

2023-2024

# New Restorative Support Services at UNBC



## Restorative Relations & Student Supports Department

The Restorative Relations & Student Supports (RR & SS) Department sits within the Student Success Portfolio. This department is new to UNBC and offers holistic support to students, staff, and faculty across all UNBC campuses. They hold a restorative justice worldview that takes a relationship-centric approach to all aspects of their work. Every individual is viewed as worthy and relational, which is reinforced by core values of mutual concern, respect, and dignity. This department oversees areas including, but not limited to:

- Students “identified as experiencing distress” and “concern for students”
- Non-academic misconduct
- Restorative Justice implementation across UNBC campuses
- Educational opportunities
- Support services
- Facilitating the Student Support Team
- Coaching and consultation on Restorative Justice practices and approaches

## Student Support Team

The Student Support Team (SST) is an interdisciplinary team acting as a consultative body consisting of UNBC staff who identify, support and respond to “concerns for students”, students “identified as experiencing distress”, and students who engage with the SST. The purpose of the SST is to reduce siloing and streamline support for students. This team aims to connect students with the appropriate resources for their unique situation. The SST takes a proactive and preventative approach to facilitate continued student success and encourage resiliency. Examples of when to reach out include:

### Reach Out

Mental health challenges

Financial insecurity

Concerning behavioral changes

Bullying & Harassment concerns

\*The SST is not an emergency service. Please contact 911 during situations involving risk of imminent harm to self or others.

**We respectfully acknowledge that Restorative Justice originated from various Indigenous cultures and traditions.**

## Meet UNBC's Restorative Relations & Student Supports Coordinator



Brad Deveau uses restorative justice processes to facilitate conversations, build

relationships, and repair trust. Part of his role is supporting students as they navigate concerns impacting their ability to succeed during their time at UNBC. This includes students who may be in distress or experiencing crisis. Brad collaborates with students to explore their challenges and potential options for moving forward. This can be done in many ways; examples include providing a space to debrief, determining which supports might be needed to ensure overall well-being, connecting a student with helpful resources across campus, and acting as a liaison between members of the UNBC community.

Additionally, Brad's role assists those navigating non-academic misconduct, which includes those who caused harm and those who have experienced harm. This means meeting with individuals and offering a confidential, judgment-free space for sharing experiences. This often involves providing information on UNBC policies and procedures so those impacted can make an informed decision on how they would like to proceed.



250-960-6435



ConnectU@unbc.ca

# Steps to take when **Concerned** for a Student

## Step 1: Connect with the Student

Determine if there is an imminent safety risk to self and/or community. If 'yes', contact UNBC Security (250-960-7058) or 911.

If not imminent and you have a concern for a student in distress;

- If comfortable, connect with the student by email, in person, etc.
- Let the person know you have a concern by describing what you have OBSERVED and explain your CONCERN. Give them SPACE to share their situation.

E.g., Brad, I have noticed that you have missed both of your midterms (OBSERVATION). I am worried about you missing these two midterms (CONCERN), and I wonder what has been happening for you.

- Move to step 2.

**Unsure how to proceed or connect with the student? Reach out to the Restorative Relations & Student Supports Coordinator to discuss possible next steps.**

**Tel: 250-960-6435 | Email: [ConnectU@unbc.ca](mailto:ConnectU@unbc.ca)**

## Step 3: Follow-up

Following up after connecting and offering resources can help maintain a relationship and “open door”.

Follow-up can look like:

- A casual “Hi, how are you doing” in passing.
- Checking in with the individual.
- Asking if the individual has any additional needs/questions.
- Seeing a soft hand-off through to a resource (in-person, email, phone, etc.).

## Step 2: Provide Resources

These services are not mandated nor all-encompassing; the onus is on the individual to access them if they choose. It is ok to encourage students to seek support and assist them in reaching out.

### Restorative Relations & Student Supports Coordinator

Tel: 250-960-6435 | Email: [ConnectU@unbc.ca](mailto:ConnectU@unbc.ca)

### UNBC Counselling Centre

Web: <https://www.unbc.ca/wellness-centre/counselling-services>;

Tel: 250-960-6369 | Email: [Wellness@unbc.ca](mailto:Wellness@unbc.ca)

### UNBC Medical Clinic

Web: <https://www.unbc.ca/wellness-centre/health-services-medical-clinic>;

Tel: 250-960-6370 | Email: [Clinic@unbc.ca](mailto:Clinic@unbc.ca)

### Safety and Security

Tel: 250-960-7058 | Email: [Security@unbc.ca](mailto:Security@unbc.ca)

### Non-Academic Misconduct; Bullying/Harassment; Sexual Violence & Misconduct:

If you believe that a student is experiencing any of the above, you can refer them to the Restorative Relations & Student Supports Coordinator:

Tel: 250-960-6435 | Email: [ConnectU@unbc.ca](mailto:ConnectU@unbc.ca)

### 24 Hours Crisis Line

24-hour helpline available for people to get support when needed

Tel: (250) 563-1214 (Prince George local) or 1-888-562-1214 (toll-free)

### Here2Talk

24/7 Single Session Counselling for BC Post Secondary Students.

Web: <https://here2talk.ca>; Tel: 1-877-857-3397; Online:

[www.here2talk.ca](http://www.here2talk.ca) or the app

If a student is willing to **engage**, you are already building **trust**. That is a great thing!

## Know the Law

If you have an indication that a student is unsafe or are concerned for the safety of others, report the situation to the appropriate authorities.

- Harm to self – 911
- Harm to others (concerns for public safety) – RCMP/911
- Concerns for minors (anyone under the age of 19) – Ministry of Child and Family Services 250-645-4105

After contacting emergency services, inform UNBC Security so they can keep a record of the incident.



250-960-6435



[ConnectU@unbc.ca](mailto:ConnectU@unbc.ca)