

4.1(j) Victim/Witness Assistance Program Ministry of the Attorney General / Victims and Vulnerable Persons Division

The Victim/Witness Assistance Program (V/WAP) provides information, assistance and support to victims/witnesses of crime in order to improve their understanding of, and participation in the criminal justice process. This free service is available to victims and witnesses after a criminal charge has been laid.

It is not the role of the Victim/Witness Assistance Program to discuss evidence with clients. Clients are referred to the Investigating Police Officer or to the Crown Attorney for this purpose.

Referrals are accepted from police officers, crown attorneys, shelters, self referral and other social service providers

Area Served: Hastings County and Prince Edward County

Services include

- Early contact by telephone or letter and follow-up contact by telephone or letter
- Ongoing outreach, emotional support and advocacy
- Information about the case in which a client is involved
- Information about the court process
- Providing copies of court orders
- Needs assessment and referrals to community agencies
- Liaison with the Crown and Police, including providing information about the client's views on bail conditions and sentencing
- Court preparation and orientation
- Arranging meetings with the Crown Attorney
- Information about Victim Impact Statements, Criminal Injuries Compensation Board, and National Parole Board
- Co-lead and participate on the Domestic Violence Court Advisory Committee using it as a forum to discuss ongoing operation of the domestic violence court program
- Organize review calls and participate in the High Risk Assessment Review Team /HART and DART

Accessibility

- Wheelchair accessible
- TTY capability including a toll free TTY connection
- Language and ASL interpreters as required
- Written documentation in alternate formats

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