



Letter of Fair Notice

Prince Albert and Area Community Threat Assessment and Support Protocol

The Prince Albert Catholic School Division is committed to providing a safe and inclusive environment for all staff, clients, students, and community members, and as such, is a member of the Prince Albert and Area Community Threat Assessment and Support Protocol. Our Principals and Vice-Principals receive training developed by the Centre for Trauma Informed Practice to lead a process called Assessment of Risk to Others (ARTO). This training has led to the development of a community protocol to help protect students from potential threats to safety or serious harm. The protocol helps schools respond to assess risk of threat and respond to threatening incidents.

The Prince Albert and Area Community Threat Assessment and Support Protocol partners include:

The Prince Albert Catholic School Division, Saskatchewan Rivers School Division, Catholic Family Services of Prince Albert, Inc., Child and Family Programs, Ministry of Social Services, Parkland Ambulance Care, Prince Albert Fire Department, Prince Albert Police Service, Conseil des écoles francsaskoises, Saskatchewan Ministry of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety – Community Corrections, Saskatchewan Health Authority, Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies, Saskatchewan Polytechnic, and YWCA Prince Albert.

WHAT IS A VIOLENCE THREAT RISK ASSESSMENT (VTRA) PROTOCOL?

The protocol is designed to enhance communication between all partners. It is incumbent upon the partners to share necessary and appropriate information that may initiate or facilitate the Assessment of Risk to Others (ARTO) process. It is a trauma-informed and equity-inclusion guided practice that utilizes an Assessment of Risk to Others (ARTO) process to:

- To ensure the safety of all individuals,
- Begin to understand the factors that contribute to the Individual of Concern's threatening or high- risk behaviour,
- View the Individual of Concern as in need of intervention and support rather than discipline.
- Be proactive in developing an intervention plan that addresses emotional and physical safety. It may include disciplinary action but will include appropriate supports
- Promotes the emotional and physical safety of all.

It is NOT a Disciplinary tool or response.

When a report of a threat is received by any member of this protocol, and upon screening it is determined the threshold for the "Categories for Action" is met, the ARTO process will be activated.

WHAT IS A THREAT?

A threat is an expression of intent to do harm or act out violently against someone or something. Threats may be verbal, written, drawn, posted on the internet, or made by gesture. Threats must be taken seriously, investigated, and responded to appropriately.

DUTY TO REPORT?

Often when we hear in the media about a violent incident, we learn that the Individual of Concern had made threats in advance of acting violently. To keep our communities safe, staff community members, students, and parents all need to act responsibly and report all threat-related behaviours and high-risk activities. This report can be made to any community partner of The Prince Albert and Area Community Threat Assessment and Support Protocol.

"Categories for Action" may include, but are not limited to:

- Serious violence or violence with intent to kill, or do bodily harm,
- Verbal/written threats to do serious bodily harm or kill others,
- Social Media/Technology generated threats to harm/kill others,
- Possession of weapons (including replicas),
- Bomb threats (making and/or detonating explosive devices),
- Fire setting,
- Sexual intimidation or assault,
- Ongoing pervasive and targeted bullying and/or harassment,
- Gang related intimidation and violence,
- Hate incidents motivated by factors including, but not limited to, race, culture, religion, and/or sexual and gender diversity,

CAN I REFUSE TO PARTICIPATE?

It is important for all parties to engage in the process. If for some reason there is a reluctance to participate in the process, by either the Individual of Concern or parent/guardian, the threat assessment will continue in order to ensure and restore a safe and inclusive environment for all.

