ERASE TRAINING – 2016/17

The ERASE Strategy has helped BC make significant strides in creating a provincial culture that is responsive to supporting the emotional health, wellbeing and safety of our students. The ERASE training has been updated for the upcoming school year to address current trends, emerging safety concerns and needs identified by schools/districts and their community partners.

It is important that educators in public schools/districts and independent schools are made aware of the adjusted content in each level of the training program. The ongoing turnover of staff in schools/districts supports the continuation of these training sessions to build provincial capacity and competence among educators and their community partners to ensure safe and caring schools and communities.

Outlined below are adaptations to the existing Levels 1-4 training. In addition to the Levels 1-4, we are adding a one day VTRA refresher course for individuals who completed the Level 2 and 3 prior to 2013 (details below). Also, we are exploring opportunities to pilot new training later this year in the following areas:

- Mental health awareness and trauma informed classroom practice
- Student peer-to-peer training program focused on digital citizenship and online behaviour
- Parent training program focused on social media and child/youth mental health

Adaptations to the ERASE Training Program for Educators & Community Partners

**Level 1 (A) Preventing Bullying & Ensuring Safe and Caring School Communities (1 Day Training – Max. # of Participants - 80)**

Based on the level of concerns raised, Level One – Preventing Bullying & Ensuring Safe and Caring School Communities has been adapted to include an in-depth focus on evolving technology including digital behaviours and citizenship:

- Cyber-bullying
  - Current research/prevalence
  - Definitions – i.e. cyber-bullying, social assassination
  - Associated negative effects/impact on children & youth
  - Dealing with cyber-bullying - privacy, monitoring and trust
  - Responses to cyber-bullying
  - Criminal code offences/updated legislation
  - Legal age of consent
  - Linkages to BC curriculum and core competencies

- Digital Data Awareness and Management
  - Current social media trends
  - Social media platforms
  - Understanding the differences between sexting and sextortion
  - Dealing with sexting and sextortion – i.e. social justice
  - Strategies for Responsible Digital Citizenship
  - Strategies for youth empowerment
Level 1 (B) Digital Data Collection to Enhance School Safety – for School Principals, Vice Principals and Law Enforcement (1 Day Training - Maximum # of Participants – 50)

This one-day training for School Administrators and Law Enforcement has been well received in BC and is included as a component of the ERASE training program as Level 1.

As a result of the ubiquitous use of social media by young people, digital data collection has become a necessary component of a Violence Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA) data collection process. This training is designed to help schools and their community agencies navigate the vast world of adolescent online behaviour.

The training includes a focus on:
- The role of digital footprints in risk assessment for violence potential
- Use of social media for public safety and emergency management
- Capturing and documenting open source social media for data collection/information gathering purposes
- Procedural recommendations for Law Enforcement and School Administration (i.e. evidentiary requirements, preservation orders)
- Understanding of current social media platforms and associated risks

* Please note: The adapted Level One will continue to link to core content covered in previous Level One trainings

Level 2 – Basic Threat Risk Assessment (2 Day Training – Max. # of Participants - 80)

The Basic Threat Risk Assessment training will continue to help participants gain a thorough understanding of the theoretical framework for Violence Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA) and will focus more intently on:
- Understanding the difference between Stages 1, 2 and 3 of the VTRA process
- Awareness of recent high profile incidents where religiosity and radicalization impact the VTRA process

Level 3 – Advanced Threat Risk Assessment (2 Day Training - Maximum # of Participants - 80)

The Advanced Threat Risk Assessment training will include a stronger focus on:
- Application of interviewing techniques in VTRA case studies
- Developing competence in examining online threat related behaviour as a necessary component of a comprehensive data collection process
- Strengthening VTRA team structures to ensure timely and appropriate response to student safety concerns
- When mental health behaviours and diagnosis influence the assessment process and intervention strategies
- Use of various standardized tools, checklists and behavioural science practices to enhance the VTRA process
- Ensuring effective interventions and follow-up strategies
**Level 2/3 VTRA Refresher (1 Day Training – Maximum # of Participants - 80) – NEW!**

The VTRA Refresher has been specifically designed for participants who have completed both Level 2 - Basic Threat Risk Assessment and Level 3 - Advanced Threat Risk Assessment **prior to 2013**. To be clear, this Refresher is not designed for individuals who have never attended Violence Threat Risk Assessment training.

**Level 4 – Train the Trainer – (2 Day Training – Maximum # of Participants - 40)**

Level 4 - Train the Trainer has been broken down into smaller modules that focus on core content delivered in Levels 1 and 2. Trainers will be able to use the modules in delivering customized learning sessions to other school/district staff and community partners to broaden the awareness of the core content covered in the ERASE Strategy. The intent of the Level 4 – Train the Trainer is not designed to have trainers replace the current Level 2 – 2 Day Basic VTRA or the Level 3 – 2 day Advanced VTRA.

Train the Trainer requires participants to have:
- Taken Levels 1, 2 & 3 within the past three years before participating in Train the Trainer
- Show evidence that the modules were delivered in their districts
- Participate in a Refresher after two years

*Please note: the Ministry will schedule the dates for these regional training sessions.*