

NIPISSING UNIVERSITY

SEXUAL VIOLENCE ANNUAL REPORT

2025–2026

Board of Governors Report Summary

Prepared by:

Sarah Clermont
Sexual Violence Prevention & Education Coordinator

Reviewed by:

Linds Sullivan
Manager Access & Belonging
And

Sarah Taylor
Assistant Vice-President, Students

September 2026

As per the Ministry requirement (Pursuant to Subsection 17(7.1) Ministry of Training, Colleges, and Universities Act): A Sexual Violence Annual Report be presented to the Board of Governors for each academic year on or before November of each calendar year. The academic year is defined as April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026.

Overview

During the 2025-2026 reporting period (April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026), Nipissing University continued to advance its commitment to fostering a safe, inclusive, and respectful campus community through prevention education, survivor support, policy development, and cross-campus collaboration. The Sexual Violence Prevention and Education (SVPE) program experienced significant growth in its reach and engagement while continuing to provide trauma-informed and survivor-centred support services. Information summarized below is drawn from 2025-2026 Sexual Violence Annual Report.

Key Results at a Glance

Prevention, Education, and Outreach

SVPE delivered 71 prevention, education, outreach, awareness, and social media initiatives, generating approximately 3,463 engagements across the university community. These engagements included:

- 19 Training Initiatives (534 engagements): Structured learning opportunities designed to build knowledge, skills, and confidence in preventing and responding to sexual violence.
- 20 Outreach Initiatives (approximately 1,643 engagements): Engagement activities that connected community members with information, resources, services, and support opportunities from SVPE.
- 16 Awareness Events (approximately 337 engagements): Activities and campaigns that increased visibility, encouraged dialogue, and promoted awareness of issues and themes related to sexual violence prevention.
- 8 Educational Events (approximate 949 engagements): Programs and events that enhanced understanding of consent, healthy relationships, sexual violence, and campus resources.
- 8 Social Media Campaigns: Digital initiatives that promoted resources, events, and prevention messaging while engaging the campus community online.

Important Note: Engagement figures represent participants, attendance or touchpoints. Individuals who attended multiple events or training sessions may be counted more than once. As a result, totals do not represent unique participants.

Key Audiences Reached

- Incoming Students: 1,500 engagements through orientation programming and resource distribution.
- Student Leaders: 97 student leaders trained in sexual violence prevention, intervention, consent education, and response.
- Staff & Faculty: 301 engagements through training, awareness, and educational initiatives.
- Community Members: 415 engagements through community-facing events, restorative justice programming, partnerships, and digital outreach.

Growth Compared to 2024-2025

The substantial increase in participation reflects intentional expansion of prevention and outreach efforts:

Measure	2024-2025	2025-2026	Change
Total Reach	991	3,463	+249%
Training Participation	336	534	+59%
Programming Participation	655	2,929	+347%
Training Sessions	17	19	+12%

Growth was driven primarily by expanded orientation programming, the creation and distribution of nearly 1,000 resource packages, increased student leader and employee training opportunities, enhanced Orientation and Consent Awareness Week programming, and continued investment in restorative justice education.

Student Support and Institutional Response

SVPE Support Requests

During the reporting period:

- 18 requests for support related to sexual violence were received by SVPE.
- 17 unique students were supported in relation to Sexual Violence/Intimate Partner Violence, which includes both survivors and respondents, by Student Mental Health & Wellbeing
- 10 students accessed supports, accommodations, referrals, or safety measures coordinated by SVPE. These supports resulted in 18 interventions, reflecting that some students accessed multiple forms of support.

Most Frequently Accessed SVPE Supports

Support Type	Number
Referrals to campus/community resources	6
Academic considerations/accommodations	5
Policy and reporting support	4

Safety measures	2
Wellness-related supports	1

Formal Complaints

No formal complaints were submitted under the Student Sexual Violence Response Policy during the reporting period, and no investigations were initiated. However, the absence of formal complaints should not be interpreted as an absence of sexual violence. Many students choose to access supports, accommodations, safety planning, referrals, and counselling without pursuing a formal complaint process.

Major Accomplishments

Student Sexual Violence Response Policy Review

A significant institutional achievement was the successful review and approval of the revised Student Sexual Violence Response Policy. Key improvements included:

- Expanded policy scope to address student and employee sexual misconduct
- Enhanced survivor support and accommodation provisions
- Streamlined reporting and investigation pathways
- Increased training and awareness expectations and accountability
- Expanded data collection and reporting requirements

Restorative Justice Development

Nipissing University continued to advance restorative justice initiatives through:

- Restorative justice workshops and dialogue circles
- Campus-wide educational programming
- Community keynote presentations and training
- Development of future facilitator capacity and implementation planning

These initiatives support the University's commitment to fostering accountability, healing, and healthy community relationships.

Cross-Campus Collaboration

Collaboration among SVPE, Residence Life, Mental Health & Wellbeing, Human Resources, Campus Security, students, and community partners strengthened prevention efforts, referral pathways, and support options available to students.

Looking Ahead: 2026-2027 Priorities

Key priorities for the upcoming reporting period include:

- Implementation and evaluation of the revised Student Sexual Violence Response Policy
- Expansion of restorative justice facilitator training and institutional capacity
- Continued growth of prevention and education programming
- Development of enhanced assessment and evaluation measures
- Increased awareness of reporting pathways and available supports
- Strengthened collaboration across service areas supporting students affected by sexual violence.

Conclusion

The 2025-2026 reporting period represented the largest documented reach of Sexual Violence Prevention and Education programming in recent years. Significant growth in prevention initiatives, expanded student and employee training, implementation of a revised policy framework, and continued development of restorative justice programming demonstrate Nipissing University's ongoing commitment to creating a campus culture grounded in consent, respect, accountability, safety, and survivor-centred support.