

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE POLICY ON PREVENTION AND RESPONSE TO SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE, 2019

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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's Student Wellness Centre as the primary point of contact for all students who have experienced sexual or gender-based violence. The Student Wellness Centre provides support, coordinates accommodations, and outlines reporting options for survivors.

DISCLOSURES, INCIDENTS AND COMPLAINTS

Data reported below cover the period of January 1 to December 31, 2019. (2017, 2018 data provided for comparison purposes.)

	2017	2018	2019
Number of disclosures* to Student Wellness Centre	27	19	22
Number of incidents reported to Safety & Security Services	5	3	2
Of the incidents reported to Security:			
Incidents that occurred off campus	3	1	1
Incidents that occurred on campus	2	2	1
Incidents reported to Police	1	2	0
Number of formal complaints made under the <i>Sexual Violence Policy</i>**	0	0	0

Notes:

*Disclosures are made by students but may involve parties who are not students, staff or faculty.

** Under OCAD U policy, complaints against employees of the University are covered by the Respectful Work & Learning Environment Policy and are reported separately.

STUDENT VOICES ON SEXUAL VIOLENCE SURVEY

From February-April 2018, the Ontario government administered a province-wide survey of students in post-secondary education to gather information about perceptions and experiences of sexual violence that can be used to inform and enhance the sexual violence response and prevention efforts. A high level summary report was released by government in March 2019. In February 2020, the government released the remaining results to each institution, along with sector level data.

President Diamond issued a [public statement](#) regarding the release of the data and pointed members of the community to the [publicly posted data and analysis](#) at the Council of Ontario Universities. The survey results are being used by OCAD U's Sexual Violence Working Group to guide development of services, programs and awareness initiatives.

SEXUAL VIOLENCE WORKING GROUP

The Ministry of Colleges and Universities stated in a March 19, 2019 announcement that each Ontario post-secondary institution is required to create a task force by September 30, 2019. The Ministry further clarified that the task force should be responsible for assessing the sufficiency of OCAD's sexual violence policy, assessing the effectiveness of current programs and services to combat sexual violence on campus, and providing recommendations on the additional steps that OCAD may take to ensure a safe environment for all. The task force should represent the diversity of OCAD's student population, as well as faculty and administration.

While each task force is to submit their independent report to their respective board of governors and to the ministry by June 1, 2020, the Ministry recently provided some leeway in this timeline given the impact of COVID-19.

OCAD U's Sexual Violence Working Group was established in November 2019 under the leadership of Jennifer Robinson, Director of Student Health, Wellness and Conflict Resolution. Membership of the Working Group includes representatives of the OCAD Student Union, Office of Diversity, Equity & Sustainability Initiatives, Indigenous Student Centre, Safety & Security Services, and Student Affairs, as well as students and faculty.

The Working Group's meetings to date have focused on the analysis of the Student Voices on Sexual Violence Survey results and on revisions to the Sexual Violence Policy, which are being presented to the Board for approval at its June 2020 meeting.

INITIATIVES & PROGRAMS

Prevention

Orientation Day - Training on Consent

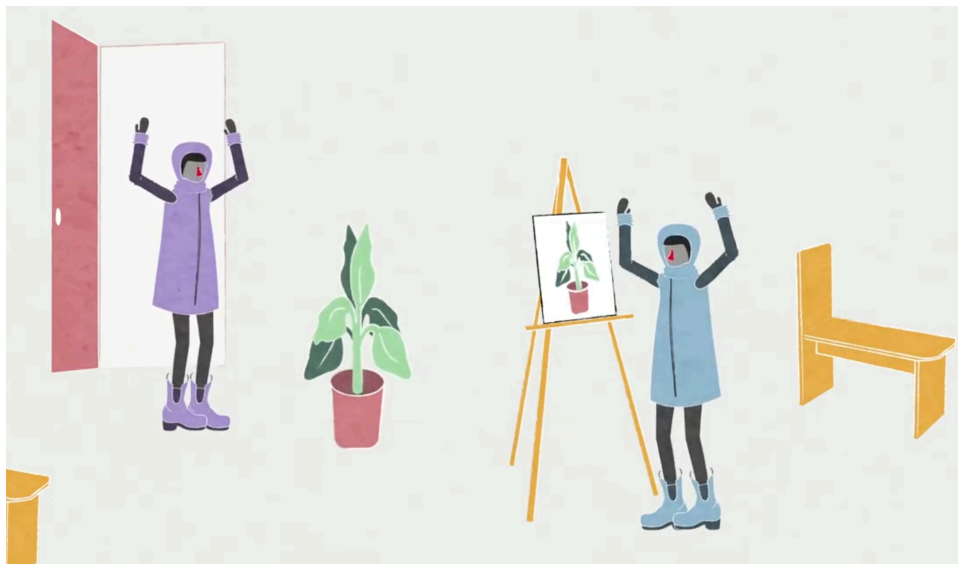
The 30 minute workshop called “Draw the Line” was delivered to all students who attended our welcome day on Tuesday, September 3, 2019, an estimated 850 first-year students. The workshop was delivered by [White Ribbon](#), an organization working to end sexual violence. The workshop covered definitions of consent, discussed bystander intervention and allyship in diverse communities, and presented strategies and scenarios relevant to post-secondary communities that engaged audience participation.

New Web Resources and Information about Consent

A web page was added to the Campus Life section of the website called '[Understanding Consent](#),' which includes training information, resources and links to publications about consent.

Consent Animation Series

A series of short, 1 minute animations were created in collaboration with OCAD U Integrated Media graduate Nikole Hidalgo McGregor. Each focus on an attribute of consent; Consent is Enthusiastic, Coherent and Ongoing, and are tailored to the OCAD U community and environment. These videos are on our [YouTube channel as a playlist](#), are embedded on our website, and are periodically shared on our social media channels, especially at the start of each Fall/Winter term.



Support

The [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 ***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.

OCAD University's [*Guide for staff, faculty, student peers and leaders on Responding to Student Disclosures of Sexual Violence*](#) is available on the website and in printed form through the Student Wellness Centre and other offices.

Training

Consent and Sexual Violence Prevention Training: staff from OCAD U's Student Wellness Centre are able to deliver training on consent and/or sexual violence prevention to any member or group of members among the OCAD U community by request including teaching faculty.