

PRESS RELEASE

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MISSION, B.C. – Current media attention on law enforcement efforts to follow up on the Landslide Productions / Operation Snowball busts of 2001 are only one dimension of the response needed to protect children on the internet.

The Safe OnLine Outreach Project, (SOLO), is attempting to respond to the alarming issue of online sexual exploitation through education and awareness initiatives aimed at youth serving professionals.

“Law enforcement efforts aimed at the perpetrators of these crimes are NOT identifying the victims of these crimes nor are they addressing the needs of the victims of online exploitation. The rapid adoption of the internet into Canadian homes needs to be supplemented by education, both for youth and adults, about the implications of this new medium. Additionally the professionals who serve youth, need to be made aware of the dynamics, language and risks of online activity,” says Merlyn Horton, SOLO Project Coordinator.

SOLO is a British Columbia, Canada based project that aims to reduce the sexual exploitation of children and youth, in internet environments, through education and curricula development for youth serving professionals.

SOLO is hosted by PASA, Parents Against Sexual Abuse, a non-profit organization comprised of a diverse group of individuals dedicated to sexual abuse prevention and support of victims and parents.

The SOLO Project is partially funded by the Vancouver Foundation, a non-governmental community foundation, founded in 1943 as a collection of funds that form a permanent endowment for charitable purposes.

Additional funding for the Project comes from the Canadian National Crime Prevention, Community Mobilization Program.

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