



BC Lions tackle big topics at Hope Secondary School

Be More than a Bystander is put on by BC Lions in conjunction with EndingViolence.org

SARAH GAWDIN / May. 20, 2019 8:00 a.m. / [COMMUNITY](#) / [LOCAL NEWS](#)

With Mother Nature blooming across the Fraser Valley, members of the BC Lions football team made their way to Hope Secondary School to tackle an important issue.

Held in conjunction with EndingViolence.org, the *Be More than a Bystander* presentation “focuses on empowering students to get involved when they see violence perpetrated toward another person,” explained Marianne Brueckert, Victim Services program manager with the Upper Fraser Valley Regional Detachment.

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The presentation is a groundbreaking partnership between the BC Lions and Ending Violence Association of BC (EVA) that sees sports icons using their status and public profile to create awareness and urge everyone to “Break the Silence on Violence Against Women.

For Hope’s presentation, “the focus (was) relationships and dating violence for this age group ... and it went really well,” Brueckert continued.

This presentation follows up on the Domestic Violence forum held in October that profiled the story of Maple Batalia’s death at the hands of her ex-boyfriend.

After a presentation in the gymnasium, HSS’s social justice class did a break-out group with Mitchell Barnett and Jordan Herdman-Reed, both BC Lions players, to expand on what steps can be taken to get involved when one witnesses violence.

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