

Annual Report 2025-2026

Annual Report (May 2025 – end of April 2026)

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Reinforce belonging and continue to develop a safe and inclusive community.

- Provided ongoing trauma-informed services for students, staff, and faculty experiencing sexual violence and harassment.
- Delivered campus-wide prevention education through orientation programs, consent awareness initiatives, healthy relationship workshops, and bystander intervention training to 800 students, staff and faculty.
- Hosted community-building events during the 16 Days of Activism, including the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women and the Trans Day of Remembrance.
- Continued implementation of the Athletics Ambassador Program across all 12 varsity teams, promoting cultures of respect, inclusion, consent, and accountability, with a total of 27 ambassadors.
- Advanced revisions to the Sexual Violence and Harassment Policy through broad consultation with students, employees, and student-athletes.

Prioritize health and wellness for the SMU community (students and those who care for them).

- Maintained consistent support services including safety planning, accommodations, referrals, court accompaniment, and information and options counselling.
- Case management remained consistent across the reporting period, with increasing complexity in both survivor and respondent support.
 - Monthly new cases ranged from 3 to 10, with January 2026 reflecting the highest intake (10 new cases).
 - Active caseloads remained steady between 22–26 concurrent files.
 - Ongoing caseload previously reported at 192 files in May 2025.
 - November 2025 reflected significant respondent engagement (7 respondent sessions; 9 respondent check-ins).
 - January 2026 included two full days of court accompaniment.
- Offered wellness-focused initiatives such as the Paws for Wellness Therapy Dog event.
- Strengthened institutional capacity to respond to trauma through specialized training and professional development.
- Collaborated closely with Counselling, Accessibility, Security, Athletics, and Student Affairs to provide coordinated care and support.

Promote and engage in learning, living and leading community.

- Supported student leadership through the Athletics Ambassador Program and Peer Educator initiatives.
- Encouraged active participation in policy development through feedback sessions and campus-wide consultations.
- Fostered collaboration between student groups, departments, and community partners to advance prevention efforts.

Foster opportunities for growth, development, and future readiness.

- Expanded leadership development opportunities for student-athletes through the Athletics Ambassador Program, through community initiatives such as the Cole Harbour High collaboration.
- Provided annual onboarding and advanced training for Peer Educators.
- Hosted focus groups with staff and students to ensure the materials best suit current needs.
- Equipped students with skills related to consent, intervention, communication, leadership, and community responsibility.
- Built professional capacity among staff through trauma-informed investigator training and Train-the-Trainer certifications.

Enhance Student Communications and Support.

- Maintained responsive case management services with individualized support and regular follow-up.
- Increased visibility of support services through orientation programming, awareness campaigns, outreach tables, and pop-up events.
- Strengthened communication pathways through collaboration with campus partners and senior leadership.
- Gathered student feedback to inform revisions to the Sexual Violence and Harassment Policy.
- Developed revised policy reporting templates to improve clarity, accessibility, and transparency for community members seeking support.

Create a Culture of Assessment, Research, and Improvement.

- Successfully launched the SCORE research initiative with approval from four Research Ethics Boards.
- Established cross-institutional research partnerships with St. FX and Acadia University.
- Conducted consultations, surveys, and feedback sessions to inform policy revisions and continuous improvement.

- Used case management trends and program participation data to monitor service delivery and identify emerging needs.
- Presented program outcomes and promising practices at external conferences, contributing to sector-wide learning and knowledge sharing.
- Advanced evidence-informed prevention and response practices through ongoing evaluation, training, and collaboration.