

Ottawa Youth Gang Prevention Initiative



Comparing Gang Membership

City	Gang member #'s	Density per 1,000 pop
Los Angeles County	96000 **	9.8
Saskatoon	900 *	3.86
Toronto	3000 *	1.23
Edmonton	600 *	0.58
Ottawa	473 **	0.53

* Astwood Strategy Corp. Estimate 2007

** 2012 Police estimates

Global Context

- Today is the UN International Day for the Elimination of Poverty
- Criminal activity represents 3.6% of the world's gross domestic product, it makes the criminal business one of the world's top 20 economies



Senior Levels of Government

Federal Government

- Increased penalties for drug and gun crimes
- Stronger provisions for young offenders
- NCPC gang fund of \$10M per year
- Research

Provincial Government

- Youth Action Plan \$20M
- Youth Justice Exit pilot
- Roots of Youth Violence report 2008
- Child and Youth Mental Health Strategy 2010?
- Poverty Reduction Strategy
- Urban Priority Schools \$10M



OYGPI Stakeholders

- Crime Prevention Ottawa
- Ottawa Police Services
- Youth Services Bureau
- Ottawa Community Housing
- E. Fry
- John Howard
- United Way
- Youville Centre
- Children's Aid Society
- Boys and Girls Club
- Parks and Recreation
- RCMP/OPP
- All 4 School Boards
- Ministry Children & Youth Services
- MCSCS
- Corrections Canada
- Justice Canada
- Community Houses
- Others



Holistic Framework

Healthy Neighbourhood Cohesion

- Building positive relationships in gang affected neighbourhoods to reduce fear and strengthen the community fabric.

Prevention

- Activities, programs and supports which seek to positively engage young people with their families, their schools and their community **before** they are attracted to gang life.

Intervention

- Programming that engages with youth who are involved or beginning to be involved in youth gang activity.

Suppression

- Targeted enforcement aimed at gang activity.



Education & Awareness

- Youth and Gangs: Conference May 2008
- Public Forum October 2008
- Youth Gangs: From Prevention to Intervention conference October 2008
- 3 Faith and Gangs roundtables 2009-2010
- 12 Workshops for Parents in 6 languages
- Ottawa youth gangs: Pathways in, pathways out
Public Forum and Stakeholder workshops 2011



Research

<http://www.crimepreventionottawa.ca/en/publications/youth>

- Institute for the Prevention of Crime: Leaving Criminal Youth Gangs: Exit Strategies and Programs (2011)
- Life Course of Youth Gang Members (2011)
- Needs Assessment and Service Awareness of Youth Aged 10 to 14, Living in the South-East and West Priority Areas (2010)
- Ottawa Youth Gang Prevention Initiative: Community Cohesion and Youth Gang Prevention in Six Priority Areas (2009)
- Faith-Based Approaches to Youth Gang Prevention (2009)
- Now is the Time to Act: Youth Gang Prevention in Ottawa (2008)



Current Issues Identified

- Identification of those at risk of gang involvement
- Intervention and Service coordination for high risk children and youth
- Exit Strategies, especially for 18 years and over
- Building a Trusting Relationship Between the Community and Police
- Working with Families for Prevention



감사합니다 Natick

Grazie Danke Ευχαριστίες Dalu
Thank You Köszönöm
Спасибо Dank Tack
谢谢 Merci Seé
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