



CanFURence Code of Conduct

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Our goal is to bring together those who share an interest in all things anthropomorphic (or 'furry') in an environment of acceptance within which we can share our collective interests.

This Code of Conduct is our way to ensure our attendees enjoy our events. It also must ensure we retain a positive reputation and relationship with our venue, the furry community, and the general public.

In case of any apparent conflict between the provisions of this Code of Conduct and any other policy enacted by CanFURence, this Code of Conduct takes precedence.

Nearly all of our Code of Conduct is based on common sense and is in place to provide a safe and enjoyable 'furry-friendly' environment for everyone. Should you have any questions, please e-mail info@canfurence.ca for further information.

1. Guiding Principle

Anything that harms or interferes with our event's reputation or operations is not permitted.

Our Code of Conduct is not an exhaustive list of do's and don'ts. Any behaviour that harms our reputation or interferes with the operations of CanFURence is strictly forbidden. This includes, but is not limited to, its relations and reputation with our community, municipality, venue, or the public. This also includes interfering with or disregarding instructions or guidance from CanFURence staff during the performance of their duties.

2. Con Badges & Admission

Con badges must, without exception, be worn where visible at all times while in event space.

- a. **Worn and visible at all times:** Your con badge is the only acceptable proof of admission into events space. Our events are private, so all attendees must wear their con badge where readily visible to enter and to remain in con space. Anyone not wearing their badge may be told to leave con space.
- b. **Non-Transferable:** Your con badge cannot be loaned, given, resold, or used by anyone else for any reason during the event.
- c. **Photo I.D.:** You must present valid photo identification that proves your identity and age in order to receive your con badge. This can include a driver's license, Photo ID Card, or passport.
- d. **Minors:** Minors are event attendees who are under the age of 18 by the event start date. Minors are identified by specifically-marked badges. All minors attending the event must have the consent of their parent or legal guardian to attend the con. In addition, any minor under the age of 15 MUST be accompanied at all times by a parent, legal guardian, or authorized chaperone while in event space.
- e. **Disclaimer:** All con badges remain the property of CanFURence for the duration of the event and must be presented for examination by con staff and surrendered to CanFURence security upon request.
- f. For further information, please consult our Registration Policy.

3. Our Rating

Between 08:00 and 21:00, CanFURence activities and event space are rated PG.

After 21:00, the rating becomes PG-13.

- a. PG refers to "Parental Guidance Suggested" which means that some material may not be suitable for young children.
- b. PG-13 signifies "Parents Strongly Cautioned"; some material may be inappropriate for pre-teenagers.
- c. Attendees must dress, costume, and conduct themselves in accordance with our standard rating at all times, but especially in any area visible to non-attendees or the public. A good general guideline

is “would the dress/behaviour be welcome in a public park or local library?” Please restrict any conduct that does not conform to this to the privacy of your home or hotel room.

- d. Imagery or messages that promote or spread hate are always forbidden.
- e. Should an attendee be uncertain of the appropriateness of a behaviour or piece of attire, they should seek approval ahead of time via email at info@canfurence.ca or, during events, at the Attendee Services desk.
- f. Any display of item(s) including artwork and merchandise must be limited to PG or made to conform with our PG rating (such as stickers completely obscuring any explicit portion of artwork).
- g. Exception requests to our standard rating may be submitted to directors@canfurence.ca in advance.
- h. The following applies to approved adults-only events or areas:
 - i. They must be clearly identified as adults-only upon submission panel/event;
 - ii. Proper control must be exercised so that only adults can access them;
 - iii. Display of adults-only material must be contained within the designated adults-only event or area. Attendees must ensure that they maintain the event’s PG rating when travelling to or from adult events or areas.

4. **Alcohol**

NO alcohol EXCEPT where permitted (hotel bar/restaurant and private hotel rooms); alcohol is not permitted in event space.

Alcohol must only be in the possession of, and only be consumed by, persons of legal drinking age (19 in Ontario) or older, and only when served by a venue bartender/waiter and consumed within that venue’s licensed areas; or when consumed in the privacy of your hotel room.

Please note:

- i. Alcohol is not served or permitted in event space.
- ii. Alcoholic beverages are permitted only to persons 19 years of age and older by Ontario law. Anyone who provides/serves alcohol to a minor and any person under the age of 19 who consumes alcohol is breaking the law and may have their attendance privileges permanently revoked and/or be reported to the police.
- iii. The sole exception to (i.) is with prior written authorization from the CanFURence chair(s) for special circumstances.

Please enjoy responsibly. While we are all here to have fun, any individual who is intoxicated to the point where they pose a risk to themselves or others will be asked to leave, either temporarily or permanently, at staff discretion.

5. **Smoking, e-cigarette and vaping**

In accordance with venue policy, smoking, e-cigarette and vape use is prohibited in any hotel room, venue, or balcony.

Smoking, e-cigarettes, and vaping are governed by provincial and municipal laws in addition to the venue’s own policies. You may not smoke or vape within the hotel, any hotel rooms, balconies, or close to entrances to the building.

Attendees are further cautioned that smoking or vaping in hotel rooms is not only against the law, the hotel also reserves the right to charge the renter the full cost of carpet/upholstery cleaning. This cleaning charge may be in the hundreds of dollars.

6. **Event Space, Hotel Rooms & Room Parties**

Be considerate of our hosts and your fellow attendees and hotel guests.

a. **Event Space**

- i. We must remain welcome guests at our venue, without which CanFURence cannot take place. We ask that all attendees treat the area, its employees, and its fixtures with all due care and respect.
- ii. Do not post any notice or advertisement, and do not tape/glue/etc. anything to the walls, doors, windows, ceiling, floors or furniture of our venue without first securing permission from our staff.
- iii. Do not attempt to alter, misuse, damage, or misplace any object within the venue space.
- iv. Attendees are further advised to immediately follow any request from venue employees. In case of disagreement, attendees and staff must first comply with the request, then notify Attendee Services and provide details.

b. **Hotel Rooms**

- i. It is hotel policy that the renter of the room is ALWAYS responsible for their room's condition and any use thereof;
- ii. Vandalism of, damage to, or destruction of hotel/venue property may result in severe consequences including, but not limited to, revocation of attendance privileges for the event.

c. **Room Parties**

We love parties! Please party responsibly and show courtesy to your fellow hotel guests. To ensure individuals' actions do not adversely affect others, the following rules apply:

- i. During nighttime hours (23:00 – 07:00), noise must not be audible in other hotel rooms. To minimise noise, keep doors completely closed with a door hanger sign to knock;
- ii. Room gatherings/parties may not extend into the corridors for any reason – keep doors closed to limit the number of parties;
- iii. Party hosts and participants are reminded of Rule #4 (providing alcohol to minors is illegal) and Rule 5 (smoking/vaping within hotel rooms is not permitted).

CanFURence staff and security will do their utmost to help resolve noise and conduct complaints, however the hotel reserves the right to take immediate and independent action against any room and occupants thereof who are noisy or disruptive.

7. **Weapons and related items**

No real weapons, or weapons that appear real.

Important: Any prop that could be mistaken for an actual weapon, even to a casual observer, at a quick glance, and from a distance, must first be inspected and approved by CanFURence security.

- a. No real firearms permitted (except for law enforcement officers within their jurisdiction).
- b. CanFURence security have the authority to approve, deny, or restrict the carry, display, and/or use of any particular weapon or item at CanFURence. CanFURence security may apply additional conditions such as 'only during specific events'. Decisions may be appealed to a Security Lead.
- c. No weapon or item may be brandished, aimed at anyone or otherwise displayed in a threatening manner. Projectile launching devices (including foam dart and water guns) may never be loaded or contain propellant of any kind. Exceptions requests, including details such as a designated time and place as well as clear rules, must be submitted in advance to info@canfurence for CanFURence security for approval.

- d. Lasers or laser sights may not be used in event space. CanFURence security may at their discretion permit such sights to remain on props if rendered inert (example: batteries removed and/or lens covered). Decisions may be appealed to a Security Lead.
- e. Items carried within event space must immediately be presented for inspection upon request by CanFURence staff. Failure to comply may result in loss of item or event attendance privileges.

Disclaimer: For the protection of our attendees and our events, CanFURence reserves the right to revoke all previously granted prop carrying privileges at any time. The concerned attendee must immediately remove the item(s) from the event space. The decision may then be appealed to a Security Lead.

8. Harassment

Consent applies – “No means no”.

- a. Behaviour towards another individual or group that is generally considered unacceptable or harmful, along with any conduct including, but not limited to intimidation, threats, unwelcome physical contact, stalking, etc. will not be tolerated. If someone has stated they no longer wish to interact with you, stop.
- b. Attendees are encouraged to immediately report any such incident to CanFURence security, Attendee Services or to a Staff member. Your safety at the event is our highest priority, and we want to make sure everyone is able to enjoy the event as much as possible.
- c. CanFURence is not the place to start or continue disputes. Our staff cannot resolve interpersonal conflicts or preemptively ban someone from attending based solely upon such. Our events are gathering places where one can meet and share common interests with others. Behaviour that is disruptive and detrimental will not be tolerated.

Inclusiveness: We are committed to providing a welcoming environment to all, regardless of race, colour, national origin or ancestry, creed or religion, sex or gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, or age. Any harassment or discrimination against any individual or group is unwelcome at our event.

9. Selling or Advertising Goods or Services

Only by authorized businesses/dealers, and in designated areas.

- a. Advertising or selling goods or services may only be undertaken by persons approved by CanFURence (issued a Dealers badge);
- b. Advertising or selling goods or services is permitted only in designated areas;
- c. Any and all applicable fees which are due to CanFURence must be paid in full prior to any setup of advertising or sales space;
- d. Compliance with all applicable local, provincial and federal laws governing the advertising and sale of goods and services remains the vendor’s sole responsibility.
- e. Vendors are responsible for checking event badges (and, when applicable, for confirming the age of attendees) while making sales.
- f. All goods and services advertised or sold must comply with our rating (refer to Rule #3).

10. Pets and Service Animals

Only service animals are allowed.

- a. Pets are not permitted in event space for safety and allergy-related reasons.

CanFURence Anthropomorphic Events Inc is happy to ensure its events are as accessible as possible.

- b. At all times while in event space, the attendee is responsible:

- to ensure their service animal is readily identifiable as such (by a harness, vest, etc.), and to present to registration and/or security staff, upon request, documentation from a regulated healthcare professional attesting that they require a service animal,
 - to ensure the service animal is badged at all time while in event space,
 - to be with their service animal at all times,
 - to make reasonable efforts to ensure the wellbeing of their service animal, such as being attentive to signs of distress indicating the service animal may be overwhelmed,
 - to make reasonable efforts to ensure that the service animal has minimal impact on the event's operations (e.g. by ensuring that the service animal does not block passageways as attendees wearing fursuits have limited vision),
 - to notify a CanFURence staff member immediately if the service animal urinates, defecates or vomits in event space.
- c. Attendees should never pet a service animal without their handler's permission.
 - d. Attendees should give service animals the space they need to assist their handlers.
 - e. Only actual (non-sapient) service animals may be leashed to someone else.

11. Photography, the media, and you

Media representatives must receive a pre-authorization by CanFURence to be permitted in event space. Photography is not permitted in certain areas.

- a. CanFURence remains a private event. Consequently, media/reporters are permitted in event space ONLY after registering as media with, and obtaining a media pass from CanFURence. To obtain an accreditation to cover a CanFURence event, please see our Media Policy.
- b. Representatives of the media should always ask for your consent prior to interviewing, photographing, filming or otherwise recording an attendee. Your consent may be revoked (while the representative of the media is in the event space) if you feel uncomfortable, or misrepresented, or if you change your mind.
- c. Attendees must behave responsibly when interviewed by, or in the presence of any media.
- d. Should an attendee experience or witness any actions by, or interactions involving representatives of the media which they believe to be inappropriate (violation of consent, misrepresentation, etc.), they should immediately seek the assistance of a CanFURence staff member.
- e. CanFURence reserves the right to take photographs or video footage for promotional purposes. See our Privacy Policy for more details.
- f. Photography is not permitted in our Art Show or Headless Lounge. No artwork or merchandise may be photographed without first obtaining consent from the artist or dealer.

12. Limitation of Liability

By registering for and attending an event organized by CanFURence Anthropomorphics Events Inc., you agree that our organization and its associated directors, committees, staff and volunteers shall be indemnified and held unaccountable from any damage or loss of personal property, as well as any personal injury or death arising out of your attendance at the event.

This agreement is binding upon you, as well as your heirs, next of kin, executors and administrators. If the attendee is under 18, the parent or legal guardian must agree on their behalf.

13. Penalties

As stated previously, much of what is covered in our Code of Conduct relates to 'worst case' scenarios. We as an organization must be prepared to address such possibilities but, together with our attendees, do not expect them to occur.

As a group, we are dedicated to welcoming and bringing together as many people as possible to join in the furry fun, enjoy our events, and share common interests.

Invoking the sanctions listed below may run contrary to our 'raison d'être', however we will not hesitate to do so. This is for the protection of our staff members' and attendees' health and safety. It is to ensure our collective right to share and enjoy our friendly, disruption-free, and harassment-free environment.

Code of Conduct violations may result in one or more of the following actions taken against those responsible:

- Warning issued by CanFURence Staff or Security;
- Suspension of access to one or more areas of CanFURence;
- Temporary or indefinite revocation of attendance/participation in all CanFURence activities and events, without refund;
- Further action taken by hotel/venue management;
- Notification and involvement of law enforcement;
- Civil and/or criminal prosecution.

Conclusion

The overwhelming majority of those who attend and participate in our events do so for their enjoyment and the betterment of the furry community. They're here to share in and promote good fun at CanFURence and in the furry community as a whole.

Odds are you belong to this group. We'd like to express our gratitude to your commitment to make the most of our welcoming, fun-loving environment. You have our thanks for remaining considerate of others and upholding our community's positive reputation and values.

Based on Universal Code of Conduct (UCC) framework for furry conventions version 1.0