



SHIFT (Sexual Health and Intimacy for Teens) Program

Teacher Endorsements 2018/2019

“I had the *Hope for Women Pregnancy Services* come into my grade 9-12 Life Skills class to give a presentation and it was absolutely amazing. Not only was the content incredibly relevant to my students and important for all teenagers to understand, but the presenters did an outstanding job. They were very knowledgeable, confident, and certainly took into consideration who their audience was. They truly made the presentation worthwhile for the students by including a variety of topics and activities: this included videos, a fun quiz, and physical diagrams. Furthermore, they were both quite approachable and the students took an immediate liking to both of them. They shared appropriate personal stories about the topics being discussed which definitely drove home the overall message and ideas to the students. I would absolutely recommend this presentation to any educator who is wanting to cover sex education, healthy relationships, pregnancy, sexting, etc. with their students.”

-Alex Allen, Teacher, Aldergrove Community Secondary School

“Hope for Women was informative and professional. The group presented with knowledge and experience on pregnancy and pregnancy options. Having Elisabeth share her personal story was very powerful and helped bring in a personal perspective into pregnancy options. The speakers were relaxed and approachable, which made the students feel comfortable to open up and ask the tough questions. I wish that we had more time so that we could have gone more in-depth, and I think it would have been beneficial to have heard facts on the consequences of adoption, abortion, or keeping a baby.”

-Amanda Ridder, Teacher, Robert Bateman Secondary School

“Hope for Women's SHIFT presentation is an excellent choice for any course or unit on sexual health and maintaining good relationships. The presenters are dynamic, engaging, and are able to manage a full class of students with ease. They cover a variety of important topics, such as how pregnancy occurs, interesting facts about pregnancy, information on STIs and how they spread,

and other topics that are especially prevalent among teenagers, such as sexting. Hope for Women's representatives also always respond in a timely matter to inquiries, and I have found it very easy to connect with them and set up presentations. I would highly recommend this presentation as a way to process topics with students that they may normally find uncomfortable, in a safe and engaging way.”

-Teagan Gibson, Teacher, W.J. Mouat Secondary

“Hope for Women Pregnancy Services presented to my Family Studies 12 class at Langley Secondary School. Their presentation covered topics within the new BC curriculum such as STI's, practicing abstinence and safe sex, pregnancy and abortion. A new addition this year was the positive message about valuing our bodies and what a healthy, loving romantic relationship looks like. The three presenters offered relevant information along with personal stories that helped students connect and relate to the topics. I would highly recommend them for any Health or Family Studies class.”

-Nicole DeCambra, Teacher, Langley Secondary

“Thank you so much for coming in to present to our students; the overwhelming response from the students was that they felt very respected (not patronized 😊) that you were genuine with your message!”

-Kim Haber, Teacher, Aldergrove Community Secondary School

“SHIFT uses a number of learning tools to captivate and relate to such an impressionable, young audience. Their message about respect really resonates with the students and is a very valuable topic that continues throughout the entire lesson. The SHIFT presenters are incredibly open and approachable, putting everyone at ease with what can sometimes be a hard topic to breach with teenagers. I highly recommend this presentation to all middle schools and secondary grades where relationships and sex education can be appropriate.”

-Stephanie Sloan, Teacher, Abbotsford Senior Secondary

“Awesome presentation. It is important to inform students about the issues of sex. The Hope for Women do an extraordinary job of relating to the students where they are at.”

-Lyndon Friesen, Teacher, Abbotsford Senior Secondary

“We had SHIFT presenters come into our Planning 10 classes this year, they were fantastic! The presenters did a great job in equipping our students with skills to make healthy decisions having to do with relationships and sexual health/intimacy. They covered topics that helped students understand pregnancy, fetal development, and sexual health information. They kept the classes engaged with a variety of activities and techniques. Students had great feedback, ranging from “I learnt a lot in a fun way!” to “I felt safe and comfortable during the presentation”. This presentation was very informative, fun, and impacting for our students!”

-Sonali Johal, Teacher, Mission Secondary School

“Hope for Women is an exceptional organization and presented on very important and sensitive topics in a way that students could understand and be comfortable with. Their presentation was excellent, and the videos and discussions were captivating and interactive. It provided a brilliant link to our parenting unit in Family Studies and I would highly recommend them to speak to any audience.”

-Grant MacDonald, Teacher, Abbotsford Senior Secondary School

“The SHIFT presentation was both interesting and informative. The presenters did a great job of keeping the students engaged. They covered both the emotional side and the biological side of sex and pregnancy, and presented possible consequences and options in a non-judgmental way. They made the students comfortable enough to ask questions about sometimes uncomfortable topics. I would highly recommend having this group in to your school!”

-Heather Feenstra, Teacher, Abbotsford Senior Secondary School

“Our planning 10 classes at Rick Hansen Secondary enjoyed having Hope For Women at our school. They were very professional, excellent communication and did a great job making the students feel comfortable. The students reported a great deal of engagement and information which they found useful. As an educator I would recommend this presentation for all secondary classes. Students can benefit from having a channel of information which is presented to them in a calm, comfortable, and relaxed manner.”

-Jasvir Gill, Teacher, Rick Hansen Secondary School

“The SHIFT program presentation from Hope for Women Pregnancy Services starts a conversation with students about sexual health that extends beyond what they normally encounter. The feedback I received from my students was positive, and they appreciated that someone talked to them about sexual decision making, rather than only the “need-to-know” essentials. That being said, the practical information provided about contraception, pregnancy, and sexually transmitted infections was well researched and connected to the curriculum. I highly recommend this presentation to other educators.”

-Mrs. Ashleigh Wighton, Teacher, Rick Hansen Secondary School

“I am a high school teacher in Langley and I was fortunate to have discovered SHIFT who presented to my grade 9 and grade 10 PHE students. This was an excellent presentation that supported the sexual integrity theory component that is now required for PHE teachers to cover. The presentation opened with the stages of pregnancy and a fun and informative quiz to see what the students knew about pregnancy and babies. They then followed with STI’s facts. The presenters were professional, yet warm and kind to my students. The students seemed to learn a lot. I highly endorse this organization if you feel comfortable with a conservative, abstinence-based message for your students.”

-Ms J. Bisset, Teacher, Langley Fundamental Secondary School

“The Sexual Health and Intimacy For Teens presentation was very well suited for my Grade 9 class. The presenters from Hope for Women established a safe and open atmosphere for the students to ask questions, which they answered thoroughly and honestly. The activities and audiovisual resources were engaging and addressed the BC curriculum comprehensively. I would be happy to have them back to present to future classes.”

– Stuart Crowley, Teacher, DW Poppy Secondary, Langley

“The information from Hope for Women was excellent, and well suited to the updated BC curriculum. The students were engaged and the approach from the presenters encouraged the kids to ask questions. They also gave the option to write questions anonymously for those who felt uncomfortable asking aloud. I can honestly recommend the SHIFT presentation for teachers wanting engaging and informative guest speakers on the topic of healthy sexual decision making.”

– Nick Chabara, DW Poppy Secondary, Langley

“I had the opportunity to bring in Elisabeth and Jerad from Shift (Sexual Health and Intimacy for Teens) to speak to my Fitness and Wellness 10-12 classes and my Strength and Conditioning 10 class. They were extremely well prepared, had their own computer, and all the necessary handouts that would be needed for each individual student. All I needed to do was supply the classroom, projector and white board. The presentation was tailored to both female and male students and was easily understood by all, it followed the outline that they sent, was stimulating to the students and brought about a tremendous amount of questions and discussion. The presenters were professional and used many personal experiences to support discussions, the kids were interested and engaged. Was great to have Elisabeth and Jerad, they covered the topics that as Educators we must cover and did it in a professional and informative manner! Great work, both my students and I thank you. Look forward to booking dates for next year.”

-Doug McGinn, Teacher, Walnut Grove High School, Langley, BC

“I wrote a review for the ladies’ that presented. They were phenomenal! The kids were all so engaged, and the kids really got a lot from it! It's rare a class of 60 kids is all quiet and engaged for a full hour. These women are amazing presenters, very honest and open, and make it comfortable for all the students. Even the adults enjoyed the presentation! We would LOVE to have you guys back next year, both semesters this time :) I seriously cannot say enough nice things about Tia and Althea, they really are exceptional at not only public speaking, but keeping it interesting, fun, and comfortable for all. We want them back!

Thanks so much for reaching out and for all your organization and help. The kids truly took a lot away from these talks. You guys are a great organization!”

-Erin Gniwodda & Joe Mauro, Chilliwack Secondary