

Domestic Violence Death Review Committee

On April 17, 2026, the Domestic Violence Death Review Committee provided the Minister of Justice with a review report. The report includes the following advice and recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION RELATED TO PREVENTING A SIMILAR DEATH IN THE FUTURE

Recommendation 1: Continue to explore the inclusion of survivors, their community, and family members in the design and delivery of educational programs and initiatives that increase awareness about domestic and intimate partner violence. The delivery of such programs and initiatives should also reflect improved collaboration and coordination between Government and the community organizations that deliver these programs and initiatives.

Education is one of the key prevention strategies to address domestic and intimate partner violence. Survivors, family members, their community members, and the general public benefit from increased awareness about the nature of abusive relationships, risk factors, where to get help, and the importance of developing safety plans. For some survivors, their community, and family members, it is important to be involved in programs and initiatives that raise awareness. This involvement provides them with an opportunity to share their experiences with the aim of helping others and may also help them feel supported through their healing process. First-voice stories often have a powerful effect, both on those sharing their story and those listening.

Educational programs and initiatives that increase awareness about domestic and intimate partner violence currently exist; however, the Committee recommends improved collaboration and coordination between Government and community organizations in the delivery of these programs and initiatives to help ensure that critical information reaches more survivors, their family, community members, and the general public. Through education and increased awareness, we can support more Nova Scotians to be aware of the harm domestic and intimate partner violence has on individuals, families, and communities and, hopefully, have the knowledge to support a family member or friend who is experiencing abuse to seek help.