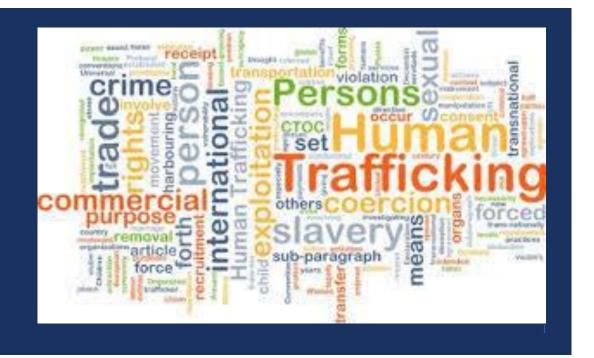
## ADDRESSING HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Fenicia Lewis-Dowlin

September 4, 2019

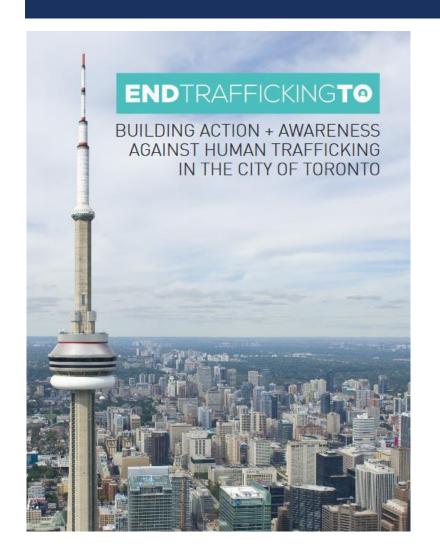


## **OBJECTIVE**

Learn about the depth and magnitude of human trafficking, the actions the City has taken to serve survivors, and the next steps the City will be implementing to support prevention and intervention actions.



### CITY COUNCIL DIRECTION



In 2013, Toronto City Council condemned human trafficking and made a commitment to work with all stakeholders to prevent, respond and end human trafficking in Toronto.

Reports may be found here:

www.toronto.ca/trafficking

### WHAT IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING?

- It's a crime
- Exploitation of vulnerable people for profit
- Recruiting, transporting, harbouring and luring
- Coercion, control and threat to safety
- Includes:
  - Commercial sexual exploitation
  - Forced labour
  - Domestic servitude
  - Forced marriage
  - Forced illegal activities



## FACT OR MYTH? - QUESTION I



Human trafficking is not a significant issue in Toronto.

- □ Fact
- Myth

#### **FACT:**

- Ontario accounts for two-thirds of reported human trafficking cases.
- 65% of Ontario cases happen in Toronto.

Statistics Canada (2018)

## FACT OR MYTH? - QUESTION 2



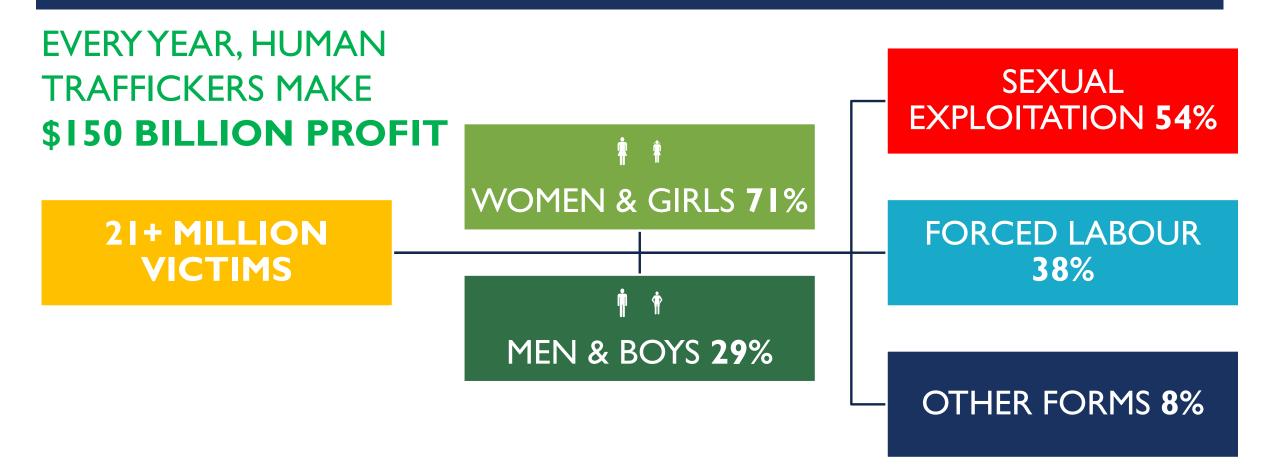
In Canada and internationally, human trafficking is a high profit, low risk crime.

- ☐ Fact
- ☐ Myth

#### **FACT:**

- Every year, worldwide, human traffickers make \$150 Billion in profit.<sup>1</sup>
- In Toronto, earnings from one person being trafficked for sex can be \$250,000 per year.<sup>2</sup>
- While criminal convictions do happen, most cases go unreported.
  - 1 UN Office on Drugs & Crime, International Labour Organization (2017)
  - 2 Toronto Police Human Trafficking Enforcement Team (2018)

#### THE WORLDWIDE COST OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING



UN Office on Drugs & Crime, International Labour Organization, 2017

### INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC TRAFFICKING

# International Trafficking:

Trafficking of a person crossing at least one international border



# Domestic Trafficking:

Trafficking of a person within the boundaries of one country



## FACT OR MYTH? - QUESTION 3



In Canada, the most common type of human trafficking involves people trafficked across international boarders.

- □ Fact
- Myth

## Myth:

Of all reported human trafficking in Canada, the vast majority of people are recruited and trafficked domestically.

#### INTERDIVISIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE

- Affordable Housing Office
- Indigenous Affairs Office
- Municipal Licensing and Standards
- Shelter, Support and Housing Administration
- Social Development, Finance and Administration
- Toronto Community Housing
- Toronto Police Service
- Toronto Public Health



### **COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

- 211 / Findhelp
- Aboriginal Legal Services Toronto
- ARISE Ministry
- Aura Freedom
- Aurora House
- Boost Child & Youth Advocacy Centre
- Bridgenorth
- Butterfly, Asian and Migrant Sex Workers Support Network
- Canadian Alliance for Sex Work Law Reform
- Canadian Centre to End Human Trafficking
- Canadian Women's Foundation
- Children Aid Societies
- Chinese Canadian National Council Toronto
- Covenant House Toronto
- East Metro Youth Services
- FCJ Refugee Centre
- Free Them

- Immigration & Refugee Services Ontario
   Central East Division
- Indigenous Anti-Human Trafficking Liaison Trauma Support
- John Howard Society of Toronto
- Maggie's
- Migrant Workers Mobile Program
- Ministry for Social Justice, Peace and Care of Earth with the Sisters of St. Joseph of Toronto
- Native Child and Family Services of Toronto
- Sick Kids
- Sisters of St. Joseph of Toronto
- The Salvation Army

#### ... and several others

### WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT VULNERABILITIES

- Addictions
- Disabilities (cognitive, intellectual)
- Economic, political and social instability
- Homelessness
- Gang involvement
- Gender inequality

- Indigenous girls, boys, women, non-binary
- Mental health
- Newcomer or Refugee
- Poverty
- Racism and discrimination
- Trans persons
- Youth



### THE FOUR STAGES OF EXPLOITATION

#### LURING

- Assessing for the right person
- Making them feel special
- Collecting as much information as possible about them

# GROOMING & GAMING

- Engaging in physical intimacy
- Making promises based on information collected
- Introducing illicit drugs

# COERCION & MANIPULATION

- Sending mixed messages by withdrawing attention abruptly
- Using gained information against them
- Beginning to ask them to do things sexually

## **EXPLOITATION**

- Has broken down their self-esteem
- Threatens their loved ones based on information collected previously
- Makes them feel indebted

#### GENERAL INDICATORS

- Fear & hyper-vigilance
- Physical or sexual abuse
- Poor hygiene
- Malnutrition
- Restriction of movement
- Branding or scarring that may indicate ownership
- Accompanied by someone who speaks for them
- No access to personal possessions, ID or money
- Unfamiliar with surroundings
- Distrust authorities
- Isolation / limited family/social contact

#### RESPONSE TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Ontario's Strategy to End Human Trafficking – Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services

Report: First Year Progress Report

National Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking – Public Safety Canada (weblink)



Raise awareness that human trafficking is a Toronto issue



#### **Protection**

Support people who are being trafficked and help them make informed decisions



#### **Prosecution**

Cooperate in any police investigation or legal proceeding involving a client who has been trafficked.



#### **Partnerships**

Know about relevant community partners and provide appropriate referrals

## CITY OF TORONTO ACTIONS TO ADDRESS HUMAN TRAFFICKING

- Fund community agencies that address survivors' needs
- Support Toronto Counter-Human Trafficking Network
- Worked with Covenant House:
  - 2 Crisis Beds
  - Avdell Intermediate Home
  - Rogers Transitional Home
- Trained City staff from various Divisions
- Changes to the Housing Act Special Priority Program & Housing Subsidy
- Created the Toronto Police Human Trafficking Enforcement Team
- Advocated for a National Hotline



## AVDELL INTERMEDIATE HOME (VIDEO BELOW)



Click photo to watch video

#### DATA

## Covenant House – Survivors of sex trafficking

- 157 cases (since 2015)
- Rogers Home has housed 15 young women, since opening in Sept 2016

#### **FOCUS Toronto\* – Situation Tables**

A total of 28 youth being "groomed" or at want to exit the sex trade (since 2018)

## Special Priority Program – Shelter, Support and Housing Administration

21 applications have been approved (since 2018)

## TORONTO POLICE DATA

Classification	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Total
Charges Laid	365	463	529	373	410	2140
Occurrence	149	170	236	253	284	1092
Arrests	59	61	77	52	46	295
Victims	33	30	67	60	60	250
Convictions	11	11	8	14	12	56



#### 2018-2019: COMMUNITY CONSULTATIONS

- Input from community partners and persons with lived-experience help the City to:
  - Identify and respond to survivors' needs within the City's scope and capacity; and
  - Identify operational procedures to ensure the client and City staff are safe

#### 2019 REPORT: SUPPORTING SURVIVORS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

**Outreach Model:** develop a pilot for the purpose of building trusting relationships, providing support and referrals to relevant services, and informing workers of their rights

HT Awareness Training: develop a module and make available to appropriate frontline, supervisory and management staff at all relevant and interested City Agencies, Corporations and Divisions

HT National Hotline Posters: coordinate the distribution of posters regarding the national human trafficking hotline, and the Access Without Fear Policy, to all relevant and interested City Agencies, Corporations and Divisions

### NATIONAL HOTLINE

1.833.900.1010

#### **Online:**

https://www.canadianhumantraffickinghotline.ca/

English

French

Cantonese

Mandarin

**Tagalog** 

Spanish

Italian

Portugese

**Tamil** 

Persian (Farsi)

Urdu

Russian



If you are a victim/survivor of forced prostitution or forced labour, or think someone is, we can help.



Registered Canadian Charity:

1.833.900.1010

ONLINE canadianhumantraffickinghotline.ca

24/7 | Toll Free | Confidential | 200+ languages

#### OTHER RESOURCES

- Boost Child & Youth Advocacy Centre <u>www.boostforkids.org</u> / 1.855.424.1100
- Canadian Centre for Child Protection <u>www.cybertip.ca</u>
- Covenant House <u>www.covenanthousetoronto.ca</u> / 416.593.4849 or 1.800.435.7305
- Crime Stoppers 1.800.222.TIPS (8477)
- East Metro Youth Services <u>www.emys.on.ca</u> / 416.452.3018
- Justice for Children & Youth <a href="https://www.jfcy.org/1.866.999">www.jfcy.org/1.866.999</a>.JFCY (5329)
- Kids Help Phone <u>www.kidshelpphone.ca</u> / 1.800.668.6868
- National Dating Abuse Helpline <u>www.loveisrespect.org</u> / 1.866.331.9474
- Sex Trade 101 www.sextrade101.com / 1.866.528.7109

#### OTHER RESOURCES

- The Canadian Centre to End Human Trafficking <a href="www.canadiancentretoendhumantrafficking.ca">www.canadiancentretoendhumantrafficking.ca</a>
- The Chrysalis Network <u>www.chrysalisnetwork.org</u> / 1.866.528.7109
- The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/ht-tp/index-eng.htm
- The Victims Crisis Assistance and Referral Services (VCARS)
   www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/ovss/programs.php / 1.888.579.2888 or 416.314.2447
- The Victims Quick Response Program (VQRP)
   www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/ovss/programs.php
- Toronto Police Services: The Human Trafficking Enforcement Team (HTET) www.torontopolice.on.ca/sexcrimes / 416.808.8385
- Victim Witness Assistance Program (V/WAP)
   www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/ovss/programs.php

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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