



INAUGURAL YOUTH DAY 2023

BY ONECHILD X DEFEND DIGNITY

CANADIAN SEXUAL EXPLOITATION SUMMIT (CSES PRE-EVENT)

MAY 3, 2023 (Virtual Event) | 9 AM - 3:15 PM (EST)

Full Schedule

Subject to change

9:00 AM – 9:20 AM:

Land Acknowledgment

Let's come together to formally recognize the special and long-standing connection between Indigenous Peoples and the lands we occupy.

Welcome & Introductions

We're looking forward to welcoming you, your classmates, teachers, and our distinguished speakers to the inaugural Youth Day 2023, the FIRST-ever, national conference on the sexual exploitation of children (SEC) *created by youth, for youth!*

Opening Remarks

Let's kick things off with an inspiring message about the power of youth to make a difference on SEC, by [Cheryl Perera](#), the Founder of [OneChild](#) and [Glendyne Gerrard](#), Director of [Defend Dignity](#).

Housekeeping and Content Warnings

We understand SEC is a heavy topic, and it can be overwhelming to learn about, so let's look out for each other. We'll make sure to give plenty of content warnings throughout the day, and if you need to talk to someone, our counsellors at [Arise Ministry](#) are there to support you.

Moderators: Ali Zaidi & Ida Alimoradi

Counsellors: Katherine McCloskey & Stephanie Blasioli

9:20 - 9:50 AM:

Breaking Down SEC and its Impact on Children in Canada

We deserve to have our childhoods, and the chance to feel safe, be happy, and thrive. Unfortunately, SEC is a growing issue in Canada and is robbing us of our childhoods. But how exactly is it impacting us and why? And why do we need to act urgently?

Ida Alimoradi and Ali Zaidi, OneChild's Youth Empowerment Coordinators will get us better acquainted with the issue of SEC, by talking definitions, sharing facts and figures, and discussing who is involved, what makes us – children – vulnerable, and the consequences it has on victims.

Takeaways:

- Understand the prevalence of SEC in Canada and its different and overlapping forms
- Understand factors that put us at risk of SEC
- Understand the physical, social, emotional, and psychological impacts SEC has on victims
- Learn about the root causes of SEC

Speakers: Ali Zaidi & Ida Alimoradi, OneChild's Youth Empowerment Coordinators

9:50 AM – 10:50 AM: Session One

Child Sex Trafficking: How it Happens and What You Can Do Prevent It

How exactly do traffickers lure and traffick children? Where can we go for help? And what can we do to keep ourselves safe?

Join survivors of sex trafficking, [Shailla Manitowabie-Cooke](#) and [Alexandra Stevenson](#) as they give us insight into the actions and steps traffickers take to recruit and exploit children, including peer-on-peer trafficking. We'll learn about how to identify signs that we, our friends, or siblings are being groomed and/or trafficked, how we can support a friend going through this, and how we can get help in a safe way.

Shailla and Alexandra will also talk to us about the power of prevention, the importance of consent and setting boundaries, and how we can recognize if we're in a healthy, unhealthy, or abusive relationship, and what we can do about it.

Finally, Shailla, an Indigenous survivor will also talk to us about how and why Indigenous children are disproportionately affected by sex trafficking, actions we can take to prevent this, and what cultural resources are available for Indigenous children who believe they are being victimized.

Takeaways:

- Understand the common recruitment and control tactics used by sex traffickers
- Understand how to recognize signs that you or a friend is a victim of grooming and/or trafficking
- Understand how to give and receive help
- Understand the concept of consent
- Understand how to set boundaries and build healthy relationships

- Understand how Indigenous children are uniquely affected and why

Speakers

[Shailla Manitowabie-Cooke](#) (Indigenous advocate)

[Alexandra Stevenson](#) (Co-founder of Uprising, The Laughing Survivor, activist)

10:50 AM – 11:05AM: Intermission

Watch and witness the many ways children our age are being targeted by online predators and traffickers with OneChild's [#beh1ndthescr3ens](#) prevention education video series, created by OneChild's Youth Advisory Squad 2021-2022. *How fast can you recognize the red flags?*

11:05 AM - 12:05 PM: Session Two

Building a Safer Online World

Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok...you name it, we all have one! While social media, gaming and other technologies help us connect, express ourselves, have fun, and learn; there are many risks associated with our devices that we should be aware of to keep ourselves, our siblings, and friends safe.

This panel features [Carol Todd](#) an advocate, educator, and Founder of the [Amanda Todd Legacy](#), established in memory of her daughter who died by suicide after becoming a victim of sextortion. It also includes [Kathryn Rifenbark](#), Director of Survivor Services at the National Centre for Missing & Exploited Children and [Matt Richardson](#), Director of Intelligence and Investigation with the Anti-Human Trafficking Intelligence Initiative.

Together, they'll help us understand issues like online grooming, cyber sex trafficking, sextortion, cyberbullying and the risks of exposure to pornography; how they're happening, their impact on children, and where we can go for help if affected. Carol, Kathryn and Matt will also give us tips on how to stay safe online and what we can do to practice positivity and empathy online.

Takeaways:

- Understand the different forms of online SEC
- Understand the severity of sextortion, tactics used by sextortionists and predators, and its impact on a child
- Understand the impact of pornography and websites such as OnlyFans on children
- Understand steps you can take to stay safe online
- Understand how to get help
- Understand how to be kind and respectful online

Speakers:

- [Carol Todd](#) (Parent of sextortion victim, Amanda Todd; Educator; and Founder of The Amanda Todd Legacy)
- [Kathryn Rifenbark](#), Director of Survivor Services, National Centre for Missing & Exploited
- [Matt Richardson](#), (Internet Safety and Digital Well-being Expert, Director of Intelligence, and Investigation with the Anti-Human Trafficking Intelligence Initiative)

12:05 - 1:00 PM: LUNCH BREAK

Five-minute reminder before next session starts and lunch concludes

1:00 PM - 1:50 PM: Session Three**Beyond the Glamour & Deception: Understanding the Roots of Sexual Exploitation Including the Impact of Pop Culture**

How could someone be so cruel to traffick another human being? How could a child recruit and exploit another child? While it is difficult to imagine being a youth walking the shoes of a trafficker, this is an upsetting reality for some.

[Armand King](#), a reformed trafficker, now a San Diego-based anti-sex trafficking advocate will answer these burning questions.

Listen to Armand as he walks us through his life, and how a toxic mix of racism, poverty, gang involvement, drugs, lack of role models, peer pressure, gender norms, and pop culture influenced him to go down this path. Armand will share how he is changing the story for other children, and how we can work together to fight against the root causes of SEC.

Takeaways:

- Understand how systems of oppression such as racism and sexism drive SEC
- Understand how sexual exploitation is being glamourized in pop culture and by the media
- Learn about how we can use an equity approach to prevent SEC

Speakers: [Armand King](#), (Co-founder of Paving Great Futures, author, anti-trafficking advocate and reformed trafficker)

1:50 PM – 2:50 PM: Intermission

2:05 PM - 3:05 PM: Closing Panel

Moving Beyond Words: A Call-to-Action on Combating SEC

So, you've got the knowledge on SEC, now what? You can be an agent of positive change! Historically, children have played an important role in social and political movements and the issue of SEC is no different.

Prepare to be inspired by a powerful, action-oriented panel discussion featuring OneChild's [Youth Advisory Squad](#) (YAS) Members and Alumni. They'll talk about the importance of youth involvement in the fight against SEC and why we need you!

Each will share their experiences as members of YAS and how they have taken action in their schools and communities and give you ideas on how you can safely take action, and tips to be successful in creating impact. *Because, who better to make their voice heard and take action on issues that directly affect children – like the issue of SEC – than children like us? We are the experts of our own experience.*

Takeaway:

- Understand why we are extremely important in the fight against SEC
- Understand how we can use our voices, talents, and passion to take action and motivate our friends, classmates and family to join
- Learn how we can work with OneChild to champion this issue

Speakers: Youth Advisory Squad Members (aged 14-17 years old) and Alumni

3:05 PM - 3:15 PM: Resources and Closing Remarks

It's been a solid day of learning and inspiration, but it's time to say goodbye! But before we go, it's important to remember that knowledge is power, so we'll be sharing resources from OneChild and others to keep you learning and thinking about how you can make a difference.

Speakers: Ali Zaidi & Ida Alimoradi, OneChild's Youth Empowerment Coordinators