

BluePrint for Violence Prevention (BVP)

BVP on track to reduce youth and community violence and in next phase must target reductions of 50% within 5 years, by emphasizing 5 key components of a smart public health strategy

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Author of Science and Secrets of Ending Violent Crime

SCIENCE and SECRETS of

**ENDING
VIOLENT
CRIME**

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Edmonton has relatively high rates of violent crime, which have been increasing.

Time to have a smart public health strategy to reduce violence significantly

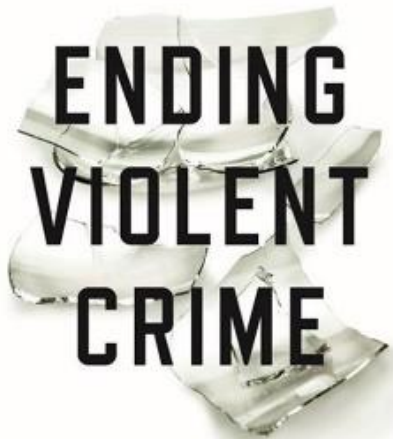
- Incidents involving violence in EPS area went from 13,000 plus in 2019 to 16,000 plus in 2024
- Edmonton ranked second for homicides and fourth for violent crime severity index among large municipalities
- Edmonton likely has unacceptable and increasing rates of sexual and intimate partner violence
- The public in Edmonton is concerned about violence, particularly in the Downtown core and on transit

	2023 RATE
Calgary	1.98
Edmonton	3.61
Montreal	1.91
Ottawa	1.13
Peel	1.37
Toronto	2.53
Vancouver	2.48
Winnipeg	5.94
York	1.25

For Edmonton to reduce violent crime by 50% within 5 years, it needs to invest at least \$25M annually in smart public health strategy, emphasizing the following essentials

1. Establish Offices for violence reduction high in hierarchies of all orders of government, as demonstrated by success in UK and USA.
2. Increase human capacity for “smart” community safety planning.
3. Get to know proven ways that reduce crime by tackling risk factors and raise awareness, as Youth Endowment Fund is doing for UK.
4. Set targets for plan of fewer victims in next five years
5. Accelerate adequate and sustained funding for proven prevention from federal/provincial governments, particularly for local level, because it stops harm to victims, reduces increases to police budget and saves hospital, jail and other costs.

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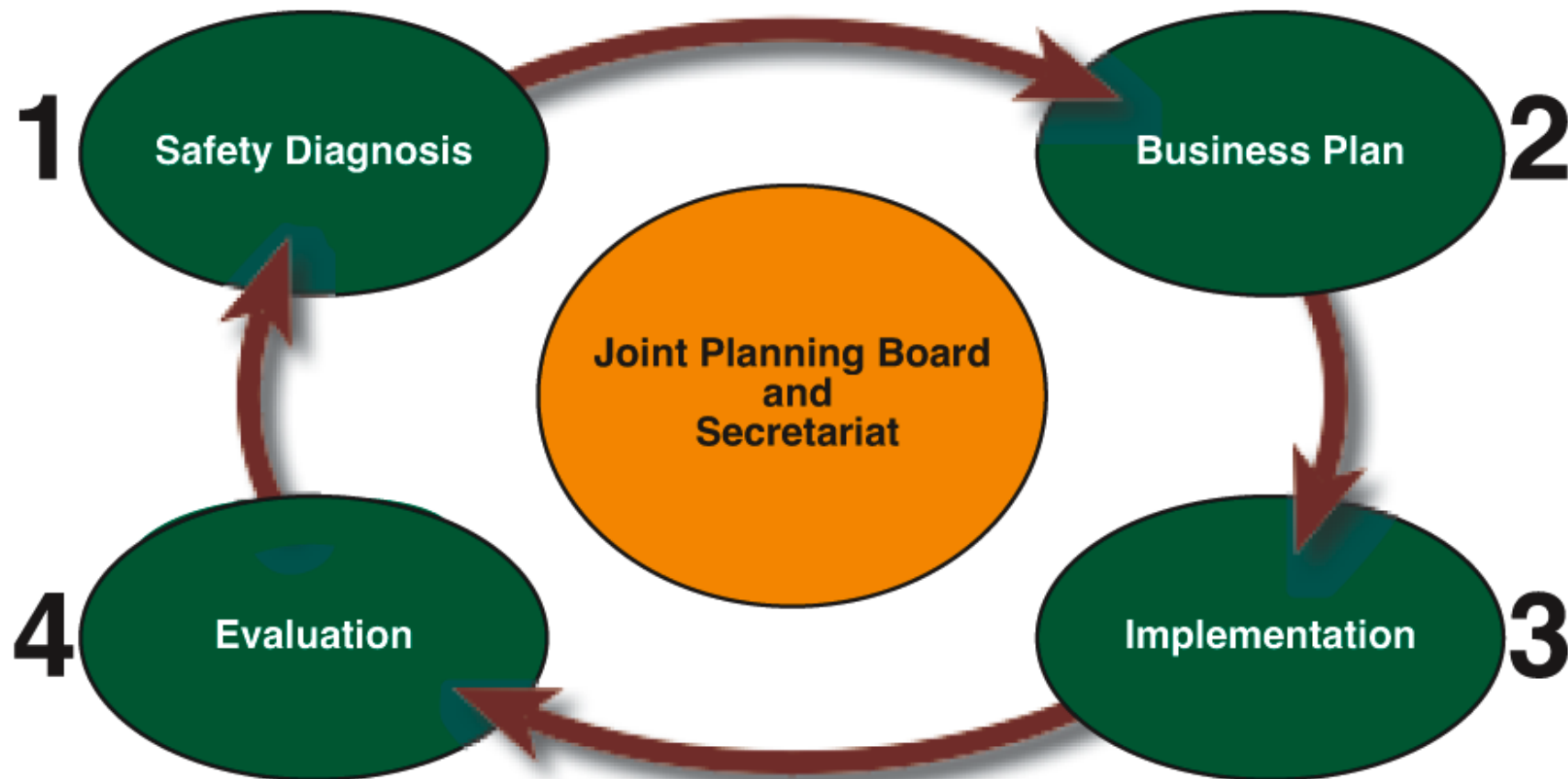
1.a Violence Reduction Units (VRU) using public health approach in 20 police areas proven to reduce violence in UK

- Inspired by city of Glasgow VRU achieving 50% reduction in violence in 3 years following 2 year planning phase
- The aim of VRUs is to lead and coordinate a preventative, whole-system approach to violence reduction, which comprises:
 - multi-agency working, data sharing and analysis, engaging young people and communities, commissioning (and delivering) evidence-based interventions
 - Annual evaluation and conference to improve strategies
- Significant reduction in hospital admissions for any violent injury. Since funding began, an estimated 3,220 total (or 8 per 100,000 persons) hospital admissions prevented

1.b USA White House Office of Gun Violence Prevention reduced gun violence significantly in US cities







- White House Office focus on public health approach
 - Promoted State and local offices for violence prevention
 - Advanced gun control
 - Improved mental health services in schools to help young people deal with trauma from gun violence and investing in community violence interventions.
 - Bolster support for survivors and victims.
- Boston mayor's success included workshop
 - with smart applied academics, community representatives and leaders of education, social services, public health and police
 - Promised 20% reduction with 3 years, got 80% reduction in homicide rate (now less than Edmonton!)

2. Increase capacity for smart public health plan based on identifying risk factors and effective ways to tackle them








3. Get to know proven ways that reduce crime by tackling risk factors, particularly for 5% of youth responsible for 50% of violence

Prevention tackling risk factors

	1	Engage and support young males	
	2	Strengthen anti-violence social norms	
	3	Support positive parenting and early childhood	
	4	Mitigate financial stress	
	5	Trauma therapy	
	6	Use "logic model" but avoid solutions proven ineffective	

Using police smartly

	1	Reduce harmful effects of the justice process	
	2	Focusing on alcohol	
	3	Focusing on firearms and knives	
	4	Orienting to solving problems and hot spots	
	5	Focussing deterrence – caution discrimination	

	6	Avoid policing strategies proven ineffective	
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50% less violence⁷ by 2030

4. Set targets and ensure plan is results oriented for fewer victims in next five years

25% and 50% fewer victims of street and gender based Violence

- 1 Police serious crime data, including homicides
- 2 Hospital data on intentional injuries
- 3 Surveys on sexual and gender-based violence, including in schools and universities
- 4 Surveys of feelings of community safety

25% and 50% fewer priority 911 and emergency response

- 5 911 priority 1 and 2 calls
- 6 911/arrests diverted to agency with appropriate skills (eg hub and mental health 211)

25% and 50% fewer other community safety problems

- 7 Drug overdoses and suicides
- 8 Homelessness
- 9 Traffic crashes involving injuries and drunk driving
- 10 Police killings and persons incarcerated

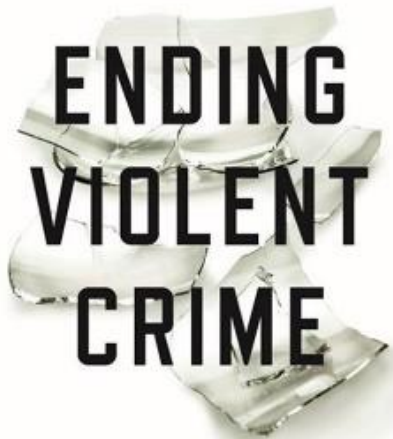
5. Make case for adequate and sustained funding for proven prevention from federal/provincial governments, particularly for local level.
 50% reduction in violence in Edmonton would stop \$1B in harm to victims, avoid \$100M in increased police costs, and reduce \$65M in jail and health care.

50% fewer victims of street and gender based Violence	
1	Reductions in \$16 billion costs to police of crime response
2	Reductions in clogged courts
3	Reductions in operating costs of prisons and need for new jails
4	Reductions in transition housing for victims of intimate partner violence
50% reductions in health case costs	
5	Reductions in \$15 billion in hospital and health costs
6	Improvements in feeling of community safety
50% reductions in intangible costs	
7	Reductions in \$100 billion costs to victims from trauma, injuries, short and long term health
8	Drug overdoses and suicides
9	Homelessness

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