

Nanaimo Police Based Victim Services Society

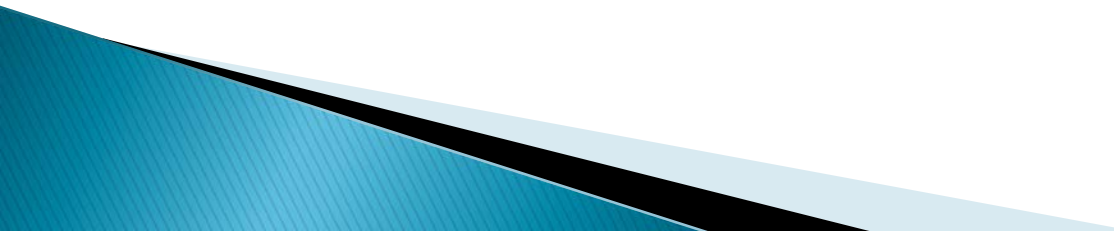
**“People will forget what you said,
People will forget what you did, but...**

**They will never forget
how you made them feel”**

Maya Angelou

Nanaimo Police Based Victim Services Society

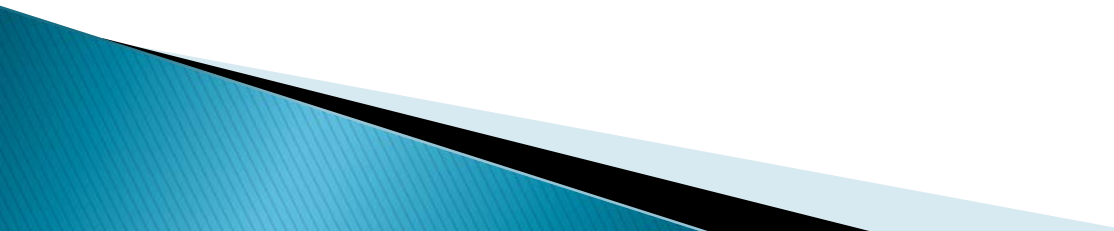
Services to victims of crime and other trauma:

- Practical assistance, grief and emotional support
 - Assistance with forms VIS, CVAP, CSC, Restitution etc.
 - Police File updates
 - Court File updates
 - Liaise with Police, Crown Counsel and other agencies
 - Court support
 - Explanation of the Court process
 - Witness orientation, preparation and accompaniment
 - Community Relations and Education
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Victims' Rights

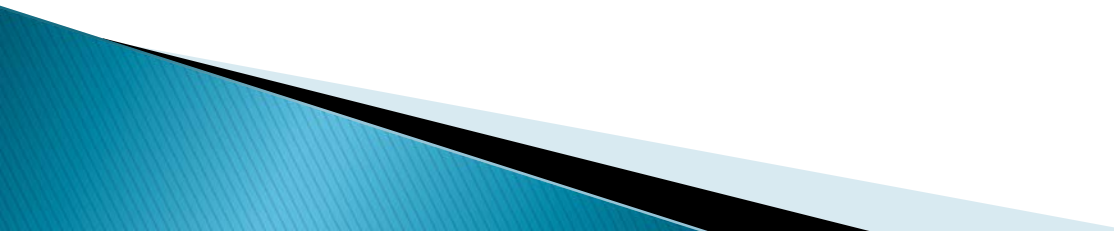
- **Provincial Legislation (1996)**
Victims of Crime Act
(VOCA)
- **Federal Bill (2015)**
Canadian Victims Bill of Rights
(CVBR)

VOCA (1996)


- **"justice system personnel"** means auxiliary constables, chief constables, chief officers, designated constables, enforcement officers, municipal constables, provincial constables, special municipal constables and special provincial constables as defined in Section 1 of the Police Act and persons working in positions designated by the Attorney General.
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Rights under VOCA

Justice system personnel must offer a victim general information concerning:

- The structure and operation of the justice system
 - Victim services
 - Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act
 - Crime Victim Assistance Act
 - Victims of Crime Act
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Information that must be given on request (VOCA)

- The status of the police investigation
 - The specific counts with which the accused is charged or for which the offender is convicted
 - The name of the accused
 - The date, location and reasons for each court appearance that is likely to affect the final disposition, sentence or bail status of the accused
 - The outcome of each court appearance that is likely to affect the final disposition, sentence or bail status of the accused
 - The length of any sentence that the offender is serving and the date the sentence began
 - The means for the victim to report breaches of the terms of supervision by the offender released under supervision
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CVBR

➤ **Information**

- General information
- Investigation and proceedings
- Information about offender or accused

➤ **Protection**

- Security
- Protection from intimidation and retaliation
- Privacy
- Identity protection
- Testimonial aids

➤ **Participation**

- Views to be considered
- Victim impact statement

➤ **Restitution**

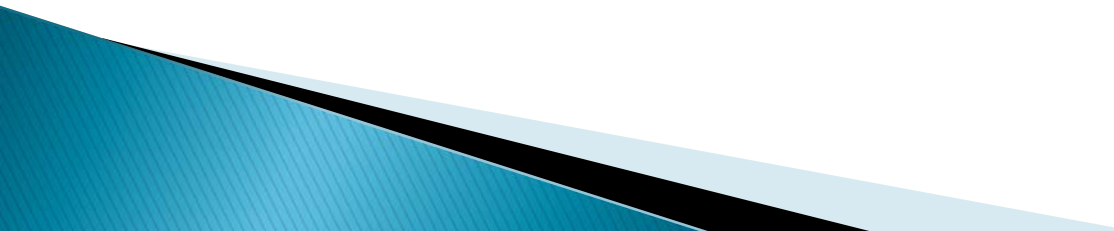
- Restitution order
- Enforcement

Who are we?

- Full time Program Manager
 - Full time Assistant Program Manager
 - Two days per week staff member
 - One day per week staff member
 - Eight volunteers providing an average of about 45 hours per month
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Who are we?

➤ Our Volunteers:

- Work hard but the work is emotionally draining.
 - Provide services when they are available, but scheduling makes consistency for our clients difficult.
 - There is only so much we can ask of our volunteers
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Funding

We are a **non-profit society** with three main funding sources:

The Province – Ministry of Solicitor General and Public Safety:

\$84,733

City of Nanaimo:

\$53,229 plus “in kind” for rent

Regional District of Nanaimo:

\$10,000

Total Annual Funding: \$147,962



Statistics:

In **2018**, we served **837 Clients**

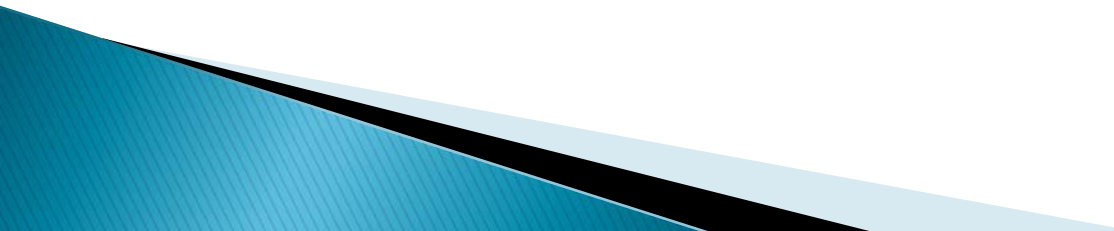
These files included:

- **Murder**
- **Sudden Death**
- **Child Pornography**
- **Motor Vehicle Incidents - fatal or serious injuries**
- **Threats**
- **Sexual Assault**
- **Robbery**
- **Domestic Violence**
- **Property Crime**
- **Break & Enter**
- **Criminal Harassment**

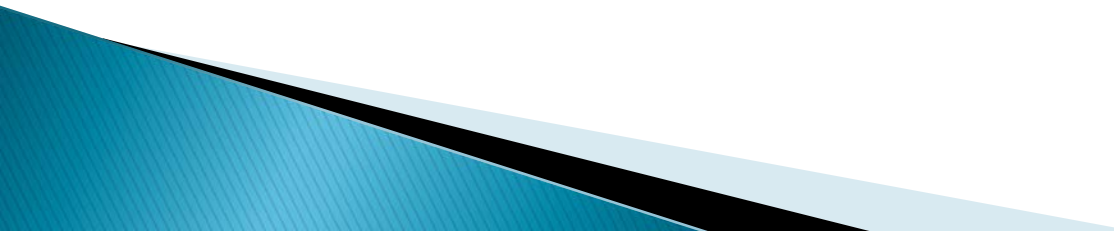
Most client referrals come from police, self referrals, other community agencies, and other Victim Services Programs.



The Work

- Most people get involved to serve their community, because of their own experiences, or they want to assist police.
 - The work is emotionally draining, and compassion fatigue, vicarious trauma and burnout are real concerns.
 - Our team is exposed to some very traumatic events, similar to what an RCMP member may be exposed to.
 - We support one another and strongly encourage self care.
 - The Program does not have funding to provide psychological services to volunteers and part time staff.
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Victim Services or Police?

- If Victim Services' Society did not exist, police would be required to provide this service.
 - The role of Victim Services and police are very different, and we work “hand in hand” to serve the community.
 - If police were to provide both services, their time to do police work would be diminished.
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City of Nanaimo

Historic funding of the program by the City of Nanaimo compared with the population served:

Year	Population	Funding
2004	77,089*	\$55,038 / \$0.71 pp
2007	80,949*	\$48,229 / \$0.60pp
2015	91,597*	\$53,229 / \$0.58pp
2018	113,132**	\$53,229 / \$0.47pp

(Present funding is \$1,809 less than 2004 funding)

* Province of BC website

** City of Nanaimo website

Our Request

- That the City of Nanaimo increase their funding of the program to cover two full time positions, including benefits. (This request is equivalent to \$100,000)
- If this is not possible, we request the City of Nanaimo increase their funding of the program to cover one and a half full time positions, including benefits. (This request is equivalent to \$75,000.)
- If this is not possible, we request the City of Nanaimo increase their funding of the program to cover one full time position, including benefits. (This request is equivalent to \$50,000.)

Respectfully submitted,

Nanaimo Police Based Victim Services Society Board

