

Impact of Trauma and Violence on Vulnerable Women's Health: Strategies to Reduce Violence and Promote the Health of BC Sex Workers



Workshop Program ~ April 30, 2008

- 8:30 – 9:00** **Arrival (Light Breakfast Served)**
- 9:00 – 9:30** ***Framing the Problem* ~ Cecilia Benoit, Co-Leader, WHRN**
- 9:30 – 10:45** **What we know about the Violence and Trauma Experienced by British Columbia's Sex Workers**
- 9:30 – 9:55 *Experiences of Violence among Vancouver Street Workers* ~ Kate Shannon
- 9:55 – 10:20 *Behind Close Doors: Violence among Off-Street Sex Workers in Victoria* ~ Lauren Casey and Tracie Fawkes
- 10:20 – 10:45 *Safety Concerns and Safety Strategies of Immigrant Indoor Sex Workers in the Greater Vancouver area* ~ Soni Thindal
- 10:45 – 11:00** **Coffee Break**
- 11:00 – 11:45** **Discussion**
- 11:45 – 12:15** **Networking Lunch (Lunch Served)**
- 12:15 – 2:45** **Best Practices for Reducing Violence & Promoting the Health of BC Sex Workers**
- 12:15 – 12:40 *Legislative Approaches to Sex work: Opportunities for Positive Action* ~ Frances M. Shaver
- 12:40 – 1:10 *Leading the Way: Sex Worker Cooperatives and Sex Industry Stabilization* ~ Susan Davis.
- 1:10 – 1:40 *The Victoria Escort Agency Project: A Social Enterprise* ~ Jody Patterson
- 1:40 – 2:10 *Programs for Sex Workers Seeking Other Paths* ~ Lisa Osbitsch
- 2:10 – 2:25** **Coffee Break**
- 2:25 – 2:40** **Discussion**
- 2:40 – 3:00** **Wrap Up & Next Steps ~ Cecilia Benoit, Co-Leader of the WHRN**

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Workshop Details

Background:

The Women's Health Research Network (WHRN) is a catalyst for bringing together innovative groupings of gender and women's health researchers and research collaborations drawn from academic, health service, policy and community settings. It fosters the generation, application and mainstreaming of new knowledge and is specifically dedicated to women's health research that will increase the understanding of and capacity for sex and gender-based analyses and for integrating women's health concerns into other areas of health research. With an inclusive, multisectoral and multidisciplinary approach to research, the WHRN encourages the brokerage of knowledge regarding the health of girls and women in BC.

Key Objectives:

- Bring together academics, community researchers and students from around the province interested in understanding the factors linked to variation in experiences of violence experienced by BC sex workers;
- Understand the impact of different policy environments on sex workers' safety and health;
- Learn about experiments proposed and underway in BC to reduce violence in of-street and on-street locations and existing programs to help sex workers wishing to leave the industry;
- Identify avenues for further research and policy development.

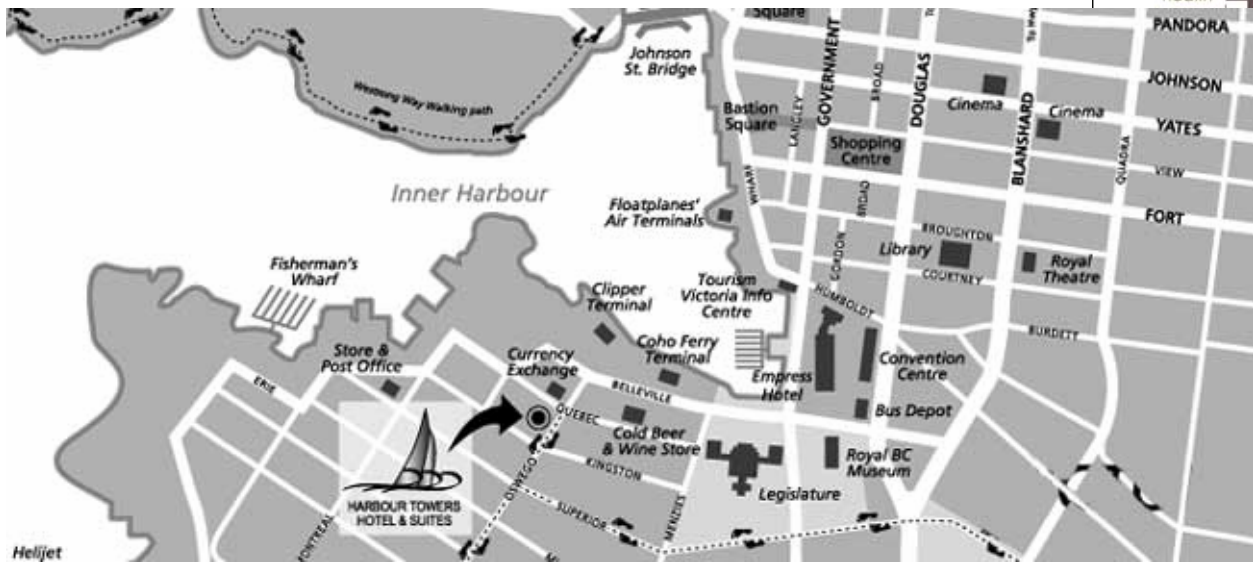
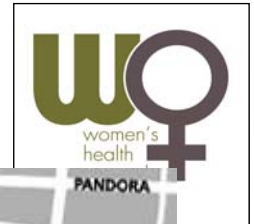
Date and Venue:

The workshop will be held in 'Salon B' at Harbour Towers Hotel & Suites • 345 Quebec Street, Victoria, BC • V8V 1W4. The event will be held from 9:00 am to 3:00pm with breakfast starting at 8:30.

Directions:

Harbour Towers is conveniently located in downtown Victoria a short distance from both the floatplane and bus terminals. Please see the map below for directions.

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If you have any questions or concerns about the workshop please contact Research Coordinator Kate Vallance at vallance@uvic.ca.

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