

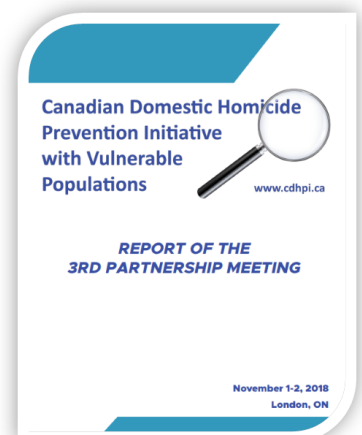
CDHPIVP Project Update

Inside this issue

Ethical Research Principles	2
Collaborator Profile	3
Literature Review	4
Homicide database	4
Homicide briefs	5
Research Assistant profile	5
Phase 3 update	5
Myrna Dawson in Australia	6
Conducting research with Indigenous people	6-7

Partnership meeting—November 1-2, 2018

A Partnership meeting for all collaborators, partners, co-investigators, research assistants and students was held November 1-2, 2018 at the Doubletree Hilton Hotel in London. More than 70 people attended the meeting. Invited guests included representatives from Coroners' offices, government, and domestic violence death review committees from many of Canada's provinces and territories. The meeting featured presentations from many students, co-investigators and collaborators focusing on domestic violence risk assessment, management and safety planning. A summary of the meeting is available in the document "Report of the 3rd partnership meeting" which was circulated by email in March 2019 and posted on Basecamp.





Julie Poon— National Research Coordinator

Julie recently completed her PhD in Sociology at the University of Guelph. Her research focuses on violence against women and intimate partner violence with an interest in examining female perpetrators. Julie's dissertation research examined how women court mandated to attend Ontario's Partner Assault Response intervention program perceived their use of force in the situation for which they were charged and whether such programs addressed their lived experiences of violence. Julie was lead author on a study published in the journal *Violence Against Women* examining factors affecting the likelihood of sole and dual charging of women in cases of intimate partner violence. Julie has served as a research assistant for the Canadian Observatory on the Justice System Response to Intimate Partner Violence, and the Centre for the Study of Social and Legal Responses to Violence at University of Guelph.

Ethical Research Principles

All CDHPVP students and research assistants are required to complete two courses on research ethics.

The Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical conduct for Research involving humans Course on Research ethics (TCPS 2: CORE). This course is available free online at <https://tcps2core.ca/welcome>

The Fundamentals of OCAP program offered by the First Nations Governance Information Centre. OCAP stands for Ownership, Control

Access, Possession. These OCAP® principles are a set of standards that establish how First Nations data should be collected, protected, used, or shared. They are the standard for how to conduct research with First Nations. The course is available through Algonquin College at <https://fnigc.ca/training/fundamentals-ocap.html>

The CDHPVP strives to use these principles as we conduct research with our First Nations, Inuit and Metis partners on this project.

Remember there are hundreds of Indigenous linguistic groups in Canada. The term Indigenous, or Aboriginal (less popular these days) lumps peoples together the way European lumps together Irish people and Turkish people. Try to use the specific tribal affiliation whenever possible, and the terms selected by the individual. (Cathy Richardson)

CALL FOR PAPERS

Muriel McQueen Fergusson Centre for Family Violence Research Conference
October 9-10, 2019, Wu Conference Centre, [UNB Fredericton](https://www.unb.ca)

"Ending Gender Based Violence: Harnessing Research and Action for Social Change"

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Myrna Dawson, Canada Research Chair in Public Policy in Criminal Justice and Director of the Centre for the Study of Social and Legal Responses to Violence at the University of Guelph.

Proposals for academic papers and posters or presentations from service providers and policy makers in all areas of gender-based violence should be e-mailed in English or French to fvrcc@unb.ca BY APRIL 29, 2019.

Topics could include:

- Domestic/intimate partner/sexual violence
- The impacts of exposure to domestic violence on children
- Risk assessment
- Cyberviolence
- Missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls
- Workplace violence, etc.



Partnership Members Update

Simon Lapierre, of the University of Ottawa has joined as a collaborator. <http://cdhpi.ca/simon-lapierre>

Carolyn Goard has retired from the Alberta Council of Women's Shelters. **Ian Wheeliker** is the new CDHPVP representative.

Joanne Baker has left her role as Executive Director of the British Columbia Society of Shelters and Transition Houses. **Amy FitzGerald** is the new Executive Director and represents the agency to our partnership.

Anita Olsen Harper is the new representative from the National Aboriginal Circle Against Family Violence replacing **Carole Brazeau**.

Marcie Campbell resigned as National Research Coordinator and accepted a position at York University.

Julie Poon assumed the role of National Research Coordinator in November 2018.

Collaborator Profile—Diane Redsky

Diane is a proud mother of three children and a Kookum (grandmother). She is a band member of Shoal Lake First Nation #40 and has long worked to address the myriad of issues facing Winnipeg's Indigenous community in all areas of health, justice, education and social services. She has served in both a professional and volunteer capacity with local, national and international agencies and has become a strong advocate for Indigenous children's and women's issues. Through her leadership in several Indigenous led community-based organizations, she has helped to create numerous innovative programs that have helped build healthy communities through promoting the growth and development of the urban Indigenous community particularly the safety, protection and well-being of women and girls.

From 2011 until 2015, Diane was Project Director for the National Task Force on Human Trafficking of Women and Girls in Canada. This role led her to work with experts in Canada and abroad to address the sexual exploitation/trafficking of Canadian women and girls. ***Together, we can give a voice to survivors, end this extreme form of violence against women and girls and stop this violation of human rights.*** This meaningful work resulted in National Task Force Report with 34 recommendations to end sex trafficking in Canada.

Diane is currently the Executive Director of the Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata (Ma Mawi) Centre in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. Ma Mawi translated from Ojibway means, 'we all work together to help one another' is a community-based, community-led, Indigenous-driven family resource centre that is a leader in community-based care for children, youth and families in Winnipeg.

Diane is the recipient of several prestigious awards and distinctions including YMCA-YWCA Women of Distinction Award; Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal for her work on addressing violence against Indigenous women in Canada; Order of Manitoba, Joy Smith Foundation Leadership award, Governor General's Awards in Commemoration of the Persons Case, Senate of Canada Medal and Rotary Paul Harris Award.



Literature Review

Our comprehensive literature review report is available on the CDHPI website at <http://cdhpi.ca/literature-review-report>. This report offers a review of literature from 2000 to 2015 on risk assessment, risk management and safety planning focusing on Indigenous; rural, remote and northern; immigrant and refugee populations; and children exposed to domestic violence. This report is a living document and we plan to update it in the near future. Please send any recent articles you believe are relevant and should be included to: cdhpi@uoguelph.ca.



Follow us on twitter @cdhpi



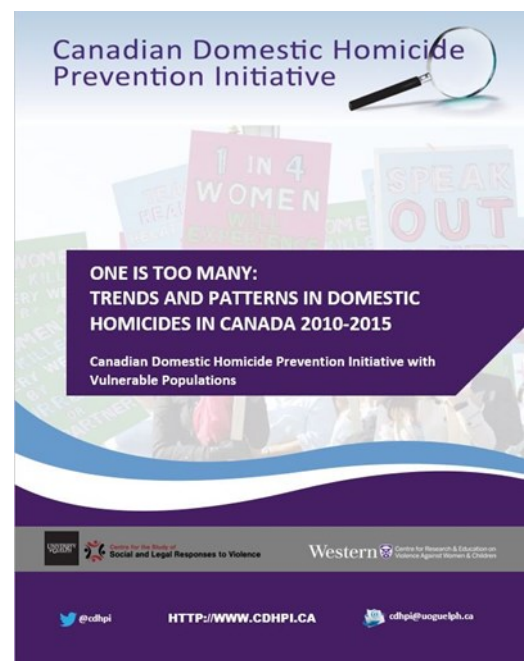
Homicide Database

The CDHPiVP team has been collecting data from court and media files on domestic homicides in Canada between 2010 and 2015. Using this data, we released the report **“One is too many: Trends and patterns in domestic homicides in Canada 2010-2015”** which received a lot of media attention including articles in [Globe and Mail](#), [National Post](#), [Toronto Star](#) and [La Presse](#).

The CDHPiVP continues to develop research agreements with coroners and medical examiners in each province with the goal of expanding our homicide database by collecting data from these sources.

Currently, agreements are in place and data is being coded in Nunavut, Northwest Territories, Saskatchewan, Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick.

The report is available online at <http://cdhpi.ca/sites/cdhpi.ca/files/CDHPI-REPORTRV.pdf>



Homicide Briefs

Domestic violence risk assessment, risk management and safety planning with Indigenous populations. This brief discusses the historical injustices of Indigenous peoples such as colonization, residential schools, and the ‘sixties scoop’ as well as the ongoing injustices and discrimination that Indigenous peoples currently face that puts Indigenous women at greater risk of experiencing domestic violence or homicide. Contributors include: Olivia Peters, Jane Ursel, Renee Hoffart, Josie Nepinak, and Claudette Dumont-Smith. <http://cdhpi.ca/domestic-violence-risk-assessment-risk-management-and-safety-planning-indigenous-populations>

Creating safety plans with vulnerable populations to reduce the risk of repeated violence and domestic homicide. This brief provides an overview of safety planning strategies and discusses the importance of creating a safety plan to protect women and those close to them. Safety planning with vulnerable populations is reviewed in detail including common challenges, promising practices, and emerging issues and safety planning tools and resources are provided. Contributors include: Danielle Bader, Deborah Doherty, Claudette Dumont-Smith, Sepali Guruge, Josie Nepinak, Tracy Porteous, Marcie Campbell, Anna-Lee Straatman and Myrna Dawson. <http://cdhpi.ca/creating-safety-plans-vulnerable-populations-reduce-risk-repeated-violence-and-domestic-homicide>

Research Assistant Profile—Misha Dhillon



Misha Dhillon, MA, is the Research & Projects Coordinator at the Ending Violence Association of BC (EVA BC). She earned a Master of Arts in Sociology from the University of British Columbia, where her research explored sexuality and sexual violence in the lives of young South Asian women in Canada. In her role at EVA BC, she contributes her expertise to numerous projects and initiatives aimed at preventing and improving responses to gender-based violence, including community-based research

and the development of training and resources for the anti-violence, health, justice, education, corporate, and settlement sectors. Misha enjoys strong coffee, feminist fiction, and picnics by the ocean. She lives in Vancouver with her partner and their many air plants.

Phase 3— Interviews with survivors of intimate partner violence and family members of domestic homicide

Ethics approval to conduct interviews with friends and family members of domestic homicide victims and survivors of high-risk domestic violence has been received from University of Guelph and submitted to Western University. Once we receive this approval, our co-investigators will be submitting ethics applications at their universities. We are also submitting applications to the territories for research licenses.

We acknowledge the contributions of our Survivors Advisory Panel: who have reviewed the documents and protocol.

We hope to launch Phase 3 of the project in May or June 2019. We will be requesting your support in promoting the project and identifying potential participants. Please contact Peter pjaffe@uwo.ca or Myrna mdawson@uoguelph.ca if you have any questions.

Myrna Dawson in Australia

Myrna Dawson presented at ANROWS's "Assessing risk and promoting safety forum" in Darwin, Australia, March 28, 2019. In light of the release of the [Australian Domestic Violence Death Review Network's recent report](#), Professor Dawson discussed death review mechanisms and their role in enhancing domestic violence risk assessment and management practices.



Suggestions for researchers working with Indigenous peoples

The following points have been assembled for us by Cathy Richardson/Kinewesquao, University of Montreal, a co-investigator on the CDHPVP project. For the full document, please login to Basecamp.

Colonization and missionization were not benevolent. When analyzing perpetrator behaviour, we know that perpetrators are aware that their victims/targets will resist violence, so they seek to overpower the resistance in advance. This is what residential school was about... suppressing the resistance of Indigenous people so they would not be in a good position to protect their land (from land theft and mining). It was not about educating children or helping them. It was also about creating a servant class for the white upper middle class population.

Understand that most perpetrators of violence towards Indigenous people are not sentenced, punished or rehabilitated (e.g. held accountable). In Canada, abusing priests for example, face a kind of impunity, similar to that of white male perpetrators who harm Indigenous women. Holly Johnson's statistics on attrition show that less than 1% of perpetrators, when reported by women,

receive sentencing. White people are less likely to receive sentencing than Indigenous people, who are often blamed for crimes they did not commit.

When the death of an Indigenous woman is labelled as suicide, it often means that the police choose not to investigate, because they see the woman as expendable. Jessica Quijano of the Iskwe project shared these types of cases with me recently, regarding recent "suicides" in Montreal. It was clear that the nature of the death could not be enacted solely by the victim.

Indigenous people are your peers, your friends, your neighbours... we are all human beings with problems, so it is important not to "Other" us. We are also part of this research project. A helpful worldview includes the idea that "Just because people have problems doesn't mean there is something wrong with them". (The problems lie in the interaction between people and power abuses). As women researchers, we are not separate or different from the population who are being harmed, perhaps just lucky or fortunate to have more social supports.

In terms of the backlash by white conservatives against diversity and diversity-hirings, we find an ideology that says "I do not feel privileged, I am suffering too".... We say "Just because you are not Indigenous doesn't mean you don't experience oppression and exclusion, just not the kind of oppression that comes from colonization.

Western psychology, psychiatry and the medical model are just perspectives on the world, they are not the final truth. There are other approaches including Indigenous worldviews, women's experience, narrative approaches, descriptions rather than labelling.

Understand the debates in the field. Feminists view violence against women as indicative of a lack of gender equality in society. The Aboriginal Women of Quebec see it as a "family issue." (I believe they take this approach because they want to ensure that male perpetrators receive culturally-informed help.)

Don't over-focus on the idea of intergenerational transmission. Each person is unique and whether or not they will use violence or receive a diagnosis of PTSD depends on the quality of the social responses they received when they disclosed violence... not on the initial act of violence itself.

Be careful to place and to understand all action and interaction in context. All behaviour becomes understandable in context... nothing is really dysfunctional, except perhaps the violence of people with power.

Be careful how you use the word trauma. Language-choice is a political decision. Trauma-talk comes from psychology and psychiatry and tends to replace discourses about violence. If we hide violence, then we tend to see people as mentally ill.

Be careful in how you talk about Indigenous women (or women in general as perpetrators). Women who use violence and hurt their male partners are generally the

women who are completely isolated and have no one to "watch their back!". Women's prisons are filled with (Indigenous) women who were protecting themselves from violence and in the process their aggressor died. Therefore, it is really important to not mutualize violence and articulate the difference between violence and self-defence. Many Indigenous women are labelled as aggressors when they defend themselves.

Don't use the term resilience unless you can define it. Who is resilient and who isn't. Learn to tell the difference between the popular notion of resilience and resistance (when people deliberately make a choice to not participate in something because they feel oppressed). If someone leaves an abusive partner and lives on the street, are they resilient? If they use drugs to self-medicate their pain, are they resilient. No one seems to be able to tell if someone is not resilient. This term transforms suffering from structural violence into an individual quality... like taking a beating and keepin' on ticking. Is resilience a goal.. if it means increasing the capacity of a person to endure more violence? This term is a compliment, but not precise enough to use in research, when we can't define the term. Resilience also different meanings in different cultures. Dr. Clare Brant might say that resilience in northern Quebec means not criticizing people out loud or not telling others what to do (which medical professionals do all the time). It is seen as resilient to preserve dignity and social harmony.

Be careful about buying into western medical model discourses about obesity. There is a myth that obesity is an individual problem, based on poor food choices. Take a look at epigenetics, at the body positivity movement discourse and never assume that large Indigenous women should lose weight. It is however, important to have an analysis of poverty in the context of western capitalism.



Upcoming conference

Coercive Control: Improving responses to domestic violence. April 17-18, 2019, University of Ottawa Registration closes April 10, 2019 [http://
www.femanvi.org/en/2019-conferences/ccv2019en/](http://www.femanvi.org/en/2019-conferences/ccv2019en/)



www.femanvi.org



The Canadian Domestic Homicide Prevention Initiative with Vulnerable Populations is a 5 year Partnership grant (2015-2020). This research is supported by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

Co-Directors: Myrna Dawson, University of Guelph mdawson@uoguelph.ca
Peter Jaffe, Western University pjaffe@uwo.ca

Co-Investigators : Diane Crocker, Saint Mary's University
Myriam Dubé, Université du Québec à Montréal
Jordan Fairbairn, King's University College, Western University
Sepali Guruge, Ryerson University
Catherine Holtmann, University of New Brunswick
Julie Kaye, University of Saskatchewan
Nicole Letourneau, University of Calgary
Pertice Moffitt, North Slave Research Centre/Aurora Research Institute
Kendra Nixon, University of Manitoba
Cathy Richardson/Kinewesquao, Université de Montréal
Kate Rossiter, Simon Fraser University, and EVABC
Katreena L. Scott, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education
Jane Ursel, University of Manitoba

Project Manager : Anna-Lee Straatman
National Research Coordinator: Julie Poon



Social Sciences and Humanities
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en
sciences humaines du Canada

Canada