

SUMMARY OF OCTOBER 29, 2014 FORUM

Main Discussion Themes

- Education and public awareness
- Training for service providers such as NGO's, health and law enforcement
- Develop a universal assessment tool
- Create a lobby group to advocate for structural changes
- Deeper understanding of how the root causes connect to the research findings
- Address root causes
- Need for immediate services for victims, particularly detox programs
- Importance of collaboration among service providers
- Need for sensitive and trauma-informed systems
- Shift social paradigms to create a safer, kinder community
- Explore the idea of Sanctuary City
- Better supports for families
- Address racism
- Focus on prevention
- Sustainable funding, including long-term supports
- Addictions support
- Universal child care
- Housing
- Highlight experiential voices
- Mental health support
- Increase minimum wage and income supports
- Learn more about the strengths and programs that allowed women to exit trafficking
- Improve legal process to obtain more convictions

Vulnerable Populations

- Youth
 - Importance of educating children
 - Problems in systems of care (group homes, child welfare)
- Aboriginal community
- Newcomers
 - Vulnerabilities due to precarious immigration status

Stated Priorities

Root Causes

- Address root causes
- Racism
- Advocacy for sustainable funding
- Additional forum for aboriginal women
- Public education
- Training for service providers
- Link to the Study on Edmonton being the worst Canadian city for women
- Connect with the Mayor and other City of Edmonton initiatives such as End Poverty Now Taskforce; 10 year plan to End Homelessness; WAVE; and REACH Edmonton
- Explore the idea of Sanctuary City
- Universal child care
- Address Sexism

Prevention

- Education and awareness (youth, men, public awareness)
 - Healthy relationships, respect
- Targeted awareness, education, training that defines and explains the issue
- Community safety
- Address demand
 - Educate men
- Initiate a “Stop Sex with Children” campaign similar to Manitoba

Intervention

- Resource discussion amongst agencies
- Increase exiting options
- Immediate access to crisis intervention services
 - Housing
 - Addictions treatment
 - Access to information
 - Coordinated services
 - Transportation

Long-term services

- Funding for long-term services
- Create new vocational training for victims