

Source: <https://www.shorelinebeacon.com/news/local-news/community-partners-unite-fight-human-trafficking-in-grey-bruce>

Community partners unite fight human trafficking in Grey Bruce

There is a growing trend of human traffickers using short-term rentals in rural areas being used by human traffickers due to the greater possibility of anonymity.

Shoreline Beacon – March 20, 2025

Human Trafficking is a serious crime that often goes unnoticed, but communities in Grey and Bruce Counties are taking action with a focus on short-term rentals.

The Community Safety and Well Being Plan (CSWBP) Crime Prevention Action Table, in partnership with the Joy Smith Foundation and Violence Prevention Grey Bruce, is raising awareness about the dangers of human trafficking and providing resources to help prevent the crime.

In a March 20 joint news release, the partners said short-term rentals (STR) owners and operators can play a crucial role in preventing human trafficking by recognizing signs, implementing preventative measures, and reporting suspicious activity.

There is a growing trend of traffickers using STRs due to the greater possibility of anonymity. This initiative educates STR owners and operators on how to identify potential trafficking situations and respond appropriately to protect their communities and properties.

Key Warning Signs of Human Trafficking in Short-Term Rentals

- Frequent use of short-term rentals
- Last-minute bookings and multiple bookings that are in the same area
- People arriving and departing from your property with minimal luggage not appropriate for the length of stay
- Individuals that appear to be under the control of another person

How to Deter Human Traffickers from Choosing your Rental

- Screen bookings carefully including guest reviews from other STR
- Don't accept last-minute bookings
- Install cameras on the outside of your property to record those coming and going
- Do not allow guests to have unregistered guests on your property
- State clearly in your listing that you are committed to preventing human trafficking and other illegal activities

Human Trafficking affects communities across Canada, and awareness is the first step in preventing it. By educating STR owners/operators and the public, Grey and Bruce Counties are working together to create a safer and more informed community.

“Thank you to our many community partners for their collaboration and dedication in supporting the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan and this initiative. Together, we are working to build a safer, healthier, and more inclusive community,” the release said.

To access the Short-Term Rental Anti-Human Trafficking resource for your area visit:

[Resources – Community Safety and Well-Being Planning](#)
