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I. RESIDENCE COMMUNITY LIVING GUIDE

Dalhousie’s Residence Life is guided by the notion that university is an opportunity for students to explore their values, learn how to live with others, and understand and experience how to positively impact a community. As part of an academic institution, Residence Life is guided by the value of education and creating opportunities for students to learn. We are committed to encouraging critical self-reflection and accountability for one’s choices and actions as part of a living and learning residence community.

Living in one of the Dalhousie residence communities is a privilege. Dalhousie’s Residence Life team will support students’ personal and academic success in a safe, inclusive, and respectful environment. The safety, health and wellbeing of students, and our community is our primary priority. Behaviours that negatively impact the residence community will be addressed based on the expectations and consequences outlined in this Residence Community Living Guide.

The following sections demonstrate how the Residence Community Living Guide is used in residence to help create and sustain an environment that is focused on the safety, security, health, and wellness of all of our students, student leaders, Residence Life staff, and community partners.

All questions, comments, and concerns can be directed to reslife@dal.ca or any student leader / Residence Life staff you feel comfortable speaking to.

1. APPLICATION

The Residence Community Living Guide applies to all students living in residence (residents). In accepting to stay in a Dalhousie residence for the applicable academic year, and therefore, signing the Dalhousie Residence Agreement, you (the resident) are stating that you agree to abide by the rules and regulations and that you understand that failure to do so will lead to the consequences set out in this Residence Community Living Guide.

2. ACCOMMODATIONS

Dalhousie Residence Life recognizes that some students may have practices or medical requirements that may put them in conflict with the Residence Community Living Guide.

This includes, but is not limited to, smudging, candles for religious practices, etc. If you require an accommodation, please get in touch with your Residence Life Manager or Residence Don before engaging in any behaviours contrary to the Residence Community Living Guide.

3. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE RESIDENT

3.1 All members of the residence community share in the responsibility to provide a safe and healthy living, learning, and working environment. Residents have a responsibility to partner with Dalhousie’s Residence Life team and support services on campus to ensure their behaviour does not have a negative impact on the residence community at Dalhousie.

3.2 Residents are responsible for reading, understanding, and abiding by the procedures and processes contained in the Residence Community Living Guide, as well as those detailed in other university policies. They are also responsible for reading, understanding, and abiding by the any changes in procedures and processes to the Residence Community Living Guide communicated to them through their Dalhousie email.

3.3 Residents are also responsible for abiding by all relevant municipal, provincial, and federal laws and statutes, including relevant Municipality of Halifax (Halifax residences) or Colchester (Truro residences) by-laws.

3.4 It is the duty of each resident to take reasonable steps to prevent a problem situation from occurring or, if it occurs, to prevent it from escalating to a more serious level (e.g. by informing university staff of the problem).

3.5 Residents are responsible for the actions of their guest(s) and/or any individuals they allow to enter residence.
Residents are responsible for what occurs in their residence room and are encouraged to discuss the expectations of behaviour with roommates and/or permitted guests.

3.6 Residents must produce proper identification, such as their DalCard, to university staff upon request.

3.7 Residents are responsible for checking their Dalhousie email and responding in a timely fashion to communications from Residence Life and Ancillary Services.

3.8 Residents are also responsible for attendance at scheduled meetings. Failure to attend scheduled meetings without reasonable notice and/or excuse may result in decisions being made without an individual’s input, sanctions for Non-Cooperation with University Staff/Officials, and a $25 administrative fee for each missed meeting.

4. COMPLEX BEHAVIOUR AND LIMITS OF SUPPORT

4.1 Residence is not a therapeutic environment. The safety, health and wellbeing of all members of the residence community is our priority. The Residence Life team works in collaboration with Dalhousie’s Student Health and Wellness Centre in and other support services on campus and in the community, including Emergency Health Services.

4.2 Dalhousie Residence Life reserves the right to terminate a residence agreement if it is determined that the level of support required by a student is beyond the limits of what can be provided by Residence Life staff, or when the residence community is significantly impacted by the behaviour of a student.

4.3 Complex behavior is described as behaviour that is not necessarily a violation of the Residence Community Living Guide by nature but is complicated by significant/contributing factors that negatively impact a resident’s or the residence communities’ wellbeing or safety.

4.4 Residents are not permitted to refuse medical assessment by Emergency Health Services if such an assessment is deemed necessary by Dalhousie Residence Life or Security Services team members. Students are also not permitted to refuse medical assistance or care offered by Emergency Health Services when deemed appropriate.

5. UNIVERSITY CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT

Behaviour by members of the residence community may be dealt with under Dalhousie University’s Code of Student Conduct.

6. ACCEPTABLE USE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

Students’ use of Eastlink’s services is subject to the terms of the university's Acceptable Use Policy, Eastlink’s Acceptable Use Policy, and any End-User License Agreements required by Eastlink (which may be implemented or modified from time-to-time). It is the responsibility of each resident using the services to read, understand and abide by the terms contained in these documents. A failure to comply with these requirements may result in restricted, suspended, or revoked service.

7. RIGHT OF ENTRY TO RESIDENCE ROOMS

Residence team members or university staff (including Residence Assistants, facilities staff, Security Services, etc.) have the right to enter your room in the following situations (we will attempt to provide as much notice as possible):

- In an emergency where the safety, health and wellbeing of a resident or the residence building is at risk.
- When residence or university staff have reasonable grounds to believe that there is a violation of the Residence Community Living Guide taking place.
- For the purpose of cleaning, maintenance or inspections.
- When you’ve provided a Maintenance Request Form (MRF) to do something in your room.
8. FILING A COMPLAINT

Allegations that a student has violated the Residence Community Standards, or the Residence Code of Conduct are documented in incident reports by Residence Life. The details of the allegation can be brought forward by any student leader and/or professional staff member of the Residence Life team, any member of Dalhousie Security, and/or members of our facilities staff. Any behaviours witnessed/reported through any online platform including social media may be used by Residence Life as the basis of an allegation.

Students can make a complaint against anyone who violates their right to a safe, inclusive, and respectful environment by contacting Residence Life or by contacting Dalhousie Security. A complaint against another student will be reviewed and addressed under the applicable Dalhousie University policy including but not limited to the Residence Community Living Guide, Dalhousie Code of Student Conduct or Dalhousie’s Sexualized Violence Policy, as examples. It is important that a student wishing to file a complaint does so according to the guidelines of the policy under which they will be filing the complaint. Residence Life and Dalhousie Security can help students determine which policy is applicable to their complaint and provide guidance on how to proceed.

Retaliation
Students should feel safe to make a complaint without fear of retaliation. Any action of retaliation against a student or community member for filing a complaint is subject to disciplinary action as outlined in this Residence Community Living Guide.

Right to Withdraw a Complaint
A complainant has the right to withdraw a complaint at any stage of the process. However, Residence Life may continue to act on the issue(s) identified in the complaint in order to ensure the safety, health and wellbeing of the Dalhousie community.

Unsubstantiated or False Complaints
If a person, in good faith, discloses or files a complaint that is not supported by evidence gathered during an investigation, that complaint will be dismissed. Disclosures or complaints that are found following investigations to be frivolous, vexatious or in bad faith, that is, made to purposely annoy, embarrass or harm the respondent, may result in disciplinary action against the complainant.

Standard of Proof
For the purposes of the Residence Community Living Guide, an administrative justice system is used. Findings of responsibility are based on the balance of probabilities. This means that the evidence shows it is more likely than not the alleged violation occurred.

9. CONFIDENTIALITY

Residence Life team members will respect the confidentiality of all persons, including the complainant, respondent, and witnesses. However, confidentiality cannot be assured in the following circumstances:

- An individual is at imminent risk of self-harm.
- An individual is at imminent risk of harming another.
- There are reasonable grounds to believe that others in the residence community or wider campus and local community may be at risk of harm.
- Individuals within the university community need to know certain information in order to carry out their responsibilities.
- Where there is a legal obligation to report to authorities.
- Where there is a legal obligation to act or cooperate with an extra-university judicial process.

In all circumstances outlined above, only the information deemed necessary and appropriate will be disclosed.
10. INTERIM MEASURES
There are conditions that warrant a heightened level of concern for student safety, health and wellbeing. Interim measures may be required to ensure a swift, effective response to conditions to protect residents, guests, staff, the community, and the university. In such cases, interim measures may be imposed upon a Respondent. Interim measures can include immediate transfers or removals from residence, behavioural contracts, residence bans, etc. and will remain in effect until the situation can be investigated and concluded. Where interim measures are imposed, they must be proportionate to the seriousness of the alleged act and as minimally restrictive as possible to achieve their purpose.

11. OUTCOMES/SANCTIONS
Dalhousie Residence Life is committed to the use of educational principles in all interactions with students, including Residence Community Living follow-up. These approaches focus on the community harms and needs while seeking to create an understanding of harms through an educational process.

When a student is found responsible for a violation of the Community Standards or the Residence Code of Conduct the investigator / decision maker then makes a determination of what the outcomes / sanctions will be. The decision of which outcomes and/or sanctions to apply to the student in question is based on an understanding of:

- the impact of the violation,
- the harm caused to self, others, the community as a whole, and/or
- the extent of damage to the property of self, others, or the University.

At any point during the decision making process, the investigator / decision maker may consult with the Director, Residence Life to ensure fairness and consistency in decision making. Multiple violations of the Community Standards and the Residence Code of Conduct will result in an escalation of sanctioning as described later in this document in each relevant section respectively.

These outcomes/sanctions include, but are not limited to:

11.1 Learning Conversations
Learning conversations are usually facilitated by a Residence Assistant or Residence Life Manager/Don when problematic behavior has been identified. All participants will work to formulate a resolution to address the harm/impact of that behaviour and prevent it from happening again.

11.2 Behavioural Contracts
Behavioural contracts are used to support students remaining in residence after concerning behavior or conduct has been identified through the Residence Code of Conduct process. A behavioural contract is typically an agreement between a student and Residence Life, whereby the student agrees to a set of specified behaviours, stipulations, conditions, and/or expectations in order to remain a member of the residence community.

The following are all examples of possible outcomes that can be included in a behaviour contract:

- Mandatory educational conversations with members of the Residence Life team or our campus partners to discuss learning and growth during the conduct process. The student's goal during this process should be to demonstrate their commitment to making a positive contribution to the residence community.
- Restitution is a monetary charge to recover the loss or damage of residence property/services/labour as a result of an accident or incident. Students are strongly encouraged to come forward in these instances. Generally, restitution is the sole sanction in the event of accidents. Labour costs vary by time/day.
- Residence Ban stopping a student from entering a residence building or buildings.
- Restrictions which can include a no contact order between residence students and/or guests, for a designated period.
- Residence transfer to a different residence building. Residence Life reserves the right to remove a resident from a room/floor/building if it is deemed necessary and in the best interests of the student and/or
A resident may be relocated temporarily. Any personal costs associated with being relocated, is the responsibility of the student being relocated.

11.3 Termination of Residence Agreement (Evictions)

The University reserves the right to terminate a residence agreement with a student when violations endanger the safety, health and wellbeing of other residents and the community. Removal from residence can result from one incident or repeated incidents depending on the severity of the behavior.

Examples include, but are not limited to: criminal activity; violence, including but not limited to physical assault; sexualized violence; harassment (including emails, text messages, voicemail or other computer/telephone communications); threats of violence or any other willful or negligent conduct that endangers the health, safety or wellbeing of others; trafficking, possession, promotion, or use of illegal drugs; theft of or damage to property of the university or others; misuse or tampering with fire safety equipment; and possession of weapons.

Students who are removed from residence are still responsible for all fees associated with their residence agreement, which may include the cost of your room and meals for up to and including the date of your departure, plus an additional 60 days’ worth of room charges. Students who are removed from residence may be banned from specific residence locations, or from the entire residence community.

All students who are subject to a termination of their residence agreement due to a violation of the Residence Code of Conduct will also be subject to a one-year waiting period to be considered for readmission to residence.

12. WHO TO TALK TO IN RESIDENCE

Residence Assistants / Senior Residence Assistants

Residence Assistants / Senior Residence Assistants (RA/SRA) are students selected by Residence Life to support residents and create a safe and engaged community. They are trained in peer counselling, conflict mediation, community development, leadership, and much more. They are knowledgeable about campus resources and can refer residents to the best place to get additional support. RA’s on call are available between 8 pm and 8 am daily and readily available in their community throughout the day.

Residence Life Managers

Residence Life Managers (RLM) are full-time, professional live-in staff responsible for establishing a vibrant residence community that provides feedback, mentoring, and support to residents through various interactions such as educational programming, team development and student staff supervision, managing the community standards, and crisis response. An RLM is on-duty every day of the week 24/7 to assist students and RA’s when a situation may arise where professional staff are required to attend. Questions or concerns about Residence Life should be directed to reslife@dal.ca or visit the office of the RLM in your building.

Residence Life Dons (Truro Campus)

Residence Life Dons (RLD) are part-time, professional live-in staff responsible for establishing an inclusive residence community that provides feedback, mentoring and support to residents through various interactions such as educational programming, team leadership and development and student staff supervision, managing the community standards and crisis response. A RLD is on duty every evening of the week, and 24/7 on weekends and holidays to assist students and RA’s when a situation may arise where professional staff are required. These positions report to the RLM on the Truro campus. Questions or concerns about Residence Life in Truro should be directed to resdalac@dal.ca or visit the RLD during posted scheduled hours.

Manager, Residence Operations (Truro Campus)

The Manager of Residence Operations on the Truro campus is responsible for administrative, supportive and supervisory tasks within residence life, including the Residence Life Manager. The manager supports the RLM
on the Truro campus in ensuring the effective operation of the Residence Code of Conduct process and provides advice to students regarding the Residence Community Standards. Questions or concerns about the residence conduct processes on the Truro campus should be directed to resdalac@dal.ca.

**Residence Conduct Team (Halifax Campuses)**

The Residence Conduct Office provides training, support, and education to members of the residence community. The Conduct team is responsible for ensuring the effective operation of the Residence Code of Conduct process and provides advice to students regarding the Residence Community Standards. Questions or concerns about the residence conduct processes should be directed to reslife@dal.ca or visit the office on the 4th floor, Student Union Building.

**Director, Residence Life (Halifax Campuses)**

The Director of Residence Life is responsible for all administrative, educational and supervisory tasks for all staff within Residence Life, including the Residence Life Managers and Residence Conduct Office. Questions or concerns about Residence Life or the residence conduct processes should be directed to reslife@dal.ca or visit the office on the 4th floor, Student Union Building.

**Director, Residence Operations (Truro Campus)**

The Director of Residence Operations is responsible for all administrative, educational and supervisory tasks for all staff within residence life on the Truro campus, including the Manager, Residence Operations.

**Dalhousie Security**

Residence Life is committed to keeping all residents and residence property safe and secure. If you have any concerns about your personal or community safety, please report these concerns to your RA or to Dalhousie Security. Security is an important partner within our residences and have dedicated the Residence Community Safety Officer team to build strong relationships with the students in residence. Dalhousie Security can be reached at 902-494-4109 (emergency Halifax Campus) 902-893-4190 (emergency Truro Campus) or 902-494-6400 (non-emergency). You are also encouraged to download the DalSafe app or visit the Security Services website.

**Residence Facilities**

Residence facilities staff are here to assist with all your housing needs. From building/room assignments, requesting a room transfer or withdrawing from residence, dining hall or meal plans, residence fees, and/or maintenance issues. Email residence@dal.ca (Halifax) or resdalac@dal.ca (Truro).

**Student Health & Wellness**

Student Health & Wellness supports the personal, academic, and social development of students at Dalhousie University by providing a range of programs and services including health services, counselling services, accessibility services, and health promotion. For additional information please call 902-494-2171 or email livewell@dal.ca.
II. RESIDENCE COMMUNITY STANDARDS

The Residence Community Standards are designed to create connection and belonging within a safe, inclusive and respectful residence community. Residence Life is responsible for balancing the needs of the community with those of the individual. You are expected to uphold a high standard of respect for all members of the community, including Residence Life and University team members.

The Residence Community Standards set out clear expectations of acceptable behaviour within the residence community and the consequences for behaviour that is contrary to these expectations.

1. PROCESS AND OUTCOMES

Behaviours contrary to the Residence Community Standards will be documented by Residence Life and followed up according to the process and outcomes outlined below.

| Behaviour documented in incident report |
| Incident reported submitted to Conduct Office* |
| Incident report reviewed by Conduct Office* |
| First Violation |
| Incident Report assigned to Residence Life Manager |
| OUTCOME: Follow-up conversation completed by RA |
| Incident Report Closed |
| Second Violation |
| Incident Report assigned to Residence Life Manager |
| OUTCOME: Follow-up conversation completed by RLM |
| Incident Report Closed |
| Subsequent Violations |
| OUTCOME: Residence Code of Conduct Violation |

*On Truro campus, incident report will be assigned directly to the Residence Life Manager after it is documented.

2. COMMUNITY STANDARDS

a. SMOKING

Dalhousie University residences are strictly non-smoking, this includes the use of e-cigarettes and vaporizers.

Halifax campuses are smoke-free. This prohibits smoking (of any substances) in any university-owned or leased building, on university property, or in university vehicles. View the no-smoking policy. View the Halifax Smoking Bylaw. Residents choosing to smoke are expected to follow all Halifax municipal by-laws regarding designated smoking areas.

Truro campus is not smoke-free, but students are required to use the designated smoking areas on campus as indicated by Residence Life and Ancillary Services teams.

b. GUESTS

A guest, when permitted, is considered anyone who is not a resident of the building or residence room they are visiting. This includes residents from other residence buildings on campus. All residents are responsible for the behaviour of their guests, including responsibility for damage. Guests must be accompanied by the resident host 24/7. Residence
students who are guests in other residence buildings will also be subject to the appropriate Residence Community Living Guide follow-up processes if their behaviour as a guest in another building constitutes a violation of any of our standards or policies. Therefore, both a host and a guest from another residence may be held responsible for violations of the Residence Community Living Guide.

It is an individual’s responsibility to ensure that their guests comply with all residence policies and procedures of the Community Standards and Residence Code of Conduct included in the Residence Community Living Guide. Anyone that a student permits to enter the residence building is considered their guest. Guests may be required to sign-in to any residence building.

Guests may be asked to leave at any time if they are not acting in accordance with the Residence Community Living Guide. Guests who violate the guide may be banned from returning to a specific residence building or all residences.

Guest restrictions may be put in place and changed to ensure the safety, health and wellbeing of students and the residence community. Information on guest restrictions or registration requirements will be communicated using your Dalhousie email address.

c. KEYS AND BUILDING ACCESS

For the safety of all members of the Dalhousie residence community, access to residence buildings is controlled. Each person authorized to be in residence, receives keys and/or access cards which provide access to the main entrance door, the student’s individual room, and the laundry room. These items remain the property of Dalhousie University, cannot be duplicated, and must be returned upon request.

The following actions are prohibited in Dalhousie University residences:

• Tampering in any way with, or disabling, locks (or other security devices including, but not limited to, card readers, hinges, magnetic locks, alarms, lights).
• Lending of keys and/or access card.
• Possession of unauthorized keys and/or access cards.
• Tailgating and/or fraudulently gaining or attempting to gain entry to another residence room or building.
• Propping of exterior/building access doors/fire doors.
• Blocking of exits.

d. MISUSE OF FACILITIES

All facilities are to be used and maintained for the purpose for which they were designed.

The following behaviours are prohibited in residence:

• Sports played inside the residences.
• Tampering with window stops, window screens.
• Removal/relocation of residence furniture from residence rooms and or common spaces.
• Alteration or construction of any part of a residence room.

Use of tape, nails, screws, tacks, staples or pins. Adhesive poster strips may be used by student to decorate their rooms. These are available free of charge at the residence desks and/or from the Residence Assistants.

e. NOISE AND QUIET HOURS

The Dalhousie residence community is committed to ensuring that standards governing noise levels are maintained for the benefit of all residents. Residents should avoid disturbing others; the right to reasonable quiet supersedes the right to make noise.
All residents are expected to maintain a reasonable level of quiet 24/7 to respect their neighbours.

During quiet hours all noise including, but not limited to, that of stereos, radios, TVs, musical instruments, computer and other devices, and all conversations must not be audible beyond the student’s rooms. Residents may be required to store or remove speakers, equipment, etc. from their residence room.

Subwoofers or speakers where bass cannot be controlled or reduced, are not permitted in residence – both in individual rooms and common areas.

Quiet hours vary depending on the academic calendar and community (i.e. quiet hours during exam periods, designated quiet floors). This information can be found on the residence website.

f. PETS
No pets are permitted in residence, except for non-dangerous fish (aquariums must be no larger than 2’x1’x1’). Only service animals or emotional support animals (ESAs) approved through Dalhousie’s Student Accommodation Policy are allowed. These accommodations must be arranged in advance of bringing the service animal/ESA to residence. Expectations and regulations for pets, service animals and ESAs outlined by the Accommodations office and Residence Life and must be adhered to by owners and residents.

g. SCENT-FREE
Dalhousie University endorses a scent-free environment on campus. Members of the university community as well as visitors are encouraged to avoid use of scented personal care products or other products that may cause an adverse reaction to residents with environmental sensitivities/allergies. This can include air fresheners, cleaning products, essential oils, body odour, etc.

Please note that the smell of smoke from tobacco and cannabis will be considered a violation of the smoking policy.

h. BUSINESSES, ADVERTISING AND SOLICITATION IN RESIDENCE
The University does not permit solicitation, any third-party advertising, and/or operation of a business, in its residences.

Prohibited activities include but are not limited to:

- Flyers being slipped under doors.
- Door-to-door knocking.
- Door hangers, stickers, or other promotional materials being used/placed in residence.
- Mass mailings.

Information (including things like posters or tent cards) from approved parties is specifically monitored and explicitly approved through Residence Life and/or Ancillary Services.

For questions around businesses for academic requirements, please speak with a Residence Life Staff member.
III. RESIDENCE CODE OF CONDUCT

The Residence Code of Conduct, as part of the Residence Community Living Guide, intentionally separates generally expected community standards from more serious offences which directly impact the safety, health and wellbeing of students and/or the residence community. This includes damage to fire equipment and University property. As such, the process of addressing more serious behavioral concerns includes an investigative process which appropriately spells out serious consequences for violations.

Behaviours contrary to the policies included in the Residence Code of Conduct section of the Residence Community Living Guide outlined below will automatically be investigated as a potential violation of the Residence Code of Conduct. It is important to note that a third Residence Community Standards violation will be investigated as a violation of the Residence Code of Conduct. Investigations will be conducted following the process outlined in this section of the Guide. If assigned a behaviour contract after being found responsible for a violation of the Residence Code of Conduct, the offending student will be solely responsible for completion of all assigned outcomes within the pre-determined time-period to remain a resident in good standing. Failure to complete all assigned outcomes during the pre-determined time-period may result in a termination of the student’s residence agreement.

1. PROCESS AND OUTCOMES

Behaviours contrary to the Residence Code of Conduct will be documented by Residence Life and followed up according to the process and outcomes outlined below.

- Behaviour documented in incident report
- Interim measures imposed by on-duty Residence Life Manager in consultation with the Director, Residence Life (or designate)/Manager, Residence Operations if required due to the nature of the incident
- Incident report submitted to Residence Conduct Office*
- Incident report reviewed by Residence Conduct Office*

First Violation
- Incident Report assigned to Investigator*
- Investigator meets with all involved parties as part of the conduct investigation
- Investigator makes decision about responsibility
- Investigator delivers decision via email

OUTCOMES if found responsible: Student will be assigned a behaviour contract outlining the sanctions they must abide by. The student must schedule, attend, and document all parts of a the behaviour contract as it is assigned. Examples of sanctions required by a behaviour contract include mandatory educational conversations, restitution, residence bans, restrictions, and residence transfers. Failure to complete the required sanctions may result in residence eviction

Incident Report Closed

Second Violation
- Incident Report assigned to Investigator
- Investigator meets with all involved parties as part of the conduct investigation
- Investigator makes decision about responsibility
- Investigator delivers decision via email

OUTCOMES if found responsible: Student will be assigned a behaviour contract outlining the sanctions they must abide by. The student must schedule, attend, and document all parts of a the behaviour contract as it is assigned. Examples of sanctions required by a behaviour contract include mandatory educational conversations, restitution, residence bans, restrictions, and residence transfers. Failure to complete the required sanctions may result in residence eviction

Incident Report Closed
Third Violation
Incident Report assigned to Investigator
Investigator meets with all involved parties to conduct investigation
Investigator makes decision about responsibility
Investigator delivers decision via email
OUTCOME if found responsible: Termination of residence agreement

NOTE THAT RESIDENCE LIFE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO DEEM SOME FIRST AND SECOND OFFENCES SERIOUS ENOUGH TO WARRANT IMMEDIATE EVICTION BASED ON THE DECISION MAKING PROCESS FOR OUTCOMES / SANCTIONS OUTLINED IN SECTION I.12. ALSO, AS NOTED UNDER THE VIOLENCE POLICY BELOW, VIOLATIONS OF THAT POLICY WILL RESULT IN IMMEDIATE EVICTION.

*On the Truro Campus, incidents will be investigated by the Residence Life Manager and/or Manager, Residence Operations. On the Halifax Campus, incidents will be investigated by a Residence Life Manager.

2. POLICIES
   a. ALCOHOL

   Possession and consumption of alcohol is not permitted in residence at any time for any reason during the month of September 2020. At that time, Dalhousie University and the Office of the Provost will decide whether this policy needs to be adjusted. Students living in residence will be informed with as much notice as possible if this policy will be changed through their Dalhousie email address. Intoxication on its own is not a violation of the Residence Code of Conduct. Residence Life encourages students to seek help if someone requires assistance for over-intoxication and will initiate emergency medical response (if required). 19 is the legal age for the purchase and consumption of alcohol in Nova Scotia. Students are not able to have alcohol delivered to residence.

   b. CANNABIS

   Possession and consumption of cannabis is not permitted in residence at any time for any reason during the month of September 2020. At that time, Dalhousie University and the Office of the Provost will decide whether this policy needs to be adjusted. Students living in residence will be informed with as much notice as possible if this policy will be changed through their Dalhousie email address. Intoxication on its own is not a violation of the Residence Code of Conduct. Residence Life encourages students to seek help if someone requires assistance for over-intoxication and will initiate emergency medical response (if required). 19 is the legal age for the purchase and consumption of cannabis in Nova Scotia. Students are not able to have cannabis delivered to residence.

   If you have been prescribed the use of cannabis by a medical professional, please refer to our information about accommodations in residence above in this guide.

   c. DRUGS AND ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES

   Possession and consumption of drugs and illegal substances is not permitted in residence at any time for any reason. Intoxication on its own is not a violation of the Residence Code of Conduct. Residence Life encourages students to seek help if someone requires assistance for over-intoxication and will initiate emergency medical response (if required).

   d. VIOLENCE

   Violence, inciting violence, threats of violence, and/or physical aggression is not tolerated in residence. Examples include but are not limited to threatening acts of violence, hitting, punching, slapping, kicking, biting, pushing, pulling, and throwing objects at another person.
If a student is found responsible for a violation of the Violence Policy they will be immediately evicted from residence.

e. SEXUALIZED VIOLENCE

At Dalhousie, sexualized violence is defined by the Sexualized Violence Policy as “an act of violence, whether the act is physical or psychological in nature, that is characterized by an attempt to threaten, intimidate, coerce or engage in any unwelcome behaviour of a sexual nature against a Member of the University Community without that Member’s Consent. Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment are subsets of Sexualized Violence, defined above. Other examples, include, but are not limited to, creating and/or sharing images non-consensually, stalking, voyeurism, and stealthing.”

All incidents of sexualized violence in residence are referred directly to the Dalhousie Human Rights and Equity Services office to be followed up with according to Dalhousie’s Sexualized Violence Policy.

Further information on procedures and resources for sexualized violence are available on Dalhousie’s Human Rights and Equity Services website.

Please note: The respondents involved in an incident of sexualized violence may be subjected to interim measures until a resolution has been determined to ensure the safety of the individuals involved. All survivors can seek support from the Dalhousie Human Rights and Equity Services office HRES@dal.ca and may receive immediate accommodations if appropriate.

f. HARASSMENT AND BULLYING / CYBER BULLYING

Abuse (verbal, written, physical or otherwise), threats, intimidation, pranks, or other forms of harassment against any member of our community, is not tolerated in residence.

Incidents of harassment should be reported to Residence Life team who may involve the Human Rights and Equity Services Office to assist with responding to the matter. Dalhousie University will not tolerate incidences of bullying/cyber bullying in our community. Incidents of bullying/cyber-bullying are deemed incidents of harassment.

Taken from the Report of the Nova Scotia Task Force on Bullying and Cyber Bullying (2012); we define bullying as, “A repeated behaviour that is intended to cause, or should be known to cause, fear, intimidation, humiliation, distress or other forms of harm to another person’s body, feelings, self-esteem, reputation or property.”

g. HAZING

Hazing or initiations of any kind are not tolerated in our residence community.

Hazing is any activity expected of an individual wishing to join a group (or of an individual wishing to gain or maintain full status in a group) which humiliates, degrades, abuses, endangers, or subordinates that individual, regardless of their willingness to engage in the activity. As such, hazing is a form of harassment. Voluntary participation is not an excuse for hazing.

Incidents of hazing or initiation will be handled under Dalhousie’s Hazing Policy.

h. THEFT

Residents are not permitted to take possession of, use/misuse, and/or be in possession of property that is not their own, without prior permission. Residents are also not permitted to deface, destroy, and/or dispose of property that is not their own.

This includes removal of utensils, dishes, glasses, food, etc. without permission from the dining halls.
i. DAMAGES

Property damage and loss in the residence halls affects all of us. Damages and losses often compromise the safety, security and comfort of community members, so we need to work together to reduce the impact that damages have on our buildings.

All damage to residence property or the property belonging to another individual is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, the following behaviours:

- Marking any surface through action or neglect, that is not deemed normal wear and tear.
- Actions or neglect that leads to or has the potential to lead to damaging, offensive, or harmful problems in residence, including water damage, odours, and insect/rodent infestation.
- Behaviour that causes, or has the potential to cause damage through action, carelessness or negligence.
- Willful damage, vandalism, graffiti or neglect that leads to damage to the university or private property.

Encouraging individuals to commit an act of vandalism or property damage (inciting by words or actions, filming, etc.) will be considered a violation of this policy.

Individuals found responsible for damages may be required to pay associated repair and/or clean-up costs in addition to other possible sanctions. Ancillary Services and Residence Life reserve the right to levy charges (including repair and/or clean-up costs) or fines against residents of the applicable floor, tower, wing, area, section, house, or hall. When damages or violations occur and the responsible individual(s) do not come forward or cannot be identified, social and/or recreational privileges of the floor, tower, wing, area, section, house, or hall in which the damage took place may be suspended.

In addition to consequences under the Residence Code, actions that cause significant damage to residence property may also be referred to the Halifax Regional Police / RCMP for charges under the Criminal Code.

j. WEAPONS AND EXPLOSIVES

Firearms, explosives, or any other weapons are strictly prohibited. This includes items that are created or whose use could be intended to cause harm, be seen as intimidating, or be mistaken for a weapon. Examples include, but are not limited to, restricted weapons, fencing foils, ceremonial or decorative swords, air soft guns, paintball guns, axes, knives, replicated/collectable weapons, fireworks or other pyrotechnics or any object made to look like a weapon or explosive.

k. FIRE SAFETY

Dalhousie residences are governed by the laws and regulations of the province of Nova Scotia as enforced by the Office of the Fire Marshall. Violations of these laws and regulations may result in criminal charges as determined by the Halifax Fire Department and/or Halifax Police Department (Halifax Campuses) and/or the Municipality of Colchester (Truro Campus).

The following behaviours are prohibited in residence:

- Tampering with fire equipment, including but not limited to, smoke detectors, heat detectors, fire extinguishers, sprinklers, pull stations, emergency exits, hanging of decorations (flags, etc.) from the sprinkler heads/pipes, etc.;
- Open flames, including but not limited to lighting candles, incense, sparklers, etc.

Hallways and stairwells must remain clear to allow for safe exiting of the building. This includes not storing items in hallways and stairwells or congregating in large groups in hallways or stairwells. In the event of a fire alarm, all students must vacate the building immediately and remain out of the building until university officials’ clear students to enter
If there are any financial costs associated to the intentional or unintentional/ negligent actions of a student that result in the activation or the misuse of residence fire safety equipment Ancillary Services and Residence Life reserve the right to levy charges onto the student who is found responsible. This can include, but is not limited to, the costs related the improper discharge of a fire extinguisher, electrician and emergency services costs related to an improper fire alarm, the cost of repairing damaged or broken sprinkler systems, etc.

Tampering with fire safety equipment or the inappropriate use of fire safety equipment causes community harm. Evacuating a building, responding to an emergency alarm, flooding due to sprinkler activation, limited access to fire extinguishers due to discharge or theft, etc. all have significant impacts on the people who live and work in our residence communities.

I. NON-COOPERATION WITH UNIVERSITY STAFF / OFFICIALS AND EMERGENCY SERVICES PERSONNEL

It is expected that residents will cooperate with university staff and team members in our residence community. Residence Life, Front Desk, Security Services, Custodial, Facilities, Maintenance, and Dining Hall/Dalhousie Food Services staff are always to be treated with courtesy and respect. University staff / officials, whether professionals or students, have a right to a safe and respectful workplace.

It is also expected that emergency services personnel (including, for example, the Police and Fire Departments, as well as Emergency Health Services) will be treated appropriately. This includes following directives to seek medical attention.

Failure to cooperate and/or comply with a request includes; but is not limited to, such actions as refusing to comply with a specific request (e.g., to open a door, to dispose of alcohol, to relocate while smoking); refusing Residence Life or Security Services staff entry into a unit while carrying out their duties; running or walking away or intentionally evading a staff member, or encouraging others to do.

Verbal or physical harassment and/or emotional or physical abuse of university team members carrying out their duties will not be tolerated.

Failure to provide proper identification when requested to do so by a university team member is prohibited.

Failure to abide by sanctions or conditions assigned by Residence Life will fall under this policy. This includes failure to complete all tasks associated to assigned behaviour contracts due to previous Residence Code of Conduct violations.

m. UNSAFE USE OF OUR RESIDENCE BUILDINGS

For safety reasons, there are areas in residence buildings where residents are not permitted access. These areas include rooftops, mechanical, electrical (this includes tampering with electrical panels), and maintenance rooms; offices and administrative spaces; some dining hall related spaces such as kitchens; or any other space determined by the university.

Behaviours like throwing or dropping objects from a window or climbing out windows poses significant risks to the health and safety of our community and the students who live in residence. These actions are unsafe and explicitly not permitted.
IV. APPEALS

INITIATING AN APPEAL

A student may only submit an appeal if they have been found responsible for a violation of the Residence Code of Conduct and the resulting outcome is an eviction and/or financial payment. The student may submit an appeal request within five (5) calendar days of the decision letter date. To commence an appeal, students must complete an Appeal Request Form found online at dal.erezlife.com.

An appeal will be heard if at least one of the following conditions/grounds is met:

- There is new information presented in the appeal that could change the decision.
- There is evidence of bias and/or procedural error (a flaw in the process of investigating or considering an allegation).
- The sanction imposed is not consistent with the nature of the offense.

When requesting an appeal, the student must submit the Appeal Request Form indicating:

- The conditions/grounds under which the appeal is being made.
- The explanation/reasons that support the grounds for appeal.
- The requested resolution.
- Any other supplementary documentation/information.

The Residence Conduct Office will review the Appeal Request Form when it is received. The student must clearly state which of the three grounds for appeal have been met on the Appeal Request Form or the request for an appeal will be rejected and the student will be notified by email.

Submitting an appeal does not stay (postpone) or eliminate the decision under appeal. Therefore, students are required to adhere to all sanctions during the appeal application/process including residence transfers and evictions.

WHO WILL REVIEW THE APPEAL

All submitted appeals that have demonstrated grounds for an appeal (as stated above) will be reviewed by the Appeals Committee.

APPEAL COMMITTEE COMPOSITION (Halifax)

- Assistant Vice-Provost, Student Affairs (Chair of the committee) or their designate,
- Director, Residence Operations or Director, Dalhousie Security or their designate (dependent on availability)
- One (1) Student representative

APPEAL COMMITTEE COMPOSITION (Truro)

- Assistant Vice-Provost, Student Affairs (Chair of the committee) or their designate,
- Director, Residence Operations or Director, Dalhousie Security or their designate (dependent on availability)
- One (1) Student representative
PROCESS FOR APPEAL REVIEW AND DECISION MAKING

The case files (incident reports, appeal submission) related to the decision under appeal will be compiled by the Residence Conduct Office and distributed to the Appeals Committee. The original decision maker will be provided a copy of the appeal and will be required to submit a written response for the Appeal Committee to review along with the case files.

The Appeal Committee will conduct a review of the appeal submission within five (5) calendar days after receipt of the completed Appeal Request Form. The review will consider the incident file, supporting documents from the original decision, and any relevant new information submitted by the student.

The Appeal Committee will either overturn, amend, or uphold the original decision. Appeal decisions and reasons for those decisions shall be communicated to the student in writing.

All appeal decisions made by the Appeal Committee are final.
V. APPENDIX

1. EMERGENCY RESTRICTIONS

During emergency situations or recovery from a critical circumstance, Dalhousie University may choose to impose enhanced restrictions to support the safety, health and wellbeing of our students and the residence community. Critical measures may be required to respond to evolving emergencies situations (i.e. pandemic, public state of emergency, natural disasters).

When emergency restrictions are deemed appropriate, all students will be informed of applicable changes via their Dalhousie NetID email address. Notices will also be posted throughout residence. It is the student’s responsibility to remain up to date regarding all enhanced restrictions. In addition to the changes, the information provided to students will include the consequences of non-compliance to the new restrictions. Residence Life Managers and Residence Life Dons will be available to answer any questions or clarify required changes on behalf of residents.

Enhanced restrictions are considered part of the Residence Code of Conduct. During the time that enhanced restrictions are in effect, non-compliance to restrictions will be considered a violation of the Residence Code of Conduct. The procedures to investigate and follow-up after an alleged violation may be adapted to meet the needs of the community and current circumstances. The following are examples of restrictions that may be imposed as a result of evolving emergency situations:

- No guests allowed at any time for any reason. Current guests at the time of announced restrictions will be asked to leave the premises immediately.
- No travel between residence houses or floors. Students must stay on their assigned floor/house.
- Restricted or no access to residence lounges and kitchens.
- All residents may be required to use only an assigned door to enter and exit the building.
- Possession and consumption of alcohol, non-prescribed cannabis products and any recreational drugs are prohibited in all residences. To enforce this restriction, bag checks may be instituted at Residence Life’s discretion.
- Restrictions on the number of students allowed per room. Room parties or gatherings are prohibited.

Failure to comply with emergency restrictions will be considered a violation of the Residence Code of Conduct and could result in an immediate termination of your residence agreement, or within 48 hours, depending on the nature of the violation. Residents are also responsible for abiding by all relevant municipal, provincial, and federal laws and statutes, including relevant Municipality of Halifax (Halifax residences) or Colchester (Truro residences) by-laws, including Public Health directives. Failure to do so will be considered a violation of the Residence Code of Conduct.

At any time during the emergency, Residence Life may choose to add, alter, or remove any enhanced restrictions and will advise students of the change as per the procedure listed above.