

BC's Office to Combat Trafficking in Persons

Assisting Foreign Workers Who Face Risks of Abuse

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Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
Community Safety and Crime Prevention



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OCTIP Mandate

- Coordinate BC's response to human trafficking (HT)
- Support communities in local efforts to address HT
- Raise awareness and provide training about HT
- Coordinate services for trafficked persons
- Contribute to national and international efforts to combat HT



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International Instruments

UN Trafficking in Persons Protocol

to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children.



Supplement to **UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime**

Canada ratified the Protocol in 2002

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Universal Declaration of Human Rights

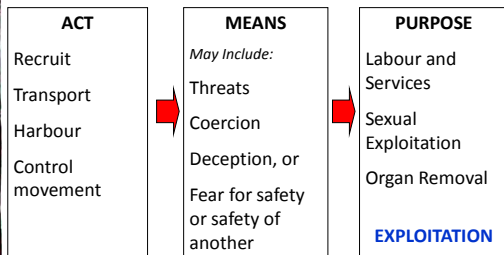
- All human Beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights
(Article 1)
- No one shall be held in slavery or servitude
(Article 4)

United Nations 1948



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Definition of Trafficking



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Trafficking vs. Smuggling

- | Trafficking | Smuggling |
|---------------------------------|--|
| ▪ Forced exploitation | ▪ Is voluntary |
| ▪ Movement may occur | ▪ Relationship ends at destination |
| ▪ Can occur within own country | ▪ Fees are paid in advance or at arrival |
| ▪ Is a crime against the person | ▪ Crime against the State |

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Laws in Canada

2002: Immigration and Refugee Protection Act

2005: Criminal Code Section 279.01-.04

2010: Minimum Sentencing for Child Trafficking

2012: Amendment to Definition of Exploitation



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Trafficking Indicators

- no ID or other travel documents
- Passport taken away
- movement restricted
- shows signs of being controlled or abused
- does not have control over their money
- owes money feels honour bound to pay it off
- lives in same place where exploited

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RECENT Labour Cases

"Human-trafficking trial hears woman forced to work long hours for no pay" – **Mumtaz Ladha found Not Guilty**



"Nanny was 'virtual slave', Crown says at sentencing" – **Franco Orr found Guilty**



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Farm Worker

- Brought to Canada under the Temporary Foreign Worker program
- Sole worker on a 50,000 blueberry plants operation
- Substandard living conditions, undernourished
- Forbidden to speak to people outside the farm
- Movements controlled by cameras surrounding his dwelling
- Passport retained by employer
- Threatened regularly and over the phone when he left



Domotor Case

- 19 workers from Hungary
- Exploited through construction, petty crime and welfare fraud
- Pursued relentlessly by the trafficker
- Resulted in the largest international trafficking conviction in Canada



4 Temporary Foreign Workers

- Hired to work in a hotel in Alberta
- Force to do 2 shifts and were paid for 1
- Moved to BC at the end of tourism season
- Forced to clean houses and do other work for no pay.
- Threatened with violence and deportation if failing to comply
- Passports were retained by the “employer”
- Identified and helped through church community



Top Concerns for International Survivors

- Will I be deported?
- Do I have to meet with law enforcement?
- Can I work and send money back home?
- Can I go back home?
- I am scared for my safety.
- I am scared for the safety of my family

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Human Rights Approach

- Be Safe
- Do No Harm
- Give Back Control and Obtain Consent
- Consider the Whole Person
- Provide Culturally Appropriate Services
- Be Patient
- Offer Options to Seek Justice

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ONLINE COURSE

<http://www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/octiptraining/index.html>



Office to Combat Trafficking in Persons

English (Anglais) / Français (French)

Human Trafficking: Canada Is Not Immune

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**Thank you !
Merci !**

BC's Office to Combat
Trafficking in Persons

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**Some people are very
attached to their work.
Human Trafficking. Don't ignore it.**
