

We Are Not Looking Away Series - Session 1

Violence in the Lives of Children,
Youth, and Families - What We Heard

December 10, 2025

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Introduction

This document reflects learnings from the first session in RCY's *We Are Not Looking Away* series, grounded in the Office of the Representative for Children and Youth's mandate to make visible the realities of children, youth, and families whose lives are shaped by violence, systemic failure, and missed opportunities for care.

The series is rooted in [*Don't Look Away: How One Boy's Story Has the Power to Shift a System of Care for Children and Youth*](#), an investigation and systemic review that examined the torture and death of 11-year-old "Colby". The investigation identified more than 40 missed opportunities to provide care and support to the child and his family across child welfare, health, education, justice and community systems, and concluded that "Colby's death was entirely preventable, and without future action, future deaths are entirely predictable."

In addition to the investigation, the RCY examined many other children's and families' stories and undertook a review of the broader child-serving system. From this, *Don't Look Away* called for a significant shift away from the siloed, reactive, risk- and liability-focused system we have today, towards the North Star of child well-being. Five collective responsibilities were identified, including addressing and ending violence that is a recurring theme in the lives of far too many children and youth

Don't Look Away made clear that violence in the lives of young people does not occur in isolation. It is shaped by fragmentation, deferral of responsibility and the absence of coordinated, accountable systems of care. The report called for collective action across and among governments, communities and organizations.

The Violence in the Lives of Children, Youth, and Families Convening was the first in the *We Are Not Looking Away* series, which is intentionally designed to build on the findings of *Don't Look Away*. The series is not about observation alone. It is about listening to one another as an act of accountability, ensuring that what we hear leads to action in whatever spheres of influence we have. In bringing together over 360 direct service workers, Indigenous leaders, advocates, educators, researchers, government representatives, community partners and people with lived experience across diverse systems, we gained insights into how violence continues to shape

children's lives, how systems are responding, and what we can do differently and together.

This document summarizes the discussions and includes a list of the many resources that were generously shared among the group. Recordings of Dr. Jennifer Charlesworth, Minister Wickens, Parliamentary Secretary Blatherwick, and the Fireside chat panellists, Mary Teegee-Gray, Ninu Kang, and Brooke McLardy, can be found [here](#).

Opening Reflections from Elder Audrey Lundquist

Elder Audrey Lundquist is Gitxsan, from the Fireweed Clan, and a Hereditary Chief in Simoget Yals' Wilp. She brings decades of experience spanning Indigenous governance, law, community advocacy and provincial child welfare systems, including senior roles within the Ministry of Children and Family Development. Her leadership is grounded in Indigenous law, relational accountability and a lifelong commitment to the well-being of children, youth and families.

Grounding the gathering on International Human Rights Day and during the global 16 Days of Activism, Audrey situated the conversation within a shared responsibility for child and youth well-being. Drawing on her lived experience as a Gitxsan woman, she spoke to colonization as a systemic, ideological and legal force shaping ongoing experiences of violence, exclusion and harm, while emphasizing Indigenous resilience and the enduring presence of Indigenous laws, teachings and relational worldviews.

She acknowledged deep mistrust of government systems, while reminding participants that change is seeded through consciousness, intention and action, and that justice can be enacted at community, organizational and personal levels.

Her message was one of hope grounded in accountability: Indigenous communities already hold the knowledge needed to address violence, but solutions must be holistic, interconnected and grounded from the bottom up. Responsibility, she reminded participants, belongs to everyone.

Context and System-Level Reflections from Government

Jodie Wickens

Jodie Wickens was elected MLA for Coquitlam-Burke Mountain in 2016 and again in 2024. She is the Minister for Children and Family Development.

Jodie previously served as the Minister of State for Child Care and Children and Youth with Support Needs.

Before being elected to the Legislative Assembly for a second time, Jodie held various executive leadership roles for non-profit organizations delivering health and social services to children and families. Most recently, she worked as the Director of Programs and services at SHARE Family & Community Services Society.

Jennifer Blatherwick

Jennifer Blatherwick was elected MLA for Coquitlam-Maillardville in 2024. Jennifer is the Parliamentary Secretary for Gender Equity.

Before being elected to the Legislative Assembly, Jennifer was a two-term school board trustee for School District 43 and was the past executive director for the Access Youth Outreach Services Society.

Minister Jodie Wickens and Parliamentary Secretary Jennifer Blatherwick framed the convening as a collective refusal to look away from violence in the lives of children, youth and families. Both emphasized that witnessing violence is itself a form of harm and that no single system can respond alone.

They highlighted work underway toward prevention, earlier support and shared accountability, including a cross-government Child and Youth Well-Being Action Plan and outcomes framework, recommended by RCY in *Don't Look Away*. Actions noted included expanded transition housing, Indigenous-led and community-based supports, legislative reviews and perpetrator-focused interventions.

Their remarks emphasized addressing root causes such as poverty, housing insecurity, coercive control and systemic inequities alongside immediate safety needs, and affirmed a commitment to continued engagement and follow-through. See full recording [here](#).

Fireside Chat: Frontline Perspectives on Violence and System Gaps

Moderated by Dr. Jennifer Charlesworth, Representative for Children and Youth

Mary Teegee-Gray

Mary Teegee-Gray is Gitk'san and Carrier from Takla Lake First Nation and a member of the Luxgaboo (Wolf) Clan. She holds the hereditary name *Maaxswxw Gibuu* (White Wolf) and has been raised in her Nation's laws, teachings, and traditions. Mary is the Chief Administrative Officer at Carrier Sekani Family Services, overseeing delegated child welfare, prevention, Highway of Tears, and violence-prevention initiatives. A former Chief Negotiator and Deputy Chief, she is a national and international presenter who advocates for healing-centred, culturally grounded systems as essential to First Nations' revitalization.

Ninu Kang

Ninu Kang brings more than 30 years of experience in newcomer settlement, gender-based violence, and justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion to her leadership role as Executive Director of EVA BC. With a background in counselling psychology and extensive frontline and senior leadership experience, she is known for bridging clinical insight with systems-level change. Ninu is deeply inspired by young people and is committed to mentorship, learning alongside youth as drivers of social transformation.

Brooke McLardy

Brooke McLardy is the Executive Director of the BC Network of Child and Youth Advocacy Centres. Her work focuses on strengthening coordinated, multi-disciplinary responses to trauma and violence affecting children and youth across British Columbia. Brooke brings a strong commitment to decolonizing practice and improved access to services for Indigenous communities, contributing to system-wide learning and collaboration through the BC CYAC Network.

Framing the Conversation

Dr. Jennifer Charlesworth opened the fireside chat by situating it as the heart of the convening, a space to hear directly from those working alongside children, youth, families, and communities every day. She emphasized that the purpose was not to restate what is already known about violence, but to examine current risks, system responses, and what continues to block meaningful change. Listening, she noted, is an act of collective responsibility and a necessary precursor to action.

She then posed three guiding questions to the panel: where risks are most acute, what changes are beginning to show promise, and what immediate actions could make the greatest difference for children and youth. She introduced panellists Mary Teegee, Brooke McLardy, and Ninu Kang, acknowledging their long-standing leadership across Indigenous governance, gender-based violence, child advocacy, and systems coordination. The Fireside chat video can be viewed [here](#).

Question 1

Where do you see the greatest risks right now, and how are systems responding to children, youth, and families experiencing violence?

Mary Teegee

Mary grounded her response in northern B.C., drawing on her work with the [Sk'ai Zeh Yah](#) Youth Centre in Prince George, a low-barrier, youth-designed space shaped by young people with lived experience of homelessness, care involvement, and street involvement. She shared that more than 70% of youth accessing the centre have been in care, that youth are arriving increasingly younger, including children as young as 13 and 14, and that there has been a marked increase in young women seeking support.

Mary described a young woman who had been in care, experienced sexual exploitation and substance use, and was turned away from shelter during extreme cold resulting in severe frostbite and permanent injury. She emphasized this was not an isolated incident, but reflective of rigid service thresholds, fragmented responses, and failures of basic care.

She spoke to escalating violence linked to the toxic drug supply, compounded by limited services in rural and remote communities. In her home community, 21 people died from opioid poisoning in under a year, many of them young men under 30, many with histories of sexual abuse and later gang involvement.

Mary underscored that violence, substance use, incarceration, and early death are deeply interconnected, often rooted in early sexual violence and compounded by systemic inequities. Disclosure remains rare due to stigma, fear, and mistrust, particularly in small and northern communities.

Ninu Kang

Ninu expanded the lens to a provincial scale, grounding her remarks in data from the [Stanton Review](#). She highlighted that only 5% of sexual assault survivors report to police, and only 20% of people experiencing intimate partner violence access formal systems, with even lower rates for Indigenous women and other marginalized groups.

She emphasized that these figures do not indicate low prevalence, but deep mistrust. Survivors often do not believe systems will keep them safe, believe them, or protect their children. As a result, violence remains hidden and unaddressed.

Ninu stressed that responsibility is collective, spanning policing, child welfare, courts, health, and community services. When coordination fails, people fall through the cracks. Rebuilding trust requires systems that are consistent, connected, and accountable.

Brooke McLardy

Brooke brought a child-centred systems lens, drawing on her experience in high-risk domestic violence response and leadership within Child and Youth Advocacy Centres. She identified a critical gap in current responses: children are often treated as secondary to adult victims, based on the assumption that if a non-offending parent (usually the mother) is safe, the child will be safe.

Brooke challenged this framing, noting that mothers cannot be safe if their children are not safe, and that systems place disproportionate responsibility on women to manage risk and comply with conflicting plans, often without adequate support. Children, she emphasized, are frequently treated as extensions of adults rather than as individuals with distinct experiences, risks, and needs.

She called for responses that assess children's specific experiences of violence and resource frontline workers to respond meaningfully to children's safety, not just adult compliance.

Question 2

What changes are you seeing, or hoping for, that suggest possibility or momentum?

Jennifer reflected on the burden placed on women within systems and the lack of meaningful support for those who cause harm, inviting panellists to build on one another's insights.

Throughout the discussion, speakers emphasized the importance of shifting upstream, investing earlier, coordinating better, and grounding responses in lived and community-based expertise. Mary Teegee emphasized a **life-cycle approach** to prevention, beginning in early childhood and continuing through adulthood. She described how Carrier Sekani Family Services has intentionally built services across the lifespan, grounded in the understanding that healthy early experiences are foundational to long-term well-being.

Drawing on decades of research, including the **CEDAR Project**, Mary noted that nearly half of participants experienced sexual abuse, most before age six, and that early sexual violence is strongly linked to later substance use, homelessness, incarceration, and repeated victimization. She stressed that effective solutions must be evidence-informed, inclusive of Indigenous and marginalized communities, and designed with those who have experienced harm.

Brooke McLardy highlighted cautious optimism emerging from increased alignment between government-led child well-being planning and community expertise. She noted that communities across the province have long been developing effective collaborative responses, often without sustained system support.

Rather than reinventing solutions, she emphasized the opportunity to scale and connect what already works, strengthening a reliable social fabric that families can trust will be there when they need it.

Ninu Kang underscored growing openness within government to frontline knowledge and urged participants to engage in advisory processes, consultations, and system-design conversations. She reinforced that fear of losing children continues to prevent many women from seeking help, and that children and non-offending parents cannot be separated in policy or practice. Persistent service siloes, she noted, remain a significant structural barrier to effective, integrated responses.

Question 3

If you had a “magic wand,” what immediate change would make the greatest difference for children and youth?

Mary Teegee

Mary identified tangible progress already underway, including First Nations–specific children-who-witness-violence programming, development of a First Nations-led Child and Youth Advocacy Centre model in the north, prevention funding flowing from the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal ruling, and expanded use of [Jordan’s Principle](#) to support children and families.

She shared the origins of [Destiny’s Project](#), a longitudinal prevention initiative named for a young woman killed by her abusive partner, focused on early intervention and interrupting cycles of violence. Her call was unequivocal: province-wide investment in prevention, recognition that reconciliation requires resources, and extension of Jordan’s Principle–style supports to all children.

Ninu Kang

Ninu called for immediate revision of the [Violence Against Women in Relationships Policy](#), integration of children’s experiences into all gender-based violence and sexual assault policy, and dedicated funding for coordination rather than reliance

on side-of-desk efforts. She cautioned that coordination systems are eroding as long-time leaders retire without being replaced.

Brooke McLardy

Brooke identified a practical, immediate lever: ensuring that frontline workers and leaders clearly understand information-sharing authorities. She emphasized that confidence and clarity in sharing information can make an immediate difference for children and families already interacting with systems.

What This Conversation Makes Clear

Violence affecting children and families is predictable and patterned, shaped by early harm and by systems that respond too late, inconsistently, or without trust. The conversation underscored how responsibility is often shifted onto non-offending parents while children's distinct experiences of violence remain insufficiently centred. At the same time, speakers pointed to clear sources of possibility: prevention across the life course, Indigenous-led and community-driven approaches, effective coordination, and systems that listen to and act on frontline knowledge. Meaningful change depends less on new ideas than on whether existing wisdom is taken seriously and put into action.

What this conversation makes clear is not only how violence is produced and sustained, but also what it demands of those who hear it. Naming patterned harm and system design failures creates responsibility; it removes the option of distance or neutrality. Participants were not simply exchanging information; they were being asked to sit with what is known, to reckon with how often responsibility has been deferred or displaced, and to consider what it means to remain engaged when the pathways forward are already visible. In this context, being present took on a meaning beyond mere attendance.

Why It Mattered to Be Here

Participants described being present as an act of accountability. They came because children matter, violence is not inevitable, and silence in the face of harm is no longer acceptable.

Learning and listening were framed as necessary steps toward confronting harm and changing systems, particularly by honouring Indigenous and survivor voices. Collective responsibility was repeatedly emphasized, with participants highlighting the need for cross-sector connection.

Systems including child welfare, education, justice, health, housing, policing and family law were named as broken and in need of redesign. Hope was present, but consistently tied to action and a commitment to trauma-informed, culturally grounded and rights-based approaches. With that shared commitment as a starting point, participants turned to one another to examine how violence is experienced by children and families and how systems respond, using facilitated small group discussions to surface patterns and possibilities.

What We Heard

Participants engaged in facilitated small group discussions to reflect on how violence shows up in the lives of children, youth, and families, and how current systems respond. Groups were asked to consider two guiding questions:

What are the immediate possibilities within your spheres of influence that you are doing, or can do, to make a difference in addressing violence in the lives of children and youth?

What are the bigger things we can work on together over the longer term?

Conversations were captured through table notes, plenary harvesting, and real-time digital input. What follows does not fully capture the depth, nuance, or breadth of the discussions. Rather, it offers insight into significant patterns that emerged consistently across groups and sectors. Participants also generously shared tools, approaches, and resources throughout the discussions; these are included in [Appendix B](#).

What was shared described a system response to violence that is fragmented, reactive, and too often harmful. Rather than stabilizing families or preventing harm, current approaches frequently shift risk onto those already most vulnerable. Participants emphasized that these are not isolated failures or individual shortcomings, but predictable outcomes of system design.

Across sectors, four interrelated patterns emerged, cutting across policy, practice, and lived experience.

1. Safety systems that displace harm rather than prevent it

Participants consistently described safety responses that shift risk rather than reduce it. Survivors, primarily women and children, are routinely required to leave their homes while perpetrators remain. In the context of an unaffordable housing market and limited crisis options, this displacement often results in homelessness, instability, and prolonged exposure to violence. Crisis and protection services were described as conditional, with trauma-related behaviours frequently used to exclude rather than support.

2. Children carrying the cost of system failure

When systems fail to coordinate or intervene effectively, children absorb the consequences in real time. Participants described children being held in police cells “for their protection,” and family law and child welfare processes that prioritize procedure over safety, including mandated contact with known or alleged perpetrators. There was strong rejection of the notion that harm can be deferred or addressed later; system gaps translate directly into harm for children now.

3. System design that renders some harm invisible

Participants emphasized that system design fails to account for the realities of many children and families, resulting in compounded and often invisible harm. Deaf participants described language deprivation as a form of violence and identified the absence of Deaf-specific, culturally and linguistically appropriate services as a serious accountability failure. Indigenous participants described how relational, community-centred approaches to healing are constrained by colonial structures, scarcity-based funding, and engagement processes that do not meaningfully shift power or authority.

4. Reactive systems that erode trust and exhaust the workforce

Participants described systems oriented toward crisis response rather than prevention, with early years and preventative supports consistently underfunded despite strong evidence of impact. Frontline workers described moral injury stemming from responsibility without authority, rigid rules that block intervention, and repeated missed opportunities to act. Repeated engagement without visible follow-through has deepened cynicism and disengagement, reinforcing a cycle in which harm is managed rather than reduced.

Taken together, what was heard points to the need for system redesign rather than incremental adjustment, redesign grounded in children's lived realities, shared accountability, and coordinated responsibility across sectors. The Violence Convening was the first step in a deliberate series of actions grounded in *Don't Look Away* and shaped by what participants shared in real time.

What was heard carries responsibility. Participants described system conditions that displace families rather than stabilize them, leave children bearing the consequences of service gaps, treat housing as secondary to safety, exhaust frontline workers, render Deaf children invisible, constrain Indigenous healing and position prevention as optional rather than foundational.

What's Next

As emphasized throughout *Don't Look Away*, preventing violence and supporting well-being are shared responsibilities. No single system, role, or sector can do this alone. What happens to children and families is shaped by how housing, health, education, child welfare, justice, and community supports intersect, and by whether those systems act in alignment or in silos.

The *We Are Not Looking Away* series will continue to surface these interconnected patterns of harm and to track where accountability remains unanswered. The next convening will focus on Family Support and Early Help, recognizing that safety and violence prevention are built early, through stable housing, accessible and culturally grounded supports, trusted relationships, and coordinated intervention before crisis takes hold.

This document is not simply a summary of what was said. It is a record of accountability. Listening in this series is not passive. It carries an obligation. Participants are encouraged to share the recording and this document within their organizations, networks, and communities to support conversations about action wherever and whenever they have influence.

What comes next will be measured not by intention, but by whether systems begin to shift toward designs that support families earlier, reduce harm before crisis, and hold collective responsibility for the safety and well-being of children, youth, and families.

Appendix A

Registration Overview: Violence Convening (December 2025)

The Violence Convening brought together participants from across government, Indigenous leadership, health, education, justice, advocacy, and community-based services. The over 500 people who registered reflected a wide cross-section of organizations working at the intersection of violence prevention, child and youth well-being, family support, and systems accountability.

The following overview summarizes participation by sector. Organizational names are listed to demonstrate breadth of engagement.

Provincial Government and Oversight Bodies

Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD)

Ministry of Health (including Child and Youth Mental Health and Substance Use Governance and Planning)

Ministry of Education and Child Care

Gender Equity Office, Government of British Columbia

Research, Policy, & Community Engagement (RSR) Division, Ministry of Citizens' Services

Office of the Provincial Health Officer

BC Coroners Service

Public Guardian and Trustee of British Columbia

BC Office of the Human Rights Commissioner

BC Ombudsperson

Health Authorities and Health System Partners

Fraser Health

Interior Health

Northern Health

Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA)

Sunny Hill Health Centre at BC Children's Hospital

Indigenous Governments, Leadership, and Organizations

Our Children Our Way Society

Fraser Valley Aboriginal Children and Family Services Society

Carrier Sekani Family Services

Okanagan Nation Alliance

Métis Nation British Columbia

Kitasoo Xai'xais First Nation

Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness

Aboriginal Head Start Association of BC

Indigenous Disability Canada / BC Aboriginal Network on Disability Society

Hulitan Family and Community Services Society

Knucwentwecw Society

Prince George Native Friendship Centre

Northwest Inter-Nations Child and Family Services

Child, Youth, and Family Advocacy and Support Organizations

Family Support Institute of BC

Parent Support Services Society of BC

Inclusion BC

FamilySmart

Board Voice Society of BC

Moms Stop The Harm

Autism Community Training (ACT)

BC Centre for Ability

Deaf Children's Society of BC

Inspire Kids FASD Family Support Society

NONA Child Development Centre

Violence Prevention, Anti-Violence, and Transition Services

YWCA Metro Vancouver

YMCA BC, Violence Against Women Intervention and Support Services

EVA BC

Network to Eliminate Violence in Relationships (NEVR) Society

Sooke Transition House Society

Tri-City Transitions Society

Central Okanagan Elizabeth Fry Society

Victoria Child Abuse Prevention and Counselling Centre

Child and Youth Advocacy Centres and Integrated Service Models

Treehouse Child and Youth Advocacy Centre

Big Bear Child and Youth Advocacy Centre

Child and Youth Advocacy Centre of Kelowna

Integrated Child and Youth Teams

Foundry

BCACCS, Jordan's Principle Team

Community-Based Service Providers

PLEA Community Services

Options Community Services

Covenant House Vancouver

Threshold Housing Society

Family Services of Greater Vancouver

GreenTree Programs

Pathway Community Services Ltd.

Coastal Mountain Child and Youth Services Ltd.

Mackenzie Community Services

Kiassa Neighbourhood House

United Way British Columbia

Strive Living Society

ARC Programs

Clements Centre

BGCO Okanagan

Justice, Legal, and Policing Partners

BC First Nations Justice Council

Vancouver Police Department

Nelson Police Department

West Coast LEAF

Meena Dhillon Law Corporation

Academic, Research, and Knowledge Partners

University of British Columbia

University of Victoria

Thompson Rivers University

UBC School of Social Work

University of Victoria School of Child and Youth Care

Human Early Learning Partnership

McCreary Centre Society

BC Children's Hospital Research Institute

Patient and Community Partnership for Education, UBC Health

Independent Consultants and Other Participants

Self-employed practitioners

Victoria Life Coach

Appendix B

Resource and Services Harvested from the Zoom Chat:

Resources listed here were shared by participants during the convening. Inclusion does not constitute endorsement by the Office of the Representative for Children and Youth. The list is provided to support connection, learning, and collective action.

Resource / Organization Name	Link	Population(s) Served	Type	Notes
Sk'ai Zeh Yah Youth Centre (Prince George)	https://www.csfs.org/services/youth-services	Youth with lived experience of homelessness, care involvement, street involvement	Community-based service	Low-barrier, youth-designed; majority of youth served have been in care
Carrier Sekani Family Services (CSFS)	https://www.csfs.org/	Indigenous children, youth, families, and communities	Indigenous service organization	Delivers prevention and family supports across the lifespan
CEDAR Project	https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/52200.html	Indigenous young people with lived experience of substance use and violence	Longitudinal research study	Links early sexual violence to later harm and system involvement
Canadian Human Rights Tribunal Ruling	https://fncaringsociety.com/i-am-witness/chrt-orders	First Nations children, families, and communities	Legal decision / funding mechanism	Enables prevention funding for

(First Nations Child Welfare)				First Nations child welfare
Jordan's Principle	https://fncaringsociety.com/jordans-principle	First Nations children and families	Legal and funding framework	Provides timely access to needed services
Destiny's Project	https://highwayoftears.org/projects/	Children, youth, and families at risk of violence	Prevention initiative	Longitudinal early-intervention violence prevention
Stanton Review	https://tinyurl.com/Stanton-Review	Survivors of sexual assault and intimate partner violence	Systemic review	Documents system gaps and survivor mistrust
Violence Against Women in Relationships (VAWiR) Policy	https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/law-crime-and-justice/criminal-justice/victims-of-crime/vs-info-for-professionals/info-resources/vawir.pdf	Women, children, and families experiencing IPV	Provincial policy	Identified as needing urgent reform
Child and Youth Advocacy Centres (CYACs)	https://www.bccyac.ca/	Children and youth experiencing violence	Integrated response model	Child-centred model with uneven implementation
Ending Violence Association of BC (EVAABC)	https://endingviolence.org/	Survivors of gender-based violence; service providers	Provincial network / association	Supports coordination, training, and sector advocacy
BC Society of Transition Houses (BCSTH)	https://bcsth.ca/	Women, children, and families fleeing violence	Provincial network / service organization	Represents and supports transition houses and programs

Battered Women's Support Services (BWSS)	https://www.bwss.org/	Survivors of intimate partner and sexual violence	Community-based service organization	Survivor-centred advocacy, crisis support, and policy leadership
Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)	https://transformfamilyjusticebc.ca/brain-science/aces/	Children, youth	Research / Framework	Referenced during Elder Audrey's remarks
ACCES – DeafHealth (Gallaudet)	https://gallaudet.edu/deafhealth/acces/	Deaf individuals	Health / Accessibility	Deaf-accessible health information
Independent Systemic Review of BC Legal System (Stanton Report)	https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/law-crime-and-justice/about-bc-justice-system/justice-reform-initiatives/systemic-review/dr_kim_stantons_june_2025_final_report_-_independent_systemic_review_the_british_columbia_legal_systems_treatment_of_intimate_partner_violence_and_sexual_violence.pdf	Survivors, systems	Policy / Legal Review	Frequently referenced for accountability
Stanton Report – Fall 2025 Update	https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/law-crime-and-justice/about-bc-justice-system/justice-reform-initiatives/systemic-review/stanton_report	Public, systems	Policy Update	Links Stanton work to Child & Youth Well-being Plan

	t fall 2025 update.pdf			
IndigiNews – Don't Look Away (1 year later)	https://indiginews.com/news/dont-look-away-one-year-on/	Indigenous communities, public	Journalism / Analysis	Media reflection on RCY report
Indian Residential School Survivors Society	1-800-721-0066	Survivors	Crisis / Healing	Shared as support resource
National Inquiry into MMIWG	https://www.mmiwg-ffada.ca/final-report/	Indigenous women, girls	Inquiry / Report	Referenced in context of violence
Ending Violence Canada – Getting Help	http://endingviolencecanada.org/getting-help/	Survivors	Crisis / Referral	National service directory
DAWN Canada – Violence & Disability Project	https://www.dawnCanada.net/projects/lps/	Women with disabilities, Deaf women	Research / Advocacy	Policy and service responses
Assaulted Women's Helpline	http://www.awhl.org/	Survivors	Crisis Line	Accessible support
Barbra Schlifer Clinic	https://schliferclinic.com	Women survivors	Legal / Counselling	Multilingual and legal supports
Who Will Answer (Coalition)	https://whowillanswer.org	Deaf survivors	Advocacy / Network	Deaf-accessible DV resources
Deaf Hope	http://www.deaf-hope.org/videos/	Deaf survivors	Education / Support	ASL-based resources
Springtide Resources	http://www.springtideresources.org	Women, systems	Research / Policy	Honouring Lynda Roy
Response-Based Practice	https://www.responsebasedpractice.com/	Practitioners	Practice Framework	Referenced in fireside discussion
BMJ Open Study (Violence Research)	https://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/11/7/e042545.long	Researchers, policymakers	Research	Study referenced by Mary
Victoria Child Abuse	https://www.vcapcc.com	Children, youth	Counselling / Prevention	CYAC-linked services

Prevention & Counselling Centre (VCAPCC)				
Exclusion Tracker	https://exclusiontracker.com/	Families, children with disabilities	Advocacy / Data	Childcare exclusion tracking
CBC – Housing Crisis & IPV	https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/report-domestic-intimate-partner-violence-bc-housing-crisis-9.6980216	Public	Journalism	Housing & IPV intersection
Roots of Empathy	https://rootsofempathy.org/british-columbia/	Children, families	Prevention / Education	Funding loss highlighted
NCLGA Mental Health & Addictions Accord	https://nclga.ca/news-and-events/mental-health-and-addictions-accord	Municipalities, orgs	Policy / Accord	Municipal advocacy tool
Spotlight: Child Welfare – Media Resource Guide	https://www.spotlightchildwelfare.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/Spotlight-Child-Welfare-Resource-Guide.pdf	Advocates, media	Knowledge Mobilization	Working safely with media
AgedOut.com – GBV Info Pages	https://agedout.com	Youth, young adults	Education / Prevention	Queer, trans, newcomer youth
Cedar Project & Related Research	https://www.nccih.ca/docs/emerging/RPT-FamilyViolence-Holmes-Hunt-EN.pdf	Indigenous youth	Research	Youth-centred violence research
CIHR Violence Research	https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/52200.html	Researchers	Research Funding	Federal research context
Honouring Circle Manual (JIBC)	https://www.jibc.ca/sites/default/files/research/pdf/Restoring-Honouring-Circle-Manual.pdf	Communities	Healing / Justice	Restorative approaches

Commercial Sexual Exploitation Manual (JIBC)	https://www.jibc.ca/sites/default/files/community_social_justice/pdf/cccs/Commercial_Sexual_Exploitation_WWY_Manual.pdf	Youth, practitioners	Training / Prevention	Exploitation prevention
Unlearning & Undoing White Supremacy (PHO)	https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/office-of-the-provincial-health-officer/unlearning-undoing-project	Systems, practitioners	Systems Change	Referenced by Elder Audrey
Métis Nation BC – Children & Families	childrenandfamilies@mnbcc.ca	Métis families	Navigation / Supports	Early identification & wraparound
Motion Light Lab × ECHO	https://motionlightlab.com/	Deaf communities	Training / Learning	Deaf-led learning cohort

Appendix C

Questions Harvested from Zoom Chat

Verbatim Question	Notes / Context
Could you please repeat the name of the document Audrey Adverse Childhood ????	Audrey was referring to Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), a well-established body of research examining the long-term impacts of childhood adversity on health, well-being, and life outcomes.
Could you share a link to the Stanton report? Thank you	The review referenced is a systemic review led by Dr. Kim Stanton , appointed by the Government of British Columbia to examine how the legal system responds to victims and survivors of sexual and intimate partner violence. The review will propose recommendations to support government action and advance meaningful, system-level change.
What is the target release date for the Child and Youth well-being plan?	Government representatives have acknowledged that the plan is under development, with timing to be confirmed. Its release is expected in early 2026.
Will the government create programs and safe places for women who face gender-based violence, especially when housing is unaffordable for single parents fleeing violence?	Government representatives acknowledged the seriousness of this issue and referenced ongoing investments and initiatives related to gender-based violence and housing. However, no specific new programs or timelines were announced during the convening.
Is the RCY working closely with the Nations, Indigenous Governing Bodies, or those with jurisdiction? Who can we reach out to for problems or bigger	RCY works with Nations and Indigenous Governing Bodies in alignment with its mandate, particularly where Indigenous children

issues not being addressed, as RCY has been quiet or not helpful in some cases?	and youth are involved. RCY emphasized that advocacy services are available for individual children and youth, and that systemic concerns can be raised through RCY's monitoring and review functions. Participants were encouraged to contact RCY directly when issues remain unresolved.
How many transition beds did they say were being built?	A specific number was not stated during the convening. Government remarks referenced investments and expansion efforts, but detailed figures were not provided in the session.
Have any changes been made to your office's jurisdiction as recommended in the Stanton report?	No jurisdictional changes were announced during the convening. The question was acknowledged, but no confirmation of legislative or mandate changes was provided.
Was the research done with Indigenous cultural traditionalist educators, Elders, teachers, and knowledge keepers to reflect a holistic plan of action? Were Indigenous people consulted beyond a single group or Nation?	Speakers emphasized the importance of Indigenous engagement and consultation. However, details about the scope or breadth of consultation for specific plans or research were not fully outlined during the convening. With respect to the Don't Look Away report, the RCY was guided by three BC First Nations Cultural Advisors and the research and engagement work extensively involved Indigenous leadership and service providers.
Is this being recorded so I can view it later?	The plenary of the convening were recorded and are available to view here , including remarks from Minister Wickens and Parliamentary Secretary Blatherwick and the Fireside Chat with Mary Teegee, Ninu Kang and Brooke McLardy.

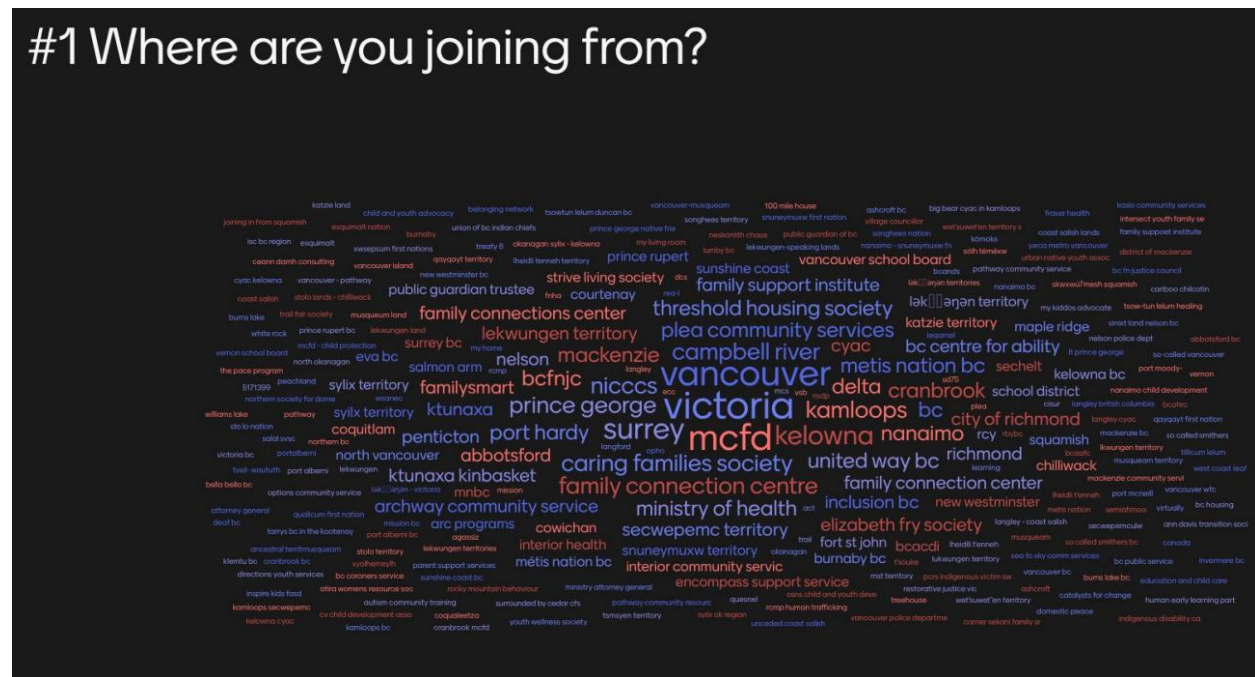
Will this be recorded for us to watch again or share with colleagues who were not present?	Repeated question; answered. Recordings are linked in the report above.
Is there any work being done in BC regarding religious abuse and how freedom of faith can protect perpetrators?	This issue was raised in the chat but was not addressed directly during the convening. It has been captured as a question requiring further exploration.
What do we do when women, men, or youth are barred from services due to aggressive behaviour, especially in freezing temperatures?	Participants described this as a critical systems gap. While no single solution was offered during the convening, the issue was identified as a serious safety concern requiring cross-system coordination, particularly in housing, emergency response, and crisis services.
Can the study that Mary is talking about be added to the chat?	Yes. The study referenced by Mary Teegee – The Cedar Project undertaken at UBC - is included in the resources shared above
Can you send us all the links for the resources shared here?	Commitment made; see appendices for these resources.
Will all resources be sent to emails?	Yes. Resources will be shared with participants following the convening.
Also, would you be able to share the next date of the meetings? Are these recurring sessions?	Yes. This session is part of the We Are Not Looking Away series. The next session, focusing on Family Support and Early Help will take place March 31, 2026.
Is there a date for the next quarterly meeting?	The Family Support and Early Help Session will take place March 31, 2026.
What area(s) does the PEACE program serve?	The PEACE Program (Prevention, Education, Advocacy, Counselling, and Empowerment) operates in multiple regions across British Columbia, with service areas varying by community and provider. Participants were encouraged to consult local service

	listings or program websites for region-specific information.
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Appendix D

Menti Harvest

#1 Where are you joining from?



#2 Why is it important for you to be here today?

