



Additionally, I was asked if career broadening was successful and if the department wants to add more Inuit in the broadening of career opportunities. I was happy to report additional transfer assignments, direct appointments, and education leave during my appearance. I can confirm the department currently has five Inuit employees on transfer assignment. The department will continue to support transfer assignments, training opportunities, and acting assignments to allow for the development of skills for Inuit staff.

## **2. Senior Supports for Power Subsidy**

Family Services currently administers a Senior Fuel Subsidy in addition to the Senior Citizen Supplementary Benefit and the Seniors Burial Benefit. A committee member inquired whether the department is considering a power subsidy for Elders. The Qulliq Energy Corporation is the appropriate agency to consider power subsidy programs to seniors.

## **3. Engagement with Nunavut Arctic College Social Work Program**

Two cohorts of the Bachelor of Social Work Program have graduated to date:

The first cohort had five graduates (five students were enrolled)

- Three went on to work with the Government of Nunavut (GN) (Family Services in the Family Wellness division, Justice and Nunavut Arctic College)
- Two went on to further education (Masters)

The second cohort had six graduates (six full-time students and one part-time student were enrolled)

- Two went on to the GN (Family Services and Health)
- Two are working with a not-for-profit organization in the territory
- One is working for the federal government
- One is supporting their family and considering a role at Nunavut Arctic College in their home community

The third cohort is set to graduate in fall 2025. There are 10 students in this program.

## **4. Gender Based Violence**

The department received funding for Gender based Violence (GBV) initiatives, including a training conference on concussions and traumatic brain injury resulting from intimate partner violence.

Family Services partnered with the Department of Justice in 2023/24 (\$1,075,000) and 2024/25 (\$1,377,879) to transfer the amounts from the GBV federal funding. Justice's Victim Services spearheaded two Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner conferences in Iqaluit and Rankin Inlet. These conferences focused on training nurses throughout the territory to conduct sexual assault examinations. The nurse training portion was over a two-day period, and the additional two days was open to all service providers. Twenty staff attended the training in Iqaluit, including the deputy minister and assistant deputy minister. Seven staff attended in Rankin Inlet. Agendas for both conferences are included in the appendix.

The traumatic brain injury program is a partnership between Victim Services, Department of Health and Dr. Mike Ellis, who specializes in traumatic brain injuries in Winnipeg. If a woman from Nunavut reports being hit in the head, strangled, or physically assaulted as a result of Interpersonal Violence, she may be referred by the Department of Health to Dr. Mike Ellis for care. The traumatic brain injury program information and referral system was shared with Family Services' regional managers and directors. The information is also available on the matrix electronic case management system. Additionally, the department has requested for Dr.

Ellis to provide training for social workers on the program and the referral process. This information is included in the appendix.

## 5. Youth and Income Assistance

The number of 18-year-olds aging into Income Assistance (IA) is holding steady over the past three years. Fiscal 2024/25 appears to maintain the same short-term trend with a month left in the reporting period. Youth aging into IA remains elevated over previous timeframes, possibly as a result of a combination of increased IA rates and the increased cost of living due to inflation since the Covid-19 pandemic. IA staff noticed a significant drop in IA clients with the introduction of Covid relief programs, and then a dramatic increase once those federal support programs ended, including among 18-year-old clients. Below is the number of youth who have aged into the income assistance program as the Income Assistance program.

2024 to February 2025	266 youth clients
2023-2024	285 youth clients
2022-2023	288 youth clients

## 6. Apprenticeship

The two apprentices employed by the Government of Nunavut are currently working for the Department of Community and Government Services in Iqaluit. There is currently one registered apprentice employed by Nunavut Construction Corporation and one employee in the apprenticeship application process. Nunavut Construction Corporation also has a third employee in Iqaluit in the trade qualification process. These three individuals are Inuit. Nunavut Construction Corporation is also making efforts to get more apprentices through tutoring to prepare for the Trades Entrance Exam. There are currently seven registered apprentices in Arviat. One of the seven apprentices in Arviat is employed by Nunavut Construction Corporation.

Registered Apprentices by Community and Trade as of March 14, 2025

Kitikmeot-Community	Trade	Active
Cambridge Bay	Automotive Service Technician	3
	Carpenter	1
	Electrician (Construction)	2
	Heavy Equipment Technician	1
	Oil Heat System Technician	2
Kugluktuk	Heavy Equipment Technician	1
	Housing Maintainer	3
	Partsperson- Parts Technician	1
Taloyoak	Carpenter	1
	Heavy Equipment Technician	1
	Oil Heat System Technician	2
	Total	18

Kivalliq-Community	Trade	Active
Arviat	Electrician (Construction)	3
	Heavy Equipment Technician	1
	Housing Maintainer	2
	Oil Heat System Technician	1
Baker Lake	Carpenter	1
	Heavy Equipment Technician	3
	Housing Maintainer	2
	Oil Heat System Technician	2
	Partsperson- Parts Technician	1
	Plumber	1
Chesterfield Inlet	Heavy Equipment Technician	1
	Housing Maintainer	1
	Oil Heat System Technician	1
Coral Harbour	Heavy Equipment Technician	2
Rankin Inlet	Carpenter	5
	Electrician (Construction)	4
	Heavy Equipment Technician	5
	Oil Heat System Technician	5
	Plumber	6
Naujaat	Electrician (Construction)	1
	Housing Maintainer	1
Whale Cove	Heavy Equipment Technician	1
	Total	50
Qikiqtaaluk-Community	Trade	Active
Arctic Bay	Heavy Equipment Technician	1
Kinngait	Carpenter	1
Clyde River	Housing Maintainer	2
	Machinist	1
	Plumber	1
Igloolik	Heavy Equipment Technician	1
Iqaluit	Automotive Service Technician	2
	Carpenter	1
	Electrician (Construction)	5
	Heavy Equipment Technician	6
	Oil Heat System Technician	2

	Plumber	3
	Partsperson-Parts Technician	1
Kimmirut	Oil Heat System Technician	1
Pangnirtung	Carpenter	2
Pond Inlet	Automotive Service Technician	1
Qikiqtarjuaq	Oil Heat System Technician	1
Resolute Bay	Heavy Equipment Technician	1
Sanirajak	Heavy Equipment Technician	1
	Welder	1
	Total	35

#### Registered Apprentices by Ethnicity as of March 14, 2025

Kitikmeot		
Inuit	Non-Inuit	Not indicated
7		11

Kivalliq		
Inuit	Non-Inuit	Not indicated
14	1	35

Qikiqtani		
Inuit	Non-Inuit	Not indicated
11		24

Thank you for the opportunity to provide additional details on the issues listed above. This information should clarify our responses to your questions.

Regards,



Honourable Margaret Nakashuk  
Minister of Family Services



## Department of Justice

**Jonathan Ellsworth, Sandy Kownak and Bernadine Rogers**  
**Deputy Minister and Assistant Deputy Ministers Department**  
**of Family Services**  
**Iqaluit, Nunavut**

**February 28, 2024**

**Dear Mr. Ellsworth, Ms. Kownak and Ms. Rogers**

**On behalf of the Department of Justice, I am delighted to invite you and your esteemed team at the Department of Family Services to the Nunavut Victim Services SANE Conference for front-line service providers. The Conference will take place from March 13-14, 2024, from 9:00AM to 4:30PM at the Aqsarniit Hotel in Iqaluit.**

**Since the Department of Family Services is a primary Justice stakeholders, I am excited to spark new potentials as well as strengthen existing initiatives for collaboration between our departments in serving victims and survivors of crime through this Conference. A particular highlight is to continue utilizing the shared resources through the funding from Women and Gender Equality (WAGE) Canada.**

**The Conference will feature presentations and workshops from leading professionals in the fields of forensic nurse examiner, traumatic brain injuries for victims of intimate partner violence, public prosecution as well as resources available through the Nunavut Victim Services.**

**Please find attached Conference agenda for ease of reference and to determine if you'd like to attend specific sessions.**

**I look forward to welcoming you at the Nunavut Victim Services Conference. Please confirm your attendance at your earliest convenience by emailing [caye@gov.nu.ca](mailto:caye@gov.nu.ca).**

**Sincerely,**

**Christine Aye**  
**Director, Community Justice Department**  
**of Justice, GN**



## NUNAVUT VICTIM SERVICES CONFERENCE March 13-14, 2024

**CONTEXT:** In the Fall of 2023, the Department of Justice received funding from Women and Gender Equality (WAGE) Canada through the Department of Family Services to support the initiatives for gender-based violence (GBV) by the Department of Justice and its strategic partners.

The Department of Justice recognizes the crucial role that the front-line service providers play in supporting victims and survivors of gender-based violence. These professionals are often the first point of contact for victims and their families, providing immediate assistance and long-term support. The nature of their work can be complex, demanding, requiring continuous learning and adaption.

Given this context, the Department of Justice is seeking collaboration and partnership through the Nunavut Victim Services Conference to collectively enhance the effectiveness of services provided to Nunavummiut.

### **OBJECTIVES:**

1. **\*\*Learn:\*\*** Gain insights into the latest research, strategies and best practices in serving victims and survivors of gender-based violence. This includes understanding the diverse needs of victims, and innovative service delivery models.
2. **\*\*Collaborate:\*\*** Foster collaboration and networking among front line service providers from various agencies, departments, and organizations. This includes sharing experience, challenges, and solutions in a supportive environment.
3. **\*\*Innovate:\*\*** Encourage innovative thinking to address the evolving but isolating challenges in victim services. This includes incorporating *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit*, exploring new tools and approaches to enhance service delivery.
4. **\*\*Empower:\*\*** Enhance the skills and resilience of front-line service providers. This includes providing resources for self-care, professional development, and leadership.
5. **\*\*Advocate:\*\*** Promote awareness and advocacy for victims' rights and needs. This includes understanding policy implications, legal frameworks, and avenues for advocacy.



**NUNAVUT VICTIM SERVICES CONFERENCE March  
13-14, 2024**

**AGENDA: Day 1 – March 13, 2024 (8:30AM – 4:30PM)**

<b><u>Time</u></b>	<b><u>Items for Discussion</u></b>
8:30 – 9:00AM	Registration and refreshment
9:00 – 9:20AM	Opening Prayer and Qulliq lighting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prayer and Qulliq lighting delivered by Elder Annie Petaulassie</li> </ul>
9:20 – 9:45AM	Welcome and Opening Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Led by Department of Justice senior management</li> </ul>
9:45 – 9:55AM	Overview of the Agenda (Ashley Stewart) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ashley Stewart is a registered psychiatric nurse specializing in forensic nursing and has been practicing for over 16 years. She is the coordinator of the Clinic Sexual Assault Crisis and Healing Program at PANAM Clinic in Winnipeg.</li> </ul>
9:55 – 10:30AM	WORKSHOP: Canadian Law and Age of Consent (Ashley Stewart) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This workshop will discuss and provide overview of the legislation regarding Age of Consent in Canada as well as mandatory reporting and topics around consent to sexual activity and consent for medical forensic examinations.</li> </ul>
10:30 – 10:45AM	HEALTH BREAK
10:45 – 12:00PM	WORKSHOP: Intimate Partner Violence Assessment and Health Impacts (Ashley Stewart) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This workshop focuses on the dynamics, impacts and basics of intimate partner violence including comprehensive physical assessment, and documentation of injuries.</li> </ul>
12:00 – 1:15PM	LUNCH
1:15 – 3:15PM	WORKSHOP: RCMP Sexual Assault Evidence Kit and Documentation (Ashley Stewart) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This workshop will detail the components of the RCMP Sexual Assault Evidence Kit, the usage of the Kit, consent for usage and follow up documentation.</li> </ul>
3:15 – 3:30PM	HEALTH BREAK
3:30 – 4:30PM	WORKSHOP: Assessment of Intimate Partner Violence and Mild Traumatic Brain Injuries (Dr. Mike Ellis) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dr. Mike Ellis is a Neurosurgeon and Medical Director of Pan Am Concussion Program in Winnipeg Manitoba. Through the Kivalliq Intimate</li> </ul>





**NUNAVUT VICTIM SERVICES CONFERENCE March  
13-14, 2024**

	<p>Partner Violence Traumatic Brain Injury Pilot Program, Dr. Ellis has worked closely with the Nunavut Victim Services and provides care for many victims and survivors of crime in Nunavut.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- This workshop includes information on the basics of assessing patients impacted by mild traumatic brain injuries, strangulation, and the neurological impacts.</li></ul>
--	--



**NUNAVUT VICTIM SERVICES CONFERENCE March  
13-14, 2024**

**AGENDA: Day 2 – March 14, 2024 (8:30AM – 4:00PM)**

<b><u>Time</u></b>	<b><u>Items for Discussion</u></b>
8:30 – 9:00AM	Registration and refreshment
9:00 – 9:15AM	Overview of Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Led by Nunavut Victim Services</li> </ul>
9:15 – 9:45AM	WORKSHOP: Royal Canadian Mounted Police (Jill Bonnet) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Jill Bonnet is NCO (Non-Commissioned Office) in charge of the Specialized Investigative Team (SIT) in Iqaluit. Ms. Bonnet has been with the RCMP for 18 years and has spent much of her career investigating serious persons offenses, including homicide and child maltreatment. Ms. Bonnet has been in Nunavut for the last three and a half years.</li> <li>- Throughout this workshop, Ms. Bonnet will share RCMP perspective on the type of sexual offenses that are investigated and compare jurisdictional differences and similarities. She will also be sharing some statistical data regarding this topic.</li> </ul>
9:45 – 10:15AM	WORKSHOP: Public Prosecution Services Canada (Emma Baasch) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Emma Baasch is the Deputy Chief Federal Prosecutor for Nunavut. She is also a specialist in the prosecution for sexual violence against minors. Ms. Baasch coordinate with stakeholders such as the Department of Family Services, Department of Justice, and the Umingmak Child and Youth Advocacy Centre to provide appropriate resources for children witnesses experiencing sexual violence.</li> <li>- In this workshop, Ms. Baasch will share how the evidence collected through the Sexual Assault Evidence Kits are utilize through the court proceedings, the evidence to support prosecution of sexual violence beyond DNA and the Nunavut Specialized Sexual Violence Prosecution Plan.</li> </ul>
10:15 – 10:30AM	HEALTH BREAK
10:30 – 12:00PM	PANEL DISCUSSION: Q&A of topics covered from Day 1 and 2 <p>Panelists: Dr. Mike Ellis (Pan AM Concussion Program) Ashely Stewart (International Association of Forensic Nurses) Emma Baasch (Public Prosecution Services Canada) Jill Bonnet (Royal Canadian Mounted Police) Dephin Mutema (Department of Justice, GN)</p>

	Moderators: Lorri Martinez and Sherry Morey (Department of Justice, GN)
12:00 – 1:30PM	LUNCH and Networking Opportunities
1:30 – 3:00PM	<p>KEYNOTE PRESENTATION: Susan Aglukark</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Inuk singer/ songwriter Susan Aglukark blends the Inuktitut, Indigenous and English language with contemporary music arrangements to tell the stories of her fellow people, the Inuit of Arctic Canada, and her fellow Indigenous groups.</li> <li>- Ms. Aglukark will share NOMAD: Correcting the Narrative, a creative multimedia/ speaking and singing presentation, followed by questions and discussions.</li> </ul>
3:00 – 3:15PM	HEALTH BREAK
3:15 – 3:45PM	<p>Closing Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Led by Nunavut Victim Services</li> </ul>
3:45 – 4:00PM	<p>Closing Prayer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prayer delivered by Elder Annie Petaulassie</li> </ul>

## **AGENDA: Day 1 – October 21, 2024**

<u><b>Time</b></u>	<u><b>Items for Discussion</b></u>
8:30 – 9:00AM	Registration and refreshment
9:00 – 9:15AM	Opening Prayer and Qulliq lighting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prayer and Qulliq lighting delivered by Elder Dorothy Aglukark</li> </ul>
9:15 – 9:45AM	Welcome and Opening Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Led by Department of Justice</li> </ul>
9:45 – 10:00AM	HEALTH BREAK
10:00 – 12:00AM	<p><b>Supporting Sexual Assault Survivors</b></p> <p>Keynote Speaker: Susan Aglukark is a distinguished Inuk singer/songwriter and storyteller. Susan will be sharing on the importance of cultural safety and competency in the context of Inuit history and knowledge for supporting sexual assault survivors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- She brings a message of hope for healing, weaved throughout her NOMAD presentation which features storytelling blended with a musical arrangement and an expressive art workshop, derived from lived experience.</li> </ul>
12:00 – 1:00PM	LUNCH and Networking Opportunities
1:15 – 2:00PM	<p><b>Charges &amp; Investigation</b></p> <p>Speaker: Jill Bonnet, Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) Sergeant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sergeant Jill Bonnet leads the Specialized Investigative Team (SIT) in Iqaluit. Jill has been with the RCMP for 19 years and has spent much of her career investigating serious persons offenses, including child maltreatment and homicides. Jill has been stationed in Nunavut for the last four years.</li> <li>- Jill Bonnet will share RCMP perspective on the type of sexual offenses that are investigated and compare jurisdictional differences, similarities, and statistical data regarding this topic.</li> </ul>
2:05 – 3:00PM	<p><b>Evidence Collection</b></p> <p>Speaker: Ashley Stewart, MSN, BScPN RPN, SANE-A, SANE-P International Association of Forensic Nurses (IAFN)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ashley is a registered psychiatric nurse specializing in forensic nursing and has been practicing for over 16 years. She is the coordinator of the Clinic Sexual Assault Crisis and Healing Program at PANAM Clinic in Winnipeg.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ashely will provide an overview of the legislation regarding Age of Consent in Canada, mandatory reporting and topics around consent to sexual activity and consent for medical forensic examinations.</li> <li>- Sexual Assault Evidence Kit (SEAK) consent for usage and follow up documentation for the adult population.</li> </ul>
3:00 – 3:15PM	HEALTH BREAK
3:15 – 4:00PM	<p><b>Evidence Collection – Child and Youth</b></p> <p>Speaker: Dr. Amber Miners MD, FRCPC, DRCPSC Child abuse / maltreatment pediatrics.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dr. Miners has been serving Nunavummiut since 2003 and is based out of Iqaluit's Qikiqtani General Hospital, Pediatrics Unit. She sits on the Trauma Aware National Advisory Committee, and the Canadian Pediatric Society National Board Executive.</li> <li>- She will primarily speak to sexual assaults in the child and youth population and focusing on the differences between adult and youth examinations.</li> </ul>
4:00 – 4:30PM	Wellness Activity

## **AGENDA: Day 2 – October 22, 2024**

<u><b>Time</b></u>	<u><b>Items for Discussion</b></u>
8:30 – 8:45AM	Registration and refreshment
8:45 – 9:00AM	Opening Prayer and Qulliq lighting
9:05 – 10:15AM	<p><b>Impacts associated with crime</b></p> <p>Speakers: Dr. Micheal Ellis MD, FRCS(C)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dr Ellis is a Neurosurgeon and Medical Director of Pan AM Concussion Program in Winnipeg Manitoba. He works closely with the Nunavut Victim Services, through the Kivalliq Intimate Partner Violence Traumatic Brain Injury Pilot Program to provide care to many victims and survivors of crime in Nunavut.</li> <li>- Dr Ellis will share information on the basics of assessing patients impacted by head injuries, strangulation, and the neurological impacts of mild traumatic brain injuries (TBI).</li> </ul>
10:15 – 10:30AM	HEALTH BREAK
10:30 – 11:55AM	<p><b>Impacts associated with crime continued</b></p> <p>Speakers: Ashley Stewart MSN, BScPN RPN, SANE-A, SANE-P</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ashley is a psychiatric nurse who will discuss the dynamics, impacts and basics of intimate partner violence (IPV) including comprehensive physical assessment, and documentation of injuries.</li> </ul>
12:00 – 1:00PM	LUNCH and Networking Opportunities
1:15 – 2:15PM	<p><b>Prosecution of Sexual Assaults</b></p> <p>Speaker: Stephanie Boydell, Lead Prosecutor for the Sexual Violence Prosecution Team at Public Prosecution Services Canada (PPSC), Nunavut Regional Office</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Stephanie oversees the prosecutions of serious sexual assaults, historical sexual assaults, and other major cases i.e. homicide. She is a member of the National Working Group for sexual violence prosecutors</li> <li>- she was the Chief Legal Officer and Acting Chief Executive Officer of Nunavut Legal Aid. She practiced as a criminal defense lawyer for over 12 years, working in both Ontario and Nunavut. She has taught at the Northern Intensive Trial Advocacy Program in Nunavut, at the PPSC School for Prosecutors, and prioritizes mentorship and training at the NRO within her practice.</li> </ul>

	<p>Speaker: Jessika Withers, Crown Prosecutor.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Jessika is a member of the Sexual Violence Prosecution Team in Iqaluit, Nunavut Regional Office.</li> <li>- She shares a victim-centered approach that prioritizes support and protection throughout the legal process.</li> </ul>
2:15 – 3:00PM	<p><b>Wrap-around Care - Umingmak Child and Youth Advocacy Centre, NU</b></p> <p>Speakers: Jeff Kheraj, Child and Family Advocate.  Jeff is an advocate with the Umingmak Centre, a hub that provides appropriate and culturally relevant resources for children and youth victims and witnesses experiencing sexual violence among many other major cases such as witnesses of homicides.</p> <p>Speaker: Dr Amber Miners, MD, FRCPC, DRCPSC Lead Physician,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dr. Miners currently serves as the Lead Physician at Umingmak Centre, and Territorial Child Abuse Physician with the Department of Family Wellness.</li> <li>- She will speak to the negative impact of trauma on children and supports that can reduce the effects of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs).</li> </ul>
3:00 – 3:15PM	HEALTH BREAK
3:15 – 4:00PM	<p><b>Wrap-around Care - Toba Centre, Winnipeg, MB.</b></p> <p>Speaker: Christy Dzikowicz B.A., B.S.W, Chief Executive Officer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Christy has worked in child protection in variety of roles for over 25 years. She has led a team that supported families of missing children, exploited children and the development of a support network for adult survivors of child sexual exploitation.</li> <li>- Toba Centre provides care to the children/youth who are victims or witnesses of crimes. Serving Manitoba and Nunavummiut mainly coming out of the Kivalliq Region and Sanikiluaq.</li> </ul> <p>Speaker: Janna Amirault, RCMP Sergeant, Integrated Child Abuse Unit (ICAU)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Janna has been an RCMP for 23 years, with all her service in Manitoba. She oversees ICAU, which is made up of Brandon Police Service, Manitoba First Nation Police Service and RCMP police officers, and is based at Toba Centre, Winnipeg, MB.</li> <li>- ICAU was established to provide and support and direction to Manitoba police detachments with their child abuse investigations.</li> </ul>
4:00 – 4:30PM	Closing Remarks

## Appendix B

### Nunavut Traumatic Brain Injury Program Information Sheet

<https://www.panamclinic.org/departments/concussion-program/nunavut-gender-based-violence-traumatic-brain-injury/>

#### Nunavut Gender Based Violence

### Traumatic Brain Injury Program

Patients who meet strict referral criteria may be referred to the Gender-Based Violence Traumatic Brain Injury Program:

1. Youth or adults who sustain head trauma including head injury, concussion, structural brain injury (e.g. intracranial hemorrhage) or injuries secondary to non-fatal strangulation, that is directly caused by GBV (including intimate partner violence and injuries that occur in the setting of other forms of GBV including human trafficking);
2. Patients who live in ANY community within the territory of Nunavut

To refer a patient, physicians and nurses must fax a completed *Nunavut Gender-Based Violence Traumatic Brain Injury Program Referral Form* to the Pan Am Concussion Program at 204-927-2768.

Referral forms can be found at ([www.panamclinic.org/departments/concussion-program/](http://www.panamclinic.org/departments/concussion-program/)). Healthcare providers who require assistance determining whether patients are eligible for referral through the program may contact the clinic at 204-927-2766.

All patients will ideally undergo an in-person consultation in Winnipeg. Future follow-up care will be arranged via telemedicine (in-person video-conferencing) or in-person based on patient preference. All patients managed through the program will be connected to community-based medical and supportive services as available.



## For more information please contact

Pan Am Concussion Program: 204-927-2766

For more information on intimate partner violence traumatic brain injury please visit the following links:

[ABIToolkit](#)

To access resources on intimate partner violence traumatic brain injury, please visit:

[Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada](#)

[Program Fact Sheet](#)

[Referral Form](#)

# NUNAVUT GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY PROGRAM FACT SHEET

## Background:

- Gender-based violence, including intimate partner violence commonly results in traumatic injury to the head, face and/or neck
- Individuals who have experienced head trauma or non-fatal strangulation resulting from gender-based violence and present with one or more signs or symptoms of head trauma/traumatic brain injury/non-fatal strangulation should undergo urgent medical assessment when it is safe to do so

## CHAR Recognition Tool:

- To help recognize individuals with these injuries, healthcare professionals may follow these four steps (CHAR):

**C** Ask: Did your partner Choke or strangle you?  
**H** Ask: Did your partner hit you in the Head or cause you to hit your Head?  
**A** Ask: Are you experiencing any Acute or worsening signs or symptoms?  
**R** If a traumatic brain injury or non-fatal strangulation injury is suspected, Refer for medical assessment when safe

Signs and symptoms of head trauma/traumatic brain injury/non-fatal strangulation

Headache or head pressure Nausea  
or vomiting Sensitivity to light or  
sound Dizziness or vertigo

Blurred, double or loss of vision  
Slurred speech

Difficulty remembering or concentrating Feeling more  
sad or anxious

Weakness or numbness/tingling in the face, arms or  
legs

Neck pain

Seizure or convulsions Facial  
bruising or injuries Confusion or  
disorientation Difficulty talking or  
swallowing Voice changes or  
hoarseness Balance problems

Difficulty sleeping

Feeling more tired than normal  
Having flashbacks or nightmares of previous trauma

Feeling more emotional

Following initial medical assessment, patients with suspected or confirmed GBV head trauma, traumatic brain injury and/or non-fatal strangulation injuries may be considered for referral to the *Nunavut Gender-based Violence Traumatic Brain Injury Program* if they meet the following inclusion criteria:

1. Youth or adults who sustain head trauma including head injury, concussion, structural brain injury (e.g. intracranial hemorrhage) or injuries secondary to non-fatal strangulation, that is directly caused by gender-based violence (including intimate partner violence and injuries that occur in the setting of other forms of GBV including human trafficking);
2. Patients who live in the community within the territory of Nunavut

**For more information or how to refer a patient please visit the Pan Artn Clinic website at [www.panamclinic.org/departments/concussion-program/](http://www.panamclinic.org/departments/concussion-program/) or call the Pan Artn Concussion Program at 204-927-2766.**



## NUNAVUT GENDER BASED VIOLENCE TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY PROGRAM REFERRAL FORM

Patient Name: \_\_\_\_\_(,last),  
\_\_\_\_\_(first) DOB(DD/MM/YYYY): \_\_\_\_\_

Nunavut health#: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Does patient require language interpretation services? No ☐ Yes ☐, (if yes, specify preferred language and dialect): \_\_\_\_\_

Has patient been recently transferred to Winnipeg for emergency medical care? Yes ☐ No ☐

Patient age: \_\_\_\_\_ Patient sex: Male ☐ Female ☐ Other ☐

Date of Injury:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Clinical History and Present Symptoms:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Past Medical History:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Current Medications:

\_\_\_\_\_

Previous Investigations, Results, Consultations (e.g x-ray, CT, mental health worker):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Referring healthcare provider:*

\_\_\_\_\_(print); \_\_\_\_\_(signature)

This referral form is only to be used by healthcare providers caring for patients who sustain gender-based violence-related head trauma and non-fatal cranial injuries in Nunavut who are safe to undergo elective consultation in Winnipeg, Manitoba. It is not to be used for patients in need of emergency medical care. Please visit [www.panamdnlc.org/departments/concussion-program/](http://www.panamdnlc.org/departments/concussion-program/) for more information. Completed forms may be faxed to 204-927-2768