

# Ottawa group to receive \$200K to combat human trafficking

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**WARNING!**

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STORY

PHOTOS ( 1 )



Persons Against the Crime of Trafficking in Humans (PACT) Ottawa is receiving \$200,000 in funding from the federal government for a 24-month project.

Photograph by: Jean Levac , Ottawa Citizen

OTTAWA — A new government-funded program to protect vulnerable girls and women who may be targeted for sexual exploitation or human trafficking is coming to Ottawa.

Persons Against the Crime of Trafficking in Humans (PACT) Ottawa is receiving \$200,000 in funding from the federal government for a 24-month project.

The Ottawa-based group uses education, support services, networking and advocacy to prevent human trafficking and to protect trafficked persons.

The program will focus on “high-risk neighbourhoods,” where girls and young women may be vulnerable to human trafficking for the purposes of sexual exploitation. Dubbed “Project imPACT,” it will use community

planning to prevent trafficking and work to address the “root causes” of human trafficking in Ottawa.

A project advisory committee created using the funding will include local girls and women as well as the Ottawa Police Service, Crime Prevention Ottawa, and St. Joe’s Women’s Centre.

At an announcement Monday morning, Minister for Status of Women Rona Ambrose said the project is “another important step to ensure the safety and security of women and girls across Canada.”

Christina Harrison Baird, Director of Project imPACT for PACT-Ottawa said “We are pleased to partner with Status of Women Canada and local agencies on this timely project, which will focus on vulnerable girls and young women from varied socio-economic backgrounds.”

In September 2012, Status of Women Canada put out a call for proposals entitled Working Together: Engaging Communities to End Violence against Women and Girls. This project won the bid.

More to come.

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