

Child sexual exploitation could be happening where you work.



Child sexual exploitation is child abuse and a crime. It can happen in communities of all sizes across Alberta – in all kinds of properties, from budget motels to luxury hotels and resorts.

That's why the Alberta Hotel and Lodging Association and Alberta Children and Youth Services have joined forces. Our goal is to help protect children and stop the sexual exploitation of children from happening in Alberta's hotels and motels. We need your help because together we can protect children from a life of sexual abuse.

Child sexual exploitation is when a child under 18 is involved in a sexual act in exchange for money, food, shelter, or any other consideration. It can also involve distributing, selling or making child pornography.

Unfortunately, the exploiters aren't always easy to spot. But there are signs you can watch for.

If you come across a situation that looks or feels suspicious, talk to your supervisor and call the child abuse hotline, your local law enforcement, or the Child and Family Services office in your area.

Child Abuse Hotline 1·800·387·KIDS (5437) 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Based on the information you provide, police or the intake worker on the hotline will ask you follow-up questions to determine what action to take. Your call can get a child the support and services they need to be safe from exploitation. When you call, your identity is protected by law and cannot be revealed to anyone, if you choose to remain anonymous.

Don't assume someone else will call. And don't worry if you're not sure that what you're seeing is child sexual exploitation. Your job is to make the call. The trained intake worker's or police's job is to decide what action to take.

Know the signs. Make the call.

Child sexual exploitation can happen any time of the day. Any day of the week. Keep your eyes and ears open while on duty. You can watch for situations that may suggest child sexual exploitation and help make your property unattractive to people who commit these acts.

FRONT DESK

A man who refuses to leave a credit card imprint and insists on paying cash – there may be a reason he doesn't want his identity known.

Teenage girls loitering in the lobby or hallways.

Guests who request a specific room that is isolated and private.

Local guests who want to rent a room.

Guests who appear secretive about their activities or who try to conceal their activities in their room.

Frequent visitors who do not appear to have a reason for being in the hotel.

Guests who are in and out of the property at irregular hours.

HOUSEKEEPING

Guest rooms with a lot of condoms or condom wrappers, drugs and drug supplies like syringes, pipes, bongs, broken light bulbs, spoons and plastic bags.

High traffic to quest rooms

Guests who do not want their rooms cleaned.

BAR & ROOM SERVICE

A hospitality suite with businessmen and young girls – the men may be here for an event, convention or meeting.

Ask guests who appear to be under 25 for ID in licensed areas and when delivering room service.

ALL STAFF

Two (or more) older men and teenaged girls entering your property – they could be heading to a party room.

Many men entering and exiting a room at regular intervals – a pimp may have arranged for men to visit a room where a child is being sexually exploited.

A young girl who appears withdrawn or who hides her face.

In addition to watching for these signs, management could consider implementing and enforcing policies that:

- > restrict unregistered persons in guest rooms between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m.
- > require visitors to use the property's main entrance
- > require staff to perform daily room checks, walk hallways and the building perimeter
- > encourage staff to make eye contact with guests and inquire about their reason for being at the property
- > ensure information about suspicious individuals or activities is shared with other properties in your area

