



University  
of Regina

# ANNUAL REPORT

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Office of Sexual Violence  
Prevention & Response

2024-2025

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Submitted: July 14, 2025

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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The Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Office (SVPR) had a year of transition. The office experienced a staffing change that resulted in new programs and varying approaches. Despite the changes, some things have remained the same: the **compassionate support** for individuals and the **dedication to preventing sexual violence** on campus.

The main goal of the office this year, in addition to the consistent support for members of the campus community, was to **build connection**. Connecting with faculties, groups, and others on campus was priority.

An additional task this year was reviewing the Sexual Violence/Misconduct Policy and procedures (to be completed in Summer 2025). Key changes include elaborating on the jurisdiction of the University to investigate reports of sexual violence, clarity on the investigative process, developing and implementing a definition for **trauma- informed practice**, and adopting a **survivor- centered lens** through the SVPR office. Further changes involve clarifying and updating language.

Despite the transitional year, the SVPR Office has remained committed to supporting individuals impacted by sexual violence and advancing prevention efforts on campus. Through strengthening campus connections, ongoing policy review, and a continued focus on trauma-informed, survivor-centered practices, the office laid important groundwork for future growth and continuing to deliver informed and responsive support.

# DEFINITIONS

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**Sexual Assault:** The intentional sexual contact or touching of another person with any object or body part without consent, or by force. It can include unwanted kissing, fondling, oral sex, anal sex, intercourse, or other forms of penetration, or any other unwanted act of a sexual nature.

**Sexual Harrasment:** Conduct, comment, gesture or contact of a sexual nature that is offensive, unsolicited, or unwelcome.

**Sexual Violence:** An umbrella term that includes any sexual act or act targeting a person's sexuality, gender identity or gender expression, whether the act is physical or psychological in nature that is committed, threatened or attempted against a person without the person's consent.

**Survivor- Centric Support:** Placing the survivor of sexual violence at the centre of the support- prioritizing the rights, needs, and agency of the individual.

**Trauma- Informed:** An approach that recognizes the impact of trauma on individuals and communities. It promotes safety, trust, choice, collaboration, empowerment, and cultural sensitivity to create services that are accessible, respectful, and supportive. The goal is not to treat trauma directly, but to reduce barriers, prevent re-traumatization, and support healing by fostering safety, self-determination, and empowerment.

# SCOPE OF PRACTICE

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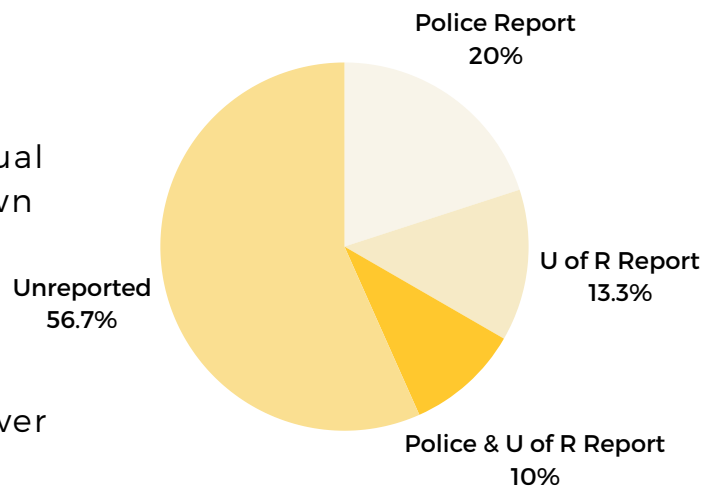
Driven by the needs expressed by the individual seeking support.



# RESPONSE

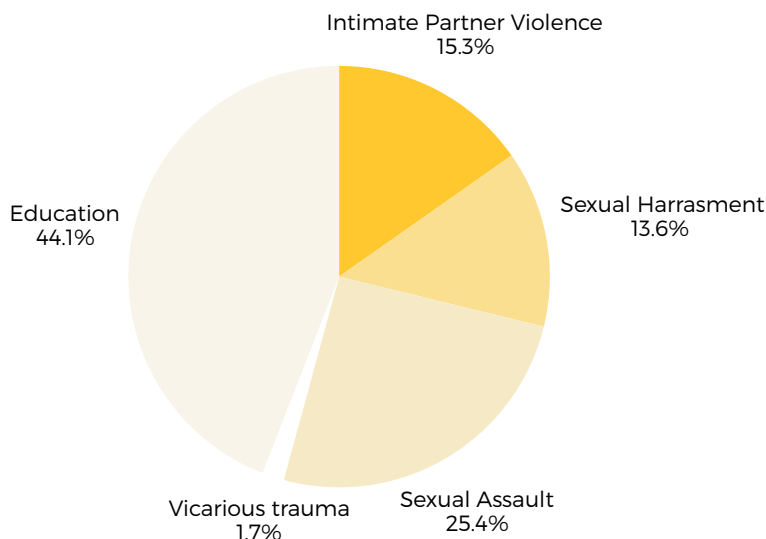
## REPORTING

The SVPR supported a diverse set of individuals with varying needs. Each support plan is driven by the individual seeking support and reflects their own personal needs. One consistent approach that is used is providing individuals a choice on if they will report the incident either to the University (if relevant) or to police. Over half of cases (56.7%) choose to not report, which is lower than previous years. The decision to not report is due to a multitude of reasons. Many cases took place a while ago, weren't relevant to the University, or individuals did not want to involve police.



## SUPPORT

As the office changed, so did the data collection and number of students accessing support. The SVPR office directly supported **59** individuals, which shows a decrease to previous years. The shift is believed to be due to a multitude of reasons. Varying approaches to the data that is collected due to a staffing change. The office did also experience multiple months without a staff directly in the role. Inactivity of the office could have impacted the number of individuals aware of the office. As the data being collected gains consistency, the trends of users will become more transparent.



Many of the individuals access support far beyond one time. Of the students who accessed support, not all reported sexual violence. Some accessed the office for educational purposes, to inquire about concerning behavior, or to seek direction with supporting friends.





## PREVENTION

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105

**Staff attended training**

The Step In Step Up bystander intervention training remained unwavering throughout the year, with ongoing participation from students, staff, and faculty. This year, **612 individuals completed the training and left equipped with the tools to intervene when they witness signs of sexual violence on campus.**

507

**Students attended training**

Further educational programs have been offered in collaboration with specific groups on topics such as consent, appropriate communication and being an effective bystander. Groups include UR International, Housing Services, student societies, and faculties.

612

**More equipped to intervene**

The office also facilitated events throughout the year, including activities during Welcome Week, Consent Awareness Week, and various initiatives in campus housing. Additionally, the office facilitated a campaign for International Women's Day in partnership with Housing Services. Each program further educated the campus community, while also increasing campus awareness of the SVPR office.

# CHALLENGES

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Sexual violence is a challenging and often uncomfortable topic for individuals to discuss, which can act as a significant barrier to those seeking support. The nature of the incident, coupled with societal stigma, self-blame, and fear of judgement, can deter individuals from reaching out. As a result, it is believed that the office is not reaching all those in need, particularly those who may be marginalized or facing uncertainty about seeking out support.

In addition, the transition in staff and period of inactivity of the office likely impacted the visibility of the SVPR office. This suggests that ongoing visibility and engagement with the campus community are crucial in ensuring that individuals who need support, are aware of the support offered.

A final issue, that has remained consistent from previous years, is the lack of engagement from the campus community, specifically with planned activities. Trainings tend to have a greater uptake, where the activity (e.g., support groups and programming) attendance is limited. This suggests that further strategies are needed to increase engagement and make these initiatives more accessible and appealing to the campus community.

# FUTURE

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Moving forward, the SVPR office is dedicated to increasing **accessibility** and reducing barriers to better support survivors of sexual violence. This includes adapting services to meet survivors where they are, increasing visibility of the office, and continuing to reflect on the barriers that do exist.

A key goal for the future is to strengthen **collaboration** with other departments and campus groups to foster a more interconnected and supportive community. Building stronger networks across campus community will enable the office to increase awareness, expand outreach and reach those who may otherwise not be aware of the office. This collaborative approach will also work to enhance the office's visibility on campus.

Ultimately, the future direction of the office continues to be centered on its core mission: to create a safer, more supportive environment for all members of the campus community by addressing both the prevention and response of sexual violence. The office will continue to promote healthy relationships, support and believe survivors, and provide flexible, individualized support tailored to the unique needs of each survivor.