



## **Mandate of the Student Advocacy Resource Centre**

- To offer support and presence to credit students who are engaged in self-advocacy at MRU
- To assist students in building and/or maintaining support systems, resources and skills at any point as they move through a formal MRU process
- To respect the voice, dignity and self-determination of students engaging in self-advocacy within formal MRU processes
- To maintain a confidential environment where students can feel heard, express feelings and air concerns while finding their advocacy voice
- To support students by listening non-judgementally to their concerns and situations with empathy and respect
- To be guided by students' choices during their process whenever possible
- To provide transparency and clarity on the services offered and the limits of service provided by the Student Advocacy Resource Coordinator or their designate
- To assist students who wish to learn effective communication, active listening, conflict management and de-escalation skills
- To support students in their voluntary efforts at building on existing skill strengths
- To provide a safe space where students can test new skills and receive feedback, if desired
- To support the collective student voice by communicating student advocacy group trends to the elected student representatives, as needed

## **Student Advocacy Service Disclaimer:**

*There are several services that the Student Advocacy Resource Centre does not provide students assistance with and as such, there are reasonable limitations to the direct-service(s) which are based on skill, educational background or available resources. The Student Advocacy Resource Coordinator or their designate:*

- Does not provide legal guidance or legal advice in any circumstance
- Does not present or advocate for students on their behalf on their issues/concerns in meetings/hearings
- Does not perform psycho-social interventions nor operate as a clinical Social Worker or Counsellor
- Does not compile or write student appeal documents (students should expect to come prepared with a document or to actively commit to the work of their document outside of services provided)



- Has no investigative weight, role or function in resolving or addressing a student's issues/ concerns beyond bringing group advocacy trends to SAMRU's elected student Executives, who are the voice of students
- Is not a mediator in conflict situations between students and MRU employees or other students
- Does not direct the student's course of action or services accessed: services and actions are the choice of students at all times
- Is not the sole or formal interpreter of MRU policy but can provide information on students' policy-related questions
- Service ends when the student does not contact the Student Advocacy Resource Coordinator or their designate after 30 days, after reasonable attempts at contacting the student have been made, and/or when it is determined that a student has initiated a legal or formal process external to MRU regarding a student's issue/concern(s)

**Please contact the Student Advocacy Resource Coordinator at any time for any questions or concerns about the above mandate and disclaimer. Thank you!**

Contact Information:

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