

# FIGHTING HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Arnold  
Viersen

MP for Peace River—Westlock



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES  
CANADA



Dear constituent,

Human trafficking is a form of modern slavery that turns people into objects to be used and exploited. It is vicious, profitable and growing. It is happening here in our country and across the globe.

That is why **combating human trafficking has been one of my priorities** over the past six years. I have listened to survivors, organized briefings, fought for funding for safehouses, and introduced Bills to give police tools to help them capture more traffickers.

I also believe that this fight is most successful when we work across party lines. That is why in 2018, I launched the *All-Party Parliamentary Group to End Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking* and serve as one of the four co-chairs.

One of our biggest victories was the adoption last year of February 22 as National Human Trafficking Awareness Day.

Education and awareness is critical. Parents, organizations, faith communities, and local businesses must be aware of the signs of human trafficking.

That is why I have included information and resources about human trafficking. This crime requires all of us working together to prevent it.

In your service,

Arnold Viersen, MP



**HUMAN TRAFFICKING IS  
HAPPENING WITHIN 10 KM OR  
10 MINUTES OF WHERE YOU LIVE.**

- MP ARNOLD VIERSEN -

## IT HAPPENS HERE

*"On May 26, 2020, the High Level RCMP charged Michael John Neufeld, 30, of La Crete with trafficking a minor under the age of 18."*

- Edmonton Journal



Canadian  
Human  
Trafficking  
Hotline

**1-833-900-1010**

*Available 24 hrs, 7 days a week*  
**Find Help—Report a Case**

CUT HERE



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Needed

**Arnold Viersen, MP**  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, ON  
K1A 0A6



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- 1. Most victims knew their trafficker. They were not strangers.
- 2. Traffickers are not restricted to class, age, race or gender. Traffickers can be affluent, classmates, gangs or trusted family members or friends.
- 3. Trafficking can happen to anyone. However most at risk include young girls and boys, those bullied or isolated, and Indigenous women and girls.
- 4. Trafficking can happen anywhere. The Internet and social media are primary outlets for traffickers.

HOW TO PROTECT KIDS

Education and awareness is the greatest tool we have against human trafficking. In November I sent a letter to every school in our riding asking them to educate kids about the risks of sex trafficking.

However, parents are essential and with the right tools, you can protect your children.

The most important thing you can do is talk to your kids!

There are great resources for parents on how to discuss human trafficking with your children.

Visit [mparnold.ca/human-trafficking/](http://mparnold.ca/human-trafficking/) for links to helpful resources.

WE NEED TO STOP THE DEMAND FOR PAID SEX

This is Maddison with her mom Jennifer Holleman. On July 8, 2015, Maddison was killed in a horrific car accident in Edmonton. The man driving the car was intoxicated.

He was also a sex buyer.

Prior to this Maddison had been trafficked across Canada: Halifax, Moncton, Mississauga, Toronto, Calgary, Red Deer, & Grande Prairie.



This should never have happened. Prostitution creates an environment of violence and inequality for women and girls, perpetuates sexual commodification and turns the most vulnerable in our society into objects to be bought and sold .

That is why in 2014, the Conservative Government made purchasing sex illegal. Sex trafficking only exists because of the demand for paid sex. That is why we must end the demand.

KEY STATISTICS

**12-14 years** is the average age of entry into prostitution in Canada.

**97%** of Canada’s sex trafficking victims are Canadian women and girls.

**50%** of sex trafficking victims are Indigenous.

**\$300-\$1500** is the daily amount a trafficker makes off one victim.

**\$280,000** is the average annual profit from a victim of sex trafficking in Canada.

FEBRUARY 22—NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS DAY

One year ago, Canada finally recognized February 22 as National Human Trafficking Awareness Day.

Here are three things you can do on February 22.

- 1. LEARN the signs of trafficking.
- 2. RAISE awareness in your community.
- 3. ACT by making sure your purchases have slavery-free supply chains. Don’t buy sex or consume pornography.
- 4. SUPPORT the many great organizations fighting human trafficking and helping survivors.

For more information, visit [mparnold.ca/human-trafficking/](http://mparnold.ca/human-trafficking/)

*“Having a national human trafficking awareness day would mean that we are no longer invisible to society and Canadian people.*

*It would mean that more people will finally learn about this terrible crime and learn how to protect their children.”*

- Timea Nagy, Author, Advocate and Survivor



Stay Connected

I would like to receive more updates on your work combatting human trafficking.

☐ YES

☐ NO

If yes, sign up for updates on Human Trafficking below:

Name

Address

City/Town

Postal Code

Email

I did not know that human trafficking is a critical issue in Canada

☐ YES

☐ NO

I am glad MP Arnold Viersen is raising this in Parliament.

☐ YES

☐ NO

Comments: