



Ministry of the Solicitor General

# **Application Guidelines and Instructions**

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

**Grant Term: Two-year grant cycle (2021-22 to 2022-23)**

## **Areas of Focus:**

- **Victims and Survivors of intimate partner violence**
- **Victims and Survivors of human trafficking**

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## INTRODUCTION

The Ministry of the Solicitor General (ministry) is pleased to present the 2021-22 to 2022-23 Victim Support Grant (VSG) program. This document includes important information on the eligibility criteria, assessment criteria as well as the grant process.

The new VSG program will provide funding to police services to enhance capacity to support victims and survivors of intimate partner violence and human trafficking, through increased collaboration with local organizations and communities (e.g. Violence Against Women (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.).

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).

In the past year, the COVID-19 has brought about unprecedented circumstances of economic precarity and isolation which have increased the vulnerability of those at risk of intimate partner 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, have been or at risk of intimate partner 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](#)). [Ontario's Attorney General](#) has noted a similar increase in domestic violence rates based on reports from frontline victim services organizations. About 50 per cent of 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](#)).

To further recognize that certain people and communities may be disproportionately impacted by intimate partner violence and human trafficking, and that they may experience multiple intersectionalities and circumstances that can impact whether and how they experience and recover from intimate partner violence and human trafficking, VSG program funding will also be directed to culturally responsive services and improve access to supports for racialized individuals and newcomers who are victims or survivors of intimate partner violence and human trafficking.

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

## AREAS OF FOCUS

The new VSG program will have two (2) streams: **Intimate Partner Violence** and/or **Human Trafficking**. Police services can choose either one or both to focus on based on local community needs.

**Fund Objective:** To support victims and survivors of intimate partner violence and human trafficking 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 intervention in suspected instances of intimate partner violence or human trafficking (e.g., situation tables, referral protocols).
- Collaborative community initiatives to support regional capacity building in supporting victims and survivors of intimate partner violence or human trafficking (e.g., community events, community of practice).
- Investments in collaborative resources that assist police in responding to the unique needs of victims and survivors of intimate partner violence or human trafficking (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 police services in Ontario who submit a proposal in collaboration with a community-based agency or Indigenous community, including:

- Municipal and First Nations Police Services as well as Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) contract locations, which are eligible to submit a maximum of one (1) application each, with the exception of Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) non-contract locations which a maximum of two (2) applications can be submitted 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 Stacey Whaley at [Stacey.Whaley@opp.ca](mailto:Stacey.Whaley@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 of intimate partner violence or human trafficking. Some examples include: VAW services, VCAO agencies, 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.

Applications should clearly identify how the collaboration/partnership will result in a more effective and coordinated approach to supporting victims and survivors of intimate partner violence or human trafficking. 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) LETTERS OF SUPPORT, below).

*b) LETTERS 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 the required ministry-identified outcomes as well as identify individual local performance measures (see Outcomes and Performance Indicators section).

*d) DIVERSITY PRINCIPLE*

Projects should be developed through a diversity, equity and inclusion lens with consideration towards supports for communities who may be disproportionately impacted by intimate partner violence and human trafficking. This may include taking into consideration how the initiative would serve and meet the unique needs of victims and survivors who are, but not limited to:

- Indigenous\*;
- Francophone;
- racialized;
- newcomers, immigrants or refugees;
- members of specific ethno-cultural and religious backgrounds;
- children and youth;
- older adults;
- 2SLGBTQQIA+ (including: Two-Spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Questioning, Intersex and Asexual, and Plus persons);
- experiencing challenges with addictions and mental health;
- persons with disabilities;
- residents of Northern, rural and remote areas; or
- experiencing economic insecurity (i.e., homeless, marginally/under-housed, living in poverty).

*\*In recognition that there is a disproportionate impact of intimate partner violence and human trafficking on Indigenous communities, specific consideration will be given for projects that are culturally responsive, specifically and respectfully designed, and developed in collaboration with Indigenous organizations and communities to meet the needs of Indigenous survivors and victims.*

## FUNDING & TIMELINES

### Funding

The ministry will provide funding over a two-year cycle for time-limited projects that improve services for victims and survivors of intimate partner violence and/or human trafficking. Applicants are eligible for a maximum budget of \$100,000 per year over the next two fiscal years, ending March 31, 2023.

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 per funding year over the two year grant period.**

### Timelines

The ministry must receive completed applications through both Transfer Payment Ontario (TPON) and by email by **4:00 p.m. EST on Monday July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021.** See Application Submission section.

It is anticipated that successful applicants will be notified in Fall 2021.

Projects approved for funding under this grant must be completed no later than March 31, 2023. Any expenses incurred after this date are not permissible and will not be funded by the ministry.

## OUTCOMES & PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Applicants must identify both local and ministry outcomes and performance indicators as part of their application.

### Local Outcomes:

Applicants will be required to identify local outcomes and performance indicators that reflect your specific initiative.

### Ministry-Identified Outcomes:

The ministry will require successful recipients to report back on **a minimum of four (4) indicators from two (2) different ministry-identified outcomes** from the list outlined below (e.g., selecting one indicator from outcome 1 in addition to three indicators from outcome 2 for a total of four indicators, or selecting two indicators from outcome 1 in addition to two indicators from outcome 3, etc.). **At least one (1) of the four indicators** must also be an outcome-focused indicator (e.g., obtained from a survey of police officers). Please ensure you

build this into your proposal and specify how this information will be collected.

**Outcome 1: Victims and survivors are accessing the services they need, when they need them**

*Indicators:*

- a. % increase of identified (including self-identified) victims and survivors accessing specialized services in the community through police referrals (metrics from organizational databases required)
- b. % of victims and survivors who report they felt comfortable making their safety concerns/needs known to police (survey of service providers required)

**Outcome 2: Increased collaboration with local agencies servicing human trafficking and/or intimate partner violence victims and survivors**

*Indicators:*

- a. # of victims and survivors of intimate partner violence and/or human trafficking who are referred by police to appropriate agencies/resources in the community
- b. # of victims and survivors of intimate partner violence and/or human trafficking identified by police services based on the tips/referrals from local agencies
- c. # of referrals between police services and local agencies/communities serving victims and survivors of human trafficking and/or intimate partner violence (including referrals from police services to local agencies/communities and referrals from local agencies/communities to police services)
- d. % of police officers who report improvement in their knowledge about resources to meet the unique needs of victims and survivors of intimate partner violence and/or human trafficking (survey of police officers is required)
- e. % of providers/agencies who report that they have the right networks in place to refer victims and survivors to appropriate services (survey of providers/agencies required)
- f. # of new formal collaboration mechanisms established between police services and local agencies and communities serving victims and survivors of human trafficking and/or intimate partner violence (e.g., committees, planning tables, info sharing systems, etc.)

*Depending on the type of collaboration mechanism(s) established for 2(f), you will be required to report on additional relevant sub-indicators. See below for examples:*

- i. multi-sector meetings/Situation Tables:
  - # of sectors/agencies represented and participating
  - # of multi-sector meetings/Situation Tables
- ii. info sharing:
  - # of sectors/agencies participating
  - # 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 partner violence and/or human trafficking that involved



collaboration between police services and local agencies and communities

**Outcome 3: Increased ability of police officers to appropriately respond to the needs of victims and survivors of intimate partner and human trafficking violence**

*Indicators:*

- a. % of providers who have implemented new policies/programs after receiving educational opportunities regarding human trafficking and intimate partner violence
- b. % of police officers who completed specialized training sessions/courses on anti-human trafficking and/or intimate partner violence
- c. % of police officers who report improvement in their knowledge about resources to meet the unique needs of victims and survivors of intimate partner violence and human trafficking (survey of police officers is required)
- d. % of police officers who report improvement in their ability to identify/recognize signs of human trafficking (survey of police officers is required)
- e. % of police officers who report knowledge of how to apply a trauma-informed approach to working/responding to victims and survivors of human trafficking and/or intimate partner violence (survey of police officers is required)

## REVIEW PROCESS

All applications submitted by the deadline will be reviewed and assessed by a formal Review Committee, comprised of representatives from within and outside the ministry. The committee's primary mandate will be to review and evaluate applications based on the application requirements and assessment criteria and make funding recommendations to the Solicitor General.

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 (4 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 (6 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, 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 (6 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 (6 points)**

4) In the table provided in the application (see below), please identify the expected local and ministry outcomes that will result from your project and the performance indicators that will be measured to assess achievement of outcomes, as well as baseline data, if possible, for each of those indicators. Local/ministry outcomes, as well as performance measures should be developed in collaboration with all partners/organizations/Indigenous communities. Additional qualitative information may be included to supplement the quantitative indicators.

Stream (HT or IPV)	Expected Outcomes	Performance Indicators	Baseline	Target (expected future performance)	Responsibility (who will collect the data)	Frequency (how often will data be collected)	Collection Method

- ✓ **Expected Outcomes:** Describe the expected outcomes that will result from your project.
- ✓ **Performance Indicators, Responsibility and Frequency:** Identify performance indicators (quantitative) to demonstrate that outcomes have been achieved. Identify which partner/organization/Indigenous community will report on each indicator and how often.
- ✓ **Baseline:** Indicate the baseline data from which you will be able to assess change. If baseline data is not available, please indicate that and explain why.

In addition, please include details around how outcomes/learnings from your project will be leveraged/shared, if applicable.



### **TIPS:**

- **Expected Outcomes** are the positive impacts or changes your activities are expected to make in your community.
- **Performance Indicator** is an observable, measurable piece of information (i.e., numeric result) about a particular outcome, which shows to what extent the outcome has been achieved.
- **Outcome-focused indicators** have meaningful changes for the population served, such as anticipated changes in knowledge, skills, attitudes, behaviour, condition, or status.
- **Output-focused indicators** are focused on numerical counts (e.g., the number of people served, the number of activities produced, the number of products delivered etc.).
- **Quantitative indicators** are numeric or statistical measures that are often expressed in terms of unit of analysis (e.g., frequency of, percentage of, ratio of, variance with).
- **Qualitative information** is non-measurable information that describes attributes, characteristics, properties, etc. It can include descriptive judgments or perceptions (e.g., program participants' verbal or written feedback) measured through an open-ended questionnaire or an interview.
- **Baseline data** is information captured initially to establish the starting point against which to measure the achievement of outcomes. If you do not have access to baseline data and are unable to collect it, please explain why.
- **Target** is the planned result to be achieved within a particular time frame. Along with the baseline, this provides an anchor against which current performance results can be compared. Reasonable targets are challenging but achievable.

### **BUDGET (4 points)**

**5) 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).

**Note:** Applicants are required to apply the Ontario Public Service's *Travel, Meal and Hospitality Expenses Directive* (last amended in 2019), for any travel related expenses.

To access the full directive, please visit - <https://www.ontario.ca/document/travel-meal-and-hospitality-expenses-directive>.

**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):

- Funding that requests offsetting current policing operating budgets (e.g., officer salaries, officer equipment and supplies that are not related to the project).

## **CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT**

As a requirement of providing funding, the ministry will enter into a Transfer Payment Agreement (TPA) with the respective police service boards and First Nation band councils. 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 & 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 Monday July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021**. 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](mailto:Ramanan.Thanabalasingam@Ontario.ca) and [Serena.Chan3@ontario.ca](mailto:Serena.Chan3@ontario.ca) by **4:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on Monday July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021**.

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 about the application process, please contact Ram at [Ramanan.Thanabalasingam@Ontario.ca](mailto:Ramanan.Thanabalasingam@Ontario.ca) and Serena at [Serena.Chan3@ontario.ca](mailto:Serena.Chan3@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

### **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion**

- **Diversity:** is [the range](#) of visible and invisible qualities, experiences and identities that shape who we are, how we think and how we engage with, and are perceived by the world. For example, along the dimensions of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, age, physical or mental abilities, religious/spiritual beliefs, or political ideologies. They can also include differences such as personality, style, capabilities, and thoughts/perspectives.
- **Equity:** Equity is fairness, making sure everyone has what they need to succeed and removing barriers that disadvantage some groups over others. This is different than treating people equally, which is behind the concept of “equality”.
  - Equity is not about sameness of treatment. Equitable outcomes often require differential treatment and resource redistribution to achieve a level playing field among all individuals and communities. This requires recognizing, addressing,

and removing barriers to opportunities (that disadvantage some groups over others) in an effort support and provide individuals and communities with the tools they need to succeed and to thrive in society.

- **Inclusion:** Inclusion is recognizing, welcoming and making space for diversity, such as appreciating and drawing upon the unique differences of an individual and communities – strengths, talents, weaknesses, thought, experiences, skills and frailties – in a way that shows respects for and is respectful to individuals and communities and ultimately creates a dynamic multi-dimensional organization/community.

### **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.

### **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.

### **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 2SLGBTQQIA.

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

### **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.

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 as a result 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.*

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](http://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](mailto:TPONCC@ontario.ca)