



# FASTFACTS

NATIONAL CRIME PREVENTION AND INDIGENOUS POLICING SERVICES

December 2020

## Happy Holidays!

National Youth Services (NYS) would like to wish everyone a safe, happy, and healthy holiday season. We hope that you take the time to stay connected and to be with your loved ones safely. Please see below for some virtual holiday events. Happy holidays!

- In December, **Quick Holiday Canvas Creations** is a series of virtual events where you can join to create a canvas for a beloved printed photograph. These canvases are perfect for decorating your cherished photos and could make a lovely gift for the holidays.
- On December 6, you can join the virtual event **Holiday Candy**, which is a hands-on class where you can make candy and cookies that are ready for gifting or enjoying. You will receive recipes in advance and then can create the treats with a fun group and an engaging instructor.
- On December 8, CAA Niagara is hosting the **Home for the Holidays Virtual Concert**, with performances from various artists with all of the proceeds going to charity.
- On December 11, Emerson Reese Creative will be hosting the event **Home for Holidays**, which will cover topics of holiday decorating, ideas for how to celebrate with your family virtually, how to plan a virtual holiday event for your team, and care package ideas for loved ones.

## Special Upcoming Dates

- December 6 – **National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women**
- December 11 – **Anniversary of the Statute of Westminster**
- December 8 – **Bodhi Day**
- December 24 – January 1 – **Hanukkah**
- December 25 – **Christmas**
- December 26 – **Boxing Day**
- December 26-January 1 – **Kwanzaa**
- December 31-January 1 – **New Year**

\*Only a select few dates are listed. This list does not encompass all of the upcoming dates that merit recognition.

## In the News

- The **#LEGOLife App** protects children's identities through anonymous usernames and profile pictures, and is a safe social network for kids.
- In an effort to combat the rise of domestic violence, the Canadian Women's Foundation has launched the initiative **Signal for Help**, which is a simple hand gesture that can be done on video services to alert others that they feel threatened and need help on a video call or in-person.
- **COVID Alert** is an app that helps break the cycle of infection by letting other app users know of possible exposures before any symptoms appear.
- Instagram has implemented **new tools to ban self-harm and suicide posts**. The technology includes human referral, whereby posts identified as harmful by the algorithm can be referred to human moderators who can direct the user to help organizations and inform emergency services.
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced the "design phase" of a **new government initiative** that will invest \$105 million until 2021 in national volunteer organizations with the goal of inspiring more young Canadians to get involved in their communities.
- Daily vaping rates are in the 5-6% range among high school students, and daily smoking rates are about 2%; it appears that these daily smoking rates have been on the decline. View the **reports** on the C. D. Howe Institute website for more information on these trends.

## Training

- On December 7, the Child Advocacy Centre is hosting a virtual webinar called "**Child Abuse & Neglect 201**". This training is designed to assist law enforcement members and individuals working directly with children in understanding their roles when first responding to child abuse.



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- You can now register for the virtual learning event called “[Understanding and Responding to Victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation](#)”, taking place on December 7. Also on December 7, you can join the virtual event “[Trying Times, Social Media & Suicide Prevention](#)”, which will address the impact of the pandemic on suicide rates, and will provide some tips for healthy choices on social media.
- On December 8, Life Voice Canada Inc. is running [The ASK Workshop: Assessing for Suicide in Kids 5-14](#). This workshop is intended for those working and/or living with children and youth, and facilitates awareness of the signs that a child or youth may be at risk and what is needed to help.
- In December, Eventbrite will be hosting the “[Connecting Youth & Community with Law Enforcement – Youth Engagement Webinar Series](#)”. These webinars will cover topics of Youth Self-De-Escalation, Bias Awareness, Positive Police-Community Interactions, and Adolescent Brain Development.
- You can now register for the virtual training event on the topic of [Minimal Facts Interviewing](#). In this event, you can learn from Forensic Interviewers about the importance of their role and yours as a mandatory reporter.
- The Canadian Police Knowledge Network, made by police for police, offers courses on various topics including Domestic Violence, Autism Spectrum Disorder, helping Homeless Veterans, and more. For more information and their training catalogue, visit their [website](#).

## Virtual Educational Resources

- UNICEF Canada and their partners have been hosting *Stay In to Speak Out* sessions where young people reimagined the future of education, mental health, Indigenous sovereignty, Climate Change, democracy and

systemic racism. View the [Reimagine Playbook](#) report to learn about youth views across Canada.

- [The Big Feelings Come and Go Storybook](#) is now available in 9 languages, including French, Cree, Ojibway, and Arabic. This storybook teaches children about freeze, flight and fight and basic self-regulation skills.
- [The Indigenous Learning Community](#) is a platform created to house Indigenous-related learning and training activities, resources and tools across the Government of Canada.

## Virtual Opportunities

- Dr. R. Nicholas Carleton, a leading expert on the human response to trauma and the development of PTSD injuries will be hosting a webinar on “Resilience in times of stress and uncertainty: Learning from the experiences of public safety personnel”. [Register now](#) from a personal device only!
- The Library and Archives Canada’s Youth Advisory Council is now seeking dynamic, creative young people aged 19 to 25 from all regions of the country to join their committee. To learn more about the opportunity and for youth to apply, visit their [website](#).
- UNICEF Canada’s [One Youth](#) is looking for youth to help shape Canada’s public policies through U-Report. U-Report is a platform where youth can answer polls on issues that matter!

## Support Services

- [Kids Help Phone](#) – 1-800-668-6868
  - Indigenous Help – 1-855-554-4325
  - Text – 686868
- [Black Youth Helpline](#) – 1-833-294-8650
- [Hope For Wellness Line](#) – 1-855-242-3310 or use their chat function
- [Sexual Assault Txt Line](#) – Text HOME to 741741
- [Wellness Together Canada](#) – Mental health and substance use support

