



Sexual Violence
APPENDIX D – Age of Consent Chart

Ages of Consent

Consent laws can often be confusing to understand, and are subject to change. The chart below may be useful when deciding if a particular relationship is consensual in the eyes of the law.

Can consent be given if.....

The youth is.... → ↓ And the other person is...	Under 12	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	Under 12	*	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Same Age	No	Yes**	Yes**	Yes**	Yes**	Yes**	Yes**	Yes	Yes	Yes
Less than One Year Older	No	Yes**	Yes**	Yes**	Yes**	Yes**	Yes**	Yes	Yes	Yes
Less than Two Years Older	No	Yes**	Yes**	Yes**	Yes**	Yes**	Yes**	Yes	Yes	Yes
Less than Three Years Older	No	No	No	Yes**	Yes**	Yes**	Yes**	Yes	Yes	Yes
Less than Four Years Older	No	No	No	Yes**	Yes**	Yes**	Yes**	Yes	Yes	Yes
Less than Five Years Older	No	No	No	Yes**	Yes**	Yes**	Yes**	Yes	Yes	Yes
More than Five Years Older	No	No	No	No	No	Yes**	Yes**	Yes	Yes	Yes

*Children under the age of 12 cannot consent to any sexual activity with any other age. However, it is not an offence if two children under 12 engaged in sexual activities.

**This does not apply if one of the individuals is in a position of trust or authority towards the other, one is in a relationship of dependency with the other, or if the relationship between them is found to be exploitative.

Other Considerations

The law also provides for the protection of persons with mental or physical disabilities without any age restrictions.

Fredericton Sexual Assault Centre
www.fsacc.ca
24 Hour Support Line: (506) 454-0437