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**Communication**

**CW(2) – May 13, 2025**

**Pres. 2**

# **HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS WEEK AND FLAG RAISING REQUEST Oct 6<sup>th</sup> to Oct 10th**

In 2023 we began raising the STOP Human Trafficking Flag with your support and had a week in October proclaimed as Human Trafficking Awareness Week





Last October 2024  
you supported us  
again and the flag  
was raised as well  
as approving our  
request to have Oct  
7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>  
proclaimed as  
Human Trafficking  
Awareness Week





## BOOTS ON THE GROUND

As part of our mission to bring awareness and get “boots on the ground”, we organized a presentation to inform parents about the dangers their children face.

Our presenters were Det. Amanda French, York Region Human Trafficking Division and Crown Counsel, Caitlin Downing, Ministry of the Attorney General, Provincial Human Trafficking Prosecution team.

We were amazed to learn that although each prosecuted case is different, the timeline to completion of a prosecution is 18 to 30 months.

Even Detective French’s daughter was lured at 14 through the friend of a friend but she knew enough to go immediately to her parents.



647 473-1584



▶ As part of our mission, we chose to offer support to 360 Kids/Hope Program in York Region through a fundraising campaign. We learned last Christmas that a 12 year old child, who had been trafficked in an encampment in York Region, was in their care.

▶ Our contact told us that the first thing the girls asked when we sent a donation and food was, "what do we have to do for this?" They couldn't believe people knew about them and cared.

▶ We were also told that they LOVED the cannoli we sent! Two of them had never tasted cannoli in their lives





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## Warning Signs for Friends and Family

- ↓ Sudden interest in someone several years older - as friends or romantically
- ↓ New clothing, jewelry, gifts
- ↓ Access to alcohol/drugs
- ↓ Expensive outings
- ↓ Frequent sleepovers at a friend's house
- ↓ Sudden change in style of dress or makeup
- ↓ New group of friends
- ↓ Isolation from old friends/family
- ↓ Change in attitude towards school, activities and friends
- ↓ Grades are dropping
- ↓ Fatigue/irritability
- ↓ Unexplained injuries
- ↓ Using more than one cell phone
- ↓ Limited access to social media when out



Once again, we are requesting a Human Trafficking Awareness Week for Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> 2025 and a flag raising on Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>.



# ILLUMINATE AWARENESS

February 22<sup>nd</sup> is the National Human Trafficking Awareness Day in Canada, we are requesting an Illumination of Vaughan City Hall that day in 2026.

