



Facilitation Guide: Policy #131 (Sexual Assault)

The purpose of this facilitation guide is to encourage discussions by UBC students, faculty, and staff of the proposed Policy #131 (Sexual Assault).

Feedback

Members of the university community are encouraged to provide written feedback to the Office of the University Counsel at university.counsel@ubc.ca or through the confidential feedback survey: <https://survey.ubc.ca/s/sexual-assault-policy/> by **September 30, 2016**.

Background

The proposed Policy is an important first step in improving UBC's response to sexual assault. It outlines the key values and principles to which UBC will be held accountable and upon which all future work will be based. It also provides a single source of information on the supports, resources and reporting processes currently available at UBC.

In particular, it gives clear direction and a consistent approach to help students, staff and faculty get the help and support they need if they have been sexually assaulted or if someone discloses a sexual assault to them. It also clarifies which UBC process applies when a report of sexual assault is made against a member of the UBC community. The proposed Policy is one element of UBC's multi-faceted approach to addressing sexual assault; an approach that also includes education and awareness programs, focusing on intervention and prevention.

Facilitation questions

The questions below can be used to encourage reflection and discussion on how the Policy supports the University's intention to be clear and consistent in its response to sexual assault.

Participants are encouraged to read the proposed Policy before meeting for the discussion:

<http://universitycounsel.ubc.ca/files/2016/06/Proposed-Policy-131.pdf>

1) Are there commitments and general principles that are missing from the beginning of the Policy?

- a. Are there other, better ways that these commitments and principles could be expressed in the Policy?

2) To what extent does the Policy align with the commitments and general principles outlined?

- a. Consider each component (Definitions; Disclosures; Reporting Options; Confidentiality & Privacy; and Related UBC Policies and Processes). Are there places where the Policy can be better aligned with the commitments and principles?

3) What challenges or limitations do you see arising from the adoption of this Policy as it is currently proposed within the scope of the work of your group/administrative unit?

- a. In identifying these challenges or limitations are there common themes that connect them?
- b. What might resolve some of these challenges or limitations?
- c. What barriers may exist to the effective and efficient implementation of this Policy within the scope of the work that your group or administrative unit conducts?