

## *Sustainable Strategies for Safe Schools* FISHBONE ACTIVITY

### *Instructions:*

1. Participants will work at tables in groups of 4 or 5. There will be a mix of representation at the table i.e., teacher, parent, etc. The number and size of the working groups will be determined by the registration of participants.
2. The head of the fishbone, “Preventing Violence and Promoting Healthy Relationships”, is the focus of the discussion. The titles on the outside of the fishbone provide the reference points for brainstorming. For example, participants would be asked to discuss, the role community partners could play in preventing violence and promoting healthy relationships. One possible response would be public health nurses provide presentations to parents, students and school staff on related topics. As the group brainstorms, the recorder for the group writes down the key points on the line from the spine to the box. Once the group has finished with one box, they move on to the next box. For example, “what can peers do to prevent violence and promote healthy relationships?” Depending on the number of participants, each group will be asked to complete one or two specific boxes.
3. Once the group has completed the brainstorming and recorded the information on the fishbone they will be asked to use the highlighters on their tables in the following way. They will use a blue marker to highlight things which the group feels are in place - things their school and community have well underway in terms of implementation. They will use yellow for things which are in progress or in the initial stages and leave the rest of the items un-coloured-meaning they need improvement.
4. Once this is completed, the group will be instructed to circle ONE or TWO items which they feel their school community needs to focus on developing further, in other words, priorities for action. The group should consider next steps and what they need to make this happen.
5. The facilitator will ask each group to present their items and we would record the results on an overhead projector.
6. The facilitator will ask the group the following question: “Given all your assets that you are proud of, what are three things that you don’t have now that could move this process forward?”