

Supporting Students

- ***Registry of Resources for Safe and Inclusive Schools:***
 - ♦ Provides information about resources which may be suitable for purchase and use in elementary and secondary schools including resources to help prevent bullying/harassment and to promote safe and inclusive schools.
 - ♦ URL <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/teachers/bullyprevention/registry.html>
- ***Sample School Climate Surveys:***
 - ♦ The ministry's sample school climate surveys have been expanded to include questions on equity and inclusive education and issues such as gender-based bullying, sexual harassment and homophobia. An online tool is now available for schools to aid in the roll-up of their results.
 - ♦ URL www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/safeschools/bullying.html
- ***Ontario Human Rights Commission ("OHRC"):***
 - ♦ The *Code* applies to disciplinary decisions and policies under the *Education Act*, and has primacy over the *Education Act*.
 - ♦ The OHRC has information to help schools and school boards prevent and address discrimination on its website at www.ohrc.on.ca
 - ♦ In particular, see the "Safe Schools Settlements" at <http://www.ohrc.on.ca/en/resources/news/backgroundedsettlement/view>, and the *Guidelines on Accessible Education* (2004) and the *Policy and Guidelines on Race and Racial Discrimination* (2005).
- ***Kids Help Phone***
 - ♦ In 2005, the Ministry entered into a 3-year partnership with Kids Help Phone (KHP) to help over 40,000 Ontario kids with "bullying-related" issues by phone and through their online counselling, information and referral services. As a result of this success the partnership has been renewed for an additional 3 years until 2011. Kids Help Phone's telephone counselling is confidential, free, open 24/7 and available throughout Canada.
 - ♦ URL www.kidshelpphone.ca (also provides links to other resources and supports for youth)
- ***EGALE Resources***
 - ♦ EGALE Canada is developing a web-based forum for students and educators to facilitate discussion, networking, and support those involved in creating and running Gay-Straight Alliances (GSAs). Additionally, EGALE is creating a web-based, Ontario specific directory of GSAs. Web-based resources and information to facilitate the creation of and sustainability of GSAs will also be available (<http://www.egale.ca/>)

- ***Ontario's Expanded Telepsychiatry Services***
 - ♦ Ontario's telepsychiatry program is a creative solution for increasing access and reducing wait times for children and youth in rural, remote and underserved communities. It uses videoconferencing to provide children, youth and their families or caregivers with access to clinical consultations with a child psychiatrist without having to leave their local communities. (<http://www.children.gov.on.ca/>)

- ***A Resource Guide and Online Training Tool for Ontario Schools***
 - ♦ In this forthcoming ministry resource guide, information will be provided for schools on supporting students when responding to issues involving student-to-student sexual relationships, including dating violence and sexual assault.