

If you think or know a child or youth is experiencing abuse or violence:

- stay calm and listen
- get only the basic facts, do not probe for details
- be supportive and provide reassurance
- do not make promises you cannot keep (eg. You'll never have to see the offender again)
- ensure their safety, and yours
- write down as much as you can of what the child or youth told you
- report as quickly as possible, any time of day or night:

Police: 9-1-1

**Ministry of Child & Family Development:
1.800.663.9122**

For more information on handling disclosures of abuse, and your legal duty to report, see:

www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/public-safety/protecting-children/reporting-child-abuse

If you are a child or youth who would like to talk to someone, you can call 24/7 and don't need to give your name:

The Helpline for Children: 310-1234

A service for children and youth to talk to a child protection social worker.

Kids Help Phone: Text CONNECT to 686868

Get help from a trained volunteer crisis responder about anything you are going through.

Youth Against Violence Line: 1-800-680-4264

or Text: 604-836-6381

Anonymous and confidential support.

It takes immense courage to tell someone about experiences of abuse or violence.

For more information, please visit our website:

thekoop.ca/sky

or contact your local SKY Coordinator:

SKY Coordinator North

Kaslo, Nakusp & Nelson

250-551-1129

skynorth@thekoop.ca

SKY Coordinator South

Castlegar, Salmo & Trail

250-551-1130

skysouth@thekoop.ca

Managed by



**KOOTENAY BOUNDARY
Community Services Co-operative**

*Funded by the Department of
Justice Canada and BC Ministry of Public
Safety & Solicitor General*



**Safe Kids & Youth
Coordinated Response**

**West Kootenay
Region**

thekoop.ca/sky

SKY is agencies working together to support a child or youth (up to age 19) who has experienced abuse or violence. A SKY Coordinated Response may include:

Joint Interviews

Specially trained police and MCFD interviewers collaborating where appropriate to reduce the number of times a child or youth has to re-tell details of their experience.



Child-friendly Rooms

Videotaped interviews in a child & youth friendly interview room where available.



Medical Examinations

Medical examination and collection of evidence by specially trained healthcare providers when appropriate.



System Navigation

Early involvement of Victim Services or another key worker for support through the entire process and to assist with coordination.



Team Communication

Ongoing information sharing including case review meetings when appropriate; continually improving the SKY Coordinated Response.



Support & Referrals

Referral to counseling and other resources for support for victim and non-offending caregivers when appropriate.



Coordination and collaboration are key to providing a more supportive experience for children, youth, and families.

SKY is a rural Child and Youth Advocacy Centre (CYAC) model. It was created through a collaboration of police, child protection, crown counsel, victim services, schools, health care, and community services that support children, youth, and families. SKY provides a more seamless response to child/youth abuse that reduces the potential for system-induced trauma.

View the SKY video here:

thekoop.ca/sky