

GAATW
Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women Canada

2026-31 STRATEGIC PLAN

Rethink. Respond. Reshape.

Improving How We Address Human Trafficking in Canada.

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Improving How We Address Human Trafficking in Canada

Human trafficking is a complex issue. To address it effectively, we need to understand what creates systemic vulnerability, improve immediate responses, tackle root causes, and remain open to new ways of responding to those most affected—without causing harm.

At GAATW Canada, we believe meaningful change starts with reliable information, honest reflection, and working with those most affected. We bring together community knowledge, lived experience, and research to question assumptions, build understanding, and improve how human trafficking is addressed.

Our 2026–2031 Strategic Plan is grounded in three interconnected ideas:



Rethinking

Rethinking how human trafficking is understood means questioning assumptions, grounding our understanding in accurate information, and informing public opinion.

Responding

Responding means connecting people and ideas, sharing knowledge, and advocating for more effective approaches.

Reshaping

Reshaping means working toward meaningful systemic change by strengthening community-led leadership and influencing the policies, practices, and decisions that shape Canada's response to human trafficking.

Together, these priorities reflect our commitment to a more informed, effective, and equitable response to human trafficking in Canada. We invite our partners, communities, and supporters to join us. If you are new to our work, we especially welcome you.

Strategic Priorities

RETHINKING. RESPONDING. RESHAPING.

01

Inform Public Thinking

We help the public learn about human trafficking by encouraging questions, sharing trustworthy information, and creating space for open conversations.

By questioning assumptions and building understanding, we hope to support better prevention and responses that truly help those affected while avoiding harm.

02

Connect & Engage

We connect with communities, sectors, and regions in new ways to share knowledge, build relationships, and work with marginalized groups to improve how human trafficking is prevented and addressed, ensuring that people with diverse lived experiences help guide our work in meaningful ways.

03

Build a Community-Led National Movement

We work to build and strengthen a national network across movements, creating space for the knowledge, perspectives, and priorities of the people and communities most affected to shape conversations, decisions, and collective action.

04

Systems Change

We rethink existing approaches to improve policies, practices, and conditions that shape how human trafficking is understood and addressed.

We identify where change is needed and work with others to improve how systems respond.

Strategic Priorities

HOW WILL WE KNOW IF WE HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL?

01

Inform Public Thinking

People rethink to better understand and talk about human trafficking, with a clearer sense of what it is, why it happens, and what is needed right now.

Reliable information and diverse experiences help shape better ways to address the issue.

02

Connect & Engage

Our efforts lead to new connections, shared learning, and meaningful opportunities for people to contribute to and engage with our work and beyond.

03

Build a Community-Led National Movement

People who are too often left out of leadership and decision-making have more opportunities to shape anti-trafficking priorities, policies, and practices at the local, provincial, and national levels.

04

Systems Change

We see evidence that our work contributes to policy, practice, and funding changes that lead to more effective and equitable responses to human trafficking.

About GAATW Canada

GAATW Canada is a federal non-profit organization and charity based in British Columbia.

GAATW Canada bridges community and scholarly expertise to address human trafficking through research, policy change, advocacy, education, and collaborative partnerships.

Since 1996, GAATW Canada's work has been grounded in several guiding principles. Our goal for a fairer Canadian society is to prevent, reduce, and address human trafficking while prioritizing the rights of those at risk or trafficked, as well as those harmed by anti-trafficking efforts.

We aim to build a fairer, more compassionate society where exploitation has no place.

We listen to diverse voices—including Indigenous peoples, migrant workers, sex workers, and other affected groups—to honour the varied experiences of exploitation at individual, community, and regional levels.

We move beyond rescue and criminal-legal approaches, fostering lasting change and creating a society where everyone can flourish, free from exploitation.


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