



Coalition Against Family Violence NWT Backgrounder

Purpose

- Increase awareness of family violence issues for NWT residents;
- Work collectively to reduce the incidence of family violence and to more effectively respond to family violence in the Northwest Territories; and
- Undertake specific actions of initiatives to address family violence issues and the needs of those people affected by family violence.

Contact

You may contact the Coalition through the Status of Women Council of the NWT.

Address: Box 1320, Yellowknife NT X1A 2L9
Toll Free: 1-888-234-4485
Fax: 1-867-873-0285
E-mail: council@statusofwomen.nt.ca

Experience and Maintenance

Administration/Funding

- Coordination and staff support has been donated by the Status of Women Council of the NWT;
- In-Kind support for the GNWT includes meeting space, photocopying, and long-distance telephone costs;
- The Coalition will set up working committees to help plan events and write proposals that are then brought in front of the whole Coalition for feedback either in person or via email;
- The Coalition is co-chaired by the Status of Women Council of the NWT and the Native Women's Association of the NWT; and
- The Coalition itself is not a funding body nor does it have the ability to obtain funding on its own. Organizations within the Coalition apply for funding on behalf of the Coalition for specific projects.

Communication

- The Coalition meets monthly on the second Wednesday of every month;
- Emails are used to communicate fast responses or information of interest to members;
- A email reminder of when the next meeting will be held is sent out with minutes and the proposed agenda;
- If you are from a community and want to be a part of the monthly meeting a teleconference will be set up for you to dial in, you have to respond to the meeting email or call to request a teleconference; and
- Sometimes a quick turnaround for a decision needs to be made and this is done via email.

Membership/Partnership

- Anyone is welcome to be on the Coalition as an organization, government department, industry, or individual; and
- The Coalition encourages active partnerships between members and is a great networking body.

Research/Information Sharing

- Committees are set up to look are varying topics related to family violence;
- Members can request more information on issues and can bring in guest speakers when possible;
- Information that is collected through the Coalition is either kept in the minutes, produced in documents (i.e. A Way Forward, Family Violence Awareness Week Kits), or housed in the Status of Women Library; and
- Information collected for the Coalition is non-case specific but issue based to maintain confidentiality.

Coalition Projects

Creation of the Coalition Produced pamphlets on custody and peace bonds	1999
Family Violence Prevention Research and Planning Coordination for first Family Violence Awareness Week	2000 - 2001
Research Project – Family Violence in the NWT • <i>A survey of Costs, Services, Data Collection & Issues for Action</i>	2002
Development of first Action Plan to address family violence • <i>NWT Action Plan on Family Violence, 2003-2006</i>	2003
Expansion of the Coalition Project • Went to communities encouraging participation	2008
Priority setting meetings and review of past Action Plans • <i>Recommendations for addressing gaps, shifting attitudes, and enhancing services to reduce family violence and abuse in the NWT</i>	2010 - 2011

Partnership Projects/NWT Action Plans

2003 – 2006 Action Plan Phase I

- The GNWT response, *A Framework for Action*, of the *NWT Action Plan on Family Violence* led to the development of the implemental steering committee where by the minister requested that two Coalition members sit on the committee;
- Development of community inter-agency protocols on family violence (current);
- Development, adoption and implementation of the NWT; *Protection Against Family Violence Act* (the Act came into effect April 2005 and implementation and monitoring is ongoing) ;
- Television public awareness ads on family violence;
- Workshops on Elder Abuse; and
- Untold Stories I and Untold Stories II.

2007 – 2012 Action Plan Phase II

- Development of NWT Family Violence Action Plan Phase II in partnership with GNWT;
- Territorial attitude survey, *2007 Family Violence Survey*, was completed;
- Family Violence Conference (2007);
- The existing family violence shelters have been better funded and are stabilized;
- Services have been enhanced for community based outreach, advocacy and prevention in the three regions without shelters;
- Protocol development has been supported in Yellowknife and in the Sahtu and some really exciting outcomes have emerged from this;
- YWCA's Child Recover program for children who witness abuse has been expanded and will be evaluated; and
- A training curriculum for shelter workers has been developed and will soon be printed.

Education/Awareness

Family Violence Awareness Week 2001 - Present

Each year the Coalition develops a resource package, poster, and items for the Territorial Family Violence Awareness Week. A launch is held in Yellowknife and information is sent out to all NWT communities.