The Family Violence Initiative (FVI), within the Public Health Agency of Canada, is comprised of 15 government departments and a joint committee with provincial and territorial governments that work on various policy, programme and research activities aimed at reducing family violence. The FVI addresses all forms of abuse within relationships of kinship, intimacy, dependency and trust. The FVI works on issues such as child maltreatment, intimate partner violence, elder abuse, and dating violence; specific populations such as abuse of persons with disabilities, Aboriginal peoples, new immigrants; risk factors such as poor mental health, poverty, and homelessness; and across the continuum of violence from prevention in the health system to intervention through the justice and corrections systems.

The FVI also contributes to evidence-based knowledge on the links between violence and health and promotes the uptake of promising practices by stakeholders. A National Clearinghouse on Family Violence (NCFV), operating on behalf of the FVI, serves as a national resource centre for information about family violence which includes free publications, a library reference collection, video library, and an extensive website. The NCFV also maintains directories of services across the country to provide resources to individuals and organizations in their local communities.

**VPA focal person**

**Sophie Couture**
Chair, Government of Canada Family Violence Initiative and Associate Director
Family Violence Prevention Unit, Healthy Communities Division
system Tel: +1-613-957-2939
Fax: +1-613-941-8930
Email: sophie.couture@phac-aspc.gc.ca