

Domestic Violence Resources



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This list is intended to help employers address domestic violence in the workplace. It is not intended to be a complete list of resources.

WorkSafeBC makes no warranty as to the ability, suitability, or availability of the organizations listed or their business practices. WorkSafeBC does not recommend those organizations listed over any organizations not listed.

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Anyone contemplating engaging any organization listed should make their own inquiries and decisions regarding the suitability and ability of any organization listed, and should make their own investigations regarding possible alternative organizations not listed.

Resources for victims of domestic violence

The **Government of British Columbia's** domestic violence website provides resources and information about programs and services that are available in communities across the province.

www.domesticviolencebc.ca

VictimLink BC (1 800 563-0808) is a toll-free, confidential, multilingual telephone service available across B.C. and in the Yukon, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. It provides information and referral services to victims of crime, and immediate crisis support to victims of family and sexual violence, including male victims.

www.victimlinkbc.ca/vlbc/help/domestic_violence.page

The **Ministry of Justice** funds a number of programs and services for victims of domestic violence, including local victim service programs, counselling and outreach programs, the Crime Victim Assistance Program, and the Victim Safety Unit. The website contains a directory of victim services available throughout B.C.

www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/victimservices

The **YWCA Canada** offers affordable, emergency housing options; legal resources; programs for women experiencing abuse, and single mothers and children who witness abuse; and more. There are YWCAs in Kamloops (www.kamloopsy.org), Central Okanagan (www.ymca-ywca.com), Greater Victoria (www.victoriay.ca), and Vancouver (www.ywcavan.org). The organization developed the **YWCA Safety Siren** app which, when activated, sends an emergency email to a pre-set SOS contact. It lists the user's location, and places an emergency call to a pre-programmed number. It is available from the iTunes App Store.

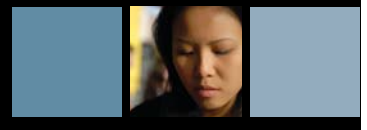
<http://ywcacanada.ca>

The **Ending Violence Association of BC (EVA BC)** offers a variety of resources and information.

www.endingviolence.org

BC Housing provides temporary shelter/housing and support services to women and children who have experienced, or are at risk of experiencing, violence.

www.bchousing.org/Options/Emergency_Housing/WTHSP



BC211 provides free, confidential, multilingual information and referrals to community, social, and government services in Metro Vancouver, the Fraser Valley, and the Squamish-Lillooet regional district. It is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Dial 211 from any phone.

www.bc211.ca

The **B.C. branch of the Canadian Bar Association** offers information on criminal charges and protection orders, as well as resources for people experiencing domestic violence.

www.cba.org/bc/public_media/family/155.aspx

The **Legal Services Society** provides legal aid to people in B.C. This includes legal information, legal advice, and representation by a lawyer. They give priority to people with low incomes, but many services are available to all British Columbians. Their resources include advice for victims who are being threatened with deportation by an abusive spouse or family member (www.lss.bc.ca). Their Family Law website includes publications about protection orders, the criminal court process, and getting help from the police.

www.familylaw.lss.bc.ca/legal_issues/abuseBasics.php

The **People's Law School** has videos about domestic violence available in eight languages. The videos explain how Canadian law defines domestic violence and provide information about where people in B.C. can go to get help in their own language.

www.publiclegaled.bc.ca/media_resources/violence-against-minority-women/violence-against-minority-women-tv-series

The **Crisis Intervention and Suicide Prevention Centre of BC** is a non-profit, volunteer organization committed to helping people deal with crisis. Its website provides information and resources about suicide, mental health, stress, and grief and loss, as well as a list of crisis phone numbers across B.C.

www.crisiscentre.bc.ca/get-help/

Battered Women's Support Services offers support groups, advocacy, over-the-phone counselling, and more.

www.bwss.org

The **Vancouver & Lower Mainland Multicultural Family Support Services Society** offers counselling for victims of domestic violence and children who witness abuse. It can also provide a translator for police or court interviews.

www.vlmfss.ca

Family Services of Greater Vancouver offers a wide variety of services for victims of domestic violence, including programs related to abuse prevention and trauma.

www.fsgv.ca

The **Vancouver Rape Relief and Women's Shelter** operates a transition house for women and their children, as well as a 24-hour crisis line for women who are trying to prevent or escape male violence.

www.rapereliefshelter.bc.ca

The **BC Coalition of Persons with Disabilities** offers services to victims of family violence who have disabilities. The agency can help with referrals to wheelchair-accessible transition houses.

www.bccpd.bc.ca

Many **police departments** have victim services programs and can provide access to support, information, assistance with court issues, and referrals. Contact your local police.

www.justicebc.ca/en/cjis/services/important_numbers/local_police.html

The **Vancouver Police Department** has a specialized domestic violence and criminal harassment unit.

<http://vancouver.ca/police/organization/investigation/investigative-services/special-investigation/domestic-violence-criminal-harassment.html>

The **Healing Journey** provides family violence resources for Aboriginal people. It can offer a list of Aboriginal transition houses and family violence crisis lines, Aboriginal legal aid services and legal clinics, and family mediation services. The website also has information about safety plans.

www.thehealingjourney.ca

Prideline is a peer support service for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, and queer community in B.C. The phone line is open Monday to Friday, from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., and is staffed by trained volunteers who can listen and offer support to people experiencing conflict.

www.qmunity.ca/adults/prideline

The **Gay and Lesbian Association of BC** directory includes a list of counselling and psychology resources for people experiencing violence.

www.glba.org/memberDirectory.aspx

(Use search term "violence")



Resources for perpetrators of domestic violence

The **Ending Relationship Abuse Society of British Columbia** (ERA, previously known as the BC Association of Counsellors of Abusive Men, or ACAM) is dedicated to raising awareness about relationship abuse and advocating for effective, accessible, and ethical prevention programs and rehabilitation services for offenders.

The ERA website lists programs and counsellors around the province who provide specialized domestic violence treatment services for men perpetrating abuse.

www.erabc.ca/bcprog.htm

Assistance with safety planning and risk assessment

Your **local police** should be able to provide guidance and expertise.

www.justicebc.ca/en/cjis/services/important_numbers/local_police.html

WorkSafeBC's Prevention Line is available to answer safety-related questions about domestic violence in the workplace.

www.worksafebc.com/contact_us/prevention_information_line

Your local **anti-violence organization, transition house, or women's shelter** may be able to recommend someone trained in conducting risk assessments. (See "Resources for victims of domestic violence" earlier in this brochure)

ProActive ReSolutions specializes in workplace conflict resolution strategies and has resources to address domestic violence in the workplace. Their tools and services are available for a fee.

www.proactive-resolutions.com

Resources for employers

WorkSafeBC has resources that explain employers' legal obligations and provide guidance on how to prevent and address domestic violence, and conduct risk assessments.

www.worksafebc.com/domesticviolence

In addition to WorkSafeBC resources, the following materials provide other information that may be useful to you and your organization. However, these resources were developed outside British Columbia and may contain information, legal obligations, and regulations (or lack thereof) that are not consistent with the B.C. *Workers Compensation Act* and Occupational Health and Safety Regulation. Nonetheless, the information they provide may be of use.

Addressing Domestic Violence in the Workplace: A Handbook, Public Services Health and Safety Association, Ontario

www.healthandsafetyOntario.ca

(Use search term "Addressing domestic violence")

Domestic Violence Doesn't Stop When Your Worker Arrives at Work: What Employers Need to Know to Help, Occupational Health and Safety Council of Ontario

www.ossa.com/documents/OHSCO_EmployerBooklet.pdf

Family Violence: It's Your Business: A Workplace Toolkit, The New Brunswick Family Violence and the Workplace Committee

www.toolkitnb.ca



Family Violence and the Workplace: It's Everyone's Business: An Employer's Toolkit, Manitoba Family Services and Consumer Affairs

www.gov.mb.ca/fs/fvpp_toolkit/index.html

Corporate Alliance to End Partner Violence, Illinois

www.caepv.org/getinfo/articles.php?doccat=1

MAG Domestic Violence Council, Arizona

www.azmag.gov/archive/DV/About_DV/Workplace/workplace.html

Employers Against Domestic Violence, Massachusetts

<http://www.employersagainstdomesticviolence.org>

Workplaces Respond to Domestic & Sexual Violence: A National Resource Center, USA

www.workplacesrespond.org/

Standing Firm, Pennsylvania

www.standingfirmswpa.org

Other resources

How can I help my friend? is a brochure by Battered Women's Support Services that provides suggestions for people trying to support someone experiencing domestic violence.

www.bwss.org/wp-content/uploads/2008/PDF/BWSS_Help.pdf