

Together for Safer Canadian Cities

The Challenges

In 2014, 2.2 million Canadians aged 15 and over were victimized by a violent crime such as a physical assault (Statistics Canada, 2014).

The total harm to Canadians from interpersonal crime is estimated at \$55 billion a year (updated from Justice Canada, 2011).

Violence impacts the lives of indigenous people disproportionately (Statistics Canada, 2014). Violence against women impacts lives much more than often realized (Waller, 2011).

The unsustainable increases of costs of police and public safety to municipalities are “crowding out” early intervention and prevention initiatives (Federation of Canadian Municipalities, 2015).

The Solutions

Glasgow, Scotland reduced its homicide rate by 50% in three years (actiononviolence.org.uk). Its strategy involved comprehensive planning, proven programs and data as recommended by the UN (Habitat, 2015).

Investing the equivalent of 10% of what we currently spend on policing, courts and corrections in effective crime prevention can sustainably reduce crime by as much as 50% (Waller, 2014).

Where return on investment of \$1 has been evaluated for selected social development programs, demonstrated benefits are \$7 to \$80 (crimesolutions.gov, Waller, 2014).

Did you Know?

- 65% of effective crime prevention programs in the most extensive resource on solutions to crime are community services for youth and families, curricula in schools, and projects in the health sector ([Analysis of crimesolutions.gov](http://crimesolutions.gov)).
- 60% of Canadians prefer investing in prevention and education initiatives to reduce crime instead of more police, lawyers and prisons (EnviroNics, 2013).
- 60% of policing costs in Canada are paid out of municipal property taxes (Council of Canadian Academies, 2014).

What does the Canadian Municipal Network on Crime Prevention do?

The mission of the Canadian Municipal Network on Crime Prevention (CMNCP) is to build capacity and mobilize Canadian municipalities to prevent, and reduce crime and foster

community safety and well-being. CMNCP develops and shares practical and evidence-based knowledge. It works towards greater investment in effective crime prevention.



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RÉSEAU MUNICIPAL
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CMNCP is a Network of Members

CMNCP members are part of a community of practice that shares good practice, experiences and international evidence. CMNCP is also a national voice that:

- Maintains inter-municipal dialogues on common issues, trends, evidence and new initiatives
- Coordinates collaboration, knowledge building, sharing of evidence and training
- Works with municipalities to develop crime prevention initiatives
- Partners with other orders of government

From 2015 to 2018, CMNCP is collaborating on a project funded by the National Crime Prevention Centre to strengthen the capacity of municipalities to use evidence-based crime prevention. The project facilitates exchanges between municipalities, regional discussions on

advancing municipal crime prevention, making current knowledge available, expanding the number of municipalities engaged in prevention, and training of municipal leaders.

Who does CMNCP represent?

Municipalities are the order of government best suited to work with local agencies and neighbourhoods to identify specific service needs and tackle the multiple root causes of crime.

CMNCP brings together senior municipal managers, community safety coordinators, and professionals involved in the development and implementation of community-based, municipal crime prevention strategies from across the country, and collaborates with crime prevention specialists at the University of Ottawa.

Crime is not inevitable, it is preventable.

The U.S. Department of Justice, the World Health Organization, and Public Safety Canada provide accessible and applicable examples to prove that tackling the roots of crime, prevents crime.

- Youth Inclusion Projects (UK) used just two outreach youth workers to reach the 50 most vulnerable youth in high crime neighbourhoods, reducing their arrests by 65%.
- The 4th R is a school-based curriculum that teaches adolescents about healthy relationships. The cost is minimal, at \$16 per student, and evaluations of the program in Ontario demonstrated a 25% reduction in dating violence.
- The Cardiff Violence Prevention Program analyzes, in emergency rooms, factors that lead to victims' injuries, and so guides prevention. The evaluation showed that the program reduced crime across the city by 40% and got a return of \$80 for every \$1 invested.

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