

# We Believe:

- People can heal;
- People are the experts on their own experiences and needs, and healing looks different for each individual;
- Sexual violence is any form of nonconsensual sexual behavior, including sexual assault, sexual abuse, sexual harassment, sexual exploitation, sex trafficking, and sexual violence facilitated through technology;
- People who experience sexual violence are never at fault;
- People who experience sexual violence should be believed and supported;
- Sexual violence is an abuse of power and trust;
- People who experience sexual violence should have access to inclusive, professional services regardless of age, race, gender, culture, language, religion, sexual orientation, or ability;
- Financial barriers should not prevent people from receiving specialized support services;
- True sexual violence prevention and support involves acknowledging the intersecting oppressions and privileges that shape a person's experience;
- Sexual violence is a societal issue that communities have a responsibility to address, and it is through the combined efforts of community members including volunteers, leaders and funders, that cultural change will be fostered and sustained.



**Listen. Believe. Support.**  
sace.ca



SACE provides an extensive range of support services for people who experience sexual violence, including crisis support, counselling, court support, and advocacy, and fosters prevention of sexual violence through direct public education and advisory consultation with groups and agencies undertaking their own prevention efforts.

**300 - 10339 124 St. NW**  
**Edmonton, AB T5N 3W1**  
**info@sace.ca | 780.423.4102**

**SACE respectfully acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 6 Territory and Métis Region 4 Territory, traditional lands of First Nations and Métis peoples (<https://native-land.ca>)**

**For information about accessibility at SACE please visit [sace.ca/accessibility](https://sace.ca/accessibility)**

Registered under the  
Societies Act of Alberta since 1975  
Charitable Number: 107971772 RP0001

**We believe  
everyone's  
healing journey  
is unique**



## Police & Court Support



**sace**  
SUPPORT &  
INFO LINE  
**780·  
423·  
4121**

# We believe everyone's healing journey is unique.

For some, the criminal justice process can be a key part of their healing journey. For others, it might play a smaller role or be separate from healing.

Because everyone's experience — and how they respond to and heal from this trauma— is unique, it can be difficult to navigate the criminal justice system when it does not recognize the individual nature of these experiences. It can also be challenging for people to define their own experience(s) for themselves outside of the narrative or series of events that is a part of reporting or testifying.

To address this, the SACE Court Support Program is dedicated to being a space where clients can prioritize self-identified needs, ranging from help with navigating systems to the emotional and social aspects of processing a traumatic experience. Our Advocates are here to listen to the unique experiences and needs of individuals while they are considering or navigating criminal justice options, to act as an advocate and information source, and to be a supportive presence throughout the criminal justice process.

Those who have experienced sexual violence often find that navigating police and court systems is different from that of people who have experienced other types of crimes. It can be difficult to feel like you're not believed, and to have to revisit painful memories. The court process can also be overwhelming because it is so broad and complex.

Because of all this, SACE is here to help people feel more empowered in the police or court process. No matter where someone is in their healing journey, or whether or not they choose to report, the SACE Court Support Program is here to provide:

- Information about reporting and the court process
- Assistance with filling out Victims of Crime forms
- Advocacy
- Accompaniment to court proceedings
- Emotional support

Our goal is to ensure that people have the information they need to decide whether to report, and to provide consistent specialized supports throughout the court process and after.

For more information email [CourtSupport@sace.ca](mailto:CourtSupport@sace.ca) or call SACE at **780.423.4102**.

## Who It's For

The SACE Court Support Program is available to anyone (age 16+) who has experienced sexual violence, and can be accessed whether someone is a counselling client of SACE or not. As with all our services, this program is available at no fee. The focus of the program is on emotional support, information, and advocacy, however we do not provide legal services or advice: our Court Support Advocate can discuss options for legal advice and provide referrals.

## Additional Support Services

SACE is here to help people feel empowered to define and process their own experience(s), no matter how this might be framed in a criminal justice response.

The SACE Support and Information Line is available for anyone impacted by sexual violence, directly or as a supporter. Before, during, and after receiving counselling at SACE this line is available for crisis support, information, and referrals. **Call 780.423.4121** for support from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily. For more options, chat at [sace.ca](https://sace.ca), or access text, toll-free, or interpreter-assisted language support at **1.866.403.8000**.

Our Counselling programs are available to everyone, and if a client chooses, our counsellors and court support advocates can coordinate to provide seamless services.