



November 13, 2024

To: Wellington OPP Detachment Board

Re: Intimate Partner Violence

Intimate partner violence (IPV) is a serious and prevalent problem in Ontario. IPV is the violent crime most commonly reported to police. Despite this, research suggests that IPV remains significantly underreported. While anyone can be a victim of IPV, women account for the vast majority of people who experience this form of violence.

An intimate relationship is one between partners and includes current and former dating partners, common-law partners and married spouses.

Some examples of abusive behaviour that may result in criminal charges include:

- Assault (grabbing, pushing, hitting, punching, slapping, kicking, choking, or biting an intimate partner)
- Sexual activity with an intimate partner that is unwanted/forced
- Threats to harm an intimate partner, their family members or others, including pets
- Damage to an intimate partner's personal property; and
- Criminal harassment or stalking an intimate partner

On average, there are approximately 28,625 occurrences involving IPV reported to the OPP each year [based on data collected from 2019 to 2023]. Of these, an average of approximately 8,218 include offences under the *Criminal Code*, such as assault, mischief, uttering threats, criminal harassment and homicide.

The OPP recognizes the substantial physical and psychological harm IPV can have on victims, including the potential for it to lead to intimate partner homicide.

The OPP supports any legislation and initiatives that can positively impact public safety. We are working diligently to protect against victimization and ensure that appropriate supports are provided to victims of this crime. We are also committed to working with government and community partners to effectively combat and help prevent IPV in our communities.



If you or someone you know is experiencing intimate partner violence, in an emergency, dial 911. You can also contact the OPP by calling 1-888-310-1122 or visiting your local detachment.

Victims of intimate partner violence are not alone. If you, or someone you know, needs support, there are local resources listed below that are available to help:

- Victim Services Wellington: 519-824-1212
- Sexual Assault / Domestic Violence Care and Treatment Centre: 519-837-6440
- Guelph-Wellington Women in Crisis: 519-836-1110 or 1-800-265-7233

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