

# Good Night Out's Guide to Safer Events

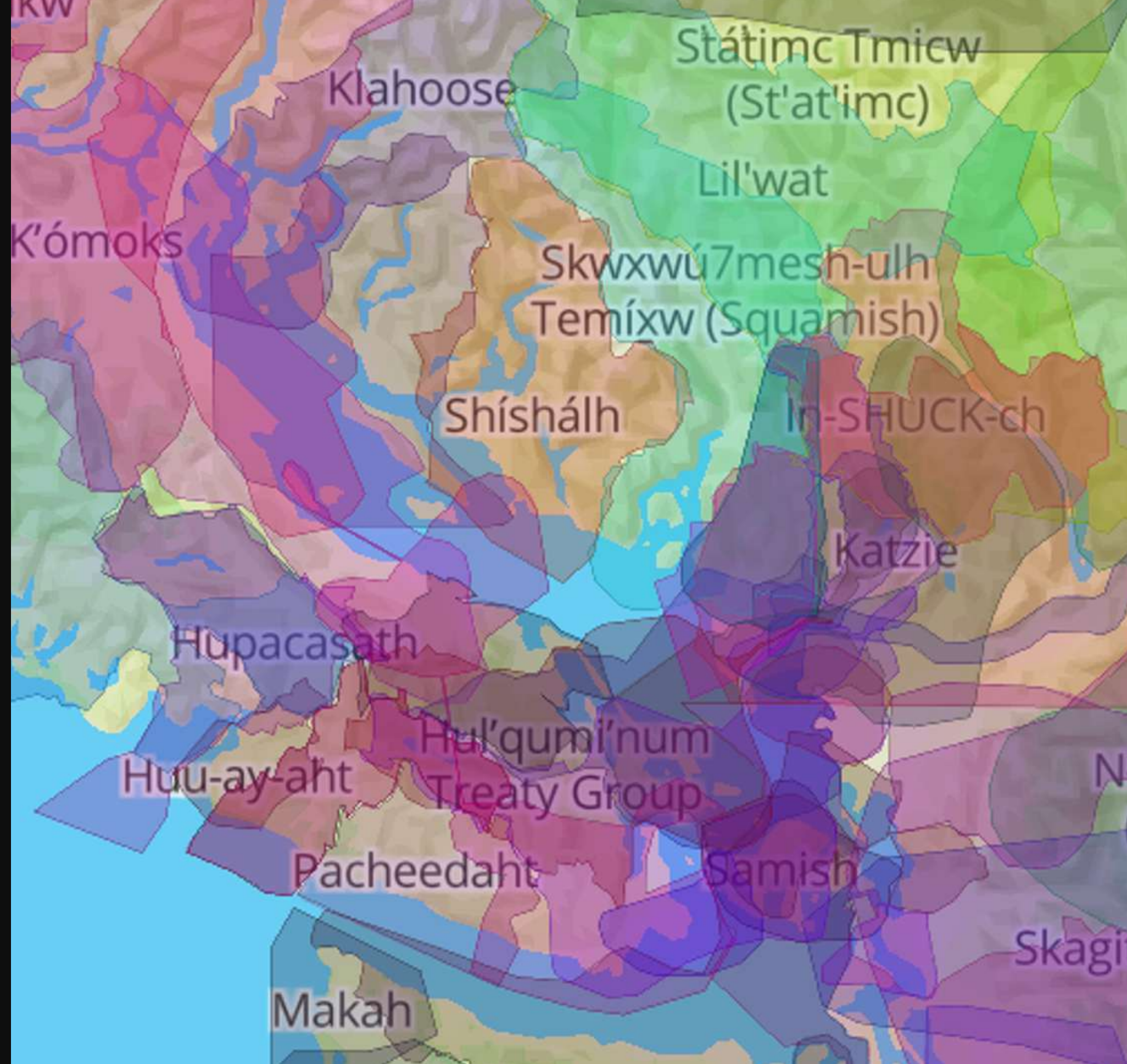
AMICCUS-C National Conference



gno

**We carry out this work on the occupied and unceded ancestral territories of the Musqueam, Skwxwú7mesh, and Tsleil-Waututh people.**

**As a feminist anti-violence project and as settlers, we are committed to unpacking the links between colonialism and all forms of violence and oppression, as well as making space in our work to call attention to the continuing colonial Genocide that is non-consensual land occupation and resource extraction, and the ongoing and unsolved cases of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls and 2Spirit people (MMIWG2S).**



**Text 1 (907) 312- 5085 followed by the city and province you reside in or are visiting to learn whose territory you are on.**

# Good Night Out is a non-profit society.

We support a variety of sectors to build their capacity to address, prevent and respond to issues of sexual harassment and assault to help make safer spaces for all.



WHISTLE  
BUOY BREWING  
COMPANY

HERALD STREET  
BREW WORKS

**SUPERFLUX**





This is me. I am a girl.

GOOD  
night  
OUT

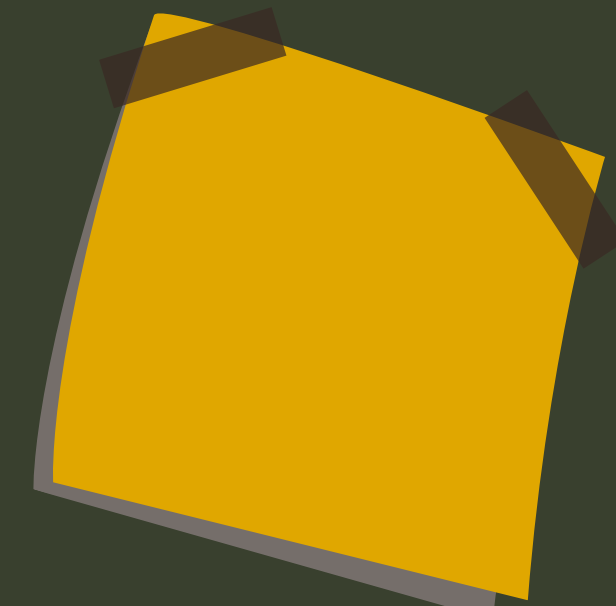
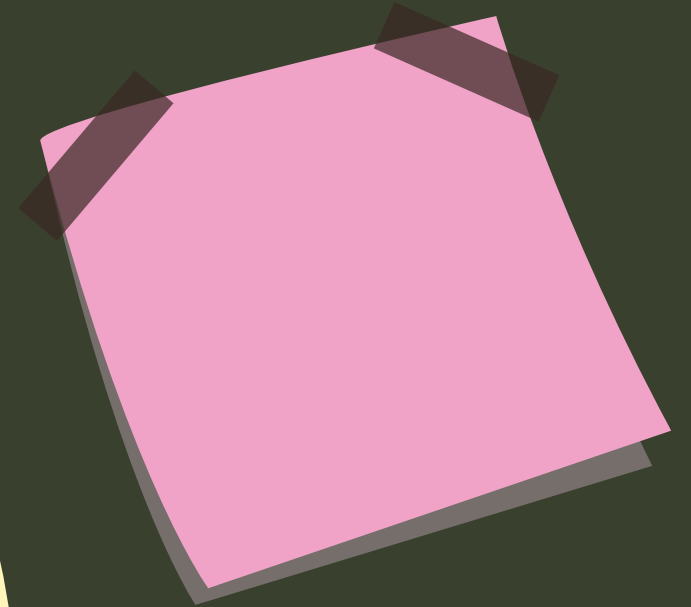
**STACEY**

SHE / HER / HERS  
GOOD NIGHT OUT  
4 O'CLOCK CONSULTING



**what could go wrong?**

**What could go  
wrong at an  
event?**



Collaboration, Active Listening, Calling in / Out, Giving Feedback, Consent, Sharing power, Self & Community Care, Harm Reduction, Trauma Awareness, Bystander Intervention.

**tip:**  
turn this into  
a checklist

## code of conduct

Includes feedback,  
reporting, follow-up and  
enforcement.

## team comfort + skill

Creating events that are  
protective / saf-ER requires a 4  
walled approach.

Everyone has a role to play in  
building and supporting the 4  
walls, no matter their role.

## culture + values

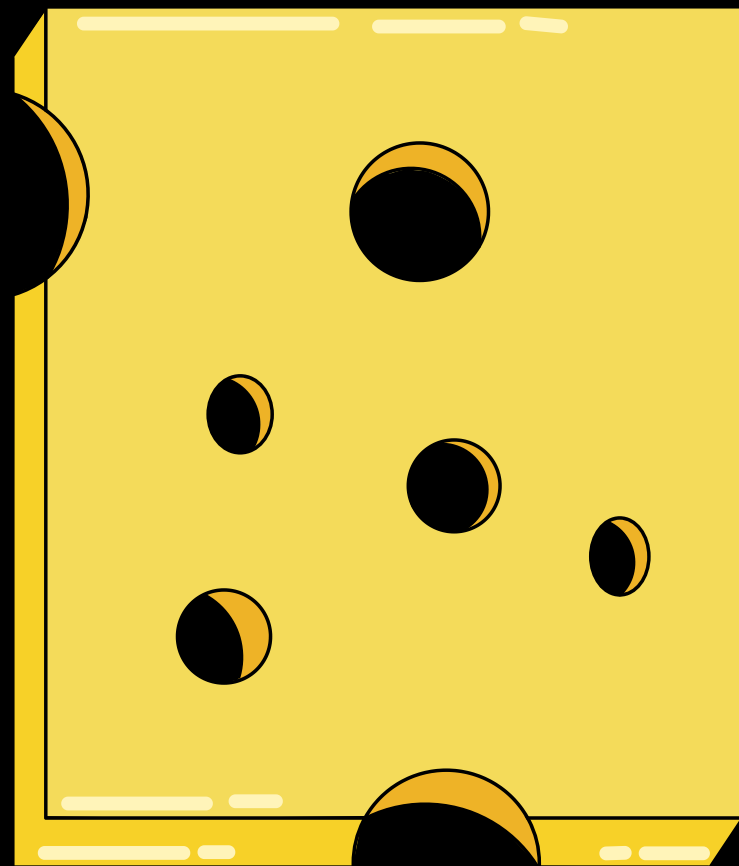
Anti-Oppression, Justice, Trust, Accountability, Diversity, Inclusion.

## attendee buy in

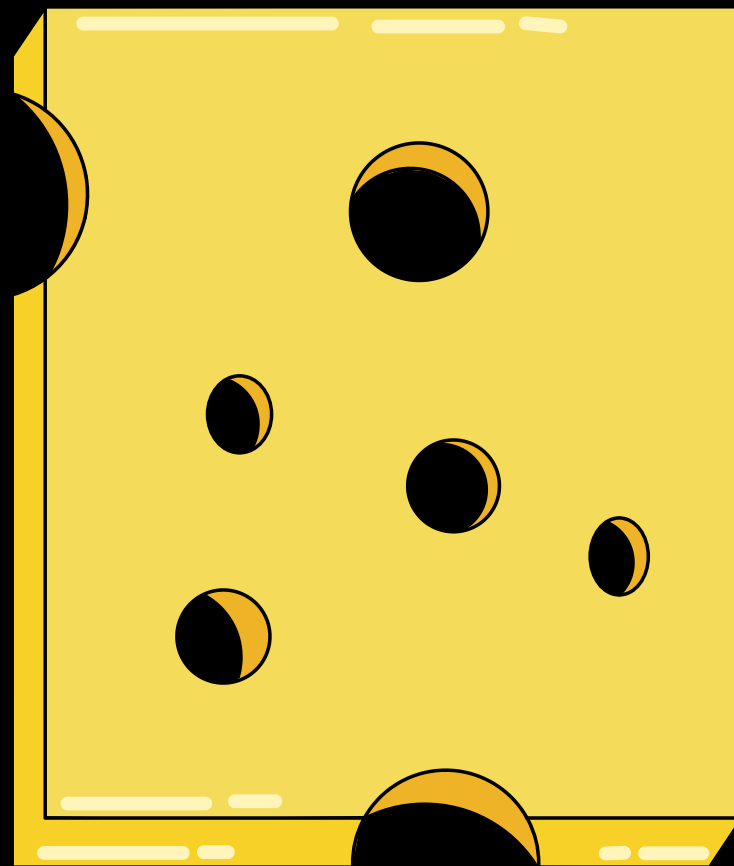
pre-show education  
/comms, transparency,  
engagement,  
opportunities for ongoing  
feedback and  
participation

**Which of the walls do you feel you doing well? Which need work?**

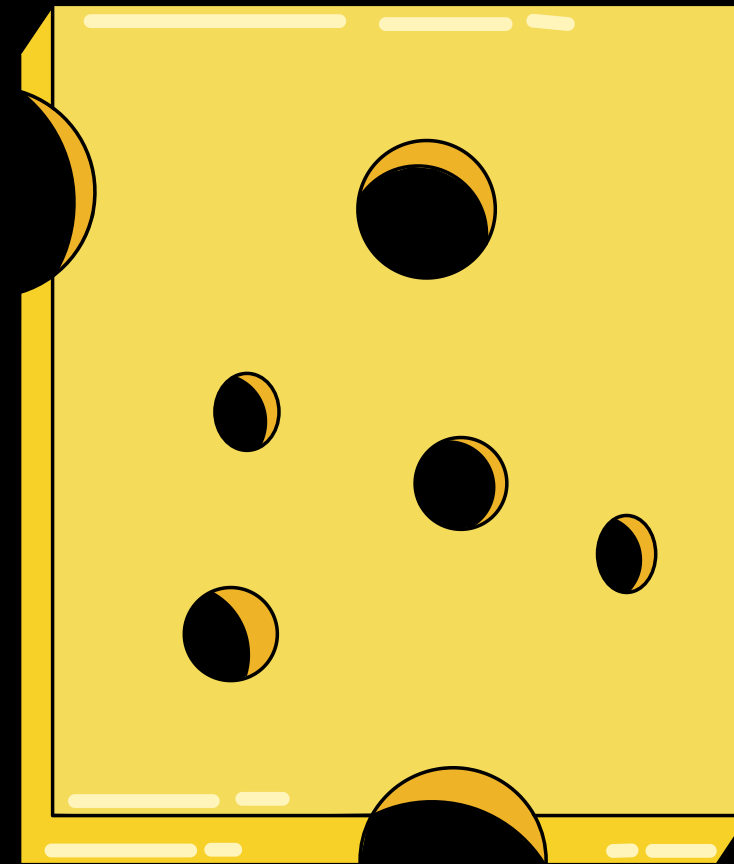
**pre-show**



**at-event**



**post-event**





**preshow**

**Code of Conduct is a key item, central to MOST of the tools we are going to talk about.**

- **1 page (ideally)**
- **Public/visible**
- **Forms foundation for policy procedure**
- **Outlines how you want people to feel and act while at your event (team and patrons)**
- **Clear, Concise, Consequences**
- **Staff and volunteers sign it**
- **Send it out with artist advancing**
- **Visible upon entry**



**Reflect on the concept of "Zero Tolerance" Can you commit to all staff removing people 100 % of the time? What if staff don't see it but it's reported? What if its staff violating it? These are important to think through.**

**preshow**



# website

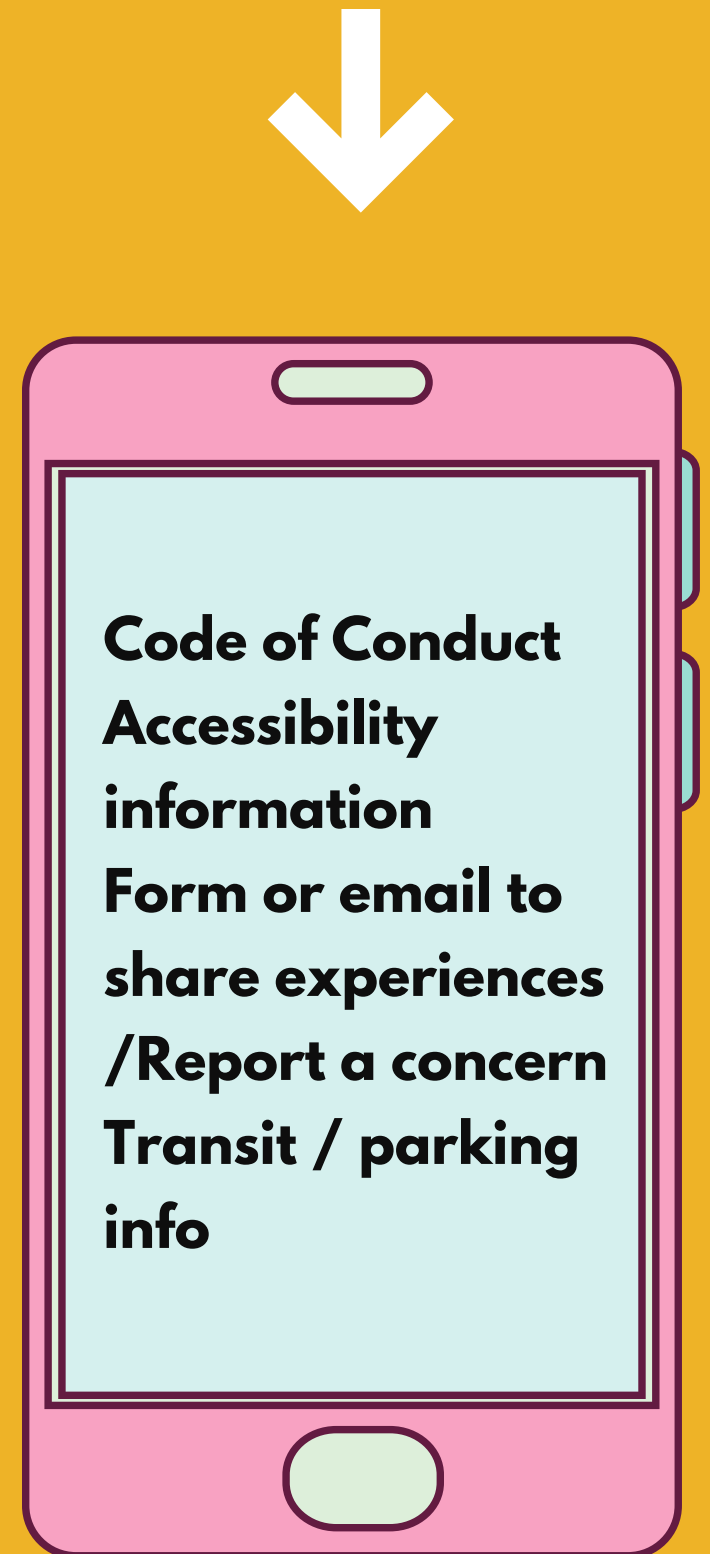
**Update your website and create a "community" page that includes the code of conduct, accessibility information, harm reduction tips and how to get help or report something after the fact.**



**create an email, just for conduct:**

**conduct@  
campusevent.ca**

**Use qr codes to link to page to review code of conduct, make a report.**



**Code of Conduct  
Accessibility  
information  
Form or email to  
share experiences  
/Report a concern  
Transit / parking  
info**

**pre-show**

# education

**In the weeks before the festival, push safety messaging out on socials, include visuals and even videos.**

**If you have a mailing list or newsletter, do an important safety mail out.**

**Prepare a deck of your safety plans and make it available to the venue you are using or surrounding campus community.**



## Education

**pre-show**

**If you are using outside security for your event, organize a list of questions and priorities in advance, to help you select a provider that is in-alignment with your values.**

**In advance of the event, event organizers, head of harm reduction and head of medical to meet and review roles, scope, and services being offered onsite.**

**Ensure you are in alignment about who will take the lead on various issues, so you are not deciding on the spot.**



# **Event Security**

**at event**

**Make sure ALL volunteers know the grounds well incase they are calling for emergency supports. Bring all teams on a site tour and point out landmarks, areas where people could be out of site and at risk for overdose or sexual violence . Highlight these areas on a map.**

**If you are trying to build rapport with neighbors / community - bring them as well.**



**Site map & tour**

**at event**

**As people are queued up or going through security, have outreach people engaging with them.**

**Remind them of on-site services, how to get help, and safety tips (drink water etc).**

**Like a Walmart greeter, but for safety.**



**zach fruit**  
@zacharyfruit

a bouncer of this club asked a guy what "consent" was and he literally couldn't answer so they didn't let him in

5:36 PM · 2020-03-06 · [Twitter Web App](#)



**Educate line up**

at event



**Volunteer team wandering the grounds.  
Distinct Tshirts.  
Work in pairs.  
Trained in bystander intervention.  
Ideally meet before event - given site map etc  
Safe walk program**



**Outreach team**

## promoting harm reduction

- **Encourage people to drink water!**
- **Remind people to start low and go slow.**
- **If people are using drugs AND Drinking help them look at risky combos, such as consuming 2 depressants at once**
- **Get trained in naloxone and carry a kit!**
- **See if your community has drug checking/ testing services**
- **Make sure people have a safe, sober ride home**
- **It is not illegal to be on drugs, dont let fear of getting into trouble, stop you from seeking help if someone is in distress!**



## promoting safer spaces

- **Get comfortable with bystander intervention**
- **Learn the site! be mindful of chill out areas, art installations, all bathrooms and out front / sides of the building**
- **Green room - introduce yourself!**
- **Carry the code of conduct, candy and other materials with you and use those as an "ice breaker"**
- **Make your presence known**



**Outreach team**



**at event**

**backpack or fannypack**  
**Narcan**  
**Harm reduction supplies**  
**Water / juiceboxes**  
**Snacks**  
**Candy / Gum**  
**Sunscreen**  
**Earplugs**  
**Menstruation supplies**  
**Portable power bank for phone charging**  
**Headlamps**  
**Local resources (crisis lines, clinics etc)**



**Outreach supplies**



**at event**

**Same services as the outreach team, but in a dedicated tent or structure onsite**  
**For people in non-medical distress (anxiety, too drunk / high, fight with partner)**  
**Cots / beanbags - cozy space**  
**Partner with a harm reduction agency to also offer education /supplies**  
**Clear signage**



**Chill out zone**

at event

## Tracking what your outreach team does can help you :

- better resource /plan for next year
- seek out partnerships
- apply for funding
- reporting back to the community
- paper or site like airtable (smartphone app)

## HARM REDUCTION

2 workshops

87 volunteers

1633 visits to the resource area  
(front space)

178 people used the back area to  
chill out

786 condoms

250 packs of lube

1200 pairs of earplugs



# Data Tracking



at event



**"life guard" style chair for an outreach person or first aid person to sit at during peak times.**

**Communicate to all teams and patrons that if they are at the event and need help, if they look back there probably will be someone with a radio in the chair.**



**Party- Gaurd Chair**

EVENT STAFF ARE HERE TO HELP

# CONSENT IS...

asking b4  
getting up in  
someone's  
space.

being chill if they say no.

enthusiastic  
essential  
revocable  
freely given  
informed  
clear  
a way to share power  
active  
for friends  
for more than friends  
mutual

not a  
moment  
but a  
way of  
being.

INTOXICATION / SILENCE  
/ CONFUSION ≠ CONSENT

# ...EVERYTHING.

everyone deserves to feel safe at shows.



**PACE YR PARTY.  
RESPECT  
BOUNDARIES.  
DRINK WATER.  
HONOR CONSENT.  
GIVE SPACE.  
CHECK IN.**

**CARE > CHAOS**

## INTERSTELLAR RODEO CODE OF CARE

WE ARE COMMITTED TO CREATING AN EXPERIENCE WITH MUSIC AND FRIENDS IN A SPACE THAT IS WELCOMING, RESPECTFUL AND HEALTHY FOR EVERYONE.

WE VALUE KINDNESS, CONSENT AND SAFETY FOR ALL, AND BY ALL.

HELP IS AVAILABLE SHOULD YOU NEED IT. LOOK FOR INDIVIDUALS WEARING RODEO BOSS TAGS OR PINK T-SHIRTS THAT SAY HERE TO HELP. THE FIRST AID & WELLNESS TENT IS LOCATED BEHIND THE STAGE NEAR THE FOOD TRUCKS.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO ENSURING INTERSTELLAR RODEO IS A SAFER SPACE FOR ALL OF US.

JUST BE AWESOME.

visual reminders help remind people of expectations and can act as deterrent. put them in portapotties and around site.

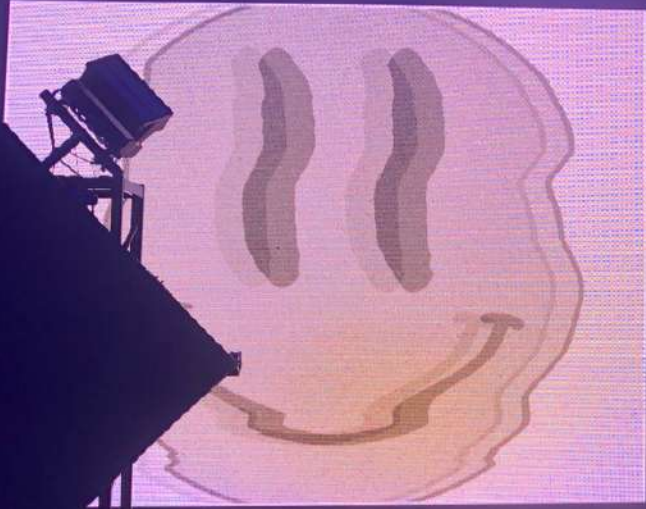


# On-Site Messaging

wear  
a mask

give people a little

THINGS  
ARE  
NOT  
NORMAL  
& that's O.K.



## Green Card

If you have been given this card, it's because you did something tonight to help myself or others feel safe in this space. You are awesome. Thank you.

#CRO

## Yellow Card

If you have been given this card, it's because you might wanna chill, take a break, & reflect on how your actions could be affecting someone else's night. Don't stress, sometimes we all need a reminder to be more self-aware. Thank you.

## Red Card

If you have been given this card, it's because you (or your friends) are actively contributing to this space not feeling safe for someone. Help restore balance to this party. Don't Be a Creep. Don't touch other people without consent. Give back some physical / social / energetic space. Please do better.

If anything happens at the festival that causes you concern or makes you feel unsafe, slide this card to any DCMF representative at the event, and they will work with you to make sure it doesn't ruin your experience.

You can also share feedback using the community feedback form on [www.dcmf.com](http://www.dcmf.com)

Thank You!

**at event**

**Make it clear how people can get help onsite:**

**A point on the map / booth**

**If you are using an app - added feature**

**Cheap phone with minutes added - promote the text for help number in advance**



**Get help onsite**



EMERGENCY



These buttons are for onsite emergencies only. They will become active during the festival.



Text Onsite Emergency Number



Call Onsite Emergency Number



**basics of harm reduction.**



**Drug toxicity (and hence overdose rate) has markedly increased since 2014 and is notably worse since the pandemic.**

**Drug toxicity/misrepresentation - under prohibition, the illicit supply is extremely unpredictable.**

**Without safe supply, people need to access substance checking in order to have some degree of confidence in what they are taking.**

**Any drugs purchased in the illicit market can be "contaminated" with fentanyl, we all as benzodiazepines, and buffers (some not harmful, some can be risky).**

**if drugs can get into prison, they are going to get into your event.**

**Work with security to find your balance between upholding your event rules and not creating an environment where people are too worried about getting into trouble to get help (especially youth!)**

**You are not expected to be the expert here - those exist in the community!**

**The current context**

**Alcohol - risk of injury, dehydration, aggression. Does not mix well with other depressants: opiates, ghb.**

**Cocaine- high risk of adulteration. Be mindful of heat / cardiac issues.**

**Opiates - respiratory overdose.**

**GHB- ++ margin for error in dosing. Risk of accidental ingestion. Risky when consumed with alcohol.**

**Psychedelics, empathogens - Mushrooms, LSD, MDMA / 'Molly' - risk of injury to self/others, other than injury and adulteration, low medical risk - more behavioural.**

**Cannabis - legal status may lead to people assuming its safe and not consider hard reduction measures. Edibles = margin for error if inexperienced.**

**What drugs might people be on?**

**honestly, anything.**

**having onsite harm reduction education and substance checking is best practise.**

**chest pain**

**trouble  
regulating  
temperature**

**unable to  
stay awake**

**sudden  
confusion**

**seizures**

**excessive  
vomiting**

**The above are signs that no matter what substance the person is using, they should be assessed by medical.**

**warning / trouble signs**

**An overdose is taking too much of a substance, resulting in dangerous effects on the body that jeopardize the ability to maintain itself. This most often involves compromising the ability to breathe, or affecting cardiac function.**

**What are some risk factors for overdose?**

- **being inexperienced with that substance or substances in general**
- **using after a break**
- **using alone**
- **not taking adequate care of yourself (eating, sleeping, hydration)**
- **combining substances without awareness of risk or being already intoxicated and adding another**
- **currently experiencing challenges to mental health / well-being**
- **lack of knowledge about what the drug is**
- **stigma, shame**

**"overdose"**

**Keep them low to ground and ideally not mobile**  
**Water in, water out**  
**Be curious about their experience, don't try and correct them**  
**Try and get them to a space without an "audience"**  
**Try and support them not to consume anything else for the time being**  
**Humour, distraction**  
**Find their friends**  
**There is not anything we can give them to reverse it**  
**They are currently vulnerable to many things, so do your best to protect them**



**how to support someone who has over-indulged, but is not in medical crisis**

# Encouraging people to ask (and supporting with with answers:

- What is this (researching it and testing it at a substance-checking service)?
- How much to consume?
- What can I expect to have happen with this?
- What are signs that something is not right ?
- What should not be combined with this (illicit and prescription)?
- Do I have the supplies I need?
- Who can I tell am I am using this today

**Start low + go slow**



some general harm reduction practises to be aware of

# drink spiking

## To know:

A wide variety of substances are used to render a person incapacitated. Many are metabolized very quickly.

Despite alcohol commonly being (incorrectly) blamed for sexual aggression, research shows that male perpetrators tend not get aggressive because they had too much to drink. Instead, their aggression increased the more intoxicated the victim appeared.

Creative coasters to cover drinks / with messaging

Testing strips on hand

Believe people when they say something to the effect of "I shouldn't be this drunk" or "I've only had one drink"

Do not let people "stash" drinks to go outside - dump them

Think through - what will we do if we have good reason to believe a drink has been spiked? Dump and replace everyone's?

What if someone comes to us thinking their drink was spiked a few days later?

## What to look for (victims):



People saying something to the effect of "I shouldn't be this drunk" or "I've only had one drink"

Drink spiking can look a lot like an "overdose" - if so, treat it like a medical emergency.  
Don't give water to people who are having trouble holding their head up.

**drink spiking**

## What to look for (perpetrators):

Pressuring others to drink faster, larger quantities, or stronger drinks.

Proactive or Opportunistic behaviors

Making 'jokes' or comments about getting people drunk in order to have sex with them.

Targeting the most visibly intoxicated person in the space.

Purchasing drinks for others with a sense of entitlement to attention or physicality in return.

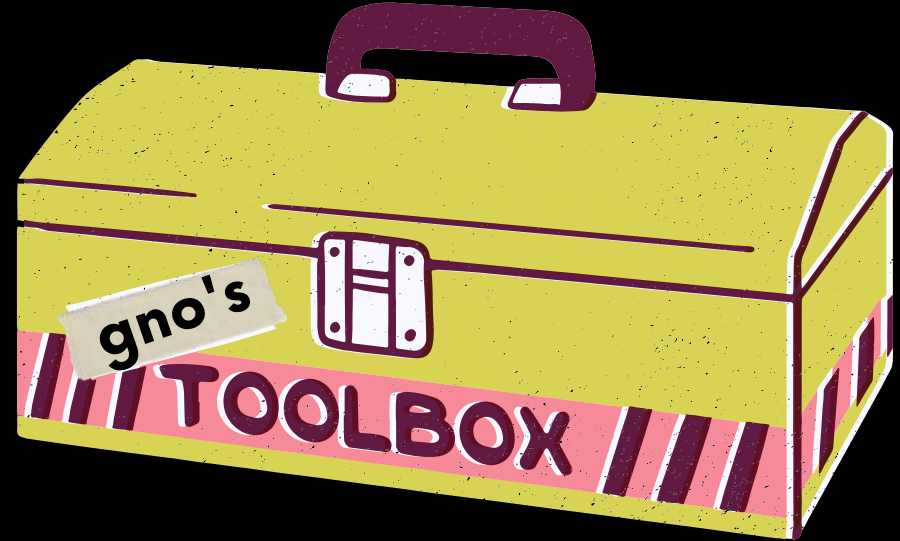
Making drinks stronger than asked for.

Trying to get an incapacitated person alone / away from friends, or outside of the space.

Flirting with people who are in need of care or support due to over intoxication.



# #2 alcohol + other drugs.



princess rae  
@xcrazyraerae

be careful around alcohol if it causes you to become violent or sexually assault others.

## post-event



**Review and respond to all reports that came through your online form**

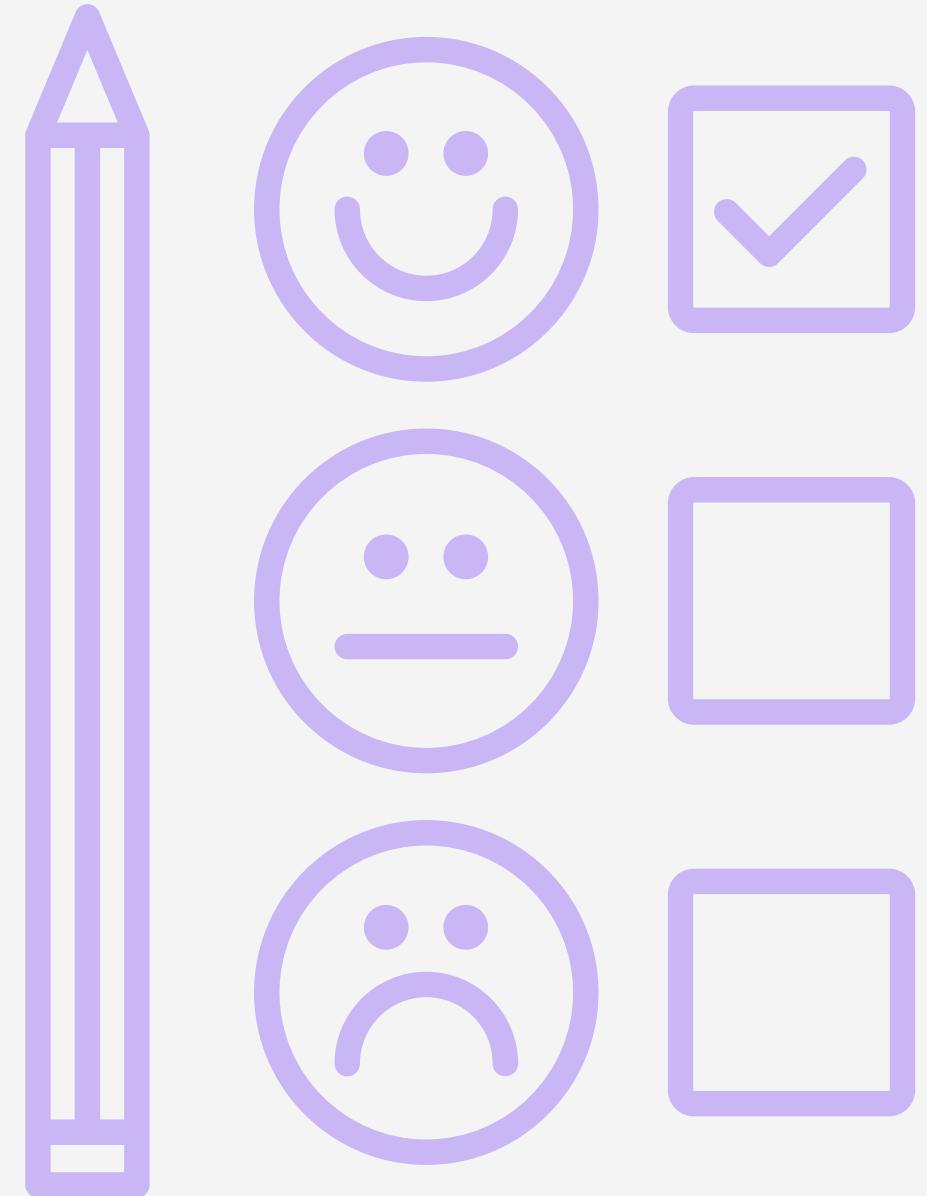
**Review you on-site documentation about incidents**

**patron / public feedback survey - include questions about safety**

**volunteer and management debrief**

**ask artists/performers about their experience/safety**

**use all of this to inform planning for next years event**





**discussion?**  
**questions?**



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