

Virtual National Conference May 11-14, 2021
May 14, 2021 : Part A

Canadian Domestic Homicide
Prevention Initiative



Canadian Domestic Violence Death Review Committees Emerging Challenges and Barriers To Implementing Recommendations

Myrna Dawson & Peter Jaffe

Reflections from Canadian DVDRC Committees

Deidre Bainbridge ON, Stéphanie Gamache QC, Emily Caissy NB, Lori Moen BC, Sara Collins SK

Preventing domestic homicide: From research and lived experiences to practice

This research was supported by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. Project 895-2015-1025



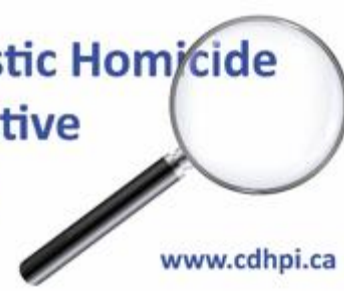
Social Sciences and Humanities
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en
sciences humaines du Canada

Canada

May 14, 2021

Purpose Of Domestic Violence Death Review Committees



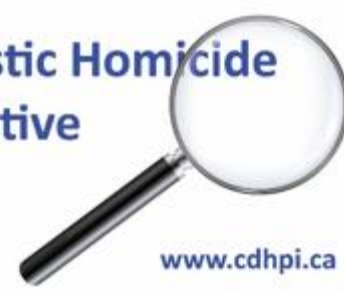
Learn from domestic homicides to prevent deaths in similar circumstances in the future

Understanding risk factors and missed opportunities to intervene and making recommendations for changes to legislation, policies, practices, resources, public education, and training for service providers

Dawson, M. (Ed.). (2017). *Domestic homicides and death reviews: An international perspective*. Springer.

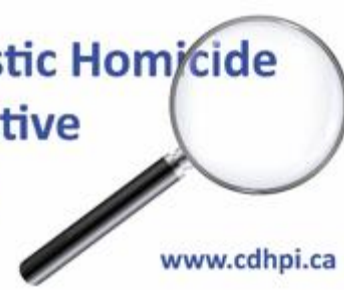
Jaffe, P., Scott, K., & Straatman, A. L. (Eds) (2020). *Preventing Domestic Homicides: Lessons Learned from Tragedies*. Cambridge MA: Academic Press.

Domestic Violence Death Review Committees Across the World



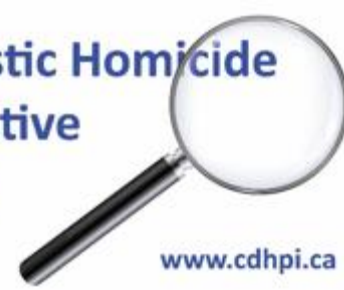
- US** National Domestic Violence Fatality Review Initiative - ndvfri.org
- UK** Domestic Homicide Reviews - Key Findings From Analysis Of Domestic Homicide Reviews - www.gov.uk/government/publications/domestic-homicide-reviews-lessons-learned
- NZ** Family Violence Death Review Committee
https://www.hqsc.govt.nz/assets/FVDRC/Publications/FVDRC6thReport_FINAL.pdf
- AU** Australian Domestic and Family Violence Death Review Network: 2018 data report
<https://apo.org.au/sites/default/files/resource-files/2018-05/apo-nid174811.pdf>
- Canada** – see cdhpi.ca

Domestic Violence Death Review Committees Across Canada



PROVINCE	Most Recent Report	PROVINCE	Most Recent Report
ALBERTA	2015	ONTARIO	2018
BRITISH COLUMBIA	2016	QUEBEC	2020
MANITOBA	2017	SASKATCHEWAN	2018
NEW BRUNSWICK	2018	All Reports Available -	www.cdhipi.ca

General Recommendations Made



- Public Education
- Professional training
- Collaboration – e.g., high risk teams
- Changes in Legislation
- Children exposed to domestic violence
- Recognize Needs of Marginalized Groups



Common Goals But Domestic Violence Death Review Committees Differ

Ongoing vs. reviews every few years

Formal through medical examiners/government vs community agency/advocacy group

Access to information about the victim vs. limited access

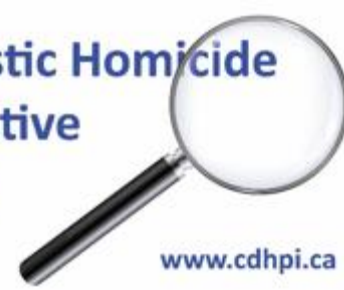
Ongoing monitoring and review of recommendations

Funded vs. voluntary

Active role of survivors vs. professionals

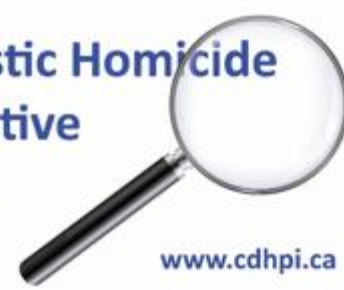
Public sharing vs. limited circulation of limited information

Positive Outcomes from DVDRCs



- Public Awareness
- Public education – NFF/Indigenous/Francophone/Immigrant Versions
- Professional Training (e.g., ON SW, Psychologists, Lawyers)
- Domestic violence in the workplace – legislation changes
- CAS training and collaboration with VAW
- Enhanced police training and risk assessments




Challenges in DVDRCs

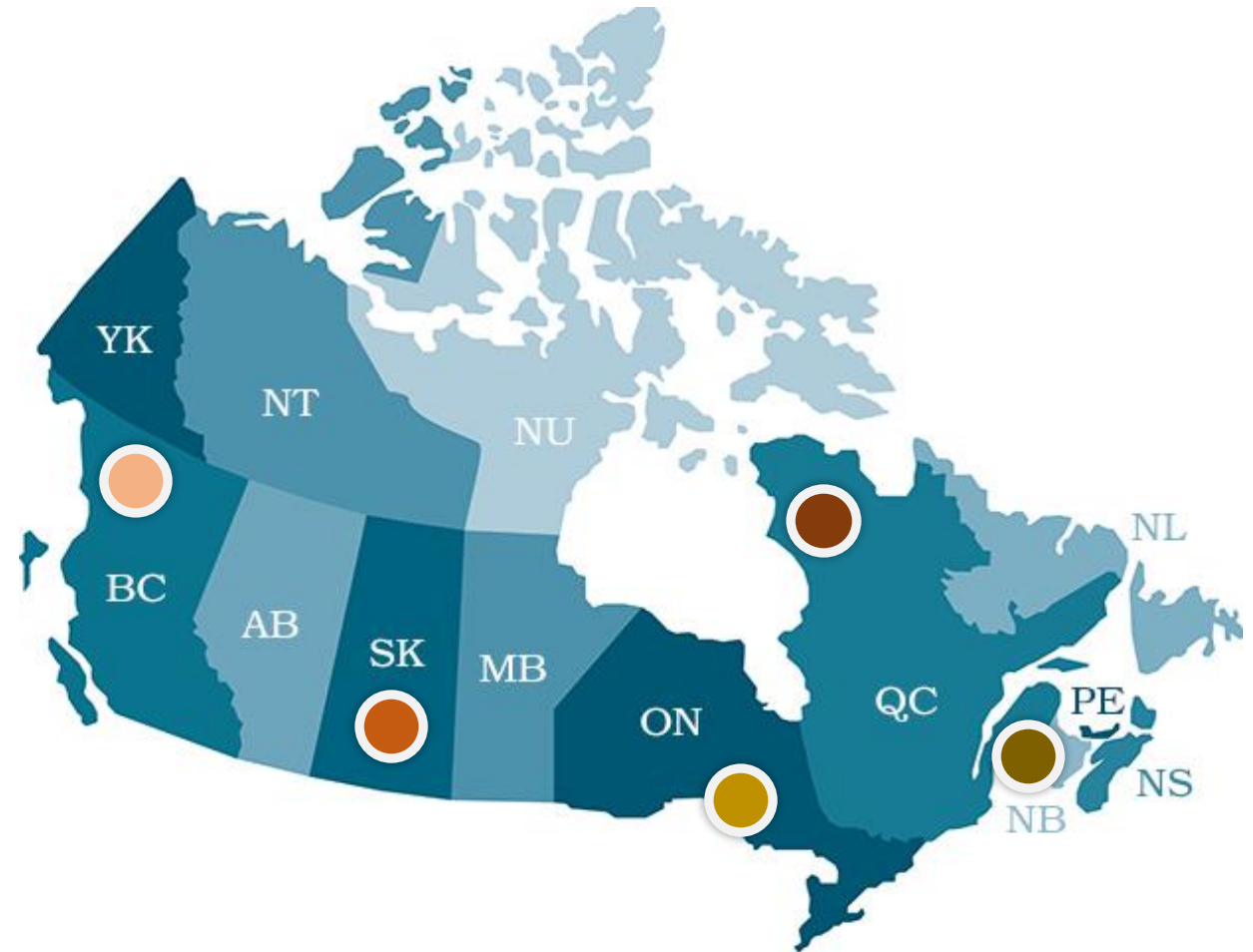


- Promoting & Publicizing the Reports
- Access to experts on complex topics
- Voices of surviving family members and friends of the victim
- Funding
- Community Membership & Confidentiality (homicide-suicide)
- Specific vs General Recommendations on social change
- Measures of success
- Implementation of Recommendations

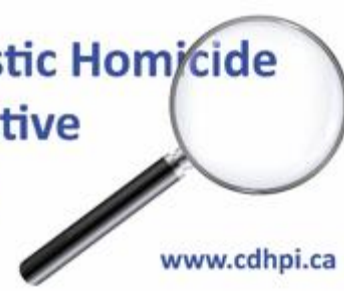
Canadian DVDRCs: Where are we and we are we going?



-  **Lori Moen**
-  **Sara Collins**
-  **Stéphanie Gamache**
-  **Deidre Bainbridge**
-  **Emily Caissy**



Canadian DVDRCs: Where are we and where are we going?



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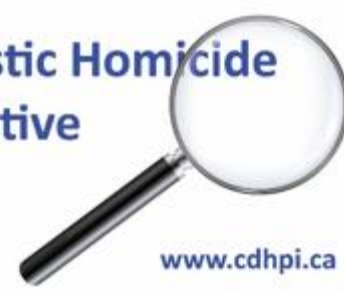
Lori Moen

Specialized Investigations & Death Review Unit, BC Coroners Service

Sara Collins

Director of Community Safety and Well-Being, Ministry of Justice and Attorney General and the Ministry of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety in Saskatchewan

Questions for Panel



What's working well or needs to change?

Any success stories?

Challenges in developing and sustaining your DVDRC?

Planning for the future?

For More Information



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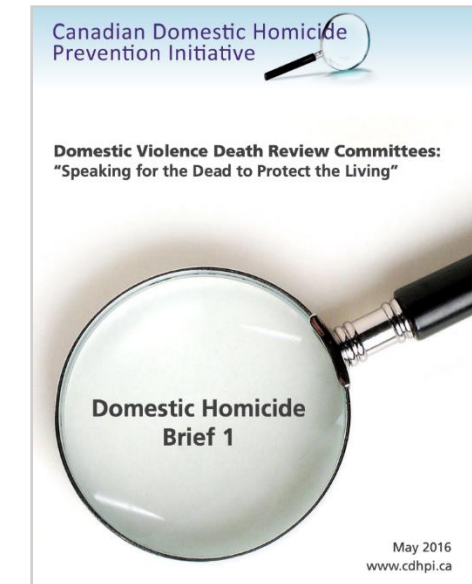
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For literature review and homicide briefs see www.cdhpi.ca

Canadian Domestic Homicide
Prevention Initiative



Initiative canadienne sur la
prévention des
homicides familiaux