

# Prevention of Violence Canada - Prévention de la violence Canada

[www.povc.ca](http://www.povc.ca)

Prevention of Violence Canada - Prévention de la violence Canada was established on basis of the WHO 2002 World report on violence and health. Resolutions by the Ontario Public Health Association and the Canadian Public Health Association (CPHA) brought interested people together for the first National Town Hall Meeting in Ottawa on 19 September, 2005 at the CPHA Conference. With the support of the Public Health Agency of Canada, a coalition was formed with broad multi-sectoral representation from public health associations, researchers, educators, practioners, governmental and non-government organizations, and interested citizens. A foundational committee was established with representatives from over thirty organizations and interest areas. The WHO's Preventing violence: a guide to implementing the recommendations of the World report on violence and health provided the framework for developing a national violence prevention strategic action plan for Canada. Yearly Town Hall Meetings supported by the Canadian Public Health Association, the host Provincial Public Health Association, and Prevention of Violence Canada-Prévention de la violence Canada, provide the opportunity to take stock of progress, address current violence prevention issues and plot the way forward.

## *VPA focal person*



**Shannon Turner**

Co-Chair PVC

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Shannon Turner is National Co-Chair of Prevention of Violence Canada - Prévention de la violence Canada. Shannon was a founding Co-Chair and is again serving in this role. A lifelong commitment to social justice is reflected in Shannon's nearly continuous volunteer and advocacy efforts over the last twenty years. Shannon has been a three time Board Member of the Canadian Public Health Association. She has also served as President, Past President, and is now an elected Board Member of the Public Health Association of British Columbia. Shannon Turner, has served as a foster parent, and is an honorary life member of the Vancouver Island Cooperative Preschool Association.

Prior to undertaking full time Doctoral studies Shannon was Director of Public Health for the Vancouver Island Health Authority. In both her professional and personal life, Shannon has been dedicated to the promotion of healthy communities and social justice. For more than 25 years she has supported quality improvement activities across the health care continuum from local to international levels of governance. Shannon has provided health promotion, program management, information management, risk management, quality improvement and strategic planning consultant services. Shannon has been named to the Delta Omega Society for outstanding contribution to public health by the University of Hawaii. In 2008, she was awarded the James M. Robinson Award (University of British Columbia Public Health) for her significant contributions to public health. In 2009, she was presented with the President's Award by the Public Health Association of British Columbia for her work in rebuilding and renewing the association.

*VPA focal person*



**Irvin Waller**

Co-Chair PVC

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A passionate champion of victims' rights, Irvin Waller is an author, university professor, international speaker and expert. He currently serves as the President of the US-headquartered International Organization for Victims' Assistance. He wants Canada to become a world leader in preventing violence and meeting the needs of crime victims.

After four decades in universities, governments and international agencies, he has turned to writing books for (potential) crime victims, taxpayers and legislators. These provide arguments and model practices for putting crime victims and crime prevention at the centre of governments' justice policy. *Less law, more order: the truth about reducing crime* influenced the crime reduction policies of Alberta and several Canadian cities. Its translations in French and three other languages are setting policy to stop violence in a number of countries. *Rights for victims of crime: rebalancing justice* draws on US and international models to enhance the police, judicial and community response to victims of violence. It includes a model law, ready to be adopted. He has received many international awards, including for his role in the 1990s as the founding executive director of the UN-affiliated International Centre for Prevention of Crime and in the 1980s in the UN Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power.

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