

Tech Safety Forum 2026

Navigating Emerging Technologies & Risks for Survivor Safety

Overview:

Technology is now part of nearly every survivor's experience of intimate partner violence, but many workers are left navigating these harms without the tools or training they need.

Join Tech Safety Canada, a project of Women's Shelters Canada, for a 3-day virtual Tech Safety Forum during Victims Week, May 11–13th, 2026. This forum is designed to build practical skills and confidence in responding to technology-facilitated gender-based violence (TFGBV).

This interactive forum will bring together anti-violence workers from across Canada, including shelter staff, frontline workers, counsellors, legal advocates, law enforcement and community-based professionals for shared learning and connection.

Across three days, you'll learn about:

- How tech abuse shows up in survivors' lives and how to respond safely
- Legal options for responding to tech abuse and emerging trends across Canada
- The growing impact of technology in our work, including AI and cybersecurity
- The misuse of children's technology in post-separation abuse

Sessions are grounded in the experiences of shelter workers and led by experts across the anti-violence, legal, and tech sectors. [See the speaker bios](#)



Event Details:

- Monday, May 11 to Wednesday, May 13, 2026
- Register for each session you'd like to attend via Zoom (see individual descriptions and registration links below)
- There will not be recordings, live participation only
- This is a bilingual forum (see language details for each session below)

This forum is funded by the Department of Justice Canada.

Sessions At a Glance:

- **Navigating Tech Abuse: Supporting Survivors through Safety and Strategy**
 - Date: Monday, May 11
 - Time:
 - FR: 8-10am PST/ 11-1pm EST/ 12-2pm ATL
 - EN: 10:30am-12:30pm PST / 1:30-3:30pm EST / 2:30-4:30pm
- **From Online Harassment to Digital Stalking: Legal Remedies to Technology-Facilitated Violence**
 - Date: Tuesday, May 12
 - Time: 9-10:30am PST / 12-1:30pm EST / 1-2:30pm ATL
- **Unwired from Control: Unmasking Gender-Based Violence through Children's Technology**
 - Date: Tuesday, May 12
 - Time: 11-12:30pm PST / 2-3:30pm EST / 3-4:30pm ATL
- **Cybersecurity for Anti-Violence Programs: Protecting Data, Staff, and Survivors**
 - Date: Wednesday, May 13
 - Time: 9-10:30am PST / 12-1:30pm EST / 1-2:30pm ATL
- **AI in Survivor Advocacy: Balancing Innovation and Safety for Survivors**
 - Date: Wednesday, May 13
 - Time: 11am-12:30 PST / 2-3:30 EST / 3-4:30 ATL

Program:

**Monday,
May 11, 2026**

Navigating Tech Abuse: Supporting Survivors through Safety and Strategy

Technology is increasingly misused to cause harm in intimate partner relationships. From smartphones to smart homes, the tools we rely on every day can be misused to exert control and harm others. To support survivors experiencing this kind of violence, anti-violence workers need to understand what is happening and have the tools to respond.

This 2-hour webinar provides an overview of technology-facilitated gender-based violence (TFGBV), explores how digital tools are used to monitor, control, and intimidate survivors, and uses real-world examples to highlight how anti-violence workers can support survivors in identifying tech-based abuse, enhance safety planning, and preserve digital evidence. Whether you're new to this topic or looking to strengthen your response, you will leave this training equipped with knowledge and resources to better support survivors navigating tech-based abuse.

This presentation will be held in both French and English

French session:

- **Time:** 8-10am PST / 11-1pm EST / 12-2pm ATL
- **Speaker:** Lise Chovino
- [Register for the French session](#)

English session:

- **Time:** 10:30am-12:30pm PST / 1:30-3:30pm EST / 2:30-4:30pm ATL
- **Speaker:** Rhiannon Wong
- [Register for the English session](#)

Tuesday,
May 12, 2026

Session 1: From Online Harassment to Digital Stalking: Legal Remedies to Technology-Facilitated Violence

This session will provide an overview of common patterns in technology-facilitated gender-based violence and the legal options available to survivors across Canada. Participants will learn about a range of legal responses, including civil, criminal, and family law, and how these can be used to support safety and accountability. The session will also highlight emerging legal developments and trends shaping how technology-facilitated violence is addressed in Canada.

- **Language:** English (simultaneous FR interpretation is available)
- **Time:** 9-10:30am PST / 12-1:30pm EST / 1-2:30pm ATL
- **Speaker:** Claire Feltrin

- [Register for this session](#)

Session 2: Unwired from Control: Unmasking Gender-Based Violence through Children's Technology

The BC Society of Transition Houses (BCSTH) Unwired from Control project responds to the misuse of children's technology to stalk or control survivors of family violence. It explores ways that caregivers, children and their support networks can collaborate to address the harm that occurs through the misuse of a child's devices or digital accounts through a violence and trauma-informed, strength-based and anti-oppressive approach. In this session, the Unwired from Control Project Coordinator will share key learnings from this project to help anti-violence workers understand how children's technology is being misused and identify strategies for responding.

- **Language:** English (simultaneous FR interpretation is available)
- **Time:** 11-12:30pm PST / 2-3:30pm EST / 3-4:30pm ATL
- **Speaker:** Hyzel Bhambhoria

- [Register for this session](#)

Session 1: Cybersecurity for Anti-Violence Programs: Protecting Data, Staff, and Survivors

Cybersecurity has become an essential component of digital management for organizations across Canada. Cyberattacks can take many different forms and can expose an organization's infrastructure to significant risks and data loss. In the case of anti-violence programs, cyber intrusions can also have direct consequences for the safety of staff and the survivors they support. To help organizations develop strategies to prevent and mitigate these harms, this session will explore the specific nature of digital risk when working for an anti-violence organization and analyze concrete examples of potential threats so that you can identify them more easily and raise awareness among your existing or newly recruited teams.

**Wednesday,
May 13, 2026**

Addressing tech topics can be very technical, and it's not always clear where to start. This workshop aims to provide definitions that are as clear as possible and to present concrete examples that you can adapt to your specific situation, in order to secure your devices and work platforms—both in the office and when working remotely.

- **Language:** French (simultaneous EN interpretation is available)
- **Time:** 9-10:30am PST / 12-1:30pm EST / 1-2:30pm ATL
- **Speaker:** Lise Chovino

[Register for this session](#)

Session 2: AI in Survivor Advocacy: Balancing Innovation and Safety for Survivors

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is rapidly reshaping how support and safety planning for survivors of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) can happen, but it also introduces new risks. This session will focus on the privacy and confidentiality considerations that come with using AI in work with survivors. AI tools can help streamline tasks; however, they also raise high-stakes questions: Where does the data go? Who can access it? Could sensitive information be exposed or misused? Participants will learn how to identify the privacy risks of AI systems, recognize potential biases, and adopt survivor-centered strategies for safe, responsible use.

**Wednesday,
May 13, 2026**

- **Language:** English (simultaneous FR interpretation is available)
- **Time:** 11am-12:30 PST / 2-3:30 EST / 3-4:30 ATL
- **Speaker:** Rhiannon Wong

• [Register for this session](#)

Speaker Bios:



Claire Feltrin

Claire is an experienced privacy, AI, and cybersecurity lawyer who helps organizations navigate the increasingly complex global regulatory landscape. She provides strategic advice on privacy, digital innovation, AI governance, and online safety to clients across diverse industries, including retail, gaming, e-commerce, mobile apps, social media, financial services, and technology, focusing on mitigating risks related to data privacy and security, bias and fairness, explainability and ethical considerations. Claire is recognized as a leading Canadian legal professional in intimate privacy, deepfake technology, and online harms, areas increasingly intersecting with AI regulation.



Hyzel Bhambhoria

Hyzel is the Unwired from Control Project Coordinator at BC Society of Transition Houses (BCSTH). Hyzel's area of interest is in exploring the impact of technology and AI in the social service sector. She holds previous frontline experience in working with racialized immigrant and refugee women and children impacted by family violence. Hyzel is currently completing her MSW (Social Work) at University of British Columbia (UBC) and is passionate about continuing to support survivors of family violence and domestic violence upon graduation. Hyzel has previous experience in working as an ESL teacher in Bogota, Colombia. In her free time, Hyzel loves to go for long walks and enjoys conversations with family and friends over a cup of chai.



Lise Chovino

Lise has been involved for nearly a decade in the development of training courses, research projects, and publications, and has spoken on a number of occasions on topics related to digital justice, such as technology-facilitated violence, security and privacy, digital ethics and justice, techno-pedagogy, and the technological empowerment of women. Lise also draws on her expertise in various collaborations with community, academic, and technology partners, as well as resources that help women facing domestic violence.



Rhiannon Wong

Rhiannon is the Project Manager of the Technology Safety Canada initiative with the BC Society of Transition Houses and Women's Shelters Canada. She develops survivor-informed resources and delivers training to anti-violence workers nationwide on technology-facilitated gender-based violence (TFGBV). Her work highlights the dual role of technology, as a powerful tool for enhancing survivor safety and as a means for perpetrators to commit domestic violence, stalking, sexual assault, impersonation, and harassment. Beyond frontline training, Rhiannon works to advance private sector accountability by engaging tech companies to adopt safety-centered policies and design practices that prevent violence against women in digital spaces. Her expertise bridges survivor experience, technology, and systemic change. Rhiannon represented Canada as part of the official delegation to the 67th United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, where she shared insights from the Tech Safety Canada project on addressing TFGBV and building safer digital environments.

