

# SAFE COMMUNITY SERIES

## HIGHLIGHTS

### WOMEN'S PERSONAL SAFETY — SESSION SUMMARY

#### **HERE'S WHAT YOU MISSED** (April 24th, 2025):

##### **Gender-based Violence Statistics:**

- Nearly half (48%) of Canadian women experience intimate partner violence, with Burnaby RCMP handling over 500 related cases in 2023 alone. Femicide rates have doubled in BC since 2022.
- Many women experiencing homelessness are not counted in official statistics due to couch-surfing or staying in unsafe situations. Only 5% of sexual assaults are reported to the police, underscoring barriers in the legal system.
- 61% of women and gender-diverse people in Canada report experiencing gendered digital harm. Recognizing red-flags such as receiving suspicious messages is vital in both physical and digital spaces.

##### **Support & Resources**

- Atira Women's Resource Society operates over 35 housing programs and 20 non-residential services like Legal Advocacy Clinics and Stopping the Violence Counseling, offering trauma-informed, culturally safe, and women-specific spaces—especially for older, Indigenous, and marginalized women.

##### **Safety Tips & Recommendations**

- Key safety strategies include walking confidently in well-lit areas, sharing your location with trusted people, using multi-factor-authentication, and limiting real-time posts online.

To learn more about Atira Women's Resource Society, visit: <https://atira.bc.ca/>

**Check out upcoming FREE monthly sessions:**

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*Any questions, email: [crimeprevention@burnaby.ca](mailto:crimeprevention@burnaby.ca)*

