From:	Karen Matthews
То:	Karen Matthews
Subject:	CPeters on Human Trafficking
Date:	October 2, 2024 9:03:54 AM

From: >

Sent: Thursday, September 26, 2024 9:07 PM

To: Trustees BoardChair <<u>TrusteesBoardChair@sd68.bc.ca</u>>; Secretary-Treasurer <<u>SecretaryTreasurer@sd68.bc.ca</u>>; Assistant Superintendent, Secondary Programs <<u>AsstSupSecondary@sd68.bc.ca</u>>; Superintendent <<u>Superintendent@sd68.bc.ca</u>> Subject: Cathy Peters on Human Trafficking- Safer Schools podcast, UBCM booth meeting Premier, civic leaders

CAUTION: External Message

Dear School Board Trustees SD 68 Nanaimo/Ladysmith, Superintendent Laura Tait and School Administrative staff,

I emailed you in early September.

As a follow up with the school year underway **Safer Schools interviewed me on their new podcast**.

Links below, please share with your teams.

There is the 37 minute version and the 1 minute version below. <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SAnhorL3P3A</u>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y-Vios6RtDg

I attended **UBCM convention** meeting BC civic leaders. My booth at the Trade Show was "**An Anti Human Trafficking Initiative"**. Photos attached: my booth, my team with the Minister of Municipal Affairs, speaking with the Premier.

At UBCM Lieutenant Governor General Janet Austin spoke about the concerning increase in human trafficking in BC in her keynote address.

Terrace School District is being proactive in addressing this issue/crime. Please contact Julia Nieckarz, Director of Instruction, Learner Support for more information.

The trend around BC is growing gang recruitment.

Gangs are spreading around BC, renting houses, enticing youth to move in by offering drugs, food, shelter.

The youth are sexually assaulted, filmed, and these films are sold on the black market.

In some communities this situation has become untenable.

Former Los Angeles Police Department (retired), Officer in Charge of the Human Trafficking Unit, serving 33 years in law enforcement, Lt. Andre Dawson makes these comments: "I do believe we can end human trafficking, but **it requires a collaborative effort** between stakeholders, **educators**, policy/law makers, law enforcement, prosecutors, social care providers, community and faith based groups. Note: by the time law enforcement rescues a sexually exploited child, significant mental and physical damage has already been done. I look at human trafficking through the **proactive** lens of "**prevention through education**." Placing a specific focus on **educating our children and explaining the consequences of such destructive behavior is a step in the right direction and a very effective strategy."**

ASK: Please confirm this has been received and shared with the School District.

Please contact me for further information.

Sincerely, Cathy Peters phone: 604-828-2689 BC anti human trafficking educator, speaker, advocate <u>beamazingcampaign.org</u> 1101-2785 Library Lane, North Vancouver, BC V7J 0C3 Queen's Platinum Jubilee Medal recipient for my anti human trafficking advocacy work

Author: Child Sex Trafficking in Canada and How to Stop It

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