

CODE OF CONDUCT

PURPOSE

We believe that all members of our school deserve to be treated with dignity and respect and that diversity among our students and staff should be welcomed and valued.

Adult Education Centres promote the values expressed in the **B.C. Human Rights Code** respecting the rights of all individuals in accordance with the law, prohibiting discrimination based on race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, gender identity or expression, sex or sexual orientation.

All students are expected to help maintain a courteous, positive and supportive learning environment. Students are also expected to respect the health and safety of others and to avoid conduct that interferes with other students' ability to learn.

These expectations apply to behaviour at school, during school organized or sponsored activities, and to behaviour beyond these times – including online activities – that negatively affects learning or the safe, caring and orderly environment of the school.

EXAMPLES OF UNACCEPTABLE GENERAL BEHAVIOR:

- any form of discrimination as prohibited in the B.C. Human Rights Code
- damaging or stealing property of the school/building or of other students
- possessing, using, or selling alcohol or illegal drugs or being in an intoxicated state
- possessing or using a weapon or replica weapon
- discriminating against, intimidating, harassing or threatening any member of the school community
- verbally, physically or sexually assaulting another person
- using offensive language or gestures or behaving in an inappropriate or offensive manner
- smoking or using vapour products anywhere on school property
- ignoring parking lot rules
- failing to correctly identify oneself to staff

EXAMPLES OF UNACCEPTABLE ACADEMIC BEHAVIOR:

- cheating, plagiarizing or copying an assignment, quiz, test
- giving false information, or withholding information to obtain a school document or get admission to a course at the Centre
- behaving in a way that interferes with student learning, including inappropriate cell phone use
- using the school's computers to conduct any illegal or inappropriate activity

CONSEQUENCES OF BEHAVIOR THAT VIOLATES THE CODE OF CONDUCT:

Our goal is to create and maintain a safe and welcoming school community. Consequences will be designed, where possible and appropriate, to educate and to restore a positive learning environment for everyone. The school will take all reasonable steps to prevent retaliation against a student who has made a complaint of a breach of our code of conduct. Violations of the Code of Conduct may result in:

- appropriate warnings
- referrals to appropriate outside counseling
- suspension from the Education Centre for an appropriate time period
- suspension from all VBE Adult Learning Centres for an appropriate time period
- expulsion from the Education Centre
- expulsion from all VBE Adult Learning Centres
- criminal charges

If you have questions or concerns, please arrange a meeting with the Principal, Vice Principal, Academic Advisor or Outreach Worker. Please note that anonymous complaints cannot be acted upon.

I agree to follow the Code of Conduct at each VSB Adult Education Centre I attend:

Student Signature _____ Date _____