

**Canadians Against Violence (CAVEAT)**

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Organization's mandate/goals:

CAVEAT is a grass-roots charitable organization serving as a non-partisan voice for all Canadians, working together for safety, peace, and justice.

CAVEAT wants an integrated justice system that shares information and is accountable for its decisions. They seek justice, not revenge. They believe that the protection of the public must be the overriding goal of the justice system, and that the offender's rights should not be greater than those of the victim. Their focus is on building safe and healthy communities through cooperative crime prevention and response initiatives.

CAVEAT is, as part of the World Victimology Society, an NGO with UN Consultative Status and has been active in UN initiatives aimed at reducing the misuse and proliferation of small arms.

Areas of expertise relevant to 2001 UN Conference on Small Arms:

Human and Social Development -- *Teaching conflict and violence prevention*

Information displays are routinely set up in malls and at community events across Canada. CAVEAT speakers have undertaken more than 400 speaking engagements, ranging from small schools and churches to large international conferences. CAVEAT holds forums across Canada to educate the public on victims' issues, the workings of the justice system and crime prevention. A typical forum involves a panel of experts speaking about their own roles in the system, usually followed by a question period. Workshops take a more hands-on approach and are held in cooperation with other community groups.

Health -- *Injury prevention education*

CAVEAT discusses violence-related issues and devises effective means of dealing with violence both generally and in specific incidences of violence as well as guidelines to respond to them.