

# Cross-Sectoral Solutions



BUILDING CAPACITY: INTERDISCIPLINARY TOOLKITS AND RESOURCES FOR  
**GENDER - BASED VIOLENCE** (GBV) & **BRAIN INJURY** (BI) SURVIVORS AND THEIR  
ADVOCATES

*Funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada*

Knowledge Hub Presents

February 18, 2025

\*The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of the Public Health Agency of Canada.\*





# SOLIDARITY STATEMENT

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WomenatthecentrE acknowledges that the land on which we operate is the territory of the Huron-Wendat, the Anishnaabe Nation, the Haudensaunee Confederacy, Métis, Inuit, and the Mississaugas of the Credit, and was taken without consent. Today, this land is still home to many First Nations and Indigenous Peoples from across Turtle Island. An inherent part of our work is taking action to disrupt and dismantle the embedded impacts of colonialism, racial capitalism, imperialism, and patriarchy, and so we stand in solidarity with Indigenous women, girls, trans, gender-diverse and Two-Spirit people.

We equally recognize the interconnected nature of systems of power and oppression. **We then stand in solidarity with all abolitionist, migrant, environmental, anti-colonial, disability, Queer, feminist, housing and food security, anti-imperialist, and anti-capitalist movements.** It is only in our solidarity across constellations of thought, time and space, that we will find true survival, liberation and transformation.



# ABOUT US



**Kelsy Dundas**

Program Manager, Cross Sectoral Solutions



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Project Coordinator, Cross Sectoral Solutions



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Peer Navigator, Cross Sectoral Solutions



# CROSS SECTORAL SOLUTIONS

Our project aim is to adapt, pilot and evaluate an evidence-based, trauma-informed, multi-sectoral program for survivors of GBV with suspected brain injury (GBV-TBI).

The project was piloted across Canada, and is building bridges between traditional silos, increasing community capacity, and providing support for survivors of GBV-TBI.

- Co-develop a community -based well -being program in GBV and TBI support sectors
- Tailor the program to those with lived experience through Peer Support and Navigation, a Stakeholder Advisory Committee, and [WomenatthecentrE's Survivor Expert Collective \(WE SEC\)](#)
- Use program Research methods to frame and guide all phases of the project
- Develop and share resources and knowledge products to build community capacity
- Leverage lessons learned during the COVID -19 pandemic to create responsive and flexible approaches



# WHAT ARE WE DOING NOW?

We are using evidence, practice, and experiential based learning to develop knowledge mobilization and capacity building resources, reports, & tools. Our objectives:

1. Build community/interdisciplinary capacity
2. Awareness raising (for survivors, family, friends, educators, researchers, decision makers etc...)
3. Support system-level cross-sectoral and survivor engagement



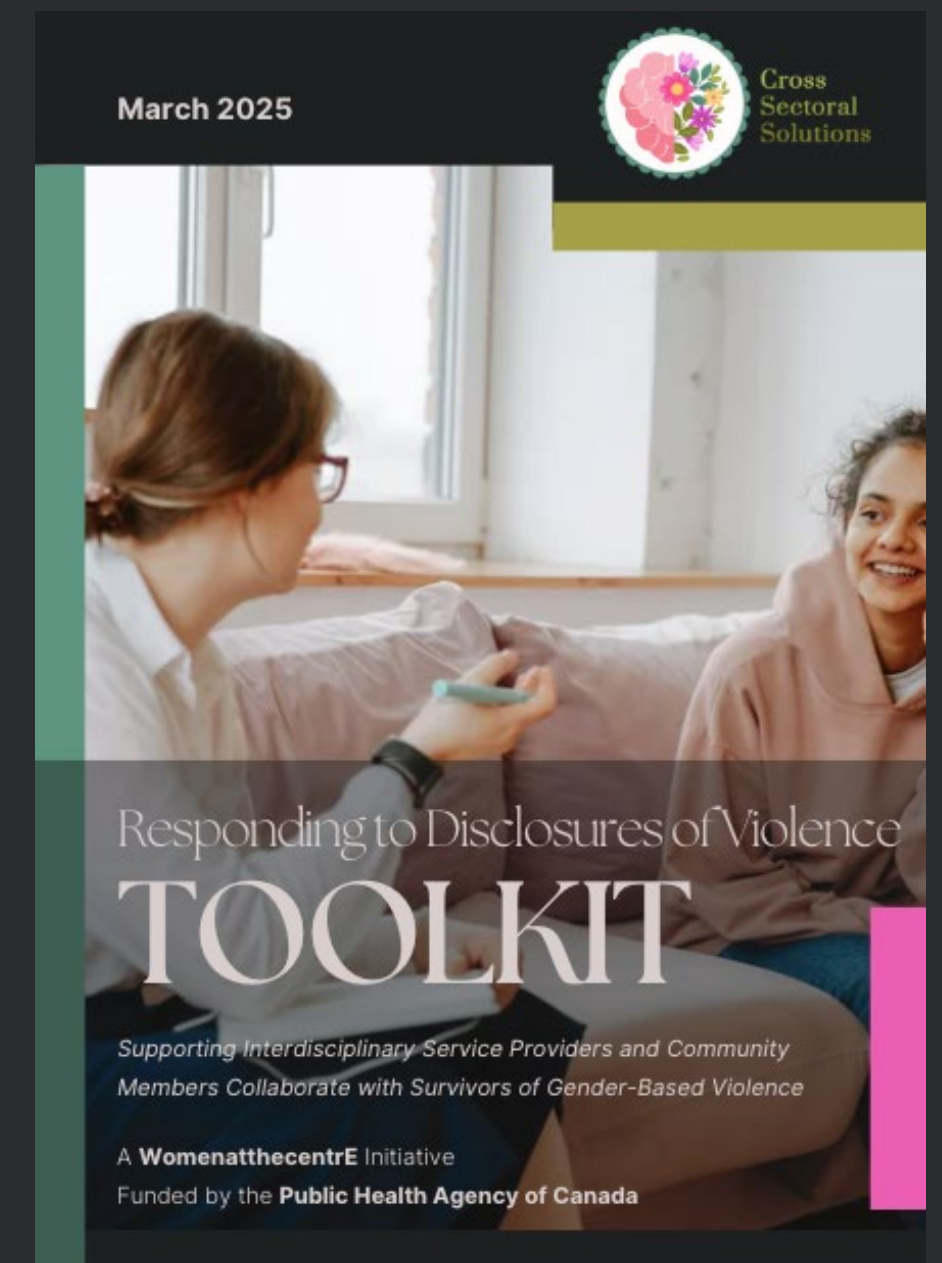
# SUPPORTING GBV - BI SURVIVORS & THEIR ADVOCATES: A TOOLKIT

- Tips and Strategies for Effectively Communicating with Survivors
  - Ex. Concise emails, recaps of meetings, document completion support, etc
- Additional Complexities
  - Ex. Substance Use, Suicidal Ideation, Financial Impacts, Weaponization of a BI Diagnosis, Disability and Accessibility
- Foundational Principles for Working with TBI/GBV Survivors
- Understanding the Impacts and Practical Strategies
  - Emotional
  - Cognitive
  - Physical



# RESPONDING TO DISCLOSURES OF VIOLENCE: A TOOLKIT

- Types of violence that may be disclosed - eg. coercive control, physical violence, stalking, etc.
- What a disclosure can sound like (ex. direct vs. indirect)
- How to respond to a disclosure of violence
  - Do's & Dont's
- Disclosures in group settings
- Roles, responsibilities, boundaries and limitations
- Self care after receiving a disclosure
- Tools and resources





# DISCLOSING YOUR DISABILITY

## A Legal Guide for TBI-GBV Survivors in Ontario

INTRODUCTION

Deciding whether to disclose a disability during a legal process can have a significant impact on an individual's experience within the legal system. Women, in particular, face heightened difficulties in accessing justice and protection due to weakened just systems or disrupted justice and service delivery, as well as low levels of trust in institutions. This remains a crucial access to justice issue, as very little attention has been given to whether the court system itself adheres to equality requirements when administering justice.

This fact sheet takes into account the unforeseen consequences that may arise from disclosing a disability during a legal process, accordingly, provides guidance on how people with disabilities to effectively participate fully in the court system and other legal processes.

# Conseils aux intervenant.e.s pour la clôture des sessions avec les survivant.e.s de violence basée sur le genre et de lésions cérébrales

## STRATÉGIES ET CONSIDÉRATIONS

### 01 Importance de la clôture de session

Les clôtures de sessions sont cruciales pour s'assurer que les deux participant.e.s comprennent mutuellement que le temps passé ensemble se termine. Elles se déroulent dans le respect du parcours du survivant et sont personnalisées pour s'adapter à la dynamique propre à chaque relation.

# Communication Cognitive

Qu'est-ce que la communication cognitive?

Les troubles de la communication cognitive sont des difficultés de communication dues à des problèmes cognitifs sous-jacents.

Qu'est-ce que la communication? Qu'est-ce que la cognition?

La communication implique à la fois de comprendre les autres et de s'exprimer. Lorsque les gens communiquent efficacement, ils et elles sont capables d'exprimer leurs besoins, leurs désirs, leurs pensées, leurs sentiments et leurs préférences de manière à ce que les autres les comprennent. Elle comprend les éléments suivants:

- l'écoute
- l'expression orale
- la lecture
- l'écriture
- la communication sociale
- la communication cognitive

La cognition (c'est-à-dire les capacités de réflexion) est la manière dont nous recevons des informations du monde qui nous entoure, dont nous les traitons et dont nous les utilisons. Elle comprend les éléments suivants:

- le traitement (vitesse, quantité, complexité)
- la mémoire
- l'organisation
- le raisonnement
- la flexibilité mentale
- les fonctions exécutives (par exemple, comportement orienté vers un objectif, auto-surveillance, contrôle des impulsions)

### 02 Bénéfices de la clôture de session

- Les limites sont redéfinies et appliquées
- Les prochaines étapes d'un.e survivant.e peuvent être discutées et clarifiées
- Cela marque le début d'un nouveau chapitre pour le.e survivant.e
- Cela offre un espace de réflexion, d'action et d'autonomisation

### 03 Étapes de la clôture

- Élaborer un plan structuré pour fermer la page.
- Dialoguer clairement avec le survivant.e ou le survivant, dès le début du service de soutien par les pairs, sur la fin de l'histoire.
- Définir clairement les limites.
- Organiser une réunion de bilan à mi-parcours, pour réfléchir à la clôture de la session et la rappeler.

# HOW TO RESPOND TO A DISCLOSURE OF VIOLENCE

SWIPE TO LEARN MORE

Les entreprises sont les seules à être en communication. Elles ont une partie des difficultés de communication de nos sociétés, une partie des problèmes cognitifs sous-jacents.

Financé par l'Agence de santé publique du Canada.

# CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE & VISIT OUR SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES!

# WESEC: WHAT IS THE GOAL OF WESEC?

WESEC: WHAT IS THE GOAL OF WESEC?

WESEC (What is the Goal of WESEC?) is a group of experts of gender-based violence and traumatic brain injury (TBI) who are working together to provide support and resources to survivors of TBI and GBV.

WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS & BARRIERS TO TBI?

SYMPTOMS OF TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY (TBI)

LET'S TALK ABOUT THE INTERSECTION OF GBV & TBI

YWCA METRO STORY: CONCUSSION STORY

# Safe(r) and Effective Use of Self

## TOOLKIT

Peer Navigation with brain injury

A WomenattheCentre

Funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada

March 2025

# NEED TBI RESOURCES? WE HAVE YOU COVERED.

## Tips for Support Workers Navigating Session Closure with Survivors of Gender-Based Violence & Brain Injury

What is Session Closure?

Session closure marks the end of the session between the service provider and the survivor. Session closure is a critical aspect of the therapeutic process and should be introduced early in the relationship, to ensure a smooth transition when the program concludes. These steps can support the session closure process.

Set Clear Expectations

Transparently communicate any logistics about the support you are offering, including the duration, frequency, and time period of the program. Discuss and agree on these details to ensure mutual understanding and commitment. Establishing this early supports session closure later in the program.

Understand the Survivor

Take time to understand the survivor's situation, current challenges, and specific needs. It is important to slowly build trust and rapport. This supports effective relationship development, and safer session closure.

Create a Plan

Collaboratively identify ways you can assist the survivor, exploring practical strategies and resources that can help them navigate any challenges and needs. Establish a plan of action tailored to their unique circumstances and goals. This will support them feel a sense of empowerment and success when progress is made.

Session Reminders

Providing weekly updates to survivors of their progress within the program, when sending reminder emails such as, "This is week 8 and you have been informed about where you are in the program. This provides mutual accountability and helps you see how far you have come in the program."

# EXAMEN DE LA PORTÉE DE LA VPI ET DE LA RÉADAPTATION

44 articles sur les connaissances, les possibilités et les interventions en matière de réadaptation des victimes de Violence entre Partenaires Intimes (VPI).

CONNAISSANCE OPPORTUNITÉ INTERVENTION

## ARTICLES PAR ANNÉE ET TYPE

Année	Opportunité	Connaissance	Intervention
1995-99	2	1	1
2000-04	3	2	2
2005-09	4	3	3
2010-14	5	4	4
2015-19	6	5	5
2020-22	7	6	6

## ARTICLES PAR CATÉGORIE ET PAR PROFESSION

Profession	Opportunité	Connaissance	Intervention
ERGOTHÉRAPIE	20 (3 ST)	3*	7* (2 ST)
PHYSIOTHÉRAPIE	6	2	1
AUTRE	3 (SLP)	1 (PHYSIATRIE)	-
COMBO	1	1	-

## MESURES À PRENDRE

Il est nécessaire d'effectuer davantage de recherches hors des États-Unis, sur des professions autres que l'ergothérapie. Recherches supplémentaires sur la meilleure façon d'aider les victimes de la traite des êtres humains.

Élaboré par Cross Sectoral Solutions, une initiative de WomenattheCentre. Financé par l'Agence de santé publique du Canada.







Save the date!

# CROSS SECTORAL PATHWAYS FORWARD FOR GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND BRAIN INJURY

*Virtual Conference*

**MARCH 4<sup>TH</sup> - 6<sup>TH</sup>, 2025**  
11:00 AM (EST) - 5:00 PM (EST)



*Register Now*



Réservez la date!

# VOIES INTERSECTORIELLES POUR LA VIOLENCE FONDÉE SUR LE GENRE ET LES TRAUMATISMES CRÂNIENS

*Conférence Virtuelle*

**4 AU 6 MARS 2025**  
11:00H (EST) - 17:00H (EST)



*Inscrivez-vous!*



## REGISTRATION IS OPEN!





**LETS CONNECT!**

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