenter**

**Verona Singer**, Coordinator Victim Services Halifax Regional Police, Halifax, NS

## Salon D

### ***Experience of Violence and Abuse for Japanese Immigrant Women in Canada***

This workshop will present research findings from a qualitative study that examined nine Japanese immigrant women in British Columbia who shared their experiences of being abused and violated by their partners. The results of this research indicated 16 themes in experiencing abuse and violence, such as issues of acculturation, sense of helplessness and powerlessness; feeling and/or being responsible, communication difficulties, sense of shame, experience of racial discrimination and prejudice. This workshop will discuss these themes and the coping strategies of these women. The practical steps of prevention and intervention of immigrant families who are victims of violence and abuse will also be discussed.

#### **Presenter**

**Yoshiyuki Takano**, The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC

## Ballroom 1

### ***Ontario Bail Safety Project***

This workshop will outline the development of the Ontario Bail Safety project, which currently operates in 10 Ontario jurisdictions. The primary focus of the program is to gather information useful in contributing to the safety of victims at the bail stage, and to provide more in depth information to the court regarding risk indicators. The program acknowledges that the victim is the one who holds information about the history of the relationship and its potential lethality. The presentation will outline what information is gathered from the victim and how this information is useful in keeping the victim safe.

#### **Presenters**

**Ruth Greenspan**, Ontario Bail Pilot Program, ON

**Norine Nathanson**, Counsel- Domestic Violence Lead Criminal Law Policy branch

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**Salon E*****Disarming Domestic Violence Project***

This session will focus on the links between small arms proliferation and domestic violence together with an overview of selected international/ regional instruments to control small arms proliferation. International advocacy on the issue and what civil society organizations are doing and coalition work will be highlighted. The session is sponsored by Project Ploughshares which has a mandate to engage in research, analysis, dialogue, policy development and public engagement in Canada and internationally on peace and security issues as well as advance understanding of the roots and causes of armed conflict. Project Ploughshares is a founding member of the International Action Network on Small Arms (IANSA), a global movement of some 800 civil society organizations in 120 countries to stop the proliferation and misuse of small arms. The Disarming Domestic Violence Campaign is being launched by IANSA in response to problems raised by members of the women's network of IANSA; the women's network has upwards of 250 member organizations around the world.

**Presenter**

**Maribel Gonzales**, Project Ploughshares, Waterloo, ON

**5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**  
**Foyer Ballroom 1**

***“Meet the Presenters” Wine and Cheese Reception***

This event will provide the opportunity for participants to mingle, network and converse with some of the presenters.



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## Tuesday June 16, 2009

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7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

**Registration and Continental Breakfast**

8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

**Welcome and Introductions**

**Ballroom 1**

### **Morning Plenary:**

#### ***Understanding the Risks to Children: From Collaboration to Prevention***

This plenary panel will address the impact of domestic violence on children and their principal caregivers in a variety of contexts. Fatality review committees have increasingly pointed to the traumatic and lethal risks that domestic violence poses for children in these families. As information about the impact of domestic violence on children has developed more human services such as education, mental health, social services and justice have had to re-examine existing policies, practices & legislation. Dr. Linda Baker will address our emerging knowledge about effective intervention and prevention strategies for children that recognize the variable and complex circumstances that domestic violence represents. Being aware of unintended consequences of good intentions is critical. Ms. Maureen Reid will focus on the dilemmas for Children's Aid Societies in responding in ways that assist parents and children without re-victimizing or endangering them. Children's Aid Societies have to find the balance between victim empowerment and child safety in crisis situations. Dr. Peter Jaffe will address the challenges in the family justice system in developing parenting plans after separation. He will focus on emerging frameworks in assessing risk and promoting safety and accountability in domestic violence cases before the family court.

#### **Presenters**

**Peter Jaffe**, Academic Director of the Centre for Research and Education on Violence against Women & Children, The University of Western Ontario

**Linda Baker**, Director, The Centre for Children and Families in the Justice System

**Maureen Reid**, Manager, Children's Aid Society, London and Middlesex, London, ON

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10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

**Break**

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10:30 a.m. – Noon

### **Morning Workshops D**

**Ballroom 1**

#### ***Profiling Men Who Kill Their Partners***

This workshop will provide an overview of the research about risk factors to domestic homicides and suicides. This will include David Adams' study based on in-depth interviews of men who killed their female partners and victims of attempted homicide. The profiles will include an examination of childhood histories of exposure to domestic violence. He will profile five basic types of killers, each with somewhat distinctive motivations to kill, as well as predisposing factors in their adult relationships. Each

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style of killer had remarkably consistent grievances and abuse tactics throughout his relationship with the deceased as well as with prior partners. The workshop will discuss how these and other findings about risk factors should inform danger assessment and ongoing risk management strategies.

**Presenter**

**David Adams**, Co-Director, Emerge, Cambridge, MA

**Salon B**

***Re-processing Children's Trauma Narratives in Cases of Domestic Homicides***

The saturation of violence in children's lives can result in significant sensory overload, damaging children's ability to cognitively process the events to which they have been exposed. Violence is also an assault on the assumptive world of the child, triggering problematic identity and thematic conclusions. This workshop examines research on clinical findings in therapeutic work with over 50 children who have lost a parent as a result of homicide or suicide. This research explores children's narratives for possibilities of resilience and risk reduction for victims of domestic violence, by attending to warning signs that children report in their descriptions of violence occurring in the home.

**Presenter**

**Dermot Hurley**, King's University College, The University of Western Ontario, London, ON

**Salon A**

***Domestic Violence Fatality Review Teams: Critical Tensions and Promising Practices***

Intimate partner femicide is the single most common form of murder perpetrated against women. Domestic violence fatality review teams have emerged as a means of understanding and preventing future fatalities. Due to their rapid growth, little is known about the nature of these teams or what they accomplish. This workshop will discuss finding from a national study of their efforts, with an emphasis on understanding what critical tensions underlie their efforts to promote systems change that may account for how they are set up and what they achieve. Organizations and systems working with women who experience violence approach culturally competent risk assessment and safety planning with varying levels of readiness. This workshop will explore the need for culturally competent risk assessment tools which weave in life generated risks vs. batterer generated risks. We will look at specific steps organizations/ individuals can take to ensure positive support and assessment processes with abused immigrant women.

**Presenters**

**Kelly Watt**, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, IL

**Nicole Allen**, University of Illinois Urbana Champaign, IL



## Salon C

### ***Developing DV Fatality Committees in Canada: Emerging initiatives in Manitoba and New Brunswick***

This workshop will address the issues that led to consideration of developing a Domestic Violence Death Review committee in Manitoba and New Brunswick. The presentations will outline, the major activities (both governmental and NGO's) which have developed to intervene in domestic violence, the impact of these initiatives on domestic homicides in their jurisdiction, and the circumstances which call for the implementation of a DVDR. Finally, the workshop will present the process and the problems encountered in moving forward to develop such a committee

#### **Presenters**

**Jane Ursel**, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, ON

**Carmen Gill**, Director of the Muriel McQueen Fergusson Centre for Family Violence Research at the University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, NB

**B. MacKnight**, Chief of Police, Fredericton Police Force, Fredericton, NB

## Theatre

### ***Preventing Domestic Violence in the Workplace***

This workshop will describe a unique 5 year partnership between the Alberta Council of Women's Shelters and the Health Sciences Association of Alberta to develop two research based intervention tools: one to address domestic violence in the workplace; the other to raise men's awareness in the workplace and how they can take a leadership role in prevention. The presentation will describe the issues identified, using, in part, a root causes analysis with local business leaders and progress made to date. By outlining the realities and effects of domestic violence in the workplace, ACWS is building awareness of the issue and the need for a skilful response. The workshop will also examine Ontario legislative and policy reforms since the Lori Dupont Inquest highlight the need for workplace responses to domestic violence as a major health and safety priority. The workshop will also examine Ontario legislative and policy reforms since the Lori Dupont Inquest highlighted the need for workplace responses to domestic violence as a major health and safety priority

#### **Presenters**

**Jan Reimer**, Provincial Co-ordinator, Alberta Council of Women's Shelters, Edmonton AB

**Barb MacQuarrie**, Community Director of the Centre for Research and Education on Violence Against Women and Children, The University of Western Ontario, London, ON

## Salon D

### ***Enhancing Victim Safety through Education and Information – Victim Safety Project***

Victim Services Middlesex County in conjunction with Strathroy-Caradoc Police Service has developed an interactive DVD resource to educate and inform people on the various crimes that may be experienced by victims, common trauma

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reactions, and where victims can go for help in their service area. The resource provides information on how victims may become involved with the justice system, the role of various sectors of the criminal justice system, and how these service providers assist victims of crime as they engage in the criminal justice system. Information is provided about safety planning, risk assessment, and where victims can go for help when high-risk offenders are released into the community. The DVD has been developed for use with all victims but is sensitive to the needs of those who do not have access to computers or the internet. The DVD resource will be highlighted in this workshop with recommendations for use with victims and partners in the criminal justice system as an education tool. The VCARS, SupportLink and Victim Quick Response Programs provided by Victim Services Middlesex County will also be described.

**Presenter**

**Anna-Lee Straatman**, Victim Services Middlesex County, ON

**Salon E**

***Cultural Competence***

Organizations and systems working with women who experience violence approach culturally competent risk assessment and safety planning with varying levels of readiness. This workshop will explore the need for culturally competent risk assessment tools which weave in life generated risks vs. batterer generated risks. We will look at specific steps organizations/individuals can take to ensure positive support and assessment processes with abused immigrant women.

**Presenter**

**Beth Jordan**, Managing Director, Adobe Consulting Services, ON

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**Noon – 2:30 p.m.**

**Lunch**

**Ballroom 1**

***Preventing Homicides Through Public Education: An Interactive Theatre Production of "Missed Opportunities" and a Panel on Reaching out to Neighbours, Friends & Families in Different Cultural Contexts***

Findings from Domestic Homicide Review Committees in Ontario and across the US confirm that most homicides appear predictable and preventable based on the number of warning signs and risk factors known by professionals in the community as well as neighbours, friends, family and co-workers. A special interactive theater production was developed to help community members both think about what they can do and how they can practice different interventions depending on their role in the life of the abuse victim and/or perpetrator. The conference participants will have an opportunity to see this production and take the place of one of the bystanders to domestic violence. A panel will discuss the development of educational campaigns across Ontario. The unique needs of aboriginal and francophone communities will be discussed.

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**2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

**Break**



3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

## Afternoon Workshops E

### Ballroom 1

#### ***Neighbours, Friends and Families Campaign***

NFF builds capacity and confidence amongst neighbours, friends, family members and co-workers to recognize woman abuse and respond in empathetic and helpful ways. This presentation will describe how the NFF campaign is building on a community development strategy to create a work-place education strategy to disseminate information about warning signs and risk factors. The work of the campaign is continually evolving and consultative processes are underway to develop a strategies and work plans to implement NFF in communities of people with disabilities and diverse immigrant, settlement, culturally-specific and faith-based communities.

#### **Presenter**

**Barb MacQuarrie**, Provincial Manager, Neighbours, Friends and Families

### Salon C

#### ***Kanawayhitowin (Taking Care of each others' Spirits): a Recreation of the Neighbours, Friends and Families Campaign***

The presentation will highlight a traditional and cultural approach to prevention and education of woman abuse in Aboriginal communities. Strategies for community development will be explored and successes and challenges will be highlighted from the most recent Evaluation Report.

#### **Presenter**

**Terry Swan**, Programme Manager, Ontario Federation of Indian Friendship Centres

### Salon D

#### ***Campagne Voisin-es, ami-es et familles (VAF)***

The French Campaign – VAF – was launched one year ago. That year that has taken us through challenging but very enriching experiences. We have explored how and where to find francophone communities in Ontario and come face to face with the reality of how violence against women is perceived and defined at large in the diverse Franco Ontarian communities. Moving on from the challenge of getting communities involved in the campaign, we will share the Francophone experience and outline how we adapted the campaign messages to build awareness and develop strong prevention strategies based on exploring and understanding the fears, concerns and resistance of Francophone communities.

#### **Presenter**

**Dada Gasirabo**, Coordinatrice provinciale, Campagne Voisin-es, ami-es et familles, Toronto, ON

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## Salon A

### ***Helping Together through Co-location: It's All About Relationships. The Family Violence Project of Waterloo Region Shares its Experience***

Homicide prevention is the goal of the Family Violence Project. Waterloo Region has seen a drastic reduction in the number of domestic homicides since the inception of the project. Initiatives such as a proposed Repeat Domestic Dispute Resolution Strategy, where an investigator and a Victim Services worker attend and offer intervention to residents who have been involved in repeat non-violent domestic disputes to prevent an escalation to violence, are on the horizon. Consistent with the findings of the Domestic Violence Death Review Committee, as 90% of domestic homicides are preventable, early detection and intervention is key and a priority for the Family Violence Project of Waterloo Region. This workshop will outline the Family Violence Project of Waterloo Region.

#### **Presenters**

**Paul Lobsinger, Staff Sergeant**, Domestic Violence Investigation Unit, Waterloo, ON

**Pam Mank**, the Coordinator, The Family Violence Project of Waterloo Region, Waterloo, ON

**Jane Young**, Assistant Crown Attorney, Kitchener-Waterloo Family Violence Project

## Theatre

### ***The Caring Dads Intervention Program for Fathers who have Abused or Neglected their Children or Exposed them to Abuse of their Mothers***

There has been recognition in communities of the need for a service such as Caring Dads. Individuals with many years of experience and considerable expertise working with men who are abusive recognize that there are simply no models of intervention for fathers that appropriately address child abuse and exposure of children to the abuse of their mother. The Caring Dads program can be located on a continuum of service that recognizes the importance of providing targeted, specialized services for abusive fathers. This workshop will discuss the Caring Dads program in detail.

#### **Presenters**

**Katreena Scott**, University of Toronto, ON

**Tim Kelly**, Executive Director of Changing Ways, London, ON



## Salon B

### *Healing Through Giving Voice to Silent Witnesses*

Silent Witness is an eloquent and compelling tool to raise public awareness about intimate partner homicide. This workshop will describe the Silent Witness Projects in Alberta, New Brunswick and Ontario, which have given voices to women and children killed by their intimate partners and fathers. Further, the presentation will describe how the project helps surviving family members heal by writing a memorial for their loved ones which is then prominently displayed on a plaque on the front of each of the blood red silhouettes. The Project promotes hope and healing and engages the community in continuing to work to end violence and abuse against women and children.

#### **Presenters**

**Megan Walker**, The Silent Witness Project, London Abused Women's Centre, London, ON

**Jan Reimer**, Silent Witness: Domestic Homicide Victims in Alberta, Alberta Council of Women's Shelters, Edmonton AB

**Rina Arseneault**, Muriel McQueen Fergusson, Centre for Family Violence Research (MMFC), Fredrickton, NB

## Salon E

### *Substance Abuse and Partner Violence*

#### *The Sobering Effect Program*

Service providers working with Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) offenders have become increasingly aware that many of these clients also have serious drug/alcohol abuse problems. Approximately half of these men are also referred to substance abuse treatment by probation or have been mandated to become substance free. Clinical experience however indicates that many of these men are not remaining drug-free while undergoing IPV treatment. These men are therefore less likely to benefit from IPV treatment and consequently are more likely to continue with abusive behaviour. The Sobering Effect program is a concurrent IPV and addiction treatment initiative developed by both AADAC and YWCA in an attempt to remedy these concerns. This program is currently undergoing a preliminary evaluation; the results of which will be presented in this workshop.

#### **Presenter**

**Gary Gibbens**, YWCA Sheriff King Home, Calgary, AB

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**Salon E*****Severe Female Perpetrated Intimate Violence & Substance Abuse***

Acute intoxication to drugs has been linked to severe intimate partner violence and to domestic homicide. Less is known about other factors accounting for the relationship between intimate partner violence and substance use . Few studies have focussed on female substance abusers who perpetrate IPV. Controversies exist about the context of female IPV and more particularly in its severe forms, but studies indicate that female-to-male violence is not always in self defense. Given the high risk for severe or even fatal violence when one or both partners have been using drugs, information about proximal contexts of severe female-to-male incidents of violence could be valuable to our understanding of domestic homicide. This presentation will share data from a qualitative exploratory study of the perspectives of heterosexual couples on the links between their substance use and incidents of female IPV. Secondary analysis of the narratives from these couples focuses on the descriptions of the circumstances surrounding incidents of severe violence. Clinical implication of these results and recommendation for the safety of both partners will be discussed.

**Presenter**

**Marianne Saint-Jacques**, L'Université de Sherbrooke, Sherbrooke, PQ

# Biographies

## **DAVID ADAMS**

Dr. Adams is co-founder as well as Co-Director of Emerge, the first counseling program in the nation for men who abuse women, established in 1977. Dr. Adams has led groups for men who batter for 32 years and has led parenting education classes for fathers for 6 years. He is one of the nation's leading experts on men who batter and has conducted trainings of social service and criminal justice professionals in 41 states and 12 nations. He has published numerous articles and book chapters, including "Identifying the Assaultive Husband in Court: You Be the Judge", published in the Boston Bar Journal. Dr. Adams is a Commissioner on the Massachusetts Governor's Council on Sexual and Domestic Violence and past Co-Chair of the Justice and Accountability Committee (the criminal justice committee) of the Governor's Commission on Sexual and Domestic Violence. He is Director of the National Danger Assessment Training Project. His book, "Why Do They Kill? Men Who Murder Their Intimate Partners" was published by Vanderbilt University Press in September 2007.

## **NICOLE ALLEN**

Nicole Allen, Ph.D., is currently Assistant Professor of Community Psychology at the University of Illinois Urbana Champaign. She completed her doctorate in Ecological Community Psychology at Michigan State University in 2001. Her research interests include intimate partner violence, community collaboration, and social change. In collaboration with community partners, she is currently investigating the role of coordinating councils in the development of an effective response to intimate partner violence, how to foster broader community accountability for such violence, and how the formal and informal community response affects survivors' lives.

## **RINA ARSENEAULT**

Rina Arseneault has been the Associate Director of the Muriel McQueen Fergusson Centre for Family Violence Research since November 1993. From 2001 to 2003, she worked in the Psychiatry Emergency Services and at the HIV/ AIDS Clinic at the Ottawa Hospital. She is recognized as an activist and educator on women issues. She has organized numerous training opportunities and workshops. She also helped to develop the 8-course credited UNB Certificate program in Family Violence Issues and she is the instructor for the first course (Introduction to Family Violence Issues) and the last course (Multi-disciplinary Approaches to Family Violence) of the Program. Her experience includes extensive work with community – organizations, individual researchers, government agencies, the media and victims of violence.

## **LINDA L. BAKER**

Dr. Baker is the Executive Director of the Centre for Children and Families in the Justice System (formerly the London Family Court Clinic). She is an adjunct professor in both the Department of Psychology and the Faculty of Education at the University of Western Ontario. She is a clinical psychologist with expertise in child and family interventions, court related clinical assessments, and children and adolescents affected by domestic violence. Recently, she co-authored *Little Eyes, Little Ears: How Violence Against A Mother Shapes Children as They Grow*, and *Helping an Abused Woman: 101 Things to Know, Say & Do*.

## **HELENE BERMAN**

Dr. Helene Berman is an Associate Professor in the University Of Western Ontario School Of Nursing and the Scotiabank Chair, Centre for Research and Education on Violence against Women and Children. Her research has focused on violence in the lives of children and has included homeless, Aboriginal, and newcomer youth who have experienced marginalization, trauma, uprooting, and displacement. She was the Principal Investigator on two national studies examining how girls and young women are socialized to expect violence, its effects on their health, and implications for policy makers and programmers. Her research has been funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), SSHRC, and Status of Women Canada. The theoretical and methodological perspectives used are informed by critical and feminist theory, intersectionality, participatory approaches, and narrative analysis. She is past Chairperson of the Alliance of Canadian Research Centres on Violence.

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## **JACKIE CAMPBELL**

Jacquelyn Campbell is the Anna D. Wolf Chair and a Professor in the Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing with a joint appointment in the Bloomberg School of Public Health. She has been conducting advocacy policy work and research in the area of violence against women since 1980 and has published more than 200 articles and seven books. Dr. Campbell has been PI on 10 major US governmental research grants and Co-Chaired the Steering Committee for the WHO Multi-country Study on Violence Against Women and Women's Health as well as consulting on major research related to domestic violence in Canada. She is an elected member of the Institute of Medicine and the American Academy of Nursing and is on the Board of Directors of the Family Violence Prevention Fund. She also was a member of the congressionally appointed US Department of Defense Task Force on Domestic Violence and served on the Board of Directors of the House of Ruth Battered Women's Shelter and three other shelters.

## **VALERIE CAMPBELL**

Valerie Joan Campbell, LLB, has been a positive force for change in Alberta's criminal justice system. Through tremendous dedication and compassion, she spearheaded significant changes in the way the province deals with domestic violence. As a Crown prosecutor, she worked on many high-profile cases, including one that garnered national attention on W-five. She was the coordinator of family violence initiatives for Alberta Justice from 2004 and is now the Director of the newly established Alberta Relationship Threat Assessment and Management Initiative (ARTAMI), a multi-disciplined specialized unit designed to reduce and prevent serious violence and death in high-risk family violence and stalking cases. She has developed and delivered training to police, prosecutors, victim advocates, social workers, health professionals, mental health experts and corrections personnel locally and nationally since 2002. As a subject matter expert in the area of family violence and stalking, she is a regular guest speaker on radio and television, and guest lecturer at Universities and Colleges across Alberta. She has received awards including the YWCA Woman of Distinction Award; Alberta Centennial Award; University of Alberta Alumni Award of Excellence; Department of Justice Awards for development of the Domestic Violence Handbook for Police and Crown Prosecutors in Alberta and for contributions to the development of the Alberta Relationship Threat Assessment and Management Initiative (ARTAMI).

## **JANE COOMBE**

Jane Coombe is a Senior Policy and Legislative Analyst with the B.C. Victim Services and Crime Prevention Division, Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General, specializing in the area of violence against women and high risk victims. She was involved in developing the Ministry's Violence Against Women in Relationships Policy and implementation strategy, and has taken a leadership role in the development of training, research and community coordination to support women's safety.

## **JOCELYN COUPAL**

Jocelyn Coupal is a prosecutor employed with the Ministry of Attorney General, Criminal Justice Branch in British Columbia. She is currently the Domestic Violence Resource Counsel for the Province. This is a second career for her, as she was previously a Corporate Executive and Entrepreneur. As a lawyer she has acted as both Defence and Crown Counsel, trying cases in Provincial and Supreme Court as well as in the Court of Appeal. She was Administrative Crown Counsel for many years in New Westminster and is one of the founding members of the Integrated Domestic Violence Response Team in that city. She has lectured and taught extensively to a wide variety of audiences on the subject of Domestic Violence and what each of us can do to make a difference within our own disciplines in helping to keep victims safe and hold offenders accountable.

## **MYRNA DAWSON**

Dr. Myrna Dawson is a Canada Research Chair in Public Policy in Criminal Justice and Associate Professor, Department of Sociology & Anthropology, University of Guelph. Her research focuses on trends and patterns in violent victimization and social and legal responses to violence with a particular emphasis on intimate partner violence and homicide. Dawson is a member of the Domestic Violence Death Review Committee, Office of the Chief Coroner of Ontario; a member of the Academic Advisory Committee, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics; an Academic Research Associate, Centre for Research and Education on Violence Against Women & Children; and co-investigator in the Canadian Observatory on the Justice System's Response to Intimate Partner Violence, a network promoting inter-jurisdictional analysis across the country and abroad. Dawson has served as an expert witness at a Coroner's Inquest into domestic homicide and has presented on femicide to the Committee of Law and Justice, United States National Research Council (NRC). Funded by the Canadian Foundation of Innovation, she has established a research unit for the study of Social and Legal Responses to Violence in Canada at the University of Guelph. She is the author of numerous publications on intimate partner violence and homicide.

## **DEBORAH DOHERTY**

Deborah Doherty, Executive Director, Public Legal Education and Information Service of New Brunswick, is currently co-principal investigator on two family violence research studies associated with the Muriel McQueen Fergusson Centre for Family Violence Research (FVRC/CRVF), University of New Brunswick, and is the Vice-Chair of the New Brunswick Legal Aid Services Commission.

**MOLLY DRAGIEWICZ**

Dr. Molly Dragiewicz is Assistant Professor in the faculty of Criminology, Justice and Policy Studies at the University of Ontario Institute of Technology. Her research focuses on the backlash against feminism and its implications for research and services for violence prevention and intervention.

**MYRIAM DUBÉ**

Myriam Dube is a Professor at the Université de Montréal and the Université du Québec a Montreal. She is a researcher for the Centre de recherche interdisciplinaire sur la violence familiale et la violence faite aux femmes.

**JEFFREY L. EDLESON**

Jeffrey L. Edleson is a Professor in the University of Minnesota School of Social Work and Director of the Minnesota Center Against Violence and Abuse ([www.mincava.umn.edu](http://www.mincava.umn.edu)). He has published over 100 articles and 10 books on domestic violence, groupwork, and program evaluation. He has recently co-edited a book entitled *Parenting by Men Who Batterer: New Directions in Assessment and Intervention* (2007, co-edited with Oliver J. Williams, Oxford University Press) and the multi-volume *Encyclopedia of Interpersonal Violence* (2008, co-edited with Claire Renzetti, Sage Reference).

**DIANNE FINCH**

Dianne Finch, Administration Manager, at the Medicine Hat Women's Shelter Society. She is a member of the The Alberta Council of Women's Shelters.

**DADA GASIRABO**

Dada Gasirabo is a Social Worker. She has been active working against Violence against women in Canada for the last 10 years. She works presently as Provincial Co-ordinator of Action Ontarienne contre la violence faite aux femmes, and advocates for the development and sustainability of French-language supports for francophone women in Ontario.

**GARY GIBBENS**

Gary Gibbens has worked in the counselling field since 1970, including experience in treating substance abuse, chronic mental illness, and psychiatric emergency services. In 1984, he joined the AMEND program and was involved in the development of the court ordered program in Denver. From 1992-99, he was clinical co-ordinator of the Arapahoe AMEND program. He was also involved in the Denver Metro Fatality Review Committee from 1991-93. Since 1999, Gary has been the Mgr. of the YWCA Sheriff King Adult Counselling programs, providing services to both domestic violence abusers and victims. He has been involved in developing, in conjunction with the Strengthening the Spirit group, an Aboriginal Men's treatment program. He presented 3 yrs of research on Domestic Violence Offenders at the International Family Violence Conference in N.H., New Hampshire, 2005 and also presented at the Family Violence Conference in San Diego, Ca. in 2005. In 2006, he was instrumental in developing the High Risk Management Initiative, a program for addressing interventions with high risk IPV offenders. Gary has been certified in the use of the SARA, the ODARRA, and Danger Assessment risk assessment instruments. Most recently Gary has focused on providing intervention for substance abuse and family violence when they are co-occurring conditions, working with both Community Corrections and AADAC to deliver these services.

**CARMEN GILL**

Carmen Gill, Ph.D. is currently the Director of the Muriel McQueen Fergusson Centre for Family Violence Research at the University of New Brunswick, and is cross-appointed as an Associate Professor of sociology. She is leading The Canadian Observatory on the Justice System's Response to Intimate Partner Violence funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. The Canadian observatory is an international research network emphasizing continued bilingual dialogue and in-depth research on the justice system, and the impact of justice responses to intimate partner violence.

**MARIBEL GONZALES**

Maribel Gonzales is currently Programme Associate with responsibilities for Small Arms and Peacebuilding at Project Ploughshares, a Waterloo, Ontario based NGO focused on building peace and preventing war. Her responsibilities include managing a project in the Caribbean to reduce armed violence through research, raising public awareness, and advocacy for policy reform. She also coordinates the Small Arms Working Group of Peacebuild, the Canadian peacebuilding coalition. She previously worked on humanitarian assistance, peacebuilding and development projects in Angola and was for many years the Executive Director of the Canadian office of Development Workshop, a development NGO. Before migrating to Canada, Maribel worked with the Philippine government, UNICEF in Pakistan, and the City of Boston in the US. Maribel has a BA in Sociology from the University of the Philippines and a Masters degree in Public Administration from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

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## **RUTH GREENSPAN**

Ruth Greenspan has been the Project Manager of the Bail Safety Project, at the Ministry of the Attorney General for 4 years. She has planned, implemented and supported the 10 Bail Safety Project sites across the province. She received her Masters of Social Work from the University of Toronto in 1988, and her undergraduate degree in Law and Psychology from Carleton University in 1985. She was the Manager of the Hamilton Victim witness Assistance Program prior to taking the Role with the Bail Safety Project. Prior to the work in the Government she has worked in the communities of Hamilton, Ottawa and Toronto in the violence against women field. Ruth Greenspan has been the Project Manager of the Bail Safety Project, at the Ministry of the Attorney General for 4 years. She has planned, implemented and supported the 10 Bail Safety Project sites across the province. She received her Masters of Social Work from the University of Toronto in 1988, and her undergraduate degree in Law and Psychology from Carleton University in 1985. She was the Manager of the Hamilton Victim witness Assistance Program prior to taking the Role with the Bail Safety Project. Prior to the work in the Government she has worked in the communities of Hamilton, Ottawa and Toronto in the violence against women field.

## **STEPHEN HART**

Dr. Hart is a Professor in the Department of Psychology at Simon Fraser University, and also a Visiting Professor in the Faculty of Psychology at the University of Bergen. One of the major focuses of his work is violence risk, including risk for intimate partner violence, stalking, and sexual violence. Dr. Hart is co-author of more than 150 scientific articles, books, and chapters. He has conducted training for mental health, corrections, law enforcement, and legal.

## **DEBRA HEATON**

Detective Sergeant Debra Heaton has been a member of the Ontario Provincial Police for 24 years. The majority of her career has been involved in the investigation of, or investigative support of criminal offence investigations. In 1996, D/Sgt Heaton transferred to OPP General Headquarters to Behavioural Sciences and Analysis Services, Provincial Violent Crime Linkage Analysis System (ViCLAS) Centre. In 2000, D/Sgt Heaton was assigned to assist in the formation the Ontario Sex Offender Registry. In September 2001 she transferred to the Threat Assessment Unit. Her her duties include the assessment and management of incidents where there is a potential for targeted violence including stalking, workplace violence, school violence, sexual offenders, threatening correspondence, threats to public/political figures, high risk releases and domestic violence cases. D/Sgt Heaton has been declared an expert in the field of threat assessment at the Ontario Court of Justice level.

## **LUCIE HÉNAULT**

Lucie Hénault is the General Director of Maison la Source du Richelieu. She is an advisory board member of Agir pour prévenir l'homicide de la conjointe, CRI-VIFF, and co-author of Soins immédiats en santé mentale : prévenir les agressions en milieu de travail, a publication on the prevention of violence in the workplace.

## **NARGES HOSSEINI**

Narges Hosseini obtained her M.A. in clinical psychology in Iran, 2001. She is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in School and Child Clinical Psychology at Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE), University of Toronto. She has several years of experience working with children, adolescents, adults, and families in a variety of capacities including as a counsellor in a university student counselling centre and in various placements. Ms. Hosseini is fluent in Farsi. She has worked with immigrant families especially those of Iranian background. Ms. Hosseini has experience with a range of presenting concerns such as academic related issues, behavioural problems, anxiety, depression, abuse and trauma, parent-child relationship problems, and family conflicts. At Woodbine Psychological and Counselling Services, Ms. Hosseini offers counselling and psychotherapy for children, adolescents, adults, and families.

## **DERMOT HURLEY**

Dermot is an Associate Professor of Social Work and Graduate Program Coordinator, School of Social Work, King's University College, and an Assistant Professor of Psychiatry (part-time), University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, Canada. He has been directly involved with the education, training and supervision of students in a number of health disciplines and teaches an advanced course on clinical practice in the MSW program at King's University College. Dermot was the Director of the Family Therapy Program at the Child and Adolescent Centre, London Health Sciences Centre, University of Western Ontario for over 20 years, where he developed expertise in the assessment of children and adolescence living with traumatic stress as a result of witnessing violence. Dermot has worked closely with Children's Aid Societies in the South Western Ontario to develop interventions both at the community, family and individual levels for abused and neglected children. Dermot developed an innovative "Internalized Other" approach for interviewing children who have been traumatized by violence, which combines elements of Narrative/Constructivist Therapy, and Relational Psychodynamics. He has recently completed a large scale qualitative study on "Narrative of Resilience in Child Welfare Practice" with colleagues in Argentina and Ireland. He has authored many article and chapters in books including recent publications in The Journal of System Therapies and the Canadian Social Work Review.

**PAULINE JACKSON**

Pauline Jackson is a Probation Officer in the Family Violence stream of the Criminal Organization High Risk Offender Unit in Winnipeg, Manitoba. After her BA from the University of Manitoba, Pauline began her career with Manitoba Justice in three of the Provincial Correctional Centre's, developing and facilitating domestic violence programming. She continued to devote 16 years to Community Corrections, primarily as a Probation Officer and Program Facilitator of domestic violence programs in the Family Violence Adult Probation Unit, most recently developing and co-facilitating a Men's Support Night for Probation clients. Ms. Jackson is also a Certified Coach Trainer for her department's newly acquired risk assessment tool, the Level of Service Case Management Inventory and is looking forward to assisting with staff training in a major roll out of this tool this fall.

**PETER JAFFE**

Peter Jaffe is a Professor in the Faculty of Education and the Academic Director for the Centre for Research and Education on Violence Against Women and Children at the University of Western Ontario. He is the Director Emeritus for the Centre for Children and Families in the Justice System (London Family Court Clinic). He has co-authored nine books, 25 chapters and over 75 articles related to children, families and the justice system including Children of Battered Women, Working Together to End Domestic Violence and Child Custody & Domestic Violence: A Call for Safety & Accountability. He has presented workshops across the United States and Canada, as well as Australia, New Zealand, Costa Rica and Europe to various groups including judges, lawyers, mental health professionals and educators. Since 1997, Peter has been a faculty member for the US National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges' program on "enhancing judicial skills in domestic violence cases". Peter has been an expert witness in three Ontario inquests into domestic violence and is a founding member of Canada's first Domestic Violence Death Review Committee through the Office of Ontario's Chief Coroner.

**BETH JORDAN**

Beth Jordan is a current member of the Domestic Violence Death Review Committee and the former Director of Programs and Services at The Assaulted Women's Helpline. She has consulted extensively to municipal, provincial and federal levels of government on the issue of violence against women and the integration of anti-racist and anti-oppression frameworks. In addition, she has collaborated and consulted with local, provincial, national and international violence against women NGO's. Beth operates Adobe Consulting Services an independent management consulting practice that focuses on training, planning and evaluation for non-profit organizations and government.

**MARCUS JUODIS**

Marcus Juodis, Clinical (Forensic) Psychology PhD Student, Dalhousie University, and former research assistant for Ontario's Domestic Violence Death Review Committee.

**COLIN KING**

Colin King, M.A., is a first-year Ph.D. student in the School and Clinical Child Psychology program. His M.A. thesis explored the implementation of a new process-oriented batterer treatment program for treatment-resistant male clients. Support for the process-oriented format was found in treatment completion rates. Seventy-one percent of treatment-resistant clients in the process-oriented intervention completed treatment compared to 42% of clients in standard programming. Colin completed his undergraduate psychology degree from The University of Western Ontario and his M.A. degree from OISE/University of Toronto.

**RICHARD KONARSKI**

Inspector Richard Konarski has been a member of the RCMP since 1977. He has had a range of experience in Detachment throughout British policing from an isolated four-person Detachment in Port McNeill to the RCMP's largest municipal Detachment in Surrey. He has worked in a variety of functions including general duty policing, serious crime investigations, and polygraph. He has spent over a decade enhancing the RCMP's response to domestic violence investigations. He is currently the Operations Support Officer with the Langley RCMP where he oversees the Serious Crime, Drug, Street Enforcement, Community Policing, Crime Reduction, Client Services, Training, Media, and Victim Services Sections. In September 2008, Inspector Konarski was accepted into the doctoral program at Simon Fraser University and he is pursuing his PhD in the topic area of effective domestic violence prosecutions.

**P. RANDALL KROPP**

Dr. Kropp is a clinical and forensic psychologist specializing in the assessment and management of violent offenders. He works for the Forensic Psychiatric Services Commission of British Columbia, Canada, and is Adjunct Professor of Psychology at Simon Fraser University. He has conducted workshops on violence risk assessment in 15 countries on five continents. He has frequently consulted with provincial, state, and federal government governments on matters related to violence against women and children. He has published numerous journal articles, book chapters, and research reports, and he is co-author to several works on risk assessment, including the Manual for the Spousal Assault Risk Assessment Guide (SARA), the Brief Spousal Assault Form for the Evaluation of Risk (B-SAFER), the Risk for Sexual Violence Protocol (RSVP), and the Guidelines for Stalking Assessment and Management (SAM).

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## **PAUL LOBSINGER**

Paul Lobsinger is the Staff Sergeant in charge of the Waterloo Regional Police Service Domestic Violence Investigation Branch located at the Family Violence Project of Waterloo Region. He is in his 22nd year of police service to his community. Prior to coming to the Domestic Violence Unit he was a Sergeant in Support Services at Headquarters. Paul has extensive experience in criminal investigation and community policing. He has experience in Patrol, Detectives, Divisional Street Crime Unit, Drug Investigation and Professional Standards. Having focused much of his policing career in Criminal Investigations, Paul is committed to ensuring that victims of domestic violence and elder abuse receive the utmost level of support and investigation from the Waterloo Regional Police Service. Working closely with the co-located community services to provide a seamless and holistic response to domestic violence and elder abuse is essential in providing the best service possible to our community. Tackling these social ills is a new challenge for Paul and he welcomes the opportunity.

## **WILLIAM J. LUCAS**

Dr. Lucas is currently the Regional Supervising Coroner for York, Durham and Muskoka. After attending medical school at the University of Toronto, he practiced Family Medicine in Brampton from 1977-1996. Dr. Lucas was appointed as an investigating coroner in 1991, and became a full-time Regional Supervisor in 1996. His postings have included Niagara Region, City of Toronto, and now Central Region where he oversees approximately 2100 death investigations annually, carried out by 30 investigating coroners. Dr. Lucas has presided over 46 inquests that have reviewed a wide variety of scenarios including work-related and construction fatalities, deaths while in police custody, and medical care/treatment issues. He regularly consults with police and convenes case conferences on complex and suspicious death investigations, including homicides. Dr. Lucas is currently the Chair of the Domestic Violence Death Review Committee for the Office of the Chief Coroner for Ontario.

## **PAMELA MANK**

Pamela Mank is the Co-ordinator of the Family Violence Project Waterloo Region. This seamless response to family violence is the first of its kind in Canada. It is a collaborative response to Domestic Violence representing a one-stop service approach with 13 co-located Partner agencies and services. She is also the Assistant Clinical Director of Catholic Family Counselling Centre (CFCC), Waterloo Region. For over 25 years she has specialized in working with women particularly in the areas of Family Violence, Sexual Assault, Self Esteem, and Self Growth/Understanding. She has developed a psychoeducational programme for women dealing with Domestic Violence related issues. She has been successfully running this programme, "Understanding Me" for 12 years as well as leading Family Violence Therapy Groups and Separation/Divorce Groups. She has a leadership role with CFCC's Critical Incident Response Team which has responded to a myriad of crisis/incidents within her community. Pamela is a long term field placement supervisor for Wilfred Laurier University Masters of Social Work students. She has had articles published on a variety of topics related to personal growth and recently The Family Violence Project.

## **ROBIN MASON**

Robin Mason is a Research Scientist in the Violence and Health Research Program at Women's College Hospital and an Assistant Professor with the Dalla Lana School of Public Health at the University of Toronto. Her research focuses on the health effects of intimate partner violence and trauma, the ways this is experienced by women in diverse communities, and how to effectively train and educate health care professionals to these issues. Robin Mason is co-chair of the provincial Health expert panel and has been involved in the development of policies and curricula on violence against women locally, provincially and nationally.

## **BARRY MACKNIGHT**

Barry MacKnight is the Chief of Police of the Fredericton Police Force and President of the New Brunswick Association of Chiefs of Police. He is also the Chair of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police Drug Abuse Committee.

## **BARB MACQUARRIE**

Barb MacQuarrie is the Community Director of the Centre for Research and Education on Violence against Women & Children at the University of Western Ontario. She works to promote collaboration between community-based professionals and advocates and academic researchers. She has been an advocate for survivors of violence and has worked on diverse fronts to give voice to their experiences of violence as well as their experiences in the systems that are intended to respond to this violence. She has co-authored publications on workplace harassment, violence in the lives of girls, violence on college and university campuses and has written for local anti-violence organizations about the challenges facing front line service providers and the connections between mental health, addictions and trauma. She is the executive producer of the video, "The Way Forward: Rethinking the problem of workplace sexual harassment" and an executive producer for the just released video, "Voices of Diversity: Creating a culture of safety, respect and belonging on campus." Recently, she coordinated the writing and publication of the Surviving the System Handbook. Advice on using the legal system if you are a survivor of sexual violence. Barb manages the provincial Neighbours, Friends and Families public education campaign and the Respect-at-Work training program. She chairs the Muslim Family Support Service in London. Barb is interested in how research can inform prevention of and responses to violence against women and girls.

**HOLLY MCGINN**

Holly McGinn, is a first-year Masters student in the School and Clinical Child Psychology program.

**ROBERT MORRIS**

Bob Morris is the Crown Attorney for the County of Huron (Goderich). Bob has worked diligently to safeguard victims of domestic violence. In 1992, Bob co-founded the first Domestic Assault Review Team (DART) in Canada. In 1997, Bob was the first Crown Attorney in Ontario to implement a comprehensive questionnaire for domestic assault victims that helps to identify risk and potential lethality. For the last 5 years, Bob has been a member of the Domestic Violence Death Review Committee. This Committee of experts was established by the Chief Coroner of Ontario to review and make recommendations on domestic homicide cases that occurred in Ontario. In 2004, Bob helped to create the Huron Assessment Risk Reduction Team (HARRT). HARRT identifies then actively manages the most serious and dangerous domestic violence cases. In June of 2007, HARRT received the Amethyst Award, the most prestigious award given out by the Ontario government to the Ontario Public Service recognizing excellence and outstanding achievement. In September 2007, HARRT was selected as one of the top 25 semi-finalists for the international Webber Seavey Award for Quality in Law Enforcement. Bob is the only prosecutor in Ontario to have won both awards given out by the Ontario Crown Attorneys' Association: The Frank Hoffman Memorial Award for dedication, diligence and enthusiasm and the Doug Lucas Award for the pursuit of justice through science.

**NORINE NATHANSON**

Norine Nathanson is Crown Counsel and Coordinator of Ontario's Domestic Violence Court Program for the Crown at the Ministry of the Attorney General. She leads legal, policy and special initiatives for the Ministry's criminal justice response to domestic violence including the delivery of legal educational programs to lawyers, judiciary, police and other justice professionals. She has been a member of the Ontario Bar since 1990 and a Crown Attorney since 1991. She has prosecuted criminal cases at all levels of Court and served as the Lead Domestic Violence Crown in the Etobicoke Crown Attorney's office. She has acted as Counsel to the Victim Witness Assistance Program and as Counsel to Courts Administration. She is Crown Counsel and Coordinator of Ontario's Domestic Violence Court Program for the Crown at the Ministry of the Attorney General. She leads legal, policy and special initiatives for the Ministry's criminal justice response to domestic violence including the delivery of legal educational programs to lawyers, judiciary, police and other justice professionals. She has been a member of the Ontario Bar since 1990 and a Crown Attorney since 1991. She has prosecuted criminal cases at all levels of Court and served as the Lead Domestic Violence Crown in the Etobicoke Crown Attorney's office. She has acted as Counsel to the Victim Witness Assistance Program and as Counsel to Courts Administration.

**TRACY PORTEOUS**

Tracy Porteous is a Registered Clinical Counsellor who has been involved in the anti-violence field for more than 25 years. She is Executive Director of the Ending Violence Association of BC, a Provincial umbrella Association that supports over 200 anti-violence programs across BC who respond to sexual and domestic violence, Tracy develops resources, training and other supports for the programs and works collaboratively with various provincial and federal authorities to develop and coordinate policy and practice to enhance safety for those who are vulnerable to sexual assault, relationship violence and child abuse.

**STEPHEN PORTER**

Stephen Porter, Professor of Psychology, University of British Columbia–Okanagan / Dalhousie University, and Registered Forensic Psychologist.

**MAUREEN REID**

Maureen Reid has worked in the areas of child physical, sexual, emotional abuse and neglect for the past thirty years. Within a child welfare agency, Ms. Reid developed a treatment program for families (child victims, perpetrators and non-implicated parents) where sexual abuse has been verified. The program is in its 20th year and provides individual, group and family treatment to over 100 individuals and families per week. Ms. Reid has also developed services within the CAS for fathers who have been physically abusive or are at risk of being physically abusive and she co-facilitates a group in partnership with the male batterers service at Changing Ways of London. She coauthored a community protocol for coordinating community services to families where an infant has been identified as living in a high risk environment. Within her current senior management role as Program Manager she has responsibility for developing a specialized response to families where domestic violence is occurring. She recently Chaired a community group that developed a coordinated response plan for dealing with children exposed to domestic violence that is in the initial stages of implementation. She is a member of her local community coordinating committee to end woman abuse. She is currently Chair of the Child Abuse Prevention Council in London, Ontario.

**GISELA RUEBSAAT**

Gisela Ruebsaat is the Legal Analyst for the BC Community Coordination for Women's Safety Program (CCWS) and a member of the "Keeping Women Safe" project team. Her focus is on coordinated, interdisciplinary responses to victimization. Before her involvement with CCWS, Gisela worked for the Ontario Ministries of Attorney General, and Citizenship and Culture, and was involved in major justice reform initiatives including: multiculturalism and immigrant services, human rights, race relations, youth justice, and women's issues.

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## **JAN REIMER**

Jan Reimer is the Provincial Co-ordinator for the Alberta Council of Women's Shelters, an organization that supports the sheltering movement in Alberta and is a well-known resource on family violence issues and woman abuse. She has served in this capacity for the last five years and was instrumental in achieving core funding, salary increases to market levels for shelter workers, and in realizing a family violence prevention strategy for the province of Alberta. She has recently received the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal and was one of the 100 Edmontonians of the Century recognized during the City's centennial celebrations and was one of the YWCA's Women of Distinction. Jan was one of six Canadians who received the Governor General's Award in Commemoration of the Persons Case (2006) and the University of Alberta's Alumni Award of Excellence (2007) for her ability to find local solutions to global problems and for being a force for positive change throughout her career. In addition, Ms. Reimer served as Edmonton's first woman mayor from 1989 to 1995. Prior to that, she was a City Councillor for 9 years.

## **MARIANNE SAINT-JACQUES**

L'Université de Sherbrooke, Sherbrooke, PQ

## **LISSA SAMANTARAYA-SHIVJI**

Manager of Strategic Development and Evaluation, Calgary Women's Emergency Shelter, Calgary Alberta

## **KATREENA SCOTT**

Katreena Scott, Ph.D. C. Psych. is an Associate Professor and Clinical Psychologist in the Department of Human Development and Applied Psychology of the University of Toronto. Dr. Scott has authored numerous articles and book chapters on the development of violent relationships, the efficacy of service to male batterers, the effect of abuse and trauma on children and on empirically and ethically sound policies for working with abuse perpetrators. Dr. Scott is also the lead investigator on the Caring Dads: Helping Fathers Value their Children program, a promising new intervention program for fathers who have been abusive in their families. She recently received an Early Researcher Award and a Tier II Canada Research Chair in recognition of her contributions to the field of family violence.

## **SUDHA SHETTY**

Sudha Shetty is Director of the International Fellowship Program and a graduate faculty at the University of Minnesota's Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs. She speaks and writes extensively on domestic violence issues facing immigrant women and women of color. She has been a consultant to the law firm of Dorsey & Whitney, L.L.P. on diversity issues and in her former role as Director of the Seattle University Law School's Access to Justice Institute she developed a variety of legal access projects focused on battered women. She was recently honored by the Washington Women Lawyers Foundation for her work with underserved communities. She has been the recipient of several awards – 2005 King County Washington Women Lawyers – Special Contributions to the Judiciary Award; 2005 NALP (National Association of Law School Placements – Award of Distinction in Pro Bono and Public Service; 2003 Asian Bar Association of Washington - Community Service Award; 2003 PSLawNet - the Pro Bono Publico Award; 2004 AALS (American Association of Law Schools) - Father Drinan Award for forwarding the ethic of pro bono and public service in law schools through personal service, program design and management. She was a founding member and chair of Chaya, a grass-roots South Asian domestic violence prevention group and chair of the Washington South Asian Council.

## **VERONA SINGER**

Singer is a Criminologist who has been working to address violence against women for 24 years. She has worked at shelters for battered women, on anti-poverty initiatives, and at a sexual assault centre. For the last 12 years, she has been the Coordinator of Victim Services with the Halifax Regional Police, where she works with women who are abused in intimate relationships. Singer is also a PhD student at Dalhousie University, where she is researching intimate-partner femicide

## **ANNA-LEE STRAATMAN**

Anna-Lee Straatman worked at the University of Western Ontario, and Centre for Research on Violence Against Women and Children as a Research Coordinator for many years on various aspects of intimate violence research. Ms. Straatman is currently affiliated with the Centre for Research and Education on Violence Against Women and Children as a Community Research Associate. She has extensive experience interviewing adult victims of child sexual abuse. Currently, she has coordinated projects regarding trauma education and victim safety with high risk offenders for Victim Services agencies in Sarnia Lambton and Middlesex County.

## **TERRY SWAN**

Terry Swan is Cree/Saulteaux woman and a member of Fish Clan originating from Cold Lake First Nation in Alberta. She brings extensive experience as facilitator and trainer and has focused much of her work on empowering youth; women and men to heal from the effects of family violence and intergenerational trauma. She is a trained body/breath work practitioner. Her past work has included working at Outward Bound, a wilderness based experiential program and within the Mooka'am Program Treatment Services Team at Native Child and Family Services of Toronto. She is currently the Aboriginal Healing and Wellness Strategy Program Manager at the Ontario Federation of Indian Friendship Centres also located in Toronto, Ontario.

**YOSHIYUKI TAKANO**

Yoshi Takano is a registered clinical counsellor in British Columbia and has been practicing as a counsellor for over 10 years. He is currently completing Ph.D. in counselling psychology at the University of British Columbia. He has worked for the court mandated treatment program for men who are abusive to their partners in B.C. Yoshi has numerous publications including in "Coping with domestic violence by Japanese Canadian women" in Handbook of multicultural perspectives on stress and coping (2006) and has given presentations in Canada as well as internationally. He is also a board member of the Ending Relationship Abuse Society of B.C.

**DIANE TURNER**

Diane Turner, BA, B Ed, LLM, after ten years as Crown Counsel, now practices personal injury law at Kelliher and Turner, in Victoria, BC, conducting primarily sexual assault, motor vehicle and other accident claims. Diane continues to address violence issues as a member of the BC Community Coordination Committee for Women's Safety Program Working Group and the "Keeping Women Safe" project team. She is a member of the International Criminal Bar, is on the list of counsel for the International Criminal Court and is a former member of the Judicial Council of BC.

**JANE URSEL**

Dr. Jane Ursel is the Director of RESOLVE, a tri provincial research centre on Interpersonal Violence and Violence against women and children with offices in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. She is an Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology at the University of Manitoba. Dr. Ursel is the director of a longitudinal study of the Winnipeg Family Violence Court, the first specialized domestic violence court in Canada. She has collected data since the court was established in 1990. She is also the principal investigator of a tri provincial (prairie) longitudinal study of women who have experienced violence in their intimate partner relations. This study involves over 650 women who will be interviewed 7 times over a period of 4 or more years. They reside in 39 communities in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. Other research areas include, Protection Order legislation and exploitation of women and children in the sex trade.

**MEGAN WALKER**

Megan Walker is the Executive Director of the London Abused Women's Centre. She is a member and past chair of London Coordinating Committee to End Woman Abuse, member of the Mayor's Task Force on Woman Abuse and former member of the Task Force on the Health Effects of Woman Abuse. She is a former member of the Domestic Violence Court Advisory Committee and has been advocating for specific domestic violence legislation to be integrated into the Criminal Code of Canada. Ms Walker has been involved in a number of research projects including the Health Consequences of Gender Based Violence, and the Criminal Justice System Response to Men's Violence against Women in Intimate Relationships. She is currently working on a documentary highlighting the impact of woman abuse on communities. Megan served two terms as a member of London City Council where she chaired the Community and Protective Services Committee, the London Public Library Board and the Middlesex-London Board of Health. She was a member of both the Social Policy and Planning and Comprehensive Policy and Planning Committees. In 1992, Megan was awarded the Commemorative Medal for the 125th Anniversary of the Confederation of Canada for her dedication and contribution to the community and to all fellow Canadians.

**KELLY WATT**

Kelly Watt is a currently completing her PhD in Clinical/Community Psychology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She has conducted training on violence risk assessment and victim safety planning for corrections and probation officers, mental health professionals, and victim service workers in North America and Europe. Kelly has authored or co-authored scientific articles and chapters concerning violence risk assessment and management, intimate partner femicide, and coordinated community responses to intimate partner violence.

**DR. NEIL WEBSDALE**

Dr. Neil Websdale is Professor of Criminal Justice at Northern Arizona University and Principal Project Advisor to and former Director of the National Domestic Violence Fatality Review Initiative. He has published work on domestic violence, the history of crime, policing, social change, and public policy. Dr. Websdale has published four books including: Rural Woman Battering and the Justice System: An Ethnography (Sage Publications), 1998, which won the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Outstanding Book Award in 1999; Understanding Domestic Homicide (Northeastern University Press), 1999; Making Trouble: Cultural Constructions of Crime, Deviance, and Control (Aldine Books, co-edited with Jeff Ferrell), 1999; and Policing the Poor: From Slave Plantation to Public Housing (Northeastern University Press), 2001, winner of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Outstanding Book Award in 2002 and the Gustavus-Myers Center for the Study of Bigotry and Human Rights Award in 2002. He is currently working on a book tentatively entitled Familicidal Hearts, due to be published by Oxford University Press in 2009. His social policy work consists of helping establish a national network of domestic violence fatality review teams. He has also worked on issues related to community policing, full faith and credit, and risk assessment and management in domestic violence cases. Dr. Websdale trained as a sociologist at the University of London, England and currently lives and works in Flagstaff, Arizona.



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