**Gord Queen** 

January 7<sup>th</sup>. 2019 Report to Council

## Subject: The OPP AT RISK YOUTH & HUMAN TRAFFING WORKSHOP, January 7, 2019

The OPP, The Michigan State Police, The FBI and a multitude of others working together to explain the risks challenges before our Communities.

Three keynote speakers outlined a compassioned message.

The First speaker was originally from the east coast. She was branded, had been on drugs and finally received help with assistance in moving to Windsor.

Some Key words she shared, "Do not give up", she got assistance when an individual with victim services listened to her and noted that they could get through this together. It was with the help and support of many she has succeeded. "When they are ready they will change".

Social Media has been seen to have a major impact

The Second Speaker was from the Michigan State Police. She also works with the FBI.

She noted that trafficking happens everywhere, not just Detroit or Flint. The problem crosses state lines and international boundaries.

Estimate \$180,000.00 profit per victim, and 150 billion dollar industry.

One girl was reported to have made \$950,000.00 one year. All funds went to the PIMP, as a "Family" business. Once more the fact the victims were tattooed to show who OWNED THEM.

Three types of Pimps were identified:

Gorilla Pimp

Love Boy Pimp

**COE Pimp** 

62% became victims by being tricked

35% sold into trafficking by family members (some parents on drugs)

Only 3% kidnapped

. Some kids in England went missing for days to see how many posts might appear.

The Barbie Toys of Yesterday have been replaced by more provocative images. Games such as "Grand Theft Auto" may tend to youth to fail and realize effect in real life.

SOCIAL MEDIA IS CRITICAL. Parents need to look at the Social Media, Phones, and Emails of the youth. High School may be too late. The Police urge Caution, when asking questions. One such question might be, "Can you come and go on your own?" of "Do you have your own I.D."

Some Traffickers are known to go to special events and look for the vulnerable, the bullied, and the kid that might be looking for a place to eat or sleep.

The third speaker works with Victim Services in the Durham region. She is also a survivor of human trafficking. She works closely with the police of the GTA.

Her message," we need to meet their Basic needs, before we ask them to leave their dealers." They offer crisis intervention, short term counselling

Key: The Victims Need, not only the food, clothing and a place to live but support agencies. In Ontario it was noted that the Ministry of the Attorney General does have some support funding that may be applied for. Again we or any group should not promise more than that which is approved. Victim services can advocate for the individuals.

**Transition stages:** 

The victim is screened, Then: 1 Living, 2. Grooming, 3. Manipulation (playing with emotions). 4. Exploitation (told to pay for the food, clothing, and housing)

The three speakers all noted a similar problem and concern. The Michigan State Officer was asked to model gun holsters when she was 15. She talked to her mom and never went for the photo shoot, Communication was key.

From our Community perspective, it is great to see the wide list of support agencies that support the conference and the risks. The average life span of an individual involved is 7 years following getting into the trade.

Thanks to the QPP for providing this event.

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We also had local communities in attendance, as well as Windsor Police, LaSalle Police, and a variety of others.

The Support list posted included: Windsor Regional Hospital, Salivation Army, Downtown Mission, Ontario Ministry of Transportation, New Beginnings, US Border Patrol, University of Windsor, Hotel Dieu, Victim Services, Restortive Justice of Chatham Kent.