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Seymour Electric Ltd.

Rotary Guelph Rotary Cluster Eradicate Human Trafficking Committee

THE TEAM:

Aidan Harris - Chair (Guelph)
Ann Caine (Guelph South)
Anne Day (Guelph Trillium)
Deb Allen (Guelph South)
Shelley Adlington (Guelph South)
Lise Burcher (Guelph South)
Margaret Trainor (Guelph)
Lucy Mutharia (Guelph)
Jannette TenHag (Guelph Trillium)

ABOUT THE COMMITTEE:

<https://tinyurl.com/About-the-EHTC>



OUR 2025 EVENTS

February 24: "In Our Backyard"
Panel Discussion
May 1-31: Lawn Sign campaign
July: Flag raising at Guelph
City Hall and march
(date TBA)
October 1-31: Lawn Sign campaign

**And more events to raise
awareness being
planned...stay tuned!**



Rotary Guelph Rotary Cluster Eradicate Human Trafficking Committee



FEATURE ARTICLE

**"IN OUR BACKYARD"
Panel Discussion
(February 24, 2025)**

SUBSCRIBE TO THE "AGAINST TRAFFICK" NEWSLETTER:

cwomens.admin@gmail.com

REACH OUR TEAM BY EMAIL:

ehc.rotary@gmail.com

HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE:

If you are worried about a family member or want to talk to someone about being human trafficked:

CALL THIS NUMBER:

1-833-900-1010

They can be reached 24/7
and it's confidential.





WELCOME!

On behalf of the committee of Guelph Rotarians concerned about the scourge of human trafficking, thank you for attending tonight.

Our panel of knowledgeable and dynamic speakers will lead the discussion on the issue of sex trafficking in the Guelph-Wellington region and how we as a community can fight against it!

Here is a bit of information for you to take home and read after you have listened to these dynamic women and what they have to say!

Sex trafficking is a serious issue that affects many regions, including southwestern Ontario. The topic is multifaceted, involving various factors such as socioeconomic conditions, law enforcement practices, and community responses. Here are some key points and general statistics related to sex trafficking in southwestern Ontario.

Definition: Sex trafficking involves the exploitation of individuals through coercion, deception, or force to engage in commercial sexual acts. Victims can be of any age, gender, or background.



Vulnerable Populations: Certain groups are more vulnerable to trafficking, including youth, Indigenous populations, and individuals from marginalized communities. Economic instability often exacerbates these vulnerabilities.

Methods of Recruitment: Traffickers often use manipulation, grooming, or false promises of employment or romance to lure victims. Social media and online platforms have become common tools for recruitment.

Regional Focus: Southwestern Ontario, including cities like London, Windsor, and Kitchener-Waterloo, and Guelph have been identified as regions where sex trafficking is prevalent. The proximity to major highways and borders can facilitate the movement of traffickers and victims.

Police Reports: According to various reports from law enforcement agencies, the number of cases reported has been increasing, reflecting greater awareness and reporting mechanisms. However, many cases remain unreported due to stigma and fear.

Victim Demographics: A significant percentage of identified victims are young women and girls, but there are also cases involving boys and men. Indigenous women and girls are disproportionately affected by trafficking in Canada.

Under-reporting: Many victims do not come forward due to fear of traffickers, lack of trust in law enforcement, or feelings of shame.



Community Responses: Numerous organizations and coalitions in southwestern Ontario work to combat sex trafficking, providing victim support services, education, and advocacy. Awareness campaigns like ours have been initiated to educate the public about the signs of trafficking.

Lack of Resources: There are often insufficient resources for victim support and rehabilitation, making it difficult for survivors to reintegrate into society.

Data Collection: Comprehensive and consistent data on sex trafficking is challenging to obtain, making it difficult to fully understand the scope of the issue.

Sex trafficking is a significant concern in southwestern Ontario, and efforts to combat it continue to evolve. Community awareness, victim support, and robust law enforcement are crucial in addressing this pervasive issue.

Your attendance tonight and growing awareness in the community is a step in the right direction to ensure that help is available for victims of this crime and to eradicate this scourge against humanity once and for all!