



# BC VICTIMS *of* HOMICIDE

RESOURCE DIRECTORY 2018

An initiative of:



**BCBH**  
BRITISH COLUMBIA  
BEREAVEMENT HELPLINE

## Table of Contents

Alberta .....	2
British Columbia .....	4
Manitoba.....	7
New Brunswick.....	10
Newfoundland & Labrador .....	11
Northwest Territories.....	12
Nova Scotia.....	13
Nunavut.....	15
Ontario.....	15
Prince Edward Island .....	18
Quebec.....	19
Saskatchewan.....	21
Yukon .....	22
Nationwide.....	23
Canadians Victimized Abroad.....	23
Canada Pension Plan Benefits .....	24
Federal Information and Assistance for Victims.....	25
National Crisis Lines .....	26
Other Resources .....	26
Online.....	27

# Alberta

## Financial Compensation

Victims of violent crime in Alberta may be compensated through the **Victims of Crime Fund**:

- ❖ Victims may be compensated for both physical and emotional injury
- ❖ The crime must have been reported to police within two years of the offence (reasonable exceptions may occasionally be made)
- ❖ The victim cooperates with police as well as the Financial Benefits program

Detailed application guidelines as well as the applications may be found at:

[http://www.solgps.alberta.ca/programs\\_and\\_services/victim\\_services/help\\_for\\_victims](http://www.solgps.alberta.ca/programs_and_services/victim_services/help_for_victims)



## Victim Services

Victim service workers provide victims of crime with emotional support, information about the criminal justice system, and practical assistance (including referrals, writing victim impact statements, and completing relevant forms) throughout a police investigation and criminal court proceedings.

*For a complete list of police- and community-based victim service agencies in Alberta, go to*

*[http://www.solgps.alberta.ca/programs\\_and\\_services/victim\\_services/Pages/victim\\_service\\_units.aspx](http://www.solgps.alberta.ca/programs_and_services/victim_services/Pages/victim_service_units.aspx)*



## Homicide-specific Resources

### **Victims of Homicide Support Society of Edmonton**

<http://www.victimsofhomicide.org> | (780) 478-4544

A self-help group designed to offer emotional support and information about surviving the loss of a loved one to murder. The group provides ongoing emotional support to help parents and other survivors deal with the pain of their loss and rebuild their lives.



## Crisis Lines

### **211 Alberta**

<http://www.ab.211.ca/> | 211 (24 hours)

211 Alberta connects you with the right community and social services. The types of information we provide are: Financial & social assistance, house & Utility help, food assistance & meal programs, seniors' services & home care, parenting & family programs, government program assistance, disability support services, volunteer organizations, newcomer services, mental health support, and much more.

### **211 Edmonton**

<http://www.211edmonton.com> | 211 (24 hours)

211 Edmonton is your single access point to the health, human services, community resources, and government assistance people need every day as well as in times of crisis.

### **Distress Centre**

<http://www.distresscentre.com/> | (403) 266-4357 (24 hours)

Through the Distress Centre crisis line help can be accessed by everyone from teens to seniors. This is not specific to bereavement.



## Other Resources

### **Edmonton Healing Centre for Grief and Loss**

<http://www.jfse.org/programs-services/edmonton-bereavement-centre> | (780) 454-1194 Ext. #224

The Edmonton Healing Centre for Grief and Loss is the leading support service in Edmonton for people suffering from grief. The Centre offers small group sessions, presentations, workshops, courses and supportive counselling for bereaved individuals and those who serve and support them as well as some programs geared specifically for a Jewish clientele (e.g. Holocaust Survivor Support).

### **First Alliance Church**

<https://www.faccalgary.com> | (403) 252-7572

First Alliance Church offers a variety of faith-based grief support, including specific groups for widows and mothers that have lost a child (including miscarriage). There is no cost. This program is sometimes offered at other Alliance churches in the city.

### **Golden Circle Senior's Centre**

<http://www.goldencircle.ca> | (403) 343-6074

Offer bereavement support groups for people over age 50.

### **Mediation and Restorative Justice**

<http://www.mrjc.ca> | (780) 423-0896

Mediation and Restorative Justice provides assistance conflict management for people and groups, and restorative justice services to victims and offenders. These services are free of charge to anyone in the greater Edmonton region.

### **Parkland Funeral Home**

<http://www.parklandfuneralhome.com> | (403) 340-4040

Parkland Funeral Home provides grief counselling in addition to funeral services and lists other grief support in Red Deer, Alberta on their website.



## **British Columbia**

### **Financial Compensation**

Victims of violent crime in British Columbia are reimbursed through the **Crime Victim Assistance Program** (CVAP):

- ❖ Assistance is available regardless of whether a perpetrator is charged with an offence
- ❖ Applications must be received within one year of the offence date (exceptions exist for victims of sexual violence or minors)
- ❖ Covers counselling, physical injury, lost earning capacity, and funeral expenses, among others

Victims and non-subpoenaed witnesses (including support persons for the victim/witness) are able to apply for compensation for travel-related expenses through the **Victim Travel Fund** if required to travel more than 100km.

Detailed application guidelines for both CVAP and the Victim Travel Fund may be found at:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/justice/criminal-justice/bcs-criminal-justice-system/if-you-are-a-victim-of-a-crime/victim-of-crime/victim-travel-assistance>

## Victim Services

Victim service workers provide victims of crime with emotional support, information about the criminal justice system, and practical assistance (including referrals, writing victim impact statements, and completing relevant forms) throughout a police investigation and criminal court proceedings.

*See the of Directory of Victim Services in British Columbia for a current list of all police- and community-based victim service agencies. It can be found at*

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/justice/criminal-justice/bcs-criminal-justice-system/services-and-resources/services-by-need/victim-or-witness-services-resources>



## Homicide-specific Resources

### **BC Victims of Homicide**

<http://www.bcvictimsofhomicide.com> | (604) 738-9950 or 1 (877) 779-2223

The BC Victims of Homicide (BCVOH) is an initiative of the British Columbia Bereavement Helpline that aims to provide support and strength to the families and friends of individuals who have survived the loss of a loved one by homicide.

### **Valley View Funeral Home**

<http://www.valleyviewsurrey.ca> | (604) 596-8866 (Office) or (604) 816-2144 (Facilitator)

Valley View Funeral Home in Surrey partners up with LINC and M2W2 Association to facilitate a homicide support group – an 8-week program for adults who have experienced a death due to homicide. There is no fee for this service. Groups for suicide or other loss also run periodically.



## Crisis Lines

### **BC211**

<http://www.bc211.ca> | 211 (24 hours)

BC211 is an information and referral line. It is free, confidential, and multilingual, and also provides some emotional support to callers.

### **Chimo Crisis Services**

<http://www.chimoservices.com/> | (604) 279-7077 (24 hours)

Free, confidential and non-judgmental emotional support provided 8:00 am to midnight, seven days a week, by professionally trained volunteers. Telephone crisis intervention and referral information are available.

### **Crisis Centre BC**

<http://www.crisiscentre.bc.ca> | 1 (800) SUICIDE (872-3311) (24 hours)

The Distress Phone Services provide confidential, non-judgmental, free emotional support, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, for people experiencing feelings of distress or despair.

- *The Crisis Centre has also compiled a list of crisis lines in BC: <https://crisiscentre.bc.ca/get-help/>*

### **Help Line for Children**

<http://www.safekidsbc.ca> | 310-1234 (toll-free, no area code required) (24 hours)

The Help Line is for children and youth in crisis or for anyone concerned about a child or youth.

### **Kelowna Community Resources Crisis Line**

<http://www.kcr.ca> | 1 (888)353-CARE (2273) (24 hours)

A 24-hour telephone line offering emotional support, information and referrals, and crisis intervention services.

### **North Island Crisis & Counselling Centre Society**

<http://nicccs.org> | (250) 949-8333 (24 hours)

Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Provides anonymous, confidential, and non-judgemental emotional support for those in need.

### **VictimLINK**

<http://www.victimlinkbc.ca> | 1-800-563-0808 (24 hours)

VictimLink BC is a toll-free, confidential, multilingual telephone service available across BC and Yukon. It provides information and referral services to all victims of crime and immediate crisis support to victims of family and sexual violence.



## Other Resources

### **BC Bereavement Helpline**

<http://www.bcbereavementhelpline.com> | 1 (877) 779-2223

Non-profit, charitable organization whose purpose is to promote knowledge and understanding of psychological, sociological, physical and spiritual dimensions of dying, death and bereavement.

### **Bowers Funeral Service**

<http://www.bowersfuneralservice.com> | (250) 832-2223

Bowers Funeral Service provides dignified funeral care, personalized bereavement service, and aftercare program that include grief and loss counselling. Offers a wide variety of funeral, memorial and celebration of life services; all faiths are accommodated as well as non-religious service. The facility in Salmon Arm serves Shuswap area in British Columbia (BC), Canada.

### **Living Through Loss Counselling Society of BC**

<http://www.ltbc.ca> | (604) 873-5013

LTLC (founded in 1972) is a not-for-profit organization that provides professional grief counselling to adults and children who have experienced any type of loss.

### **Lower Mainland Grief Recovery Society**

<http://www.lmgr.ca> | (604) 643-9637

The Lower Mainland Grief Recovery Society provides grief support and bereavement recovery programs for people in the BC Lower Mainland and Greater Vancouver.

### **Sunrise Grief Retreat Society**

<http://www.sunrisegriefretreat.org> | (250) 307-7850

This retreat is for persons who are grieving the death of a loved one and who are journeying towards healing and personal growth.



## Manitoba

### Financial Compensation

Victims of crime, including immediately family members of murder victims or witnesses to an offence, are eligible for financial compensation through the **Compensation for Victims of Crime Program**:



- ❖ The offence must be reported to police
- ❖ The offender does not need to have been caught or charged
- ❖ The program will reimburse victims for counselling, medical expenses, funeral expenses, and replacement of certain items damaged throughout the course of the offence (dentures, eye glasses, etc.), among others

More information can be found at: <http://www.gov.mb.ca/justice/victims/pubs/compensation.pdf>



## Victim Services

Victim service workers provide victims of crime with emotional support, information about the criminal justice system, and practical assistance (including referrals, writing victim impact statements, and completing relevant forms) throughout a police investigation and criminal court proceedings.

*A complete list of Manitoba Justice Victim Services can be found at <http://www.gov.mb.ca/justice/victims/services.html>*

*The RCMP or municipal police detachments often have their own police-based victim services programs. These agencies can be contacted through the individual police detachments:*

- RCMP - <http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/mb/index-eng.htm>
- Brandon Police Service - [www.brandon.ca/police](http://www.brandon.ca/police)
- Winnipeg Police Service - [www.winnipeg.ca/police](http://www.winnipeg.ca/police)



## Homicide-related Resources

### **Manitoba Organization for Victim Assistance**

<http://www.mova.ca> | (204) 831-8950 or 1-877-596-0095

As victims helping victims, we endeavour to provide a support system through court support, phone support and group sharing sessions. We also try to make the public aware of the Victims' Bill of Rights in Manitoba and the experience of family survivors of homicide as they travel through the court system and probation.

## Crisis Lines

### **Klinik Crisis Line**

<http://www.klinik.mb.ca> | 1 (877) 435-7170 (24 hours)

The crisis phone line offers confidential counselling, support and referrals. Counsellors are there to help improve the quality of life of callers and to prevent suicides.

### **Reason to Live**

<http://www.reasontolive.ca> | 1 (877) 435-7170 (24 hours)

The Manitoba Suicide Line provides crisis counselling, support, information and referrals for people who are feeling suicidal, concerned friends and family, and survivors of a suicide loss. A confidential helpline staffed by compassionate, trained counsellors who will listen and provide support.



## Other Resources

### **Age and Opportunity**

<http://www.ageopportunity.mb.ca> | (204) 956-6440

Age and Opportunity provides counselling, legal and practical advice, and skills training. There is also the Elder Abuse service, the English for Seniors Program, Legal and Financial education services, Older Victim services of victims of crime, the Winnipeg Seniors' Housing Directory, and more.

### **Shoulder to Shoulder - Canadian Forces Family Grief Support**

<http://www.familyforce.ca/sites/ShouldertoShoulder> | 1 (800) 866-4546 (Family Information Line)

Shoulder to Shoulder helps military families access information and link them to services and supports when living with the death of a loved one. This includes professional and peer support options, forums to connect with others and information on available benefits/entitlements.

### **Suicide Prevention Education Awareness Knowledge**

<http://www.klinik.mb.ca/speak.htm> | (204) 784-4064

SPEAK was started in 2001 by a group of five families who all had children who died by suicide.. In addition to offering peer support to others who were bereaved, SPEAK committed itself to promoting suicide prevention through public education and awareness.



## New Brunswick

### Financial Compensation

Victims of crime in New Brunswick can receive financial compensation through the **Victim Compensation Program**:

- ❖ Victims are compensated for expenses incurred directly as a result of the offence as long as no other funding is available
- ❖ The offence must be reported to police and victims are required to cooperate with the investigation as well as the court process, if applicable
- ❖ Victims who qualify may be compensated for funeral expenses, counselling, relocation, and various medical expenses (among others)
- ❖ Applications must be made with the help of victim service workers

Detailed information on the program, including application instructions, can be found at [http://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/services/services\\_renderer.201175.html](http://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/services/services_renderer.201175.html)



### Victim Services

Victim service workers provide victims of crime with emotional support, information about the criminal justice system, and practical assistance (including referrals, writing victim impact statements, and completing relevant forms) throughout a police investigation and criminal court proceedings.

*A list of court-based victim service agencies in the province may be found at [http://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/jps/public\\_safety/content/safety\\_protection/content/victim\\_services.html](http://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/jps/public_safety/content/safety_protection/content/victim_services.html)*



### Crisis Lines

#### Chimo Helpline

<http://www.chimohelpline.ca> | (506) 450-4357 or 1 (800) 667-5005

Chimo is a provincial crisis phone line that is accessible 24hrs a day, 365 days a year to all residents of New Brunswick.

## Newfoundland & Labrador

### Financial Compensation

Victims may be reimbursed only for travel-related expenses:

- ❖ This includes travel for the purpose of presenting a victim impact statement at a sentencing hearing, court preparation, and counselling
- ❖ Financial compensation is not available for medical expenses or other expenses that are a direct result of the criminal offence
- ❖ Applications for travel compensation must be made through victim services

More information can be found at: <http://www.victimserviceshelp.ca>



### Victim Services

Victim service workers provide victims of crime with emotional support, information about the criminal justice system, and practical assistance (including referrals, writing victim impact statements, and completing relevant forms) throughout a police investigation and criminal court proceedings.

*A complete list of police-based victim service agencies in the province can be found at <http://www.victimserviceshelp.ca/contact.html>*



### Crisis Lines

#### **Mental Health Crisis Centre**

709-737-4668 or 1-888-737-4668 (24 hours)

The Mental Health Crisis Centre serving Newfoundland and Labrador is available 24 hours for those in crisis as well as those seeking information.



## Northwest Territories

### Financial Compensation

Victims can apply for immediate emergency funding through the **Victims of Crime Emergency Fund**:

- ❖ The offence must be a serious violent crime and no other funding has been given to the victim
- ❖ This fund covers only emergency expenses (crime scene clean up, emergency home repairs, some transportation, emergency medical expenses, or other necessities)
- ❖ Compensation for other crime-related expenses (for example, long term counselling) is not available

More information can be found at: <https://www.justice.gov.nt.ca/en/victim-services/>



### Victim Services

Victim service workers provide victims of crime with emotional support, information about the criminal justice system, and practical assistance (including referrals, writing victim impact statements, and completing relevant forms) throughout a police investigation and criminal court proceedings.

*A complete list of police- and community-based victim service agencies can be found at*

<https://www.justice.gov.nt.ca/en/victim-services-contacts/>



### Crisis Lines

#### **NWT Help Line**

<http://www.nwthelpline.ca> | 1 (800) 661-0844

The NWT Help Line is a confidential telephone support and referral service for callers who reside in the Northwest Territories. The line is staffed between the hours of 7 pm and 11 pm every night of the year. During the hours that the line does not have a live volunteer, a 24 hour interactive voicemail system handles callers.



## Nova Scotia

### Financial Compensation

Victims of crime can receive financial compensation through the **Criminal Injuries Counselling Program**:

- ❖ This program only provides assistance, up to \$2000, with counselling expenses
- ❖ Applications must be made within one year of the crime (with exceptions for certain sexual assaults and young victims)
- ❖ Family members of homicide victims have a limit of \$4000

More information can be found at: [http://www.gov.ns.ca/just/victim\\_Services/forms.asp](http://www.gov.ns.ca/just/victim_Services/forms.asp)



### Victim Services

Victim service workers provide victims of crime with emotional support, information about the criminal justice system, and practical assistance (including referrals, writing victim impact statements, and completing relevant forms) throughout a police investigation and criminal court proceedings.

*A complete list of NS Department of Justice victim service agencies in the province can be found at [http://www.gov.ns.ca/just/victim\\_Services/contact.asp](http://www.gov.ns.ca/just/victim_Services/contact.asp)*

*The RCMP or municipal police detachments often have their own police-based victim services programs. These agencies can be contacted through the individual police detachments: [http://www.gov.ns.ca/just/Policing\\_Services/agencies.asp](http://www.gov.ns.ca/just/Policing_Services/agencies.asp)*



## Other Resources

### **Bereaved Families of Cape Breton**

<http://www.bfocb.ca/> | (902) 564-6795

Bereaved Families of Cape Breton provides support services for those coping with grief due to the death of a loved one. Bereaved Families also acts as a resource in educating the public on how to cope with and understand the grieving process, as well as preparing individuals to facilitate and lead grief recovery groups.

### **Bereavement Support Group, Dartmouth**

(902) 460-4143

Held twice a year in the Fall and Spring. Meetings are usually on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:30pm. Meetings are held at Dartmouth General Hospital. No cost to join. This group is for anyone who has experienced grief resulting from the loss of a loved one.

### **Grief, Loss Bereavement Group**

[janice.rowlings@cdha.nshealth.ca](mailto:janice.rowlings@cdha.nshealth.ca) | (902) 889 4181

Five 12 week scheduled programs annually, held in the spring and fall. This serves the rural communities in HRM; it is offered in the communities we serve at Capital Health facilities; local hospitals, mental health clinics, etc. It's a twelve week program, which covers a different topic each week pertaining to grief. Open to the public to anyone who has experienced a major loss, death, etc.

### **Holy Trinity Pastoral Unit**

<http://wp.holytrinity3.ca/ministry/outreach/grief-support/> | (902) 864-2778

Monthly grief support group for adults who have lost a loved one.

### **St. Andrew's Bereavement Group**

<http://www.standrewsrcparish.ca> | (902) 461-1987

This is a free group for adults from St. Andrew's church plus others from any area. Maximum number of people is 12. The group will usually take those who have had a death 3 month prior; on the other end... no time limit.

### **Widows in Self Help (W.I.S.H), Sackville**

(902) 466-2011

WISH provides a place of contact and support for persons experiencing a loss through the death of a partner. Group meetings are for people at any stage of their bereavement. They provide information, reference material, and telephone support.

## Nunavut

### Financial Compensation

Information regarding financial compensation for victims of crime is not available.



## Ontario

### Financial Compensation

In Ontario, victims of crime (including immediate family members of murder victims) are eligible for reimbursement of crime-related expenses through the **Criminal Injuries Compensation Program**:

- ❖ The application must be filed within two years of the offence
- ❖ It is not mandatory that the crime be reported to law enforcement, but a claim can be refused if a victim does not cooperate with police

More information can be found at: <http://www.cicb.gov.on.ca/en/faq.htm>

In the event that a victim of a violent crime lacks the ability to pay for immediate crime-related expenses, they may apply for funding through the **Victim Quick Response Program (VQRP)**:

- ❖ The application must be made within 45 days of the offence (90 days in the event that the victim applies for assistance with counselling expenses)
- ❖ The crime must be reported to police (or, in certain cases, domestic violence or sexual assault centres)
- ❖ The VQRP covers expenses such as funerals, crime scene clean up, and other emergencies
- ❖ Applications must be made through victim services or other approved community organizations

More information can be found at: <http://www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/ovss/vqrp.asp>

The **Financial Assistance for Families of Homicide Victims** program may provide up to \$10,000 for spouses or parents of homicide victims who died after January 1, 2013.



- ❖ The applicant must be the homicide victim's spouse (or common-law partner) or parent
- ❖ The applicant must not have any charges or convictions relating to the homicide
- ❖ The homicide occurred in Ontario and the applicant resides in Ontario

More information can be found at:

[http://www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/ovss/financial\\_assistance\\_for\\_families\\_of\\_homicide\\_victims](http://www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/ovss/financial_assistance_for_families_of_homicide_victims)



## Victim Services

Victim service workers provide victims of crime with emotional support, information about the criminal justice system, and practical assistance (including referrals, writing victim impact statements, and completing relevant forms) throughout a police investigation and criminal court proceedings.

*A complete directory of police- and community-based victim service agencies can be found at <http://services.findhelp.ca/ovss>*

*More information on programs for victims in Ontario can be found at <http://www.victimservicesontario.ca>*



## Homicide-specific Resources

### **Lean on Me**

<http://www.lean-on-me.org> | (289) 339-1460

The focus of Lean on Me is compassionate, non-judgemental support for family and friends of a loved one who has been murdered.

### **Toronto Distress Centre Survivor Support Program**

<http://torontodistresscentre.com/survivor-support> | (416) 595-1716

The Survivor Support Program provides one-on-one support for those bereaved by suicide or homicide as well as follow-up group support or wider community support in the aftermath of sudden, violent death.



## Crisis Lines

### **211 Ontario**

<http://www.211ontario.ca> | 211 (24 hours)

211 is a three-digit phone number and website that provides information and referral to community and social services in Ontario. Our Certified Information and Referral Specialists are caring, understanding and knowledgeable, and pride themselves on their ability to connect you with the services you need.

### **Distress Centre Durham**

<http://www.distresscentredurham.com> | (905) 430-2522 or 1 (800) 452-0688 (24 hours)

The helpline is available to people of all ages in distress and to help them cope by providing emotional support, crisis/suicide management and community education. Our Resource Centre in Whitby has plenty of information in all areas of mental health; we also run Suicide and Homicide Survivor Support Groups out of this location.

### **Victim Support Line**

<http://www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/ovss> | (416) 314-2447 or 1 (888) 579-2888 (24 hours)

This provides a province-wide, toll-free telephone information line providing access to information for victims, in the language of their choice. If you would like to find out about services in your area, or would like to inquire about organizations that might be willing to assist with the completion of your application for financial compensation, call the Victim Support Line.



## Other Resources

### **The Benjamin Institute**

<http://www.benjamininstitute.ca>

Provides bereavement support which integrates traditional Jewish wisdom on death and mourning with contemporary perspectives on grief and bereavement. Services offered to individuals or families include counselling, professional referrals and bereavement support groups. Prepares and distributes printed and audio-visual resources on different aspects of death and bereavement.

### **Bereaved Families of Ontario**

<http://www.bereavedfamilies.net>

Bereaved Families of Ontario is an association of families who have lost children, siblings, or parents through death throughout the province.

### **Bereavement Ontario Network**

<http://www.bereavementontarionetwork.ca> | (519)-290-0219

A group of organizations and individuals that work in the field of grief, bereavement, and mourning as professionals and volunteers.

### **Edith Fox Life & Loss Centre**

<http://www.edithfoxcentre.org> | (613) 476-1128

The Edith Fox Life & Loss Centre provides a caring environment that recognizes and validates individual life and loss experiences to encourage healing with the group process. There is clinical grief counselling and therapy in a safe, creative and natural environment, utilizing the human-animal bond, horticultural experiences and the arts.

### **Office of Victims of Crime**

<http://www.ovc.gov.on.ca> | (416) 326-1682 or 1 (877) 435-7661

The Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) is an independent advisory agency that provides advice to the Attorney General of Ontario on victims' issues.

### **Survivor Support Program: Distress Centres of Toronto**

<http://www.torontodistresscentre.com> | (416) 408-4357 (24 hours)

Support to adults, individuals or families, bereaved through suicide and/or homicide. Offered by trained counsellors through individualized support sessions and follow-up group visits. Home visits available.

### **Victim Services Toronto**

<http://www.victimservicestoronto.com> | (416) 808-7066 (24 hours)

Victim Services Toronto is a community based charity providing free and confidential assistance to victims of crime and sudden tragedy. We are unique in that we are the only agency in Toronto providing immediate on- site crisis, trauma, safety and support services 24 hours a day, seven days a week.



## **Prince Edward Island**

### **Financial Compensation**

Victims of crime can apply for financial compensation through **Criminal Injuries Compensation:**

- ❖ The offence must be reported to the police and the victim must cooperate with the investigation

- ❖ Application must be made within one year of the offence through a victim services agency
- ❖ Compensation may cover funeral expenses, loss of wages, and counselling, among others

More information can be found at: <http://www.gov.pe.ca/jps/index.php3?number=1000941>



## Victim Services

Victim service workers provide victims of crime with emotional support, information about the criminal justice system, and practical assistance (including referrals, writing victim impact statements, and completing relevant forms) throughout a police investigation and criminal court proceedings.

*A complete list of police-based victim service agencies in the province may be found at <http://www.gov.pe.ca/jps/index.php3?number=1000944&lang=E>*



## Quebec

### Financial Compensation

Victims of crime may be eligible for financial compensation through **l'indemnisation des victimes d'actes criminels**:

- ❖ Application must be made within a year
- ❖ Victims (or immediate family of victims who have been killed) are eligible for medical assistance, counselling, protection-related expenses, and funeral expenses, among others
- ❖ Individuals assisting the victim with rehabilitation may be eligible for therapeutic rehabilitation services

More information may be found at: <http://www.ivac.qc.ca>



## Victim Services

Victim service workers provide victims of crime with emotional support, information about the criminal justice system, and practical assistance (including referrals, writing victim impact statements, and completing relevant forms) throughout a police investigation and criminal court proceedings.

*A complete list of crime victim assistance centres in the province may be found at <http://www.cavac.qc.ca>*



## Homicide-specific Resources

### **Association of Families of Persons Assassinated or Disappeared**

<http://www.afpad.ca> | (514) 396-7389 (Montreal) or (418) 686-5443 (Quebec)

Founded "by victims' families for victims' families", the association's main mission is to accompany, to advise and to defend the interests of families touched by a homicide or a disappearance under apparently criminal circumstances.



## Crisis Lines

### **Ami Quebec**

<https://amiquebec.org/crisis/>

Ami Quebec provides a list of crisis lines, including those for suicide and bereavement support among others.

### **Suicide Action Montreal**

<http://suicideactionmontreal.org> | (514) 723-4000 (24 hours)

Suicide Action Montreal is a 24 hour crisis line for those who are experiencing suicidal feelings or have a loved one who is at risk.

### **Tel-Aide**

<http://www.telaide.org> | (514) 935-1101 (24 hours)

Tel-Aide provides a free, anonymous and confidential telephone listening service, in English and in French, for people who need to confide, talk about their concerns or are experiencing suicidal feelings.



## Other Resources

### **Centre de Services de Justice Réparatrice**

<http://www.csjr.org> | (514) 933-3737

Restorative justice offers a new way of justice. It focuses on the implications of the crime: injury, trauma and harm suffered by the victim. It allows victims to talk about their suffering to their offender (or offenders who have committed similar crimes), to get answers to their questions, to get rid of negative affective charges. It allows offenders to become aware of the seriousness of their act by listening to victims, to better understand the consequences of what they did and to express regret.

### **Family Survivors of Suicide**

<http://www.suicideaftermath.com> | (514) 398-7067

Our mission is to provide mutual emotional support and guidance to those attempting to cope with the many intense emotions that follow in the wake of suicide and to raise awareness in the wider community of suicide.

### **La Maison Monbourquette**

<http://maisonmonbourquette.com> | (514) 523-3596 or 1 (888) LE DEUIL

Bereavement Support Groups for adults who have experienced the death of a loved one and for parents who have experienced perinatal death. Also, grief workshops for children and teens are offered.



## Saskatchewan

### Financial Compensation

Victims of crime may be eligible for financial compensation through the **Victim Compensation Program**:

- ❖ The crime must be reported to police
- ❖ Application must be made within two years of the offence (or, in the case of sexual assault, within two years of reporting the offence to the police)
- ❖ Victims may be reimbursed for medical, counselling, and funeral expenses, but not such things as personal property damage

More information can be found at: <http://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/justice-crime-and-the-law/victims-of-crime-and-abuse/compensation-for-victims-of-crime>



## Victim Services

Victim service workers provide victims of crime with emotional support, information about the criminal justice system, and practical assistance (including referrals, writing victim impact statements, and completing relevant forms) throughout a police investigation and criminal court proceedings.

*A complete list of all police- and community-based victim service agencies in the province may be found at <http://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/justice-crime-and-the-law/victims-of-crime-and-abuse>*



## Other Resources

### **Regina Mobile Crisis Services**

<http://www.mobilecrisis.ca> | (306) 525-5333 (24 hours)

The overall purpose of Mobile Crisis Services, Inc., is to provide an integrated, comprehensive, social and health crisis and emergency intervention service on a twenty-four hour a day, seven days per week basis.

### **West Central Crisis and Family Support Centre**

<http://westcentralcrisis.ca> | (306) 463-6655

The West Central Crisis and Family Support Centre provides, free of charge, crisis intervention services, victim services, and family, marital, and individual counselling to people dealing with a variety of traumatic events.



## Yukon

### Financial Compensation

Financial compensation for victims of crime is not available.



## Victim Services

Victim service workers provide victims of crime with emotional support, information about the criminal justice system, and practical assistance (including referrals, writing victim impact statements, and completing relevant forms) throughout a police investigation and criminal court proceedings.

*A complete list of Yukon Department of Justice victim service agencies in the province may be found at <http://www.justice.gov.yk.ca/prog/cor/vs>*



## Crisis Lines

### VictimLINK

<http://www.victimlinkbc.ca> | 1 (800) 563-0808 (24 hours)

VictimLink BC is a toll-free, confidential, multilingual telephone service available across BC and Yukon. It provides information and referral services to all victims of crime and immediate crisis support to victims of family and sexual violence.



## Nationwide

### Canadians Victimized Abroad

Individuals who have been victimized abroad may be eligible for funding through the Department of Justice. The **Emergency Financial Assistance for Canadians Victimized Abroad** program has the following requirements:

- ❖ The offence must be a serious violent crime.
- ❖ No other form of financial compensation is available.
- ❖ The victims fund covers travel expenses for the purpose of attending or testifying at a trial for the victim as well as a support person in the immediate aftermath.
- ❖ Compensation is also available to cover medical expenses, funeral expenses, and counselling expenses, among others.

Detailed guidelines can be found at: <http://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/fund-fina/cj-jp/fund-fond/abroad-etranger.html>



## Canada Pension Plan Benefits

The **Canada Pension Plan Death Benefit** provides a one-time payment for funeral expenses:

- ❖ The cheque is made out to the estate of the deceased person or the person responsible for funeral expenses.
- ❖ The maximum sum is \$2,500; but the payment is determined by how much and for how long the deceased paid into the Canada Pension Plan.

Detailed guidelines can be found at: <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/publicpensions/cpp/cpp-death-benefit.html>



The **Canada Pension Plan Survivor's Benefit** may provide a monthly sum for spouses or common-law partners of deceased persons:

- ❖ The amount varies according to age, disability, and whether or not there are any dependent children.
- ❖ "Common-law partners" is defined as two people, regardless of sex, who have lived together in a conjugal relationship for at least one year.

Detailed guidelines can be found at: <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/publicpensions/cpp/cpp-survivor-pension.html>



The **Canada Pension Plan Children's Benefit** may provide a monthly sum for dependent children of deceased or disabled persons:

- ❖ Both biological and adopted children are eligible and the deceased must be a Canada Pension Plan contributor.
- ❖ The child must be under the age of 18 or must be a student between the ages of 18 and 25 (amount varies according to whether the student is full- or part-time)

Detailed guidelines can be found at: <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/publicpensions/cpp/cpp-childrens-benefit.html>



## Federal Income Support for Parents of Murdered or Missing Children

The **Parents of Murdered or Missing Children** grant is for parents who have lost their child(ren) due to a *Criminal Code* offence and are losing income as a result of time off of work to deal with the loss.

Parents are eligible if:

- ❖ The child was under 18 at the time of the incident
- ❖ The parent worked the previous year, having earned a minimum of \$6500
- ❖ The parent is on leave from employment as a direct result of the incident
- ❖ The parent is not receiving any type of Employment Insurance (EI) benefits or Québec Parental Insurance Plan (QPIP) benefits
- ❖ The parent has not been charged with a *Criminal Code* offence that led to the death or disappearance of the child

Detailed guidelines can be found at: <http://www.servicecanada.gc.ca/eng/sc/pmmc/eligibility.shtml>



## Federal Information and Assistance for Victims

### **Correctional Services of Canada – Victim Services**

<http://www.csc-scc.gc.ca/victims-victimes> | 1 (866) 806-2275

The program seeks to provide victims of federal offenders with timely information about the offender who harmed them.

### **Federal Ombudsman for Victims of Crime**

<http://www.victimfirst.gc.ca>

The Office of the Federal Ombudsman for Victims of Crime is an independent resource for victims in Canada. The Office was created in 2007 to ensure the federal government meets its responsibilities to victims of crime.

### **National Office for Victims**

<http://www.publicsafety.gc.ca/cnt/cntrng-crm/crrctns/ntnl-ffc-vctms-eng.aspx> | 1 (866) 525-0554

While we are a central resource that offers information to victims, we also provide input on policy and legislative initiatives, education about victims' issues for members of the criminal justice system, and networking and support to the Correctional Service of Canada and the Parole Board of Canada.

### **Parole Board of Canada – Victims of Crime**

<http://www.pbc-clcc.gc.ca/victims/victims-eng.shtml> | 1 (866) 789-INFO (4636)

Provides victims of crime (or a partner, guardian, or a relative of a victim who has died or is unable to act on their own behalf) with information on the offender who harmed them.

### **Policy Centre for Victim Issues**

<http://www.victimsmatter.gc.ca>

The lead federal organization working for victims of crime within the federal government.

### **Victims of Crime Research Digest**

<http://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/rp-pr/cj-jp/victim/>

The Victims of Crime Research Digest is an annual periodical published by the Department of Justice Canada during National Victims of Crime Awareness Week, which occurs in mid-April every year.

### **Victim Services Directory**

<http://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/cj-jp/victims-victimes/vsd-rsv/index.html>

A Canada-wide directory of community and government organizations which provide support to victims (victim services, advocacy, counselling, support groups, and crisis or information lines).



## **National Crisis Lines**

### **Kids Help Phone**

<http://www.kidshelpphone.ca> | 1 (800) 668-6868 (24 hours)

A national, bilingual 24 hour toll free confidential phone counselling, referral and internet service for children and youth and/or their parents.



## **Other Resources**

### **Compassionate Friends of Canada**

<http://www.tcfcanada.net> | 1 (866) 823-0141

Offering friendship, understanding, grief education and hope for the future to all families who have experienced the death of a child at any age from any cause.

### **DOE Network**

<http://www.doenetwork.org>

The Doe Network is a volunteer organization devoted to assisting Law Enforcement in solving cold cases concerning unexplained disappearances and unidentified victims from North America, Australia and Europe. It is our mission to give the nameless back their names and return the missing to their families.

### **Missing Children Society of Canada**

<http://www.mcsc.ca> | (403) 291-0705

MCSC's team of former police detectives and trained investigators work closely with law enforcement while conducting frontline, hands-on investigation and search activities. This active methodology is the foundation of MCSC and distinguishes us from other organizations with similar mandates. All services are provided free of charge.

### **Mothers Against Drunk Driving Canada**

<http://www.madd.ca> | 1 (800) 665-6233

Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD Canada) is a charitable, grassroots organization that is committed to stopping impaired driving and supporting the victims of this violent crime.

### **Rainbows for all Children Canada**

<http://www.rainbows.ca> | 1 (877) 403-2733

Rainbows is an international non-profit organization whose goal is to provide effective peer support for children who are grieving a death, divorce or other painful transitions in the family.



## **Online**

### **Association Québécoise Plaidoyer-Victimes**

<http://www.aqpv.ca>

The association seeks to educate the public and the authorities on the challenges facing victims of crime. The website provides journal articles and other resources.

### **Canadian Resource Centre for Victims of Crime**

<http://www.crcvc.ca>

Since 1993, the Canadian Resource Centre for Victims of Crime (CRCVC) has been a leader in advocacy for victims and survivors of violent crime in Canada. We are a national, non-government agency located in Ottawa, Ontario and bilingual services are available. All services are free of charge and confidential.

### **Centering Corporation**

<http://www.centering.org>

The Centering Corporation is a non-profit organisation dedicated to providing education and resources for the bereaved.

### **Church Council for Justice and Corrections**

<http://www.ccjc.ca>

The Church Council on Justice and Corrections (CCJC) is a national coalition of Christian churches dedicated to fostering healthier communities, crime prevention through personal and social responsibility, and reform of the criminal justice system. The CCJC fulfills its mandate primarily through policy analysis, member and public education, and community development initiatives.

### **Genesis Bereavement Resources**

<http://www.genesis-resources.com>

The website includes resources (brochures, books, articles) for the bereaved, for funeral directors, for health care professionals, and for pastoral care.

### **Grief and Renewal**

<http://www.griefandrenewal.com>

This site is dedicated to the belief that our personal grief can lead to our personal growth and a widening of awareness and caring for all of those around us who suffer loss.

### **GriefNet.org**

<http://www.griefnet.org>

An internet community of persons dealing with grief, death, and major loss. A number of email support groups are offered, including a group for violent death.

### **Grief Resources Catalog**

<http://www.griefresourcescatalog.com>

The Grief Resources Catalog is a resource center dedicated to providing grief support products for those who may be grieving the loss of a loved one. The grief support materials found here are designed to assist those in a journey through grief; and for friends, relatives, and grief professionals who want to help someone who is experiencing grief.

**MurderVictims.Com**

<http://www.murdervictims.com>

Far too often, the victims are forgotten and the focus is placed on the perpetrator. Here we will come back to place focus on the victims of the most violent of crimes, murder. Victim survivors can come here to find help, ask questions, give and get advice.

**National Center for Victims of Crime**

<http://www.ncvc.org>

National Center for Victims of Crime is the nation's leading resource and advocacy organization for crime victims and those who serve them. Please join us as we forge a national commitment to help victims of crime rebuild their lives.

**National Organization for Parents of Murdered Children**

<http://www.pomc.org>

POMC® provides the on-going emotional support needed to help parents and other survivors facilitate the reconstruction of a "new life" and to promote a healthy resolution. Not only does POMC help survivors deal with their acute grief but also helps with the criminal justice system.

**New Mexico Survivors of Homicide**

<http://www.nmsoh.org>

New Mexico Survivors of Homicide was a Not-For-Profit 501(c)3 organization founded in 1996. They provided support and information for survivors of homicide about the grieving process, the criminal justice system and all other issues pertaining to the survivors of a victim of murder.

**Shoulder To Shoulder - Canadian Forces Family Grief Support**

<http://www.familyforce.ca/sites/shouldertoshoulder>

To help you access important information and link you to services and supports when you need them, for as long as you need them, this site has been established as your own ready-to-use quick reference and access guide. You are invited to visit the various components of the site, learn about professional and peer support options, connect with others through our forums, and access information on available benefits/entitlements.

**Theravive**

<http://www.theravive.com>

Theravive is a place to find a counsellor or psychologist, by location and by topic. Theravive includes listings in every Canadian province and two territories as well as in every American state.

**This is a War**

<http://www.thisisawar.com>

A website filled with inspirational and informative articles on a wide variety of topics, including homicide.

**Victims of Violence**

<http://www.victimsofviolence.on.ca>

The mandate of the organization is to "provide support and assistance to victims of violent crime and to assist families of missing children in the search for their loved ones."

**Widow Net**

<http://www.widownet.org>

Established in 1995, it is the first online information and self-help resource for, and by, widows and widowers. Topics covered include grief, bereavement, recovery, and other information helpful to people, of all ages, religious backgrounds and sexual orientations, who have suffered the death of a spouse or life partner.