



- 8) How will the offender be reintegrated back into the classroom, school or community?
  
- 9) How is the public protected?
  
- 10) How are offenders held accountable for their actions?
  
- 11) How does the consequence take the maturity of the person into account?
  
- 12) Is the consequence fair? Why or why not?
  
- 13) How are the rights and privacy of the offender and the victim being protected?
  
- 14) Is the response timely? What is an appropriate time frame for beginning and completing the consequence?
  
- 15) How is the community involved in the consequence?
  
- 16) How are both the offender and the victim supported?

17) What mental or developmental considerations need to be made?

18) How are any special welfare needs of the offender considered (safety, housing, food)?

## Developing your own rule

---

1) Review your school's handbook, rules, or rights and responsibilities statement.

a) What kind of environment does your school want to project?

b) How can your school promote positive behavioural change if a student has a problem living up to these expectations?

c) There may be changes and adaptations to rules and over time in order to respond to issues that arise, but a cultural response to any community issue may be the most pervasive and effective response. How does your school or community foster a caring and supportive culture – not just through its rules and policy but through its actions? What are some specific examples?



## **Bullying Bylaws**

A number of communities in Alberta have instituted bullying bylaws. Section 7(a,b,c) of the Alberta Municipal Government Act R.S.A 2000, c. M-26 (<http://www.qp.alberta.ca/documents/Acts/m26.pdf>) empowers municipalities to regulate issues relating to: health, welfare and safety; people and activities in public places; and public nuisances. The following Alberta municipalities have considered this Act in addressing bullying.

### **Edmonton**

In Edmonton, bullying is addressed in the Public Places Bylaw #14614, Part II, Article 8(1-2): [http://www.edmonton.ca/bylaws\\_licences/C14614.doc](http://www.edmonton.ca/bylaws_licences/C14614.doc)

This bylaw relates to repeatedly communicating with minors in public places in a way that the minor may feel harassed. Offences carry a fine of \$250.

### **Grande Prairie**

Article 10 of the City of Grande Prairie's Noise, Nuisance and Public Disturbances bylaw, #C-1103 (<http://www.cityofgp.com/citygov/dept/cityclerk/bylaws/bc1103.htm>) specifically mentions bullying. It expands the scope to include incidences of bullying in public places and on public property, as well as via written or electronic communication. The bylaw defines bullying as comments, conduct or displays towards a person that may cause physical or emotional distress. The fine for first offence is \$250, and for a second offence from \$500-2500, The person charged may be given a choice of paying the fine or having the charge withdrawn and attending an educational anti-bullying session.

### **Rocky Mountain House**

Rocky Mountain House has a comprehensive bullying bylaw, 04/05V (<http://www.rockymtnhouse.com/Word-pdf/By-0405V-Bullying.pdf>) which applies not only to bullying but also to those who encourage a bully. The bylaw's definition of bullying includes real or threatened physical abuse, verbal abuse, emotional abuse, and extortion, be it in person, written or electronic.

The fine for a first offence is \$250 and for a second offence up to \$1000 (or six months imprisonment for non-payment). For bystanders the fine is \$100 and \$250 respectively.

### **Calgary**

The City of Calgary does not have a bullying bylaw. This was a conscious and purposeful decision, based on consultation with various organizations within the community and informed by current

research of bullying prevention. The City’s intent is to actively support anti-bullying programs through other means and strategies, and to take a comprehensive approach to correcting behaviour, rather than punishment and zero tolerance policies. For more background on this decision, refer to the following document on Calgary’s Alliance to End Violence website:

[http://www.endviolence.ca/pdf-download/55\\_alberta\\_roundtable\\_bullying\\_submission.pdf](http://www.endviolence.ca/pdf-download/55_alberta_roundtable_bullying_submission.pdf)



**COPYRIGHT INFORMATION AND CREDITS**

- This document is released under a Creative Commons license, which can be viewed online at: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/2.5/ca/>
- Some images included in this document are used under a Creative Commons license; all are credited in context where applicable.
- The John Howard Society of Alberta gratefully acknowledges the [Edmonton John Howard Society](#) for creating the original version of this module.
- For more information on this module, and other available modules, visit the John Howard Society of Alberta website: [www.johnhoward.ab.ca](http://www.johnhoward.ab.ca)