

RedMango Media

Workplace Prevention of Harassment and Anti- Discrimination Policy

Policy Statement RedMango Media is committed to providing and maintaining a work environment in which all employees are free from workplace harassment, sexual harassment and discrimination. Under the Human Code everyone has a right to equal treatment in employment without discrimination and the right to be free of harassment in the workplace. Such actions are not tolerated and, are to be addressed.

RedMango Media will not tolerate, ignore, or condone harassment, discrimination, or reprisal of any of its employees in the workplace by anyone, including employees, member of the public, customers/clients, or consultants. Workplace harassment, discrimination, and reprisal are serious forms of misconduct that may result in corrective and/or disciplinary actions, up to and including termination of employment.

Purpose

This policy statement and procedure outlines the procedures to be followed regarding workplace and sexual harassment and discrimination so that employees reporting alleged incidents will know the matter will be treated confidentially and may be reported without fear and retaliation or reprisal.

The Ontario *Human Rights Code* (the *Code*) provides for equal rights and opportunities, and freedom from discrimination. The *Code* recognizes the dignity and worth of every person in Ontario.

Under the *Code*, every person has the right to be free from racial discrimination and <u>harassment</u>. People should not be treated differently because of your race or other related grounds, such as your ancestry, colour, place of origin, ethnic origin, citizenship or creed. This applies to areas covered by the *Code* such as the workplace.

Scope

This Statement of Policy and Procedure applies to all employees.

This Statement of Policy and Procedure applies only during working time, but to any activities on or off company premises which would reasonable be associated with the workplace (e.g.: social event).

Responsibility

All employees, and particularly employees in management positions, are responsible for ensuring discrimination and harassment are NOT tolerated and, where possible are redressed. The manager/supervisor/owner is responsible for providing a work environment that is free from discrimination and harassment. This responsibility includes actively promoting a positive, harassment-free work environment and intervening when problems occur. Employees are requested to report promptly when they become aware of, or hear of, alleged actions or complaints of discrimination or harassment.

Definitions

Prevention of Harassment and Anti-discrimination document

The following definitions are intended to assist employees in understanding terms referenced in this policy. To the extent definitions may not be identical to legal definitions, they shall be interpreted and applied in accordance with applicable legislation, including the *Human Rights Code* and *Occupational Health and Safety Act*.

- 2.1 **Discrimination** Actions or behaviours that result in unfavourable treatment or which have a negative impact on an individual or group because of one or more of the prohibited grounds listed in the *Human Rights Code*. Discrimination may be intentional or unintentional. It may involve direct actions that are outright discriminatory, or it may involve rules, practices or procedures that appear neutral, but disadvantage certain groups of people.
- 2.2 **Disrespectful Behaviour** Failing or refusing, through words or actions, to treat others in a professional, courteous, civil, dignified, fair, and equitable manner.
- 2.3 **Harassment** Engaging in offensive, hurtful, upsetting, or embarrassing comment or conduct that a person knows or ought reasonably to know is unwelcome. The fact that a person does not explicitly object to harassing behaviour, or appears to be going along with it, does not mean the behaviour is welcomed, consented to, or is not harassing. Harassment usually involves more than one incident or a pattern of behaviour, but a single incident may be sufficiently serious, offensive, or harmful to constitute harassment.

Harassment may be:

- **a) Personal** directed at an individual(s) but not based on any prohibited ground listed in the *Human Rights Code*; or
- **b)** Code-based based on one or more of the prohibited grounds listed in the *Human Rights Code*. Code-based harassment is also a form of discrimination.

Harassment of a worker in the workplace, including sexual harassment of a worker in a workplace, is collectively referred to as "workplace harassment" for the purposes of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*.

- 2.4 **Poisoned Work Environment** A hostile, humiliating, or uncomfortable workplace that is created by comments or conduct (including comments or conduct that are condoned or allowed to continue when brought to the attention of management) that intimidate, demean, or ridicule a person or group. The comments or conduct need not be directed at a specific person, and may be from any person, regardless of position or status. A single comment or action, if sufficiently serious, may create a poisoned work environment. Pornography, pin-ups, offensive cartoons, insulting slurs or jokes, and malicious gossip are examples of comments and conduct that can "poison the workplace" for employees.
- 2.5 **Prohibited Grounds** The *Human Rights Code* prohibits harassment and discrimination in employment based on one or more of the following grounds:
 - race
 - ancestry
 - place of origin

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- colour
- ethnic origin
- citizenship
- creed (religion, including atheism)
- sex (includes pregnancy and breast feeding)
- sexual orientation
- gender identity
- gender expression
- age
- record of offences (criminal conviction for a provincial offence or for an offence for which a pardon has been received)
- marital status (includes married, single, widowed, divorced, separated, living together in a conjugal relationship outside of marriage, whether in a same-sex or opposite sex relationship)
- family status (such as being in a parent-child relationship)
- disability (includes mental, physical, developmental, or learning disabilities)
- association or relationship with a person identified by one of the listed grounds
- perception that one of the listed grounds applies, whether or not it actually does
- 2.6 **Reprisal** Any act of retaliation or revenge against a person for:
 - Raising a concern or making a complaint under this policy (whether on their own behalf or on behalf of another)
 - Participating or cooperating in an investigation or other complaint resolution process under this
 policy
 - Associating with or assisting a person identified in the above bullets.
- 2.7 **Sexual Harassment** Harassment based on sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression and includes:
- a) Engaging in offensive, hurtful, upsetting, or embarrassing comment or conduct because of sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression that a person knows or ought reasonably to know is unwelcome:
- b) Making a sexual solicitation (i.e. request) or advance where the person making the solicitation or advance is in a position to confer, grant or deny a benefit or advancement and the person knows or ought reasonably to know that the solicitation or advance is unwelcome; and
- c) Retaliating against or threatening to retaliate against an individual for the rejection of a sexual solicitation or advance where the retaliation or threat of retaliation is by a person in a position to confer, grant or deny a benefit or advancement to the individual.

Sexual harassment of a worker in the workplace is referred to as "workplace sexual harassment" for the purposes of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*.

2.8 **Supervisor** – When referenced in this policy means a management supervisor.

2.9 **Workplace** – Includes all sites, facilities, and other locations where the business, work, or social activities of Red Mango Media takes place

Procedure

Step 1-Self help

Employees are encouraged to attempt to resolve their concerns by direct communication with the person (s) engaging in the unwelcome conduct. Where employees feel confident or comfortable in doing so, communicate disapproval in clear terms to the person(s) whose conduct or comments are offensive. Keep a written record of the date, time, details of the conduct, and witnesses, if any.

Step 2- Management support and Intervention

Employees who are not confident or comfortable with Step 1 and who believe they are victims of discrimination or harassment, or become aware of situations where such conduct may be occurring, are encouraged to report these matters to any of the following: the manager/supervisor or any person designated to deal with harassment complaints from time to time.

Step 3- Formal Complaint

If informal attempts at resolving the issue are not appropriate, or proving to be ineffective, a formal complaint may be filed all formal complaint will need to be completed in writing first to manager. The letter shall include a brief account of the offensive conduct/incident, when it occurred (date & time), the person(s) involved, names of witnesses, if any. The letter could include the remedy sought and be signed and dated by the person complaining

All formal complaints shall be investigated in a confidential manner. Information concerning a complaint, or action taken as a result of the investigation, will not be released to anyone who is not involved with the investigation. For additional information on this process the Human Rights or *Occupational Health and Safety Act*.

Disciplinary action for violations of the Statement of Policy and procedure will take into consideration the nature and impact of the violations, and may include a verbal or written reprimand, suspension (with or without pay) or termination(with or without notice).