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## History of the APBVSA

**1997 – The APBVSA became a registered not – for – Profit Society**

**1997 – APBVSA partnered with Alberta Justice to develop funding guidelines/ criteria for police-based victim services programs. The same guideline that are now the Victims of Crime Program Committee Service guidelines for Police-Based Victim Service Units.**

**In 1996 – 1998 -** APBVSA started a training committee. Previous training had always been Basic VS training held at the Alberta Justice College and organized by JSG, but there was no advanced training for program managers.

**First Collaborative VS Regional Conference / Workshop -** was held in Canmore for South AB programs on domestic violence in 1996. Janet Wagar was presenter and about 40 people attended from approximately 6-8 programs.

### **2011 – EMPLOYEE BENEFITS**

- 2011 – 27% of programs had any kind of benefits
- APBVSA Partnered with Oassis to Employee Assistance Program
  - Affordable Benefits for full and part time Program Managers AND volunteers

### **2012 – 2014 COURT VIDEO**

- \$10,000 Funding from and Partnered with the Law Foundation to produce a professional court prep video and brochure that all programs could use
- Celebrating 35 years Victim Services Conference, a new video was developed, and Paul Brandt agreed to let APBVSA use his song “HOPE” - the video is still used today to promote Alberta Police Based Victim Services.

## **2013 – Professional Development for program managers**

### **2013 - JOIN ACCESS FOR RCMP PROGRAMS**

- 2014 – first JOIN training for 27 RCMP Programs
- Until 2019 APBVSA hosted JOIN training every 2 months to ensure new PMs had access as quickly as possible

### **2014 - Distracted Driving Campaign Thumb Ring – APBVSA Initiative**

- Partnered with Alberta Assn Chiefs of Police, MADD and AMA –
- Secondary goal to Raised awareness of VS in communities across Alberta
- Handed out 125,000 thumb rings across Alberta

### **2014/2015 - Accreditation**

- Executive members and Municipal revised all operating documents, by-laws, policies and procedures, human resource management and strategic planning etc... in operation for national board accreditation.

### **2015 - \$200,000 federal grant for the APBVSA Wellness Program**

- Gave access to all programs for professional debriefings for PMs or volunteers, resiliency training structure to set up local wellness program – fit all programs

### **2015 – Pros**

- The Association worked diligently with Inspector Chris Culhane to regain access to RCMP pros for program managers.

### **2016 – Accreditation**

- The APBVSA was granted national accreditation for excellent board governance practises by Imagine Canada.
- Accreditation is current at this time

### **BI - ANNUAL CONFERENCE – Since 2003**

- APBVSA built to be the largest victim service conference in north America – 850 participants
- Perspective the NOVA conference in states draws approx. 350 victim service participants (40 years)

**MERCHANDISE – There was an online store for group discount products – jackets, volunteer appreciation gifts, rocks.**