### BUILDING A SAFER NANAIMO THROUGH YOUTH RESILIENCE (Building Safer Communities Fund)

Council Engagement 2023-FEB-13





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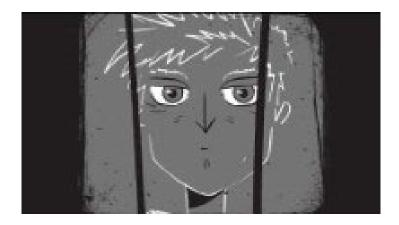
## INTRODUCTION

#### **WORK PLAN AND ACTIVITIES**

- Research report
- Consultation engagement strategy
- Steering committee engagement
- \*\*\* Community consultations
- ✓ Best practice summary report
- Public awareness, education strategy, communication
- Data collection strategy and monitoring plan
- ∞ Sustainability plan

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#### WHAT IS UPSTREAM PREVENTION?



#### **RISK FACTORS**

Individual	Peer Group School	Family	Community	Society
Prior delinquency or criminalization Illegal gun ownership Drug trafficking Desire for status, identity, self-esteem, companionship, and protection Aggression or violence Alcohol and drug use Early sexual activity Violent victimization Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs)	Gang members in class     Friends who use drugs     Friends who are Negative labelling	Family violence, neglect, and drug use     Family members in	Presence of gangs in the neighbourhood	High poverty     Discrimination, stigma, racism, an oppression     Lack of access to affordable and sa housing options     Lack of services (social, recreational, cultural)

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## PROTECTIVE FACTORS (RESILIENCIES)

Individual	Peer Group	School	Family	Community	Society
Intolerant attitude toward violence Positive self-esteem and sense of belonging Popularity acknowledged by friends Highly developed social skills / competencies Religious beliefs Strong conflict resolution skills	Strong and close relationships with classmates     Close relationships with peers who are not in conflict with the law     Membership in peer groups that do not condone violent behaviour     Involvement in after-school activities	Commitment to school Clear behaviour rules in school Engagement of parents and teachers Academic achievement and aspirations	Connectedness to family or adults outside the family     Ability to discuss problems with parents     Frequent shared activities with parents     Consistent presence of parent(s) in the morning or evening     Involvement in social or recreational activities     Parental/family use of constructive strategies for coping with problems	Community engagement     Volunteering     Participation in traditional healing and cultural activities     Availability of services (social, recreational, cultural)     Supports for parents	Social and economic policies that support positive youth development     Access to basic needs and services     Community norms of shared responsibility for supporting youth and families

# DISCUSSION / ENGAGEMENT

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#### **STRENGTHS**

- What child/youth programs are you aware of in Nanaimo?
  - Which of these specifically support children and youth that struggle (e.g., fitting in, displaying challenging behaviours such as problematic substance use, are in conflict with the law, have school attendance issues, live in a situation where it is difficult to make ends meet, etc.)?
  - $\circ\,$  Which organizations and programs do well in working with children and youth?
  - Are there any specific neighbourhood-based programs that do well in supporting children and youth?

#### **CONCERNS**

- In your opinion, to what extent are gangs and guns an issue in Nanaimo?
- With regards to gun and/or gang activity in Nanaimo, what are some key locations of concern?
- Why do you think children/youth become involved with gangs in the first place? (E.g., risk factors)

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#### **OPPORTUNITIES / SOLUTIONS**

- What recommendations do you have to prevent and/or intervene with the reasons children/youth become involved in gangs?
  - o Consider programs, services, policies, etc.
- What do you think should be done in Nanaimo to support young people exiting gangs?

#### SUSTAINING THE MOMENTUM

- If the community wants to have a lasting impact building on the strategy, what can organizations do now and into the future to keep up the momentum of prevention and intervention?
- More concretely, what can Council do to create lasting changes in the community (e.g., policies, programs, collaboration efforts, etc.)?

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#### **MONITORING / EVALUATION**

- At the end of the 3 years of funding, how will we know if our strategy has been successful?
  - o Consider the impact on children and youth in Nanaimo.
  - o Consider the impact on community safety in Nanaimo.
  - Consider the impact on community capacity and collaboration in Nanaimo.
- In your opinion, what indicators can show us whether Nanaimo has been successful in achieving the goals for the strategy?

# CONCLUSION & NEXT STEPS