



PROTECTING TRAFFICKED PERSONS IN CANADA

Trafficking happens in Canada. But Canadian law **does not protect** trafficked persons.

Currently, women, children and men who are trafficked into or within Canada often fall between the cracks in the system. Detained and deported, they may be treated more as criminals than as victims of a crime.

Legislative amendment is needed to bring a permanent and fundamental change in policy so that trafficked persons in Canada are protected.

Trafficking...

- Involves the exploitation of people, often through forced labour (e.g. in sex work, domestic work, in restaurant or in factories).
- Often involves the transportation of victims across borders or within a country.
- Exploits the vulnerable. This is why women and children are often the victims.

Proposal for legislative amendment

The Canadian Council for Refugees has developed a proposal to amend the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*. The proposal would provide temporary and permanent protection to trafficked persons.

The CCR invites organizations to endorse and promote the *Proposal for Legislative Amendment to Protect Trafficked Persons* and we invite individuals to encourage organizations they are involved with to endorse the *Proposal* and to raise public awareness.

Useful resources:

- *Protecting Trafficked Persons in Canada*, pamphlet.
- *Proposal for Legislative Amendment to Protect Trafficked Persons*, 2 pages.
- Frequently Asked Questions about the *Proposal for Legislative Amendment to Protect Trafficked Persons*, 4-page booklet.

Further information and resources for the CCR trafficking campaign (including *The Proposal for Legislative Amendment to Protect Trafficked Persons*) are available at: www.trafficking.ca



Canadian Council for Refugees
Conseil canadien pour les réfugiés



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Take action! What you can do:

Join the Canadian Council for Refugees (CCR) in calling on parliamentarians to take action to protect the rights of trafficked persons in Canada! Here are some ways you can give support:

As an organization:

1. **Endorse** the *Proposal for Legislative Amendment to Protect Trafficked Persons*. The greater the number of organizations supporting the proposal, the more seriously it will be taken. To communicate your organization's endorsement of the proposal, send an email to Colleen French at cfrench@ccrweb.ca.
2. **Promote** the *Proposal*. Letters to the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration urging adoption of the proposal are very helpful. Does your organization have a meeting coming up with a Member of Parliament? If so, could you include the *Proposal* on the agenda of the meeting?
3. **Share** the *Proposal for Legislative Amendment* and the campaign to protect trafficked persons on your website and in other publication materials. Copies of the *Proposal for Legislative Amendment for the Protection of Trafficked Persons*, *Frequently Asked Questions* and pamphlets on *Protecting Trafficked Persons in Canada* are available for downloading and printing at: www.trafficking.ca. Limited hard copies are also available from the CCR office by sending an email to Colleen French at: cfrench@ccrweb.ca
4. **Join with the CCR in an informal coalition** to exchange information and coordinate strategies on trafficking. If your organization is active or planning to be active on trafficking issues, this would be a good way of keeping in touch and providing mutual reinforcement of efforts. For more information, contact Colleen French at the CCR, cfrench@ccrweb.ca

As an individual:

1. **Encourage organizations** that you are involved with to endorse the *Proposal*. This is important to emphasize that there is a wide range of organizations supporting it.
2. **Promote** the *Proposal*.
 - **Write a letter** to the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration urging adoption of the *Proposal*.
 - **Share** the *Proposal* and other CCR materials about protecting the rights of trafficked persons in Canada at community events.

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