

BOARD OF GOVERNORS SEXUAL VIOLENCE REPORT 2021-2022



As outlined in the Nipissing University Sexual Violence Prevention, Support, and Response Policy approved by the Board of Governors on September 19, 2019, the Board of Governors will receive and review an annual report on sexual violence from Student Development and Services.

The policy outlines the following four areas of reporting to be included in the annual report:

a) The number of times supports, services and accommodations relating to sexual violence have been requested by students.

Information and statistics regarding the calculation within this category includes data from the Sexual Violence Prevention and Education Coordinator, Student Counseling Services and Residence Life. It is important to note that due to the nature of response for incidents of sexual violence combined with the need for confidentiality, it is possible that the number of times support services and accommodations are requested may represent multiple support requests from a single student.

Nipissing University provided supports, services, and accommodations relating to sexual violence to twenty-nine (29) students from May 2021-April 30, 2022. Students were supported remotely, and in-person based on the student's needs and location. Supports were provided through email (35), phone (2), in-person meetings (54), and virtual meetings (209). There were an additional 39 referrals to various service providers offered through various forms of interaction including the Sexual Violence Prevention and Education Coordinator, Student Counselling Services, the Student Intervention Specialist, the Residence Life Management Team, Community Counselling Centre of North Bay, Amelia Rising, and various local community support services.

b) Information about the types of supports, service and accommodations requested.

Students who experienced sexual violence had diverse and complex needs. The majority of students seeking support requested safety planning, as well as service navigation for campus, and/or community supports. A number of students requested information about filing an investigative report either through Nipissing University's Sexual Violence Prevention, Support and Response Policy, Residence Life Community Living Standards and/or police reporting processes.

Accommodation requests ranged from the issuance of no contact orders, writs of trespass, the use of space on campus, as well as information about housing, finances, and academic considerations and accompaniments.

c) Education and prevention programming that has been implemented to promote the awareness of both supports and services that are available to students.

More than 1,000 students participated in sexual violence prevention and awareness workshops (51) from May 2021 to May 2022. Students (33), student leaders (15), and staff and faculty (3) participated in training opportunities with the Sexual Violence Prevention & Education (SVPE) Outreach Team. Training opportunities in virtual (45) and in-person (6) formats were offered; however, virtual workshops had the highest number of participants. These training opportunities include Consent Belongs Here workshops (30) and collaborations with internal stakeholders, including Lakers Athletics (14), NUSU (3), Residence Life (2), and the Office of Indigenous Initiatives (1).

In the Fall of 2021, SVPE launched two certificate pathways for students: Sexual Violence Prevention Certificate and the Advanced Sexual Violence Prevention & Response Certificate. Students are eligible for the certificates after completing a series of workshops that focus on building our awareness and skills to respond to disclosures and build solidarity for survivors. We received 26 certificate requests in 2021-2022: Sexual Violence Prevention certificates (8); Advanced Sexual Violence Prevention & Response certificates (18).

The SVPE Outreach Team continued its collaborative relationship with the Lakers Orientation Committee and NUSU through collaboration to attend/host (13) events for students and (6) awareness campaigns for students.

New 2021-2022: Ask the Sexperts Virtual Q&A Panel & National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women - Keynote.

Conversations about gender-based and sexual violence prevention cannot focus exclusively on violence and intervention. Healthy sexuality education is the primary prevention of sexual violence, and it's essential to include sex-positivity education, open communication, and opportunities to seek out relevant information for all sexual and gender identities. The Ask the Sexperts Panel featured a variety of campus and community services, resources, experts and educators and allowed students to ask any sex-related questions anonymously. Over 45 questions were submitted to the panel by students.

To commemorate the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women, the Sexual Violence Prevention & Education Outreach Team, the Faculty of Gender Equality and Social Justice and the Office of Indigenous Initiatives hosted a virtual memorial event for all Nipissing University students, staff, faculty, administration, and community members. The event featured an opening smudge and song, and a keynote presentation from Dr. Priscilla Settee, a Cree activist for Indigenous rights, women's rights, and environmental rights in Canada.

In addition to marketing and communication of workshops and regular social media content, the Consent Belongs Here Instagram focused on five educational awareness campaigns in 2021-2022: International Pronouns Day, 16 Days of Activism, Start by Believing Day, Gender Equality Week, and Consent + Pizza.

New 2021-2022: International Pronouns Day & Consent + Pizza

International Pronouns Day seeks to make respecting, sharing, and educating about personal pronouns commonplace. To educate, raise visibility, engage in conversations, and remove expectations that transgender or gender-nonconforming people are the only ones that need to share this information, the SVPE Outreach Team offered students, staff, and faculty the opportunity to

receive a custom Lakers' gender pronoun button. A recent Nipissing University BFA graduate and North Bay resident, Jasper, designed each pronoun button. All of the buttons were requested (150) and distributed. In addition to distributing pronoun buttons in-person and through the mail, the awareness campaign featured information and resources through social media via the Consent Belongs Here Instagram account, and throughout the university community via email in collaboration with Marketing and the Teaching Hub. Gender 101 training opportunities were also offered to students and staff.

Consent Belongs Here's Instagram saw the most impact (520) with its Consent + Pizza video awareness campaign. The Consent + Pizza campaign featured a short 40-second video analogy for Consent through pizza making. Students commented (93), liked (51) and shared (40) the video for an opportunity to win a pizza for International Pizza Day.

d) The number of incidents and formal reports of sexual violence made to Campus Security and Student Development and Services.

No new formal reports were filed under the Sexual Violence Prevention, Support, and Response Policy in 2021-2022. One on-going formal report was adjudicated by the Sexual Violence Response Committee as per the process outlined in the Policy, and the committee determined that the formal report met the jurisdictional requirements of the University's Sexual Violence Prevention, Support, and Response Policy. As the formal report met the jurisdictional requirements, the formal investigation process and formal report are ongoing and led by an external investigator. The formal report concluded the investigative process and outcomes were delivered by the SVRC. One student accessed services from the Sexual Violence Prevention and Education Coordinator in order to seek support in the filing of police reports.

Policy Update: 2021-2022 marked the three-year review of the Sexual Violence Prevention, Support, and Response Policy. During this academic year, the Action Against Gender Based Violence Committee undertook reviewing and updating the policy. The updated policy will be brought to the Board of Governors for approval. The membership of the committee included faculty, staff, and students from across the institution, specifically the Nipissing University Student Union, The Equity Centre, Nipissing University Black Association for Student Expression, Residence Life, Athletics, International Student Supports, Office of Indigenous Initiatives, and past students who engaged with the policy.