SVPRO Peer Outreach Volunteer Position Description

Role overview

The SVPRO Peer Outreach Volunteers are a group of students who raise awareness about sexualized violence, SVPRO services, and prevention initiatives through peer engagement on campus. Using a peer-to-peer approach, SVPRO Peers share information with the goal of working towards building and sustaining respectful environments for all students, staff and faculty at UBC.

UBC’s Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Office (SVPRO) is a confidential place for those who have experienced, or been impacted by, any form of sexual or gender-based violence, harassment, or harm, regardless of where or when it took place. We recognize that you are the expert of your own experience and you get to decide what is right for you. We aim to be a safer space for all by respecting each person’s unique and multiple identities and experiences. All genders and sexualities are welcome. SVPRO envisions a UBC community in which a culture of consent is embedded in all areas of academic work and campus life. The office uses a survivor centric, intersectional feminist, decolonial, trauma informed, and anti-oppression approach to create educational initiatives and communicate the values of collective responsibility and consent culture for the UBC community.

The Peer Outreach Volunteers work under the direct supervision of (an) SVPRO Educator(s) and receive support from staff within the SVPRO unit.

Due to the ongoing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, the details of this role may change during the planning process for the 2021/2022 academic year. We anticipate that this role will begin virtually. There may also be both in-person and virtual components in 2021W Term 1 and 2, depending on provincial safety measures and the university’s approach to learning throughout the academic year. If you have questions about what this might look like, including your individual circumstances for the 2021/2022 academic year, please contact your program advisor.

Primary Functions

- Promoting awareness of SVPRO support services and prevention initiatives
- Responding to questions from students (as well as faculty and staff)
- Encouraging other students to connect with SVPRO to share their ideas and feedback
- Participating in the SVPRO Student Initiative Fund committee
- Engaging students in conversations about topics including: upcoming events, campaigns, ways to support a friend, consent culture, and how to get involved
- Staying informed of outreach opportunities, responding in a timely manner, preparing appropriate outreach materials, co-hosting and facilitating (virtual) SVPRO spaces
- Supporting the maintenance and development of relationships with campus partners and community members
- Participating in and supporting with SVPRO events, comms (including social media), and other outreach strategies as needed
- Collaborating with other peer leader groups and student clubs on campus as appropriate
- Upholding UBC’s Respectful Environment Statement and SVPRO’s anti-oppression approach
- Actively participating in and contributing to the SVPRO Volunteer Program community of learning
- Other duties as assigned

In light of COVID-19, the 2021/2022 program delivery details and methods will be informed by University-wide decisions regarding in-person and/or virtual learning. Some details of these roles will be
confirmed closer to the start date. At present, Peer Programs are intended to be a combination of both virtual and in-person programming, though this will vary by program and is subject to change.

Time Commitments
Central Peer Programs Training
• Community Building Education
• Peer Programs Launch and Learn

Regular Meetings
Weekly group meetings and training will be held on Tuesdays from 5:00-6:30pm.
Additional individual supervision and support is available by request.

Weekly Commitment
Approximately 2-3 hours per week is expected, except during busier times in September and January when there will be additional hours requested.

Desired Skills and Experience
• Excitement about and interest in social justice, culture change, equity, and communities of care!
• Excellent communication skills and ability to build rapport with others
• Confidence and ability to work with a variety of stakeholders and community members
• Experience working with campus groups that are underrepresented or systemically marginalized
• Ability to work independently and in a team setting
• Navigating university systems and relationships
• Professionalism in representing a UBC unit and approachability in engaging students
• Commitment to and enthusiasm for ongoing learning and putting knowledge into practice
• Organized and able to manage multiple priorities
• Ability to take initiative and engage in creative problem solving
• Ability to handle confidential or sensitive issues with thoughtfulness and discretion
• High degree of comfort in taking opportunities to self-reflect and learn from experiences
• Recognition of one’s own boundaries and emotional limits
• Flexible and open to change and new ideas

Benefits of Participating in this Role
• Hone communication skills
• Develop greater understanding about diverse perspectives and experiences related to student life
• Learn more about anti-violence frameworks and consent culture, and take an active role in connecting the campus community with UBC’s processes and resources for prevention and response
• Receive ongoing support, guidance, feedback, and training from professional UBC staff
• Enhance skills in the areas of expansive/inquisitive thinking, communication, team-building, collaborative decision-making, and community building
• Make new friends with shared values, engage in meaningful conversations about social justice issues, and become better connected to the UBC community

Contact Information for Questions
If you have questions, please email the SVPRO team: svpro.vancouver@ubc.ca. We are glad to hear from you.