

ALBERTA'S RESPONSE TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING

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ACT Alberta



- NGO
- Coalition of:
 - ▣ law enforcement
 - ▣ government agencies
 - ▣ social & health service providers
 - ▣ concerned citizens
 - ▣ survivors
 - ▣ faith based organizations



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- **Prevention (awareness raising + education)**
 - ▣ *Various community events*
 - ▣ *Public engagement + education*
- **Prosecution**
 - ▣ *Support law enforcement to identify victims of trafficking and lay charges*



ACT Alberta



- **Protection (assistance to victims)**
 - ▣ *Training for service providers on identifying and assisting victims*
 - ▣ *Coordinating HT Response Teams*
- **Partnerships**
 - ▣ *Forum for discussion, information sharing and cooperation*
 - ▣ *Regular networking meetings*

Patterns & Trends

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- Exploitation of Temporary Foreign Workers
- Sexual exploitation in areas of concentrated industrial activity
- Recruitment of minors for sexual exploitation (internet, schools, malls)
- Trafficking to urban centres for sexual exploitation
- Trafficking of Aboriginal women and children
- Trafficking by organized crime into the drug or sex trade
- Sexual exploitation in private residences
- Accompanied with other crimes, such as assault and theft

Trafficked Persons May Be:



- Here on valid visitor, work or student visas
- Here illegally with no legal status
- Permanent residents or Canadian citizens
- Men, women or children
- Disproportionately Aboriginal girls and women

- Victims of international and/or domestic trafficking
- Victims of labour and/or sexual exploitation

Assisting Victims of Trafficking



- For internationally trafficked people **without other legal status:**
- Temporary Resident Permits (TRP)
 - ▣ Renewable 180-day
 - ▣ Work permit
 - ▣ Victims not required to testify to maintain TRP
- Health-care benefits and trauma counselling
- Income support available in Alberta

Assisting Trafficked Persons



- Safety and security are first priorities
- Appropriate communication
 - interpretation
 - sample messages
- No “typical” victim

Assisting Victims of Trafficking

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Things to remember:

- Communication/language barriers
- Lack of or false documents
- Answers may seem coached or rehearsed
- Often kept isolated and restricted
- May be watched, escorted or guarded
- Fears (deportation, retribution)
- Links to organized crime

Assisting Victims of Trafficking



- May exhibit 'all or nothing' physical or emotional response
- May appear to respond inappropriately to a situation
- May appear dishonest or untrusting
- May defend their traffickers

Assistance to Victims of Trafficking

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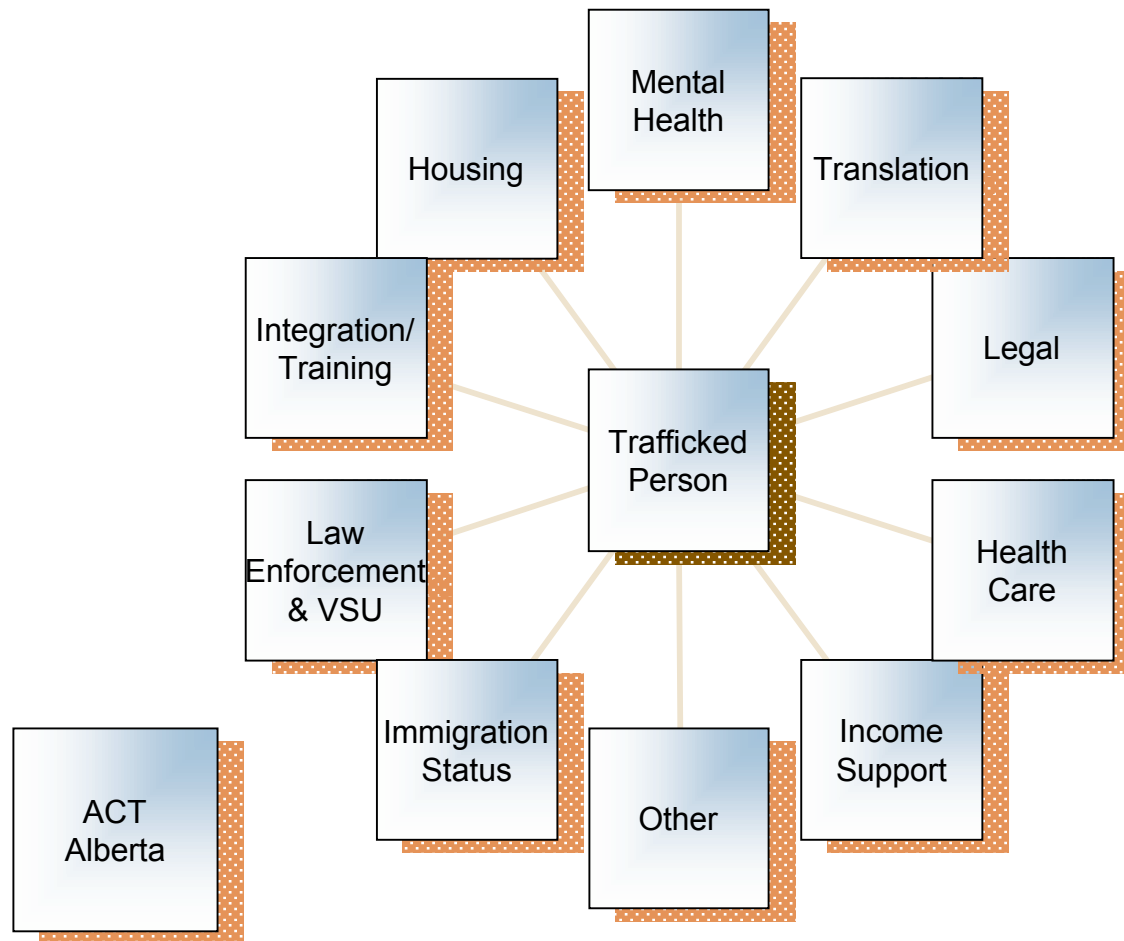
- Informed consent
- Culturally relevant services
- Confidentiality
- Individualized services
- Rights-based / victim-centred approach
- Continuum of care
- Realistic messaging

Potential Needs of Trafficked Persons



- Immediate assistance
 - ▣ housing, food, health, translation, income, healthcare
- Security
- Appropriate rehabilitation
 - ▣ international models have stays of 6-18 months
- Immigration/legal services
- Employment/education support
- Psychosocial support

Alberta Protocol on Service Provision to Victims of Trafficking



Contact Information

- Protection Sexually Exploited Children Act 1-800-387-5437
- Child Services Crisis Unit 1-866-408-5465
- Crime Stoppers 1-800-222-8477
- Temporary Foreign Worker Helpline 1-877-944-9955
- Emergency Income Support 1-866-644-5135
- A Safe Place 1-877-252-7233
- Chrysalis Network 1-866-528-7109
- ACT Alberta (780) 421-0175
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