

# Statement of Support for the Human Trafficking Prevention Network British Columbia

As partners, we vehemently denounce human trafficking as a gross violation of human rights and an affront to human dignity. Human trafficking includes *recruiting, transporting, transferring, receiving, holding, concealing or harbouring a person, or exercising control direction or influence over the movements of a person, to exploit them or to assist in facilitating their exploitation*, according to the Canadian Criminal Code. This exploitation can be for the purpose of sexual exploitation, forced labor, and other forms of coercion, and demands our collective attention and action.

We, the undersigned, stand united in our commitment to ending human trafficking through the establishment of the Human Trafficking Prevention Network of British Columbia. Recognizing the severity of this issue, we believe that collaborative efforts are crucial to addressing the complexities of this crime.

We commit to support the Human Trafficking Prevention Network in the following ways:

1. Joining the Human Trafficking Prevention Network by endorsing this Statement of Support.
2. Raise awareness by sharing resources within our organizations to educate about human trafficking and by sharing resources targeting its prevention.
3. Supporting organizations that combat human trafficking, prioritizing initiatives that create pathways to empowerment for survivors in their recovery.

We acknowledge the complex nature of this issue and the need for understanding, compassion and collaboration to address its root causes and manifestations. The Human Trafficking Prevention Network will serve as a catalyst for change by fostering collaboration among various players who pledge to raise awareness through training and public communication about the issue. The network is deeply concerned by the disproportionately high rates of victimization experienced by First Nation, Metis and Inuit survivors, as well as two-spirit and gender diverse people, and seeks to support programs specific to their needs and healing.

We recognize and commend the significant work underway by non-profit organizations, people with lived experience, and law enforcement to prevent human trafficking and support survivors in their recovery and transition. The Human Trafficking Prevention Network will support and complement these efforts, facilitating greater coordination, amplification, and funding.

We invite others to join us in this crucial endeavor in a partnership committed to these actions. Through collaboration, awareness, and coordinated action we can create a safer and more resilient communities free from the harms of human trafficking.



**The Honourable Janet Austin**  
Lieutenant Governor of  
British Columbia  
Honorary Patron - Human Trafficking  
Prevention Network



**Susannah Pierce**  
Shell Canada President and Country Chair  
on behalf of Shell Canada Limited  
*Chair- Human Trafficking Prevention  
Network*

*Joined by Founding Partners*

