

Michelle Novokowski

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Michelle Novakowski has worked with survivors of sexual and domestic violence for over twenty-five years including front-line work, program management, coordination and training. As chair/coordinator of the Violence Against Women in Relationships (VAWIR) Committee in Dawson Creek she helped develop a model for case tracking that has become a best practice template. In 1997 she began work in Nanaimo as the Coordinator for Haven Society's Community-Based Victim Service Programs and developed inter-agency community coordination there.

Michelle has delivered Victim Services core training through the Justice Institute of B.C. and sexual assault response training for the Ending Violence Association of BC (EVA BC) and joined the EVA BC team in 2005. Along with developing tools and templates for communities around B.C., she developed the *Easy Reference Guide to Bill C-2* (aids for vulnerable victims to testify in court) and was on the project team for the *Keeping Women Safe: Eight Critical Components of an Effective Justice Response to Domestic Violence* report which is now a Judge's bench book in Ontario.

From 2013 to 2020 she was the Executive Director of the Central Okanagan Elizabeth Fry Society and developed the first in BC embedded Highest Risk Domestic Violence Unit at the Kelowna RCMP Detachment that includes specialized staff from the E Fry office.

Michelle is currently a consultant for the Ending Violence Association of BC.