
Sexualized Violence (SV) Advisory Group

Terms of Reference (as of February 10, 2025)

Purpose:

- This group is the main connection point between the Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills (the Ministry), post-secondary institutions (PSIs), students/student associations, subject matter experts, and associations representing community organizations specific to sexualized violence.
- Provide ongoing and annual recommendations and feedback to the Ministry on its strategic direction, programs, and initiatives, relating to efforts at preventing and responding to sexualized violence in the post-secondary education system.
- Provide guidance to affiliated SV Working Groups when active.
- Consult with various partners and interested parties, including students, post-secondary institutions, and community organizations on matters related to sexualized violence in post-secondary education.

Role of Advisory Group Members:

- Provide broad perspective of the sector, beyond affiliation with any specific institution or organization.
- Consider actions that will benefit a range of institutions (urban/rural, large/small, Universities/Institutes/Colleges), and the diversity of students (e.g., Indigenous, Black, and people of colour, graduate students, students with disabilities, international students, 2SLGBTQQIA+).
 - The Advisory Group is committed to being sensitive to the evolving nature of ideas and language and recognizes that a static document, such as a Terms of Reference, may not always reflect the realities of all those we are striving to support.
- Actively engage in all Advisory Group discussions and provide timely review of written materials.
- Ministry staff will co-chair SV Advisory Group meetings with a non-Government representative.
 - The role of the non-Government co-chair will be rotated every two years.
 - The intent is to rotate between active participants in the Advisory Group, as their capacity allows.
- Ministry staff will provide Secretariat support, including preparing agendas and minutes, and providing written updates.

Confidentiality:

- Confidentiality will be maintained in Advisory Group discussions to ensure frank and open communication.
 - Members can consult with their organizations and communities where necessary on items discussed by the Advisory Group unless specifically asked to keep certain items confidential.
 - Members are also encouraged to bring forward concerns from their communities.
- Documents distributed and reviewed are not to be shared outside of the Advisory Group, unless otherwise indicated.

Meetings:

- Regular, virtual meetings will be scheduled at a frequency determined by the group.
- Additional meetings will be scheduled as required.

Membership:

- Advisory group members should represent key partners and interested parties (post-secondary institutions, community groups, Ministry, and students).
- Advisory group should include members with diverse perspectives and strive to include representation which is reflective of those engaged in sexualized violence work in the post-secondary system in BC.
- Membership should reflect the perspectives of those most often targeted for sexualized violence and those facing structural barriers to accessing justice and support.
- The Ministry representatives and Co-chair share responsibility to check-in annually with members of the Advisory Group to support participation with the group and to notify the Advisory Group when a member needs to step down from their position.
 - The Advisory Group may need to recruit new members outside of the annual review to ensure vacant seats are filled within a reasonable amount of time.

Membership on the Sexualized Violence Advisory Group will include:**Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills Representatives:**

- Director, Post-Secondary Policy, Strategic Policy & Initiatives Branch
- Senior Policy Analyst, Post-Secondary Policy, Strategic Policy & Initiatives Branch
- Additional Ministry staff as appropriate.

Post-Secondary Student Representatives (strive for five student representatives)

For the provincial student associations (ABCS/BCFS), the Ministry representative and co-chair will reach out to the chairperson and/or executive every May to determine representation for the next one-year term. Staff responsible for government relations (e.g., Executive Director) should also be included in exchanges to ensure communications are not lost while the elected positions are in transition.

For the non-affiliated student societies, graduate student societies, and the student-led sexualized violence advocacy organizations, the Ministry representative and co-chair will send out an annual joint call-out in May for representatives for a one-year term. Organizations will be asked to coordinate on the representative for the term.

One member from each of the following organizations:

- Alliance of British Columbia Students (ABCS)
- British Columbia Federation of Students (BCFS)
- Graduate student society
- Non-affiliated student society
- BC student-led sexualized violence advocacy organization

Any of the above organizations may name an alternate person if they are unable to attend a meeting.

Post-Secondary Institution Representatives:

We will strive to have representation from [different types of institutions in BC](#), including large and small; urban and rural; and research universities, teaching universities, institutes, and colleges.

The Advisory Group will issue an annual call for the addition of new members to encourage diversity of thought and broaden representation within the committee. Current members may opt to continue their service beyond their initial term. This approach ensures the committee benefits from both the institutional knowledge of long-serving members and the fresh perspectives brought by new participants.

To maintain stability and continuity the Advisory Group will assess its composition annually to align with its evolving goals and objectives.

Current post-secondary institution representatives:

- Kwantlen Polytechnic University
- University of Victoria
- University of British Columbia
- North Island College
- Vancouver Island University

Any of the above institutions may name an alternate person if they are unable to attend a meeting.

Community Partners:

Community partners bring subject-matter expertise and/or diverse perspectives on sexualized violence and policy and programs from outside the post-secondary system. Community partners help to speak to the systemic and structural barriers that survivors may experience and help strengthen and coordinate services within and across post-secondary and other systems.

To maintain stability and continuity the Advisory Group will assess its composition annually to align with its evolving goals and objectives.

Current community partner representatives:

- Ending Violence Association of BC
- Métis Nation BC

Other provincial community agencies and/or subject matter experts will be invited as appropriate.

Any of the above community partners may name an alternate person if they are unable to attend a meeting.

Ex-Officio:

- Senior Policy Analyst, Community Safety and Crime Prevention Branch, Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General