

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE POLICY ON PREVENTION AND RESPONSE TO SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE, 2017

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BACKGROUND

Bill 132, the *Sexual Violence and Harassment Action Plan Act* (2016), requires colleges and universities to report annually to their Boards of Governors on:

- number of times supports, services and accommodation relating to sexual violence are requested and obtained by students enrolled at the college or university, and information about the supports, services and accommodation.
- number of incidents and complaints reported by students, and about such incidents and complaints.
- any initiatives and programs established by the college or university to promote awareness of the supports and services available to students.

OCAD University's [Policy on Prevention and Response to Sexual and Gender-based Violence](#) was approved by the Board of Governors in December 2016. The policy establishes the OCAD U Health & Wellness Centre as the primary point of contact for all students who have experienced sexual or gender-based violence. The Health & Wellness Centre provides support, coordinates accommodations, and outlines reporting options for survivors.

SUPPORTS, SERVICES, ACCOMMODATIONS, INCIDENTS AND COMPLAINTS:

For the period Jan 2017-Jan 2018:

Total number of disclosures to HWC: 27

Of those:

Number requesting Accommodations: 5

Number referred to Office of Diversity,

Equity & Sustainability Initiatives (ODESI): 1

Number referred to Safety & Security Services: 4

Number of incidents reported to Safety & Security Services: 5

Of those:

Incidents that occurred off campus: 3

Incidents that occurred on campus: 2

Incidents reported to Police 1

Number of formal complaints made under the *Sexual Violence Policy*: 0

Notes: Under OCAD U policy, complaints against employees of the University are covered by the *Respectful Work & Learning Environment Policy*, administered by the Office of Diversity, Equity & Sustainability Initiatives. ODESI reports to the Board separately. The *Sexual Violence Policy* is intended to deal with complaints against **students only**.

The Ministry of Advanced Education & Skills Development is undertaking a project to develop a set of common metrics across the sector for reporting under the legislation. This means that the ways in which OCAD U reports under the Policy may change moving forward in order to align with the provincial standards set by the Ministry.

INITIATIVES & PROGRAMS:

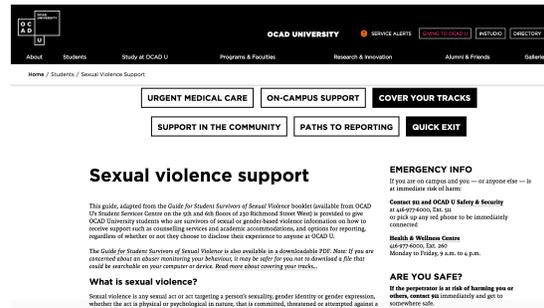
Prevention

Through Orientation activities, the University distributes student-created materials on consent to all new students. In 2017, these materials were also converted into an accessible PDF, to be published online. Peer health educators coordinated by the Health & Wellness Centre run a variety of outreach programs through social media and workshops throughout the year.



Support

A new [Sexual Violence Support website](#), accessible off the main Students menu, provides information to students on where to seek support (on and off-campus) and reporting options as well as general advice.



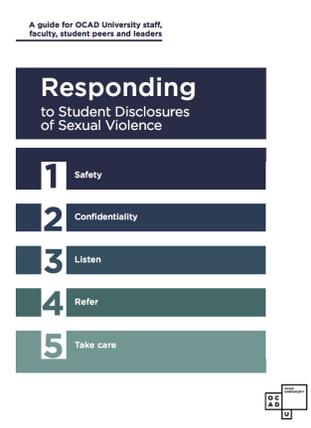
A new **Guide for Student Survivors of Sexual Violence** provides more detailed support for survivors in making a disclosure, finding support and in filing reports and complaints under university policy and externally.

Training

OCAD University's new [Guide for staff, faculty, student peers and leaders on Responding to Student Disclosures of Sexual Violence](#) outlines a 5-step approach to taking disclosures:

1. Ascertain Safety
2. Inform as to Limits of Confidentiality
3. Listen without Judgement
4. Discuss and Refer to Appropriate Resources
5. Follow-up and Self-Care.

The guide has been distributed in print to academic leadership and via various faculty and staff events, by the employee portal and email to all faculty and staff, and will form a part of an annual cycle of refreshing employee and peer leader awareness and training. This guide is also available and has been distributed in a poster format as a quick reference guide.



Additional training for the Senate Student Appeals Committee which hears formal complaints under the *Policy* is under development.