

**The London Abused Women's Centre**

**Public Participation Meeting**

**Adult Entertainment By-Law Review**



**London Abused  
Women's Centre**

**LONDON ABUSED WOMEN'S CENTRE  
CHOICES PROGRAM  
*PROSTITUTION/EXPLOITATION/TRAFFICKING***


- A collaboration with the Salvation Army Correctional and Justice Services
- During first 20 months of the program, 915 individuals have been served Including:
  - 233 prostituted and exploited women and girls (203 identify as being trafficked)
  - 101 prostituted and exploited women and girls attended specialized Tripod Group
  - 70 family members of prostituted and exploited girls
  - 510 at risk women and youth

**LONDON ABUSED WOMEN'S CENTRE  
CHOICES PROGRAM  
PROSTITUTION/EXPLOITATION/TRAFFICKING  
CONFLATING PROSTITUTION AND TRAFFICKING MYTH**

- 65% of all human trafficking cases reported to police across Canada originate in Ontario
- Of Ontario's reported cases, about 70% are for the purpose of sexual exploitation
- Majority of trafficking survivors in Ontario are Canadian citizens or permanent residents
- Average age of entry into prostitution in Canada is age 14
- Prostitution fuels prostitution and child exploitation
- Trafficking occurs along 400 series highways
- London is both a destination and recruitment city

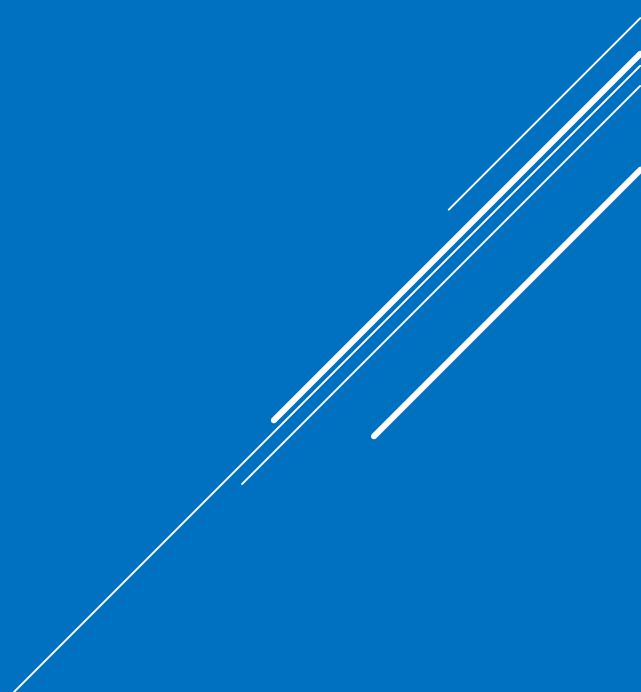
# PROTECTION OF COMMUNITIES AND EXPLOITED PERSONS ACT

## PREAMBLE

- Paradigm shift away from treatment of prostitution as a nuisance toward treatment of prostitution as a form of sexual exploitation
  - Disproportionately and negatively impacts on women and girls
  - Majority are women and girls
  - Marginalized groups are disproportionately represented (50% of underage girls sexually exploited into prostitution are Indigenous and 51% of trafficked women are Indigenous)
  - Entry into prostitution is influenced by socio-economic factors (poverty, youth, lack of education, child sexual abuse, substance abuse)
  - Extremely dangerous activity that poses a risk of violence and psychological harm from johns and pimps/third parties
  - Reinforces gender inequalities by normalizing women's bodies as commodities to be bought and sold
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# PROTECTION OF COMMUNITIES AND EXPLOITED PERSONS ACT

## PREAMBLE

- Negatively impacts communities through a number of factors: increased trafficking and drug-related crimes, organized crime, solicitation of children
  - Third parties promote and capitalize on demand by facilitating prostitution for their own gain
  - May pose as helpers, boyfriends, providers of assistance
  - Commercial enterprises where prostitution takes place create opportunities for trafficking
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# PROTECTION OF COMMUNITIES AND EXPLOITED PERSONS ACT

## QUOTES FROM TECHNICAL PAPER

- PCEPA “seeks to denounce and prohibit the demand for prostitution and to continue to denounce and prohibit the exploitation of the prostitution of others by third parties, the development of economic interests in the exploitation of the prostitution of others and **the institutionalization of prostitution through commercial enterprise, such as strip clubs, massage parlours and escort agencies in which prostitution takes place.**”
- “The following activities have been found to constitute a sexual service or an act of prostitution, if provided in return for some form of consideration: **lap-dancing, which involves sitting in the client’s lap and simulating sexual intercourse; masturbation of a client in the context of a massage parlour,** whether or not the client climaxes and...  
**“...acts for which consideration is provided that take place in a private room in a club and that are sexual in nature, but do not involve physical contact between the ‘client’ and ‘performer,’ such as self- masturbation, have been found to constitute prostitution.”**”

# PROTECTION OF COMMUNITIES AND EXPLOITED PERSONS ACT OFFENCES

- Purchasing Offence:
  - Obtaining sexual services or communicating for that purpose
  - Those selling their own sexual services are protected from criminal liability if the offence relates to their own sexual services
- Advertising Offence:
  - Knowingly advertising an offer to provide sexual services for consideration (those who advertise own services are protected from criminal liability)
  - Offence also applies to publishers or website admin
- Material Benefit Offence:
  - Receiving a financial or other material benefit obtained by or derived from the commission of the purchasing offence

# PROTECTION OF COMMUNITIES AND EXPLOITED PERSONS ACT OFFENCES

- Communicating Offence:
    - Communicating for the purpose of offering or providing sexual services for consideration in public places that are next to school grounds, playgrounds or daycare centres
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## RECOMMENDATIONS

- Consult with Department of Justice on the Protection of Communities and Exploited Persons Act
  - Can't regulate activities that are criminalized
  - The City of London develop a municipal strategy and public awareness campaign to suppress the conditions that are inherently conducive to crime in prostitution (York v. Tsui)
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