

QUESTIONS?

Recognition of sexual orientation and gender identity aligns with the BC Ministry of Education initiative ERASE Bullying: Expect Respect and a Safe Education. erasebullying.ca

If you have questions regarding SOGI or specific programs that are available in your child's school, please contact your school principal or vice principal.



Chilliwack
School District

Partners in Learning!



Contact Us

For more information about our school district, schools and programs please visit

sd33.bc.ca

P. 604.792.1321



Chilliwack
School District

SOGI Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity



Safe Schools - We All Belong

We strongly believe that our schools need to be safe and welcoming places for all, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, race, religion or background, and that everyone deserves to be welcomed, included and respected in a safe learning environment while being fully and completely themselves.

What is SOGI?

Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) is a term used by the BC Human Rights Code to describe an area of prohibited discrimination.

SOGI is an inclusive term that encompasses all individuals regardless of where they identify on the sexual orientation or gender identity spectrums, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, two-spirit, heterosexual and cisgender.

E.R.A.S.E

BULLYING

Expect respect,
and a safe education.

SOGI Timeline

June 2003 - Ministry of Education developed a Safe, Caring and Orderly Schools guide to support Boards of Education and schools in making BC Schools safe for **ALL**.

December 2015 - Chilliwack School District Board of Education approves revised Policy 514 Safe Schools.

January 2016 - Select Standing Committee on Child and Youth Mental Health in BC names sexual and gender minority youth as particularly marginalized, vulnerable and in need of support, and calls for school programs.

July 2016 - Gender Identity/Expression added to BC Human Rights Code.

September 2016 - Ministry of Education directs all schools and districts to protect SOGI minority youth and release guidelines.

October 2016 - Administrative Regulation 514.1 Safe Schools is revised.

Fall 2017 - Chilliwack School District Codes of Conduct recognize SOGI as per BC Human Rights Code.

Why SOGI Now?

Proactive: inclusive learning reduces the risk of suicide, eating disorders, depression, absenteeism, homelessness and bullying, and increases graduation rates for **ALL** students.

SOGI in Schools

There is no separate and distinct SOGI program or curriculum. SOGI-123 is one of many free resources with ready to use, grade-level appropriate lesson plans, learning modules, templates and tools that align with BC's new curriculum.

SOGI-123 fits within the Curriculum Core Competencies: Communication, Thinking, Personal and Social.

Extra-Curricular Supports

At some middle and all secondary schools in Chilliwack, LGBTQ, Gay/Straight Alliance, Social Justice, Acceptance and other clubs offer camaraderie, support and education for all students. These clubs are sponsored by a staff member.

Key Facts

BC's redesigned curriculum includes a focus on diversity and respecting differences, and the topics of human rights and responses to discrimination.

19% of BC high school students identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual or not exclusively heterosexual. **1%** identify as transgender and **5%** of Aboriginal students identify as two-spirit.