

DECLARATION OF COMMITMENT

We, the signatory partners of this Protocol, affirm our commitment to and accountability for the implementation and monitoring of the best practice guidelines for a collaborative response to adult victims of sexual assault outlined in this document, including but necessarily limited to training our employees to fulfill their individual responsibilities as described in this Protocol.

We believe that our individual and collective responses to sexual assault are enhanced and strengthened by a shared understanding of the issue of sexual violence and a commitment to work together in a cooperative and collaborative manner to meet the many different, often complex, and changing needs of victims of sexual assault. To this end, we have participated in the development of this Protocol and we agree to comply with the guidelines and procedures contained herein.

The signatory partners, as listed on the following page, commit to compliance with this Protocol in accordance with their organizations' mandate effective December 5, 2008.

Signatory Partners:

Listed in alphabetical order by agency name

Belleville Police Service

Acting Chief, Brian Harder

CFB Trenton, Military Police

Lieutenant (Navy) Paul Blackmore,
Detachment Commander

Crown Attorney's Office, Hastings
County

Earl Johns, Detachment Commander

Ontario Provincial Police, Central
Hastings

Peter Valiquette, Detachment Commander

Ontario Provincial Police, Quinte West
Detachment

Scott Robertson, Manager

Quinte Healthcare
Domestic Violence/ Sexual Assault
Response Program

Wendy Parker, Manager

Probation & Parole	_____ Jolyon Thompson, Area Manager
Sexual Assault Centre	_____ Kim Charlebois, Executive Director
Stirling/Rawdon Police Service	_____ Chief Brian Foley, Chief of Police
Victim/Witness Assistance Program	_____ Michele Arsenault, Manager
Victim Services of Hastings & Prince Edward Counties – Support Link	_____ Lisa Warriner, Executive Director

Associated Agencies & Organizations

Victims and survivors of sexual assault may require support and assistance from many different service providers working in various sectors as they move towards healing and recovery. The signatory partners of this Protocol represent the sectors and organizations most often involved with victims of sexual assault following acute or historic disclosures, as per their legislated and/or voluntary mandates. However, other education, health, social service and legal organizations may offer services to victims and survivors of sexual assault irrespective of the fact that they are not specifically or exclusively mandated or funded to provide specialized services to these persons; in addition, victims of sexual assault may be dealing with related or seemingly unrelated issues, challenges and pressures that require attention during their recovery process, such as poverty or income issues, homelessness or housing issues, and/or health, mental health or addictions issues.

For this reason, employees at signatory partner agencies are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the wide range of organizations and agencies that are part of the comprehensive network of services and supports available throughout Center and South Hastings so that they may provide timely referrals to appropriate and needed services when working with victims and survivors of sexual assault. More specifically, employees at signatory partner agencies are encouraged to read the Partner Abuse Protocol for Central & South Hastings, as well as this Sexual Assault Protocol, with particular attention to the brief service descriptions of the associated agencies and organizations found in **Appendix 4**.