



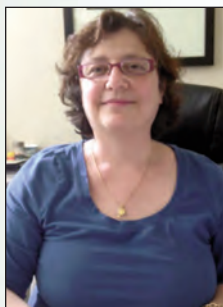
InTouch

Violence Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA) Update

Violence prevention remains a priority focus area of both our safe and accepting schools strategy and mental health and well-being strategy. Mirella Fata, Mental Health Leader provided an update on the status of board efforts to establish a city- and district-wide, school board and community partner student threat assessment protocol.

Along with community police, youth justice, mental health and social service partners, all five provincial school boards have received training in the Violence Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA) Model developed by Kevin Cameron. Since 2015, representatives from each board and community partner organization have been meeting to work towards a collaborative VTRA protocol. The Protocol would:

- 1) formalize and standardize student threat assessment practices across all five school boards,
- 2) establish school-community teams trained in the VTRA model. These team members work collaboratively to share information, assess student threats of violence and develop a community intervention plan to support the student threat-maker and those impacted by the threat and
- 3) facilitate the creation of a community of practice around school violence prevention.



Mirella Fata
Mental Health Leader

TBCDSB has led the VTRA working group and drafted the VTRA Protocol this past summer. This past fall, the protocol was reviewed by our city and district co-terminus boards. Each has committed to moving forward with the protocol. The next step is to circulate the protocol among city and district community partners and then bring every one together to move towards formal signing and implementation.

<p>When: Tuesday, October 7th & Wednesday, October 8th, 2014 Time: 9:00am - 3:30pm with registration and coffee at 8:30am Where: Embassy Ballroom, Victoria Inn, 555 Arthur Street West <i>*Nutrition Breaks & Lunch Provided</i></p>		<p>Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board</p>
<p>LEVEL 1 TRAINING Violence Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA)</p>		<p>Presented By:</p> <p>Kevin Cameron, Executive Director, Canadian Centre for Threat Risk Assessment and Training</p>
<p>A Community Based, Multi-Disciplinary Approach to School Violence Prevention and Intervention</p>		
<p>Training is intended for those who coordinate or participate in assessing youth risk for violence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Board and School Administrators; ■ School Counsellors; ■ Spec. & Alt. Ed. Teachers; ■ Mental Health Risk Assess. & Response Teams; ■ Child Protection Services; ■ Police & Youth Justice; ■ Youth Probation & Corrections 	<p>Full 2 day attendance is required for certification. Participants receive the VTRA Level 1 Training Guide.</p> <p>To register, contact Dawn Sebesta at (807) 625-1590. All registrations must be received by Wednesday October 1st, 2014.</p>	<p><small>Training is a joint initiative of the Board's Safe and Accepting Schools Strategy and Mental Health & Addiction Strategy.</small></p> <p>Safe and Accepting Schools</p>

Working with internationally-renowned expert, Kevin Cameron, the Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board has taken a lead role in helping regional stakeholders prepare their respective Violence Threat Assessment plans since 2014.