

SAFE COMMUNITY SERIES

POST SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

VIOLENT ONLINE GROUPS: WHAT PARENTS NEED TO KNOW

HERES WHAT YOU MISSED: (Sept 24, 2026)



Check out **FREE** upcoming Sessions:
burnaby.ca/safecommunityseries



This session provided parents and caregivers with information on recognizing violent online groups, understanding recruitment tactics, identifying warning signs and building digital resilience youth.

What are Violent Online Groups?

- Communities that encourage or promote violence, hatred, criminal activity or extremist beliefs.
- These groups operate in online spaces such as social media platforms and online games.

Recruitment

- Most youth recruitment starts with relationship building.
- It is often gradual and may not initially involve discussions about violence.
- Predators often use grooming tactics to gain a child or youth's trust. This can include establishing friendly, romantic, or coercive relationships.

Warning Signs

- Withdrawal from family and friends • Sudden mood changes • Increased desensitization to violence • Significant self injury • Excessive or secretive online activity.
- Changes in behaviour matter more than a single indicator.

Building Digital Resilience and Talking With Your Children

- Stay calm and approachable. Showing stress or anger may increase their anxiety.
- Take time to prepare for the conversation and ask open-ended questions.
- Focus on safety, support and understanding rather than punishment.

Resources

- Cybertip.ca
- NeedhelpNow.ca
- Takeitdown.ncmec.org

For more information, please visit the
[RCMP Violent Online Groups Webpage](https://www.rcmp.gc.ca/vog)