Human trafficking is a pervasive problem that often goes unnoticed. There is a growing trend that traffickers will use short-term rentals instead of hotels and motels due to the greater possibility of anonymity. Short-term rental owners can play a crucial role in combating this crime by learning about human trafficking, how to recognize trafficking signs and how to respond appropriately. This article outlines several ways that short-term rental owners can help prevent human trafficking and what to do if they suspect potential trafficking in their property.

**PARTNERING WITH THE COMMUNITY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT**

The City of Winnipeg, in partnership with the Winnipeg Police Service and The Joy Smith Foundation, is committed to raising awareness about human trafficking. As a short-term rental owner, there is an obligation to report suspected cases of human trafficking and other suspicious activity in your rental properties.

**WHERE TO REPORT**

- Immediate Danger, call 911
- Winnipeg Police Service non-emergency 204-986-6222
- Winnipeg Crime Stoppers 204-786-TIPS (204-786-8477)

**DETER HUMAN TRAFFICKERS FROM CHOOSING YOUR RENTAL**

There are several steps that you can take to deter human traffickers from choosing your rental property in the first place.

- Screen your bookings carefully including guest reviews from other short-term rentals where they have stayed in the past.
- Don’t accept last-minute bookings.
- Be cautious before accepting a booking from renters that are from the same area as your rental.
- Install cameras on the outside of your property to record those coming and going.
- Use devices that monitor sound levels inside and outside of your property.
- Do not allow guests to have unregistered guests on your property.
- Gather information about your renters including the names of all guests, photo identification and license plate numbers.
- State clearly in your listing that you are committed to preventing human trafficking and other illegal activities in your neighbourhood. State that you will report any suspicious activity and may even allow access to local authorities without notification.
- Join a neighbourhood watch and state it clearly in your listing.
SIGNOS DE TRAFICACIÓN HUMANA EN SU RENTA

Los traficantes quieren mantenerse bajo la radar, por lo que a menudo utilizan alquileres de corta duración como el suyo para ejecutar sus actividades ilegales. Mientras que puede ser difícil detectar a un traficante de ser humano, hay varios signos que puedes observar. Estos indicadores pueden parecer inofensivos por separado, pero en combinación, podrían ser una señal de traficación humana:

▼ Uso frecuente de alquileres de corta duración.
▼ Reservas de último minuto – ¡esto es un gran bandera roja!
▼ Reservas que son próximas en el mismo tiempo en el mismo lugar.
▼ Varios personas entrando y saliendo de tu propiedad.
▼ Individuos que parecen estar bajo el control de otra persona – especialmente donde hay una diferencia de edad.
▼ Individuos que se visten de forma inapropiada (especialmente para su edad).
▼ Un grupo de personas son recogidos en tu propiedad, llevados a algún otro lugar, y luego devueltos al mismo tiempo cada día.
▼ Personas llegando y saliendo de tu propiedad con mochilas.
▼ La presencia de una gran cantidad de condones, envoltorios de condones, botellas de lubricantes y lociones en la basura el día de salida.

¿QUÉ HACER SI SUSPESES UNA SITUACIÓN POTENCIAL DE TRAFICACIÓN HUMANA EN TU PROPIEDAD

Si encuentras una situación en tu alquiler que podría potencialmente ser traficación humana, estás obligado a denunciarlo. Nunca pongas en peligro tu seguridad al acercarte a un huésped si estás preocupado. Si piensas que algo es sospechoso, no digas ni hagas nada que pueda poner a ti o a tu familia en peligro. Simplemente llama a la policía de inmediato y déjelos manejarlo.

Como dueño de alquiler de corta duración, tienes una responsabilidad para ayudar a evitar la traficación humana en tu comunidad. Al asociarte con la comunidad y la fuerza policial, disuadiendo a los traficantes de humanos de escoger tu alquiler, identificando banderas rojas y respondiendo de manera adecuada, puedes hacer una gran diferencia en la lucha contra la traficación humana. Recuerda, tus acciones pueden salvar vidas.

Es también una buena idea que te preguntas a vecinos para que sean tus ojos y oídos y denuncen cualquier cosa sospechosa a la policía.

Si deseas aprender más sobre la traficación humana y cómo puedes ayudar a prevenir que esto suceda en tu comunidad, visita joysmithfoundation.com

HOW TO HELP STOP HUMAN TRAFFICKING

JOY SMITH FOUNDATION

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f  tw  ig  ln  v
Often described as modern-day slavery, human trafficking involves the recruitment, transportation, or harbouring of persons for the purpose of exploitation, typically in the sex trade or through forced labour.

It’s a growing Canadian problem that goes largely unnoticed because victims are first lured by false trust and then have their ability to make decisions taken from them with threats, coercion and manipulation.

Unfortunately, it is a lucrative criminal enterprise. Traffickers actively recruit in Canadian urban and rural areas. Knowledge is our greatest protection. The more we know and understand about human trafficking, the more we can do to prevent it.

The Joy Smith Foundation and our National Human Trafficking Education Centre work to prevent human trafficking and build awareness by providing easily accessible education. We also offer Intervention Programming.

The most important first step you can take toward helping combat this issue is to KNOW THE FACTS!

WHAT IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING?

According to the United Nations, human trafficking is “a crime that trades in people and exploits them for profit. People of all genders, ages and backgrounds can become victims of this crime, which occurs in every region of the world. Traffickers use violence, fraudulent employment agencies, and fake promises of education and job opportunities to trick, coerce and deceive their victims.

Organized networks or individuals behind this lucrative crime take advantage of people who are vulnerable, desperate or simply seeking a better life.”

In Canada, youth and adults are manipulated by acquaintances, ‘friends’ or sometimes a family member and forced into the sex trade or labour market, which only benefits the perpetrator.

Right now, less than 1 km from where you are, someone is being trafficked!

FACTS ABOUT HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN CANADA

13
is the average age of entry into sex trafficking

$280,000
is the annual revenue one victim of human trafficking generates for a trafficker

93%
of sex trafficking victims in Canada are Canadian-born
WHO IS BEING TRAFFICKED?

Ninety-three percent of Canada’s sex trafficking victims are Canadian-born. Youth and children are vulnerable if they aren’t taught about this crime and are unaware of the malicious tactics used by predators. It’s no accident. They are targeted and manipulated into this life by people they thought they could depend on. It’s an act of ultimate betrayal. Our goal is to educate Canadians to recognize the signs and prevent this from happening.

WHERE DOES IT HAPPEN?

This crime can happen to anyone, anywhere, at any time. It occurs in large urban cities and smaller rural communities across the country. It is happening right now in EVERY community across Canada. It is far more prevalent than people realize.

Why does it happen?

Individuals are lured because they are unaware of this possibility or the malicious intent and tactics used by predators. It’s an act of betrayal that changes the lives of individuals and their families forever. Education and awareness can help.

HOW DOES IT HAPPEN?

Trafficked persons do not choose this life. They are lured into these circumstances with lies and manipulation. Perpetrators work to gain their victims’ trust with promises and gifts, with the goal to have them under their complete control.

We want to raise awareness to STOP IT!

When you see the signs and who is vulnerable, you are empowered to take the steps and strategies to prevent this crime from occurring.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Educate yourself about the issue.
- Learn who’s at risk and the signs of human trafficking.
- Know what actions to take, if you suspect something.
- Have conversations with your friends and family to raise awareness and stop this crime from happening.
- Get involved by fundraising or volunteering.

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This rental property is committed to preventing human trafficking and other illegal activities from happening in this neighbourhood.

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