

FINAL REPORT EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On-Reserve First Nations Police Reporting, Responses and Support Services, and Investigative Practices¹

Submitted to the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services:
Police Responses to Sexual Violence and Harassment Against Aboriginal Women
and Girls 2015-2016 Program

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...[T]he part that got my interest in this [MCSCS project] was when Sandi (Gan̄kwásra E.D.) talked about developing practices that were based on Haudenosaunee principles or values. ...To me this all ties into “This is our police service.” This is the community’s police service. So if we’re going to deviate from how we’ve done things, for whatever reason, that’s what we’re doing. And everybody has to be on board. And they will be on board because, to me, you’re doing these things for the right reason.

Maybe that’s the way we have done things since day one, because that’s the way everybody does them. But now we’ve developed something else. We are a partner in something else that is geared toward the community. I expect there would be a little bit of resistance here and there, but in the end you’re doing the right thing for the right reasons. It’s all geared toward the community. The focus is the well-being of the community.

(Six Nations Police Services Chief)²

One of the things we really liked about the Violence Threat Risk Assessment training with Kevin [Cameron] is ... the emphasis on relationship building – not only with your partners, but with the community. We were like, “Yeah we do that.” It was great to hear those values pulled into that training and to be able to use

¹ This project is funded by the Province of Ontario Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services. The views expressed in this report of key issues and findings are the views of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Province.

² Quotations throughout this report are the words of the speaker but in some cases lengthy quotations have been condensed for clarity and in order to succinctly convey and highlight the points speakers are making and formulating in conversation.

that form of assessment. And it wasn't gender focused. It was a view of addressing safety [that] fit really well with our values.

We're really happy about the High Risk Committee and how that's come about, the lead SNPS have taken on that, because I believe that it can really be effective in helping lessen [the layers of domestic and sexual violence in our community]. Because we are more aware of what's going on out there. We can talk more and create better safety plans for our community.

(Manager of Therapeutic Services, Gan̄hkwásra Family Assault Support Services)

How can province-wide best practices for addressing sexual violence exist when First Nations communities have no sexual assault funding?

[T]hey are still way back there when it comes to Indigenous populations on reserve. There is a lot for them to learn ... if they stop, and rather than trying to pull and trying to take, if they just watch and listen there is a lot they can learn. There are a lot of social issues that can be corrected. If they just put the resources in the right place rather than giving it to our neighbours – that's not the right place. That continues to foster the problem and make our situation worse. If they want to help our people, give the resources to the communities, don't give it to our neighbours.

(Executive Director, Gan̄hkwásra Family Assault Support Services, Six Nations of the Grand River Territory)

We're aware of some of the resources for the victim but it has to do with what's more available to them. I wouldn't mind seeing all the agencies get together and explain their service, what they can provide for us and how we can provide back to them. I wouldn't mind seeing that more implemented with all the services here [and] every officer trained on that. Whether they are Mental Health or Social Services – or that new agency Taking Care of Our Own, what's it called? [Ogwadeni:de]. I was excited to see it pop up on the sign there. I know they exist, but it's knowing that we could offer them more, knowing what everybody does. I've never dealt with them.

Looking at the Community Policing part of it, for us to be involved more with different agencies in our community and how we can help one another – and I see that more happening now, like the emergency planning committee. That type of stuff is pretty good. And not everybody's trained on sexual assaults, domestic violence. Having all officers trained with that and interviewing. With the Police College, you kind of touch on it but not as in-depth as to where we all should be.

(Six Nations Police Officer)

KEY FINDINGS

1. Response Practices that connect police work to SADVTCC, community counseling and support services (SAC, VS).

First Response Practices and connection to other agencies' work. We found that where a victim first discloses s/he is a victim of sexual violence matters. It shapes what information becomes available to whom, what happens next.

911

- The geographic location of the Six Nations reserve and the technology in place for 911 service result in having to navigate unfamiliar frameworks, procedures and practices. When a victim calls 911 s/he is connected to OPP dispatch in London. OPP trained dispatchers in London follow OPP procedures for dispatch. Gaps arise in language use, knowledge of Six Nations Territory and understanding of complex layers of traumas and violence experienced by Six Nations victims who want to report.
- A linked issue is that privately owned radio scanners pick up the police band and hear the address given by dispatchers. Some dispatchers will ask SNPS officers to call back on a private phone line.

Hospital and the SADVTCC

- If the victim goes first to the Brantford Hospital the SADVTCC follows standardized protocols that mean SANE practice is highly regulated. Protocols prioritize medical issues and evidence gathering, offer options for reporting to police, and refer to a "well connected" set of city of Brantford services, including shelter, VS, sexual assault centre.
- Similarly, following standard provincial procedures for responding to sexual violence reports requires the SNPS police road officer in the initial investigation to take the victim off reserve, first to hospital and then either to rely on the SADVTCC to refer to Brantford Victim Services or for the SNPS officer to make the referral. (See Investigation Practices)

Victim Services (VS)

- Six Nations victims may miss VS's '90-day window' for service as a result of the timelines and protocols for Victim Services in Brantford and if there is a delay in making the first call. Some services will be available, but many are missed, due to multiple gaps and delays for victims connecting to VS (being in trauma primarily, the difficulty for following up with Victim Services off reserve if the victim does make a first contact phone call, and lack of clarity about who is responsible for making the referral.)

In each Brantford service, different Needs and Risk Assessment tools are used. Different questions are asked. Different assumptions about the sexual assault victim's situation are made. There are different criteria, protocols, limits and timelines for services in place in each.

In each of these first response settings, our key findings had to do with:

- 1) the needs and risk assessment tools and practices used,
- 2) the protocols in place and practices for 'community' referral,
- 3) the lack of information and understanding among off reserve agencies of Six Nations (distinct from a generic 'Indigenous'), the complexities and layers of colonization and inter-generational traumas they experience and the current extreme level and types of risk they – both victims and police officers – may face when a victim reports sexual violence.

2. Investigative Practices: the Initial and Follow Up; the Procedural Context

Key findings related to investigation practices are based on what we learned from police officers and criminal justice system partners and community service agencies. Each told us about clear gaps and issues that emerge for SN Police and for Crown Attorneys and Victim Witness Assistance Program (VWAP).

Problems result from standardized:

- 1) interviewing practices,
- 2) evidence gathering procedures,
- 3) language and reporting categories, and
- 4) timelines and protocols for investigating domestic violence and sexual assault.

Each gap or issue arises in a sequence of work that police in Ontario are trained in. We heard about specific Ontario Police College (OPC) courses and other specialized trainings that SNPS bring in. Practices and procedures for the above involve standardized texts, protocols, checklists, and specialized computer software and files (e.g. the Domestic Violence (DV) protocol, ODARA, the DVRM, The Crown Brief, PowerCase, Major Case Management).

Conversations and interviews with SNPS officers also brought to light fundamental disjunctures between the standardized investigative procedures SNPS must follow and the consequences for victims and families and community, for SNPS and for SNPS officers. Six Nations community agency staff provided further understanding of these gaps and issues.

- 1) The high risk conditions for SNPS that result from providing full safety and protection to the community while meeting sexual assault investigation

standards without the expected specialized officers and specialized training. This comes from the well-recognized under-resourcing through the First Nation Policing Program (FNPP).

- 2) The extreme high risk conditions that SNPS are working in day-to-day are generally not comprehended and not accounted for in how they are resourced. (The extreme risk conditions of First Nations Reserve policing are reported in Federal government research (see references) and under-resourcing in the Auditor General's 2015 Report (see references)).
- 3) The complex issues that arise for victims, families, SNPS and Six Nations community when someone reports sexual violence include layers of 'triggering' the different unique trauma for victims, police, families and community agencies. Sexual violence affects everyone.
- 4) Further extreme risk arises for SNPS officers when a Six Nations member reports sexual violence or assault, of further violence not just from the offender and towards the victim, but also violence from family members towards other family members. This learned lateral violence is a residue of violence perpetrated in the government residential schools as well as multiple other forms of colonization. (Prior study Brantford Mohawk Institute survivors, Gan̄kwásra, Wesley-Esquimaux, Smolewski, 2004).

The key findings aspects from this:

1. Standardized protocols for risk assessment do not take into account the realities that SNPS, Six Nations victims, families, community and community agencies dealing with sexual violence live with. SNPS HRC and Gan̄kwásra Family Assault Support Services have forms and practices that combine SN culture-specific Risk and Needs Assessment with Provincial regulations.
2. Standard understandings of trauma and sexual violence trauma do not understand, recognize or take into account the multi layers and forms of violence Six Nations people experience. SNPS High Risk Protocol Risk Assessment and Gan̄kwásra Family Assault Support Services tools do this.
3. The current arrangements of services for Six Nations victims of sexual organization and funding of services do not recognize the expertise of Gan̄kwásra Family Assault Support Services, Six Nations Police Service and the net of community services on Six Nations (Public Health, Mental Health, etc.).
4. The quick funneling, through these categories and processes, of the victim and the accused into the criminal justice system – as it is currently organized and including sometimes the Indigenous-specific forms being promoted (IPC) – doesn't have built in ways to see and accommodate the realities on the ground nor the principles for community safety responsible justice for Six Nations.

KEY OUTCOMES

Real changes are being made in the Six Nations community as a result of this project and are being linked to SNPS, Gan̄kwásra and community initiatives around safety and sexual violence. The attached *Community-Minded Practices for Investigating Sexual Violence on Six Nations of the Grand River Territory (CMP)* is a short but significant outcome document.

- Its content comes directly out of what we heard from SNPS and community agencies in this project. Each 'practice' is based on conversations held during the short MCSCS funded study period.
- The 7-page *CMP* was developed in collaboration with and will be useful for SNPS officers and leaders and SN community agencies in providing immediate safety and wrap around services to Six Nations victims of sexual violence. It is expected that this document and those that flow from it will also assist SNPS in their role in investigating sexual violence.
- It addresses community and regional service delivery realities as well as specific steps in the provincially guided domestic violence and sexual assault investigation processes.
- Each clause is based on Haudenosaunee principles and values and each practice clause is written in clear language.
- A draft *CMP* was presented by Gan̄kwásra Family Assault Support Services and reviewed by SNPS with input from off-reserve participants at the project's Final Circle October 12, 2016.
- It is a 'best practices' that is current, do-able and has been endorsed by key Six Nations community leaders including key SNPS officers.
- It can be incorporated in SNPS Policies and Procedures.
- It links to the SNPS Community High Risk Committee *High Risk Protocol*.
- It will be reviewed annually.
- The *CMP* text includes immediate 'next step' processes in which the *CMP* will be used to engage Six Nations community agencies in developing at least three important documents:
 - 1) A *Six Nations Services* information card that SNPS will give to the victim at first contact, and that will be used in conjunction with the *SNPS Safety Assessment Checklist*.

- 2) A *Safety Assessment Checklist* that is already being developed. It will bring in trauma and risk factors unique to Six Nations and address the risks that SNPS officers experience and that victims experience when victims take the step to report. The checklist will include the following areas to be considered in determining the immediate safety of the victim:
 - does the victim have a safe place to go;
 - is the victim experiencing lateral violence;
 - is the victim addressing family dynamics that impede on their safety;
 - is the victim residing in an isolated area;
 - is the victim aware of other services they can access and any limits of these services.Officers will document they have considered these unique factors that may occur.

- 3) A *Six Nations Sexual Assault Prevention Protocol*. This protocol will have two rounds of consultation and development. The first is with Six Nations community agencies, including those on the High Risk Committee plus others. The second round will involve off-reserve community services and justice partners.

While very brief, this project has given community leaders a forum for opening conversations and a concrete stepping-stone to begin consideration, development and planning of the following community-minded initiatives. Several initiatives link to local, provincial and national initiatives related to responses and investigations of sexual violence affecting the Six Nations community:

- 1) The consultation involving SNPS and relevant service and justice agencies on a *Six Nations Sexual Assault Prevention Protocol*.
- 2) Minimal standards for sexual assault investigations will be included in SNPS policies and procedures.
- 3) Discuss and explore a process to review DV files – self-audit by SNPS.
- 4) Planning for a project to link investigations to and initiate investigations into reports of and cases of missing and murdered Six Nations women and girls. This is supported by multiple community events that involve the families of missing and murdered Six Nations women and girls and boys. Funding for SNPS special officers is a prerequisite.
- 5) A linked conversation to seek funding for special officers who will investigate Six Nations community members' involvement in the sex trade and connection to human trafficking in the region.

- 6) A range of trainings including Six Nations-specific Trauma Informed Practice for service professionals and criminal justice partners, including on forms of Lateral Violence.
- 7) Cross-sectoral 'reciprocal' trainings among service agencies and justice sector (several trainings are already scheduled).
- 8) Discussion led by Gan̄kwásra and SNPS on partnership development and funding-seeking processes for a co-located Six Nations Sexual Assault Centre, Six Nations Victim Services and Victim Witness Workers.

Other Outcomes of this project:

- Gan̄kwásra fulfilled a request from MAG to present 'Working with Indigenous Victims' to Crown Trainings Hamilton and Niagara.
- SNPS saw a spike in sexual assault reports to SNPS that coincided with The Sexual Assault Road Show community education events at Gan̄kwásra that had regional media coverage.

GOING FORWARD

Truth and Reconciliation Commission Call to Action 40. Justice:
We call upon all levels of government, in collaboration with Aboriginal people, to create adequately funded and accessible Aboriginal-specific victim programs and services with appropriate evaluation mechanisms.

Truth and Reconciliation Commission Call to Action 42. Justice
We call upon the federal, provincial and territorial governments to commit to the recognition and implementation of Aboriginal Justice systems in a manner consistent with the Treaty and Aboriginal rights of Aboriginal peoples, the Constitution Act, 1982, and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, endorsed by Canada in November 2012.

Our report is another call to action.

SNPS and the Six Nations of the Grand River Territory

Several actions are being taken by SNPS and Gan̄kwásra community leaders as a direct result of undertaking this project. Some are the key outcomes described in this report. These outcomes link to ongoing sexual assault community education events and trainings that are already going on.

Ways and mechanisms and tools for building partnerships and making things happen with regard to safety and sexual violence prevention are being sought and discussed. This includes reaching out to those who need to be involved in the bold initiatives described in the short document, *Community-Minded Practices for Sexual Violence, Six Nations of the Grand River Territory*.

Six Nations community leaders in the SNPS and Ganōkwásra Family Assault Support Services are very clear about what is needed to support their initiatives. Leaders in the SNPS have taken significant steps in initiating and collaborating with community agencies to do a better job at responding to victims and investigating sexual violence, and in this project, creating a tool to assist them in their role of responding to sexual violence on reserve. The short *Community-Minded Practices for Sexual Violence, Six Nations of the Grand River Territory (CMP)* document represents a significant step and sets in place multiple actions.

Respectful Practices, Calls to Action

This is a special and unique situation that deserves special attention and action. Ontario has the opportunity to provide this attention and action now.

We call on the Province and its Ministers, under their Reconciliation Mandates, Modernizing Public Safety Mandates, and Fair and Accessible Justice System Mandates to:

- 1) Support SNPS and the processes they've identified in the *CMP*, which all point to real changes being made to support those mandates;
- 2) Work face to face with SNPS and Ganōkwásra community leaders to prioritize among the many Action Items listed in the next few pages, and further identify what they want and need going forward;
- 3) Develop forums and mechanisms for working with Six Nations leaders to investigate existing funding policies and formulas and learn from Six Nations agencies about how those policies 'hit the ground' for them and develop mechanisms for disentangling Six Nations dollars from off-reserve agencies, and increasing resources to Six Nations services.
- 4) Support Six Nations and the Brantford community service agencies and criminal justice partners to engage with the Six Nations through respectful practices to identify specific collaborations and, work through collaboration protocols.

We call on the Province, MCSCS and MAG Ministers to listen to and recognize the realities that SNPS and SN agencies are dealing with and that together can

be addressed. Face to face conversations work best. Again, establish a process with SNPS, Gan̄qkwásra and High Risk leaders to prioritize Action Items.

Topics and recommended Action Items:

Action Items: SNPS Resources for Safety And Protection Services Delivery

Action Item: Support funding for SNPS to hire a Sexual Assault Investigator and/or establish a Sexual Assault Unit in consultation with SNPS with regard to their priorities. Support special officers through stable long term funding – not one-year contracts.

Action Item: Support FNP Policy renewal dialogue through face-to-face regional conversations and visits to First Nations Territories. Support long term SNPS funding through legislation, not through a program.

Action Item: Recognize and take into account in funding SNPS policing, based on actual needs and the complexity of violence and risk in FN communities.

Action Item: Increase SNPS budget for full time dedicated special officer(s) and training to support a DV 'self-audit', to update the DV procedure and implement SNPS training proposed in the *Community Minded Practices (CMP)*.

Action Item: Support a process to develop procedures for SNPS, including trauma-informed initial investigation observations in DV and SA occurrences, and referral to community agencies embedded in *CMP*.

Action Item: Support a process involving SNPS, Gan̄qkwásra and High Risk agency leaders to explore potential for a one-stop service delivery 'hub' for Six Nations Sexual Assault Centre, Victim Services, and space for Crown Attorney and VWAP use that does not interfere with funding by decreasing financial support to agencies that are already under resourced. (#15, Report)

Action Item: Support and work with the SNPS, Gan̄qkwásra, High Risk Committee developing and implementing training and resources for identifying and coordinating investigations into human trafficking activities.

Action Item: Specifically support a Sexual Assault Special Investigator or Unit within the Six Nations Police Service to improve investigations and specifically support their training relevant to human trafficking.

Action Item: Work with the SNPS on updating resources and training, electronic and communications technologies including technology needs (such as video links to bail court, electronic disclosure program, blocking radio scanners and recording DV and SA information).

Action Item: Support the development and use by SNPS of a community-minded Guideline for a Safety Needs and Risk Assessment tool at the initial contact with a victim of violence, sexual violence, and/or sexual assault. (#6, Report)

The guideline will be developed in collaboration with Six Nations community agencies and others as per the Six Nations Police Service High Risk Committee protocols. The guideline would allow the road officer who has first contact with the victim, and who does the 'initial' information and evidence gathering, to:

- Observe the victim for recognizable signs of trauma and injury, including those from alcohol or date rape drugs, and check in with the victim on what is going on with her/him, with a view to offering connection to appropriate community services
- Offer for the victim to use her/his phone to call the service(s) she might decide to contact
- Offer to take the victim to a community service or in particular the on reserve shelter for respite or temporary safe space
- Offer the victim a small information card that provides contacts and quick access to healing services information
- With victim's permission, the officer can reach out to family or safe persons on the victim's behalf

Action Items: Regulations, Protocols and Procedural texts

Action Item: Review ODARA and DVRM forms, protocols and procedures, and specifically revise language (deleting terms such as 'uncooperative'). Review these forms and related electronic formats in order to identify where trauma-informed language can be brought in and specifically with regard to Indigenous sexual and lateral violence. (#2, Report)

Action Item: See Action Item regarding a Guideline for Safety and Risk Assessment tool (above). Support SNPS in their Safety Assessment Checklist development and in its use by SNPS (see *CMP*). (#6, Report)

Action Items Sexual Assault Investigations and Interviewing Training

Action Item: Review Ontario Police College (OPC) training course on Interviewing Techniques, and enhance existing courses and/or incorporate into OPC curriculum stand-alone courses on victim-supportive investigative interviewing that is trauma-informed (e.g. courses offered in B.C.). (#1, Report)

Action Item: Provide sufficient funding to SNPS that will support their needs for officers and training in sexual assault investigations and interviewing at OPC. (#3 Report)

Action Item: Review OPC training for OPP 911 dispatchers, particularly near First Nations territories, with a view to providing training in sexual assault trauma and relevant sensitive questioning and dispatch procedures.

Action Item: Develop a mechanism at OPC that will give SNPS officers course credit for Gan̄kwásra's Trainings for Professionals on lateral violence, trauma behaviors, working with sexual violence victims in the interviewing, investigation, and court process. Trainings include:

- Six Nations –specific Trauma Informed Practices from an Indigenous Worldview which includes responses of victims who are experiencing sexual assault and how historical trauma plays a role within these responses;
- Lateral Violence Training explores how an oppressed group (Indigenous people) turns on each other out of anger, powerlessness, and frustrations as a result of the acts of oppression experienced (residential schools are just one example);
- Cultural Sensitivity Training includes the impact of multi-generational traumas experienced by Indigenous peoples and their resiliency in order to better understand the effect of these traumas and how one may work more effectively with Indigenous people;
- Safety Assessment Checklist Training to help services better understand the dynamics a victim of sexual assault may be experiencing;
- 15-Hour Family Violence Prevention Training which identifies forms of family violence, how to recognize and respond in a sensitive manner, and identifies how Gan̄kwásra Family Assault Support Services can assist community members being impacted by family violence and lastly;
- 30-Hour Sexual Violence Education to assist service providers with tools to assist victims of sexual assault from time of disclosure to supporting them with appropriate supports to heal the impacts of sexual assault.

Action Item: Explore process to authorize and provide funding for Gan̄kwásra professional training to SNPS, community agencies, OPC/OPP, Crowns, and regional services on Indigenous, and where appropriate, Six Nations specific Trauma Informed Practice. Fund Gan̄kwásra to further their sharing of these trainings to other First Nations communities in Ontario.

Action Items SNPS-Linked Victim Services and Community Sexual Assault Services

Action Item: Establish and fund with secure long term funding a Six Nations Victim Services linked to SNPS. (#12, Report)

Action Item: Put in place – until the idea of a one-stop justice service delivery hub can be explored – a safe place where Crown Attorneys can also have their meetings with victims on Six Nations. Ganqkwásra' has been approached. (#7)

Action Item: Establish and fund a Victim Witness Assistance Service Worker (Sexual Assault /Court Worker) on Six Nations at Ganqkwásra'. Worker will accompany victims at Crown interviews. Establish a protocol for Ganqkwásra' to work in partnership with Victim Witness Assistance Protection. Put in place protocols with MAG for privacy and security. (#8, Report)

Action Item: In conjunction with the above, the SN Victim Witness Service Worker will provide the Crowns with training and feedback on interviewing sexual assault victims on Six Nations. (#9, Report)

Action Item: Establish and fund sexual assault Counselling Services that justice partners, VWAP and Crowns can refer to on Six Nations. Crowns identified this as “a huge need” for them also – a focused organization that deals with victims and complainants of sexual violence on reserve. (#10, Report)

Action Item: Establish and fund a Sexual Assault Centre on Six Nations. (#13)

Action Item: Develop umbrella recognition legislation for holistic traditional healing services as offered by Ganqkwásra' Family Assault Support Services. (#16, Report)

Action Items: Disentanglement

Action Item: As part of the Modernizing Public Safety mandate and Strategy for a Safer Ontario, hold face-to-face consultation with the Six Nations leaders, SNPS and family violence agency leaders.

Action Item: Include in the Strategy a discussion and review of existing funding formulas and mechanisms to disentangle dollars so that funds plus the 5% supplement for rural geography goes to Six Nations victim services and agencies.

Action Item: Without a regulation to gather Indigenous-identifying information, FN agencies cannot gather relevant and supporting statistics to support their funding applications. Require collecting identifying information and sharing of statistics where victims have self-identified Indigenous. For funding purposes.

Action Item: Require VS, VWAP and BSAC to disaggregate their data and report numbers of Six Nations clients, and require BRAVE Committee to share data with Six Nations partner agencies. (#17, Report)

Action Item: Set up, in conjunction with Six Nations Council, SNPS and community agency leaders, a Regional Table with the purpose of disentangling service arrangements with a view to hand over responsibilities and funding and build services and infrastructure on Six Nations where feasible and practicable. (#18, Report)

Action Item: Develop umbrella recognition legislation for Victim Services on reserve to coordinate delivery of holistic services for victims of violence, including access to on Territory shelters and support for children and families in healing as well as access to province-wide VS support funds. (#16, Report)

Action Items: Justice Partners, Bails and Prosecution

Action Item: Develop umbrella recognition legislation for Victim Services on reserve to coordinate delivery of holistic services for victims of violence, including access to on Territory shelters and support for children and families in healing as well as access to province-wide VS support funds.

Action Item: Explore and discuss a process for building on the current excellent working relationship of SNPS and Ganohkwásra with Brantford Crown Attorney to develop mechanisms for *recognizing SNPS officers' trauma informed initial victim information as admissible in Crown Briefs for sexual assault cases.*

Action Item: Support a process to develop 'reciprocal' trainings by Brantford Crown Attorneys, SNPS and Ganohkwásra on interviewing, criminal justice system procedures and practices, and on Six Nations –specific trainings related to sexual assault described above.

Action Item: Establish a process for reviewing bail and remand practices with a view to creating effective communication – prior to and immediately after release or bail – with First Nations Police and High Risk Committee agencies in order to create more effective community safety protections, reduce risks associated with sexual assault incidents and reporting, and prevent further violence.

Action Item: Technology is being put in place to streamline the bail and court processes. This helps the offender. Put in place technology, resources and clear procedures to immediately inform the victim, SNPS officer, DV Coordinator, and SNPS High Risk Committee of all forms of releases and bail conditions.