

Together for Safety Initiative

Partner Survey Results (Post)

CONFIDENTIAL

Submitted to:

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27 September 2017
rev. 29 September 2017

A\ What is the name of the organization you are completing this survey on behalf of?

Survey Collector	Number	Share
RCMP	12	41%
Other Partners	17	59%
Total Completed Responses	29	100%

B\ What is Together for Safety?

	Number	Share
A protocol between the Whitehorse RCMP and Whitehorse women's groups	29	100%
Other responses	0	0%

C\ In your own words, please describe the purpose of Together for Safety:

Together for Safety Partner Organizations

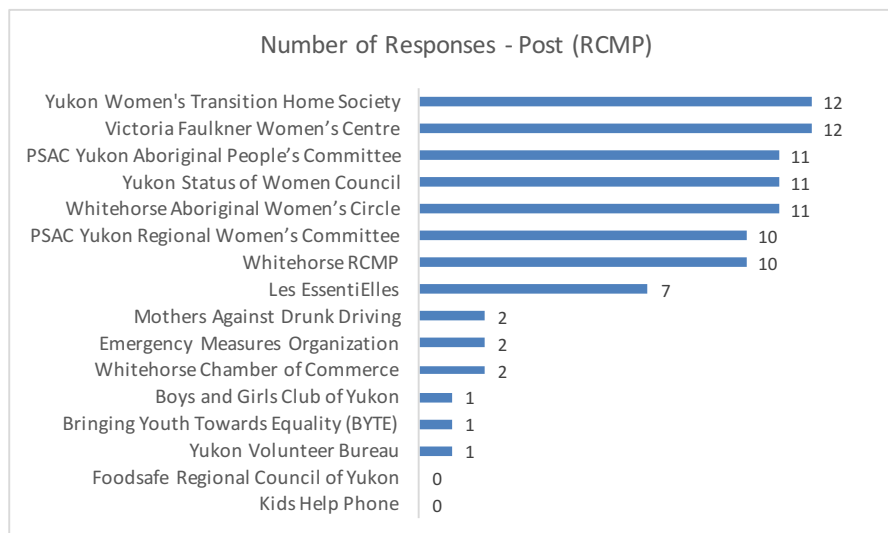
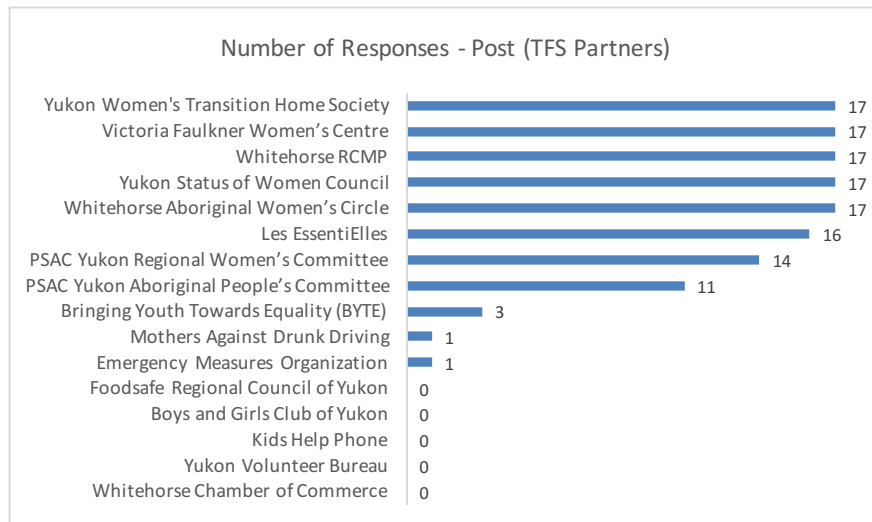
- To address the sometimes-problematic responses the RCMP give to victims of violence, especially women, and especially Indigenous women.
- To have a clear understanding of services for women fleeing abuse and to have dignity when calling the RCMP for services
- For the safety of women and children, so we don't keep repeating history.
- Attempts to get RCMP to understand the realities of women's safety issues in Whitehorse.
- RCMP can address current issues with direct input from groups that represent/ include women at risk.
- Safety for women (at the exclusion of all other gender minorities) in terms of physical and emotional access to law enforcement. Basically, addresses stigmatization of female victims (e.g., sending a female officer to a reported rape is more sensitive than sending two males).
- Together for Safety is an agreement designed to promote safety for women in their interactions with law enforcement and the justice system in Whitehorse.
- An agreement between RCMP and women's organizations to address violence against women in Whitehorse.
- The 14 women's organizations and the RCMP working together to address violence against women.
- To enhance service responses to women who have experienced violence.
- To increase safety for women and girls in the Yukon.
- To coordinate and enhance responses to women and girls who are victims of violence
- To establish relationships to change help promote, make, foster, develop, encourage change and the safety of women and girls in Whitehorse. It helps us work together and establish relationships of trust and mutual respect. It gives us an opportunity to discuss issues, and change culture of how things used to be.
- To create community safety and to protect women and girls who experience violence by maintaining and strengthening positive relationships between the Whitehorse women's groups and the RCMP.
- Giving victims of rape a safe place to tell their story.
- To build a collaborative and respectful relationship between Indigenous women, the community organizations that provide services and advocacy for them, and the RCMP.
- To work together to increase safety for woman and create a better experience for them when they have interactions with the RCMP.

Together for Safety – Partner Survey Results (Post)

Whitehorse RCMP

- Create community safety. Strengthen and maintain positive relationships between the YWC and RCMP.
- Build a better environment for women to live within the Whitehorse area as well as raise awareness around women's issues – especially sexualized violence – and how it can be dealt with by police in an appropriate manner.
- Women's groups collaborating with RCMP to work towards common goal of increasing safety of women (females) in our community.
- RCMP working with women's groups in Whitehorse and building a rapport.
- Together for Safety is a joint effort between the women's coalition and the RCMP. The purpose is to educate and prevent domestic violence and sexual assault towards women.
- Collaborative efforts between RCMP and local groups to ensure safety for client groups. In this case - Women's interest groups.
- Never received or attended a presentation on this topic during my tenure in Whitehorse, therefore I lack the requisite knowledge to answer this question.
- Working with women and associated groups to protect and maintain safety of all.
- An inter-agency collaboration to streamline services and provide better access to services for women in Whitehorse and the Yukon.

D\ Which organizations are partners in Together for Safety?



E\ Over the last year, to what extent has the Together for Safety initiative been effective in enhancing responses to women and girls in Whitehorse who have experienced violence?

Together for Safety Partner Organizations

- Training for the RCMP that: violence is deliberate, victims of violence always resist, and to provide victims of violence with positive social responses.
- Don't believe it has been effective as yet. For every good deed the RCMP do, a negative deed is reported to us.
- They feel safer and they are beginning to trust the system.
- It has likely raised RCMP's attention to women's safety issues.
- Background has hopefully effected long term change. But very little known or public impact. Exclusive or narrow in input or reach.
- No idea. It was not necessarily accessible to transwomen.
- Many initiatives and programs/campaigns have come forward.
- It has brought RCMP and women's groups together to collaborate on issues facing women in Whitehorse. The group has a better sense of where to focus efforts following the safety survey.
- Increased openness to discuss problems/issues. RCMP openness to a potential project of reviewing "unfounded" cases, like the Philadelphia model.
- Working with women's groups and RCMP to do media responses and educational videos.
- From my understanding women/girls are still not reporting due to a number of reasons, women still do not feel safe and the response time of RCMP seems to be a problem.
- There has been regular and open communication with the [_____] and the RCMP.
- I am not clear on how the work this initiative has done that directly effects woman in the community in the last year. I know previously they were instrumental in the creation of the SRU.

Whitehorse RCMP

- Communication between RCMP and YWC is frequent and positive which enhances service delivery on both sides.
- It has seen the completion of some projects (videos)...better communication. Much remains to be done.
- I haven't seen a difference from a policing perspective.
- This would be a very difficult thing to measure. I could not answer this question with any actual knowledge.
- Again, I have no idea what "Together for Safety" is about as I've never attended or been afforded the opportunity to sit through an information session about the topic.
- I have had no experience with together for safety.
- With improved relationships between organizations, response and follow up improves. There is a deeper understanding, inter-agency, providing more information and a streamlined process for victims of crime.

F\ Based on your experiences over the last year, what would have made the Together for Safety initiative more effective in enhancing responses to women and girls in Whitehorse?

Together for Safety Partner Organizations

- A continuing training program for new RCMP officers as there is a large turn over/change in RCMP officers every few years.
- For the RCMP to have more officers present at the meetings and more complaints being taken seriously.
- Not sure there is another way all we can do is keep trying and getting them to trust the systems to feel safe.
- Wider public reach. Involve Yukon schools, Education Department, all EMS, public health, high level leadership and general workforce.
- More input from RCMP.
- More RCMP buy in. The training seemed ineffective. Needed to have more RCMP members really engaged. Challenging to make training relevant to members who do the work. Need for internal initiatives to address need for specialized training.
- RCMP being more responsive to the agreed training we agreed to. Putting safety and relationships before the enforcement of the law.
- Ability to address issues with RCMP and establish relationships.
- [Our organization] does not have daily programming where we would interact with the RCMP therefore I personally could not comment. However, I do know that whenever there is a need to have a response from the RCMP we can rely on this protocol to assist Indigenous women and girls in Whitehorse.
- I am familiar with the series of videos that are created to demystify the justice processes. In the future, I would create these videos with a more diverse cast. It really struck me that there was not a lot of people of colour if any at all in the videos.

Whitehorse RCMP

- More access to training for RCMP officers and partner agencies.
- Closer work between police and women's groups.
- I'm not sure. Input from all partners, including front line police officers may make it more effective. Measuring public perception about how police respond may not be the most accurate way of dealing with it.
- Better communication between RCMP and women's groups.
- A contact sheet with numbers / contact names and e-mail addresses along with the focus of each group and what services they can offer. There are so many groups that it is hard to know who to contact for different situations.
- Enhanced information sharing from client groups with RCMP. All too often, our partners require police response but are unwilling to offer all details to paint full picture. HR resources at RCMP levels also preclude optimal response to client groups.
- Understanding what it is.

G\ Do you have any thoughts on providing education to help prevent violence and abuse in Whitehorse?

Together for Safety Partner Organizations

- More programs for young men to help stop misogyny/the patriarchy which are the root causes of violence against women.
- We need to have more education in schools, pubs and social events and show people we are not tolerating any more.
- We have a big opportunity coming up as the Government of Canada is to tighten up legal alcohol impairment level next year from 0.08 to likely 0.04, which Yukon will automatically adopt. This means no alcohol at all when operating vehicles, cars, trucks, snowmobiles, boats. It will be a great opportunity to talk about the other impacts of alcohol such as abusive behavior, domestic assaults etc.
- Target demographic who needs education the most. Where and how will they hear the message.
- The inclusion of all gender minorities. The inclusion of training targeting teenage boys. More funding.
- I have no information on how this has rolled out, though I was present at the ceremony on May 29th 2015. I think this initiative is deserving of greater attention by the media and awareness from the public in order to help encourage greater safety in other areas of women's lives beyond any legal processes.
- Work with FN organizations/governments, high schools, elementary schools. Advertise.
- I think it would be great to focus more on how men can stop inflicting violence on women, and how the gender imbalances in society exacerbates violence against women as well as trans and non-identified people and also how the legacies of slavery and the continuing constructs of colonialism create violence instead of focusing on how women can stop violence against themselves because I think that violence has to be stopped at the root rather than at the receiving end.
- In schools, collaboration between RCMP and women's groups defining what violence is, how to recognize it and where to go for support. Lobby government to create more supports for families. Need services for men who have chosen violence, need culturally relevant services for Indigenous men
- More education in schools and at a younger age. Enlist champions. Just keep plugging along. Social change takes a long time.
- Support programming for men who choose to use violence that are not in DVTO.
- Need to reach most vulnerable age groups, maybe in schools, and groups that offer services to those age groups.
- I believe that education to help prevent violence and abuse has to begin at a very early age and be taught at all stages of life. Even the elderly have to learn to stop the abuse that they are inflicting through verbal abuse. More work needs to be done at the community level especially in Indigenous communities. So many years of residential schools has created an unsafe community where bullying and violence became commonplace. Preventing violence and abuse and bad behaviour can be changed through education and guidance.

Whitehorse RCMP

- These are deep issues that stem from a number of other areas of concern...it is difficult to 'prevent' this sort of abuse as it would from other areas of crime such as traffic enforcement, drug awareness etc.
- As far as educating to prevent violence... everyone knows it's wrong. Why does it happen? Unhealthy coping mechanisms, alcohol abuse, history, stigma, shame. If there was an easy answer, the problem would be fixed by now.
- Nope, it all starts in the home.
- I have lots of thoughts on how to prevent violence and abuse towards women but I doubt it would fall in line with what this survey is expecting to receive for ideas.

H\ Are there any Together for Safety initiatives you would like to see introduced in the future?

Together for Safety Partner Organizations

- Rape crisis centre in Whitehorse.
- Think outside Whitehorse. Deal with increased murders or shootings in Whitehorse and trauma left by those actions. Deal with human trafficking.
- Trans people experience high rates of violence as well, and face barriers to working with RCMP or obtaining emergency medical care. Using words like cis women on programming if it's not accessible to trans women.
- More agencies give transportation assistance.
- RCMP-led training on responding to victims of violence for members.
- Further project collaborations between RCMP and women's groups - survey women following RCMP involvement.
- Consistent training for RCMP members.
- Interviewing young women on what makes them safe and what doesn't and asking to define their trust of RCMP.
- More education, promotion of protocol.

Whitehorse RCMP

- Not aware of any current initiatives.
- Attendance to APU to meet with females who suffer from substance abuse and are victims of domestic abuse.
- Further inter-agency and interactive training to familiarize new members of the RCMP, new members to the Yukon to provide further information and direction regarding how to proceed in assisting victims best.

E\ Do you have any other thoughts about Together for Safety you would like to share?

Together for Safety Partner Organizations

- No, not that you would care to hear.
- Maybe also deal with how cannabis will affect safety of women, kids, workers.
- Great work being done by our coordinator and all parties. Continue the good work
- Great work everyone!
- This process is getting increasingly more ineffective due to disconnect and defensiveness of some RCMP.
- Would like us to have on-going funding to ensure we see the change that is needed.
- You did not have Liard Aboriginal Women's Society listed as a partner? LAWS spearheaded these discussions to make this protocol possible.

Whitehorse RCMP

- Police are one component of the Criminal Justice System. If working toward cultural change such as attitudes, use of language, training, etc., other components of the system must be included such as the Public Prosecution Service of Canada and the Judiciary.
- I've not been a participant in the core group of Together for Safety but it seems to me that it's been set up to appease special interest groups and falls short of actually enhancing public safety.

