



Ministry of the Solicitor General

Funding Application Guidelines

Grant Program: **Victim Support Grant (VSG)**

Grant Term: **2023-2024 (one year)**

Areas of Focus are Victims and Survivors of:

- 1. Intimate Partner Violence/Domestic Violence**
- 2. Human Trafficking**
- 3. Child Exploitation**

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INTRODUCTION

Please note:

- ❖ This document is to assist you in completing the Victim Support Grant (VSG) application form and provides information and guidance that should be reviewed prior to filling out the application form.
- ❖ These application guidelines and instructions outline the grant process and contain information on eligibility criteria, outline outcomes and performance indicators, the application review process, selection criteria, and more.

Victim Support Grant 2023-2024 (one year)

The Ministry of the Solicitor General (ministry) is pleased to present the 2023-2024 Victim Support Grant (VSG) program. This document includes important information on the eligibility criteria, assessment criteria, as well as the grant process.

The VSG program will provide funding to police services to enhance capacity to support victims and survivors of intimate partner/domestic violence, human trafficking, and child exploitation through increased collaboration with local organizations and communities.

Ontario remains a hub for human trafficking nation-wide, while accounting for over half of police reported-incidents of human trafficking in 2019 ([Statistics Canada, June 2020](#)). Due to the nature of the crime being underreported, the actual numbers are likely much higher. Based on police-reported incidents, 3 out of 4 victims are under the age of 25, and almost all are women and girls ([Statistics Canada, October 2020](#)). Victims and survivors of human trafficking experience severe trauma and require intensive and specialized supports and services to help them recover and rebuild their lives (e.g., emergency and crisis support, wrap-around and long term supports).

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought about unprecedented circumstances of economic precarity and isolation, which have increased the vulnerability of those at risk of intimate partner/domestic violence and human trafficking. Furthermore, public health measures and social distancing have resulted in significant barriers and delays for victims' and survivors' access to critical supports and services. For individuals who are, or have been, at risk of intimate partner/domestic violence and/or human trafficking, their visibility is even further diminished, and access to necessary services and supports is interrupted.

Data gathered from frontline organizations across Canada showed a 20 to 30 per cent increase in rates of gender-based violence and domestic violence in some regions in the first few months of the pandemic ([Barbra Schlifer Clinic, June 2020](#)). About 50 per cent of Violence Against Women (VAW) shelters in Ontario identified an increase in demand for services during the COVID-19 pandemic ([Ontario Association of Interval and Transition Houses, July 2020](#)).

In addition, crowdsourcing data during May 2020 found that Indigenous participants were more than twice as likely than non-Indigenous participants to report being concerned with the impact of COVID-19 on violence in their home ([Statistics Canada, August 2020](#)). Romantic partners are overwhelmingly seen as the biggest source of violence to Indigenous women ([Native Women's Association of Canada, June 2020](#)).

Child exploitation is on the rise and is a serious violation of a child's rights that can have long-term physical, emotional, and psychological effects on the child. It is a crime that is recognized internationally and is punishable by law in many countries. Protecting children from exploitation is a global priority, and there are many organizations, including law-enforcement, working to prevent and respond to child exploitation. As an example, the Ministry's Provincial Strategy to Protect Children from Sexual Abuse and Exploitation on the Internet Grant program, has built capacity and sustainability to protect children from sexual abuse and exploitation on the internet by establishing a coordinated, strategic plan among police services, Crown attorneys, and victim support services. Specifically, since 2006 to October 2022, this work has resulted in the following: 2,697 Child Victims Identified & Rescued, 73,192 New Investigations Launched, 6,984 Persons Arrested & Charged, 26,892 Charges Laid, 5,187 Persons Charged (Ages 18+), and 587 Repeat Offenders Charged.

The VSG program will help to increase capacity for police services to better respond to the unique needs of victims and survivors of intimate partner violence/domestic violence, human trafficking, and child exploitation by working with local organizations and communities.

AREAS OF FOCUS

The VSG program will have three (3) streams: **Intimate Partner Violence/Domestic Violence, Human Trafficking, and/or Child Exploitation**. Police services can choose the area of focus based on local community needs.

Funding Objective: To support victims and survivors of intimate partner/domestic violence, human trafficking, and child exploitation who may come into contact with police, through enhanced collaboration and coordination between police and broader sectors and communities. Broader sectors may include: justice, housing, education, health/mental health, community and social services, and children and youth services.

Examples of key activities:

- Development of multisectoral teams or resources to support specialized interventions (e.g., situation tables, referral protocols).
- Collaborative community initiatives to support regional capacity building in supporting victims and survivors (e.g., community events, community of practice).

- Investments in collaborative resources that assist police in responding to the unique needs of victims and survivors (e.g., “soft” interview rooms in a community agency, victim navigation supports, language interpretation services for victims, peer support services).

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Who is Eligible?

Funding is available to municipal and First Nations Police Services as well as Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) contract and non-contract locations who submit a proposal in collaboration with a community-based agency or Indigenous community, including:

- Municipal and First Nations Police Services, as well as OPP contract locations are eligible to submit a maximum of one (1) application each.
- **NOTE:** OPP non-contract locations are eligible to submit a maximum of two (2) applications as a whole (i.e., not two per individual location).
 - OPP non-contract locations must submit their applications through OPP headquarters. All OPP non-contract location must submit their application(s) to Ashley Dunning via email at Kirsten.Buligan@opp.ca.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

a) MULTI-SECTORAL COLLABORATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

Applicants are required to work with a minimum of one (1) other relevant agency/organization from a different sector that has proven expertise in supporting victims and survivors. Some examples include: VAW services, Victim Crisis Assistance Ontario (VCAO) agencies, Sexual Assault Centres (SAC), Indigenous Victim Services, Indigenous Healing and Wellness Strategy agencies, Indigenous communities and organizations, anti-human trafficking service providers, survivor-led human trafficking organizations, community-based agencies, etc.

Applications should clearly identify how the collaboration/partnership will result in a more effective and coordinated approach to supporting victims and survivors. Applications should demonstrate how the project is evidence-based, victim/survivor-centered and where appropriate, includes consultation and collaboration with people with lived experiences.

The application should also clearly outline key roles and responsibilities between the police service and all partners/organizations/Indigenous communities in planning and implementing the project, as well as any accountability towards project performance and the use of project funding.

Note: The application should be submitted by the police service and must include a letter of support from all partners/organizations/Indigenous communities involved with the project (see (b) LETTER OF SUPPORT, below).

b) LETTER OF SUPPORT

Applicants are required to provide a letter of support that confirms the involvement of any partners/organizations/Indigenous communities. These letters should detail the nature of the collaboration and what role the organization/community will play in the development and/or delivery of your project. This must be an official letter signed by the respective organization/Indigenous community. Emails or letters that are not signed will not be accepted.

c) PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

Applicants must track and collect data on required ministry-identified outcomes as well as identify individual local performance measures (see Outcomes and Performance Indicators section).

d) RESULTS-ORIENTED

Projects should be developed in such a way that the objectives are clearly articulated, tangible and have measurable indicators associated with them. It should be clearly stated how each sub-component of a proposal is intended to meet the objective(s) it is in service of.

FUNDING & TIMELINES

Funding

The ministry will provide funding over a one-year cycle for time-limited projects that improve services for victims and survivors. Applicants are eligible for a maximum budget of \$100,000 for the **fiscal year 2023-2024, ending March 31, 2024.**

All complete and eligible applications submitted by the deadline will be reviewed by an inter-ministerial Review Committee, and if successful, the ministry will provide funding to cover the actual costs of the approved projects **up to a maximum of \$100,000 over the fiscal year 2023-2024.**

Timelines

The ministry must receive completed applications through both Transfer Payment Ontario (TPON) and by email by **4:00 p.m. EST on June 23rd, 2023.** See Application Submission section.

Projects approved for funding under this grant must be completed no later than March 31, 2024. Any expenses incurred after this date are not permissible and will not be funded by the ministry.

OUTCOMES & PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Successful VSG recipients will be required to report back on Priority Specific Indicators. The ministry's overall goal of this grant funding is to increase public safety by working with policing and community partners to provide the resources and tools they need to keep Ontario's communities safe and resilient.

This funding will assist and/or contribute towards the ministry's overall goal by providing police services and community organizations with additional resources (training, outreach, equipment, etc.) to implement projects under the 2023-2024 VSG cycle.

Please follow the steps below to fill out the Performance Measures section of the document. There will be two separate charts to complete: 1) Chart for Ministry KPI's and 2) Chart for Priority Specific Indicators.

Chart One Instructions - Ministry KPI's

STEP ONE: Select Your Priority (Victims and Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence/Domestic Violence, Human Trafficking, and Child Exploitation).

STEP TWO: Select the applicable Ministry KPI's that your priority falls under (for example, the priority of Human Trafficking can be attached to Ensuring People Feel Safe and Secure, Intimate Partner Violence/Domestic Violence may be attached to Reduction in the Incidence of Violent Crime, etc.).

- A. Increasing Support for Victims of Crime
- B. Reduction in the Incidence of Violent Crime
- C. Increasing Support to Front-Line Officers
- D. Ensuring People Feel Safe and Secure

STEP THREE: Select the Indicators to be measured for the Ministry KPI for your chosen Priority – select at least four indicators to report on.

A. Increasing Support for Victims of Crime

1. **Indicator 01:** Increase in number of partnerships with community agencies
2. **Indicator 02:** Increase % of victims who are referred to community organizations

3. **Indicator 03:** # of support information and preventative strategies provided to victims of crime
4. **Indicator 04:** # of victims who felt supported through the investigation of crime

B. Reduction in the Incidence of Violent Crime

1. **Indicator 01:** Decrease in the number of crimes reported
2. **Indicator 02:** # of individuals arrested for the indicated offense
3. **Indicator 03:** # of individuals charged for the indicated offense
4. **Indicator 04:** # of collaborative operations resulting in arrests

C. Increasing Support to Front-line Officers

Training

1. **Indicator 01:** Increase in number of training hours for frontline officers
2. **Indicator 02:** # of training programs implemented
3. **Indicator 03:** # of officers who received training
4. **Indicator 04:** # of training sessions/hours provided
5. **Indicator 05:** % of officers who indicated that the training provided them additional information

Equipment

1. **Indicator 01:** Increase in number of policing equipment

D. Ensuring People Feel Safe and Secure

1. **Indicator 01:** Workshops to raise awareness
2. **Indicator 02:** Increase in % of criminal investigations that result in arrest
3. **Indicator 03:** # of community outreach events held
4. **Indicator 04:** # of community outreach events hours
5. **Indicator 05:** # of community members who attended the community outreach events
6. **Indicator 06:** % of community members who indicated that the events increased their knowledge of the issue (survey of individuals who attend the outreach event)

STEP FOUR: Input your target/goals for the entire grant cycle from April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024.

STEP FIVE: Input where your data is being provided from (this will be a dropdown menu). This will explain if the data is provided through project-based data, unit-based data, police service wide data, or other.

STEP SIX: Use this section if you selected “other” under step five.

Example Ministry KPI's Chart (Chart One)

Priority	Ministry KPI	Indicator to be Measured for Ministry KPI	Goal/Target (Project Term)	Data Captured Based on (Example, project based, unit based, police service based, other)	Data Captured Based on Other (please explain where data was captured from if other)
Victims and Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence/ Domestic Violence	Increasing Support for Victims of Crime	# of victims who are referred to community organizations	20 referrals to Victim Services	Unit based (one unit)	N/A
Victims and Survivors of Human Trafficking	Reduction in the Incidence of Violent Crime	% Decrease in the number of crimes reported	20% decrease	Other	Multiple Units (i.e., Traffic Unit, Police Service wide).

Chart Two Instructions - for Priority Specific Indicators

STEP ONE: Select Your Priority (Victims and Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence/Domestic Violence, Human Trafficking, and Child Exploitation).

STEP TWO: Select the Indicators to be measured for the Priority Specific Indicators – select at least two indicators to report on.

1. Victims and Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence / Domestic Violence

- # and/or % of victims and survivors of intimate/domestic partner violence who are referred by police to appropriate agencies/resources in the community
- # and/or % of identified (including self-identified) victims and survivors accessing specialized services in the community through police referrals (metrics from organizational databases required)
- # and/or % of victims and survivors who report they felt comfortable making their safety concerns/needs known to police (survey of service providers required)
- # and/or % of victims and survivors of intimate/domestic partner violence identified by police services based on the tips/referrals from local agencies
- # of referrals between police services and local agencies/communities serving victims and survivors of intimate/domestic partner violence (including referrals from police services to local agencies/communities and referrals from local agencies/communities to police services)
- # of training hours provided to police officers on intimate/domestic partner violence
- # and/or % of police officers who completed specialized training sessions/courses on intimate/domestic partner violence
- # and/or % of police officers who report improvement in their knowledge about resources to meet the unique needs of victims and survivors of intimate/domestic partner violence (survey of police officers is required)

- # and/or % of police officers who report improvement in their ability to identify/recognize signs of intimate/domestic partner violence (survey of police officers is required)
- # and/or % of police officers who report knowledge of how to apply a trauma-informed approach to working/responding to victims of intimate/domestic partner violence (survey of police officers is required)
- # of new formal collaboration mechanisms established between police services and local agencies and communities serving victims and survivors of intimate/domestic partner violence (e.g., committees, planning tables, info sharing systems, etc.)
- # of cases of/individuals served as victims/survivors of intimate/domestic partner violence that involved collaboration between police services and local agencies and communities
- Depending on the type of collaboration mechanism(s) established, you will be required to report on additional relevant sub-indicators. See below for examples:
 - # of sectors/agencies represented and participating in multi-sector/situation tables
 - # of multi-sector /Situation Tables meetings
 - # of sectors/agencies that share information with police services
 - # of times police officers and/or local agency/community workers accessed the info sharing system
- # of cases of/individuals served as victims/survivors of intimate/domestic partner violence that involved collaboration between police services and local agencies and communities

2. Victims and Survivors of Human Trafficking

- # and/or % of victims and survivors of human trafficking who are referred by police to appropriate agencies/resources in the community
- # and/or % of identified (including self-identified) victims and survivors accessing specialized services in the community through police referrals (metrics from organizational databases required)
- # and/or % of victims and survivors who report they felt comfortable making their safety concerns/needs known to police (survey of service providers required)
- # and/or % of victims and survivors of human trafficking identified by police services based on the tips/referrals from local agencies
- # of referrals between police services and local agencies/communities serving victims and survivors of human trafficking (including referrals from police services to local agencies/communities and referrals from local agencies/communities to police services)
- # of training hours provided to police officers on anti-human trafficking
- # and/or % of police officers who completed specialized training sessions/courses on anti-human trafficking
- # and/or % of police officers who report improvement in their knowledge about resources to meet the unique needs of victims and survivors of human trafficking (survey of police officers is required)

- # and/or % of police officers who report improvement in their ability to identify/recognize signs of human trafficking (survey of police officers is required)
- # and/or % of police officers who report knowledge of how to apply a trauma-informed approach to working/responding to victims and survivors of human trafficking (survey of police officers is required)
- # of new formal collaboration mechanisms established between police services and local agencies and communities serving victims and survivors of human trafficking (e.g., committees, planning tables, info sharing systems, etc.)
- # of cases of/individuals served as victims/survivors of human trafficking that involved collaboration between police services and local agencies and communities
- Depending on the type of collaboration mechanism(s) established, you will be required to report on additional relevant sub-indicators. See below for examples:
 - # of sectors/agencies represented and participating in multi-sector/situation tables
 - # of multi-sector/Situation Tables meetings
 - # of sectors/agencies that share information with police services
 - # of times police officers and/or local agency/community workers accessed the info sharing system
- # of cases of/individuals served as victims/survivors of human trafficking that involved collaboration between police services and local agencies and communities

3. Victims and Survivors of Child Exploitation

- # and/or % of victims and survivors of child exploitation who are referred by police to appropriate agencies/resources in the community
- # and/or % of identified (including self-identified) victims and survivors accessing specialized services in the community through police referrals (metrics from organizational databases required)
- # and/or % of victims and survivors who report they felt comfortable making their safety concerns/needs known to police (survey of service providers required)
- # and/or % of victims and survivors of child exploitation identified by police services based on the tips/referrals from local agencies
- # of referrals between police services and local agencies/communities serving victims and survivors of child exploitation (including referrals from police services to local agencies/communities and referrals from local agencies/communities to police services)
- # of training hours provided to police officers on child exploitation
- # and/or % of police officers who completed specialized training sessions/courses on child exploitation
- # and/or % of police officers who report improvement in their knowledge about resources to meet the unique needs of victims and survivors of child exploitation (survey of police officers is required)
- # and/or % of police officers who report improvement in their ability to identify/recognize signs of child exploitation (survey of police officers is required)

- # and/or % of police officers who report knowledge of how to apply a trauma-informed approach to working/responding to victims and survivors of child exploitation (survey of police officers is required)
- # of new formal collaboration mechanisms established between police services and local agencies and communities serving victims and survivors of child exploitation (e.g., committees, planning tables, info sharing systems, etc.)
- # of cases of/individuals served as victims/survivors of child exploitation that involved collaboration between police services and local agencies and communities
- Depending on the type of collaboration mechanism(s) established, you will be required to report on additional relevant sub-indicators. See below for examples:
 - # of sectors/agencies represented and participating in multi-sector/situation tables
 - # of multi-sector/Situation Tables meetings
 - # of sectors/agencies that share information with police services
 - # of times police officers and/or local agency/community workers accessed the info sharing system
- # of cases of/individuals served as victims/survivors of child exploitation that involved collaboration between police services and local agencies and communities

STEP THREE: Input your target/goals for the entire grant cycle from April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024.

STEP FOUR: Input where your data is being provided from (this will be a dropdown menu). This will explain if the data is provided through project-based data, unit-based data or police service wide data or other.

STEP FIVE: Use this section if you selected “other” under step four.

Example Priority Specific Indicators (Chart Two)

Priority	Priority Specific Indicator	Goal/Target (Project Term)	Data Captured Based on (Example, project based, unit based, police service based, other)	Data Captured Based on Other (please explain where data was captured from if other)
Victims and Survivors of Human Trafficking	# and/or % of victims and survivors of human trafficking who are referred by police to appropriate agencies/resources in the community	200% (Current baseline = 5; target = 10 outreach programs)	Project Based	N/A
Victims and Survivors of Child Exploitation	# and/or % of victims and survivors of child exploitation identified by police services based on the tips/referrals from local agencies	250% (Current baseline = 10; target = 25 activities help organize)	Other	This is a partnership and includes multiple units from two other police service

REVIEW PROCESS

All applications submitted by the deadline will be reviewed and assessed by a formal Review Committee, comprised of representatives and subject matter experts from within and outside the ministry. The Review Committee's primary mandate will be to review and evaluate applications, to ensure that eligibility criteria are met, and to confirm that applications have clear objectives, specific activities to achieve those objectives, an evaluation strategy and performance measures that track the successes of the project.

The Review Committee will make recommendations for funding to the Solicitor General. Also, should the application meet the eligibility criteria, your proposal will be assessed based on the following set of criteria:

- ✓ Demonstrated Need
- ✓ Work Plan and Activities
- ✓ Multi-sectoral Collaboration and Partnerships
- ✓ Outcomes and Performance Indicators
- ✓ Budget

Note: All applicants will receive written notification of the final decision whether their application is approved or declined.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Please review the assessment criteria outlined below. It provides important details about the components that must be addressed in your application.

DEMONSTRATED NEED (6 points)

1) Indicate the need for funding under this grant.

- ✓ Provide a brief summary and overview of the proposal.
- ✓ Provide an explanation outlining the need for your project and identifying gap areas. Evidence should be provided to demonstrate the need (e.g., high rates of victimization, demographic needs, gaps in services/programs, feedback from people with lived experience etc.).
- ✓ Include current and reliable statistical data to support your rationale. Statistics/evidence may originate from reports, academia, journal/scholarly articles and publications (e.g., from Statistics Canada, police) or through local findings as a result of community consultations, a gap analysis, an environmental scan, traditional knowledge, surveys etc.

Note: It is important that projects build on the existing support service systems and do not duplicate services already available locally.

WORK PLAN and ACTIVITIES (4 points)

2) Provide a comprehensive outline of the activities and work plan that will be implemented as part of the project. Explain what work will be done, the activities associated with the work, who will execute the work plan and who will benefit from these activities and how.

- ✓ Describe in detail the work plan and key activities that will be implemented during the project.
- ✓ Identify how the work plan and each of the activities relate to the stream you choose to implement (intimate partner violence or human trafficking).
- ✓ Provide an explanation of who will benefit from the activities and how.
- ✓ Explain how the proposal is responsive to any unique community needs.

MULTI-SECTORAL COLLABORATION AND PARTNERSHIPS (3 points)

3) List the agencies/organizations/Indigenous communities that will be involved in the project. In the table provided in the application (see below for reference), please provide applicable information to describe the organizations you will be collaborating with.

Note: Applicants are required to collaborate with at least one (1) agency/organization from a different sector. All partners/organizations/Indigenous communities must provide a letter of commitment that confirms the nature of the collaboration and what role they will have in the development and/or delivery of your project.

Partner/Organization/Community	Sector	Role	Value	Contact Info

- ✓ **Partner/Organization/Community:** Indicate the name of the agency/organization(s) and/or Indigenous community that will be involved with the delivery of the project.
- ✓ **Sector:** Based on the following list of six (6) sectors, identify the sector(s) to which the partner/organization/Indigenous community has expertise in: justice, housing, education, health/mental health, community and social services, and children and youth services.
- ✓ **Role:** Outline each partner/organization/community's role in carrying out the project, including what activities they will implement (e.g., providing referrals, assisting in organizing community events).
- ✓ **Value:** Explain the value that each partner/organization/community brings to the project (e.g., expertise/resources/skills/etc.) and how they will each enhance the ability to carry out the project (e.g., why they are best positioned to fulfill their specified role).
- ✓ **Contact Information:** Provide the primary contact information for each partner/organization/community.

OUTCOMES AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (4 points)

- Complete the chart outlined in the application. Please see pages seven to nine of these Guidelines for more details.

BUDGET (3 points)

4) Using the budget sheet provided, clearly itemize all expenditures associated with the project (this may include budget items to support project partners, if applicable). Eligible costs are budget items directly related to the project. All costs funded by the ministry should be reasonable and necessary for the project's successful completion and implementation.

- ✓ Clearly describe the need/use for the items that require ministry funding.
- ✓ Should you require funding for personnel, a brief description of the duties and responsibilities for the position is required.
- ✓ Budget items without an associated explanation may not be funded.
- ✓ Only 10 per cent of the funding requested from the ministry may be used to pay external consultants (see Eligible Budget Items below).

Eligible Budget Items:

**When developing the project budget, financial support for project partners, community agencies and Indigenous communities should be integrated into the budget and clearly outlined where appropriate.*

- Project staff and contractual work, including overtime (capped at **40 per cent** of overall ministry requested amount): funding for project staff, overtime and contractual work for the project and for the duration of the contract term only.
 - **Note:** The above does not apply towards consultants.
- Education/training: training of law enforcement, support personnel, and community members. Examples may include costs associated with providing a trainer, meals, transportation and other travel costs, etc.
 - **Note:** This includes providing compensation for participants for their involvement with the delivery of training (e.g., providing an honorarium for facilitators and guest speakers with lived experiences).
- Equipment and other operating project costs: equipment costs may include laptop/printer/desktop, rental costs, etc.
- Administration and other: administration/other costs may include cell/monthly costs, internet, office expenses, supplies, etc.

What is NOT Eligible (i.e., the grant will not cover expenses related to the items outlined below):

- Police officer's salaries and benefits.
- Funding that requests offsetting current policing operating budgets, for example officer equipment and supplies that are not related to the project.
- Out of province expenses (e.g., travel costs).
- Facial recognition technology.

- Body-worn cameras.

CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT

As a requirement of providing funding, the ministry will enter into a Transfer Payment Agreement (TPA) with the respective police service boards. Once the TPA is signed, the funds will be disbursed based on the reporting/payment schedule outlined in the TPA. The project funds must be used for the purposes described in the application and according to the terms of the TPA.

Standard government procedures regarding grants (as outlined in the Treasury Board Transfer Payment Accountability Directive) will be followed. The TPA will outline:

- Purpose for which the grant will be used;
- Commitments to be undertaken or specific activities to support the proposal;
- Interim and final reporting requirements and dates;
- Performance measures and evaluation component; and
- Funding disbursement schedule.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION

All applications must be submitted through Transfer Payment Ontario (TPON) by **4:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on June 23rd, 2023**. An electronic version of your completed and signed application form must also be submitted to the ministry in the **original format (NOT a scanned version)** by email to Ramanan.Thanabalasingam@Ontario.ca and Silvana.Burke@Ontario.ca by **4:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on June 23rd, 2023**.

Submissions that are late, incomplete, or not accompanied by the required documents requested by the ministry will not be considered for funding; no exceptions will be permitted. **More details on the application process, including accessing the application and applying through TPON, are outlined in Appendix B.**

MINISTRY CONTACT

If you have any questions regarding the VSG or theses guidelines, please contact Ram Thanabalasingam at (647) 532-8128 or by email at Ramanan.Thanabalasingam@Ontario.ca or Silvana Burke at (647) 532-8246 or by email at Silvana.Burke@Ontario.ca.

APPENDIX A: Glossary of Terms

This section includes a list of words used in the VSG guidelines. The purpose of the definitions in this section is to provide clarity in the context of the VSG guidelines only and is not meant to be all-encompassing or definitive definitions. Additional resources are provided as supplementary information.

Agency

Community organizations (e.g., service provider, non-profit, charitable organization, social services organization) that provide a particular service or program that include servicing victims and survivors of intimate partner violence or human trafficking.

Collaboration

[Collaboration](#) is a process where police services and agencies, communities, groups and individuals work together and share a common purpose. These relationships are mutually beneficial and involve co-development of an initiative, including design, delivery and implementation.

Collaborators generally need to gain something from the process. The intent is that through collaboration each entity will be stronger, more resilient and efficient, including:

- have a unified voice to influence policy and bring change
- have access to creative, financial, technical and human resources
- limit duplication
- share knowledge
- be able to accomplish more
- be mutually beneficial

Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)

The use of physical or sexual force, actual or threatened, in an intimate relationship at any time in a relationship, including after the relationship has ended and regardless of whether the partners live together or whether they are sexual intimate with one another. These acts of violence are often committed in a context where there is a pattern of assaultive and controlling behaviour. This violence may include physical assault, and emotional, psychological and sexual abuse. It can include threats to harm children, other family members, pets and property. The violence is used to intimidate, humiliate or frighten victims, or to make them powerless.

Intimate partner abuse may include a single act of abuse. It may also include a number of acts which may appear minor or trivial when viewed in isolation, but collectively form a pattern that amounts to abuse.

Intimate relationships include those in heterosexual or 2SLGBTQQIA relationships (Two-Spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Questioning, Intersex and Asexual persons). These

relationships vary in duration and legal formality, and include current and former dating, common-law and married couples. See definition of 2SLGBTQIA.

Additional resource: <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/en/pub/85-002-x/2021001/article/00003-eng.pdf?st=vBRdsmNa>

Domestic Violence

Domestic violence is a pattern of behaviour used by one person to gain power and control over another person with whom they have or previously had an intimate relationship and can include:

- physical violence with the use of hands, objects, or weapons
- sexual violence, including threats, intimidation, physical force, or using a position of power for sexual purposes
- emotional abuse, verbal abuse, or psychological intimidation, including threatening to kill a partner, a child, a pet, or livestock
- spiritual abuse, including using to religion to threaten or intimidate, forcing someone to comply with religious beliefs against their will, or preventing someone from practicing their beliefs
- financial abuse, including stealing, controlling finances, forcing a partner to work, or prohibiting a partner from working
- harassment and stalking, including monitoring a partner's activities online, using electronic devices to watch or control them, following them, or consistently invading their privacy
- cyber-violence, including image and video sharing without consent, taking pictures or video without a person's consent, online bullying, harassment, unwanted sexting, and hate speech

Human Trafficking

[Human trafficking](#), also referred to as trafficking in persons, can include recruiting, harbouring, or controlling a person's movements using force, physical or psychological coercion, or deception. Human trafficking takes various forms, and is often for the purposes of forced, labour or sexual services.

Human Trafficking is conduct described in sections [279.01](#), [279.011](#), [279.02](#) and [279.03](#) of the *Criminal Code* (Canada), without regard to the interpretive rules set out in section 279.04 of that Act, and not requiring a charge or conviction under any of those sections.

Child Exploitation

Child exploitation refers to any situation in which a child is being used, manipulated, or taken advantage of for the benefit of another person or group. It can take many different forms,

including sexual exploitation, forced labor or slavery, trafficking, and participation in armed conflict or other dangerous activities.

Intersectionality

[Intersectionality](#) is the way in which people's lives are shaped by their multiple and overlapping identities and social locations, which, together, can produce a unique and distinct experience for that individual or group, for example, creating additional barriers, opportunities and/or power imbalances.

In the context of race and Indigenous identity, this means recognizing the ways in which people's experiences of racism or privilege, including within any one group, may vary depending on the individual's or group's relationship to additional overlapping or intersecting social identities, like religion, ethnic origin, gender, age, disabilities or citizenship and immigration status.

An intersectional analysis enables better understanding of the impacts of any one particular systemic barrier by considering how that barrier may be interacting with other related factors.

In the case of intimate partner violence, people of [intersecting identities](#) are affected by oppression in different ways and therefore have unique experiences of IPV and we should not assume that survivors of IPV speak with only one voice.

Partner(ship)

For the purposes of the guidelines, "Partner" is not intended to refer to Intimate Partner Violence.

"Partners" are police services, communities and agencies that work regularly together, and have a mutually beneficial and strong working relationship. See definition of Collaboration.

Partnership involves a respectful and mutually beneficial relationship between police services, local organizations, agencies, Indigenous-led organizations and/or Indigenous communities. A partnership should be negotiated and agreed upon with respect to every new initiative and changes that occur in any context.

Sector

A distinct group of entities that provide similar services, programs, supports or have a similar mandate of serving a particular population. Six sectors identified for the purposes of the VSG, include: justice, housing, education, health/mental health, community and social services and children and youth services.

Service Provider

See definition of Agency.

Situation Tables

A Situation Table consists of a regular meeting of frontline workers, from a variety of human services agencies and sectors, who work together to identify individuals, families, groups or locations that are at an acutely elevated risk of harm (as recognized across a broad range of service providers), and customize multi-disciplinary interventions which mitigate those risks. It is a type of multi-sectoral risk intervention model that consists of human service providers and workers from different sectors working together to provide an immediate, coordinated and integrated response to address complex situations facing individuals and/or families.

In Ontario, Situation Tables are locally driven initiatives that adapt to the needs and assets of their own catchment area, as well as the policies, practices and preferences of its partnering agencies/organizations.

Survivor

An individual who has experienced, is experiencing or at risk of experiencing intimate partner violence, human trafficking, or other forms of violence, and may have started a healing journey to recover and rebuild their lives. This term can refer to an individual who may wish to be referred to as a “person with lived experience” or “someone who has experienced violence”.

“Survivor” may be preferred to “victim” as it reflects the reality that many individuals who experience violence are able to live beyond the violence they experienced rather than permanently being defined by traumatic events in the past. The term “survivor” refers to those who have experienced violence, recognizing that using the term survivors is not a demand on people to [“hurry up and heal”](#). This assumes that the healing journey is a linear and one-way process rather than capturing the complexity of the healing process.

It is important to recognize that:

- exiting may not be a linear process and may instead take multiple attempts;
- survivorship and victimization are not mutually exclusive terms or experiences;
- individuals who have experienced abuse, violence and/or exploitation may prefer one term over another to describe their experiences;
- not all victims and survivors enter or are engaged in the legal system.

Please note: The experience of abuse, violence and/or exploitation does not define an individual’s identity and for some, avoiding labels such as “victim” or “survivor” is important to their healing. One term may not work for everyone. See definition of Victim.

Trauma-informed

A trauma-informed framework or approach recognizes the widespread impact of trauma and understands potential paths for recovery. This can include: an awareness of the prevalence of violence and trauma; an understanding of trauma’s impact on physical, emotional and mental health; an understanding that current programs, policies or service delivery systems can retraumatize individuals and seeks to reduce the risk of re-traumatization. It recognizes that experiences of violence can also be systemic and that for many marginalized populations,

discrimination and systemic violence are everyday experiences. As such, it is essential that a trauma-informed approach or framework address: racism, colonialism and homo/transphobia.

[Trauma-informed policies and practices](#) recognize the connections between violence, trauma, negative health outcomes and behaviours. These approaches increase safety, control and resilience for people who are seeking services in relation to experiences of violence and/or have a history of experiencing violence.

The goal of a trauma-informed approach is to support healing in a manner that is welcoming and appropriate to the needs of those affected by trauma.

Victim

An individual who has suffered or is suffering physical or emotional harm, property damage, or economic loss because of intimate partner violence, human trafficking, or other forms of violence.

A victim can be an individual who is still in a human trafficking or intimate partner violence situation, or an individual who has exited an intimate partner violence or human trafficking situation.

It is important to recognize that:

- exiting may not be a linear process and may instead take multiple attempts;
- survivorship and victimization are not mutually exclusive terms or experiences;
- individuals who have experienced abuse, violence and/or exploitation may prefer one term over another to describe their experiences;
- not all victims and survivors enter or are engaged in the legal system.

The term “victim” is defined in certain legislation, such as the Criminal Code, the [Victims’ Bill of Rights \(Ontario\)](#) and [Canadian Victims Bill of Rights](#) and is used in relation to that legislation.

Please note: The experience of abuse, violence and/or exploitation does not define their identity and for some, avoiding labels such as “victim” or “survivor” is important to their healing. One term may not work for everyone. See definition of Survivor.

Violence Against Women (VAW)

In addition to acts of physical violence, [this term](#) can also be used to refer to the intentional and systematic use of tactics to establish and maintain power and control over a woman’s thoughts, emotions beliefs and behaviours.

The [United Nations \(UN\)](#) defines violence against women as “any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivations of liberty, whether occurring in public or private life.”

Examples of [VAW agencies](#) may include shelters, counselling and family services, sexual assault

centres and service providers for survivors of domestic violence/human trafficking.

2SLGBTQIA+

- Is an inclusive acronym to identify Two-Spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual, Transgender, Queer, Questioning, Intersex and Asexual persons. *Note: This acronym was the preferred language adopted by the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. While no acronym is perfect, best efforts should be made to ensure language is inclusive and respectful to all persons.*
- The plus sign acknowledges the many sexual and gender minority people who don't see themselves in the umbrella acronym and prefer other identity terms such as pansexual, gender-free, or intersex.

It is recognized that these terms describing gender identity and gender expression do not capture the full representation of the population and continue to evolve. Individuals and communities may have broader or more specific understandings of the terms. There are multiple variations of the acronym to reflect terms defining individuals/communities' gender identity and/or gender expression which differs from what typically associated with the sex they were assigned at birth.

For additional terms, definitions and understandings, go to:

- Centre for Research & Education on Violence Against Women & Children, <http://www.vawlearningnetwork.ca/our-work/glossary/Letter-G.html>
- Rainbow Health Ontario, <https://www.rainbowhealthontario.ca/>
- 2-Spirited People of the First Nations, <http://www.2spirits.com/>

APPENDIX B: Registering your Organization in Transfer Payment Ontario

Transfer Payment Ontario (www.ontario.ca/GetFunding) is the Government of Ontario's online transfer payment management system. It provides one window access to information about available funding, how to submit for funding and how to track the status of your submission.

Getting Started

- All organizations must be registered with Transfer Payment Ontario in order to submit the intake form to request funding for this program.
 - The form must be submitted online, in either English or French through Transfer Payment Ontario.

- **Existing Transfer Payment Ontario users:** If your organization is already registered with Transfer Payment Ontario, you do not need to do so again. Log in to Transfer Payment Ontario to access and submit an intake form.
- **New users to Transfer Payment (TP) Ontario:** If you are a new user of Transfer Payment Ontario, you will need to:
 1. [Create a ONE-key account](#);
 2. [Register your organization](#) or [Join an existing organization](#)
 3. [Request access to TP Ontario](#).

NOTE: Google Chrome web browser and Adobe Acrobat Reader DC are required to access funding opportunities and download required forms from TP Ontario. For more information and resources visit the [Get Help](#) section of our website.

Technical Support

For technical support related to the Transfer Payment Ontario including assistance with registration, and intake form please contact TP Ontario Client Care:

- Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST).
- Toronto: 416-325-6691
- Toll Free: 1-855-216-3090
- TTY/Teletypewriter (for the hearing impaired): 416-325-3408 / Toll free: 1-800-268-7095
- Email: TPONCC@ontario.ca

NOTE: ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED ONLINE AND A COPY OF THE APPLICATION MUST ALSO BE EMAILED TO THE MINISTRY CONTACTS LISTED IN THESE GUIDELINES.