PRÉVACTION

REPORT

TO

PHASE 2 OF THE CORNWALL PUBLIC INQUIRY

Presented to Justice Normand Glaude, Commissioner
By the members of PrévAction
On
Friday, September 26, 2008
PrévAction
625 Montreal Road
Cornwall, ON
K6H 1C3

September 26, 2008

Justice Normand Glaude, Commissioner
Cornwall Public Inquiry
709 Cotton Mill Street
Cornwall, ON
K6H 7K7

Dear Justice Glaude:

Enclosed you will find the final report representing the work accomplished during 2007 and 2008 by the members of PrévAction and its four subcommittees, i.e., Community Education, Prevention, Community Renewal, and Caring.

We are sincerely appreciative for the opportunity that you have given us to become involved in our community in such a meaningful manner. The many discussions in formal and informal settings with survivors, service providers, leaders of private enterprise, and civic leaders have given shape to the direction leading us to healing and to reconciliation in our community.

Our work is not complete. Initiatives involving community development and the establishment of working partnerships take time. Your consideration for a 6-month extension of our research activities is timely; the approval of our request will help us cap efforts required to produce a detailed 5-Year Plan. All the members of PrévAction are committed for the next 5 years to nurturing and supporting the identified 5-Year Plan programs and initiatives that will be identified in March 2009 to lead our community to healing and to reconciliation.

Please accept our utmost gratitude for your trust and for your faith in our efforts. We look forward to being apprised of your decisions. We remain faithful servants to our community’s quest concerning healing and reconciliation.

Sincerely,

Richard Allaire, Chair
PrévAction
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Phase 2 Advisory Panel of the Cornwall Public Inquiry has the mandate to promote healing and reconciliation within our community. During a series of Cornwall Public Inquiry Phase 2 Advisory Panel meetings in 2006, a citizen’s group was formed. The group, independent of Phase 2 of the Cornwall Public Inquiry, selected the name “PrévAction,” and began the work of moving selected Phase 2 projects from talk to action. The ultimate goal is to create a 5-year strategic community development plan in keeping with PrévAction’s mission as a catalyst organization to address community renewal and reconciliation work related to sexual abuse and its prevention.

PrévAction comprises individuals who have come together to collectively provide leadership to the community development work required in Cornwall and area subsequent to the inquiry. The group sees itself as a bridge and a catalyst in the transformation relay from advisory panel work to fieldwork, arising from Phase 2 community meetings. The work of PrévAction will continue beyond the life of the inquiry and, as such, the members have made a five-year commitment to supporting healing and reconciliation activities in Cornwall and in Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry.

The selected PrévAction projects were identified according to four recurring themes that had arisen from the Phase 2 meetings: Prevention, Caring, Community Renewal and Community Education. During subsequent community meetings, ideas surrounding the four themes were studied and discussed at length. From these discussions emerged the basic tenets for concrete projects complimenting the four recurring themes. (Appendix 1: Fact Sheet)

The ultimate goal of these projects is to create a five-year strategic community development plan in keeping with PrévAction’s mission, as a catalyst organization, to address community renewal and reconciliation work related to the historical sexual abuse allegations. Each goal has its own objectives and is led by a subcommittee comprised of volunteer community members and members of PrévAction.

During 2007 and 2008, the members of PrévAction met at least monthly as did the members of the subcommittee work groups, Community Education, Prevention, Caring, and Community Renewal. From its inception, PrévAction’s membership has included members of the community as well as survivor representation. The subcommittee members represent survivor, service providers, and civic leaders. On an on-going basis, each subcommittee reviews the membership of its respective subcommittee; new members are added as required to assure balanced expertise and representation. (Appendix 2: Membership)
Input for PrévAction projects from survivor groups was especially prevalent up to and including July/August 2008. PrévAction, acknowledging its role as a catalyst organization, acquiesced to survivor wishes to become autonomous and to solely lead the development of particular projects such as the Men’s Safe House and the Men’s First Response Centre. The recorded minutes of PrévAction meetings duly testify to the willingness on the part of PrévAction members to support the efforts of the survivors as suggested by the survivor group/individuals themselves. In the proposed contract, September 2008 to March 2009, PrévAction has clearly stated its intention to have a clearly identified detailed support strategy for survivor leadership initiatives that would include how to support survivor lead projects and build working relationships.

Consultations with survivor groups and consultations with community members were identified by PrévAction members as of primary importance to guide their discussions and their deliberations about healing and reconciliation. During the 2008 spring and summer months, under the initiative and the direction of the Caring – Men’s Safe House committee members, PrévAction held three conferences for survivor groups led by professionals whose expertise includes community development. The goal of these sessions was to gather the survivors’ suggestions for community healing and reconciliation. A deeper understanding of the suffering and a deeper understanding of the impact of sexual abuse were gained by PrévAction members and by the community members who attended the conferences. The three conferences propelled the healing and reconciliation discussions with survivors in an unanticipated direction. There grew an awareness of the survivors’ need to speak of their trauma and their subsequent survival in public forums. Participants relayed to the Phase 2 Advisory Panel members that a more comprehensive program would be required to allow survivors the opportunity to share their experiences with others. The Phase 2 Advisory Panel members agreed and concluded that, to liaise with community groups in public forums, survivors would benefit from attending sessions surrounding leadership and presentation. The Phase 2 Advisory Panel members then undertook the creation of these opportunities for the survivor group.

Under the initiative and the direction of the Community Education committee, PrévAction held a series of eight Community Leaders Consultation Forums. Community leaders representing 50 community organizations (Appendix 3: Agencies and service providers represented at the Community Leaders Consultation Forums) were invited to attend one of eight Community Leaders Consultation Forums scheduled on the following dates: April 21, 2008; April 28, 2008; May 5, 2008; May 26, 2008; June 3, 2008; June 5, 2008; June 9, 2008; June 17, 2008.

By limiting the number of participants to a maximum of 12 at each forum, PrévAction engaged in meaningful dialogue with 50 of the community’s leaders and service providers. The purpose of the forums was twofold:
(1) To seek the input of service providers/community leaders about the proposed projects to be submitted to the Cornwall Public Inquiry’s Commissioner at the end of September;
To increase PrévAction’s understanding of the work and the areas of responsibility of the community’s service providers.

The agenda comprised introductions and a description of the work of PrévAction and its subcommittees. Participants engaged in discussion and, referring to their work and area of expertise, provided valuable insights, suggestions, advice, proposals for partnerships, etc. All comments and suggestions were duly noted and recorded. **(Appendix 4: Community Leaders Consultation Forums)** The information gathered at the forums served the PrévAction members well in their efforts to identify program priorities and to affirm the direction of the 5-Year Plan.

On April 29, 30 and on May 1, 2008, members of the Caring Men’s Safe House and Men’s First Response Centre subcommittees visited four Ontario sites having programs related to the PrévAction Caring committee objectives. The committee representatives included a survivor, the manager of probation services, a Witness & Counselling Support coordinator, and the PrévAction research coordinator. The purpose of the field trip was to look at the organization of the provision of crisis intervention services in other Ontario communities and to present this information for discussion to the PrévAction and the Caring committee members. The sites visited are as follows:

1. The Domestic Violence Project in Kitchener, ON, is a collaborative of agencies that provides seamless services to victims of domestic violence.
2. Community Justice Initiatives in Kitchener, ON, provides conflict resolution for individuals and groups; assistance to victims in the preparation of statements for court; help to people accessing community support services
3. Child Witness Centre of Waterloo offers impartial support to children who have been victims or witnesses of crimes.
4. The Gatehouse provides a comfortable non-threatening environment to help survivors of child abuse during the investigation process. The Gatehouse also offers programs for adults who have experienced child abuse. **(Appendix 5: Field Trip Report, Kitchener-Waterloo and Toronto)**

The Community Education, Prevention, Caring, and Community Renewal subcommittee reports following the Executive Summary reflect the culmination of all activities and discussions held in PrévAction and subcommittee meetings as well as the knowledge gained from the important dialogue that emerged from the public activities with survivor groups and with community representatives. This reports’ organizational framework is linear in nature with a starting point, steps and final end-point. The organizational framework does not reflect the PrévAction community development experience in its entirety; experiences often start and stall several times and unforeseen factors can delight and complicate at the same time.

To facilitate the reporting of the work of the members of the committees the subcommittee reports have been organized under the following headings:

- Rationale
- Vision: Identification of Actions Supporting Vision
- Progress To Date
- Major Events
- 5-Year Action Plan: Principles; Activities and Active Research Components

In the following subcommittee reports, each subcommittee’s description of further activities required to complete the 5-Year Action Plan is a testimony to the time required and to the circuitous nature of work related to community development. A proposal involving action research presented by PrévAction members in mid-September 2008, outlines further active research required to complete the next steps culminating in a comprehensive 5-Year Plan for the community of Cornwall and Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry to move towards healing and reconciliation.

The PrévAction Report to Phase 2 of the Cornwall Public Inquiry was written by Claire Winchester, Research Coordinator, PrévAction
PRÉVACTION

COMMUNITY EDUCATION
PRÉVACTION
COMMUNITY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

September 2008

The members of PrévAction identified community education as the basic and as the essential component required to lead the general population of Cornwall and area to healing and to reconciliation. This premise is supported by general research, by committee work, and by the input provided by survivors of sexual abuse and by community leaders during a series of conferences, workshops, and forums.

I Rationale

The members of PrévAction and the members of the Community Education subcommittee identified community education as the starting point for all efforts leading to healing and to reconciliation. After discussion with community groups and leaders and meetings with field workers, the members of PrévAction concluded that the provision of bias-free information from current research and from acknowledged professional sources presented in lay terms highlighting the myriad facets of sexual abuse and the essential components to assure its prevention were of primary importance and represented the first steps leading to healing and to reconciliation.

II Vision

At the start of their work in 2007, the members of the PrévAction Community Education Committee stated their vision as follows: Promote the harmonization of sexual abuse education programs among the community organizations involved in public education.

Identification of Actions Supporting Vision

At the beginning of the committee’s tenure in 2007, the members identified a series of actions supporting the committee’s vision statement:

- Create a community education plan for the prevention of sexual abuse
- Develop recommendations to encourage healing and reconciliation
- Implement interactive community activities to hear viewpoints and experiences
- Meet with community groups that deal with sexual abuse issues to seek an understanding of current approaches and practices
- Collate, share, and distribute community resource list
- Create a public awareness program to promote best practices for the prevention of sexual abuse
- Recruit individuals to assist in the consultation process and to promote practices for the prevention of abuse
III **Progress To Date**

The work of the members of the Community Education Committee supported by the members of PrévAction was identified in 2007 as being of utmost importance to a community in the throes of communal self-discovery concerning matters of sexual abuse and prevention. A series of goals and objectives were realized and identified as follows:

**Identifying Issues Relating to Sexual Abuse and Prevention:**

- Grasping the enormity of the opportunity created by Phase 1 of the Cornwall Public Inquiry and assimilating emerging information to begin the understanding of the historical, societal, psychological, behavioural, emotional, political, and socio-economic facets of sexual abuse

**Knowing More About Community Services**

- Identifying the community partners and organizations with which to liaise; understanding their role in providing community education about sexual abuse and prevention
- Meeting with survivors during daylong conferences. Understanding needs and current psychosocial realities
- Meeting with over 50 leaders of local community organizations involving service providers and civic leaders to learn more about community organizations and their role involving service provided to historical and present survivors of sexual abuse
- Listing some of the current sexual abuse and prevention education programs aimed at children and their parents and getting preliminary information as to their scope and their levels of success.
- Identifying organizations and agencies including minor sports associations that provide services for youth from 0 to 18 years of age. *(Appendix 6: Cornwall & Area Youth Services)*

**Seeing a Need for Services and Resources**

- Analyzing the gaps in service as they relate to community education
- Understanding the current realities re community organizations’ roles and responsibilities as they apply to sexual abuse and prevention and including current practices and limitations due to staffing, budget, etc.

**Initiating Preliminary Exploration – Global Approach**

- Setting up an exploratory meeting with officials at the Ministry of Education involved in the development of safe school programming to assess interest in sexual abuse and prevention curricula, teacher training and in-service programs, and additional school resources/support.
Identifying the Next Steps

- Reviewing and analyzing the recurring themes/recommendations gathered from community leaders at the Community Leaders Consultation Forums; including suggestions and advice in the next research components
- Completing research and identifying additional research components
- Creating a first attempt at a draft five-year action plan
- Reviewing and revisiting the draft 5-year action plan in light of additional research

Major Events

Community Consultations:

Community leaders representing over 50 community organizations (Appendix 3: Agencies and service providers represented at the Community Leaders Consultation Forums) were invited to attend one of eight Community Leaders Consultation Forums. PrévAction engaged in meaningful dialogue with community’s leaders and service providers representing 50 agencies. (Appendix 4: Community Leaders Consultation Forums)

The following forum suggestions and comments for community education underline the importance of establishing community education initiatives that will lead the community to healing and to reconciliation:

1. **Securing sustainable long-term funding for Education Programs:** Many service providers include an educational component in their activities, but this component is often the first to be cut when funding is limited. Funding must be secured to ensure research, planning and continued implementation of all education programs.

2. **Importance of community education relating to sexual abuse:** The aim is to inform and educate, transform mentalities and empower individuals: timely, essential and worthwhile goals. Challenges to be noted: the diversity of the population must be respected (ex.: age, language, ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds, mental ability); some resistance is to be expected; need to be positive.

3. **Identification of existing school-based education programs:** Various organizations have developed school-based programs addressing bullying, violence, dating and relating, sexual abuse and prevention. Concerns named pertain to curriculum, training of teachers and access for community organizations.

4. **Community education outreach programs & sites:** Many institutions such as Agape, Literacy Council, the Children’s Aid Society, and the Children’s Treatment Centre, are key to reaching at risk children and their families. We need to build on their successes. Furthermore, all agencies dealing with children should ensure training of staff and volunteers.
5. In-School Sexual Abuse Ed Programs: A broad consensus exists that this issue needs to be addressed by the curriculum itself, starting in elementary grades. Ministry of Education needs to be lobbied for this. Training will have to be integrated into teacher formation programs. N.B.: All school staff should also receive training in handling disclosures.

6. Creation of partnerships in the delivery of sexual abuse programs: Partnerships already exist in this area: we must recognize them and build on them.

7. Communication of service provider roles and responsibilities: It is important that service providers be integrated into the planning and delivering of educational programs. The existence of these providers and the specific services they deliver should be part of these programs. Members of the community, survivors, staff of these agencies must all become more aware of the range of services offered to our community.

8. Dealing with disclosures: Professional persons dealing with children and youth should be trained to recognize signs of abuse and to receive and respond to disclosures of such abuse. Educational programs must include such training, as they become catalysts for disclosure.

9. Victims/Perpetrator Models: Examine existing research models for future reference

10. Internet & Sexual Perpetrators: Become familiar with and support all programs aimed at protecting children from internet sexual abuse.

11. Self-determination: Encourage through sexual abuse and prevention educational program endeavours, self-confidence of individuals when dealing with sexual abuse and prevention

12. Cornwall’s Image: Educate the public about sexual abuse and prevention and stress that sexual abuse is a universal problem. Promote affirmative actions being taken to address this universal problem.

IV Community Education 5-Year Action Plan

Principles

As a result of discussions held with community leaders during the eight consultation forums, and as a result of continued investigation and discussion by the members of PrévAction and the members of the Community Education committee, three distinct principles were identified capturing the essence of the work to be accomplished in the Cornwall community within the next 5 years:
1. Build a basic foundation to educate the public on the deviant characteristics of sexual offenders, the methods used by pedophiles, and the indicators that a child or a teen has been abused.
2. Raise awareness of the dangers of sexual abuse and early spotting and identification of suspect pedophiliac behaviour resulting in a reduction of the incidence of sexual abuse.
3. Engage all community partners in the dissemination of information related to sexual abuse and its prevention

**Activities and Active Research Components leading to the implementation of the Community Education 5-Year Action Plan**

The members of the Community Education Committee identified four tasks and further research activities required to engage the community and to establish mainstream sexual abuse and prevention community education programs. Included in the activities are the community education recommendations from community leaders recorded during the eight Community Leaders Consultation Forums.

The four focused activities will culminate in the selection and creation of a comprehensive community education projects with detailed itemized budgets outlined in a 5-year plan and with the identification of a key organization(s) to lead community education initiatives.

1. **Research activities:** To assess community awareness and understanding of sexual abuse and its prevention
   - Implement qualitative and quantitative active research components involving youth and parents/caregivers and the community gauging current perceptions, beliefs, biases, knowledge concerning sexual abuse and its prevention
   - Consult with survivor groups to ensure that the message is appropriate and accurate

2. **Educational Programming:** The 5-Year Plan will incorporate the exploration of the establishment of school programming at the primary, junior, intermediate and senior levels and educational programming for the general community:
   - During the following 6-month contract, initiate the first steps to establish liaison with various government advisory bodies that deal with child and youth issues and education e.g. Ministry of Education, Ministry of Children and Youth Services, Ministry of Community and Social Services, Service Canada, Ministry of the Attorney General, etc.
   - Include in the 5-Year Plan Report a process for the exploration and support for the implementation of primary, junior, intermediate and senior school-based sexual abuse and prevention curricula; the implementation of sexual abuse and prevention teacher training and teacher in-service programs; the additional school-based resources to assist staff when dealing with disclosures of sexual abuse; the sexual abuse and prevention
training of all community agency staff dealing with children; and the support of organizations dealing with internet sexual predators.

3. **Outreach Activities**: Visits/exploratory meetings/internet research of successful national and international community initiatives and educational programming as they relate to sexual abuse and prevention
   - Meet with institutions, service clubs and agencies that deal with sexual abuse issues including minor sports organizations and other organizations and seek to understand their approach and the policies and procedures adopted by their organizations
   - Include in the 5-Year Plan, a process for the development of the following resource lists: sexual abuse and prevention programs available from local community organizations; school-based programs developed by local organizations addressing bullying, violence, dating and relating, sexual abuse and prevention; applicable sexual abuse and prevention programs offered across Canada and across the United States

4. **Communication Plan**: Community leaders during the Consultation Forums stressed the need to inform and educate; to transform mentalities and to empower individuals.
   - Meet with the Cornwall and area media for the purpose of developing an effective news information plan that would inform the general public, at appropriate times, of the best practices and efforts of the institutions, service clubs, agencies, minor sports organizations and other organizations in Cornwall and area.
   - Seek survivor input and involvement concerning the dissemination of information to media groups and the description of abuse and its short and long-term effects
   - Create a plan for public meetings for the purpose of providing a progress report on PrévAction’s research activities will encourage further community engagement surrounding sexual abuse and its prevention.
PRÉVACTION

PREVENTION
PRÉVACTION
PREVENTION COMMITTEE

September 2008

The members of PrévAction identified the prevention of sexual abuse as the basic and underlying component driving the work and the discussions of all of the PrévAction committees. Prevention thus is the ultimate goal of all healing and reconciliation activities. This premise is supported by general research, by committee work, and by the input provided by survivors of sexual abuse and by community leaders during a series of conferences, workshops, and forums. Survivors, especially, have asserted many times that their suffering and subsequent disclosures and attempts at coming to terms with their past involvement with sexual predators will have been worthwhile if sexual predators’ activities are foiled by targeted education programs, subsequent enhanced understanding, media communication, and the implementation of accessible controls and reporting methods.

I  Rationale

The members of PrévAction and the members of the Prevention committee identified prevention as the ultimate goal of all efforts leading to healing and to reconciliation. At the very onset of discussions, programming for children and uniform streamlined screening processes for all adults, especially adult volunteers, associated with children programming were given top consideration and priority. After discussion with community groups and leaders and meetings with field workers, the members of PrévAction and the members of the Prevention committee realized that the vision, principles and priorities of the Community Education committee were closely linked to prevention activities. They concluded that the provision of bias-free information from current research and from acknowledged professional sources presented in lay terms highlighting the myriad facets of sexual abuse and the essential components to assure its prevention were of primary importance and represented the first steps leading to healing and to reconciliation.

II  Vision

At the start of their work in 2007, the members of the PrévAction Prevention committee stated their vision as follows: Foster community opportunities to aid and to assist the prevention of sexual abuse.

Identification of Actions Supporting Vision

At the beginning of the committee’s tenure in 2007, the members identified a series of actions supporting the committee’s vision statement:
Facilitate networking with service provider groups to share mutual information and best practices relating to volunteerism

Promote the harmonization of volunteer screening procedures and services

Support youth initiatives by encouraging community partnerships

Pursue expanded youth centre services to other parts of the community through support for the Boys and Girls Club of Cornwall and Area

Liaise with community organizations to establish preventative measures for sexual abuse in our community

Develop restorative justice

Establish a “circle of angels” to help perpetrators reintegrate into society and avoid re-offending

III Progress To Date

The work of the members of the Prevention Committee supported by the members of PrévAction was identified in 2007 as the ultimate goal for all PrévAction activities leading to healing and to reconciliation. A series of goals and objectives were realized for each stated action as follows:

*Facilitate networking with service provider groups to share mutual information and best practices relating to volunteerism*

The members of the Prevention committee were informed that a group of service providers had had preliminary meetings to discuss all issues surrounding volunteers. Most service providers rely on the services of community volunteers; they have mutual interest in exploring issues such as recruitment and retention, training, screening, policies and procedures. PrévAction members were apprised of the work of this informal committee and the Prevention committee members were invited to attend the meetings and to join in the discussions.

*Promote the harmonization of volunteer screening procedures and services.*

The members of the Prevention committee discovered that volunteers for service providers are given specialized training specifically addressing the types of services offered by respective service providers. Harmonizing screening procedures and services was discussed at length. The members representing service organizations concluded that harmonization of volunteer screening procedures and services would not serve existing organizations well. Instead, the members of the committee considered important the organization and implementation of yearly volunteer fairs. A yearly volunteer fair was considered the best vehicle for the dissemination of information to the community about opportunities for volunteerism. Further to this initiative, the informal volunteer committee decided to seek funding to establish a Volunteer Board and sought funding under the auspices of the Sexual Assault Support Services (SASS) for such through the Trillium Foundation. PrévAction as well as other community organizations stated their support for this initiative.
Support youth initiatives by encouraging community partnerships
The members of the Prevention Committee supported the efforts of two other PrévAction subcommittees, that is, the Community Renewal Committee that provided a list of all youth programs and services in Cornwall and area and the Community Education committee that implemented the Community Leaders Consultation Forums.

Pursue expanded youth centre services to other parts of the community through support for the Boys and Girls Club of Cornwall and Area
To provide a safe, supportive place where children and youth can experience new opportunities, overcome barriers, build positive relationships and develop confidence and skills for life. The Boys & Girls Club reaches out to children and youth each year through after-school, weekend and summer programs that build self-esteem and help to develop stronger social skills. After-school and weekend hours are a critical time for youth. That time can represent either an opportunity to learn and grow, through quality after-school programs, or a time of risk to youth's health and safety. The after-school hours are the peak time for juvenile crime and risky behaviors such as alcohol and drug use. Experts agree that after-school programs offer a healthy and positive alternative. These programs keep kids safe, improve academic achievement and help relieve the stresses on today's working families. They can serve as important youth violence prevention and intervention strategies.

Liaise with community organizations to establish preventative measures for sexual abuse in our community
This goal and objective was reached through dialogue during and pursuant to the Community Leaders Consultation Forums.

Develop restorative justice. Establish a “circle of angels” to help perpetrators reintegrate into society and avoid re-offending
No follow-up activities were specifically targeted for these two suggested initiatives. The Ministry of the Attorney General has implemented restorative justice measures in the territory of Akwesasne as part of an Aboriginal community justice system. The program offers pre- and post-charge direct accountability services to adults and youth in the criminal justice system. In appropriate cases, the program ensures that offenders will make amends directly to their victims and the community and receive cultural and healing supports that reduce the risk of re-offending. The establishment of a “circle of angels” is being examined in communities such as Kitchener-Waterloo that have launched initial research.

Identifying the Next Steps

- Review and analyzing the recurring themes/recommendations gathered from community leaders at the Community Leaders Consultation
- Identify required additional research components
- Create a five-year action plan for prevention of sexual abuse activities
Major Events

Community Consultations:

Community leaders representing 50 community organizations (Appendix 3: Agencies and service providers represented at the Community Leaders Consultation Forums) were invited to attend one of eight Community Leaders Consultation Forums. The subsequent following synthesized suggestions and comments for prevention underline the importance of establishing prevention initiatives that will lead the community to healing and to reconciliation (Appendix 4: Community Leaders Consultation Forums):

1. Creation of a Volunteer Agency: Collaboration amongst agencies in recruiting, training, screening and managing volunteers is desirable. Present resources and efforts are identified and should be supported. The Social Development Council should be involved in this support.

2. Coordination of volunteer screening & training: Diversity among agencies (policies, traditions, liability issues) needs to be recognized and integrated into collaborative programs dealing with volunteer management.

3. Clubs for children: The “Boys’ & Girls’ Club” is recognized as an excellent initiative for our community and should be supported. At the same time, it cannot respond to all categories of youth and all their needs: there is therefore a need to identify other extra-curricular activities for children and youth and integrate them in a broad-based approach to prevention.

4. Funding For Children’s Programs: Funding is an issue. Needs should be prioritized and avenues of funding identified and explored.

5. Statistical Information: Research should be used to determine appropriate plans of action.

6. Prevention & Education: Education is an essential component of prevention; thus prevention initiatives should be closely linked to community education initiatives.

IV Prevention 5-Year Action Plan

Principles

As a result of discussions held with community leaders during the eight consultation forums, and as a result of continued investigation and discussion by the members of PrévAction and the members of the Prevention committee, two distinct principles were identified capturing the essence of the work to be accomplished in the Cornwall community within the next 5 years.
The first principle involves prevention activities focusing on children. The underlying tenets are that if children are involved in safe activities in nurturing and supportive environments after school with local children and youth organizations, that the incidence and prevalence of sexual abuse will be minimized. The second principle involves assuring that, for all community organization, caregivers and volunteers are thoroughly screened and vetted before being allowed proximity to children and to youth and that organizations share volunteer resources such as policies, procedures, training, etc., and that they are given ample opportunities to liaise and to learn from each other.

Activities and Active Research Components leading to the implementation of the Prevention 5-Year Action Plan

The following two focused activities will culminate in the selection and creation of a comprehensive prevention projects with detailed itemized budgets outlined in a 5-year plan and with the identification of a key organization(s) to lead prevention initiatives:

1. Research Activity: The Boys and Girls Club

   In its role as catalyst, PrévAction has supported the work of an independent board involved in the implementation of the Boys and Girls Club. The members of PrévAction viewed the advent of such an organization as one of many initiatives leading to effective programming in the prevention of the sexual abuse of children and youth. The directors of the board of the Boys and Girls Club have purchased a building for its headquarters and have identified locations for 3 satellite club houses in identified high needs neighborhoods. The directors have also hired their executive director. The Boys and Girls Club is a new not-for-profit organization and has confirmed its mission statement: “To provide a safe, supportive place where children and youth can experience new opportunities, overcome barriers, build positive relationships, and develop confidence and skills for life.”

   The Boys and Girls Club has identified its core values as follows: “In our work with children, youth, families and communities, all Boys and Girls Clubs are guided by the following Core Values. They define us as a movement and are the standard against which all Boys and Girls Club services are measured.
   Inclusion & Opportunity: We strive to offer children and youth from all economic, cultural and social backgrounds access to the resources, supports and opportunities that will enable them to overcome barriers and achieve their positive potential in life.
   Respect & Belonging: We provide a safe, supportive place, where every child is listened to, respected and valued in an environment of inclusion and acceptance. Our staff and volunteers model honesty, fair play, positive attitude, cooperation and respect for self and others.
   Empowerment: We believe all young people can grow into responsible, contributing and self-reliant members of society. Children and youth are at the centre of everything we do. Through adventure, play and discovery, we encourage and empower them to develop
healthy lifestyles, a life-long passion for learning, leadership, life skills and a sense of social responsibility.

**Collaboration:** We work together with families and volunteers in each community, in partnership with the public and private sector, to create healthy community solutions to providing children and youth with what they need for optimal development.

**Speaking Out:** We speak out on behalf of children, youth and their families to reduce disadvantage, enhance their lives and enable their voices and ideas to be heard.”

The PrévAction members intend to support of the Boys and Girls Club by initiating a vital research component to identify specific programming needed for children and youth participating in Boys and Girls Club activities. The Boys and Girls Club of Canada have Operating Standards that require both start-up and on-going research. They include 3 levels of achievement: Achieving, Advancing, and Excelling. The Achieving Level requires that a club assess community needs on an ongoing basis; the Advancing Level, that the club complete a needs assessment within the past five years; and the Excelling Level, that the club conduct an annual analysis of the internal and external environment to plan for emerging trends, challenges, and opportunities. In the next six months, PrévAction intends to assist with securing the Achieving Level. As part of the 5-Year Plan PrévAction will consider assisting the Boys and Girls Club secure the Advancing and the Excelling Levels.

2. **Volunteer Agency/Board**

The members of PrévAction and the members of the Prevention subcommittee intend to continue to liaise with and support local community organizations in their quest to establish a Volunteer Agency/Board.
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COMMUNITY RENEWAL
The members of PrévAction identified community renewal as an important component to lead the general population of Cornwall and area to healing and to reconciliation. In their research and analysis, the members’ approach was proactive and inclusive. Their focus centered on the importance of emphasizing the positives in the community, celebrating its successes, and adding beneficial improvements to existing community and civic projects. The direction taken by the committee is supported by general research, by committee work, and by the input provided by survivors of sexual abuse and by community leaders during a series of conferences, workshops, and forums.

I  Rationale

The members of PrévAction and the members of the Community Renewal subcommittee identified community renewal initiatives as important to the community to help the city move towards healing and reconciliation. The members’ goals involved looking at the community from an inward perspective and from an outward perspective. The group’s primary questions centered on what exists in the Cornwall community that the citizens need to know, that they need to broadcast, and that they need to celebrate. The secondary questions became what improvements could be made to the city’s many attributes that need to be considered, that require further research and analysis, and that need support. Because of their experience, survivors of sexual abuse have expressed feeling marginalized from the mainstream community. Our city, as a revitalized entity, can go far in bridging this gap and in facilitating social inclusion for survivors and their families as well as for all other marginalized groups.

II  Vision

PrévAction’s Community Renewal Committee vision is elaborated as follows:

(1) Promote understanding of the links between education, health, economic development, and social problems
(2) Promote equal access to recreation
(3) Foster culture change
(4) Harness the potential within the community

Identification of Actions Supporting Vision

The members of the Community Renewal committee identified a series of actions supporting the committee’s vision statements:

(1) Promote understanding of the links between education, health, economic development, and social problems
- Broaden committee membership to include civic leaders
- Promote and facilitate discussions between civic, education, health, service sectors

(2) Promote equal access to recreation
- Investigate the extension of the bike path in and around Cornwall
- Research the feasibility of the creation of a city beach along the Cornwall waterfront
- Assess and support local youth participation in minor sports, and all other youth-driven sports programs

(3) Foster culture change
- Identify activities to celebrate the positives in the Cornwall community
- Publish human/community interest newspaper articles about Cornwall and its citizens written by St. Lawrence College journalism students and by citizens
- Showcase continuous quality of community organizations and programs

(4) Harness the potential within the community
- Learn from other communities: research province-wide positive results oriented community initiatives
- Learn about the role and impact of community foundations and relevancy for the Cornwall community
- List all existing services for children and youth; identify gaps and synergies

III Progress To Date

The work of the members of the Community Renewal Committee supported by the members of PrévAction was identified in 2007 as being of utmost importance to a community in the throes of communal self-discovery concerning matters of sexual abuse and prevention. A series of activities were realized and are identified as follows:

Community Leaders Consultation Forums:

Discussions were held about community renewal during the eight Community Leaders Consultation Forums. The participants represented over 50 service provider agencies and civic/municipal organizations. (Appendix 3: Agencies and service providers represented at the Community Leaders Consultation Forums) The following suggestions and comments underlined the importance of promoting the positives of the whole community as well as its individual parts resulting in the deepening of community pride and of community well being. (Appendix 4: Community Leaders Consultation Forums)
Supporting Programs for Youth: Helping boys and girls be successful in school and in life is linked to community renewal.

Emphasizing the Positives: As a community, we need to be proactive and build on our strengths.

Funding For Community Renewal Initiatives: There is a real need for sustainable funding for community initiatives. Local solutions should be encouraged.

Poverty and Wealth Generation: Social and economic issues are intrinsically linked. Alleviating poverty and creating wealth should go hand in hand.

Recreation for All: Many opportunities for recreation exist in the area: the problem is making them accessible to all. Is there funding for poorer families? Are they aware of possibilities?

Waterfront development: The waterfront is an asset that still has untapped potential. Its continued development could become a focal point for positive community renewal. In particular, the idea of a beach attracts great interest and seems to hold much promise. Need to work with City Waterfront Committee.

Communication: Cornwall needs to project a positive self-image, both to its citizens and to outsiders. Community groups and leaders need to take leadership in this. Selling points: the generosity of spirit of our community, its commitment to face and overcome obstacles, its potential to be a model for other communities.

Cornwall -- A Multicultural Community: Cultural issues need to be recognized and integrated into any plan of action, including the growing ethnic diversity of our population.

Cornwall Community Foundation: Research the feasibility of establishing a foundation. Speak to all community groups for suggestions and advice.

Festivals

As part of their research, the members of the Community Renewal committee sought opportunities to assist and to support the development of fledgling community events. In so doing, their intention was to incubate selected programs briefly until their launching. Winterfest became the object of the committee’s research activity. Winterfest had scheduled activities on February 16-17-18, 2008.

Participating with community volunteers, the Community Renewal members inserted activities of general interest in the 3-day program with the hope of engaging families and children who have traditionally felt marginalized. Moreover, the members took particular care to include specific support to encourage cross socio-economic family participation:
- All children were offered free skates for all the rink activities. This eliminated all reluctance on the part of families wishing to participate in the skating activities.
- The Snowman Building activity was conducted in the families’/children’s respective neighbourhoods and was evaluated on site by a team of judges.
- All swimming and skating activities were offered free of charge.
- All bandshell, snowboarding, snow maze log sawing activities were also offered free of charge.
- Prizes were given for such as best skating party costumes and snowboarding contest.

Through the members’ personal observations and the participants’ comments, the members of the Community Renewal committee concluded that social inclusion dictates a rethinking of methods of presentation for all community events and a rethinking of the types of support required to assure high attendance/participation for community activities. The members also concluded that, when support is universally applied, marginalized families, children and youth do not stand out and are not identified.

**Media Communication**

The Community Renewal members have defined communication through the media as the appropriate vehicle to highlight and to broadcast the community achievements of their members and of their organizations. To kick-start and to facilitate the implementation of media communication, the Director of the Cornwall Campus of St. Lawrence College has invited Community Renewal members to work closely with the St. Lawrence College Journalism students. To date, subjects for media articles have been submitted to the students with the intention of issuing their publication on a weekly basis to local newspapers. Media communications have been established with local television and radio programming.

Ideas such as the following were explored: Assure that the Cornwall Living magazine is available in all retail outlets; create a city ambassador program to teach citizens working with the public to promote Cornwall as an ideal city in which to live and raise a family; develop an awards program for service excellence; encourage tourists to sign in and write messages in a Cornwall guest book and publicize comments.

**Networking**

The members of the Community Renewal committee have expanded their membership to include a representative from Economic Development, City of Cornwall. Further, dialogue and discussion about community renewal with education, service, civic, and health sectors is ongoing.
Community Development Achievements in Ontario Communities

Key Ontario municipalities, similar in size and in population to Cornwall, were identified by the members of the Community Renewal committee as having had similar problems with image, perception, and reputation for a variety of reasons specific to each community. All municipalities identified suffered from a collective low self-esteem and a poor reputation not representative of their respective strengths and achievements. Sudbury was selected as a prime research study to determine what factors assisted the community to rise above this collective low self-esteem and to achieve a better image and reputation beyond its municipal borders.

Funding

The members of Community Renewal recognized that many not-for-profit organizations in the Cornwall area do not have sufficient time, resources, specific skilled staff to seek funding from regional and national foundations, corporations, government programs to help sustain and grow the mandates of their respective organizations. The members also noted the good fundraising efforts that organizations such as the United Way of Cornwall & District, the Cornwall Hospital Foundation, the Children’s Treatment Centre do and the subsequent positive impacts to our community from the funds raised within our community. Gaps in support were identified, especially for programs targeting children, men, and male youth (15 to 16 yrs of a age), and survivors of sexual abuse.

Discussion ensued about the impact that the creation of a Community Foundation of Cornwall that would seek and secure sustainable funding from outside the community would have on programs and services for the above-mentioned groups. Research was initiated to understand the broad parameters and functions of community foundations. A presentation from the Community Foundation of Canada targeted for the Fall of 2008 will help the committee members gain a better understanding of the establishment, work, and role of community foundations.

Community services for children and youth

Members of the Community Renewal committee researched existing services, including all minor sports clubs for children and for youth to discover the gaps and the synergies of the programs. A complete list of services, including contact names and information was completed and were made available to the public. (See Appendix 6: Cornwall & Area Youth Services)
Waterfront Development

The members of the Community Renewal committee researched the idea of the creation of an inner city beach. Several meetings were held with Cornwall’s waterfront committee members and other members involved in the revitalization of the city’s inner core and still others involved in the revitalization of “Le Village.” On these occasions, interest was high about the creation of a beach in the city. Considering that Cornwall has 15 km of St. Lawrence River shoreline, the members stressed the importance of creating inclusive recreation for all citizens along its waterfront, especially in the Lamoureux Park area. Waterfront development thus has become a focal point for Community Renewal members particularly as it could incorporate a “healing garden and beach” as a monument to the resiliency of the human spirit. Delcan, an engineering firm in Ottawa, was contacted to gauge the possibility of assisting in a preliminary project planning exercise. Delcan principals have past experience with this type of exercise; they were involved in Ottawa’s realization of Petrie Island Park on the Ottawa River.

IV  Research Leading to A 5-Year Action Plan for Community Renewal

As a result of discussions held with community leaders during the eight consultation forums, and as a result of continued investigation and discussion by the members of PrévAction and the members of the Community Renewal committee, four distinct principles and accompanying actions and tasks were identified capturing the essence of the work to be accomplished by the members of the Community Renewal Committee in conjunction with the members of PrévAction in the Cornwall community within the next 5 years. After review and discussion, the following research activities were identified as essential to complete the investigative work undertaken from November 2007 to September 2008:

1. **Festival:** Research the feasibility of a Cornwall Day that would be a celebration of Cornwall’s heritage and its people, past and present achievements and difficulties and stresses that the community has faced.
   - Celebrate the ways the community is coming together to surmount challenges
   - Speak about the survivors’ positive contributions such as the mentorship program and to the drop-in centre

2. **A Look at Other Communities:** Research factors that have assisted other communities to rise above collective low self-esteem and to achieve a better image and reputation beyond its municipal borders.
3. **Healthy Community and Healing and Reconciliation**: Identify a tangible representation of the resiliency of the human spirit as exhibited by the present and the historical survivors of sexual abuse and located in a central public space on or near the waterfront such as a healing garden. The physical representation and its surroundings would comprise the tribute to the resiliency of the human spirit and would be accessible and visible to all citizens.

We believe that social inclusion and equal access to recreation are important parts to healing, to reconciliation, to community renewal, and to healthy communities. Therefore, we would like to explore the possibility of a beach that would be open to all at Lamoureux Park. Linking the healing garden with a beach honours the past and shows hope for the future.

The research assignment required would involve the following preliminary project planning advice in regards to the feasibility and requirements to realize a public beach/waterfront healing space in the City of Cornwall:

- A site visit and meeting with proponents
- A preliminary evaluation of the opportunities and constraints
- A preliminary assessment of potential risks
- An outline of the planning, engineering, and environmental design requirements
- A summary of typical approval requirements and likely stakeholders
- Suggestions on how to involve the community in the planning and design process
- Recommendations on the next steps

The assignment would conclude with a presentation to the community and assistance in round table discussions that would help chart a way forward. A study document would be provided.

4. **Cornwall Community Foundation**:

The financial sustainability of programs was the most frequent of all the recurrent themes during the discussions held in the Community Leaders Consultation Forums. One way to assure sustainability is the creation of a community foundation. As part of creating the 5-Year Plan, PrévAction would do the following:

- Engage all community partners in the discussion of the creation of a Cornwall Community Foundation
- Itemize roles, relationships
- Identify primary and secondary functions with one of the primary functions involving children and prevention
- Research core partnerships and establish a list of potential members of the board of directors for a Cornwall Community Foundation
PRÉVACTION

CARING
The members of PrévAction identified caring as an important component required to lead the general population of Cornwall and area to healing and to reconciliation. This premise is supported by general research, by committee work, and by the input provided by survivors of sexual abuse and by community leaders during a series of conferences, workshops, and forums.

I Rationale

The members of PrévAction and the members of the Caring subcommittee identified caring as the supporting factor for all efforts leading to healing and to reconciliation. After discussion with survivors, community groups, leaders, and field workers, the members of PrévAction concluded that there should exist physical manifestations of caring for survivors of historical and present sexual abuse. In creating concrete representations of caring, the community as a whole would have the opportunity to become partners in the support and caring vital to the well being of survivors of sexual abuse. This in turn would lead to healing and to reconciliation for the whole of the community.

II Vision

At the start of their work in 2007, the members of the PrévAction Caring Committee with input from the survivor group initiated two separate caring initiatives and stated their vision as follows:

1. The Men’s Safe House: Provide a safe environment for historical and for present male survivors of sexual abuse for the City of Cornwall and the Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry. Target survivors include young men 16 to 18 years of age and men 19 to 65 years of age.

2. The First Response Centre: Provide accessible immediate services in a non-threatening environment for people in crisis.

Identification of Actions Supporting Vision

At the beginning of the committee’s tenure in 2007, the members identified a series of actions supporting the committee’s vision statements:

1. The Men’s Safe House:
   - Research gaps in service for historical and present survivors of sexual abuse in our community
   - Investigate similar services offered in other communities
- Create a bilingual crisis intervention centre 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for historical and present survivors of sexual abuse in our community
- Seek working partnerships with existing community organizations
- Include brokerage of expert services
- Provide clinical and therapeutic services
- Include the availability of a 4 to 6-bed crisis unit for short-term 24/72-hour accommodation
- Seek and screen volunteers to assist the qualified staff in the delivery of services

(2) The First Response Centre
- Research gaps in service for crisis response in our immediate community
- Investigate similar services offered in other communities (**Appendix 5: Field Trip Report**)
- Seek working partnerships with existing community organizations
- Include brokerage of expert services
- Create seamless 24/7 bilingual first response services to people in crisis
- Create a centre to provide first step support to people in crisis
- Seek and screen volunteers to assist the qualified staff in the delivery of services

### III Progress To Date

PrévAction As A Catalyst Organization: From the onset, the members of PrévAction have viewed their work as catalytic in nature. Throughout their research, they have been open to ideas, to suggestions, and to opportunities presented to them by individuals and by groups involving the development and implementation of community projects relating to sexual abuse and prevention.

Men’s Safe House: All research activities involving community leaders indicated that there is a great need for a Men’s Safe House and all discussions held during the Community Leaders Consultation Forums indicated positive support for the establishment of a men’s safe house. The conversations with survivors of historical sexual abuse, some of whom are members of the Men’s Safe House Caring Committee, led to an understanding of the importance of the establishment of a location for a men’s safe house and to the implementation of appropriate support programs.

As discussions progressed with survivors of sexual abuse, the idea of a men’s safe house solely organized and managed by survivors of sexual abuse took shape. Ultimately, the members of PrévAction, acknowledging their role as a catalyst organization, supported the suggestion from survivors that they themselves solely manage the deliberations involving the Men’s Safe House. The members of PrévAction assured the members of the Men’s Safe House committee that PrévAction would support their work and would supply whatever assistance required to assure that successful research would ensue for the successful development and implementation of a Men’s Safe House.
First Response Centre: During the many conversations with community members, especially those held during the Community Leaders Consultation Forums about the First Response Centre, the indicators were that emergency and support response services already exist in the Cornwall and S.D. & G. community. After further probing, the survivors of sexual abuse identified gaps in the present services and suggested that these gaps be filled by services offered specifically to men as part of the services of a Men’s Safe House.

First Response Centre for Children/Children’s Advocacy Centre: In May 2008, after a field trip to Kitchener-Waterloo and Toronto to visit child advocacy centers, the Caring Committee members, specifically the First Response Centre members, decided to engage in more deliberate and focused conversations about a first response centre for children and/or an advocacy centre for children. The members reviewed the committee membership and invited key service providers to participate in the discussions concerning existing first response and advocacy services for children victimized by sexual abuse.

The core thinking behind the creation of a Child Witness Centre/Advocacy Centre for Children is that it would offer impartial support to all children who have been victims or witnesses of crimes. Services would be based on the belief that most children are too vulnerable and unaware to cope with the complexities of the criminal justice system. A centre for children would balance the needs of that justice system with the child’s right not to be subjected to further emotional trauma.

Further research and discussions will be required to complete the understanding of the present services and the gaps in services for children who have survived sexual abuse and who are asked to testify in court about their experience. Further research and discussion will also be required to visualize how the community of Cornwall and S. D. & G. could better serve and support children survivors of sexual abuse.

All survivors who have communicated with the members of the First Response Centre for Children/Advocacy Centre for Children aver that their suffering and their public testimonies will not have been in vain if, because of their efforts and the efforts of PrévAction, only one child is spared the horrors of sexual abuse.

Identifying the Next Steps

- Supporting the efforts of the members of the Men’s Safe House as requested
- Supporting the efforts of the members of the Men’s Safe House regarding Men’s First Response Centre programming as requested
- Investigating the gaps in service for children who are survivors of sexual abuse
- Completing research and identifying additional research components required
- Researching feasibility of a child-centered organization such as a Child First Response Centre/Child Witness Centre/Child Advocacy Centre
Major Events

Community Consultations:

Community leaders representing over 50 community organizations (Appendix 3: Agencies and service providers represented at the Community Leaders Consultation Forums) were invited to attend one of eight Community Leaders Consultation Forums. The following suggestions and comments (Appendix 4: Community Consultation Forums) for caring as they apply to children’s services, that is, a Child First Response Centre/Children’s Advocacy Centre underline the importance of researching gaps in service and the implementation of appropriate supportive programs and/or organizations. The need for such a centre for children was expressed, along with the suggestion that the Victims Witness Assistance Program (VWAP) should include such a centre and services for children as exists in other cities in Ontario.

The comments from community leaders to support this premise are as follows:

- Could include a Child Witness Centre in a First Response Centre. A place away from hospitals and police stations does not exist in Cornwall for interviews for child victims in safe, comfortable and nurturing setting.
- Should dialogue with Victims Witness Assistance Program (VWAP) about need for above and for the need of the extension of VWAP services to include a Child Witness Centre.
- Child Witness Centre facility in close proximity to the Cornwall courthouse would be a positive addition to services offered to children who have suffered sexual abuse.
- Recommendations to the Commissioner should include a Child Witness Centre for Cornwall and area under the auspices of Victims Witness Assistance Program (VWAP). The Ministry of the Attorney General (MAG) funding for Child Witness Centres is included in VWAPs in selected cities in Ontario.

Kitchener-Waterloo/Toronto Field Trip

Four members of the Caring First Response Centre Committee that included 3 service providers and a survivor of sexual abuse visited the Child Witness Centre of Waterloo. The Child Witness Centre of Waterloo believes every child who has been the victim or witness of a crime has the right to be supported through, and prepared for, any legal proceedings in which they are required to participate. In Waterloo, child victims and witnesses are referred to the program after a criminal charge is laid. Support services are provided free of charge and include:

- Offering support and assistance through each stage of the court process
- Providing the child and family with updates on the case
- Educating the child about the judicial system
- Arranging and attending meetings for the child with the Crown attorney
- Meeting with the child for court preparation -- helping them cope with fears and concerns; familiarization with court procedures, oath taking and legal terminology; facilitating conditions necessary for a full and candid account of the evidence
- Accompanying the child to court
- Explaining the verdict
- Assisting in writing the victim impact statement, if required

The four members also visited The Gatehouse in Toronto. The Gatehouse provides a comfortable, non-threatening environment to help survivors of child abuse find their voice during the investigation process. The Gatehouse Investigation Support program is a program that facilitates child abuse investigation by providing:

- A child-friendly investigation site where police officers and child welfare personnel can interview children and family members in an independently managed, comfortable and non-threatening environment
- State-of-the-art investigation recording facilities separated from the child friendly interview room.
- Follow-up support to family members to minimize stress and provide a continuum of services as they make their way through the larger social service system

According to the Executive Director of The Gatehouse, the larger systemic response to child abuse can be confusing and intrusive. Often non-perpetrating family members are in shock by the initial disclosure, and then are overwhelmed by the system. Therefore, with the support of the community, the Gatehouse’s program facilitates a child's disclosure of abuse in a way that will limit the number of times that a child has to re-tell his/her story. The ultimate goal is to create a seamless continuum of support services for children and their non-perpetrating family members. The Gatehouse supports everyone involved in the investigation process. This includes children, youth, adults, families, and the investigation team. Police officers from many divisions in Toronto use the facilities, as do representatives from many child welfare agencies.

IV Caring 5-Year Action Plan

Principle

The following basic tenet serves as the underlying principle supporting the quest for the enhancement of existing services for children and for the development of a comprehensive approach to serving children who are survivors of sexual abuse: “Despite the prevalence of child abuse, this crime remains to be the most difficult to prosecute, since there is rarely a witness or medical evidence, and the children are usually of an age where testifying in court is extremely difficult. Therefore, children deserve the most comfortable setting possible in which to tell their story. Recorded testimony is seen to be the best form of evidence, because it reduces the number of times that a child will have to repeat their story, and it means that children will have to testify less frequently in a court room setting.” The Gatehouse
Activities and Active Research Components leading to the implementation of the Caring Child First Response Centre/Children’s Advocacy Centre

As a result of discussions held with community leaders during the eight consultation forums, and as a result of continued investigation and discussion by the members of PrévAction and the members of the Caring Child First Response Centre/Children’s Advocacy Centre Committee, five research activities were identified capturing the essence of the work of the Caring Committee to support the 5-Year Plan:

A. **Programming for Children**: Review and assess existing community efforts and programs for children survivors of sexual abuse and identify all gaps in service for these children.

B. **Dialogue with Survivors and Community Members**: Research and liaise with survivors and with community groups to identify best programs, practices, and organizational milieu to best serve children who are survivors of sexual abuse.

C. **Support Programs**: Include in the PrévAction 5-Year Plan appropriate support programs for said children and suggest in the PrévAction 5-Year Plan the preferred organization(s) to spearhead enhanced services for children who have suffered sexual abuse.

D. **Collaboration of Agencies**: Seek engineering and design input for the creation of a wrap-around, seamless services for children who are survivors of sexual abuse. The design of this building could include space for on-site professional staff from local organizations who are specialists in the response to children who have suffered sexual abuse; victim witness services; counseling services for children; crisis support for the children and their families, etc.
LISTING OF APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: Fact Sheet

APPENDIX 2: Membership

APPENDIX 3: Agencies & Service Providers Represented At The Community Leaders Consultation Forums

APPENDIX 4: Community Leaders Consultation Forums

APPENDIX 5: Field Trip Report - Kitchener-Waterloo and Toronto

APPENDIX 6: Cornwall & Area Youth Services
Appendix 1: FACT SHEET

History
The Phase 2 Advisory Panel of the Cornwall Public Inquiry has the mandate to promote healing and reconciliation within our community. Four recurring themes arose from the Phase 2 meetings: Prevention, Caring, Community Renewal and Community Education. During subsequent community meetings, ideas arose for concrete projects around those themes. After a series of Phase 2 meetings, a citizen’s group, independent of Phase 2 of the Cornwall Public Inquiry under the name “PrévAction,” was formed the summer of 2006 to move Phase 2 projects from talk to action.

Vision
A proud, dynamic community where all people and institutions work together to create a safe and healthy environment

Mission
To promote an attitude of respect, of care for all individuals, and of pride in our community; to ensure that individuals are informed, aware, and committed to prevention of sexual abuse; to ensure that institutions are transparent, safe, and committed to working together to prevent sexual abuse.

Principles For Action
Future-oriented - Catalyst for action - Committed to a five-year plan - Support and work with existing agencies - Institute measurable goals - Focus on the positive.

PrévAction Committees
Prevention: Dan Parkinson, Paul-André Durocher
Foster community opportunities to aid and assist the prevention of sexual abuse

Community Education: Richard Allaire, Patrick Finucan
Promote the harmonization of sexual abuse education programs among the community organizations involved in public education

Caring: Gail Kaneb
Provide, in a Child First Response Centre/Advocacy Centre for Children, accessible immediate services in a non-threatening environment for children in crisis; support the work of an independent committee to provide in a Men’s Safe House a safe environment for historical and for present male survivors of sexual abuse between the ages of 18 to 65 for the City of Cornwall and the Counties of S.D. & G.

Community Renewal: Gail Kaneb, Bernadette Clement, Chris Francis
Understand the links between economic development and social problems; foster cultural change; and support social inclusion
APPENDIX 2

Membership
APPENDIX 2: MEMBERSHIP

Since 2007, PrévAction has benefited from the contribution of volunteers, whether for a short or long term. The input received from people representing so many different sectors has added to PrévAction’s vibrancy and to the relevance of its research.

**PrévAction Members**
- Richard Allaire, Chair of PrévAction
- Chris Francis, Retired Educator, Community Member
- Daniel Parkinson, Community Police Services
- Paul-André Durocher, Bishop of Cornwall/Alexandria Diocese
- Bernadette Clement, Lawyer and City Counsellor
- Pat Finucan, Retired Director of the Cornwall Campus of St Lawrence College
- Gail Kaneb, Local and International Philanthropist, Business Person, Community Member
- Jamie Marsolais, Survivor, ret.
- Mehroon Kassam, Social Development Council, ret.
- Claire Winchester, Research Coordinator

**Community Education Committee Members**
- Richard Allaire, Chair; Chair of PrévAction
- Patrick Finucan, Vice-Chair of PrévAction
- Chris Francis, Member of PrévAction
- Rev. Claude Thibault, Pastor; Survivor of sexual abuse
- Rev. Marc Piché, Pastor
- Angèle Lynch, Assault & Sexual Abuse Program (ASAP), Cornwall Community Hospital
- Susan Carter, Canadian Red Cross
- Jenny Roebuck, Director, Youth Now Intervention Services (YNIS)
- Claire Winchester, Research Coordinator, PrévAction

**Prevention Committee Members**
- Chief Dan Parkinson, Cornwall Community Police Services
- Most Reverend Paul-André Durocher, Bishop of the Diocese of Alexandria-Cornwall
- Claire Winchester, Research Coordinator, PrévAction

**Community Renewal Committee Members**
- Gail Kaneb, Chair, PrévAction Member
- Bernadette Clement, City Councillor, PrévAction Member
- Chris Francis, Retired Educator, PrévAction Member
- Kim Baird, City Councillor
- Jim McLennan, Service Canada
- Don Fairweather, Director, Cornwall Campus, St. Lawrence College
- Lorna McKendry, Cornwall Citizen
- Chris Munro, Small Business Owner, Social Activist
- Mehroon Kassam, Social Development Council, ret.
- Claire Winchester, Research Coordinator, PrévAction

**Caring: First Response Centre/Children’s Advocacy Centre Committee Members**
- Gail Kaneb, Chair, PrévAction Member
- Micheline Gosse, Supervisor of Clinical Service, Family Counselling Centre
- Rachel Daigle, Executive Director, Children’s Aid Society
- Constable Sherri Cameron, Youth Service Unit, Cornwall Community Police Services
- Inspector Brian Snyder, Cornwall Community Police Services
- Deborah Pow, Service Manager, Children’s Aid Society
- Angèle Lynch, Assault And Sexual Abuse Program (ASAP), Cornwall Community Hospital
- Sheila Tallon, Program Manager, Victims Witness Assistance Program
- Claude Legault, Manager, Probation Services
- Patrick Leschasseur, Witness & Counselling Support Coordinator, Cornwall Public Inquiry
- Diane Plourde, Executive Director, Victims Crisis Assistance & Referral Service
- Judy Grant, Family member of a survivor
- Lise Brisson, Family member of a survivor
- Jeff van der Aa, Community volunteer
- Malika Cherif, Interactive Counselling Services
- Lucie Beauregard, Executive Director, Sexual Assault Support Services, ret.
- Mehroon Kassam, Social Development Council
- Jamie Marsolais, Survivor, ret.
- Keith Ouellette, Survivor, ret.
- Paul Scott, Executive Director, Citizens for Community Renewal, ret.
- Mark MacDonald, City Councillor, ret.
- Marc Carriere, Survivor, ret.
- Steven Parisien, survivor, ret.
- Claire Winchester, Research Coordinator, PrévAction
APPENDIX 3

Agencies & Service Providers Represented at the

Community Leaders Consultation Forums
APPENDIX 3: AGENCIES & SERVICE PROVIDERS REPRESENTED AT THE COMMUNITY LEADERS CONSULTATION FORUMS

The following community organizations and civic leaders were represented at the Community Leaders Consultation Forums:
Addictions Services of Eastern Ontario
Agape Centre
Akwesasne Family Violence Program
Assault & Sexual Abuse Program, Cornwall Community Hospital
Baldwin House
Big Brothers & Big Sisters of Cornwall & District
Breakthrough Strategies Inc., private consulting firm
Canadian Mental Health Association
Canadian Red Cross
Carefor
Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario
Children’s Aid Society
Christian Council
City of Cornwall, Councillor
Community Care Access Centre
Community District Immigration Services
Community Living Dundas County
Community Living Stormont
Community Mental Health, Cornwall Community Hospital
Cornwall & Area Housing Authority, City of Cornwall
Cornwall Chamber of Commerce
Cornwall Police Community Services
Centre de santé communautaire de l’Estrie
Citizens for Community Renewal
Crown Attorney’s Office
Diocese of Alexandria-Cornwall
Eastern Ontario Health Unit
Economic Development, City of Cornwall
Family Counselling Centre of Cornwall and the United Counties
Laurencrest Cornwall Youth Residence
Manpower Services
Maison Interlude (Hawkesbury)
Mayor, City of Cornwall
Mental Health Crisis Team, Cornwall Community Hospital
Ontario Victims Services Secretariat, Ministry of the Attorney-General
OPP SDG
Planning Department, City of Cornwall
Probation & Parole Services
Riverview Manor
Service Canada
Sexual Assault Support Services
S.D. & G. Developmental Services Centre
S.D. & G. Legal Clinic
St. Lawrence College
The Men’s Project
Tri-County Literacy
Victim Witness Assistance Program, Ministry of the Attorney-General
Victims Crisis Assistance & Referral Services
Witness Counselling Support, Cornwall Public Inquiry
Youth Now Intervention Services
APPENDIX 4

Community Leaders Consultation Forums
APPENDIX 4: COMMUNITY LEADERS CONSULTATION FORUMS
SYNTHESIS

“Love that the invitation from PrevAction was launched to service providers. Important to ask people what they think.” Forum Participant

COMMUNITY EDUCATION:

1. Securing sustainable long-term funding for Education Programs

Many service providers include an educational component in their activities, but this component is often the first to be cut when funding is limited. Funding must be secured to ensure research, planning and continued implementation of any education program.

- Big Issue: On-going secured funding for community initiatives is a big problem: Do not start something that does not prevail due to lack of funding
- Sufficient funding is required for sustainable support to deal with client needs (i.e. counseling support groups, crisis intervention, risk management)
- Message to the Commissioner needs to be clear that initiatives launched need start-up and sustainable revenue; must ask for appropriate funding for sustainability
- Funding needed to continue research into needs of and services in the community; very important that future community initiatives be based on findings provided by on-going research
- Funding for educational programming run by local service providers is often the first to be reassessed and cut during budget reviews
- Need to assure sustainable funding for education initiatives
- Volunteers run school-based programs; difficult to keep these programs viable and sustainable if not managed by a paid employee
- Many service providers offer education programs but hard to sustain because first to be considered during budget cuts
- ASAP would appreciate having another body take on community education
- Need financial support for education initiatives
- Educating the community is a constant effort and costs a lot of money.
- Service provider organizations do not have the budget funds to sustain a comprehensive education program – their budgets are concentrated on staff and resources
- Sustainable funding issue
- There is a need for a mechanism of coordination because present sexual abuse programs run by community agencies are often the first to be cut from budgets.
- Sustainability of programs is important and a long term commitment to the delivery of programs
- Information dissemination will also help in finding funds for sustainable programming
- Possible to target time-limited funding from various sources for educational initiatives

2. Importance of community education relating to sexual abuse

The aim is to inform and educate, transform mentalities and empower individuals: timely, essential and worthwhile goals. Challenges to be noted: the diversity of the population

- Provide bilingual information
- Providing information to the public about sexual abuse is never harmful
- The more people know about being victimized, the more they can support others and/or avoid situations for potential victimization for self and others.
- Messages and information about sexual abuse must be well communicated
- Important to talk about the concept of resiliency with the community
- Do not overlook the developmentally challenged in the development of the prevention of sexual abuse programming
- Similar programming should also be included for health care and social services programs
- Sound and timely; most feasible program
- Education initiatives must be universally applied and user friendly; message should not stigmatize
- Less suffering if there was more education – reduces isolation
- Important to promote education because abuse (e.g. domestic violence, etc.) is more and more perceived by youth as normal behaviour
- Not everyone wants to be informed.
must be respected (ex.: age, language, ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds, mental ability); some resistance is to be expected; need to be positive. 

- Even though this community would have educational programs and/or presentations about abuse, may people would not go – don’t want to know
- Wonderful legacy to educate about issues
- Need education to break the cycle at the grass root level
- Everyone should know about abuse and that it is not acceptable
- Education is core stuff and needed in our community
- Must talk about and with kids
- Important to provide community education programming to all segments of our community.
- More education in this area means that people will gain better knowledge and a greater comfort that will lead to easier discussion about sexual abuse, its prevention and its reporting.
- Programs re sexual abuse in schools have caused some children to make comments that are not appropriate – parents need to deal with these comments.
- Seek funding for translation and simultaneous interpretation services for languages such as, Tamil, Urdu, and Pashto.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3. Identification of existing school-based education programs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Various organizations have developed school-based programs addressing bullying, violence, dating and relating, sexual abuse and prevention. Concerns named pertain to curriculum, training of teachers and access for community organizations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Check Red Cross programs re sexual abuse for grades 7 to 9; investigate whether MOE would allow this school-based program to be embedded in the curriculum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Prevention In Motion is a secondary school program based on bullying; centers on peer to peer facilitation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Community-driven programs such as ASAP, Family Counselling Centre, EOHU, Laurencrest, Red Cross programs relating to abuse are available to schools upon request only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Not all teachers and principals are comfortable with content</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Laurencrest’s “Dating &amp; Relating Workshop” is a good resource but there are no more funds to assist in delivery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Curriculum “Espace” (English version’s name to identify) supported by some school boards includes presentation to teachers/school staff, parents, children preteens, and teens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Liaise with the CC Hospital ASAP – examine the template for the school program vs violence and create same for sexual abuse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Crown Attorney’s office would like to have more opportunities to speak to students in schools; a comprehensive community education plan should be inclusive of all community resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Red Cross school program and the programs re bullying offered by Cornwall Police are well received in area schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Montreal area schools offer sexual abuse and prevention curriculum in primary grades. There is a need for more sexual abuse &amp; prevention ed in schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Recommend to Minister of Ed about that sexual abuse programs be integrated into the Ontario curriculum</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<th>4. Community education outreach programs &amp; sites</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Two institutions are singled out as key to reaching at risk children and families: Agape and CTC. We need to build on their successes. Furthermore, all agencies dealing with children should ensure training of staff and volunteers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Organizations such as Agape Centre reach out to parents and to children in a particular environment. A suggestion would be to provide Agape staff with programming to be delivered on site by Agape staff. Rec to commissioner could include resources to implement this concept for all organizations dealing with children and with families.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Agape provides literacy/homework club on site to children after school hours.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Consider offering community education to sites that are not institutional in nature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Girls’ hockey are committed to delivering training to girls in prevention and awareness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- There are many male coaches who coach female teams – there needs to be a different approach to education about abuse and prevention given to boys and to girls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- The Children’s Treatment Centre’s reactive support is first rate; it has changed the landscape for victims in our community. The Children’s Treatment Centre could be the organization to lead education initiatives and thus become proactive as well as reactive to sexual abuse.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Professional staff needs to be more confident in asking questions related to sexual abuse and in handling subsequent disclosures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Similar programming should also be included for health care and social services programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Train front line workers about how to deal with abuse so that victims are not re-traumatized</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- The Men’s Project has developed a program for professional staff</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5. In-School Sexual Abuse Ed Programs

A broad consensus exists that this issue needs to be addressed by the curriculum itself, starting in elementary grades. MET needs to be approached to lobby for this. Training will have to be integrated into teacher formation programs.

N.B.: All school staff should also receive training in handling disclosures.

- Community education is a high priority and should be accessible to students in schools, to families, to the workplace, to all social groups
- Communication about sexual abuse and prevention education should occur before high school at the elementary level – more effective
- Educating students re sexual abuse should be mandatory in all schools
- Education initiatives about sexual abuse should be mandatory in schools because information has a better chance of being universally applied
- International research shows that school-based programs reach the most children and families
- Now programs are offered to schools only at their invitation
- School staff members, from admin, teachers, secretaries and custodians, need to be more confident in asking questions related to sexual abuse and in handling subsequent disclosures
- Provincial level: Dialogue with the Ministry of Ed and the Ministry of Colleges and Universities re abuse curricula, teacher training
- Should recommend to the Ministry of Education that sexual abuse programming be included in the curriculum, in teacher ed., in college programs, etc.
- Local level: Important to get local school boards involved in programming relating to sexual abuse
- Should be mandated by the province that every child in Ontario gets/receives abuse and prevention information built right into the curriculum.
- Include sexual abuse & prevention ed in training for teachers and college professors.
- Can take many years to change school curricula
  – The Red Cross Program addressing sexual abuse and prevention is a good example of programming that could be incorporated in school curricula.

6. Creation of partnerships in the delivery of sexual abuse programs

Partnerships already exist in this area: we must recognize them and build on them.

- Engaging the larger community is a great opportunity to create coordination re education
- Many partnerships already exist in regard to community education; let’s build on that rather than create new partnerships
- Link with the Mayor’s Task Force On Violence against Women & Children
- Organizations that would need support are CANAA, SASS for Women, ASAP. Investigate ways to support.
- Forming partnerships with community service providers, institutions, and organizations

7. Communication of service provider roles and responsibilities

It is important that service providers be integrated into the planning and delivering of educational programs. The existence of these providers and the specific services they deliver should themselves be part of these programs.

Members of the community, survivors,

- Community members should not fear the professional roles of such associations as the CAS, police, etc., and those roles should always be part of presentations to the public.
- Assure that community education initiatives reinforce the relationships between the service providers and between survivors of sexual abuse and community institutions, organizations and service providers
- Important that the role of certain organizations such as the CAS be understood including the CAS’ role and responsibility re child sexual abuse as part of its legal basis for its services
- Important for survivors of sexual abuse to have prevention & education programs in place so that they know that the larger society is doing as much as it can to avoid repeat situations for others.
- Important to always reinforce positively the relationships and the roles of service providers and institutions dealing with sexual abuse
- Important to make sure that correct and positive messages about sexual abuse and about the roles of supporting institutions and organizations in our community be highlighted.
- Educate the community, including service providers, about resources, and services
- Achieve a baseline of what services already exist; avoid duplication; identify gaps in service
- Let’s have a better communication avenue for sharing information regarding existing services
- Educate the public about the roles of agencies and, in so doing, build the trust between the community and its agencies
- In providing information, some service providers have specifications relating to types of info delivery; role and responsibilities; funding
staff of these agencies must all become more aware of the range of services offered to our community.

- Recognize the impact on community service providers: More information about abuse may lead to an increase in client volume for existing organizations. This may cause problems for organizations that are already functioning at capacity.
- PrevAction should meet with the coordinator of the Social Development Council to become better acquainted with the Council’s projects and to see how value can be added to its projects

8. Dealing with disclosures

Professionals dealing with children and youth should be trained to recognize signs of abuse and to receive disclosures of such abuse. Educational programs must include such training as they become catalysts for disclosure.

- Important to educate the professional community and the larger community about how to accept disclosures
- Understand that a child discloses on an average of 10 times before action is initiated and that abusers may have offended many times before being caught
- Student disclosures occur after presentations such as Respect Ed offered by the Canadian Red Cross
- Disclosure information and training should be mandatory for professionals
- During presentations, disclosures often occur just because people have asked
- Every adult who works with youth should have training recognizing the signs of abuse and know what to do if they suspect abuse or is a child has a disclosure

9. Victims/Perpetrator Models

- Investigate circles of support and accountability – victim/perpetrator model
- Could reach out to perpetrators/offenders or those who may offend if there was a place and a centre for such
- Should consider educating community about perpetrators – educate public about the need and the best resources available to stop relapse

10. Internet & Sexual Perpetrators

- Must look at the abuse of children through the internet – children need a lot of supervision re computer use

11. Self-determination

- It would be very positive for our community if, in accepting our recommendations, the commissioner would let us have as much control as possible in determining how our community needs to heal.
- Include the youth in research; get their comments about what they want now and in the future.

12. Cornwall’s Image

- Business looks at the cost and impact on the community. The length of time this inquiry has taken, the cost to the community, and the image printed daily in the press is most visible to the business sector. Cornwall has always been a community where we have faced our challenges head on, worked through them, and grown from the experience. Not unlike all the plant closures, I believe the inquiry is viewed in this fashion, and we are looking at the growth after the fact.

PREVENTION:

1. Creation of a Volunteer Agency

- Good idea to have a general screening agency for volunteers
- Social Development Planning could include in its mandate a “volunteer identification program” that would not necessarily include screening and could be responsible for the organization of such as volunteer fairs.
- Investigate CPIC (Canadian Police Information Centre) – volunteer-type database not available in our community that includes different
Collaboration amongst agencies in recruiting, training, screening and managing volunteers is desirable. Present resources and efforts are identified and should be supported. The Social Development Council should be involved in this support.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Levels of risk and criteria</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Community groups headed by SASS will be submitting a proposal to Trillium for funds to establish volunteer-related activities in Cornwall and SDG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- PrevAction is supporting and participating in this initiative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Volunteer Fair upcoming in August '08</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Volunteer committee members are interested in a 3-yr project and educating service providers re how to recruit volunteers; how to interview potential volunteers; how to coordinate and manage volunteer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Liaise with Team Cornwall that has a 6-month program intended to match volunteers with local organizations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- PrevAction is working with a group of service providers led by SASS to establish such as a Volunteer Service Bureau</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Need to build volunteer base; match volunteers; provide safe environment for volunteers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 60 agencies are looking for volunteers across SDG; therefore finding volunteers and matching them to organizations is needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Should have a central place to find all agencies requiring volunteers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Volunteer Canada has resources that can be shared</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Team Canada has a newsletter for volunteers (6 mo. Program)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Our community organizations are running out of volunteers – need to have a plan involving recruiting and training</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Coordination of volunteer screening & training

Diversity among agencies (policies, traditions, liability issues) needs to be recognized and integrated into collaborative programs dealing with volunteer management.

| - How do you come up w/requirements for volunteers for ALL agencies? Many agencies prefer to do their own screening and, because of liability and insurance requirements, would not be inclined to trust the screening done by an outside agency. |
| - There are different levels of checks; even criminal reference checks vary from detachment to detachment. (Law enforcement agencies are studying this discrepancy – solution forthcoming) |
| - Agency-to-agency volunteer screening is a possible strategy to pursue: i.e. volunteer is given a Screening Report from Agency A. Volunteer can willingly submit this “Screening Report” from Agency A to Agency B upon request from Agency B. |
| - Some agencies prefer to conduct their own specialized screening for volunteers rather than to have a central screening agency |
| - Some agencies provide a training course for volunteers |
| - Service providers need to do own screening – liability issue |
| - Many organizations already screen and train their own volunteers. |

3. Clubs for children

The “Boys’ & Girls’ Club” is recognized as an excellent initiative for our community and should be supported. At the same time, it cannot respond to all categories of youth and all their needs: there is therefore a need to identify other extra-curricular activities for children and youth and integrate them in a broad-based approach to prevention.

| - Not forget that Tri-County Literacy has an after school program for children below the age limit of the Boys’ & Girls’ Club. . Dina McGowan to share program. |
| - Boys & Girls Club excellent initiative to support |
| - Boys & Girls Club does not include all youth especially those who are in rural areas or who are disadvantaged |
| - Prevention Committee should also include working with community groups that deal with youth, i.e. organized sports (softball, soccer, etc.) |
| - Reaching out to youth has to extend to most if not all youth groups. Kids are in school – lots of pressure on schools to be the answer. Children and youth need something to do; especially after-school hours between 3 to 6 P.M. |
| - Boys’ & Girls’ Club an important organization to support because it provides another site to deliver education about sexual abuse |
| - Boys’ & Girls’ Club is a positive initiative – teaches leadership and helps support youth to achieve positive goals/attitudes |
| - Boys’ & Girls’ Clubs address needs for a specific age group |
| - Boys & Girls Club should link w/organizations dealing with families and with children. |
| - Don’t forget minor sports. They reach many more kids than any one club; but the fact that they are user pay is a problem for some kids. |

| - Tri-County Literacy Children’s Club: this program is struggling and needs support |
### 4. Funding For Children’s Programs

Funding is an issue. Needs should be prioritized and avenues of funding identified and explored.

- Funding should be sought for services and for people to deliver services rather than for capital expenditures; although, need to consider site/building carefully – could be more expensive to maintain older buildings.
- Should find sustainable funding for Prevention programs, i.e. Respect Ed, for schools
- Sustainable funding is always difficult to find
- Check for funding that could be made available for such club from the Ministry of Citizenship and Recreation (MCI, Ontario)
- Attend a Funders’ Forum hosted by MATRAC slated for Cornwall sometime in the upcoming months (June/September?)
- Need to support the Boys’ & Girls’ Club
- Service Clubs should be involved in supporting prevention activities

### 5. Statistical Information

Research should be used to determine appropriate plans of action.

- Ability to compile research data re perpetrators and the environment required to negate sexual abuse behaviours is important
- Are there stats illustrating sexual abuse incidents committed by volunteers? What about stats re other groups?
- Considering our population, we may have a small percentage of people requiring intensive support and help but this small percentage needs to be dealt with.

### 6. Prevention & Education

Education is an essential component of prevention.

- Important to educate children early about dangers relating to sexual abuse
- Program should include content information having to do with what people need to know and what situations lead to sexual abuse situations.
- Education and prevention are closely linked. Important to stress that incidences of sexual abuse are found at family level as well as at institutional level.
- Prevention initiatives are closely linked to education

### 7. Communication Program

- Should have a comprehensive communication program – message should be repeated frequently in media, schools, literature, etc.

### 8. Restorative Justice

- Restorative Justice is a model that does not exist in our judicial system. There are different degrees of restorative justice. The work centers on guided dialogue between victim/perpetrators to bring about healing

### CARING – MEN’S SAFE HOUSE

#### 1. Need for a Men’s Safe House

Various needs for men are identified: a crisis-intervention centre; a shelter offering room and board for short-term needs; a home-like centre for gathering;

- Considering our population, we may have a small percentage of people requiring intensive support and help but this small percentage needs to be dealt with.
- Definitely a need for a Safe House for Men; must expect that it will grow slowly and that it will take time to establish trust; there is a need in our community for such and would parallel present service offered to women survivors of sexual abuse
- Short-term crisis intervention is ideal
- Need to have a drop-in centre for survivors is understood and welcomed
- Survivors need a “homey” place not in an institutional setting where they can heal
- Why have one setting to respond to needs of survivors of sexual abuse?
- What about anonymity? This “safe house” may not be “safe” at all because it would identify the victims of abuse

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a locus for disclosure of historical sexual abuse. All these needs are recognized as legitimate. But questions arise. Do existing agencies already respond to some of these needs? Can or should one project try to respond to all of these needs? Study should be undertaken to specify needs, available resources, gaps, objectives of proposed safe house and models to be followed.

| 2. Qualified Staff | - Excellent idea to have a gathering place for men – there are more shelters for women  
|                   | - Service for men are required and needed  
|                   | - A shelter that provides a roof and a meal is doable and has a better chance of success than a crisis intervention centre  
|                   | - Men’s Safe House may not be able to play two distinct roles: gathering place and residential place  
|                   | - This community needs a shelter for men  
|                   | - Men need services  
|                   | - It usually follows that reaching out to more people and informing them of services increases the need for services  
|                   | - We need services for men who, for personal circumstances and choices, have nowhere to turn. They deal with destructive behaviours, addictions, depression, loneliness, despair, etc. Existing services as they are presently seem incapable of answering all the needs of men in crisis  
|                   | - One organization/location to fill all gaps may not be possible  
|                   | - Should have a specific analysis of men’s needs, gaps in service, duplication of services, and study involving type of services required  
|                   | - Valuable and required exercise to put together a community plan that would include all issues; needs assessment; partners and their roles and responsibilities; duplication of services; gaps in service.  
|                   | - There is a difference between the reactions of men and women to crisis. Men need a nurturing and very safe non-institutional environment to disclose.  
|                   | - Long overdue  
|                   | - If survivors need these services and they deem them important and essential, then the services should be honoured  
|                   | - The Children’s Treatment Centre has shown us that there is a need for services for victims of sexual abuse.  
|                   | - This is a tangible project that touches the survivors  
|                   | - Issue of lack of services for men: There are no services for historical survivors of sexual abuse. These male survivors predate the Children’s Treatment Center; they did not receive prompt expert treatment. Historical survivors experience myriad psychological, interpersonal, and emotional effects because of not having received prompt counseling.  
|                   | - In the minds of survivors, they need a “safe” place because they deem themselves as not being in a “safe” place.  
|                   | - Men who want to speak out have no one to speak to. A men’s safe house would answer that need.  
|                   | - A shelter is needed for men; there are not many places where men can go for help  
|                   | - Historical abuse cannot be compared to present domestic violence – is there a need for this or rather more health care programs  
|                   | - Need for a permanent mental health facility to deal with victims of sexual abuse  
|                   | - Assure that the Men’s Safe House does not duplicate or recreate existing community services  

| 3. Partnerships/Brokerage of Services and Referrals | - Clients need sustainable support once disclosures have been made  
|                                                   | - To have any member of the public proceed with own investigation without or with minimal inclusion from specialized staff and services would be detrimental  
|                                                   | - Important to have qualified staff  
|                                                   | - More information needed about the qualification of staff and the number of volunteers required to run a Safe House  

As needs are specified and existing programs identified, partners should be brought on board to coordinate and facilitate sharing of resources, programs and staff.

- Very important to have included partnerships and brokering of services in the model  
- Very important to be a link to CMHA for mental health issues that are often products of abuse  
- Important to be an advocate for the client and to refer to appropriate community agencies according to expertise and service  
- Encourage close links with community addiction services  
- The creation of viable working partnerships with and the brokering of services to existing community organizations  
- The development of a Safe House project could assist Mental Health Crisis team that is presently overloaded  
- Positive to involve a multi-disciplinary approach as exists in smaller northern Ontario communities. Includes brokerage of expert services and establishment of viable working partnerships through an integrated process  
- Cornwall Community Hospital is an essential partner -- offers expert services in triage, assessment, and referrals. Has lots of resources including the rotation of staff – sharing of expertise.  
- Mental Health Crisis team would be an active partner; has capability of responding to all crisis within 5 minutes and intervenes/refers appropriately  
- More appropriate to create partnerships – gives broader service and matches more resources
4. Location
Partnerships for the location of such a site should be explored.

- Critical to look at geography, i.e. location of a Safe House. Need to consider accessibility, appropriate zoning (institutional)
- Rather than investing in new housing initiatives, we should look at what already exists in the community
- Could men be served at our women’s shelters? Could the women’s shelter mandate be expanded to include men and children?
- South Tahoe Women’s Services includes on their website a page on male victims

5. Programs
Again, needs must be identified and programs specified in terms of those needs. Combination of peer-to-peer and specialist intervention should be considered.

- The Safe House would include peer self-help groups
- Should not become a residential treatment centre
- Define what is meant by “therapeutic” and “clinical” services
- What therapeutic services would be available; who would provide these services (outside agencies?); for how long?
- Inclusion of therapeutic programs such as art therapy, horticulture is very positive
- The Quinte/Kingston area has recently secured funding for a male and female residential treatment centre for sexual assault survivors. It offers counseling, i.e. holistic approach that includes such as art, horticulture therapy, etc.

6. Statistical Information
Needs assessment must be based on concrete research. There might be a need to make of such research a project in itself, as it seems that pertinent statistical data is either non-existent or difficult to access. Moreover, there is a need for all community agencies to access statistical information to support access to program funding.

- Will there be enough men requiring the use of a safe house? Are there stats to indicate the need?
- Encompassing statistics may be impossible to collect. Local counselling services keep stats but do not include stats for men who have not stepped forward to seek treatment. Many abused men seek services in Ottawa.
- Dealing only with stats relating to sexual abuse is tricky. To be comprehensive and inclusive, stats need to include other related conditions such as addictions, mental health issues, etc., that are often linked to issues of sexual abuse
- Not enough hard data/statistical information collected by service providers and available to public to support the creation of a men’s safe house
- Data collection/maintenance of stats very important to reflect needs and to secure funding for community projects. Needs further study?
- Needs and umbrella organization?
- Collecting statistics and needs analyses are a problem. We could end up making a big commitment with services for only a small number of people

7. Screening
People can only be admitted to this service if they correspond to the profile of the services offered. This will require screening procedures to be developed and applied.

- Screening would be required to identify sex offenders
- Must ask what is doable – for example, cannot accept everyone i.e. victims and perpetrators – screening is essential
- Important to develop an acuity chart and to have pre-screening before the admittance of at-risk people to a men’s gathering place.
- Also important to identify the type and kind of shelter suitable to individual needs
- Even if service is available, a person needs to be receptive to service. Not all persons in need of services are receptive to receiving them.

8. Crisis Intervention
How would a Men’s Safe House identify crisis? Would crisis include physical, domiciliary, mental health?
- Do not have a stand-alone crisis telephone line; it is too expensive. Instead have an ‘add-on’ line linked to an existing crisis line such as the mental health crisis line.
- Not all who require shelter are in crisis
### 9. Population

The population being addressed is diverse in age, language, sex, status (offender / victim; direct victim / indirect victim). This diversity also is characteristic of their needs. How can we address this diversity in establishing our programs, services, physical structures, etc?

- Investigate a French crisis centre for men
- Could be created as a shelter with 2 independent wings or bldgs, i.e. for 16 to 18 yr olds and the other for 19 to 64 yr olds. There are services for 65+ yr olds
- Not generally good to mix age groups, i.e. 16 to 18 year olds with adult men.
- **Why not consider including 13 to 16 year olds?**
  - For women and men?
  - Should include intimate partner violence as well as victims of sexual abuse. Men have no place to go for partner violence
  - There should be one place with continuous service for all individuals and their families involved with abuse that takes into account their social (place to live, supports, etc.), economic (jobs, pensions, etc.), spiritual, counseling (individual, group, marital, family), and medical needs could come from Phase 2.
  - Valley Oasis Shelter in Lancaster, CA is located on a large piece of land w/several bldgs, allowing male and female residents to have separate sleeping quarters but communal eating and meeting areas. Activities include group and family counseling. This co-ed arrangement has had zero negative incidents over the past 20 yrs. Has male and female staff.
  - Word of mouth and time would increase clientele
  - Men who are their children’s caregivers have nowhere to go to seek shelter
  - There are no shelters for boys – women’s shelters do not offer services to sons of abused women. Boys are often sent to such places as Laurencrest, Maison de mon père, that serves young offenders
  - There is an increase in the number of female abusers. The closest place for men to go for help is Six Nations and Ottawa

### 10. Crisis Beds

Some services already exist in the City: Mental Health Crisis Team provides shelter at Riverview Manor and local hotels (some limitations were identified); CAS provides shelter for 12 to 18-year olds in their care at Laurencrest. There are gaps in services for 16- to 18- year olds. Issues such as size, access, staffing and liability must be studied.

- The Mental Health Crisis Team provides shelter for crisis cases at local hotels and at Riverview Manor (A centre/shelter for mental health and handicapped persons). There are supervision issues.
- 3 to 4 bed crisis housing for 24 to 72 hours is needed in our community, especially for men 19 to 65.
- The crisis bed unit should not exceed three
- Riverview Manor has available crisis beds but the assessment for accessing the crisis beds is difficult and may take time to identify crisis as a sexual abuse crisis
- Survivors of sexual abuse have indicated that Riverview Manor is not an ideal short-term solution for survivors of sexual abuse
- The Coordinated Access Committee for 16 to 18 yr olds recognizes that there is a gap in service and a need for crisis beds. This recognition should be included in the report to the Commissioner.
- Laurencrest has beds for 12 to 18 yr olds and CAS purchases beds for their children in care
- Crisis bed shelters are fraught with difficulties.
  - There are gaps in service for 16 to 18 yr olds especially when considering shelter accommodations
  - Shelter beds are only one of many types of services that victims need
  - Screening and trained supervision is very important for the 24/72 hr crisis beds; the identification of problems by expert staff is necessary
  - Use of 24/72 crisis beds could involve liability issues

### 11. Sustainable Funding/Research Funds

Long-term funding is a worry. Ongoing funding is critical to ensure long term commitments.

- Sustainable funding would be imperative. The Cornwall Public Inquiry will prove to be a positive exercise for our community and will bring benefits to us. Our discussions about the needs in our community are imperative to assist us in healing and moving on.
- Research money should be secured to help analyze how institutions can become more friendly and welcoming to clients.
- Accessing long-term funding i.e. operational and capital could be a huge undertaking and become problematic
- What about permanency and long term stability? It is reckless to raise the survivors’ expectations
### 1. Need for a First Response Centre

Many voices expressed their approval for an integrated, comprehensive service – separate from existing services – that could take in anyone with a problem, provide temporary counseling and refer to appropriate agency. This could be a physical site or a phone line.

Some suggest this service should be for men only.

Others express their concerns or opposition to such a service, Cornwall being too small: a capacity study should be done.

- Gives a focus for one-stop place for referrals
- Our community does not have a service provider that provides a coordinated approach to dealing with disclosures. A system of triage is in place in some of our institutions but there are long wait times and waiting lists.
- A one-stop crisis response centre is a positive addition to services provided in our community because people may not want to call or go to a crisis centre housed in a local existing institution (i.e. hospital, police). The environment of such centre has more chance to be perceived as a non-threatening environment/entity.
- Because of previous experience or perception, when in crisis situations, people may not call established organizations dealing with sexual abuse; there is a need for an independent site to take such calls.
- Important to define what kind of crisis would be served by a crisis line. All?
- Good to have a service for all
- Identifiable physical location away from institutions such as hospital, police station, etc., for people seeking help
- There should be one place where men can go for services – not all over the place that is the case right now to receive help and support
- We do not have a one-stop service provision for men who are victims of abuse
- Ideal to have one place with appropriate staff and the ability to provide first crisis counseling with no waiting list and then to refer asap to appropriate partnering agencies
- Not the way to go – Cornwall too small
- ASAP would definitely not support a first response centre
- Should look at an integrated system of resources serving both males and females, young and old.
- Capacity study should be done
- Should have something in place to help perpetrators as well
- Should be a strategically planned project
- Full services for men do not exist presently. Worth pursuing.
- Generally, people do not like to walk into a crisis centre – they prefer the anonymity provided by a telephone call. There is a lot of anxiety associated with entering a crisis centre for the first time

### 2. Communication

Consensus exists on the following points: many services already exist; they are not well-known by the general population; when a crisis erupts, individuals do not know where to turn; front-line workers themselves are not aware of all avenues of help.

A web-based data bank seems the way to go, but it needs to be planned,

- Need more awareness of services; the community should be more aware of the services and the decisions for Cornwall
- Having a listing for community members of “where to go and who to talk to” that is current and updated
- Keep updated and current listings of resources & information about service providers
- Reinforce what existing organizations already do in crisis response and seek uniformity in responses
- Problem: Need to educate people re where to call when in crisis situations
- Need a marketing campaign such as that of Telehealth Ontario
- Create a website with all crisis intervention partners where referrals could be done quickly and easily. Info on website would be managed by individual partners. (Reference: Literacy – Dina McGowan)
- Dealing with 3 counties makes referrals more complicated. Front line people do not always know the full gamut of services and where to refer.
- This is a systemic problem in our community – lack of knowledge and communication of existing services – should be formulated in a rec to the Commissioner
- The dialogue should include the business community
- Phase 2 projects should receive more publicity – inadequate right now – What about a weekly column in the Standard-Freeholder asking for input and letting people know what Phase 2 projects are working on
- We can’t only keep talking about the creation of a bank of info re community resources. We need someone/a community organization to catalogue and to organize on a yearly basis
- Would the Social Development Council be the gatekeeper and communicator for this information? The Social Development Council
implemented, coordinated and sustained by an identified, funded agency. The Social Development Council is already working on this: should we not be supporting their project? (Note: CCAC has already done some work in this area.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3. Duplication of Services -- Existing Organizations Providing Response Service</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A number of crisis lines already exist in Cornwall: Single Point Access; Community Mental Health (through Cornwall Community Hospital); Children’s Aid Society; VCARS; SASS; and ASAP.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The alternative is either to meld them all into one single service (possibly linked to 911) or to foster coordination among them and better knowledge about them in the general population. Certainly, setting up a single service cannot proceed without the cooperation of these various agencies.</td>
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<tr>
<th>4. First Response Centre Services Merged with Men’s Safe House</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Men’s Safe House could incorporate the services of a First Response Centre for Men</td>
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<tr>
<td>- First Response Ctr could be viewed as an extension of the Safe House services – could be a natural merge</td>
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<tr>
<td>- There is a concern about a first response centre possibly dropping referrals and/or doing timely referrals</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>5. Response Capability</strong></td>
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<td>----------------------------</td>
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</table>
| **6. Child Witness Centre** | - Could include a Child Witness Centre in a First Response Centre. A place away from hospitals and police stations does not exist in Cornwall for interviews with child victims in safe, comfortable and nurturing setting.  
- Should dialogue with VWAP about need for above and for the need of the extension of VWAP services to include a Child Witness Centre  
- *Child Witness Centre facility in close proximity to the Cornwall courthouse would be a positive addition to services offered to children who have suffered sexual abuse.*  
- Recommendations to the Commissioner should include a Child Witness Centre for Cornwall and area under the auspices of VWAP. MAG funding for Child Witness Centres is included in VWAPs in selected cities in Ontario. |
| **7. Business Community’s Pt of View** | - The business community is disconnected from these issues.  
- The business community will often acknowledge the impact on taxes and the general cost to the community first before the benefits  
- The business community is concerned about how our community looks to people living in other communities --perception |
| **8. Gaps in Service** | - To avoid duplication and to benefit from existing knowledge and experience, liaise closely with VCARS, SASS and ASAP in the development of such an agency. Make sure to understand if and where there are gaps in service.  
- ASAP & Mental Health Crisis Team offer no crisis services after midnight. Crisis intervention is referred to hospital’s ER or to police  
- Investigate the existing crisis lines in our community and issues relating to existing crisis lines e.g. CAS could use additional funding to sustain crisis line; VCARS has a crisis line that is not 24/7 and that is routed through the police  
- The Mental Health Crisis line is almost but not quite 24/7.  
- We only have partial service now |
| **9. Funding Issues** | - Funding issues – ongoing funding is critical – often viable services are cut back – budget constraints |
| **10. Statistical Information** | - Not enough statistical information collected by service providers and available to public to support a first response centre. The collection of stats has not happened in our community agencies with required detail to access program funding – issue. |

**COMMUNITY RENEWAL**

| **1. Supporting Programs for Youth** | - Not to forget that Literacy is the key to prosperity – Tri-County Literacy  
- Boys’ & Girls’ Club is linked to community renewal – need to invest in our youth  
- Good resources for services for children are “The Best Start Network” for kids 0 to 6 and the “Youth Coalition.” |
| **2. Emphasizing the Positives** | - Important to continue to develop ideas re community renewal  
- Make sure to include Akwesasne positives  
- Need for our community to move forward; renewal is essential; need to celebrate successes and changing mindset to look at positives. |
**proactive and build on our strengths.**

- Operates on a strength basis, i.e. what’s working
- Proactive approach
- Great impact when a person takes ownership and a community takes ownership; this is very empowering
- Community renewal issues are so broad and touches many aspect of community living. Should this committee latch on to only one project?
- Community healing – success will remove the stigma
- We need to keep improving little things
- CPI – good will come out of the inquiry even though may seem discouraging now
- Citizens should sign on to a model – would mean that they are committed
- Proactive approach – very positive

### 3. Funding For Community Renewal Initiatives

There is a real need for sustainable funding for community initiatives. Local solutions should be encouraged.

- Seek from the CPI, dollar for dollar input into the community, i.e. the equivalent amount of dollars spent on the CPI should be poured into community renewal
- Funding needs to be sustainable for community development initiatives
- We need funding for community initiatives
- We know that, between service providers, there exists a natural resistance to sharing and a natural inclination to protecting territory. The way service provision is funded plays a large role in encouraging this mentality. Could be a deterrent to change.
- Support for a beach (inclusive access to recreation) do not come cheaply
- Sustainable long-term funding for additional and new infrastructure (physical plants and programs) and best practices, i.e. ongoing education for kids, public marketing campaign, Boys & Girls Club, Child Witness Ctr, support for men, inclusive recreation

### 4. Poverty and Wealth Generation

Social and economic issues are intrinsically linked. Alleviating poverty and creating wealth should go hand in hand.

- There are many marginalized people living in Cornwall. Programs that aim to help people who are poor are good; trick is to have local economy work in such a way to have all citizens sharing in the wealth
- Social Development Council is looking at poverty issues; to focus on issues re poverty, the community has to understand sand come up with a shared definition of poverty
- Poverty will always be an inherent part of our community; most people prefer to work but many choose not to because social assistance has benefits not available to the working poor
- We should support the efforts of local community organizations that are tackling the issue of poverty. We need to work together to understand poverty and to find ways to improve the living conditions of those who are living at or below the poverty line
- Winterfest was first effort to make activities more accessible; people with fewer resources were targeted (i.e. provision of transportation and skates)
- Too often poverty programs are about “handouts” vs “hand-up” And Not about wealth generation
- Community has to understand what is realistic. Should follow steps to identify what is feasible/doable
- Community renewal projects support economic development
- Growth of the economy is key. Mill town is no longer – pall hanging that pervades the impression of others re our community

### 5. Recreation for All

Many opportunities for recreation exist in the area: the problem is making them accessible to all. Is there funding for poorer families? Are they aware of possibilities?

- Region is full of opportunities; important to develop community recreation opportunities
- Do not charge for street events/festivals such. Make them accessible to all.
- Winterfest activities were inclusive to all socio-economic groups. Included availability of such as skates for children
- Good to take advantage of the good work/sites already developed by the City.
- The Eco-Garden area has winter skating opportunities
- Presently, there are “free” swimming opportunities in Cornwall at the outdoor pools every Monday to Friday afternoons during the summer months.
- Need a tangible support for youth recreation (facility or programming) to allow all youth, and maybe more directly those at-risk youth, to be participants.
- Skateboarding should be more available to kids
- Parents can access funds through Ontario Works to pay for recreational fees for their children. This is an opportunity that may not be
### 6. Waterfront
The waterfront is an asset that still has untapped potential. Its continued development could become a focal point for positive community renewal. In particular, the idea of a beach attracts great interest and seems to hold much promise. Need to work with City Waterfront Committee.

- Ideas about the development of the waterfront important.
- Include more park benches in city waterfront parks
- Committee involved with the city’s Waterfront Committee to seek ways to support – valuable contribution
- Should entrench renewal ideas in the strategic community development plan, i.e., beach, restaurants, washrooms along waterfront
- Need to tour waterfront in other communities – Brockville, Kingston, Belleville to learn best practices
- If the community is going to rally to a cause, it needs to have a common project, a focal point – the waterfront renewal could capture the interest of the community
- The City of Cornwall has 15 km of waterfront – the City’s Waterfront Committee is exploring all avenues to improve accessibility to the waterfront and to make the waterfront an attractive interesting place to be. The members of the Community Renewal Committee are offering their support to all existing committees involved in waterfront development
- Idea of a city beach needs revisiting. Provides a unique opportunity to build the inclusive use of recreation and would have a positive economic impact on the community
- Members of the committee are dialogue with Waterfront Committee members.
- Developing the canal for leisure activities is problematic: safety issue because the walls are high; the water cannot be drained as is the case for the canal in Ottawa; and the integrity of the canal walls is in question
- Concept for a city beach supported; location could be an issue. There may be contamination issues in the river near the former Domtar location
- Guindon Park may be the best place for a beach – already has washroom/change facilities

### 7. Communication
Cornwall needs to project a positive self-image, both to its citizens and to outsiders. Community groups and leaders need to take leadership in this. Selling points: the generosity of spirit of our community, its commitment to face and overcome obstacles, its potential to be a model for other communities.

- The community renewal message is positive and required. We should emphasize that our community is a great place to live, that we are like any other community and that we are tackling the issue of sexual abuse
- Important to highlight wonderful resources of our region
- Need to describe ourselves as a healthy community. We are not the home of sexual abuse; our stats are below national levels for sexual abuse
- Public perception may have been damaged by Phase 1 of the CPI – need to counter with positives
- Generosity of spirit is phenomenal in our community, especially that there has been so much hardship. This should be showcased
- Emphasize the “helpful” concept – i.e. willingness to do whatever it takes for others
- Need to change attitudes and assuring people that change is positive
- Community renewal will highlight pride in our community and lessen negative attitudes reflected by some of our citizens
- Our political leadership has a lot to do with improving and broadcasting a positive image
- Need a positive newspaper column to talk about and highlight the positives in our community – should PrevAction take the lead on this?
- Should showcase Cornwall nationally as a community who has risen above and become a model to other communities
- Need to have a bank of information re resources in our community & would encourage all groups to talk to one another
- There is a huge vested interest in knowing who we (service providers) are and all of us are doing
- We need synergy between all community groups

### 8. Cornwall: A Multicultural Community
Cultural issues need to be recognized and integrated into any plan of action, including the growing ethnic diversity of our population.

- Should not forget that cultural issues/links are part of renewal. Our cultural mosaic involves the arts, the Italian Club, the francophone gatherings, etc.
- What about supporting a francophone Centre culture
- Do not forget about the changing cultural personality of Cornwall. We need to respond to the emerging Cornwall.
- Appreciate that in a few years, the cultural mosaic of Cornwall and area will expand significantly. Include this reality in the community development plan for healing and reconciliation

### 9. Creation of a Community
- Create a Cornwall Community Foundation
### Foundation
- Investigate the establishment of a Community Foundation. If the CPI were to apportion funds, perhaps a percentage of these funds could be targeted to support a Boys’ & Girls’ Club. To be considered in recs to the Commissioner. (Send to point # 1 above.)
- Should seek funding to establish a community foundation

### OTHER/MISCELLANEOUS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Judicial System Review</th>
<th>- There should be severe penalties for perpetrators especially those having been in positions of trust; plea bargaining for offences involving sexual abuse should be abolished.</th>
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<tr>
<td>2. PrévAction – Roles</td>
<td>- The members of the Prevention committee are in a contradictory role especially that Phase 1 is on going</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Extra-Curricular Supervision and Activities</td>
<td>- Great that programs for education and prevention are running in schools but there is a need for proper supervision on buses (i.e. trained supervisors, cameras, etc.) and at times such as recess and lunch are need to ensure that what children are taught is carried through. Currently with cutbacks in schools, there is less supervision at lunch and at recess, which is the prime time for assaults to occur. It would be wonderful if trained volunteers/individuals could help the children at this time and make certain that prevention and education efforts are carried through.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Monument</td>
<td>- “I believe that with the inquiry, many people still believe that there is a very high level of sexual abuse happening in Cornwall. I do not want to go on with this debate but may be as part of the healing of the community, to remember the reason behind the inquiry and in recognition of all the victims, the City of Cornwall needs to create a monument for all victims of abuse (not just sexual but physical abuse as well). This monument would be somewhere in Cornwall and it would recognize the victims of abuse. Even when the inquiry will be done and gone, we need to remind ourselves why this started in the first place. Monuments such as these exist in Toronto and are often the place for celebration (i.e. Child Abuse Prevention month).” Rachel Daigneault, E.D., CAS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Mental Health Facility</td>
<td>- Cornwall needs treatment programs for perpetrators, some of whom are also survivors of sexual abuse. ROH has had success in dealing with perpetrators/survivors but, for Cornwall and area residents, there are roadblocks: the distance to Ottawa and cost of transportation, access to treatment, relapse prevention and education/support</td>
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APPENDIX 5

Field Trip Report

Kitchener-Waterloo and Toronto
I. The Domestic Violence Project, Kitchener, ON

The Family Violence Project of Waterloo Region is a collaborative of agencies that provides wrap-around, seamless services to victims of domestic violence – all from a single location. Services are not scattered throughout the community. The Domestic Violence Project is housed in the Catholic Family Counselling Centre and is part of the services offered by the centre.

Upon entering the building, clients can access services such as on-site police specifically trained to deal with family violence; personal counseling for adults and children; assistance with developing safety plans; shelters; crisis/medical support for sexual assault; financial counseling; children’s services; support groups; outreach services to the community; legal services; specialized elder abuse services; rural outreach services; and specialized programs.

The Domestic Violence Project offers the following services:
- Victims’ Services
- Police & domestic violence services
- Counselling for adults and for children
- Assistance with safety plans
- Medical/crisis support for sexual assault/domestic violence
- Children’s services

Summary of services offered at the Catholic Family Counselling Centre

1. OUTREACH FOR IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES: First language counseling and “Surviving Adolescence” a group support program for parents and teens who are new Canadians.

2. SENIORS' OUTREACH AND SUPPORT FOR FRIENDLY HOME VISITING PROGRAMS
Training and debriefing support for volunteer home visiting programs operated out of KW congregations

3. SENIORS AND MEDICATION PROJECT
Collaborative peer-led health education and support program that works to promote wise medication use among seniors

4. BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH RECREATION
Facilitated access to recreational opportunities for children and youth (including sponsorships and subsidies)
5. FAMILIES AND SCHOOLS TOGETHER PROGRAM
School-based early intervention group program for children and their families

6. FAMILY MEDIATION SERVICES
Catholic Family Counselling Centre offers Family Mediation Services as an avenue to settle disputes, such as custody and access issues, out of court. A neutral mediator leads the parties involved through a process that helps them develop a resolution. Mediation offers both savings of time and money and often leads to more realistic solutions and can preserve the relationships between the parties.

7. COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN (CAPC)
Sponsor for Health Canada program that supports community-based programs that serve at-risk children aged 0-6

8. WRAPAROUND
Resource facilitation and support for high-needs families

9. OUTREACH FOR TRAUMA SURVIVORS
Critical Incident Debriefing - To assist individuals or groups as they cope with trauma or tragedy
Counselling for stress, anxiety, grief, loss and depression, addictions and troubled relationships

SPECIAL NOTES:
- Only one such program involving co-location in Canada
- Each partnering agency retains its own admin staff but the partners enjoy shared services such as those provided by the Director of Research & Evaluation, the Communications Officer, and the Director of Resource Development, positions paid for jointly by all CFCC partners.
- The strength of the CFCC is derived in the personal relationships and connections and inter-program collaboration. To work around “silos” and to have all the organizations work together is a challenge. Trust and personal relationships between service providers are essential components.
- Services not housed at the CFCC provide services to CFCC clients; partnerships with hospital and other service providers are important and maintained
- Universal screening for violence is given to all female clients and, although service providers are realizing that this universal screening is not applied to men, there is understanding that men need support.
- Funding for the Domestic Violence Centre comes from MCSS, MAG, grant applications to foundations, and fundraising efforts.
***CONSIDERATIONS FOR FUTURE THOUGHT/DISCUSSIONS

- Creating a multi-purpose centre such as the Catholic Family Counselling Centre for the Cornwall region clustering all the services provided to victims of historical and present sexual abuse
- Under the auspices of a designated community partner, providing shared services for Research & Evaluation, Communications, and Resource Development, positions. All community service providers could access services, such services not now accessible to our community’s service providers.

II Community Justice Initiatives, Kitchener, ON

**RESOLVE** provides conflict resolution for individuals: youth and adult, friends, families, neighbours, organized sports, schools, groups, and organizations through mediation, conferencing, and circles.

**Victim Impact Statements**
Assistance is provided for victims to help in the preparation of statements for court.

**Referrals**
Assistance is provided to help people access support services within the community

**REVIVE** supports women, men, and youth who are healing from sexual trauma. Revive also supports people who have offended sexually in making safe, healthy choices.

**How did Revive begin?**

Revive began in 1982 when a few people who had been sexually abused found it helpful to get together and talk about their experiences. Community Justice Initiatives (CJI) gave them a place to meet and together they started a program that provided group support for women who had survived sexual trauma.

Revive has since expanded to include group support for people who have offended sexually, as well as for families and groups affected by sexual trauma. Revive is known as a leader in helping all people affected by sexual trauma and continues to expand to meet community needs.

Revive provides the following support system and network for people recovering from sexual abuse trauma:

1. **Group Support** - for people of all ages recovering from sexual trauma, for those who have offended sexually, and for families and groups in which sexual trauma has occurred

2. **Education Groups** - information about sexual trauma and healing
3. **Conferencing** - conflict resolution for families and groups affected by sexual trauma

4. **Individual Support** - one-on-one support to prepare for a support group

5. **Referrals** - assistance to access services in the community

6. **Training** - courses on how to facilitate sexual trauma support groups

7. **Workshops** - customized training for groups and organizations

8. **Speakers** - information about Revive, sexual trauma, and restorative justice

9. **Consultation** - information about specific issues related to sexual abuse

The services for people who have offended sexually include:

- Education groups providing information about sexual abuse, sexual offending and the healing process,
- Peer Support Groups to support people who have offended in creating relapse prevention strategies, understand victim impact and develop positive coping strategies for the future,
- Facilitated Dialogues to provide opportunity to engage in meaning conversations with people affected by choices which have harmed

Services for people who are survivors of sexual trauma include:

- Separate peer support groups for male and female survivors,
- Referrals to access additional support services within the community,
- Facilitated dialogues to engage in healing conversations.

**FAMILY GROUP DECISION MAKING (FGDM)** is a culturally-sensitive process that gives the extended family and friends of children at-risk an opportunity to collaboratively develop a plan focused on the best interest and safety of the children.

The Family Group Decision Making (FGDM) Program is a result of a collective effort to better support families’ involvement in child protection and permanency of care. The concept of Family Group Conferencing (FGC) originated in New Zealand based on concerns about the over-representation of aboriginal Maori children within child welfare and juvenile justice systems. The main objective of FGC is to give the family group (nuclear and extended family as well as friends) a voice in the decision-making process to ensure the safety and well being of children who are at significant risk of or in need of protection from abuse and neglect.
Through a conference, families are empowered as they identify strengths and supports within the family, neighbourhood and community. Many of the solutions developed by the family allow the children to return to, or remain with their family or extended family as part of a long-term or permanent plan. After the social worker has discussed the idea of Family Group decision making with the client and referred the family to the FGDM Coordinator, the Coordinator will contact the client to explain FGDM what happens during a conference and consults with the client about members of their immediate family and determine who else would like to attend the conference. Attendees can include neighbours, spiritual leaders, community members or anyone the client feels is important. On average this process takes 6-8 week, however the process will continue for as long as necessary until a plan is agreed upon. Childcare and refreshments are provided and travel arrangements can be made.

FGC/FGDM has established itself in many regions across Europe, Australia and North America. A program has operated successfully in Toronto for close to a decade. Over a 5- year period, many agencies throughout the Waterloo region met in an effort to establish Family Group Decision Making in our community. This involved community discussion and a proposal to Trillium.

In late 2006 through collaboration between Community Justice Initiatives, The Ministry of Community and Social Services and Family and Children Services of the Waterloo Region, this program is being facilitated. It will specifically serve families who are in the Kinship Service or Kinship Care of F&CS.

CJI’s FGDM program has a steering committee comprised of agencies representing Children and families in the community of KW and Cambridge. They include: Family and Children Services, KW Counselling, the Waterloo District School Board, the Catholic School Board; Our Place, Early Years Centres; Family Counseling Centre of Cambridge and North Dumfries; KW Multicultural Centre

The FGDM program is funded by The Ministry of Children and Youth Services.

**PEACE & CONFLICT STUDIES** The purpose of the Peace and Conflict Studies (PACS) program is to explore why conflict and violence occurs, to understand how conflict can be managed, utilized, and transformed by "collaborative decision-making." The goal is to understand how to accomplish constructive ends, and to facilitate real-life, hands-on, "in the field" learning of peace and conflict issues through Internship placements with a wide variety of peace, justice, and development agencies.

For more information, visit Conrad Grebel online at Conrad Grebel University College.

**Workshops**
Customized training is available for groups and organizations
SPECIAL NOTES
- Volunteers play a very important role to sustain the Peer Support Model. Their training is experiential and the participants through the selection of common themes decide the curriculum. All groups are co-facilitated, i.e. Male Survivor Group has male/female facilitators; Female Survivor Group has female/female facilitators; Coed Group has a coed team. Volunteers are usually chosen from the participant group but also include students placements. The training involves 35 hrs, screening, and experiential training.
- The disproportionate number of services for women to men was noted. More difficult to have male survivors of abuse declare their abuse because of the assumption that they have or will offend.
- Male survivor groups and perpetrator groups are never mixed; although, offenders could be invited to attend a survivor group meeting to tell them about offending.
- Question: Does our community’s CAS gather immediate and extended families to find best course of action to assure the well being and safety of children as does FGDM?

**CONSIDERATIONS FOR FUTURE THOUGHT/DISCUSSIONS

- Of special interest to PrévAction may be the REVIVE program, a program for survivors of sexual abuse. The dynamics of this program would fit in very well within the programming at a Men’s Safe House (Circles of Support).
- Note that the Waterloo model has launched group support for sexual offenders and families and groups affected by sexual trauma.
- The FAMILY GROUP DECISION MAKING could be a complimentary program to REVIVE. This program’s plan focuses on the interest and safety of children and involves the immediate and extended families who are given a voice in decisions affecting the safety and well being of at-risk children.
- PrévAction’s Community Education or the Prevention committees could initiate the PEACE & CONFLICT STUDIES as a linkage with area universities, hospitals, justice initiatives, etc., for the provision through conferences, workshops, and seminars of expert presentations on peace and conflict and violence issues.
- Speakers’ Bureau could be considered as a recommendation. Involves the raising of awareness. Survivors (individually or as part of a panel) telling their story at conferences, schools, etc.
- Conferences on prevention could be held.
- Peruse a copy of the North Star Report – Restorative Justice Report that evaluated REVIVE

III Child Witness Centre of Waterloo

Through its staff, programs and services, the Child Witness Centre offers impartial support to all children in Waterloo Region and Wellington County who have been victims or witnesses of crimes. Services are based on the belief that most children are too vulnerable and unaware to cope with the complexities of the criminal justice system. The agency plays an integral role in balancing the needs of that justice system with the child’s right not to be
subjected to further emotional trauma. The Child Witness Centre believes every child who has been the victim or witness of a crime has the right to be supported through, and prepared for, any legal proceedings in which they are required to participate.

Child victims and witnesses are referred to the program after a criminal charge is laid. Support services are provided free of charge and include:
- Offering support and assistance through each stage of the court process
- Providing the child and family with updates on the case
- Educating the child about the judicial system
- Arranging and attending meetings for the child with the Crown attorney
- Meeting with the child for court preparation -- helping them cope with fears and concerns; familiarization with court procedures, oath taking and legal terminology; facilitating conditions necessary for a full and candid account of the evidence
- Accompanying the child to court
- Explaining the verdict
- Assisting in writing the victim impact statement, if required

The following belief statements provide the basis for services:

- Every child should be treated with respect during his or her involvement in the criminal justice system.
- Every child should feel safe and protected in a courtroom.
- Every child should have court preparation tailored to his or her individual needs.
- Every child should have easy access to testimonial aids.
- Adults who adapt their communication to his or her developmental age and linguistic ability should question a child.
- A child should have the opportunity to meet with the Crown well in advance of the court date.
- A child and his/her family should be advised of all relevant court proceedings as soon as that information is made available.
- A child’s special needs and vulnerabilities should be addressed.
- A child-friendly courtroom and routine accommodations should be made available for every child who is called upon to testify.
- It should be the norm that cases involving child witnesses are dealt with expeditiously.

SPECIAL NOTES

- Location of a Child Witness Centre should be located in close proximity to the courthouse.
- Police are now relying on “soft rooms” to interview children. They are located in courthouses or police stations. They are not completely effective because they are housed under the same roof – may be intimidating to children.
- Does CAS play this role in our community? Cornwall has a VWAP program (Sheila Tallon). Would VWAP benefit from adding a Child Witness Centre to their organization? Would this program be a good match with Victim Crisis Assistance & Referral Service (VCARS)?
***CONSIDERATIONS FOR FUTURE THOUGHT/DISCUSSIONS

- Our community – Cornwall, SD & G, Akwesasne -- does not have a Child Witness Centre. Is this a program that PrévAction would be willing to investigate for our community?

IV The Gatehouse

The Gatehouse website offers the following description of services:

With the strength and support of our community, The Gatehouse provides a comfortable, non-threatening environment to help survivors of child abuse find their voice during the investigation process. These programs help facilitate a child's disclosure of abuse in a way that will be less traumatic by focusing on the needs of the victim and non-perpetrating family members.

The Gatehouse also offers a variety of programs including the Gatehouse Adult Support Network for adults who have experienced child abuse. From volunteer opportunities to support services, take a moment to browse our site and discover how The Gatehouse can make a difference in your own life and in the lives of others.

The experience of childhood abuse can leave someone feeling very isolated and traumatized. As an adult it takes tremendous strength and resiliency to reach out to end the isolation and pain. If you reach out to find that services are limited, or non-existent, then the isolation can quickly become profound. Unfortunately, many adults encounter this very situation. In response to this, we have developed The Gatehouse Adult Support Network™ aimed at minimizing the feeling of isolation through one to one mentoring or mentor facilitated group self-support.

We currently offer self-support groups for:

- Men and women who have survived childhood physical abuse
- Men and women who have survived childhood sexual abuse

Support Group Information:

- There is no charge to participants;
- The groups operate in 15-week cycles;
- 2 cycles may be offered annually;
- Groups are co-facilitated by trained mentor facilitators;
- Supervision of the Gatehouse trained facilitators is provided by our Community and Volunteer Development Coordinator;
- Groups are held at The Gatehouse - a safe place where everyone has a voice
What is The Gatehouse Investigation Support program? It is a program that facilitates child abuse investigation by providing:

- A child-friendly investigation site where police officers and child welfare personnel can interview children and family members in an independently managed, comfortable and non-threatening environment
- State-of-the-art investigation recording facilities separated from the child friendly interview room.
- Follow-up support to family members to minimize stress and provide a continuum of services as they make their way through the larger social service system

Why is this program needed?

- The larger systemic response to child abuse can be confusing, intrusive, and incredibly frustrating. Often non-perpetrating family members are in shock by the initial disclosure, and then are overwhelmed by the system. Therefore, with the support of our community, we have developed this program that facilitates a child's disclosure of abuse in a way that will limit the number of times that a child has to re-tell his/her story.

What makes The Gatehouse program unique?

- As the only one of its kind in Canada, The Gatehouse fills the gap within existing programs in the larger community by providing services not already available to individuals impacted by child abuse
- During the investigation process the Investigation and Adult Support Coordinator will focus on the needs of children and his/her family members as well as providing a professional environment where investigators may maximize excellence in investigation protocol. This occurs in the following ways:
  - Work in collaboration with the investigative services to provide a safe child-friendly investigation site
  - Unique service response that helps to reduce trauma in the aftermath of child abuse
  - Referral and advocacy support to appropriate community organizations
  - Short-term consultation for non-perpetrating family members and adolescents
  - Consultation to community workers

Our ultimate goal is to create a seamless continuum of support services for children and their non-perpetrating family members

Why record testimony?

1 in 4 children will experience abuse. Despite the prevalence of child abuse, this crime remains to be the most difficult to prosecute, since there is rarely a witness or medical evidence, and the children are usually of an age where testifying in court is extremely difficult. Therefore, children deserve the most comfortable setting possible in which to tell their story. Recorded testimony is seen to be the best form of evidence, because it reduces the number of times that a child will
have to repeat their story, and it means that children will have to testify less frequently in a court room setting.

**What can you expect when you arrive at The Gatehouse for an Interview?**

Children, their families, police officers and child welfare representatives will be greeted by our friendly staff and invited into our home-like atmosphere. Children are allowed water, before the investigation. After the investigation, waiting family members and the investigation team are offered tea, coffee, hot chocolate or water. While police and child protection workers are interviewing the child, our Investigation and Adult Support Coordinator stays available to waiting family members to provide support and information regarding the interview process.

The family or guardian will have the option of follow-up support provided by The Gatehouse, which may involve consultation and referrals. Families are encouraged to call The Gatehouse with any concerns or questions they may have with regard to their child and the investigation process. All caregivers are provided with our Gatehouse brochure that explains the investigative process and helps to ensure that questions get answered and family concerns are heard.

When the interview is completed, the child is offered cookies, treats and juice. Also, every child is offered a handmade child-size quilt or a teddy bear, which has been generously donated by community members and corporate donors. This further assists in providing a safe, comfortable environment that encourages people to feel more relaxed during what can be an emotionally stressful time.

**Who Uses The Gatehouse during the Investigation Support program?**

- Police personnel investigating child sexual abuse or sexual assaults
- Child Welfare Workers
- Child abuse treatment professionals

The Gatehouse is here to support everyone involved in the investigation process. This includes children, youth, adults, families, and the investigation team. Police officers from many divisions in Toronto have used our facilities, as have representatives from many child welfare agencies. We encourage the police and child protection workers to conduct child abuse-related interviews in a child friendly space like ours.

Here are some of the reasons why you might choose to use The Gatehouse for an investigation:

- 24-hour, 7-days a week access
- Easily accessible from major highways
- Investigation room, equipped with state-of-the-art video recording system ("A Best Practice Site")
- Comfortable home-like atmosphere that assists children and families in feeling supported during a very difficult time
- Fully equipped kitchen with coffee, tea, juice and snacks for investigative teams and families
• Fully equipped living room with television, painting and colouring, toys and books for families while they wait
• On-site staff that can support families, make referrals and consult with investigation teams
• Our space is also available for post-interview support, trauma assessments, etc.

As well as providing services for children and adults, we consult with social service workers in the community. Occasionally, therapists working with a client will uncover minimized memories of childhood abuse. This may not be the therapist's area of expertise and since s/he has developed a relationship with the client it could be counter-productive to refer the client out.

SPECIAL NOTES
- The Gatehouse offers similar services for children, as does the Child Witness Centre in Waterloo.
- The Gatehouse also offers peer support programs for adult survivors of sexual abuse that are similar to those offered by the Community Justice Initiatives in Kitchener.
- Janet Handy suggested the Gatehouse could provide, for a fee, training, support, and programming to the proposed Men’s Safe house as an extension of their services. If suggestion is apt, more discussion to follow.
APPENDIX 6

Cornwall & Area Youth Services
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agencies</th>
<th>Mission</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
<th>Target Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>0-4 Years Old</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Years Centre</td>
<td>Ontario Early Years Centres are places where parents and caregivers can take part with their children in a range of programs and activities; get answers to questions; get information about programs and services that are available for young children; talk to early years professionals, as well as other parents and caregivers in the community.</td>
<td>340 Pitt Street Cornwall, ON K6J 3P9</td>
<td>613-933-6282</td>
<td>0-12 years old</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children's Aid Society</td>
<td>The Children's Aid Society of Cornwall is committed to protecting the children and youth of our community from all forms or abuse and neglect. We work to keep them safe and secure, both within their families and the communities in which they live.</td>
<td>PO Box 983 150 Boundary Road Cornwall, ON K6H 6J5</td>
<td>613-933-2292</td>
<td>0-16 years of age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single Point Access</td>
<td>A bilingual service for children and youth up to the age of 17. It provides information and referrals to community services as well as brief counselling. Satellite offices are located in Winchester and Alexandria.</td>
<td>Shirley Ladouceur 132 Second Street East, Suite 305 Cornwall, Ontario K6H 1Y4</td>
<td>613-932-1558</td>
<td>up to 17 years old</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child &amp; Youth Counselling Services (CYCS)</td>
<td>Child and Youth Counselling Services (CYCS) is a community based mental health program sponsored by the Cornwall Community Hospital which provides assessment, therapy, support, counselling and consultation for children and youth. CYCS has a well-trained, multidisciplinary team of professionals who provide services predominantly in English. Services are provided at no cost.</td>
<td>132 2nd Street East Cornwall, Ontario K6H 1Y4</td>
<td>613 932-1558</td>
<td>up to 18 years old</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Type</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Address</td>
<td>Contact Number</td>
<td>Age Range</td>
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<td>--------------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Better Beginnings, Better Futures</td>
<td>The approach to project development is holistic, supporting the child and family consistently from the prenatal years through the preschool years. The project is designed to ensure that the children have Better Beginnings in all their social environments, starting with their family and including their immediate neighbourhood and local community.</td>
<td>109 York Street Cornwall, Ontario K6J 3Y9</td>
<td>(613) 938-2000</td>
<td>4-8 years old</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-11 Years Old</td>
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<tr>
<td>Children's Mental Health Services Outreach Program</td>
<td>Outreach Program is an in school and in home based treatment program for children between the ages of 4 to 17 years who reside in Stormont, Dundas, and Glengarry. Services are provided to English public and catholic schools.</td>
<td>132 Second Street East, Suite 305 Cornwall, Ontario K6H 1Y4</td>
<td>613-932-1558</td>
<td>4-17 years old</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child &amp; Family Treatment Centre</td>
<td>The Children's Treatment Centre was founded because of awareness of the impact of child abuse that negatively affects society as a whole. Abusive incidents are traumatic and, when undetected, impacts the child's adult years.</td>
<td>305A Second Street East Cornwall, Ontario K6H 1Y8</td>
<td>613-933-4400</td>
<td>5-17 years old</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children's Mental Health Services Day treatment program</td>
<td>This is a comprehensive program for children whose mental health problems are preventing them from succeeding at school and at home.</td>
<td>132 Second Street East, Suite 305 Cornwall, Ontario K6H 1Y4</td>
<td>613-932-1558</td>
<td>6-14 years old</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Brothers and Sisters</td>
<td>Big Brothers and Big Sisters is a charitable organization dedicated to helping children growing up in lone parent families to achieve their full potential through mentoring programs with caring responsible adult volunteers.</td>
<td>101 Third Street West Cornwall, Ontario K6J 2N9</td>
<td>613-933-8035</td>
<td>6-16 years old</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>12-18 Years Old</strong></td>
<td><strong>Laureencrest Youth Services</strong></td>
<td>Our mandate is to help the troubled youth of our community learn to help themselves. Over the years, a variety of residential and non-residential services have been developed and delivered in response to identified needs.</td>
<td>Wayne Kyte (<a href="mailto:wayne.kyte@cogeco.ca">wayne.kyte@cogeco.ca</a>) 510 Mercier St Cornwall, Ontario K6K 1K2</td>
<td>(613) 933-6362</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Boys and Girls Club of Cornwall</strong></td>
<td>Working with youth since 1998, the Cornwall Youth Centre Inc. is an official not-for-profit charity that offers a safe and secure environment for youth between the ages of 9 and 18 years. Under the supervision of qualified staff and volunteers, the Youth Centre guides youth in the planning, organization, and delivery of a drop-in service, various activities, and special projects. The Youth Centre is a bilingual resource put forth by the community as a prevention strategy that prepares adolescents into becoming active and responsible citizens. It serves as a catalyst for finding creative solutions for youth’s individual and collective needs. Our programs and activities are accessible to all youth with special attention given to high-risk teenagers.</td>
<td>Ms. Josee Delisle 499 Henry Cornwall, ON K6J 5A2</td>
<td>613-938-4999</td>
<td>13-18 years old</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cornwall Service Canada Centre for Youth (SCCY)</strong></td>
<td>A Service Canada Centre for Youth (SCCY) is an office which targets young people, mostly secondary and post-secondary students. The primary mandate of an SCCY is to assist students in their search for summer employment by connecting them with local employers and helping them prepare their resumes.</td>
<td>111 Water Street East, Suite 100 Cornwall, Ontario K6H 6S4</td>
<td>(613) 937-2747</td>
<td>14+ years old</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Job Zone Student Services</strong></td>
<td>Job Zone d’emploi is a non-profit organization that prepares, guides and assists individuals to find employment through employment and career counselling, information resources, job opportunities and access to community and outreach services.</td>
<td>144 Pitt Street Cornwall, Ontario K6J 3P4</td>
<td>613-933-9675</td>
<td>15+ years old</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization</td>
<td>Services / Partnerships</td>
<td>Contacts / Locations</td>
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</table>
| **Canadian Mental Health Association** | Works in partnerships with individuals, families and community resources to enhance the development and continued support of mental health for all citizens. | Michael Lloyd  
329 Pitt Street  
Cornwall, ON K6J 3R1  
613-933 5845  16+ years old |
| **Withdrawal Management Centre**    | Services provided to clients, 16 years and over, who are intoxicated, or who are experiencing withdrawal symptoms due to stopping the use of alcohol and/or other drugs. The Cornwall Community Hospital Withdrawal Management Services includes a 16-bed non-medical (i.e., RNs and physicians are not located on-site) facility. It is a comfortable drug-free environment, where qualified personnel can safely monitor withdrawal symptoms. The staff provides emotional and educational support, strategies to prevent continued substance misuse, addiction treatment/support options, and other community resource information. | 510 Second Street East  
Cornwall, Ontario K6H 1Y2  
613-938-8506  16+ years old |
| **Maison Baldwin House**            | Offers an emergency shelter for abused women 16 years and older, with or without children, victimized or threatened with physical, psychological, economical, emotional or sexual abuse. Offers the following services: follow-up, general public education, referral and legal information, individual counselling or group support, children's assistance, counselling for historical sexual abuse | Debbie Fortier  
40 Fourth St W  
Cornwall, ON K6J 2R6  
Shelter 613-938-2958 or 613-937-2958  Sexual Assault Cas Management: 613-938-7000  Volunteer Information: 613-938-3903  Crisis Phone 613-938-2958  Toll Free Phone 16+ years old women |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sexual Assault Support Services (SASS)</td>
<td>S.A.S.S. encourages its staff and volunteers to stay informed and sensitive to the needs of all women; including women with one or more disabilities, lesbians and women from diverse cultural groups, etc.</td>
<td>P.O. Box 1192 Cornwall, ON K6H 5V3</td>
<td>613-932-1603</td>
<td>1-800-461-8192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Akwesasne Child and Family Services</td>
<td>The staff of Akwesasne Child and Family Services support children and families experiencing difficulties. As a Child Protection Agency, the Akwesasne Child and Family Services are committed to health, safety, well being and development.</td>
<td>P.O. Box 579 Cornwall, ON K6H 5T3</td>
<td>613-575-2341 ext.308</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cornwall Community Hospital Assault and Sexual Abuse Program</td>
<td>Our focus is on providing care to anyone who has been a victim of domestic violence (also known as partner assault), sexual assault or sexual abuse.</td>
<td>Cornwall Community Hospital 510 Second Street East Cornwall, Ontario K6H 1Z6</td>
<td>Health-care related 613-932-3300, ext. 4552 Counselling: 613-932-3300, ext. 465</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cornwall Parks and Recreation</td>
<td>The City of Cornwall's Department of Planning, Parks and Recreation offers a wide variety of programs and facilities to local residents and visitors. The total land area for municipally managed parks is 750 acres.</td>
<td>Christine Lefebvre 100 Water Street East Cornwall, Ontario K6H 6G4</td>
<td>613-930-2787</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Contact Information</td>
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<tr>
<td>Equipe Psycho-Sociale Pour Enfants &amp; Adolescents Francophones SD&amp;G</td>
<td>(1) Organizes social, recreational and other activities for the intellectually disabled persons of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry; (2) Organizes information and sharing meetings for the relatives of intellectually disabled persons. Integrates intellectually disabled persons in social and recreational community organizations; (3) Equipe psycho-social: obtains the maximum capacity of development of the participants and the integration in the community at different levels, education, leisure, work.</td>
<td>Monique Greggain 610-A McConnell Ave Cornwall, ON K6H 4M1 613-938-7112</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Counselling Centre</td>
<td>The Family Counselling Centre of Cornwall and United Counties is committed to empowering individuals, couples and families through professional counselling and educational services based on the right to self-determination, respect and confidentiality.</td>
<td>26 Montreal Road Cornwall, Ontario K6H 1B1 613)932-4610</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kids Help Phone</td>
<td>Our mission is to improve the well-being of Canadian children and youth by providing them anonymous and confidential professional counselling, referrals, and information through technologically-based communications media. Last year, we helped Canadian kids in need well over two million times through our phone and online counselling services.</td>
<td>kidshelp.sympatico.ca 1-800-668-6868</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Hands</td>
<td></td>
<td>1536 Gage Avenue Cornwall, ON K6H 3N3 613-938-3790</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Way</td>
<td>To improve lives and build our community by working together.</td>
<td>Karen Turchetto 331 Water Street East Cornwall, ON K6H 1A5 613-932-2051</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sports contacts**
### Aquatics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Club Name</th>
<th>Address/Contact</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cornwall Aquatic Centre</td>
<td>100 Water Street</td>
<td>613-933-3586</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sea Lions Swim Club</td>
<td>Mark Beaubien</td>
<td>613-932-4535</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UnderWater Hockey</td>
<td>Sophie Gosse</td>
<td>613-938-8834</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Baseball

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Association</th>
<th>Website/Contact</th>
<th>Address/Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minor Baseball Association</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cornwallminorbaseball.com">www.cornwallminorbaseball.com</a></td>
<td>Legion Ball Park 613-936-8827</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cornwall Blue Chargers</td>
<td>David James</td>
<td>613-938-4793</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cornwall Commercial Fastball</td>
<td>Juanita Courville</td>
<td>613-933-5215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cornwall Slo-Pitch League</td>
<td>Dave MacLean</td>
<td>613-933-7593</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cornwall Minor Softball Association</td>
<td>Greg Cooper</td>
<td>613-933-1877</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cornwall Minor Girls Softball</td>
<td>Andre Leblanc</td>
<td>613-933-1843</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cornwall District Fastball League</td>
<td>Jim Martell</td>
<td>613-931-2255</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Basketball

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Association</th>
<th>Website/Contact</th>
<th>Address/Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United Counties Minor Basketball</td>
<td>Brad Derochie</td>
<td>613-938-0533</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Bowling

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Club Name</th>
<th>Address/Contact</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nativity Bowl</td>
<td>301 McConnell Avenue</td>
<td>613-933-0590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity</td>
<td>Address</td>
<td>Contact Details</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Olympia Bowl</strong></td>
<td>71 9TH Street West Cornwall, Ontario K6J 3A4</td>
<td>613-932-8421</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Boxing</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Side Community Boxing</td>
<td>Jorge Luis 223 Jarvis Street</td>
<td>613-933-5618</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Football</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minor Football</td>
<td>Steven McCoy</td>
<td>613-571-9634</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girl's Flag Football</td>
<td>Yvon Besner</td>
<td>613-931-3128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hockey</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optimist Minor Boys Floor</td>
<td>Gerry Summerville</td>
<td>613-930-9141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hockey Association</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cornwall Girls Hockey</td>
<td>Gilles Lascelle</td>
<td>613-937-3535</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Association</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huron Hockey School</td>
<td><a href="http://www.huronhockey.com">www.huronhockey.com</a></td>
<td>Naomi Sutton 877-487-6611</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cornwall Minor Hockey</td>
<td>To promote good sportsmanship, player participation and to have fun!</td>
<td>P.O. Box 115 Cornwall, Ontario K6H 5R9 613-933-4816</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cornwall Colts Junior &quot;A&quot;</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hockey</td>
<td>Dave Murray Si Miller Arena 229 Water Street East K6H 1A2</td>
<td>613-930-9300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gerry Brown Hockey School</strong></td>
<td>The School helps girls and boys ages 4 to 12 develop their hockey skills and will teach them new ways to improve their game. The school, being in its 46th year, has an excellent team of instructors that promises to bring out the best in everyone's game. The Hockey School takes place at the Bob Turner Memorial Arena.</td>
<td>Recreation Department 100 Water St. East Cornwall, Ontario K6H 6G4</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Soccer</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Cornwall &amp; District Soccer</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Frank Chartrand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kinsmen Minor Soccer Association</strong></td>
<td>The Club is devoted to providing the best and safest soccer experience in order to afford all players, coaches, referees every opportunity to enjoy the game of soccer. Achievement of these goals can be accomplished by building character, self-esteem, confidence and sportsmanship within our young athletes. Developing the team concept at any age is a positive life skill whether it's on the soccer pitch or in life in general.</td>
<td>P.O. Box 843 Main Station Cornwall, Ontario K6H 7H6</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>S.D.&amp; G. Blazers</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Graham Midgley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cornwall Indoor Soccer</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Frank Chartrand Cornwall City Sports Centre 244 Sounders Drive Cornwall ON K6H 5R6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cornwall City Soccer</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Frank Chartrand Cornwall City Sports Centre 244 Sounders Drive Cornwall, ON K6H 5R6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Youth Indoor Soccer</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Frank Chartrand Cornwall City Sports Centre 244 Sounders Drive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>Cornwall, ON K6H 5R6</td>
<td>Cornwall, ON K6J 1T2</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Cougars Track &amp; Field</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Cougars Track &amp; Field</strong></td>
<td>Dave Dorman</td>
<td>1607 Princess St</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tri-County Chess Club</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>1607 Princess St</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Seaway Valley Runners</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Snow Berry Ski School</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Cornwall Curling Club</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Cornwall Gymnastics Club</strong></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cornwall Curling Club</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Ananda Yoga &amp; Meditation Centre</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Cornwall Figure Skating Club</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Cornwall Minor Lacrosse Association</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Address:**
- 1607 Princess St, Cornwall, ON K6J 1T2
- 41 Kingslea Cr., Cornwall, ON K6H 3J2
- 11 Amelia Street, Cornwall, Ontario K6H 6N7
- P.O. Box 1941, 11 Amelia Street, Cornwall, Ontario K6H 6N7
- 113 Second St. E., Cornwall, Ontario
- 100 Water Street East, Cornwall, ON K6H 6G4
- 544 Joanne, Cornwall, ON K6H 7H7

**Contact Information:**
- 613-933-4799
- 613-938-6364
- 613-932-9403
- 613-938-4713
- 613-936-2027
- 613-933-4356
- 613-938-6654
- 613-936-9290
- 613-932-6919
- 613-938-6654

**Years:**
- 7+ years old
- 1-16 years old
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cornwall School of Dance</th>
<th>Jane MacMillan 170 Pitt Street Cornwall, Ontario K6J 3P4</th>
<th>613-938-3875</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Powell School of Dance</td>
<td>7-841 Sydney Street, Suite #328 Cornwall, ON K6H 7L2</td>
<td>Toll Free 1-866-277-9588</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Cornwall City Sports Centre</td>
<td>244 Saunders Dr. Cornwall, Ontario K6H 5R6</td>
<td>613-933-5103</td>
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</table>

“The Powell School of Dance mission statement is very simple. It is our long-term plan to continue to bring a level of excellence to our students, in providing an education in the fine art of dance, and in so doing, raise the awareness of arts and culture in the community of Cornwall and area. Our objective is to promote good health and quality physical activity to our young people, contributing toward strong, healthy adults and productive future citizens of our country.”