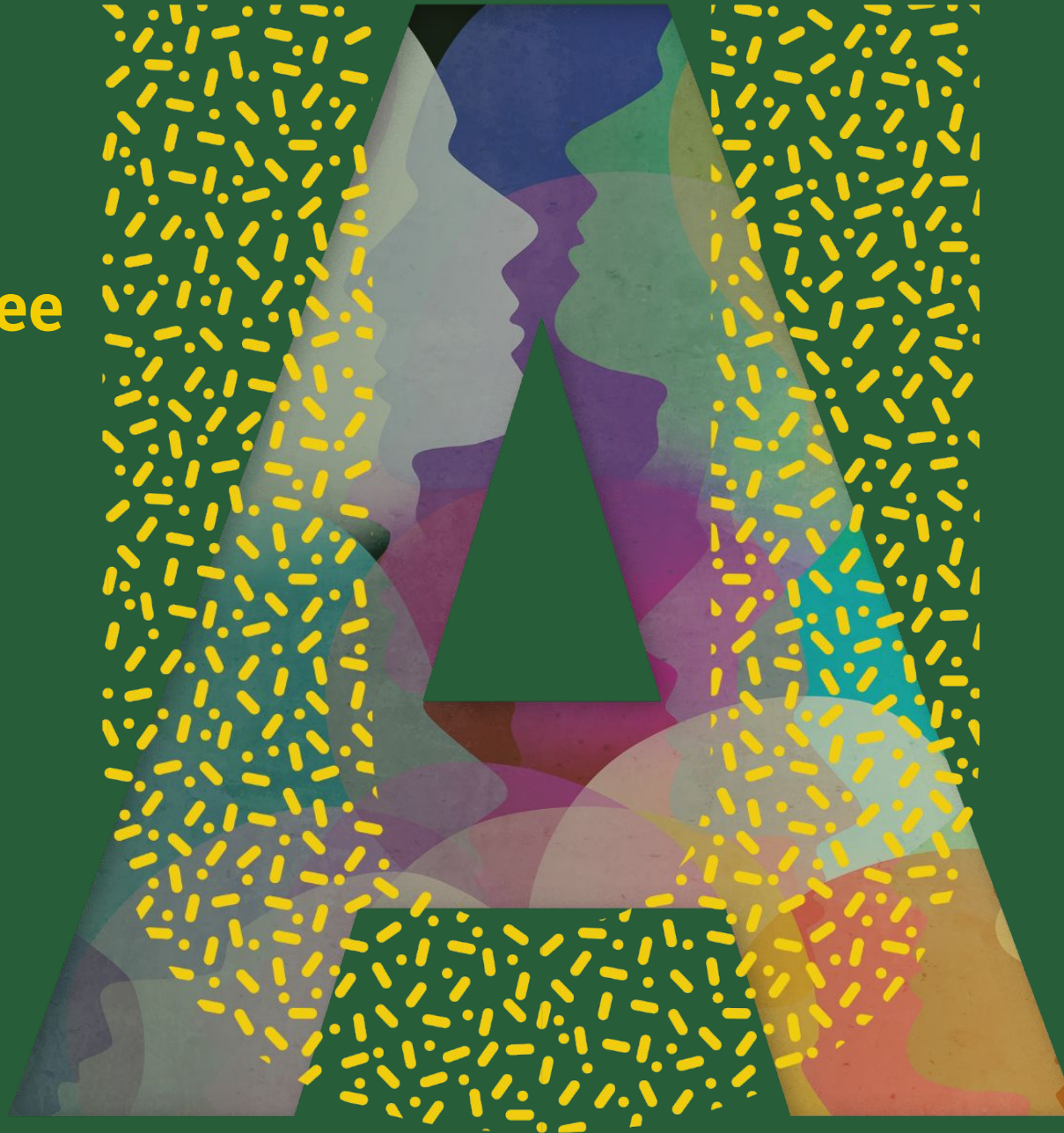


U of A Safety & Security Committee

Update / Discussion



Fall 2023

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Discussion points

- About the U of A Safety and Security Committee (UASSC)
- The Security Environment
- Making our Campuses Safer Together Initiative

Campus security refers to the public safety and security of students, faculty, staff, contractors and third-party users while on U of A campuses. It is achieved through the prevention, intervention and response to risks and emerging issues related to public safety and security. Dedicated public safety and campus security initiatives at the university which are aligned with other safety, campus life and student and employee experience initiatives.



About the UASSC

- As a result of the 2019 final report of the Campuses and Facilities Safety and Security (CFSS) Working Group, university administration created the University of Alberta Safety & Security Committee (UASSC) as a standing committee to oversee the implementation of the recommendations.
- Inspired by a holistic approach to security and public safety, the University of Alberta Safety & Security Committee assists in the identification of priority and emerging security issues on university campuses as well as potential actions and solutions. The committee is composed of approximately 40 U of A leaders, subject matter experts, service partners, faculty and staff representatives, and student leaders. It meets on a monthly basis and committee members also act as representatives and ambassadors for the U of A communities they represent.



Security incidents & concerns

- In the 2022-23 academic year, the U of A saw increases in trespassing and suspicious activity on North Campus and around Enterprise Square, particularly in locations that are connected to City of Edmonton transit stations.
- The top 10 geographic locations were: ECHA, HUB, SUB, FAB, Education (combined), ESQ, Saville Center, MSB, and Law Center. These 10 locations alone accounted for half of all of the incident types noted above with 7 locations being either directly connected to an Edmonton transit station (5) or indirectly connected (2).



Making our Campuses Safer Together Initiative

Safety requires a collective effort

- Safety is not an individual phenomenon – U of A students, faculty, staff and third-party users of our campuses have a vital role to play in keeping our campuses safe for learning and work. Even small actions can make a big difference.
- Faculty, staff and students need [to be aware of](#) and exercise personal safety and security measures on a daily basis, and help inform their peers and colleagues when opportunities exist. More information about campus security is available in the [University of Alberta Safety and Security Committee's 2023 Report to our Community](#).

Reporting an emergency situation

- First and foremost, please remember to call 911 to save a life, report a fire or report a crime. We also ask that you call U of A Protective Services (780-492-5050) after 911 has been called, and for non-emergency safety and security concerns. Please know that UAPS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- In case of an emergency, the U of A alerting system is regularly tested. The system includes numerous tools and procedures to support our community [in the event of an emergency](#).

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Making our Campuses Safer Together Initiative

Transit Safety

- All transit area locations (including University, South Campus, Health Sciences/Jubilee and Bay/Enterprise Square stations) are the property of the City of Edmonton, and therefore, they are under the jurisdiction of Edmonton Transit Safety (ETS) and Edmonton Police Service (EPS).
- For incidents that involve public transit close to U of A campuses, UAPS provides support to ETS and EPS when requested.
- The U of A is actively engaged with Edmonton's transit safety team as well as various city groups to address broader community safety issues. Exploring what others are doing and learning and working together can help us cultivate new and tried ideas.



Making our Campuses Safer Together Initiative

- **Key stakeholder engagement:** Key stakeholders have been identified and will be engaged throughout the year to facilitate the sharing and reinforcement of information and resources related to safety and security within the U of A community.

- **Communications and marketing:** Campus security materials to support key stakeholders and inform all community members are being developed and rolled out, including the introduction of a [new campus security webpage](#) and the sharing of personal safety information with students, faculty and staff through various communications channels. A 2023-24 communications plan has been developed with a focus on high-impact opportunities and community storytelling.

- **Enhanced security staffing and outreach:** U of A Protective Services resources will add capacity to support the physical safety of faculty, students and staff on our campuses. As part of this investment and a holistic approach to security and public safety, the [Community Assistance Team](#)'s capacity will be doubled. This will enhance U of A Protective Services' ability to respond to incidents and concerns by conducting outreach and providing assistance to people facing barriers who may have been disadvantaged by the system.

- **Building Action Plan:** These measures will range from the installation of bike cages and upgrading security infrastructure such as card reader technology, to the cost effective reduction of facility hours of operation and points of entry.

- **Campus security survey:** Completed for students to better understand their perceptions and experiences of physical security on U of A campuses. Staff and Faculty will be surveyed in the Fall / Winter of 2023.

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Research Methodology

- Online survey conducted between April 24 and May 12, 2023
- Surveys were emailed to a random sample of student population
- Quotas were monitored by campus and gender to get a representative sample
- Response time for the survey was approximately 7 minutes
- 802 surveys completed, 23 of which were completed in French, for an overall confidence of $\pm 3\%$ at a confidence interval of 95%



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**not reporting South Campus and ESQ separately because of low sample size.*



Feeling of Safety on our Campuses

	Total	North Campus	Augustana	CSJ
N=	802	669	73	49
Very safe and secure	24%	20%	49%	37%
Somewhat safe and secure	56%	57%	47%	57%
Not very safe and secure	16%	18%	3%	4%
Not at all safe and secure	4%	5%	0%	0%
Don't know/ No opinion	1%	<1%	1%	2%

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A new approach: restorative practices

- Led by Carrie Smith, Vice-Provost, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, we are collaborating and advancing conversations around restorative and transformative practices.
- This October, listening circles will be held as a way to engage the broader university community in discussions around a transformative approach to safety, justice and accountability. These circles provide an opportunity to listen, support and amplify grassroots work by equity-denied groups and their allies, and build community and spaces for voices not often heard. We urge you to participate in these circles, and more information will be shared as planning progresses. Please consider contributing and engaging to this work by subscribing to the [VPEDI newsletter](#).



**THANK YOU | QUESTIONS /
DISCUSSION?**