

Procedures for MAPP 1.52 – Responding to Sexual Violence

PRINCIPLES

- 1.00 In responding to a disclosure of sexual violence, Western is committed to ensuring that:
- the survivor/victim is treated with dignity and respect;
 - the survivor/victim is informed about on- and off-campus services and resources;
 - the survivor/victim has the right to decide whether or not to access available services and to choose those services the survivor feels will be most beneficial;
 - the survivor/victim has the right to decide whether to report to Campus Police and/or local police;
 - an on-campus investigation with the institution's full cooperation is available to the survivor/victim;
 - a safety plan is available for the survivor/victim; and,
 - reasonable and necessary actions are taken to prevent further unwanted contact with the alleged perpetrator(s)

PROVIDING ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT

2.00 An individual who has experienced sexual violence should go to a place where they can find physical safety and emotional support. This may be the home (or room) of a friend, a family member, a member of the Housing staff, a colleague or a supervisor.

3.00 An individual who has experienced a sexual assault is encouraged to seek health care **immediately**. In London, immediate care and counselling support is available at the [Regional Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Treatment Centre](#), located at St. Joseph's Hospital. Support is provided regardless of gender and, with the consent of the survivor/victim, will also be provided to a partner/significant other. The Centre will provide support in making choices and understanding options. Options include treatment of injuries, emotional support and crisis intervention, pregnancy prevention, the testing and treatment for sexually transmitted infection, safety planning and referrals. A survivor/victim will be provided with the option of collecting forensic (physical) evidence which they may choose to use later, or not at all. Individuals may access counselling directly, without seeking any other services at the Regional Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Treatment Centre. Counselling may be accessed for up to one year post-sexual assault. Western's [Student Health Services](#), [Workplace Health Clinics](#) and [Student Development Centre \(Psychological Services\)](#) are also able to support a survivor/victim's physical and emotional care in the days and months following a sexual assault.

[The Sexual Assault Centre London](#) also provides individual & group counselling and accompaniment and advocacy for women. A 24-hour crisis & support line is available to men and women.

4.00 Western's Campus Community Police Services is available to meet with individuals to provide support and safety planning. Campus Police's role is to describe the various options available to a survivor/victim of sexual violence, which may include:

- taking no action;
- the police issuing a warning to the perpetrator;
- the University pursuing sanctions under the Code of Student Conduct; and/or,
- the filing of a formal complaint which may result in criminal charges.

- 5.00 Other places to find support and learn about resources and options are Student Health Services, Workplace Health Clinics, Student Development Centre (Psychological Services), Rehabilitation Services (Human Resources), and Equity & Human Rights Services, Housing and the University Students' Council. A comprehensive list of these and other support services and resources available at Western, and in the local community, is available [here](#).
- 6.00 Following a disclosure of sexual violence, Western will support the provision of alternative living, working or academic arrangements, as appropriate.
- 7.00 Anyone who receives a disclosure of sexual violence is encouraged to provide the victim/survivor with an appropriate level of personal support and information about options and resources. The Regional Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Treatment Centre as well as the Campus Police are available 24 hours a day. Both will provide information to those inquiring on behalf of someone else.