



**Summit
2021**

***Disrupt* and Reconstruct**

Virtual Summit Report

Held October 27-29, 2021



LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Community-Based Research Centre acknowledges the historic and ongoing impacts of colonization on Indigenous Peoples in Canada, including countless lives lost, as well as racist systems and institutions that continue to marginalize Indigenous Peoples. We commit to decolonization and reconciliation as an essential part of equity and inclusion for queer, trans, Two-Spirit, and non-binary people. We acknowledge that we must work continually and meaningfully to give back space in which Indigenous Peoples can thrive and feel safe.

CBRC's work extends across Turtle Island, which includes the land now known as Canada. Specifically, we recognize that we live and operate on the traditional and unceded territories of the following Peoples:

- The Lkungen (Esquimalt and Songhees), Malahat, Pacheedaht, Scia'new, T'Sou-ke and WSÁNEĆ (Pauquachin, Tsartlip, Tsawout, Tseycum) Peoples (Victoria)
- The Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh (Vancouver)
- The Musqueam, Squamish, Tsleil-Waututh, Stó:lō, Qayqayt, and Stz'uminus Peoples (Burnaby)
- The Qayqayt First Nation (New Westminster)
- The Semiahmoo, Katzie, Kwikwetlem, Kwantlen, Qayqayt, and Tsawwassen First Nations (Surrey)
- The Kwikwetlem First Nation and Coast Salish People (Coquitlam)
- The Nehiyaw (Cree) and Michif (Métis) in Amiskwaciwâskahikan (Edmonton)
- The Niitsitapi (Blackfoot) and the People of the Treaty 7 region in Southern Alberta, which includes the Siksika, the Piikuni, the Kainai, the Tsuut'ina and the Stoney Nakoda First Nations, including Chiniki, Bearpaw, and Wesley First Nations, and the Métis (Calgary)
- The Anishnaabeg, Haudenosaunee, and Ojibway/Chippewa Peoples (Stratford)
- The Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation of the Anishnaabeg Peoples (Guelph)
- The 'Erie, Neutral, Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee, Mississaugas and Anishnaabeg Peoples (Hamilton)
- The Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, Haudenosaunee and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (North York and Mississauga)
- The Wendat, Anishnaabeg, Haudenosaunee, Métis, and the Mississaugas of Credit First Nation (Toronto)
- The Algonquin Anishnaabeg (Ottawa)
- The Kanien'kehá:ka (Montreal)
- As well as the Beothuk, Mi'kmaq, and Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet), Innu, and Inuit communities of Atlantic Canada

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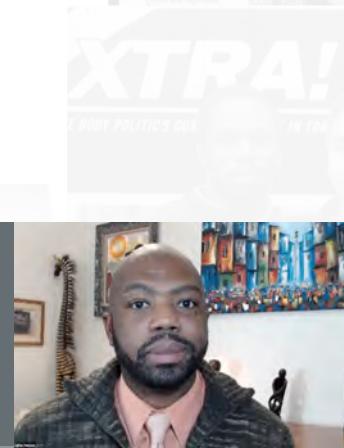
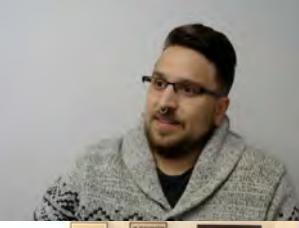
Jumbo Virtual Events

Community-Based Research Centre (CBRC) promotes the health of people of diverse sexualities and genders through research and intervention development. CBRC's core pillars—community-led research, knowledge exchange, network building, and leadership development—position the organization as a thought leader, transforming ideas into actions that make a difference in our communities. Financial support for Summit 2021 is provided by the Public Health Agency of Canada, Women and Gender Equality Canada, our presenting partner ViiV Healthcare, pre-Summit event series sponsor Gilead Sciences. The views herein do not necessarily represent the views of the funding organizations and sponsors.

The media partners for Summit 2021 were Xtra and Squirt.org.

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should be treated like an option. The
possibility of sexual contact leads
to a desire to explore, to learn, to
experience, to grow.

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For details see Page A1.

Letter from the Summit 2021 Director

This year was a tough year. It was another year with COVID-19, and another year of organizing, research, and advocacy for the health and wellbeing of our communities in the midst of what feels like a never-ending pandemic. However, once again we left the Summit inspired and invigorated by the dedication, perseverance, and optimism of this year's presenters and participants. For this, we thank you!

By KEN AND

an Sex a sex manual written by Gays and Lesbians of UBC
erred through a local book store never made it to the shelves
their library. The book remains in an office of Revenue
ada and Customs Excise or some such, says Curtis Stur
d Lesbians of UBC.

ex is just one of three books i

's which Canada Customs & Distr
Men by Mitch Walker and
ntry by Joann Hart. We
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ARE

When I sat down to write last year's letter, a part of me wondered if we would be permitted to gather in person in 2021. Given the success and reach of our 2020 conference, we already knew we wanted to keep a large part of the conference digital. But we also knew we wanted a few in-person events. Having a chance to meet one's colleagues and make new connections has always been a part of what made Summit special. The virtual format doesn't always do that as well—but it doesn't mean we're never going to try.

For instance, Summit 2021 opened with our first ever Two-Spirit Gathering, with more than 70 Two-Spirit and queer Indigenous people from across Turtle Island attending the online afternoon session. Despite not being able to have everyone in the same space together, the virtual event ended up being joyous, celebratory, and a huge success, reaching people as far as Northwest Territories and Oklahoma. It was so popular, that CBRC's Two-Spirit Program Team has committed to organizing more of these online discussion spaces going forward.

Like the year before, Summit 2021 also drew a record number of participants. More than 600 people took part in the 28 live conference sessions held online over three days. The theme of Disrupt and Reconstruct was a powerful one, and we heard from a variety of perspectives on how we can achieve health equity and leverage disruption, innovation, and mobilization to address the gaps—whether they be around HIV and STBBIs, social determinants of health, gender affirming care, substance use, or Two-Spirit health and wellness, to name a few.

CBRC also took the opportunity at Summit 2021 to officially announce a change in mission. We've come a long way since we were founded in 1999 as a gay men's health organization, and as a response to the neglect that gay men experienced within health, research, and political systems and HIV. But as we've grown and taken on additional health issues, we've also understood the need to be more inclusive and responsive to the diversity in the community. As we grow into our broader mission and mandate, we're committed to continue using the Summit as a platform for knowledge exchange and community building for 2SLGBTQ+ communities.

Michael Kwag

Director, Knowledge Exchange and Policy Development

2021 Theme: Disrupt and Reconstruct

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused huge disruptions and innovations, alongside significant loss, preventable death, and increased criminalization. Measures previously thought impossible—large-scale income supports, stay-at-home orders, restrictions on travel—were swiftly implemented. Now, as vaccination rates rise across Canada, a growing sense of optimism is emerging about a return to normal. Yet reactions range as restrictions ease, depending on what our lives looked like before and during the pandemic.

For many gay, bi, trans, Two-Spirit and queer (GBT2Q) people, that return to the status quo does not inspire hope. We've spent decades pushing back against a so-called "universal" health care system that has often failed our communities – even more so for those of us impacted by systemic and intersecting oppression based on race, income, ability, and more. The pandemic, in many ways, amplified the injustices and inequities embedded within our systems and society. Rather than a return to normal, we must leverage the disruption caused by COVID-19 to reimagine a system that addresses the gaps in care that existed before the pandemic and were heightened during it.

This includes addressing persisting gaps, such as:

- The uneven coverage of, and access to, critically important care, including medications to treat and prevent HIV/STBBIs, gender-affirming care, and mental health and harm reduction services.
- The lack of cultural competency in our healthcare system, including providers who often know little to nothing about our bodies, sexual relationships, and drug use, and who are unable to understand the importance of our pronouns and partners.

As advocates, community-based organizations, and researchers, we've attempted to push for change on structural

barriers and social determinants before, and we are long overdue for widespread, systemic change. As we head into a "post-pandemic" era, coupled with reinvigorated calls for racial justice, truth and reconciliation, many Two-Spirit, queer, trans and non-binary people are mobilizing to disrupt the systems that have failed our communities. As long as Canada's health care system continues to prioritize some bodies over others, health equity will remain a foundational challenge to address.

At Summit 2021, we prioritize how we achieve equity in health care for our communities. If there are no limits in this reimagined system, what programming or services can be envisioned to address HIV/STBBIs, mental health, substance use, and other health and social issues that do not reinforce existing disparities? Summit 2021 challenges participants to lean into the disruption of the pandemic as an opportunity to rewrite routines of care and deconstruct systems that continue to leave out or deprioritize communities.

The oft-used pandemic rallying cry of "build back better" can only happen when we confront structural discrimination and stigma in order to achieve an inclusive and equitable vision of health and wellbeing for everyone in our communities.

What We Heard

Summit 2021 brought together more than 600 people from across Canada, all from different backgrounds, professions, and walks of life. The annual conference—which included three pre-Summit events and three days of core programming hosted on a virtual platform—created a community-centred space for researchers, healthcare professionals, policy makers, and community members to share knowledge and build capacity. Based on the responses to our anonymous post-Summit evaluation survey, here's some of what this year's participants had to say about their experience:

- 90%** of participants said they were either satisfied or very satisfied with this year's Summit.
- 92%** of participants found Summit relevant to the work of their organization and/or useful for the work that they do.
- 86%** said that the Summit helped them stay abreast of new developments in best practices and other evidence-informed program innovations.
- 72%** of participants ranked their knowledge of issues related to health and social equity and inclusion among GBT2Q communities as high (i.e., a rating of 8 or above on a scale of 1 to 10) after the Summit.
- 54%** of participants ranked their knowledge of effective HIV, Hepatitis C and related STBBI interventions and prevention as high (i.e., a rating of 8 or above on a scale of 1 to 10) after the Summit.

"I work in queer health and I found the presentations on the first day to be extremely relevant to the work I do, and reminded me that I need to do better at connecting with the Indigenous communities in my regions."

"It helps me see what other work is going on in the country and ways we could expand to create more accessible services."

"It has provided me with valuable information on issues I was either unconscious of, or aware of but unaware of the true depth of information and experiences that exist and I feel I should have researched long ago in the past."

"... Expanded my knowledge of, and commitment to, being intersectional, inclusive and diverse."

What We Learned

As Canada's largest GBT2Q health conference, the Summit is uniquely positioned to unite leading speakers, researchers, and experts from across the country to talk about the ways we can help people take care of themselves and each other. Here's some of what we learned from our 2021 keynote presenters and plenary sessions.



PLENARY PANEL

Truth and Reconciliation

Jeremy Jones, Martin Morberg (CBRC), Jonathan Potskin, Jody Jollimore (CBRC) and Jessy Dame (CBRC)

► <https://youtu.be/Yjtz3osI1jY>

CBRC's path toward Truth and Reconciliation has included a series of commitments and actions, starting in 2016 with an intentional approach to creating space at the Summit for Two-Spirit and Indigenous queer and trans people. The organization continued its journey at the 2021 Summit as we kicked off with Two-Spirit Summit Day—a day dedicated to recognizing and centring Two-Spirit Peoples. During this panel, we included Elders and other leaders, both Indigenous and settlers, who have been transforming CBRC's work to be more inclusive of and responsive to Indigenous communities.

"When we're looking at land acknowledgments, historically it's about not only making a statement. Words are not just words for our people, that words have a life, and words have a spirit. So, when we invite an acknowledgment of the territories, we're inviting the people in the spirit world to come and witness the work that is happening."

—Victoria

"When it comes to truth and reconciliation, and truth telling, I do not have the luxury of hand selecting certain stories to listen to or to acknowledge."

—Rocky James

"Sometimes, fixing ourselves means having a conversation with someone to sort out the heavy things, to really encourage you, as these presentations are happening. Sometimes it might be really hard to look after yourself. That's embedded in our language since the beginning of time. Western society now calls this self-care and that's something that our people have been doing since the beginning of time."

—Jeremy Jones



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Mamiskow: Finding a Way for Two-Spirit Resiliency Jack Saddleback

Jack Saddleback weaves stories of personal resilience, community compassion, and societal shifts in this presentation aimed to inspire strength with and for Two-Spirit Peoples across Turtle Island. An internationally renowned equity champion, Jack speaks to the deep-rooted impacts of colonization on Two-Spirit Peoples while uplifting spaces for identities like his, a Cree Two-Spirit transgender gay man. Despite the challenges of battling depression, racism, homophobia, transphobia, social and systemic discrimination, Jack embodies resiliency and mamiskow (Cree for "he keeps finding a way to do it").

"We need to heal each other. We need to heal this idea of what it means to be human and unpack that and really revitalise the aspects of Indigeneity that are non-interference, that lift people up to be who they are and not dictate how a person is supposed to be based on the living vessel that they're walking around in. It is spirit-based that we look at each other."

-Jack Saddleback



PLENARY PANEL

Elders and Knowledge Keepers

Albert McLeod, Marjorie Beaucage, John R. Sylliboy and Martin Morberg

► <https://youtu.be/pAPm6dS13bE>

Through this year's Elder and Knowledge Keeper panel, we brought welcomes and teachings from across Turtle Island, with many thanks to the any other Elders and Knowledge Keepers who we could not have with us. Through this panel discussion, we acknowledged the many regions that CBRC reaches and bring awareness to some current work being done in the community.

"We've been reconciling our histories since 1988. By going and visiting each other, across this fabulous land, learning about the medicines, learning about the languages, learning about the sacred spaces. We've done that by bicycle, by train, by plane, by beat-up old car, by Greyhound—you name it. We've found these spaces and we've met, and we've talked, and we've helped each other. And it's not going to stop."

-Albert McLeod

"When people can gather and share their stories, they create medicine for each other... Getting people together in a safe place so that they can be who they are, and learn from each other, and go out on the land, gathering medicine, sharing storeys, doing ceremony—that's how we find out who we are together. It's a collective story..."

-Marjorie Beaucage



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Let Me Speak: Providing Safe LGBTQ2+ Resources for Youth in and from Care

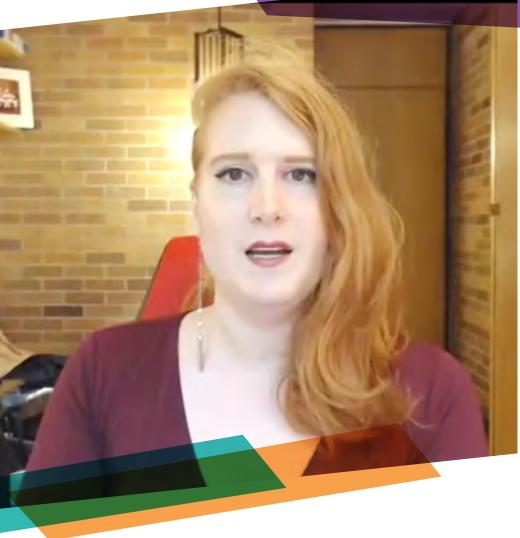
jaye simpson

▶ <https://youtu.be/As4sc6taA2A>

Let Me Speak is a conversation led by jaye simpson, a queer Indigenous former youth in care, on how collective resources and support for current and former LGBTQ2+ youth in care can change the lives of many. Prioritizing the ability to safely self-actualize can be life saving for anyone, but for youth in care there are higher stakes. LGBTQ2+ youth make up over 40 per cent of those experiencing homelessness while also dealing with structural barriers keeping them from community and health resources. jaye uses autobiographical storytelling to bring a space highlighting all parts of their existence as a queer Indigenous trans woman who spent 16 years in care.

"Our children represent our own future, our tomorrow, and if we aren't doing what it takes to make sure that they can feel safe, they're going to make decisions that aren't exactly the safest for themselves, and that is so upsetting, but that responsibility is on us..."

– jaye simpson



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

The Resurgence of Trans Conversion Practices

Florence Ashley

▶ <https://youtu.be/c4NK8zcBmM0>

Each time a ban on conversion practices comes up for debate, a deluge of submissions come forth opposing the protection of gender identity and expression. Spurious accusations that trans identity arises from social contagion and trauma are fostering a fertile environment for conversion practices. For anti-trans movements, trans conversion practices can stop the "epidemic" of transness—all in the name of protecting vulnerable "girls" and queer youth. As advocates, we must be aware of the resurgence of trans conversion practices, understand the social and theoretical context within which they are inscribed and strategize ways of concretely responding.

"We must respect this autonomy of trans people, whether they are minors or not, but also understand that studies show that trans people, young trans people, know their gender identity well and that no one is better placed to know what their gender identity is and what is best for these people."

– Florence Ashley



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

The Normal that Never Was

Francisco Ibáñez-Carrasco

▶ https://youtu.be/9LuQztHbE_0

Keeping the 2021-year Summit's vision of disruptions and reconstructions, Francisco engaged in a philosophical rumination on the principles that guide queer-initiated research and education and seem to guide our lived experience and sense of future. These reflections are based on three decades of teaching, living with HIV, and collaborating in research in Canada. Instead of looking at what we want and need, Francisco asked us to first look at what we have at the seemingly outset of one more global pandemic. He asked us to reflect on what we can do with what we have.

"We've glossed over that legacy of the past. My effort has always been to continue to sexualize our research and learning... You might say that sex, sexuality, desires and pleasures are not the only glue that binds queers, especially gay men. And that might be true... (but) in our zeal to package our own queer sensibilities and cultures and sell it wholesale (think RuPaul), there are important portions of our queer memory that are still being glossed over, sometimes silenced and sometimes erased."

– Francisco Ibáñez-Carrasco

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Choosing Love at the End of the World: Social Collapse, Conflict Resolution, and Queer Resilience

Kai Cheng Thom

▶ <https://youtu.be/OPnCKOY7fjQ>

Author, healer, and conflict worker Kai Cheng Thom led us in an experiential exploration of collective trauma, conflict, and their impact on queer communities. Why are the bonds between queer and trans individuals so powerful, yet so often fraught with tension and discord? Where do so-called "call out" and "cancel" culture come from, and do they serve or disserve us? How do we choose to love one another in the face of interpersonal and social collapse? Drawing from trauma theory, queer history, transformative justice, and Buddhist spirituality, Kai Cheng provides participants with frameworks and strategies to understand and respond to conflict.

"A lot of non-profits find themselves entangled in endless conflict because we really don't know how to hold the contradictions that are inherent in our values. My first suggestion to you is maybe just with the fact that there is a paradox there in trying to deal with external conflicts and conflicts between people. There will inevitably be intrapersonal conflicts, conflicts within ourselves, the struggle to know how to hold more than one value or more than one truth at the same time."

– Kai Cheng Thom



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Present. Future. Values.

Rinaldo Walcott

► <https://youtu.be/e0wuWo-X1C8>

This talk takes the risk to articulate what kinds of values will be required for us to transform the present world we have into the future we know we need. Beginning with COVID-19 and HIV/AIDS, Rinaldo argues that a queer sensibility has much to do with how we respond to a future that includes all of us. He suggests that queer activism in the face of AIDS and its deaths indelibly changed the world we now live in and that COVID-19 provides queers an opportunity to participate in political movements that can further transform how we live better collectively together.

"Queer people had to organise and seize the moment to interrupt AIDS for themselves. This organizing changed the course of history—no small feat. In doing so, queer identity as a politically salient identity solidified itself as somehow progressive. However, the history of gay men's communities, and their organizing around sexuality prior to AIDS, tells a more complicated story of gay complicity, silence and/or significant struggles around what sexual liberation might mean."

– Rinaldo Walcott

What We Discussed

In addition to the [posters featured at Summit 2021](#), presenters shared research, provided workshops, and hosted panel discussions focused on improving the health and well-being of queer and trans communities. Each session touched on several important themes and ideas, and here are just a few of them.

TWO-SPIRIT HEALTH AND WELLNESS

CBRC opened this year's Summit with a Two-Spirit Day. In addition to plenary panels on Truth and Reconciliation and with Elders and Knowledge Keepers, as well as keynote addresses by Jack Saddleback and jaye simpson, we hosted our first ever Two-Spirit Gathering, bringing together Two-Spirit and Indigenous people from across Turtle Island in an afternoon of online discussion and exchange.

Jessy Dame



PANEL

Two-Spirit: How Community Drives Change

Jessy Dame (CBRC), and Martin Morberg (CBRC).

Moderator: Darren Ho (CBRC)

▶ https://youtu.be/-N7MRmc_zDo

WORKSHOP

We Are Still Here: The Importance of Trauma-Informed Care for Queer Indigenous People

Jeremy Jones and Wesley Scott (Indian Residential School Survivors Society)

▶ <https://youtu.be/uqfmXkfpwiY>

EQUITY

With the theme Disrupt and Reconstruct, we looked at social inequality and explored topics which centred around many of the social determinants of health, from access to housing to long-term care for seniors.

Celeste Pang



SHORT ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Thinking Critically About Social Determinants and Our Health

- **Situating Long-Term Care as a Question of Housing and Homelessness** – Celeste Pang (Egale Canada; University of Toronto)
- **Pressure to be Masculine Associated with Poorer Mental Health Among Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Two-Spirit, Queer Men and Non-binary People** – Sarah Cooper (University of Montreal)
- **Discussion on How to Implement New Gender, Sex, and Sexual Orientation Information Practices in Healthcare to Promote Health Equity for 2SLGBTQAI+ People**
 - Roz Queen (University of Victoria, Canada Health Infoway)

▶ <https://youtu.be/INFV69YFuBo>

ROUNDTABLE

The Time Has Come: Giving Voice to LGBTQ2S+ Seniors in Long-Term Care

Darren Usher (Dignity Seniors Society), Penny MacCourt (Action for Reform of Residential Care BC), Adam Mann (Simon Fraser University), Mike Klassen (BC Care Providers Association)

▶ https://youtu.be/SMeOxc_hwd8

PANEL

Serious Legal Problems Among Sexual and Gender Diverse Communities in Canada

William Hébert (Carleton University), Barbara Perry (Ontario Tech University), Alex Wells (University of Victoria), Katrina Stephany (CBRC), Daphne Barile (ASTTeQ), Nora Butler Burke (ASTTeQ), Tara Santini, and Frank Suerich-Gulick. Moderator: Anu Rahda Verma (CBRC)

▶ <https://youtu.be/9MTzE4WBIX4>

TRANS HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Joy, affirmation, pride! We heard about inventions and initiatives which seek to radically improve the lives and health care experiences of trans and gender diverse folks.



SHORT ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Affirming Trans Health and Wellness

- **Gender Euphoria: What Is It, and How Do I Get More of It?**
– Kai Jacobsen (University of Victoria)
- **Physical Activity Beyond the Gender Binary: Investigating How to Create Accessible, Trauma- and Violence-Informed Physical Activity Programs for Transgender Individuals**
– Asha-Maria Bost (Carleton University)
- **Promoting Affirming Trans Health Care in Alberta**
– Spencer Belanger, Ren Braul and Alec Moorji (CBRC)
- **Empowering Transmasc+ Folks to Access Combination HIV Prevention Interventions** – Mike Smith (AIDS Committee of Toronto)

▶ <https://youtu.be/qRUI0wixLqM>

MENTAL AND PHYSICAL HEALTH

Two years of COVID-19 have created significant strain on the mental and physical well-being of GBT2Q communities. At Summit 2021, researchers presented their findings on a variety of subjects related to our mental and physical health, including conversion therapy/SOGIECE, domestic abuse, and more.



Kiarmin Lari

SHORT ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Reflecting on Mental Health and Our Communities

- **Intersections: Built by and for QTBIPOC** – Alvaro Luna (Health Initiative for Men) and Kiarmin Lari
- **MindMapBC: Reflections from a Year of Growing and Refining an Online Database of 2S/LGBTQ+ Affirming Mental Health Supports** – Mahado Mohamed Hassa (Simon Fraser University) and Travis Salway (Simon Fraser University)
- **Exploring the Impact of COVID-19 on the Mental Health of Sex and Gender Diverse Communities in Canada: A Community Based Participatory Approach** – Nicole Pal (University of Victoria)
- **Radical Care and Decolonial Futures: Conversations on Identity, Health and Spirituality with Indigenous Queer, Trans, and Two-Spirit Youth** – Katelyn Ward (University of Toronto)

▶ https://youtu.be/FC6f_d9pGI0

PANEL

A Pandemic Within a Pandemic: How the HIV Community has Adapted During COVID-19

Scott Elliott (Dr. Peter Centre), Marvelous Muchenje (ViiV Healthcare), Chris Aucoin and Dylan Samson (AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia). Moderator: Michael Kwag (CBRC)

▶ <https://youtu.be/NPf5E96HkmQ>



Kat Singer

ROUNDTABLE

Le Coeur au Beurre Noir: Innovative Awareness Tools on Intimate Violence Between Men

Alexandre Dumont-Blais (RÉZO), Valérie Roy (Université de Laval), Sylvie Pouliot (Université de Laval), Olivier Sylvestre

▶ <https://youtu.be/t32CetLRZDU>

WORKSHOP

Thinking Queerly: Introduction to Neurodiversity in SOGIE-Affirming Care

Kat Singer

▶ <https://youtu.be/Z-QAKKlnhcg>

PANEL

SOGIECE/CT Survivors: Nothing About Us Without Us!

Liz Dromer (University of Ottawa), Jordan Sullivan (CBRC), Matt Ashcroft (No Conversion Canada), Daniel Bartholomew-Poyser, Ian Easter, Erika Muse (York University) and Jules Sherred. Moderator: Michael Kwag (CBRC)

▶ <https://youtu.be/Uv5fnp9Zz2Y>

WORKSHOP

Disrupting Narratives: Exercises in Supporting Two-Spirit, Trans, and Non-Binary Individuals through Artivism

Maude Stephany (University of Waterloo, TransArtivistProject.org)

▶ <https://youtu.be/DlyWnXheokE>

SEXUAL HEALTH AND STBBI TESTING INNOVATIONS

Between the ongoing impacts of COVID-19, innovations in screening for HIV and STBBIs, and discussions about PrEP and access to health care, these presentations were jam-packed with information that can prove useful to anyone interested in the world of GBT2Q+ health promotion and research.



Mackenzie Stewart

PANEL

Should We Return to “Normal”? Examining Barriers, Disruptions, and Innovations to STBBI Testing for Gay, Bisexual, and Other Men Who Have Sex with Men in Ontario

Mackenzie Stewart (Dalla Lana School of Public Health), Abdi Hassan (Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work), Ezra Blaque (Dalla Lana School of Public Health), Heeho Ryu (Dalla Lana School of Public Health), Joshun Dulai (Dalla Lana School of Public Health). Moderator: Ryan Lisk (ACT)

▶ <https://youtu.be/5Wwa74NGq-s>

PANEL

Sex, PrEP, and Healthcare Access Among Gay, Bisexual, and Queer Men: Findings from Engage-COVID-19

Daniel Grace (Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto), Milada Dvorakova (Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre), Jordan Sang (BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS), Cornel Grey (Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto), Ryan Tran (Asian Community AIDS Services). Moderator: Shayna Skakoon-Sparling (X University)

▶ https://youtu.be/-L_-t1iimKc

SUBSTANCE USE

From the links between cannabis and mental health to updates on the fight to overturn the poppers ban, we heard from academics and community members whose work explores the many ways that substance use intersects with our communities.

SHORT ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Thinking About Drugs and Substances Within Our Communities

- **Building Community-Based Knowledge Around Cannabis and Mental Health Among LGBTQ2S+ Youth** – Tara Chanady (University of Montreal)
- **Sex, Power and Subjectivity: The “Good Reasons” Behind Anabolic/Androgenic Steroid use Amongst 2SGBQ+ Men in Manitoba** – Jared Star
- **Moving Past the Poppers Headache: Updates on the Health Canada 2013 Poppers Crackdown** – Len Tooley (CBRC), Cameron Schwartz (BC Centre on Substance Use), Jody Jollimore (CBRC)
- **The Practices and Perils of Sex, Drugs, and Online Technologies: Exploring the Experiences of Gay, Bisexual, and Other Men Who Have Sex with Men** – Christopher Dietzel, Matthew Numer, Phillip Joy (Dalhousie University)

▶ <https://youtu.be/Ubt82HS8iK8>

PANEL

Sex, Drugs and Hepatitis C: How Can We Better Serve GBMSM?

Rivka Kushner (CATIE), Rusty Souleymanov (University of Manitoba), Jean-Sébastien Rousseau (Clinique Médicale l'Actuel), Maticus Adams (MAX Ottawa), Jonathan Bacon (Clinique Médicale l'Actuel). Moderator: Jordan Coulombe (CATIE)

▶ <https://youtu.be/qep498nyrB0>

RURAL AND REMOTE CARE

From the North to Tofino to the Gaspésie, living in rural or remote community offers its own fair share of challenges when it comes to access to health services.



David Devine

SHORT ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Centring Rural and Remote Care and Community

- **Rebuilding Queer Health Space in Rural/Semi-Rural Nova Scotia** – David Devine (Nova Scotia Health Authority), Cole Titus
 - **Barriers in a Tourist Town: Being Queer in Tofino** – Selena Rogalski, John Sweeney (Coastal Queer Alliance)
 - **Two-Spirit Revitalization** – Skylar Louttit
- ▶ <https://youtu.be/Lzdrfhi1gAc>

ROUNDTABLE

Improving the Inclusivity of Frontline Health Services for LGBTQ2+ Communities in Rural Regions, Where to Start? An Example of a Local Initiative in the Region of Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine

Pier-Maude Lanteigne

▶ <https://youtu.be/UQvuNiDG41E>

Glossary

CBRC aims to engage our communities in meaningful discussions about health and well-being. The Summit—as a gathering of a diverse range of researchers, policy advisors and community organization—may use different terms to talk about a range of identities in relation to these themes.

Here are some of the ones most used in this report:

MSM: "men who have sex with men." A term cognizant of the fact that not every man who has a sexual experience with a same-sex partner is gay, bisexual, or queer.

LGBTQ2: "lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer/questioning, Two-Spirit." An umbrella term used to describe the broader community of people whose sexual orientation or gender identity is outside the heterosexual, cisgender majority.

Two-Spirit: a term used by some, but not all, Indigenous peoples to describe having sexual and/or gender diverse identities, as well as traditional third-gender roles grounded in specific spiritual beliefs. The term was created in 1990 at the Indigenous lesbian and gay international gathering in Winnipeg.

Gender Identity: a person's self-perception of being a man, a woman, neither, both, or something else.

Sex Assigned at Birth: the classification of people as male, female, or intersex based on physical anatomy (i.e., presence of a penis or vulva) at birth.

Cisgender: having a gender identity that corresponds to the gender typically associated with one's sex assigned at birth.

Transgender: having a gender identity that differs from the gender typically associated with one's sex assigned at birth. The term includes people who identify with binary genders (i.e., trans men and women) as well as those whose gender identity is not binary (i.e., non-binary, gender non-conforming, genderqueer, gender fluid, agender, etc.).

HIV: "human immunodeficiency virus." It is a virus that attacks the immune system, which if left untreated, can lead to Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome, or AIDS—when the immune system is so depleted that an individual is vulnerable to a range of life-threatening infections and cancers. It can take several years from HIV infection to develop AIDS.

PrEP: pre-exposure prophylaxis. A drug that, when taken daily by someone who is HIV negative, prevents the transmission of HIV.

STBBIs: "sexually transmitted and bloodborne infections." Also known as sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and sexually transmitted infections (STIs), STBBI is a more encompassing term addressing other ways these infections can be passed along, such as through the sharing of drug use equipment.

PnP: "Party and Play." When drugs such as crystal meth and GHB are used specifically to facilitate and/or enhance sexual encounters.

Intersectionality: the interconnected nature of social categorizations such as race, gender, class, and ability, regarded as creating overlapping and interdependent systems of discrimination or disadvantage.

