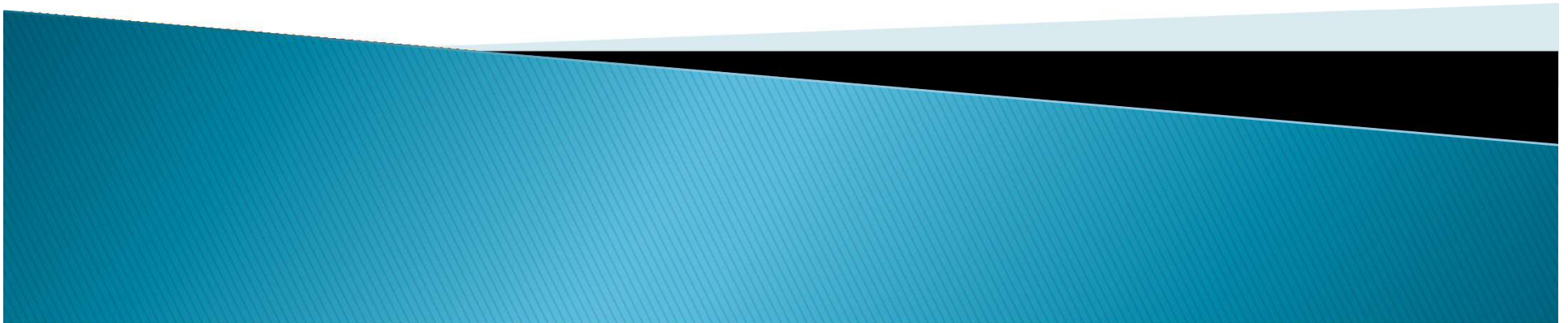


Nanaimo Police Based Victim Services Society

**“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



Victims' Rights

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



VOCA (1996)

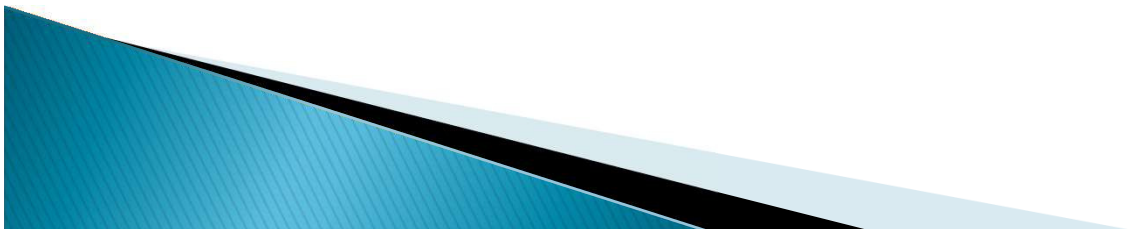
- **"justice system personnel"** means auxiliary constables, chief constables, chief officers, designated constables, enforcement officers, municipal constables, provincial constables, special municipal constables and special provincial constables as defined in Section 1 of the Police Act and persons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



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



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



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



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



Funding

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

The Province – Ministry of Solicitor General and Public Safety:

\$84,733

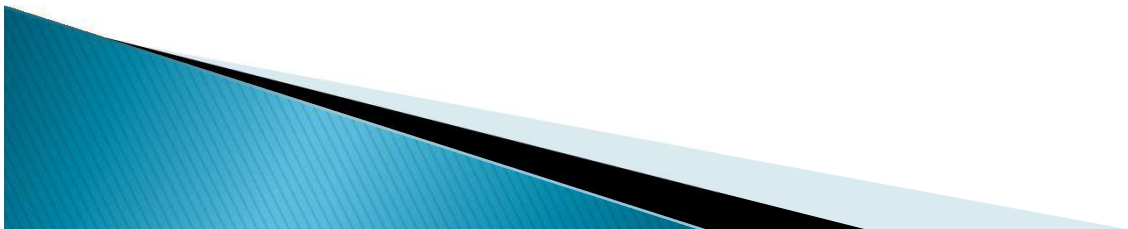
City of Nanaimo:

\$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.



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.



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

