



Community Agreement for Group Dialogue Sessions

By participating in a session, you agree to. . .

- **Confidentiality: ‘what’s said here, stays here; what’s learned here, leaves here.’**
 - Acknowledge that some participants may not want to connect outside of the session.
 - Don’t “out” members if you see them in public; they may not want the acknowledgement in public.
 - Facilitators may discuss the session in private afterwards, but identifying information will not leave Vice unless there is a *real and imminent* threat of harm to self or others.
- Speak from your own experience.
- Listen while others are speaking.
- Keep check-ins to a reasonable length.
- Late comers will be given a copy of the guidelines to read over and welcomed in once the speaker has stopped speaking.
- Refrain from giving *unsolicited* comments. Ask if it’s okay to comment or wait for them to prompt responses.
- Acknowledge that facilitators and group members are not trained professionals.
- This is a safe space to talk about suicide and suicidal feelings; expect that a facilitator will follow-up with you afterwards if you do.
 - Additionally, please refrain from discussing methods or means, as these details can be extremely triggering.
 - If a facilitator is concerned or unsure about the degree of suicide risk presented by a participant, the facilitator will ask the student to either a) come with them to the SASC office to speak immediately with a professional, or b) call Mental Health Emergency Services (604) 825-8289 in their presence to determine next steps.
 - No mental health concern is off limits, but be mindful of the impact your words may have on others. Avoid sharing graphic details if they may be triggering to other participants. Try to find more general ways to talk about the experience, or describe the impact it had on you (i.e. omitting volumes, describing methods, names of people or bars, etc.).
- Harassment, discrimination, or abuse will not be tolerated.



Role of the facilitator

- Facilitators are at meetings to contribute to discussion and ensure that group guidelines are followed.
- All facilitators have some relationship to or lived experience with substance use or dependence.
- Facilitators are not trained professionals or experts beyond their own experience; they cannot give medical advice, and they remain neutral towards treatment modalities.
- Facilitators can refer or connect you with community resources.
- Facilitators will be available after session to connect participants with one-on-one support by request.