



# Commentary on The City of Calgary Prostitution Response Framework

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A Million Acts of Sustainability

Presentation to: SPC on Community and Protective Services  
regarding Agenda Item 3.4  
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## Background of Human Trafficking and Prostitution

### Human Trafficking and Prostitution are inextricably linked

- 79% of human trafficking involves sexual exploitation through prostitution, where the majority of those who are being sexually exploited are women and children. (United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime)
- Research from the London School of Economics found that countries which have legalized prostitution have higher human trafficking inflows. (Cho, Dreher and Neumayer, 2013 World Development)
- Unfortunately, legislative and enforcement practices utilized in many countries make these issues separate and distinct.

### Sexual exploitation embodies a significant part of prostitution

- Interviews conducted in nine different countries demonstrate that 89% of individuals in prostitution want to leave. (Farley et al 2003 J Trauma Practice)
- Interviews conducted in San Francisco show 82% of individuals in prostitution have been physically assaulted and 68% were raped while working as a prostitute. (Farley and Barkan 1998 Women and Health)

### **Proposed Initiative One – Establishing Calgary Police Service Guidelines on Prostitution**

- The guidelines will speak to the Police Service's philosophy on violence against prostitutes and the enforcement of new prostitution-related legislation.
- Calgary Police Service may want to consider consultation with other Canadian law enforcement agencies regarding the existence and/or establishment of such guidelines.
- Calgary Police Service will use these guidelines as a basis to develop rapport and relationships with this marginalized and stigmatized population in society.

### **Proposed Initiative Two – Review, propose and implement applicable changes to specific bylaws**

- Bylaws pertaining to escort services, massage, body rub, adult entertainment and home-based businesses should be reviewed in light of the new prostitution-related legislation.
- The constitutional challenge by Bedford *et al*, and the results from the City of Calgary public submission speak to the issue of moving prostitution behind closed doors.
- Strict municipal regulations and bylaws which balance health and safety of prostitutes with concerns involving social nuisance (i.e. traffic, litter, etc...) need to be established.

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