

# National Office for Victims

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Public Safety and Emergency  
Preparedness Canada

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Canada

# INTRODUCTION

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- **The victim's role in the criminal justice system has evolved over the years in Canada. There has been a growing emergence on the part of governments, at all levels, to recognize victims' needs and to provide victims with a greater voice in the criminal justice system.**
- **The provinces, the territories and the federal government have legislation in place to provide services to services.**



# PROVINCIAL AND TERRITORIAL Responsibilities

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- **The Provinces and Territories each have legislation which governs matters such as victim services and financial compensation.**
- **The services and roles vary depending on jurisdiction and geographical location.**



# FEDERAL Responsibility

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## Department of Justice

- Responsible for the *Criminal Code of Canada*.
  - *The “Code”* includes provisions intended to help victims of crime participate in the criminal justice system.
- Policy Centre for Victims Issues
- Victims Fund
- Travel Fund for Victims to attend parole hearings



# FEDERAL Responsibility

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## Department of Public Safety

- Responsible for the *Corrections and Conditional Release Act* (CCRA).
  - Legal framework for the federal correctional system.
  - Formal piece of legislation which recognizes the rights of victims.
- Section 1 and 2 of the *CCRA* mandates the Correctional Service Canada and the National Parole Board to provide services to victims.



# THE CORRECTIONS AND CONDITIONAL RELEASE ACT (CCRA)

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## Correctional Service Canada

The CCRA mandates CSC to provide services to registered victims, for example:

- Victim notification
- Information sharing with victim

## National Parole Board

The CCRA mandates NPB to provide services to registered victims, for example:

- Victim impact statements
- Victim assistance relating to parole hearing



## NATIONAL OFFICE for VICTIMS

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- **As part of the Department of Public Safety, the National Office for Victims (NOV) officially opened on November 1st, 2005.**
  
- **NOV mandate:**
  - **Provide general information to victims**
  - **Provide a “victims lens” at terms of policy development**
  - **Compliment the work being done by PCVI**
  - **Develop information products to assist victims and the general public**
  - **Develop communications material and training products**
  - **Provide an avenue of complaint**
  
- **Toll-free, 1-866-525-0554 from anywhere in Canada and the United States.**



# FEDERAL Budget 2006

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## BUDGET 2006

- **Last May the Federal Government introduced the 2006 budget.**
- **Victims component**
  - **26 million over two years**
  - **Consultations are ongoing**
  - **Justice lead with PSEPC, NPB and CSC input**
- **Main objectives**
  - **Strong advocate for victims rights**
  - **Stronger voice in the federal corrections and justice system**
  - **Greater access to services**



# **NOV**

## **Commitment to Victims**

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**The National Office for Victims is committed to victim issues and will continue to provide the best possible services to victims of offenders under federal responsibility.**

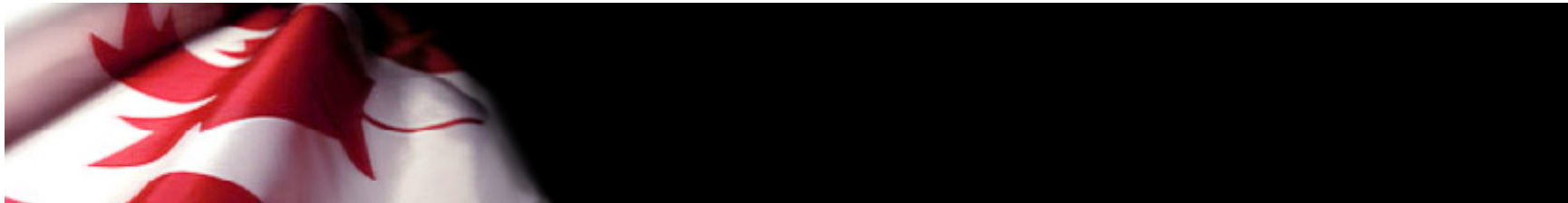
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