



**University
of Manitoba**

Price Faculty of Engineering

Office of the Dean
E2-290 EITC
75 Chancellors Circle
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Canada R3T 5V6
Telephone: 204 474 9809
umanitoba.ca/engineering

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Dear Staff and Students – Price Faculty of Engineering

There have been some safety concerns raised about an individual who has been following a professor in Engineering. I have been in contact with the Director, University Security Services and they assured me that they take these things very seriously and have taken steps to help ensure the safety of people on campus. With respect to this incident, steps included investigating the matter internally and contacting Winnipeg Police for assistance. At this point there is nothing criminal that has transpired but the police are actively investigating the matter and will be speaking with the individual.

Since there are fewer people on campus due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Security Services has been taking a proactive approach. These include additional patrols through the EITC building several times throughout the day and evening hours daily. They have also introduced a mobile safety app, called “UM Safe”, which I strongly encourage everyone to download. The app is available free of charge through the App Store and Google Play. The link to the app is noted below.

<https://umanitoba.ca/campus/security/programs/1375.html>

UM Safe sends safety alerts and provides instant access to campus safety resources. It includes “Work Alone” and “FriendWalk” features, and a Mobile BlueLight safety feature similar to the stationary blue lights on our campuses.

If at any point, while at the university, you feel unsafe or have a concern you should immediately contact the Security Services Department. If you download the safety app you could press the Mobile Blue Light and if you are within the University Safe Walk boundaries, Security Services will respond. Additionally, you can press the “Emergency Contacts” button. Please note that if you are outside the University Safe Walk boundaries, the Mobile Blue Light if pressed will go to 911.

Security Services can also be reached in the following ways:

1. 204-474-9312 (non-emergency)
2. 204-474-9341 (emergency)
3. 555 from University landlines
4. #555 from Rogers and Bell MTS cell phone customers

In terms of other safety tips the Director of Security Services has provided the following guidelines:

As you know, security is everyone’s responsibility and we are only as good as our weakest link. It is easy to overlook routine moments on campus, but as staff are going about their daily activities, it is recommended that if they “*see something that doesn't seem quite right, say something*”. By being alert and reporting suspicious activity immediately to Security Services, staff can protect our campus community. Safety incidents can happen anywhere and it is important to take safety precautions. More specifically:

- Always be alert to your surroundings and the people around you.
- If you feel uncomfortable with a situation or person, remove yourself from the situation.



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- Trust your intuition – if something feels wrong, then it probably is.
- If you work/study alone or after normal business hours, then ensure doors and windows are properly closed and locked.
- Report any harassing behaviour or communications (e.g. obscene emails, letters or telephone calls) to Security Services immediately.
- Report suspicious activities, criminal behaviour, property damage (e.g. graffiti) to Security Services.
- Never assume that an individual wandering through a building is a member of the University community.
- Asking simple questions such as, "May I help you?" or "Who are you here to see?" will discourage the dishonest, without intimidating the legitimate visitor.
- Never leave visitors alone in an office, work or reception area. Never disclose confidential information to a stranger, whether over the phone or in person.
- Finally, if you notice problems with safety equipment, such as discharged fire extinguishers, damaged emergency telephones, burned-out lights and malfunctioning electronic door access systems to the appropriate areas, please report immediately.

Below is a link to our Security Services webpage which contains additional information such as other safety initiatives and programs:

<https://umanitoba.ca/campus/security/>

If you have any questions or concerns please contact the perspective following individuals in the Dean's Office between 8:30 am to 4:30 pm:

- **Tyrone Hofer is available Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday at 204-474-9809 and**
- **Kendra Heinrichs is available Thursday and Friday at 204-474-9167**

Please note for after office hours you can email dean_engineering@umanitoba.ca.

Regards,

Nariman Sepehri
Nariman Sepehri, Ph.D. P.Eng.
Acting Dean
Price Faculty of Engineering