

RESOURCES

If you have a non-emergency concern, you can call:

Collingwood Community Policing Centre: 604 717 2935

Sex worker organizations may already know the sex worker and be able to speak with them, if you are uncomfortable doing so.

PEERS Vancouver Resource Society – A non profit society established by ex-sex workers and community supporters dedicated to the empowerment, education and support of sex workers. www.peersvancouver.org
OFFICE: 604 681 3044 OUTREACH: 778 868 1776

PACE Society – www.pace-society.org TEL: 604 872 7651

When to call 9-1-1:

- in an emergency, i.e. someone is in immediate danger or being threatened
- if you see someone in distress
- if you suspect someone underage is being exploited

OTHER RESOURCES

Collingwood Business Improvement Association

Supports healthy business development and community events in Collingwood. TEL: 604 639 4403

Collingwood Neighbourhood House

– Social and recreational activities for all residents, welcoming and inclusive to everyone. TEL: 604 435 0323

Evergreen Community Health Centre

Public healthcare services like primary care, addictions, mental health, parenting groups, and home care. TEL: 604 872 2511

Needle Pick-up Hotline

– 604 657 6561
Vancouver 3-1-1 – For info and requests on city services such as mattress and garbage removal.

See the **Living in Community** webpage for more resources: www.livingincommunity.ca

SAFE in Collingwood

SAFE is an initiative led by local businesses, residents, and organizations. We work together to improve sex workers health and support networks, prevent the sexual exploitation of youth and engage businesses, residents and families in building a healthier neighbourhood.

What is SAFE in Collingwood doing?

We are organizing a series of community discussions as well as developing information brochures, tool kits and an interactive website. We are also developing local outreach support to sex workers. We are committed to working together to create a community that is healthy and safe for everyone.

We Want to Hear from You!

Learn more. Get involved. Share concerns and your ideas for addressing them.

If you have a specific concern, you can contact SAFE at:

EMAIL: safeincollingwood@gmail.com

PHONE: Leave messages for SAFE with Collingwood Neighbourhood House at 604 435 0323

WEB: www.safeincollingwood.ca



SAFE
IN COLLINGWOOD

SEX WORK AWARENESS FOR EVERYONE

Working together to create a community that is healthy and safe for everyone.

**A Pocket Guide for
Businesses & Residents in Collingwood**

UNDERSTANDING THE LAW

In Canada, it is NOT against the law to be a sex worker.

Anybody is free to stand in public spaces, i.e. in front of businesses, bus stops or anywhere on the sidewalk.

While sex work is not illegal, if you have concerns that your home or business is being impacted, there are things you can do.

BE RESPECTFUL

Sex workers often feel threatened and may be scared of you too.

- Acknowledge the sex worker's presence
- Be respectful
- Explain your concerns

Sex workers are usually agreeable to moving when they understand there is a concern and are approached politely.

EVERYONE DESERVES TO FEEL SAFE

Just as you, your family, employees and/or patrons need to feel safe, so do sex workers.

Everyone plays a role in supporting community safety. Certain types of crime such as property crime or vandalism usually occur where or when there are few (if any) witnesses. Sex workers can be a presence when no one else is around.

STAYING SAFE

- Leave outside lights on. Lights discourage crime and make the area safer for everyone.
- Needle pick-up services are available by phone. Call the Needle Pickup Hotline at 604-657-6561 if you see a needle.
- If you see someone in distress don't be afraid to ask if they are okay or call someone for help.
- If you feel comfortable, you can offer resource information to sex workers like the "SAFE Pocket Guide for Sex Workers" which can be downloaded at www.safeincollingwood.ca.