



ANNUAL REPORT

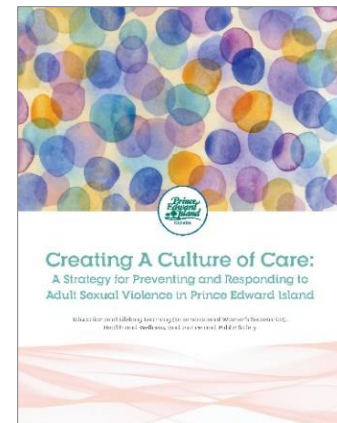
September 1, 2022 - August 31, 2023

The Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Office (SVPRO) provides support and education to students, staff, and faculty around gender-based and sexualized violence. Educational opportunities focus on prevention, intervention, and response to sexualized violence.

Prevention

In the fall of 2022 the SVPRO worked to build campus awareness of relevant policies and services, and to introduce the newly hired Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Manager, Candice Perry (she/her) to the University community. Another project was building upon the work of the previous staff, Eileen Conboy, to enhance and implement an online sexual violence prevention course which was launched in 2023. The implementation of the course, which is a requirement for all first-year students was a significant accomplishment for UPEI. Thanks to Eileen Conboy (prior Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Manager), Amirah Oyesegun (Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in Employment Systems Advisor), Jason Hogan (Instructional Designer), and Andrea Trowbridge (interim Registrar) for their work on this joint project.

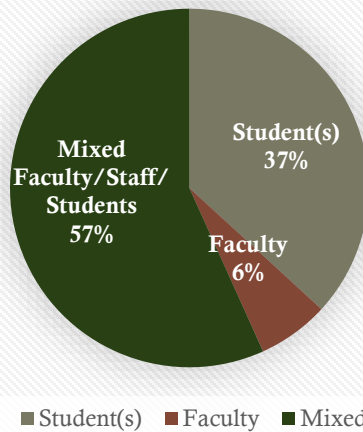
The SVPRO developed an awareness and education plan in alignment with the provincial Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention Strategy. The SVPRO had participated in the development of the Province's first ever Strategy on sexual violence prevention by providing feedback into the process. One of the action items in the Strategy is collaboration with post-secondary institutions to develop and implement a coordinated approach to prevention that addresses population risk factors. With this in mind, the SVPRO developed an awareness plan that addresses the priority areas outlined in the provincial strategy. We look forward to continuing to partner with the Province on implementation of actions.



Between September 2022 and August 2023, the SVPRO held 15 training sessions on campus about preventing sexualized violence, and interrupting harm as a bystander. These sessions were held with students, staff, and faculty. The total number of participants in sexual violence awareness and education from September 1, 2022, to August 31, 2023 was 326.



Training Participants by Role on Campus



SVPRO prevention initiatives included:

Topic	Format	Date	Audience	Number of Attendees
<i>Welcome to the Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Office</i>	Welcome Fair	September 2, 2022	Students	30
<i>Taboo: What Does Consent Look like in your Culture?</i>	Presentation (with BIPOC USHR)	September 9, 2022	Students	6
<i>Receiving a Disclosure at UPEI</i>	Presentation	October 31, 2022	Faculty (Nursing)	14
<i>From Policy to Action at UPEI</i>	Presentation	January 18, 2023	Students	80
<i>Pathways to Thrive</i>	Focus Group (with BIPOC USHR, Black Cultural Society, and UPEI EDI Office)	January 24, 2023	Students	6
<i>Thank You for Being a Friend</i>	Instagram Live presentation (with UPEI Student Union)	January 25, 2023	Instagram	7
<i>Consent and Sexual Health</i>	Love and Sex Week Fair	January 27, 2023	Students, Faculty, Service Providers	30
<i>Taboo: What Does Consent Look Like in Your Culture</i>	Presentation (with UPEI EDI Office)	January 27, 2023	Service Providers	4



<i>UPEI's new online sexual violence prevention course (for Student Union executive)</i>	Presentation	February 6, 2023	Student(s)	1
<i>New Faculty Orientation: Recognize, Respond, Refer</i>	Presentation	August 21, 2023	Faculty	7
<i>Interrupting Harm for Women's Rugby</i>	Training	August 28, 2023	Mixed	38
<i>Interrupting Harm for Men's Basketball</i>	Training	August 28, 2023	Mixed	19
<i>Interrupting Harm for Student Union</i>	Training	August 29, 2023	Mixed	14
<i>Interrupting Harm for Residence Life Advisors</i>	Training	August 29, 2023	Student Staff	40
<i>Behind Closed Doors Coaching for Residence Life Advisors</i>	Training	August 30, 2023	Student Staff	30

Community Engagement

Developing relationships with supports in the community is an important part of a post-secondary institution's sexual violence prevention strategy. The new Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Manager began developing relationships with many community organizations. This year the Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Office contributed to prevention in the following community relationships which are listed in the table below:

Community Engagement September 1, 2022 – August 31, 2023		
Organization	Date	Purpose
<i>Family Violence Prevention Services</i>	September 16, 2022	Met with Family Violence Prevention Services Outreach Worker
<i>PEI Rape and Sexual Assault Crisis Centre</i>	October 25, 2022	Met with Outreach Worker
<i>Pathways to Thrive</i>	October 26, 2022 January 17, 2023 January 18, 2023	5 Year project to create trauma recovery model programming for underserved populations on PEI
<i>Community Legal Information</i>	October 27, 2022	Met with Outreach Worker
<i>Action Now Atlantic</i>	November 1, 2022 April 18, 2023 May 2, 2023	Meeting with a coalition of post secondary sexual violence prevention offices in Atlantic Canada that advocates and builds awareness to



	July 4, 2023	prevent sexual violence
<i>Mount Allison University Sexual Violence Prevention Office</i>	November 2, 2022 November 24, 2022	Consultation re: implementation of their online sexual violence prevention course
<i>PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women</i>	December 6, 2022	Attended memorial for the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Gender Based Violence
<i>SHIFT Project</i>	December 9, 2022	Met with PEI Human Rights Commission regarding prevention of sexual harassment in the workplace
<i>Premier's Advisory Committee on engaging the community to prevent sexual violence against adults</i>	January 17, 2023	An advisory panel of community organizations to give feedback in preparation of a provincial framework to prevent sexual violence
<i>RISE program</i>	January 27, 2023	Met with outreach worker
<i>RCMP Sexual Assault Internal Review Committee</i>	February 27 & 28, 2023 May 30 & 31, 2023	Participated in the review of cases where sexual assaults were reported but no charges resulted.
<i>PEI Status of Women International Women's Day</i>	March 8, 2023	Attended a celebration of International Women's Day
<i>PEI Transgender Network</i>	April 2, 2023	Attended a march in support of transgender community members
<i>Women's Network</i>	April 13, 2023	Attended a workshop about the experiences of 2SLGBTQ+ and Indigenous members of the community through Pathways to Thrive program
<i>Rise program</i>	April 25, 2023	Attended an online information session
<i>Red Dress Day Walk</i>	May 5, 2023	Walked to support Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls and their families.
<i>Interministerial Women's Secretariat</i>	May 9, 2023	Participating in a community stakeholder consultation about a plan for new funding to address gender-based violence
<i>Sexual Violence Prevention Workers PEI</i>	May 10, 2023 June 27, 2023	Attended roundtable for sharing of resources and promising practices of local Sexual Violence Prevention workers
<i>Department of Justice and Community Safety</i>	May 11, 2023	Participated in community stakeholder session regarding changes to the Prince Edward Island <i>Police Act</i> and creation of



		policing standards
<i>Serving Muslim Women experiencing GBV</i>	May 16, 2023	Attended a community workshop about how to support Muslim women who experience gender-based violence
<i>Family Violence Prevention Week</i>	May 17, 2023	Participated in the Walk in Silence event
<i>Victims of Crime Week</i>	May 25, 2023	Attended a restorative justice panel
<i>Sexual Assault Working Group</i>	June 1, 2023	Attended a working group meeting involving provincial sexual violence workers to advise PEI Rape and Sexual Assault Centre on emerging local issues within the field and to plan Consent Awareness Week
<i>PEERS Alliance, PEI Transgender Network</i>	June 9, 2023	Attended a rally to support rights of transgender youth in public schools
<i>Wisdom2Action</i>	June 9, 2023	Met with representatives of a national youth-supporting group for 2SLGBTQ youth
<i>PEI Rape and Sexual Assault Centre</i>	June 20, 2023	Attended the Annual General Meeting
<i>Take Back the Night Rural Committee</i>	July 13, 2023	Attended a sub-committee meeting of the Sexual Assault Working Group to develop a manual for rural organizers to organize rural Take Back the Night marches
<i>PEI Advisory Council Status of Women, Women and Gender Equality Canada, Actions Femmes, Premier's Advisory Committee on the Status of Women, Family Violence Prevention Services, and PEI Rape and Sexual Assault Centre</i>	August 2, 2023	Attended announcement of federal Women and Gender Equality funding by Minister Marci Ien
<i>Sexual Assault Prevention Advisory Group (new name)</i>	August 10, 2023	Attended a planning meeting for Consent Awareness Week

Response

This year SVPRO continued to provide direct response services to members of our campus community who have experienced sexual violence or require information about the services of the UPEI Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Office. In this period response services for clients continued to adapt to a post-Covid return to campus life for students, staff, and faculty. Response work has continued to be provided in the manner most comfortable to the person receiving services. Themes that emerged when responding to individuals included but were not limited to work related to safety planning, referrals to



counselling, school and workplace accommodations, helping to navigate reporting options, psychoeducation about trauma, personal support, and more. The independent UPEI Review conducted by Rubin Thomlinson spotlighted the Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Office and the Sexual Violence Policy and resulted in an increase in interest in the office and formal Complaints.

Response work includes responding to the needs of close contacts who support survivors. Survivors often tell two to three people who they trust about their experience of sexualized violence before accessing professional support. The SVPRO worked collaboratively with support persons to help to remove the barriers that survivors faced accessing support. These contacts may also personally be experiencing distress or secondary trauma and require supports. These individuals included students, faculty, staff, parents and other connections who received disclosures. The tables below reflect services to based on the identity of the client being served (student or faculty/staff). The client is not always the survivor of sexual violence. For clarity, virtually every client receives information, for this reason the number of people who receive “information and support” is reflective of the overall number of requests for services. Some clients will also receive other supports.

The following table outlines response activities for students in alignment with the requirements of the PEI *Post-secondary Institutions Sexual Violence Policies Act* regulations:

Response for September 1, 2022 - August 31, 2023 (student clients)					
SVPRO Requests for services (students)	Supports, services, accommodations, obtained by students		Incidents or reports (by students)	Form of violence reported by students	
27	27	Information and support	27	13	Sexual assault
	12	People who received referrals (on and off campus)		13	Sexual harassment
	6	Accommodations		1	Other SV (personal harassment, awareness, gender-based violence)
	7	Formal Complaints			
	10	Other services			

The following table outlines response activities for faculty and staff as an additional transparency measure beyond the requirements of the PEI *Post-secondary Institutions Sexual Violence Policies Act* regulations:



Response for September 1, 2022 - August 31, 2023 (faculty/staff clients)

SVPRO Requests for services (faculty/staff)	Supports, services, accommodations, obtained by faculty/staff		Incidents or reports (by faculty/staff)	Form of violence reported by faculty/staff	
12	12	Information and support	12	2	Sexual assault
	5	People who received referrals (on and off campus)		8	Sexual harassment
	0	Accommodations		2	Other SV (personal harassment, awareness, gender-based violence)
	1	Formal Complaints			
	6	Other services			

Other Activities

This year, the SVPRO also participated in the extensive process of reviewing and revising UPEI’s Sexual Violence Policy. The SVPRO recommended changes to the policy which are intended to increase transparency for members of the University Community and the public, remove barriers to reporting, enhance the ability of the SVPRO to provide immediate supports to survivors, and foster survivor empowerment through increased choice.

The SVPRO also offered support to students, faculty, and staff as a result of the release of the UPEI Review conducted by Rubin Thomlinson. The majority of this work was with members of the campus community who have directly experienced sexual violence. The SVPRO looks forward to using this expertise to provide feedback to UPEI’s upcoming Action Plan in response to the UPEI Review.

Prepared by:
Candice Perry
Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Manager