

# Disrupting Human Trafficking In Our Communities

**Fort Frances, Ontario**  
February 23, 2023

*Presented by:*  
Autumn Windego,  
Youth Advisory Council, ANFC

Krystal Snider,  
Human Trafficking Subject Matter Expert



# Disrupting Human Trafficking In Our Communities

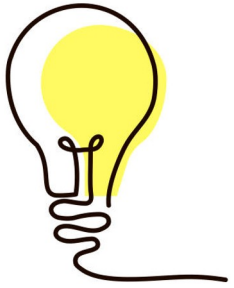
**Atikokan, Ontario**  
**February 22, 2023**

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# Tonight's Learning Objectives



- What is human trafficking?
- Human trafficking statistics
- How trafficking happens
- Impacts of human trafficking
- Resources and supports

# Presenters: Autumn & Krystal



**Autumn Windego,**  
Youth Advisory Council,  
Atikokan Native Friendship Centre



**Krystal Snider,**  
Human Trafficking  
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# Biskaabiiyang

## Returning to Ourselves



- A regeneration of Indigenous ways
- A counter to Western sovereignty
- *Biskaabiiyang* explores decolonization through Indigenous Futurisms, ancestral knowledge, land stewardship, water protection and body and identity sovereignty.
- Challenge the effects of colonialism i.e. loss of language, violence enacted against Indigenous women and Two-Spirit relatives, stolen land

# Definition of Human Trafficking

United Nations...



- Recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of people
- Force, fraud or deception, used to exploit for profit
- Men, women, gender non conforming people and children
- All ages and backgrounds can become victims
- Occurs in every region of the world
- Use of violence, fraudulent employment agencies, and promises of education & job opportunities to trick

# Human Trafficking Data



- 62% of all human trafficking incidents were reported in Ontario
- 1 in 5 unhoused youth were identified as victims of some form of human trafficking
- Average age of recruitment is 13 years old
- 51% of trafficked girls are Indigenous & 50% of trafficked women(2014 REPORT)
- 90% of trafficking in Canada is Domestic

# Sex Work or Sex Trafficking



Participant  
in Prostitution

Victim of Human  
Trafficking

## Spectrum of Sexual Exploitation

[www.theexodusroad.com](http://www.theexodusroad.com)

# Communities Intentionally Targeted



- Indigenous women, girls & Two Spirit Individuals connected to MMIWG
- People who are racialized
- Newcomers to Canada
- Youth in Care & homeless youth
- People living with disabilities
- 2SLGBTQIA
- Women, girls, children & youth
- People living in poverty
- People who experienced early childhood abuse

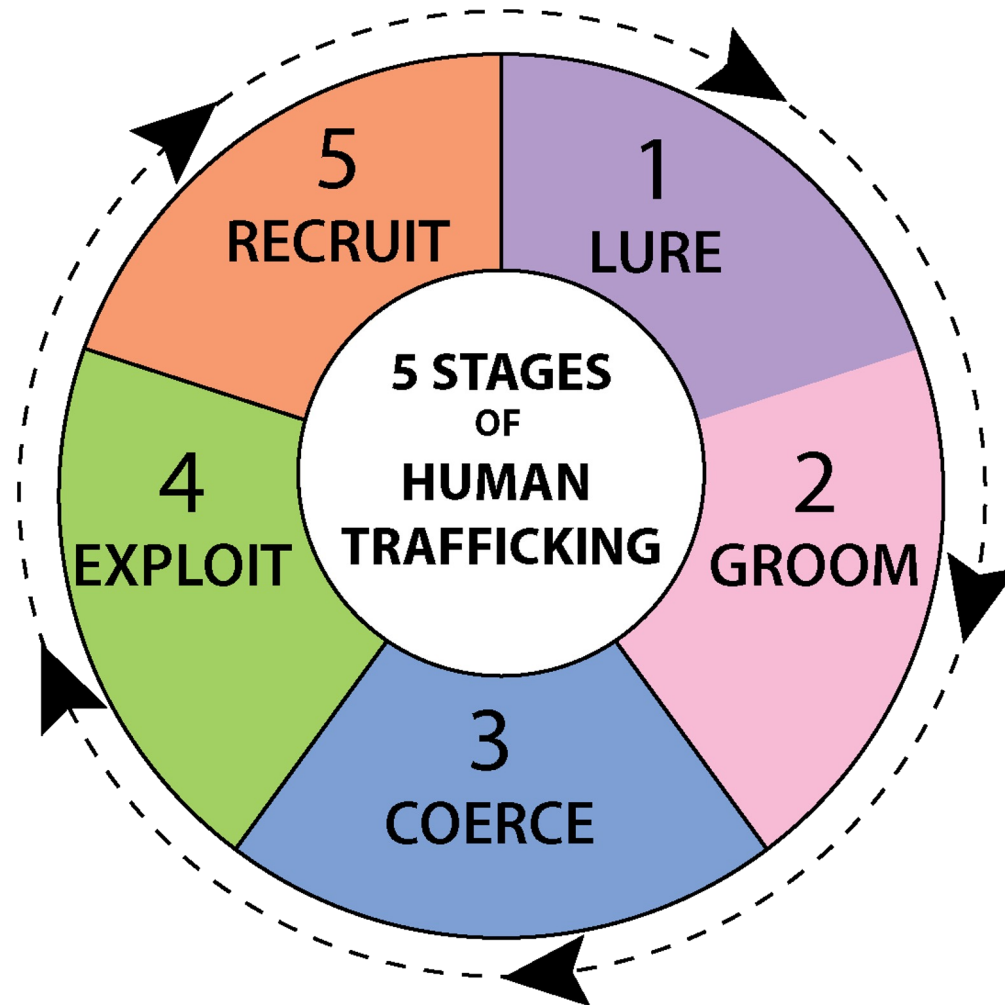
# Symptom of Inequality

Driven by power for personal gain



- Media highlights the “perfect victim” of human trafficking as young white, and “the girl next door”
- The overrepresentation of Indigenous women, girls and two spirit individuals are often glazed over
- Little acknowledgement of the role of colonization, residential schools
- Ongoing over representation of Indigenous children in care and adults who are incarcerated
- These things are linked and continued broken promises by the government and allow for them to continue

# 5 Stages of Human Trafficking



# Stage 1

## Lure - Find a Victim

Who are traffickers and where do they find people to traffick or exploit?

<b>PURPOSE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Traffickers engage a potential person (in person or online)</li></ul>
<b>SIGNS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New people in their lives that they haven't talked about before or won't bring around</li><li>• New online relationships or increase in online activity</li><li>• Rapidly develops a relationship with this new person</li><li>• In the case of families, someone who is extra curious about the children in the home</li></ul>
<b>ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Awareness between healthy vs unhealthy relationships</li><li>• Knowledge about boundaries</li><li>• Online safety</li><li>• Stay connected</li><li>• Know who can be trusted</li></ul>

# Stage 2

## Grooming & Gaming

<b>PURPOSE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Find out information about unmet needs &amp; fill those needs</li></ul>
<b>SIGNS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Actively listen &amp; empathize with their target</li><li>• Give gifts</li><li>• Pay for things</li><li>• Take them on special outings or trips</li><li>• Buy or introduce drugs for the person</li><li>• Stay out later or staying up online later</li><li>• Change in a typical behaviour</li><li>• Intense relationship developing quickly</li></ul>
<b>ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Talk to the person about your concerns and what you see</li><li>• Talk about what is healthy/unhealthy about this particular relationship</li><li>• Connect with resources</li><li>• Safety planning</li></ul>

## Stage 3

# Coercion & Manipulation

“Breaking the Spirit”—ONWA

<b>PURPOSE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Isolate and solidify the person’s dependency on the trafficker</li></ul>
<b>SIGNS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Start to push boundaries</li><li>• Begin to isolate</li><li>• Manipulation and confusion tactics</li><li>• Withdraw attention</li><li>• Drug use and mental health symptoms may increase</li></ul>
<b>ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Find reasons to keep connected</li><li>• Explore supports</li><li>• Be concerned but don’t judge</li><li>• Have an action plan if they go missing or if they need to leave a situation quickly</li><li>• Offer strategies for online safety</li><li>• Develop code words</li></ul>

# Stage 4

## Exploit & Traffick

<b>PURPOSE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Profit and benefit from services provided by the survivor</li><li>• Restrict movement, choice, and earnings</li></ul>
<b>SIGNS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Branding</li><li>• Use a new name</li><li>• Physical abuse or malnourishment</li><li>• Symptoms of trauma impacting mental health</li><li>• Disconnected from supports</li><li>• Not allowed to hold own identification</li><li>• Under the control of another person</li></ul>
<b>ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Concern not judgement</li><li>• Call police if danger is imminent</li><li>• Report if a duty to report exists</li><li>• Give the person more power</li><li>• Offer help referrals</li><li>• Take care of yourself</li></ul>

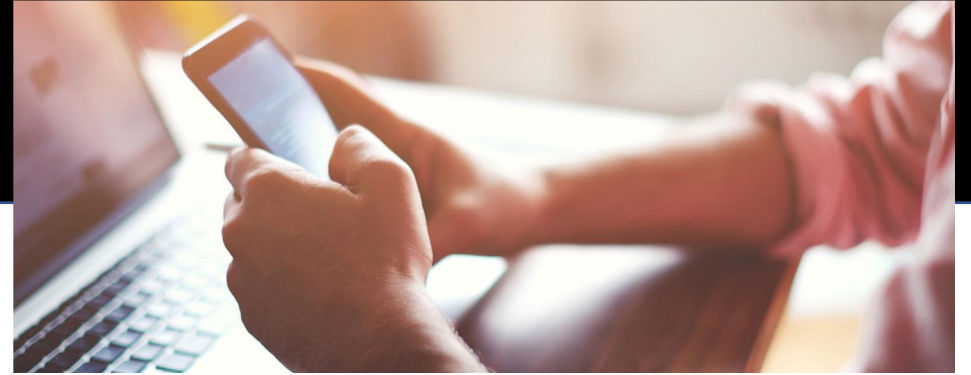
## Stage 5

# Recruitment of Others

**Victims used to traffic others. Survivors engage to keep themselves safe.**

<b>PURPOSE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Victims are used to traffic others</li><li>• Survivors engage because of their own trauma</li><li>• Survivors engage to keep themselves safe</li><li>• Offers an additional layer of insulation from the law</li></ul>
<b>SIGNS</b>	Stage 1
<b>ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clear and open conversations about the connection to survivors trafficking others</li><li>• What are the boundaries for you or your agency if the person begins luring behaviour</li><li>• Offer support</li></ul>

# Online Threats



- Victims can be identified and recruited on a larger scale
- Rural areas at higher risk
- Use of digital forensics,
- Use of data scanning tools
- Use of smartphone apps
- Abuse of social media & gaming platforms
- Private platforms to engage in pornographic imagery
- Hidden identity and misrepresentation

# Impact on Survivors



- Lack of self worth & low self-esteem
- Neurological trauma, PTSD,
- Anxiety, depression & dissociation
- Inability to connect with others & community
- Physical health issues, eating disorders, substance abuse

# Impact on Community & Government

- Community safety
- Financial & economic
- Corruption of community & social services
- Power imbalances



# Help Resources

**Treaty 3 Police – 24/7 Emergency**

1-807-274-1565

1-888-310-1122

**O.P.P – 24/7—911 Emergency**

1-807-274-7777

Dial “211” to find any service in the area

**Canadian Human Trafficking Hotline – 24/7**

1-833-900-1010

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**International Human Trafficking Hotline – 24/7**

1-888-373-7888

**Anishinaabe Kwewag Gamig**

**Northern Ontario First Nations Crisis**

1-800-388-5171

**Assaulted Women’s Helpline**

1-866-863-0511

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Help Resources



**Victims Services – Mon - Fri 08:30 to 16:00**

1-807-274-5687

**Ontario Native Women’s Association – 24/7**

Talk 4 Healing

1-855-554-HEAL

**FFTAHS – Giishkaandago’lkwe Health Services**

**Mon - Fri 08:00 to 16:00**

1-807-271-0212

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1-807-274-2042 Ext 4227

Jocelyn Johnson (AHT Case Manager)

**Kids Help Phone – 24/7**

1-800-668-6868

Text 686868

**Hope For Wellness (MMIWG) – 24/7**

1-855-242-3310



ANFC 807-597-1213

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# Source References

## Slide #5

<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-Trafficking/Human-Trafficking.html>

## Slide #6

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-005-x/2022001/article/00001-eng.htm#r23>

<https://www.nwac.ca/assets-knowledge-centre/FS-NWAC-Human-Trafficking-2018-JB-Final.pdf>

## Slide #9

<https://www.canadiancentretoendhumantrafficking.ca/human-trafficking-needs-to-be-addressed-through-a-decolonial-lens/>

## Slide #16

<https://edmonton.ctvnews.ca/child-luring-and-exploitation-are-on-the-rise-here-s-how-you-can-protect-yourself-or-your-family-1.5975522>

