

7 AUGUST, 2026
SOUTHERN INTERIOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
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HONOURABLE NINA KRIEGER
MINISTER OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND SOLICITOR GENERAL
PO BOX 9010 STN PROV GOVT
VICTORIA, BC V8W 9E2



Dear Minister Krieger,

Re: Review and Expand Program Funding for Victim Services

On behalf of the Southern Interior Local Government Association (SILGA), representing 37 municipalities and regional districts across British Columbia's Southern Interior, I am writing to urge the Province to initiate an inquiry into the expansion of Victim Services accessibility and capacity in the Province.

Unfortunately, intimate partner violence (IPV) is on the rise across British Columbia, and many rural areas are struggling to provide adequate resources to victims. Although the Province has introduced more severe punishments as a deterrent for the crime of IPV, the measures are strictly legal and do not include increased supports for a strained system. An ensuing review to streamline and allocate funding for designated Victim Services programs, as well as to update downstream funding allocations for communities, would go a long way to ensuring victims can safely remove themselves from violent partners and seek recourse in a space where they are not threatened with recurrent violence.

SILGA is therefore seeking a commitment from the Province in accordance with endorsed resolutions at both SILGA and UBCM: to review the current funding model, taking into consideration variables such as whether a local government has an existing community-based victim services program, and to determine what resources are needed to adequately fund the needed services for communities of all sizes. Further, we hope to see the Province take actions to put into policy these needed expansions before the adjournment of the 43rd term of BC's parliament.

We look forward to hearing from the Province on initiatives being taken to streamline and expand victim services in British Columbia.

Sincerely,

Bill Sarai, President

Southern Interior Local Government Association (SILGA)