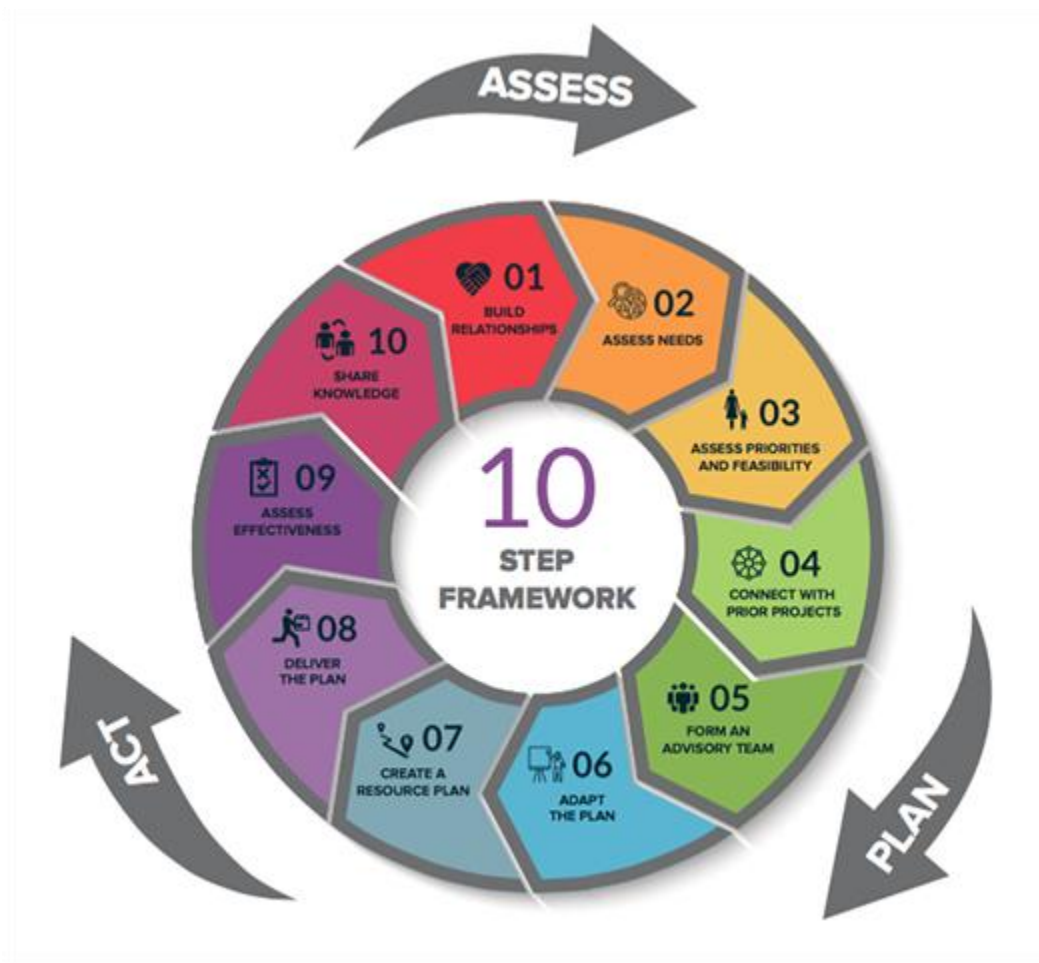




Canadian Network of Women's Shelters & Transition Houses

Réseau canadien des maisons d'hébergement pour femmes



PRACTICE EXCHANGE PROJECT  
PROJET D'ÉCHANGES DE PRATIQUE

Is your shelter seeking inspiration for a new project, or a new way of working? The Practice Implementation Manual, affectionately known as PIM, is here to help! This brand-new manual was created by the Network to help guide shelters and transition houses through the process of adapting and implementing practices that have been successfully developed by other organizations.

The 32-page downloadable Manual contains an introduction to knowledge exchange concepts adapted for the context of women's shelters and transition houses, a 10-Step Framework for Practice Exchange and Implementation, a detailed case study of The Harmony Project from Manitoba, and worksheets to help shelters plan the exchange and implementation.

The Practice Implementation Manual is the keystone of the Practice Exchange Project (PEP). The goal of the project is to encourage collaboration between shelters and to support implementation of promising and model practices across Canada. The tools of the PEP are being integrated into ongoing capacity building and knowledge exchange projects such as the Open Doors project with YWCA Canada and upcoming webinars.

Women's shelters and transition houses can visit [www.endvaw.ca/pep](http://www.endvaw.ca/pep) to read and download PEP resources such as the Practice Implementation Manual and Worksheets. To help find inspiring practice models, shelters can click the Links to Published Shelter Practice Reports and the Inventory of Promising Practices. Shelters are also encouraged to add their successful practices, projects or programs to the Inventory by completing our [Inventory of Promising Practices Submission Form](#).

[Learn More](#)

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## Become a Member of the Canadian Network

As of July 1<sup>st</sup> it will be possible for shelters to become members of the Network. In 2013, we began working towards becoming a recognized, collective pan-Canadian voice on violence against women from the perspective of shelters and transition houses. We feel that we are at a tipping point. Your support will be key in allowing us to bring our efforts to the next level which will enable transformative work at the national level.

Since we began our work in April 2013 the Network has received limited support from the federal government (a total of \$200,000 over the 3 year period). Although this has been challenging, it has allowed the Network to establish itself and its work by and large on our own terms. Simply put, much of our work to date has not been defined by a government project. Three of our main initiatives are totally independent of government funding - [Shelter](#)

[Voices](#), [sheltersafe.ca](#) and the [Blueprint](#) for a National Action Plan on violence against Women.

The shelter membership program will allow us to continue our work in amplifying the voices of shelter workers and the women and children to whom they so ably provide services. As a national organization we want to bring greater recognition to the work and expertise of the shelter sector. We also want to make sure that people know that shelters do much more than provide a safe space. They are a vital link in the work towards ending violence against women.

We will be reaching out to you in the weeks to come to provide you with more information on the shelter membership program, its benefits and how to join.



## [Sheltersafe.ca](#)

On June 4th 2015, the Canadian Network of Women's Shelters and Transition Houses proudly launched Sheltersafe.ca at the Canadian Domestic Violence Conference. The launch received significant national media attention and shone a spotlight on the work of women's shelters and the important network of support that they offer to women.

The overwhelming majority of women's shelters in Canada – over 400 – are already represented on Sheltersafe. Sheltersafe.ca will continue to expand and include even more shelters throughout 2015 and beyond. Participation is consent-based so remaining shelters who are not yet included on

Sheltersafe.ca should contact Heather Stewart at [hstewart@endvaw.ca](mailto:hstewart@endvaw.ca).

We are asking participants and supporters to spread the news by sharing the [www.sheltersafe.ca](http://www.sheltersafe.ca) link on their websites and social media and by using the hashtag #sheltersafe. Our vision is to make sheltersafe.ca the go-to website for women seeking quick, easy-to-find and up-to-date connections to a range of shelter services in order to protect themselves from domestic abuse. From early response, we are well on our way

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