



*OSBIE Risk Management Seminar*

*Thursday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007*

*Renaissance Toronto Airport Hotel  
Toronto, Ontario*

*Neutralizing Gang Activity in Schools*

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*Neutralizing gang activity in schools*

*The presence of youth gangs in society is  
a stark reality which is not going to  
disappear.*

*A condition that makes schools ripe for  
gang activity is the denial of their  
presence.*



*Neutralizing gang activity in schools*

*Responses from schools and communities  
require a balanced approach of  
prevention, intervention and enforcement  
strategies.*



*Neutralizing gang activity in schools*

*Schools must work closely with police to  
share information and intelligence on  
gang activity*



*Neutralizing gang activity in schools*

*Schools must establish themselves as neutral zones where gang, weapon and drug offences are dealt with severely.*



## *Neutralizing gang activity in schools*

*The student planner should state that gang activity/paraphernalia/attire is strictly prohibited in school or on school premises.*



*Neutralizing gang activity in schools*

*Schools must apply discipline in a firm,  
fair, consistent and timely fashion.*



*Neutralizing gang activity in schools*

*Schools must apply and enforce a strict  
dress code/school uniform policy.*



*Neutralizing gang activity in schools*

*Schools must educate students, parents and teachers on the ABC's of youth gangs including anti-violence and anti-gang messages included as part of the curriculum.*

The background of the slide is a photograph of a sunset over a vast body of water. The sky is a deep blue with wispy white clouds. A bright rainbow is visible on the left side, arching over the horizon. The water in the foreground is dark blue with gentle ripples.

## *Neutralizing gang activity in schools*

*Anti-gang education teaches students how to identify gangs, gang behaviour and how to resist involvement in them.*

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*Neutralizing gang activity in schools*

*Recruiting of younger students into gangs occurs  
around elementary schools.*



*Neutralizing gang activity in schools*

*Student artwork should be screened for subtle gang influences that have been incorporated into drawings.*



*Neutralizing gang activity in schools*

*Music at school dances should be screened for inappropriate messages/lyrics and for the appropriateness of the artist.*



## *Neutralizing gang activity in schools*

*Graffiti vandalism must be removed as quickly as it appears. Schools should notify police and take digital photos of the graffiti for school records.*



## *Neutralizing gang activity in schools*

*A big challenge for administrators and teachers is engaging students who have gang affiliations to become meaningful and productive members of the school community.*