



Safety and Security Fact Sheet

The safety and well-being of our students, faculty and staff – is paramount

- In 2009, the President commissioned a campus safety audit, which was conducted by METRAC (Metropolitan Action Committee on Violence Against Women and Children), a third-party safety audit firm. Their report, presented in June 2010 following extensive community consultation and engagement, was embraced by the York community. Over 100 recommendations are being implemented by the University.

Financial Investment:

- In 2011, York invested approximately \$9.5 million in safety and security-related expenses.
- As we continue to implement the METRAC recommendations, this figure will continue to grow, reflecting our ongoing commitment to safety.

York Housing Security

- A Property Watch Program is in place with 22 staff focusing on access control and residence security.
- All residences and student apartment buildings are equipped with door alarms and CCTV cameras.
- Regular mobile and foot patrols by York Security.

Safety and Security Enhancements:

- York is committed to improved lighting on campus. In the last two years we spent \$400,000 improving lighting in key areas.
- York has over 600 CCTV cameras located across campus.
- York has over 220 emergency phones on campus. Our exterior “blue” phones are now standardized and accessible to international standards. As well, safety phones have been installed in classrooms with direct lines to the Security Control Centre.
- 25 prominently located LCD emergency messaging screens are in place on the Keele campus. A program is now underway to install the screens at all York’s residences and in 25 other locations.
- Expanding York’s emergency messaging system, including the installation of a public address mass notification system.
- The University has recently hired 10 new security officials and 2 new security supervisors, augmenting its security force by 30%. The University has also hired a new manager of standards and training.

Safety & Security Planning

- York has had an Emergency Plan in effect since 2007, which is reviewed annually under the auspices of an Emergency Preparedness Advisory Committee.
- Over the past two years, over 225 York employees have participated in Violence/Threat Risk Assessment training with Kevin Cameron, considered to be the leading expert in North America.
- A Sexual Assault Initiatives Committee was established last year to bring together key groups offering services to victims and to coordinate victim support.
- A Management Safety Committee (MSC) chaired by Gary Brewer, Vice-President Finance & Administration was established in August 2010. Comprised of 20 senior administrators and managers, the MSC oversees the implementation of the audit’s recommendations.
- In November 2010, a Community Safety Council (CSC), Chaired by Pat Bradshaw, professor in the Schulich School of Business, was established. The CSC’s membership reflects the diversity, expertise and depth of the University community, along with external representation, including the local police division. The CSC is charged with community engagement and acts as the forum through which students, faculty and staff alike help to create a true culture of safety at York.

The University has a website which provides a listing of all the safety of all the safety programs and services that are available to the York community.