

Canadian Domestic Homicide Prevention Initiative with Vulnerable Populations



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Co-Directors

Dr. Myrna Dawson, University of Guelph
Dr. Peter Jaffe, University of Western Ontario

Purpose

The Canadian Domestic Homicide Prevention Initiative with Vulnerable Populations (CDHPIVP) is a five-year project (2015 – 2020) funded by the Social Sciences Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) to:

- conduct research on domestic homicides in Canada;
- identify protocols and strategies to reduce risk, particularly among vulnerable populations;
- improve access to risk assessment, risk management and safety planning strategies, particularly for vulnerable populations;
- share this knowledge with the wider community;
- and reduce serious repeated domestic violence and homicides in Canada.

Focus Areas

The CDHPIVP focuses on four populations that experience increased vulnerability to domestic homicide:

- **Indigenous** populations – the rate of domestic homicide is eight times higher for Indigenous women compared to non-Indigenous women in Canada.ⁱ
- **Rural, remote and northern** populations – the rate of domestic homicide in rural Canada is significantly higher than in urban areas.ⁱⁱ
- **Immigrant and refugee** populations – their experiences with language, cultural and other barriers make it more difficult to report domestic violence and to access services.ⁱⁱⁱ
- **Children exposed to domestic violence** – children and youth who were victims of family-related violence represent 29% of all children and youth victims of violent crime.^{iv}

Activities

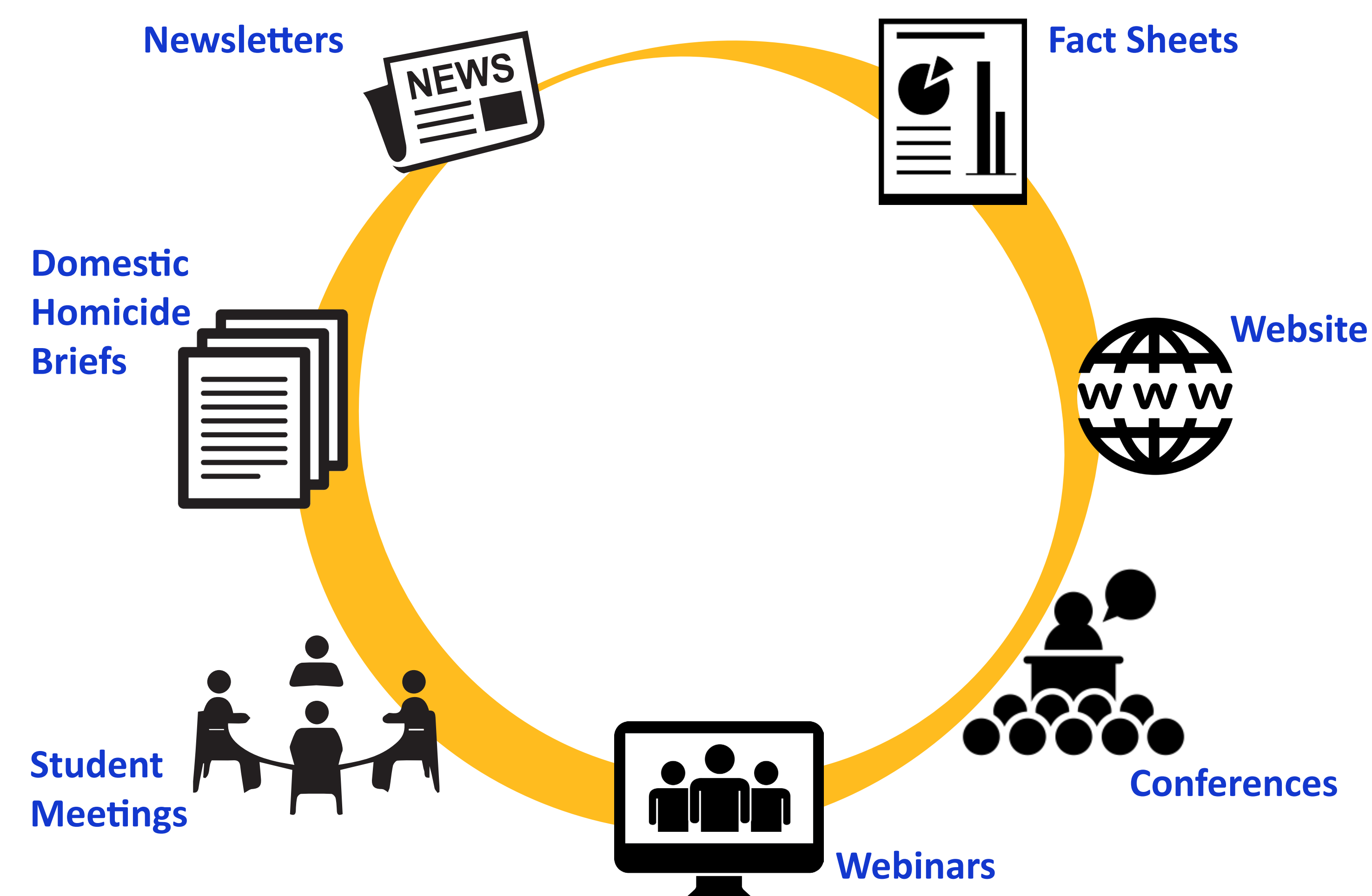
1. **National domestic homicide database** – to develop and collect data for a central repository on domestic homicide cases and the identification of associated risk factors.
2. **Comprehensive literature review** - to systematically examine risk assessment, risk management and safety planning strategies that currently exist for domestic violence and homicide in general and for the identified populations specifically.
3. **Qualitative research with stakeholders** - to expand our understanding of unique risk factors associated with these vulnerable groups.
4. **Multi-site control study** - to compare domestic homicide cases with attempted homicide cases and cases of severe domestic violence in order to identify unique risk factors for lethality.

Defining Domestic Violence Homicide

The CDHPIVP defines domestic violence homicide as the killing of a current or former intimate partner, their child(ren), and/or other third parties.

- An intimate partner can include people who are in a current or former married, common-law, or dating relationship.
- Other third parties can include new partners, other family members, neighbours, friends, co-workers, helping professionals, bystanders, and others killed as a result of the incident.
- Domestic violence includes all forms of abuse including psychological or emotional abuse that has been documented through professionals or interviews with friends, family, and/or co-workers.

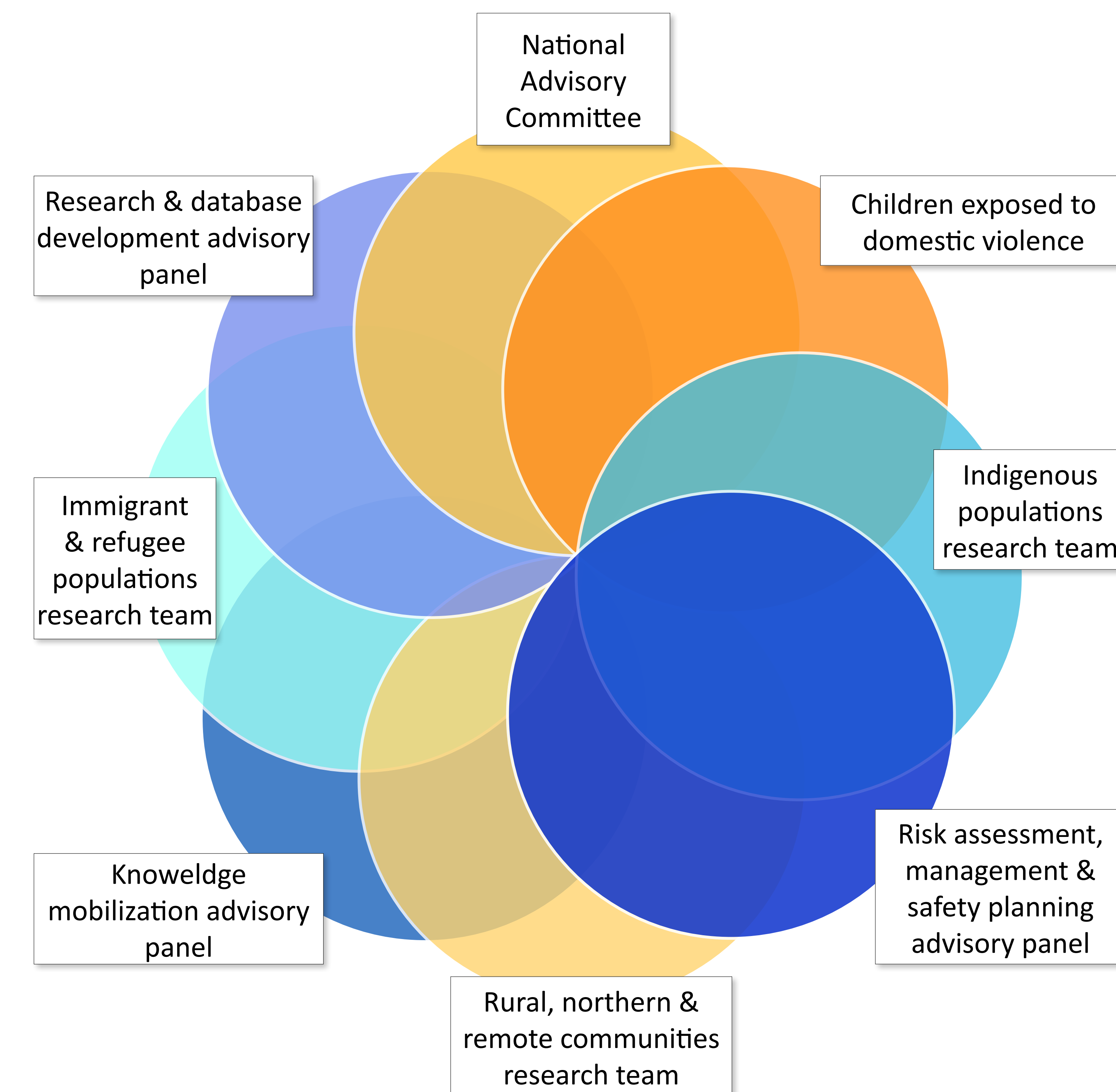
Knowledge Mobilization



Co-Investigators

Diane Crocker, Saint Marys University
Myriam Dubé, Université du Québec à Montréal
Mary Hampton, University of Regina
Nicole Letourneau, University of Calgary
Kate Rossiter, Simon Fraser University
Jane Ursel, University of Manitoba

Partnerships and Collaboration



References

- ⁱ Statistics Canada (2006a). Victimization and offending among the Aboriginal population in Canada. Ottawa: Minister of Industry.
- ⁱⁱ Northcott, M. (2011). Domestic violence in rural Canada. In S. McDonald (Ed.), Victims of Crime Research Digest (pp. 9- 14). Ottawa: DOJ.
- ⁱⁱⁱ Alaggia, R., and C. Regehr. (2009). Intimate partner violence and immigration laws in Canada: How far have we come? International Journal of Law and Psychiatry 32 (pp. 335-341).
- ^{iv} Statistics Canada. (2015). Family violence in Canada: A statistical profile, 2013. Ottawa: Minister of Industry. Catalogue # 85-002-X.

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