

PERSONAL SAFETY STRATEGIES



NEIGHBOURHOOD
Empowerment Team

As we travel through our communities there are times we come across unforeseen events that may impact our perceptions of safety. We can also encounter individuals or groups that make us feel uneasy or unsafe. There are strategies you can use to increase your safety and the safety of others.



BE AWARE

- Be aware of your surroundings and who is around.
- Do not isolate yourself; walk or stand near others.
- Avoid using electronics that could be distracting or that limit your hearing.
- Keep valuables out of sight or close to your body.



TRAVEL SMART

- Travel in areas that are well lit.
- Travel with others and/or in familiar places.
- When you are not able to travel with others;
 - Let someone know where you are and when you expect to be at your destination.
 - Check in when you have arrived.

Harassment is one way someone's sense of safety can be impacted. Learn the 5 D's of bystander intervention. **Distract, Delegate, Document, Delay** or **Direct**. (RightToBe.org)



RESPOND QUICKLY

- If you encounter a situation or people that make you feel unsafe;
 - Create space or obstacles between yourself and the individual/group/situation.
 - Do not become confrontational with or challenge people, however do be assertive.
- If a situation becomes confrontational or threatening, or if you have been harmed;
 - Remove yourself from the situation as quickly as possible.
 - Take steps to ensure your safety (i.e. enter vehicle and lock the doors, go into a nearby business.)
 - Do not follow/chase an individual who is being threatening.
 - Be a good witness; note identifying features of the individual.
- Report the incident to the police/security as soon as it is safe to do so;
 - Non-emergency complaint line **780-423-4567**.
 - Emergency **911**.
- If the person is in physical or mental distress, or intoxicated in public and in need of getting to a safe space;
 - 24/7 Crisis Diversion **211 press 3**.

WHO TO CALL RESOURCES



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A PERSON IN DISTRESS

When to call 911:

- person has overdosed or is not breathing
- a person is violent or is threatening violence
- a person is asleep in a snowbank for an extended period of time
- a large group situation where safety is uncertain
- a person is exhibiting violent behaviour and is refusing to leave

When to call 211

- a person is intoxicated or otherwise impaired
- a person is confused, disoriented, or may be experiencing a mental health concern
- a person feels unsafe, but no threat of violence is present
- a person is sleeping in a lobby, or unsafe space.



DISCARDED NEEDLES

- Call **311** to report needles on public property.
- Call Boyle Street Ventures at **780-426-0500** to request free needle clean up.



ILLEGALLY DUMPED JUNK

- Call **311** to report junk on public or private property.



REPORT A PROBLEM PROPERTY

- Call **311** or use the City of Edmonton website and search "Report a Problem Property". Both are confidential when filing a report.



LITTER/GRAFFITI

- Call **311** to report and for information about litter and graffiti clean up programs, visit Edmonton.ca/capitalcitycleanup

FIRE AMBULANCE OR POLICE

Call **911**

REPORT A CRIME

If you see a crime in progress call **911**

Call **780-423-4567** or **#377** (EPS Non-Emergency) to provide information about any crime committed

Call **1-800-222-8477** (Crime Stoppers) to report anonymously

EPS CRIME PREVENTION ON SOCIAL MEDIA

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 @edmontonpolice