

Consent & The Law



You are legally required to take reasonable steps to obtain voluntary consent...



Before engaging in any sexual activity



Any time you change sexual activities



All sexual activity without consent is sexualized violence, and a criminal offense.

If you have been sexually assaulted, it is important for you to know that you are not alone and it is not your fault. There is no behaviour, manner of dress, or situation that justifies sexualized violence.

Find out more about on and off-campus supports at:

www.tru.ca/sexual-violence

Making the Connection

Since we are talking about consent, it is important to recognize that the campuses of Thompson Rivers University are located on the traditional and unceded territory of the Secwepemc Nation within Secwepemcul'ecw.

Please go to www.landbodydefense.org for more information on the connection between consent and colonization.

sexualized
violence
prevention
and response



Let's talk about...

CONSENT

sexualized
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What is Consent?

Simply put, consent is when a person freely gives permission for something to happen, or agrees to do something. This can be indicated verbally or non-verbally.



When Do I Need Consent?

You should always respect another person's body and choices, regardless of who they are, where they are, what they are wearing, or what you think they might be into.

No one is entitled to another person's body.

Learn to Check In...

Consent is...

Active

Just because they didn't say "No" doesn't mean you have consent. Only "Yes" means "Yes."

A Choice

Everyone has the right to feel free to say "Yes" or "No" without pressure, threats, or manipulation.

A Process

Consent requires on-going conversations with lots of TRUST. Just because someone said "Yes" to one thing, doesn't mean they say "Yes" to ALL the things. Everyone has a right to change their mind and say "No" at any point.

Based on Equal Power

If someone is underage, drunk, asleep/unconscious, or you occupy a position of power or authority over them, they cannot consent.

Consent is not...

Assumed

Being in a relationship or having a sexual history with someone does not mean that you have their consent. Communicating about consent is always necessary.

Pressured

If you have to convince someone to say "Yes", or they are afraid to say "No", you do not have their consent.

Silent

The absence of a "No" is not a "Yes". Pay attention to your partner's body language and non-verbal cues.

Incapacitated

You cannot get consent from someone who is asleep, unconscious, drunk, or otherwise incapacitated.