

AFCOOP's Interim Safer Spaces Policy
Approved by the Board of Directors July 2018

AFCOOP wants to ensure our visitors, members, and staff feel safe, welcome, and comfortable in our spaces, on our film sets, and at our events. We require a respectful environment at all times, and will not tolerate discrimination or harassment in any form. This includes but is not limited to: racism, sexism, ableism, transphobia, queerphobia, homophobia, sizeism, ageism, xenophobia, sexual harassment, or violence of any kind.

We encourage anyone who experiences or witness violations of this policy to speak with identified safe volunteers (identified by wearing safe buttons) or AFCOOP staff who will address the situation, and provide support and further resources. We are striving to be survivor oriented and our response will be to support the survivor.

If you are found violating our policy, you may be asked to leave the space. If this should happen, we ask that you respect our policy and self-exclude from the event. It is AFCOOP's responsibility to follow up with persons involved in an incident, and an appointment can be made with our Director Martha Cooley or a Board Member after the event is over.

We understand that survivors may have hesitation about attending public events or visiting our spaces, if so please feel free to contact Ruby Boutilier (Safer Spaces Committee chair and board member) rubysue241@gmail.com and we will make every effort to support your participation.

Do you need support?

Should you need more resources than we can provide, we have sourced several options that are available to you. Please note that these resources are not affiliated with AFSCOOP in any way.

These resources can also be contacted for support on behalf of someone else:

In case of emergency, you can call 911 for medical or police services

For non-emergency health information, you can call 811 to speak to a Registered Nurse. Additional information is available online at 811.novascotia.ca

24 Hour SANE (sexual assault nurse examiner) response line:

902 425 0122

A Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner is a Registered Nurse who has advanced training and education in forensic examinations of sexual assault victims. The SANE program is a partnership with the IWK Hospital for Women, Children and Families, the QEII Health Sciences Centre, and the Dartmouth General Hospital. On-call SANEs provide 24/7 emergency response, response to the emergency departments of the local hospitals, expert testimony in a court of law, supportive follow-up for victims and their families, and the storage of forensic evidence for up to 6 months. The SANE program WILL NOT provide: transportation, medical services outside the hospital emergency departments, or medical treatment to anyone other than a victim of sexual violence.

Adsum House:

902 423 5049

Immediate Housing Assistance: 902 423 4443

2421 Brunswick St

adsumforwomen.org

For the past 28 years, Adsum has been meeting women and children and female youth where they are, without judgment, offering a range of services and support during periods of homelessness. We operate out of four locations in the Halifax Regional Municipality: an emergency shelter, second-stage housing and two affordable, supportive housing buildings for women and children.

Resources Continued:

Dalhousie Survivor Support Centre:

902-425-1066

Open 12 PM - 12 AM, 7 Days a Week

Anyone can call for confidential, anonymous, non-judgmental peer support. This hotline is for people who have experienced or are effected by sexualized violence. Dalhousie or King's Students can book a one on one peer support session. The support centre has a comprehensive referral guide on hand if you need to be referred to another kind of support.

Halifax Regional Police Victim Services:

902 490 5300

The Victim Services Unit of Halifax Regional Police is a police-based victim support unit. The Unit was established in 1996 to provide supportive services to victims of crime, with particular emphasis on victims of domestic violence. The Unit is comprised of civilian employees and volunteers who work with police members. Once officers have responded to a crime and ensured the physical safety of all involved, Victim Services may be called to assist with non-policing issues such as emotional support and referral information. The Unit can also provide safety planning, counselling, and crisis intervention at the scene of violence.

Mobile Mental Health Crisis Team:

429-8167 or 1-888-429-8167

This line provides crisis support for children, youth, and adults experiencing a mental health crisis (which could include thoughts of suicide, distorted or psychotic thinking, intense anxiety, overwhelming depression, feeling unable to cope or out of control). It offers telephone crisis support throughout the HRM, and mobile response to areas served by Halifax Regional Police.

National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls:

1-844-413-6649

<http://www.mmiwg-ffada.ca/>

A national, toll-free support call line is available to provide support for anyone who requires assistance. This line is available free of charge, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Resources Continued:

Trans Lifeline:

877-330-6366

The Trans Lifeline is a non-profit dedicated to the well being of transgender people. We run a hotline staffed by transgender people for transgender people. Trans Lifeline volunteers are ready to respond to whatever support needs members of our community might have.