
Sexualized Violence (SV) Advisory Group

Terms of Reference (as of February 22, 2022)

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 (please see attached for list of affiliated groups).
- Consult with various stakeholder groups, 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 (Indigenous, Black, and people of colour, graduate students, students with disabilities, international students, 2SLGBTQQIA+, etc.).
- Actively engage in all Advisory Group discussions and provide timely review of written materials.
- Ministry staff will co-chair SV Advisory Group meetings and 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, including a virtual annual meeting in Spring/Summer to assess committee membership, review progress from the past year, and set direction for the year to come.

Membership:

- Advisory group members should represent key stakeholders (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 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 Advanced Education and Skills Training Representatives:

- Director, Colleges & Community Access, Strategic Policy & Initiatives Branch
- Senior Policy Analyst, Colleges & Community Access, Strategic Policy & Initiatives Branch
- Senior Legislative Analyst, Legislation and Labour Relations Branch

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

One member from each of the following organizations:

- Alliance of British Columbia Students (ABCS)
- British Columbia Federation of Students (BCFS)
- Graduate Student Societies of B.C. (GSSBC)
- Non-affiliated student society
- BC student-led sexualized violence advocacy organization

For the provincial student associations (ABCS/BCFS/GSSBC), 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 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.

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

Current Post-Secondary Representatives:

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

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.

Community Subject Matter Expert(s):

- Ending Violence Association of BC

Ex-Officio

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