

## IQT25-02 VTRA Level 1 Training

**PRESENTED BY****Pat Rivard****SERIES SESSIONS**

Date	Time
October 29, 2024	9:00 AM - 3:30 PM
October 30, 2024	9:00 AM - 3:30 PM

**LOCATION****St. Paul Regional High School Room 220 - 4701  
- 44 Street****FEE****\$500.00****QUESTIONS?****Contact Us:****780-623-2248****REGISTER ONLINE****Visit our website to register:****[lnes.ca](https://www.lnes.ca)**

### Learning Opportunity

The North American Center for Threat Assessment and Trauma Response (NACTATR) Model is referred to as Violence Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA). It is a broad Model that draws from a number of different disciplines that transcends the early focus of practitioners on individual pathology only, and instead, includes our pioneering work on the “dynamics of violence”. It builds on the early United States Secret Service research around Threat Assessment (TA) where they studied individuals who were moving on a pathway of violence towards a single target (e.g. political figure) which they called “targeted violence”. The VTRA Model also enhances the field of General Violence Risk Assessment (RA) which is often centered on violence prediction and the process of trying to determine if a person of concern may pose a risk of violence to members of society in general.

#### Level One VTRA Training Outline

**DAY ONE - MORNING****1. Serious Violence is Evolutionary – No One Just Snaps**

- Evolutionary Process
- Justification Process
- Commitment

- d. Snap Theory
- e. Pathway to Violence
- f. Cry for Help
- g. Under – Reaction

Case Studies

## **2. Threat Assessment vs. Risk Assessment**

- a. Threat Assessment
- b. Risk Assessment
- c. Worrisome Behaviour

Case Studies

## **3. Traumatic Events System (TES) Model**

- a. Theoretical Foundation
- b. Background
- c. Crisis vs. Traumatic Event
- d. Critical Periods

Case Studies

## **4. Other Potential Warning Signs**

- a. Dehumanization
- b. Frequency/Intensity/Recency
- c. Empty Vessels
- d. Imitators vs. Innovators

Case Studies

## **5. Human Target Selection and Site Selection**

- a. Human Target Selection
- b. Site Selection
- c. Unidimensional Assessments

Case Studies

## **DAY ONE - AFTERNOON**

### **6. Offender Typologies**

- a. Traditional High Risk Individual, Predominately Cognitive Type
- b. Traditional High Risk Individual, Predominately Behavioural Type
- c. Mixed Type High Risk Individual
- d. Non-Traditional High Risk Individual
- e. Priming
- f. Baseline Behaviours

Case Studies

### **7. Fluidity**

Case Studies

## **DAY TWO - MORNING**

### **1. Human Systems Theory**

- a. Naturally Open Systems
- b. Naturally Closed Systems
- c. Traumatically Open Systems
- d. Traumatically Closed Systems

Case Studies

### **2. Three Phase VTRA Model**

- a. Protocol Development
- b. Protocol Maintenance
- c. Determining When to Activate the VTRA Protocol

Case Studies

## **DAY TWO - AFTERNOON**

3. Working With Cultural Diversity
4. Individuals with Special Needs/Disabilities – DSM V & ICD 10 CM Diagnoses
5. Responsible Sharing Of Information
6. Violence Threat Risk Assessment: Evaluation
7. Violence Threat Risk Assessment: Managing Beyond The Initial Threat
8. Anonymous Threats: Assessment And Intervention

Case Studies

This learning opportunity is being offered through a grant from Alberta Education.

---

## **Presenters**

### **Pat Rivard**

With over twenty years of leadership experience in the fields of education and human services, Patrick (Pat) is uniquely qualified to lead communities and organizations in understanding the traumatic impact of a pandemic. Pat brings wealth of experience to the Center for Trauma Informed Practices (CTIP) as a 5 year National Trainer in Traumatic Event Systems (TES), and Violence Risk Threat Assessment (VTRA). Pat has been the keynote speaker for many organizations across Canada, speaking to the ways and importance of creating reasonable meaning in the challenges a pandemic brings to the human experience. He is a contributor and co- author of the nationally distributed Guidelines for Re-Entry into the School Setting and Rising to the Challenge: Staying Connected to our Students. Pat was also the national training lead in North America's largest urban Violence Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA) initiative, having trained and collaborated with over 100 community agencies and more than 500 police officers. The FOCUS Toronto initiative continues to be a

community-based initiative responding to many forms of violence including violent extremism. Pat is currently working in collaboration with Dr. William Pollack, Harvard Medical School and Senior Advisor to CTIP, in threat assessment research. He also recently co-presented with Dr. Marleen Wong from the University of Southern California, integrating her pioneering work in Psychological First Aid with the Trauma Event Systems (TES) model. Pat is an Alberta born Francophone, currently CTIP's only bilingual National Trainer, and is supporting the province of New Brunswick in the coordination and advancement of their own provincial bilingual VTRA protocols. Pat states, "it is such a privilege to combine my previous careers as a Child Welfare Specialist, Family Counselor, and Educational leader and be able to use them to support communities in the trauma informed threat assessment practices".

---

## Registration Notes

Registration includes a continental breakfast and lunch.