



## ***Community Coordination for Safety in Relationships - CCSR***

### **History**

In the spring of 2006, the Family Resource Centre (FRC) identified the need for greater coordination of services for those whose lives were impacted by violence. A steering team was established with representation from Social Serving Programs, Health and Justice. Once the steering team established their initial goals, they went to the professionals in the community, asking for those who work in the area of Relationship Violence, to attend an information meeting. This meeting was held on June 7, 2006 in the Valley Connections and was well attended.

The next step with the steering team was to organize training for this new initiative. Gail Edinger from the BC Community Coordination for Women's Safety CCWS, facilitated a 2 day workshop in October 18 & 19. This was a very stimulating and successful training session and the attendance was outstanding in that we had members of the RCMP, Crown Counsel, Educators, Probation and many other disciplines in the area of family violence.

Our first coordination meeting was held on December 7, 2006 in the RCMP detachment, chaired by S/Sgt. Doug Pack. It was at that time that we established the following Mission Statement:

***"The CCSR, through partnerships, will ensure effective coordination and promotion of justice, community and health services for people affected by relationship violence, sexual assault and sexual exploitation."***

In 2009, the Family Resource Centre was able to secure funding to hire a Coordinator for the CCSR. Although this position is limited to seven hours a week for two years, it provides the CCSR with someone to carry out the duties and activities of the team. Donna Power, was hired as the Coordinator of the CCSR, working closely with the CCSR Steering Team for both direction and support. The Steering team is regularly represented by Social Serving Programs, Health and Justice.

In 2009, new CCSR Initiatives were established:

- 1. Education of community and professionals on Violence in Relationships (VIR)***
- 2. Promotion and support of community events related to VIR***
- 3. Create a local resource guide of services related to VIR***
- 4. Establish protocols with professional programs and agencies providing services related to VIR***