

## PURPOSE OF PART B: SEXUAL ASSAULT PROTOCOL

The Sexual Assault Protocol is designed to:

- Promote a collaborative, cooperative and consistent response to victims and survivors of sexual assault with attention to best practice guidelines for reporting, crisis intervention and long term support.
- Facilitate and support effective communication, networking and service planning between and among service providers involved with victims and survivors of sexual assault, with attention to the most effective use of existing community resources in Central and South Hastings.
- Provide information to assist service providers working with victims and survivors from diverse and marginalized populations.
- Clarify and promote understanding of the specific mandates, roles, responsibilities and practices of the signatory partners.
- Promote mutual recognition of and respect for the specialized areas of expertise represented among the signatory partners.
- Provide information that might be used by signatory partners and associated agencies when developing policies or procedures for their respective organizations which might impact on victims and survivors of sexual assault.

This Protocol has been written to support and facilitate the efforts of **front line service providers and managers** working with victims and survivors of sexual assault. While it was not designed to serve as a resource for victims or survivors, service providers are welcome to share relevant sections of the Protocol, or the entire document, with persons using their services in those instances when they believe the information would be beneficial to their clients.