



It wasn't really assault...was it?

By law, sexual assault occurs when there is not a voluntary agreement to engage in the sexual activity in question (i.e. kissing, fondling/grabbing, sexual intercourse, anal intercourse or oral sex). People show their consent verbally and through body language.

It is not consent if:

- Someone else gives permission.
- The person is incapable of consenting (i.e. unconscious, **drunk**, stoned, sleeping)
- There is an abuse of power, trust or authority.
- Person does not say yes, says no, or words or **behaviours** imply no such as turning away.
- Silence is not Consent!
- The person changes their mind.

Any sexual act that occurs as a result of coercion is also sexual assault. Coercion is:

- Constantly putting pressure on someone (pleading, repeatedly asking, or saying "I just can't stop once I start...")
- Making someone feel guilty ("If you loved me, you'd...", turning away, acting hurt)
- Making false promises, ("if you do this, I promise I won't ask for anything else.")
- Implied threat (blocking the path to the door, physical size, previous threats.)
- Threatening to withhold or do something. ("I'll break up with you..." "I'll tell everyone...")

RESOURCES

If you've experienced Sexual assault there are a number of resources that you may be able to access.

- Security Services: (403) 329 2345 or access one of the emergency phones on campus
 - Health Centre: (403) 329 2484
 - Counselling Services: (403) 317 2845
 - Housing Services: (403) 329 2590
 - Campus Women's Centre: (403) 329 2094
- Off Campus Supports
- www.svaclethbridge.org
 - YWCA Harbour House (403) 320 1881
 - Lethbridge Family Services (403) 327 5724
 - Victim Services (403) 330 5023
 - Lethbridge City Police (complaints) (403) 328 4444
 - Sexual Health Centre (403) 320 0110
 - Distress Line of Southwestern AB: (403) 327 7905

Sexual Violence on Campus Who Can Help

A collaboration between Counselling Services,
Health Services and Security Services



I think I was sexually assaulted. What next?

If the Assault has just happened

If an assault is occurring on campus, or it has just happened, call 911 or Security Services (2345) who will call 911, attend to your immediate medical needs and may secure the premises. Once police arrive, you may be encouraged to access medical attention through the Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) at the Lethbridge hospital. The Police will collect evidence at the scene and may take a Witness Statement.

What is SART?

SART is an all female team of Doctors and nurses that will meet you at the hospital to carry out a health exam and, if you consent, a Sexual Assault Examination Kit. The health exam covers a physical exam, STD screening, pregnancy prevention and a full discussion on how to protect your health both now and in the future. It can be accessed for up to 7 days following the assault. A Sexual Assault Examination kit is used to gather and document physical evidence for the purpose of a police investigation.

If there is no police involvement, you can go to the emergency room and notify the front desk that you've experienced a sexual assault and would like to meet with the SART team. They will have the police meet you at the hospital. For more information please see www.svaclethbridge.org

What services can help me on Campus.

The following services may be able to help you if you've experienced a sexual assault.

- Security: Security services can help you in safety planning and increasing your physical safety following an assault.
- Health Centre (403) 329 2484: Please call to discuss how the nurses, physicians or psychiatrists can best help you with both short and long term health issues. The centre can provide STD screening, pregnancy prevention options.
- Counselling Services: Provides emotional and practical support and information following an assault.
- Management in residence: May work with you to negotiate safety planning if the perpetrator is also in residence.

These departments can assist you in various ways but are not a substitute for a police investigation.

If you wish to contact the police, you have two options. You can report the incident and request that you do not wish to press charges at this time, or you can report the incident and pursue charges. The police would then open an investigation into the crime. For information on how to press charges and how the police system works check out www.svaclethbridge.org

Security and Sexual Assault—Frequently Asked Questions

How do I make an appointment to speak with Security? What happens when I'm there?

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You can phone Security at (403) 329 2345 or stop by their office at L911 to speak to a security officer about your concerns. You will be invited to an office where the security officer will gather information and inform you of your options for ensuring safety on campus. They may write a report indicating your visit. Security Services are not police officers and cannot press charges, investigate the crime or gather a witness statement from you. Rather, they will work with you to increase your safety on campus or, if you request, can initiate contact with the Police.

The person who assaulted me is also a student. I'm worried about what happens if I run into them on campus. What can I do?

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Security Services will discuss your situation and may work with you to:

1. Develop a safety plan for your time on campus.
2. Increase their presence in certain locations on campus at certain times of the day.
3. Provide additional personal security through the Safewalk program.

If I tell Security, Counselling, or the Health Centre about the assault but don't want to file an official report will they tell other people?

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You have the right to control the information you share regarding the assault. However, to help the university plan for better prevention, staff will advise Security of the location and time that the assault took place. Your name and identifying information will not be shared without your permission and making the choice to not report the crime officially will not prevent you from accessing university services.