



BUILDING MUNICIPAL CAPACITY TO HARNESS EVIDENCE TO PREVENT CRIME

In 2015, the commitment of the members of the Canadian Municipal Network on Crime Prevention (CMNCP) led to federal funding for the project entitled Building Municipal Capacity to Harness Evidence to Prevent Crime. The project is in partnership with crime prevention specialists at the University of Ottawa. In addition to the contributions of each of the municipalities, the project receives financial support and collaboration from the National Crime Prevention Strategy of Public Safety Canada.

Project Overview

The project enables CMNCP to strengthen its work as a community of practice, to harness evidence to prevent crime and victimization, and to engage municipalities and their key stakeholders in collaborative multi-sectoral community safety strategies. It includes a number of activities focused on building capacity, mobilizing stakeholders in Canadian municipalities, and sharing best and emerging practices as well as evidence. These activities focus on planning and evidence as well as increasing investment in effective pre-crime prevention that is based on collaboration between the municipality, the public, and the range of sectors most able to tackle root causes.

Inter -Municiple Mentoring Exchanges

CMNCP organizes "mentoring exchange" visits from one municipality to another. These exchanges enable the visiting team to learn from the host municipality about the overall crime and prevention situation. It also enables them to meet with key stakeholders to discuss strategies for planning and implementing prevention, ways to get greater investment in prevention, and other issues such as ways to measure success. The visiting team includes municipal leaders (such as the mayor or a city councilor), crime prevention and community safety staff, and potentially other stakeholders. After the first visit, the visiting team and the host are asked to evaluate the experience in terms of potential contributions to more effective and sustained crime prevention in their municipality. A return visit is then organized.

Regional and National Meetings

CMNCP organizes meetings to enable municipalities in the region to meet. The meetings enable stakeholders to share good practice, learn from the practical experiences of other municipalities, and benefit from evidence-based practices that have worked in preventing crime.

Activities	Goals	Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inter-Municipal Exchanges • National and Regional Meetings • Knowledge Development, Workshops and Trainings • Mentoring new Municipal Members 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinforce collaboration and exchanges between member municipalities • Increase municipal capacity to implement effective crime prevention programs, particularly ones that are evidence based • Share knowledge of action steps and benefits with municipal and other stakeholders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce crime and victimization • Improve sense of public safety • Increase significantly sustained investment in effective crime prevention • Encourage permanent offices to implement collaborative Comprehensive Community Safety Strategies • Achieve a sustainable balance between prevention and reaction

The discussions include ways to foster practical support from different sectors providing services to citizens living in municipalities. They also include ways to foster greater financial investment within municipalities, from other orders of government, and from the private sector. Regional meetings are hosted by CMNCP members.

Knowledge Development

The crime prevention team at the University of Ottawa is responsible for the collection of best practices for good governance of prevention and of specific prevention programs. The University of Ottawa team provides this knowledge through action briefs that identify steps for municipal stakeholders, and through its participation in the other activities related to the project, including a project process evaluation.

Workshops and Training

CMNCP develops standards for knowledge and skills for persons who implement comprehensive community safety strategies in Canada. These build on both the practical experience of CMNCP members and the evidence base. Based on these standards, CMNCP develops workshops as well as modules that will train staff to meet these standards. It is expected that they will be developed in partnership with community colleges, universities and others who may be interested in organizing the training programs on an on-going basis. Workshops and trainings will increase the awareness and commitment of municipal and community stakeholders. Workshops take place in the first year

of the project. Trainings take place in the second and third years, and will focus on the development and evaluation of projects, mobilization of the community and partnerships, as well as community safety planning.

Municipal Mentoring

CMNCP members provide mentoring support to other municipalities interested in starting or strengthening Comprehensive Community Safety Strategies. Municipal mentoring provides support to key stakeholders in municipalities in order to increase their capacity to use the acquired knowledge on crime prevention—particularly, the collaborative comprehensive community safety strategy process.

Canadian Municipal Network on Crime Prevention

CMNCP brings together Canadian municipalities from across the country in order to fulfill its MISSION to build municipal capacity, mobilize municipalities to prevent and reduce crime, and foster community safety and well-being through the sharing and development of knowledge, expertise, and vision. Our goal is to complement the efforts of police services and the criminal justice system by offering a broader concept of community safety and well-being. This includes a variety of evidence based preventative measures, important positive returns on investment, the mobilization of key stakeholders, and greater public engagement

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CANADIAN MUNICIPAL
NETWORK ON CRIME
PREVENTION

Together for Safer Canadian Cities

RÉSEAU MUNICIPAL
CANADIEN EN PRÉVENTION
DE LA CRIMINALITÉ

Ensemble pour des villes canadiennes plus sécuritaires