

Harnessing Success to Reduce Crime

Proven strategies and best practices
for creating safer communities

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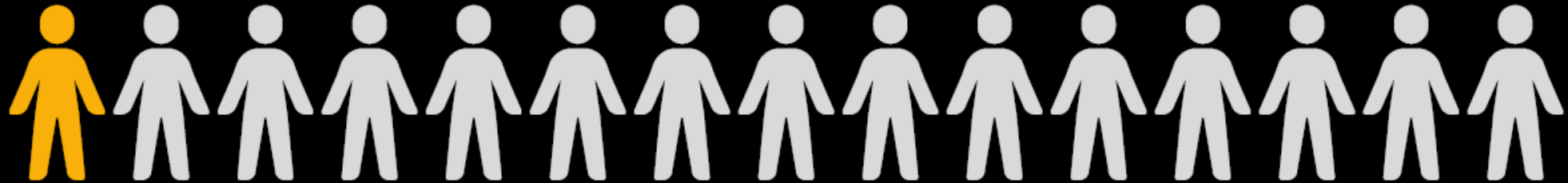
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Ottawa can halve violent crime in the next five years
if it makes smart changes
inspired by proven solutions and successful best practice

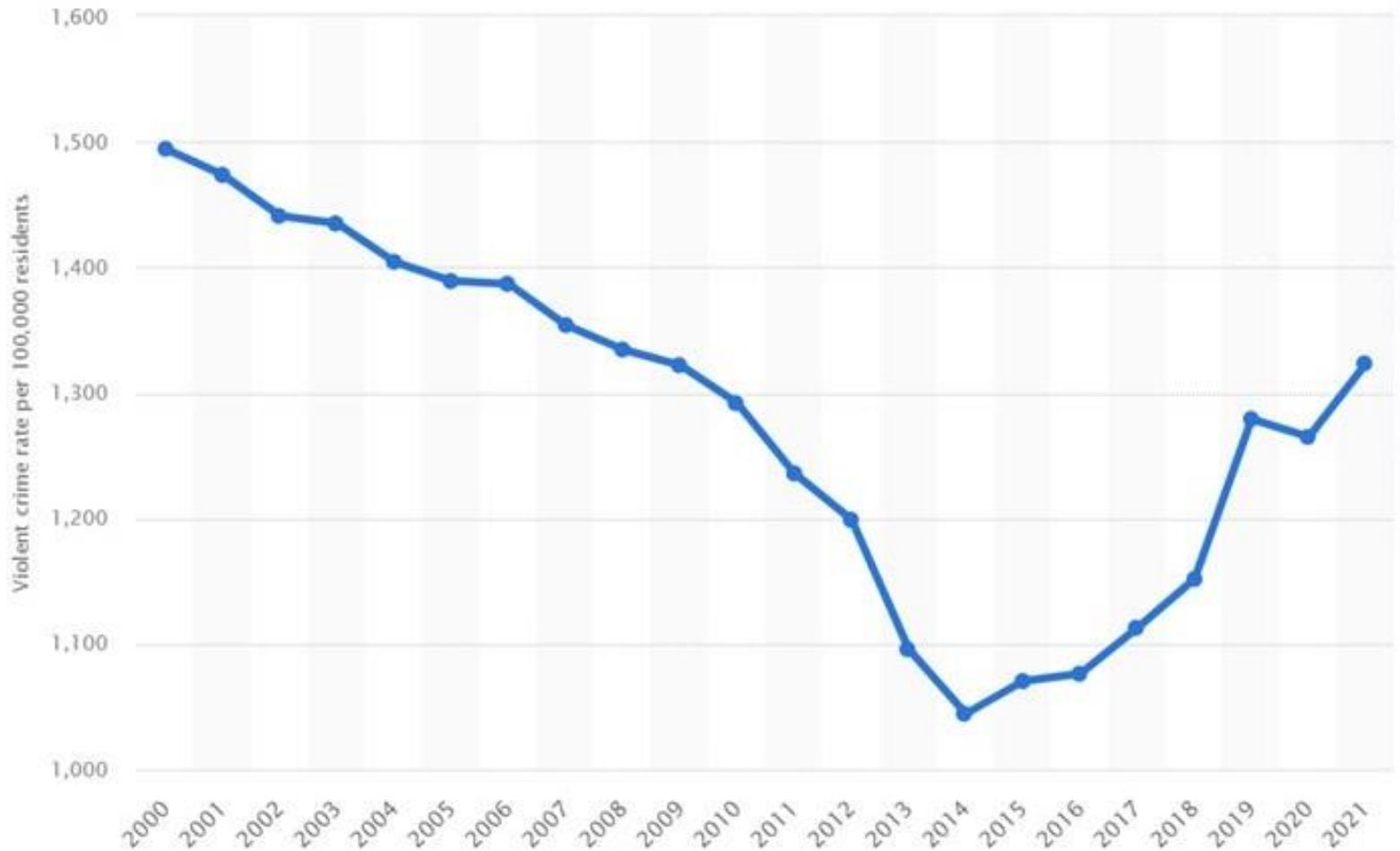
- Being smart on crime requires investment in proven solutions guided by skilled planning, better data, and, smart governance.
- Canadian commissions recommended the equivalent of 5% of reactive spending, such as police, go to upstream prevention. Street and gender based violence has been reduced by 50%. Upstream prevention invests in positive futures for young people as well as better community safety for all.

VIOLENT CRIME HARMS MORE THAN ONE IN 15 PEOPLE EACH YEAR IN CANADA

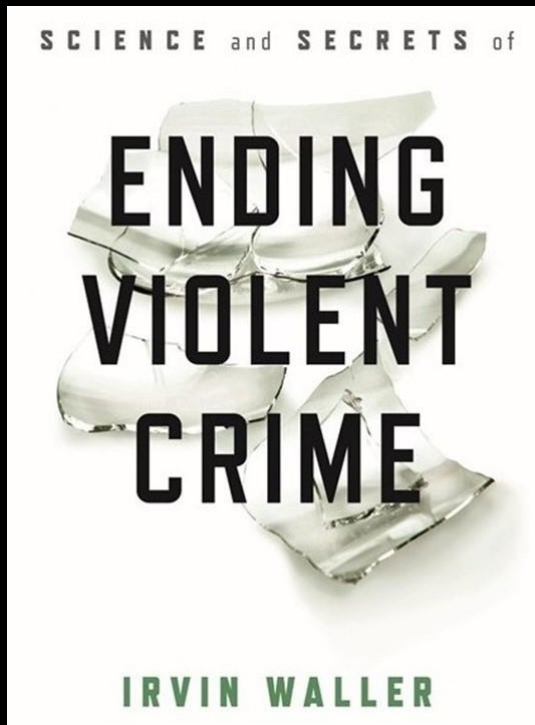
- Police responded to half a million violent offences in 2021.
- Indigenous peoples report rates of victimization double the national average.
- Racialized and Indigenous peoples experience discrimination and suffer arrest and incarceration disproportionately.



Violent crime recorded by police in Canada is increasing -
rate per 100,000 residents from 2000 -2021



50% less violence by 2030



We know what solutions are proven to prevent violence

- Consensus on what works – crimesolutions.gov, WHO ...
- Focused prevention reduces violence by 50% within a few years
- General prevention (e.g. social safety net) also reduces violence

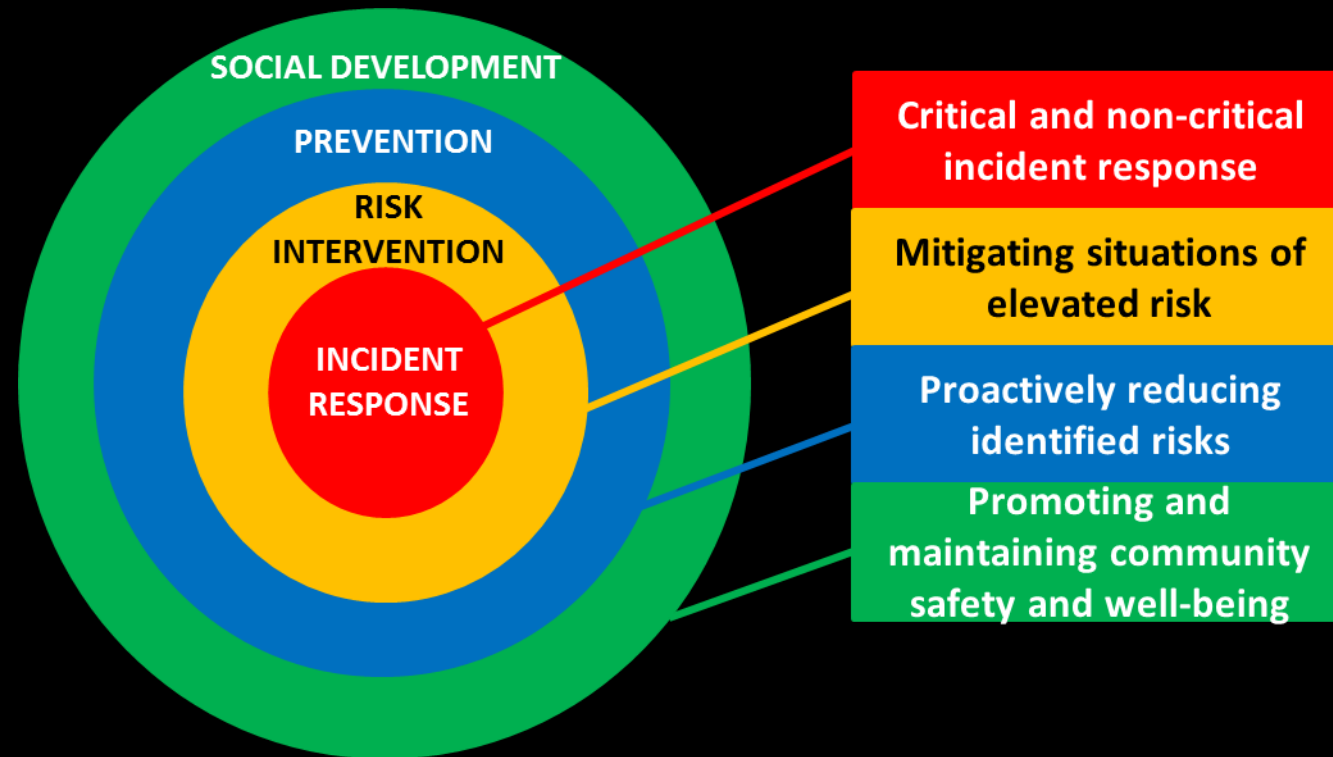
We know essentials for implementing proven solutions

- Office to diagnose, plan, evaluate and mobilise key sectors
- Learning from cities that succeed
- Sustained and adequate investment

We know secrets to change policy

- Training officials and practitioners and providing tools
- Making case for saving lives and stopping trauma
- Demonstrating results and fostering public support

Ontario Police Act (2019) requires every municipality to develop a community safety and well being plan.



PREVENTION FOCUSED ON THE ROOT CAUSES OF VIOLENT CRIME IS PROVEN TO REDUCE VIOLENCE SIGNIFICANTLY, COST EFFECTIVELY, AND WITHIN 5 YEARS

- 50 years of research and practice identify programs proven to prevent crime.
- Violence disproportionately impacts disadvantaged and racialized neighbourhoods.
- 5% of individuals experiencing increased vulnerabilities account for 50% of offences.
- Investing in the futures of the most marginalized has reduced violence within 3 years.

Key agencies share solutions proven to reduce crime significantly better (often 50%) than more of the same. These projects focus on young men with identified risks

Key agencies include ...

World Health Organization;

Washington State Institute for Public Policy;

US Department of Justice (Crimesolutions);

Youth Endowment Trust (UK)

Waller, 2013 plus

Example of proven prevention

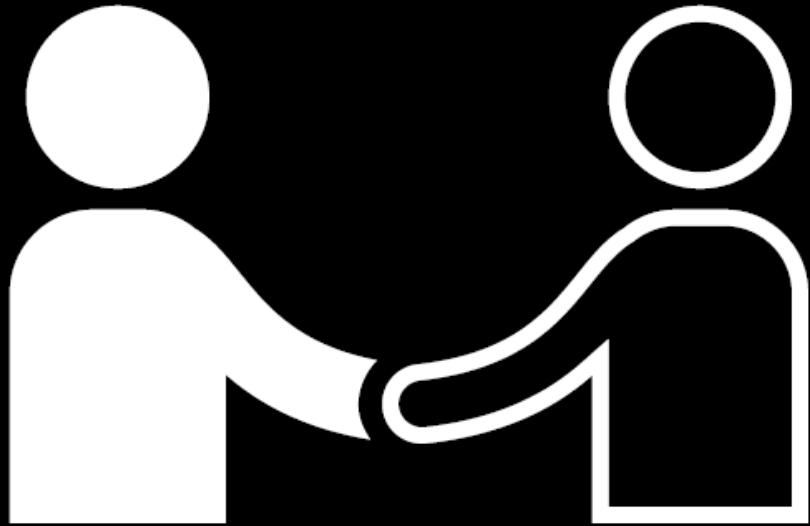
SOCIAL OUTREACH TO THOSE MOST VULNERABLE PREVENTS VIOLENCE

- In the UK, youth workers reduced violence for those most at risk in priority areas by 65%.
- In the US, outreach workers intervened and reduced conflicts and violence by more than 50%.
- Outreach to victims of violence in hospital emergency rooms and analyzing causes prevented further victimization by 40%.



Example of proven prevention

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS IN HIGH VIOLENCE NEIGHBOURHOODS PREVENTS VIOLENCE



- In the US, life skills programs in schools reduce violent crime by 50%.
- In Canada, Stop Now and Plan reduces crime by 32% or 2 crimes for every boy and saves \$30 for every dollar invested.
- Cognitive behavioural therapy reduces violent offending by 27%.

Example of proven prevention

TRAUMA THERAPY AND MENTORING WITH JOB TRAINING AND SPORTS PREVENTS VIOLENCE

- Therapy to help traumatized young men can reduce crime and violence by 45%.
- Summer jobs and basic financial support, in addition to mentoring, can reduce offending by 32%.
- Sports with mentoring can reduce youth arrests by 47%.

Example of proven prevention

POSITIVE PARENTING AND ADDRESSING NEGATIVE SOCIAL NORMS PREVENTS VIOLENCE



- Positive parenting programs reduce offending by 30%.
- Enriched early childhood programs achieved reductions of 35%.
- Programs to change social norms reduced gender-based violence by 52%.

Tackling risk factors in police services is proven to prevent crime...

Policing in partnership with social agencies;
Problem solving policing;
Focused deterrence.

Waller, 2019

Tackling risk factors in health sector is proven to prevent crime...

Outreach in hospital emergency rooms;
Focus on PTSD for victims;
Collect data on context.

Waller, 2013

Proof of cost-efficiency of
proven crime prevention
programs

Washington State Institute for Public Policy

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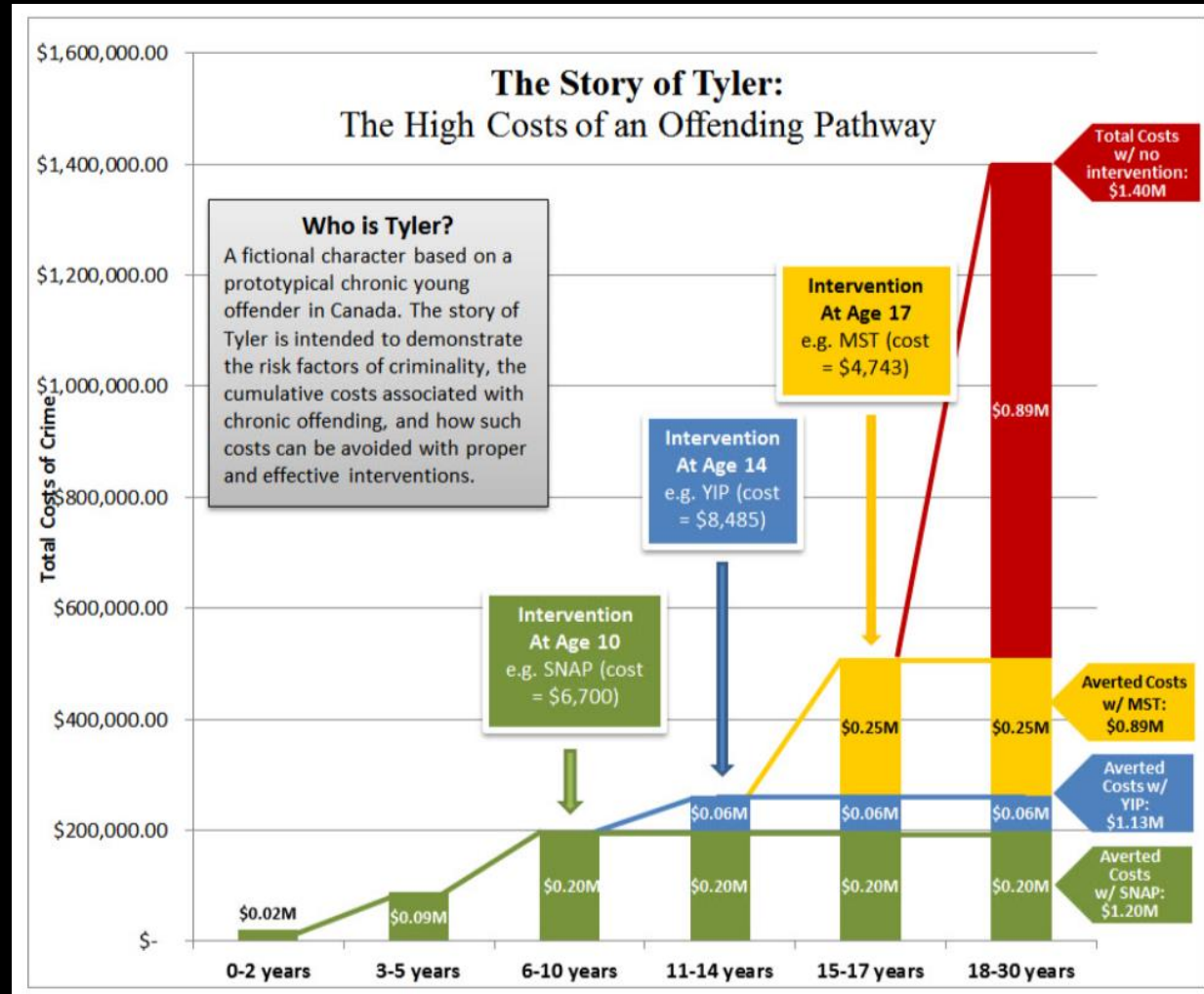


[CURRENT PROJECTS](#)

Social returns from different investments in prevention initiatives...

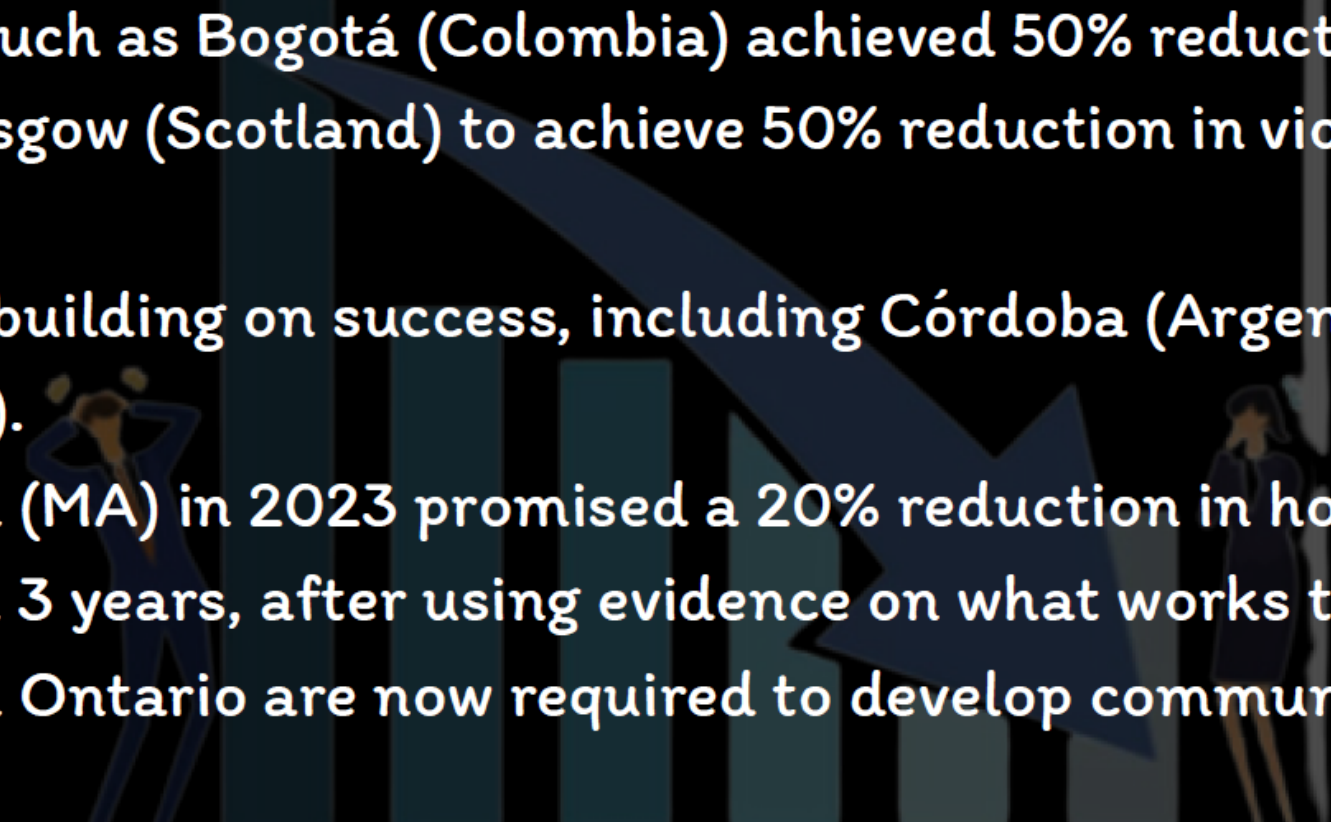
Name	Description of Programs	RO1\$*
Mentoring Program	Supports vulnerable youth (Waller, 2014)	\$4
Stop Now and Plan (SNAP)	Teaches avoiding violence (Public Safety Canada, 2013)	\$4
Perry Preschool Programme	Provides enriched pre-school (Heckman et al., 2010)	\$7
Life Skills Curriculum	Avoids substance abuse (Washington State I. P. P., 2015)	\$18

Public Safety Canada shows significant savings from upstream investment...

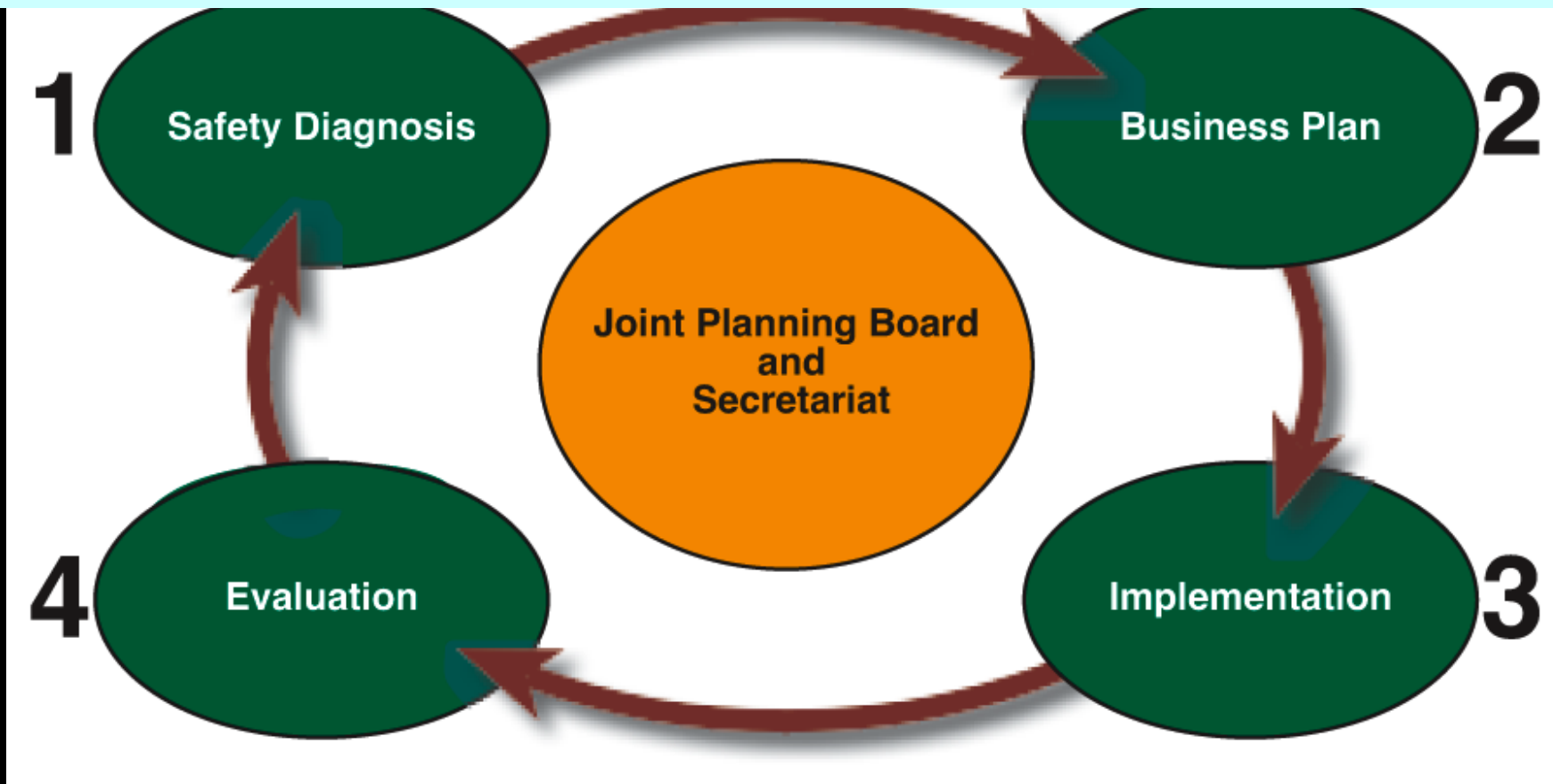


Essentials for smart investments in proven
solutions

CITIES THAT PLAN SMARTLY CAN, AND HAVE, REDUCED VIOLENCE BY 50% OR MORE WITHIN A FEW YEARS

- Success stories such as Bogotá (Colombia) achieved 50% reductions in homicides and inspired Glasgow (Scotland) to achieve 50% reduction in violence within five years.
 - Other cities are building on success, including Córdoba (Argentina), London (UK), and Newark (NJ).
 - Mayor of Boston (MA) in 2023 promised a 20% reduction in homicides and shootings within 3 years, after using evidence on what works to guide investment.
 - Municipalities in Ontario are now required to develop community safety and well-being plans.
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Multi-sector governance to tackle multiple risk factors



How did **Glasgow** reduce violence by 50% within 3 years

Office for Violence Reduction

Youth inclusion program outreach

Police call ins

Emergency room social outreach

Measuring results

What is the **Mayor of London** doing to reduce violence

Office for Violence Reduction

Youth mentors for all, reducing poverty and racism, and more

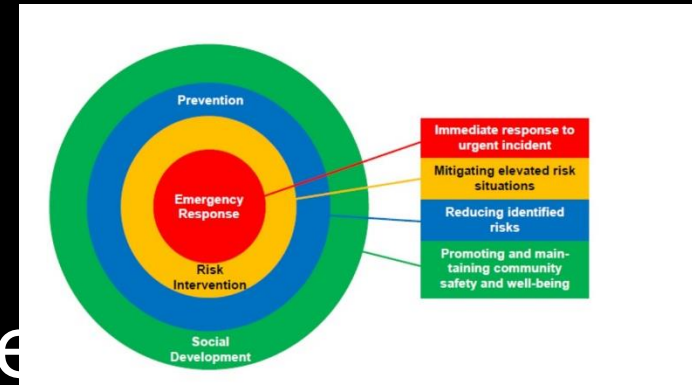
Cognitive behavioral therapy, neighborhood, school completion

<https://youtu.be/sLw21vvMzAE>



50% less violence by 2030

What is the Mayor of Toronto doing to reduce



a public health, a scientific approach; what has worked in the past? How could we expand those and track results. Cities like Glasgow have done it

Community Safety Plan required by Police Act
Developing Office for Violence Reduction
Projects to outreach to youth
Data on problem and tracking results

What is the Mayor of Boston doing to stop shootings and homicides in her city

Senior Adviser to advance safety, prevent violence, address trauma and increase justice

- Evidence-informed violence intervention strategies

- Community and youth activities, mentor programming, and employment opportunities

- Recovery services for those impacted by community violence

Promise of 20% reduction in shootings and homicides within 3 years

TO HALVE VIOLENCE IN FIVE YEARS, CANADA MUST INVEST NOW IN THREE NEW WAYS TO HARNESS PROVEN SOLUTIONS

More of the same is not enough

Skills and tools for reacting to crime are not enough

Short term projects in limited neighbourhoods are not enough

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Smart solutions are needed now to reduce violence by 50% within 5 years

**1. ESTABLISH A HIGH-LEVEL OFFICE FOR
VIOLENCE PREVENTION TO LEAD CHANGE
AND ACHIEVE LESS VIOLENCE**

- Establish violence prevention centres within all orders of government.
 - Staffed by officials with knowledge of evidence-based and promising practices.
 - Legislated mandate with core funding for staff, research development, and community outreach.
- 

Smart solutions are needed now to reduce violence by 50% within 5 years

2. TRAIN COMMUNITY SAFETY PLANNERS, DEVELOP SAFETY PLANNING TOOLS, AND FOSTER LEARNING FROM SUCCESS

- Officials need practical and academic training to know what has worked, how to diagnose and plan, and how to effectively engage communities.
- Community safety planning tools need to be created to help in the diagnosis, planning, implementation, and evaluation.
- Permanent data needs to be collected to focus programs where they are most needed and to monitor progress.
- Foster workshops and conferences to encourage exchanges with those already achieving success

Smart solutions are needed now to reduce violence by 50% within 5 years

3. INVEST SUSTAINED FUNDING IN SMART PREVENTION THAT IS ADEQUATE TO ACHIEVE SIGNIFICANT REDUCTIONS

- Many cities in Canada increased police budgets in recent years in reaction to crime by more than 5% and failed to tackle causes.
- Parliamentary committees in the 1990s recommended investing the equivalent of 5% of police and prison budgets in prevention, which is less than recent increase in policing costs.
- Matching 5% of the \$18 billion policing costs would be a \$1 billion investment, saving an estimated \$25 billion in costs of serious crime.

Inspired by proven prevention and successful best practices, Ottawa could reduce crime and victimization by 50% in 5 years by smart investing of \$20 million a year - equivalent of 5% of police budget

NB funding includes investment from Province and Federal Government who will save prison costs

2 thousand fewer women raped

25 thousand fewer victims of assaults and other violent crime

50 thousand fewer victims of theft and other property crime.

Violence prevention unit to lead

Expand and sustain proven solutions

Guided by human skills, particularly through training and P2P

Data for diagnosis and tracking

For the harm done by the offender, he is accountable,
but for the harm done from not using the most effective
ways to prevent violence when those are known to us,
for that we are all accountable.