

***“Family Violence: Strategies for Healthy Living,  
Healthy Relationships”***

**Description of Workshops**

**(In order as presented on the Program)**

**Dr. Walter DeKeseredy**

**New Ways of Thinking About Violence Against Women in Canada**

The purpose of this presentation is to review the most up-to-date Canadian sociological research on the extent, distribution, and key sources of male-to-female violence in intimate relationships. Special attention is given to describing how Internet pornography and broader social forces contribute to beatings, sexual, assaults, stalking, and a host of other harms that many women experience behind closed doors

**Rina Arseneault**

**Mental Health and intimate partner violence**

For several years now, many organizations that work closely or from afar with the issues of intimate partner violence are facing a growing number of people who are also affected by mental health challenges. This report presents several interesting paths, such as:

- What are the links between violence and mental health issues?
- To what extent a situation of violence can lead a person to develop mental health problems?
- To what extent a mental health problem can "explain" that a person is found in a situation of violence, either as an abuser or a victim?
- Is there intervention strategy when it is necessary to intervene with a person who presents challenges of mental health and is a victim or an abuser?

It is these questions that my presentation has been developed.

**Dr. Bill Patrick**

**Man to Man: Engaging Men in Building Healthy Relationships**

Men have a critical role to play in working to promote healthy living and healthy relationships. In an effort to engage men in this work, the Fredericton Sexual Assault Crisis Centre, in consultation with men from various communities, developed the “Man to Man” toolkit. The toolkit is a resource that can be used to begin to engage men in this work and in these conversations. The toolkit has been piloted, and trainings have been successfully conducted using the materials developed by FSACC. This presentation will introduce the audience to the toolkit and to the activities we use, and will address the opportunities and challenges of engaging men in working to end violence against women.

**Dr. Deborah Doherty**

**Recognizing and Responding to Risk Factors for Domestic Homicide in NB**

This presentation examines many of the well-documented risk factors for the escalation of family violence into domestic homicide. The presence of firearms, threats of suicide, depression, personality disorders, alcohol and/or drug addictions, loss of employment, a criminal record, attitudes of entitlement over women, condoning community values, increasing violence towards the victim, separation, and others. None of these risk factors cause domestic homicide. Yet we know that the more risks that exist, the more likely we are to see a lethal outcome. Research on the New Brunswick Silent Witnesses (women have lost their lives at the hands of an intimate partner) shows that the nature and context of these risks can be somewhat different in NB than in provinces with large urban populations. Our challenge is to learn from these deaths with a viewing to promoting earlier intervention and appropriate responses that recognize and address the unique challenges of provinces with small town/rural communities.

**Anthony Stewart**

**The Experience of Emotional Injuries in Domestically Violent Men who have become Non-Abusive**

Most men who become violent in their intimate relationships have experienced emotional injuries that often occur very early in their childhood and increase as they become abusive. These injuries are defined as reduced regard for self, emotional pain, mistrust, and inner turmoil and stem from childhood abuse, employment related causes, relationship strain or breakdown, and most significantly, perpetrating intimate partner violence. This presentation will illustrate, in more detail, the causes of these injuries and the language men use to describe these injuries.

**Christian Whalen, Acting Child and Youth Advocate**

**Family Group Conferencing and the Youth Criminal Justice Act**

Presentation will focus on Family Group Conferencing by addressing what it is, and its influence on our Youth Criminal Justice Act in reforming youth justice.

**Dr. Sue McKenzie-Mohr**

**Sustaining Ourselves in the Work We Do**

While our work necessarily involves our willingness to be present to stories of significant pain and distress, the meaning we give to this work and our commitment to various forms of self-care can assist us in effectively managing our own reactions. This session will address common challenges faced by those working in the area of family violence and explore means to sustain ourselves and each other in this work.