



Summit 2025

Program Guide

CONVERGENCE & EMERGENCE

NOVEMBER 20 – 22, 2025

LE CENTRE SHERATON
MONTREAL, QC

www.cbrcsummit.net

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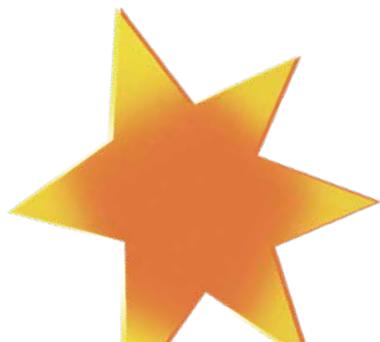
Land Acknowledgement

Community-Based Research Centre acknowledges that as a national organization, our work spans across the unceded, ancestral, and traditional territories of Indigenous peoples on land that is currently occupied and known as Canada. This includes the unceded territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations, currently known as Vancouver, where our head offices are located. We recognize and are grateful for living and working on all these lands that have been cared for by Indigenous peoples since time immemorial.

For this year's Summit and Two-Spirit Symposium, we are meeting in Tiohtià:ke (Montreal), on the unceded territories of the Kanien'kehà:ka (Mohawk) Nation. CBRC recognizes and respects the Kanien'kehà:ka as the traditional custodians of the lands and waters on which we gather. Long before the arrival of colonizers, this land was a vibrant centre for diplomacy, trade, and alliance-building among Indigenous nations, and later between Indigenous peoples and early European settlers. Tiohtià:ke has long been a traditional meeting place for many First Nations, including the Kanien'kehà:ka, Wendat, Abenaki, and Anishinaabe. The name Tiohtià:ke means "where the rivers meet" in the Mohawk language, reflecting the vital role of the region as a key gathering point for diverse cultures and peoples.

In 2016, CBRC endorsed the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. As an organization dedicated to the health and wellness of our communities, we recognize that true reconciliation requires more than an endorsement and have made a series of commitments in our work, including the creation of the Two-Spirit Program to develop research and resource development by and for Indigenous people, as well as the full integration of Two-Spirit and Indigenous staff into the culture of the organization and delivery of our programs.

As we continue on our path of Truth and Reconciliation, CBRC continues to learn from our Indigenous staff and partners, reflecting on the ways our actions and social policies impact the lives of Indigenous people, and actively participating in decolonization.



Introduction

Summit 2025: Convergence & Emergence

As researchers, educators, service providers, and advocates who work in queer, trans, and Two-Spirit health promotion, our dedication to 2S/LGBTQIA+ people and communities is core to who we are. It's what unites us and brings us together. We wouldn't dedicate our careers, and our lives, to helping others in our community live healthier and more affirming lives if we did not believe that queer, trans, and Two-Spirit people need and deserve access to better care and support. And that our work makes a difference in improving health and well-being for 2S/LGBTQIA+ people and the diverse communities we live in.

In the year since the last Summit, 2S/LGBTQIA+ activists and advocates have continued to sound the alarm on rising homophobia and transphobia in Canada and around the world, including the erasure of trans, non-binary, and gender diverse identities, experiences, and people. At the same time, we're also witnessing wider attacks on diversity, equity, and inclusion, harm reduction, sexual and reproductive health, immigration, and on many other social justice issues and movements, raising the spectre of funding cuts and disruptions to programs or services, if not outright government hostility.

In response, queer, trans, and Two-Spirit people are showing up for each other. When we pool our resources and spheres of influence, we emerge stronger and more able to advance our community's health and well-being. In this moment with heightened concerns about the shifting social, economic, and political context for 2S/LGBTQIA+ health and human rights, we must remind ourselves that this is the work that we've always done. We must remember that generations of queer people past and present have been doing the work to challenge homophobia, biphobia, transphobia, and many intersecting oppressions. Whether in the streets, the courts, the classrooms, the clinics, or our homes, we have been doing the work.

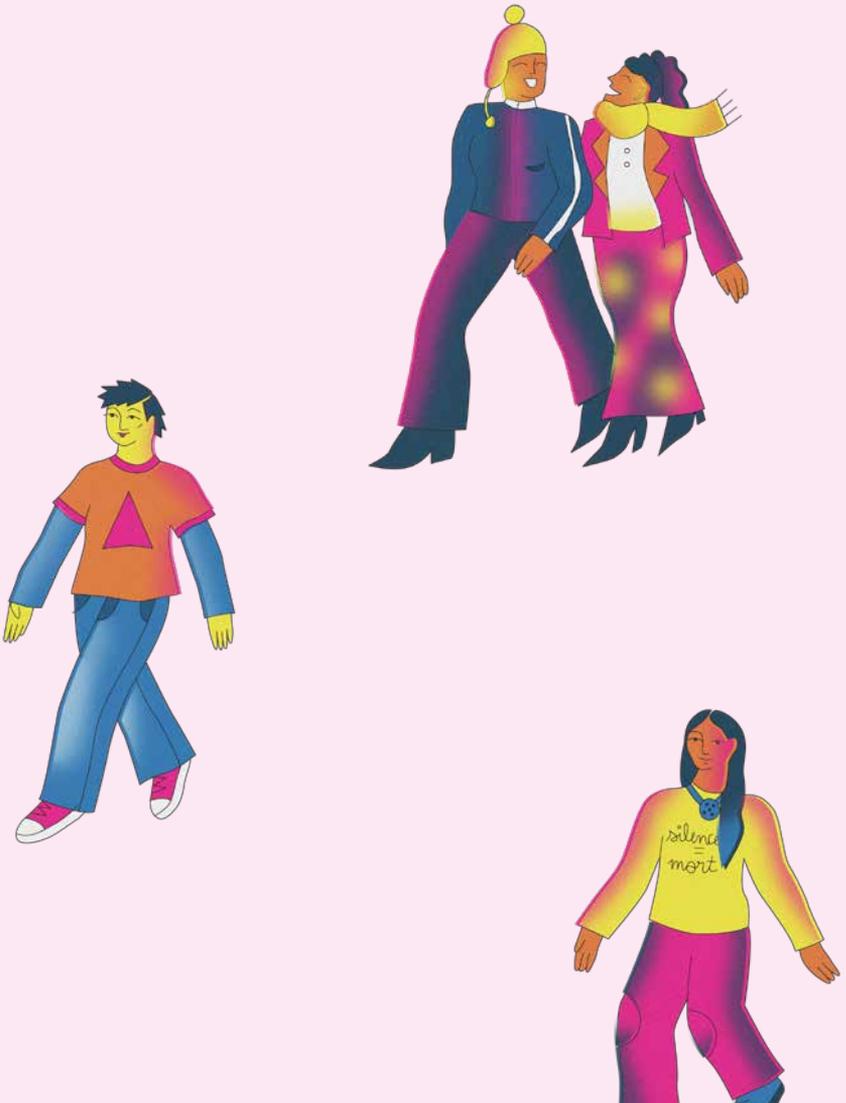
In this time of increasing uncertainty and of growing pressure on the work of 2S/LGBTQIA+ service providers, researchers, advocates, and community organizers, we must remind ourselves and each other of the need and value of our work. It means being able to share and tell stories of the positive impact of our research, health promotion, and advocacy in queer, trans, and Two-Spirit people's lives. Amid funding cuts and challenges facing 2S/LGBTQIA+ community organizations and providers, it's imperative to reflect on why it matters for us to do the work, and to have a growing network of 2S/LGBTQIA+ community-based organizations, researchers, and services.

Doing the work also means that we look back, look forward, and also, look in the mirror. 2S/LGBTQIA+ health research, promotion, and advocacy have not always understood or reflected the needs of everyone in our communities. There have always been individuals, groups, and organizations who have made moves for this to change. Then, and now, we must put intersectionality into practice: understanding how systems of oppression impact us in distinct ways, and commit to do the work in a way that recognizes distinct needs. Here's where reflexivity, relationality, and solidarity come in. As trans visual artist Micah Bazant said, "No pride for some of us without liberation for all of us." If convergence is us coming together, then emergence is when we depart as something better and more durable than our individual parts. This process of assembly and renewal has always been at the heart of Summit, and is now as necessary as ever.

In these times, more than ever, we have to ask ourselves:

- What are our obligations to each other, our families, communities, and lands, and how can we show up for each other?
- What can we learn from our struggles and our successes?
- How can we honour the work done by people in our communities—service providers, researchers, and community members and organizers—who help create a better world for queer, trans, and Two-Spirit people?

Whatever 2S/LGBTQIA+ health goal we work towards—accessible and affordable medications and care, better and more accessible health data, lower transmission rates, or better mental health outcomes—also works to improve health for all. When we make our health systems work better for 2S/LGBTQIA+ people, we make the system work better for everyone.



Summit 2025 Teams

Our teams and committees have been hard at work to organize Summit 2025. CBRC would like to recognize the important contributions of our members and external partners who have helped to organize this year's event.

Summit 2025 Operations Team

Many members of the CBRC team have worked hard over the past several months to support the planning and delivery of this year's Summit:

Adam Jalali, Director of Communications

Chris DiRaddo, Associate Director of Content & Editorial

Chris Weiss, Project Manager

Daniela Roman Torres, Operations Coordinator

Deanna Lennox, Digital & Visual Communications Coordinator

Estelle Grenier, French Content Editor

Fowzia Huda, Associate Director of Programs

Jessy Dame, Director of Two-Spirit Health

Kris Reppas, Two-Spirit Program Manager, Community Engagement & Reporting

Luke Pereira, Web & Events Manager

Marie Geoffroy, Associate Director of Research

Michael Kwag, Executive Director

Saadia Khan, Communications Coordinator

Summit 2025 Programming Committee

The role of the Summit Programming Committee (SPC) is to provide advice on the planning, delivery, and evaluation of the Summit, including the development of the conference theme and program, review of abstracts, and many other aspects of planning. We would like to recognize all the SPC members for their contributions and support in organizing this year's Summit.

Ahrthyh Arumugam, YMCA Greater Halifax & Dartmouth

Alexandre Dumont Blais, RÉZO

Delilah Kamuhanda, Saskatoon Sexual Health

Evan Matchett-Wong, Health Initiative for Men

KD King, University of Alberta

Kim Seida, Egale Canada

Mac Stewart, Dalla Lana School of Public Health

Marianne Chbat, GRIS

Maxi Gaudette, PnP & Consent Project

Pierre-Vincent Morvant, RÉZO

Racheal Wu, Sexuality Education Resource Centre

Roberto Ortiz Núñez, University of Ottawa

Val Webber, Dalhousie University



Two-Spirit Symposium

November 18-19, 2025



The Two-Spirit Symposium is part of Summit 2025: Convergence & Emergence. The two-day gathering is a central part of CBRC's programming and organized exclusively for Two-Spirit and queer and trans Indigenous folks. The goal for the event is to provide a space for Two-Spirit folks to gather and exchange knowledge, stories, and teachings and collectively create opportunities to help guide further Two-Spirit resurgence.

This year's Two-Spirit Symposium will include ceremony, traditional medicines, motivational mentorship, and interactive community presentations.

For more information, or to participate, please contact 2Ssymposium@cbrc.net.

Indigenous and Two-Spirit Lounge

All day, November 20 - 22, 2025 | **Salon 2**

Located on the second floor of Le Centre Sheraton in Salon 2, the Indigenous and Two-Spirit Lounge is an exclusive space for Summit 2025 participants who identify as Indigenous or Two-Spirit to connect, network, or take a break from Summit activities.



Two-Spirit Program

Conference Policies and Participant Resources

We encourage all participants to visit our website for comprehensive information regarding conference policies, registration, community guidelines, accessibility options, health and safety measures, and available mental health support services. These resources are designed to foster a safe, inclusive, and equitable environment for everyone.

www.cbrc.net/summit_2025

Explore This Year's Poster Presentations

To view the full list of this year's poster presentations, featuring groundbreaking research, community-led health initiatives, and evidence-based programs, please visit our website. Posters will be on display in the 3rd floor Foyer throughout Summit, with a special reception and opportunity to meet the poster presenters on Thursday, November 20, at 7 PM.

www.cbrc.net/summit_2025

Session Room Protocols

- **Timing:** CBRC will work to ensure that all sessions start and end on time. We ask presenters and participants to help us achieve that and keep the Summit on schedule, including any prerecorded presentations.
- **Cellular phones and other noise-making devices:** We also kindly ask you to turn your mobile devices to airplane mode, where possible. Some of our attendees are sensitive to Wi-Fi and cellular signals that electronic devices emit.
- **Scent-free/healthy environment policy:** Summit is promoting a scent-free environment. Many people are extremely sensitive to perfumes, colognes, aftershaves, and other scented products. Please refrain from wearing them while attending the Summit.
- **Photography and video recording:** Please be advised that photographs and video recordings will be taken throughout the event for use in CBRC's promotional materials and other publications. This includes coverage of all plenary and breakout sessions, where audience members may appear in the captured content. If you do not wish to be photographed or recorded, please inform us during your on-site registration. Red beaded necklaces will be available at registration for those who prefer not to appear in photos or videos. Guests wearing these necklaces will be intentionally omitted from photography and video, or blurred out in post-production.

Evaluation

CBRC's goal is to ensure that the Summit is an enjoyable and educational conference experience for everyone. At the end of each Summit session, participants will be invited to complete a very short evaluation survey, using this QR code on the right.

After the conference, all participants will receive an email invitation to complete an evaluation survey on their Summit experience overall.



Plenary Speakers

Indigenous Opening and Welcome

Sedalia Kawennotas Fazio

Sedalia Kawennotas Fazio, native Kahnawake, is a very active Elder within the Kanien'kehá:ka (Mohawk) community. She is frequently invited as an Elder and speaker in public events, conferences, and seminars. She represents and defends Indigenous rights in Canada.



Jaylene McRae

Jaylene McRae is a proud Two-Spirit, sober Indigenous trans woman and leader within the 2S/LGBTQIA+ and recovery community. A Sixties Scoop survivor, she was raised by settlers with ancestral family roots in Treaty 4 (Zagimē Anishinabek First Nation, Kawacatoose First Nation and Métis Nation, Green Lake Saskatchewan). As a member of Vancouver's diverse and fabulous drag community, Jaylene holds the title of Elder Princess 27 of the Greater Vancouver Native Cultural Society, Empress 35 of Vancouver BC, Czarina of the First Nations of Canada and presently serves as Chairperson of the International Court Council, first in line of succession and Heir Apparent to Queen Mother I of the Americas Empress Nicole the Great. Jaylene is a Research Coordinator with CBRC's Two-Spirit Program. She also contributes to Indigenous healing ceremonies for the Two-Spirit population of Federal Justice System Corrections and has shared teachings for Canadian Government training on diversity, inclusion and reconciliation.



Sheila Nyman

Sheila Nyman is a Two-Spirit, mixed Syilx (Okanogan Salish) member of the Lower Similkameen Indian band. She has spent 13 years working with women, addictions, mental health, HIV/AIDS and well-being in and around Vancouver's DTES, and another five years providing emotional and cultural support to survivors of Indian residential schools. Along with completing an MSW, Sheila has been involved in numerous arts-based research projects, and her work now focuses on sharing her experience, wisdom and providing Indigenous guidance to various projects. Through her training and initiations she has earned permission to share many traditional healing ceremonies.



Wayne Seward

Wayne Seward is Coast Salish from Snuneymuxw Territory, Nanaimo, British Columbia, and is involved in Longhouse culture on the island, mainland, and the coast of Washington State. For more than twenty years, Wayne has been working as an Indigenous Liaison Officer and volunteering as a Cultural Support Worker for Indian Residential School Survivors, doing cedar brushing and washing tears.



In-Circle with the Two-Spirit Program Team

Two-Spirit Program Team

The Two-Spirit Program is an Indigenous-led program at CBRC, and has been active in the Two-Spirit and Indigenous LGBTQIA+ community for the past five years. During this time, the team has hosted numerous events, including the annual Two-Spirit Symposium, which takes place this year in Tiohtià:ke/Montréal on November 18 and 19. Through this active and meaningful community engagement, the Two-Spirit team has recognized that more work and effort is needed to confront shame-based colonial narratives on queer sexuality that results in 2S/LGBTQIA+ experiences of homophobia, transphobia, and various forms of stigma and discrimination. The Two-Spirit journey of reclamation and resurgence includes raising awareness and showing care and support for the diverse sexualities of our Two-Spirit and Indigenous LGBTQIA+ communities.



Queer and Trans Dissidence in Quebec: Resisting Exclusion and Institutional Intimidation

MP Boisvert

Originally from Sherbrooke, MP Boisvert (she/they) co-founded Fierté en Estrie in 2013, then served as director of the Conseil québécois LGBT from 2015 to 2020. She published her first novel, *Au 5e*, in 2017, and contributed texts to the anthology *Zodiaque* and the QuébecQueer collective, among others. She recently became Executive Director of the LGBT+ Family Coalition, where she hopes to make different audiences more aware of queer family issues, especially political ones, because, as she would say, “we’re not out of the woods yet!”



Magali Boudon

Over the past fifteen years, Magali Boudon (she) has worked for a number of community organizations in Montreal using a harm reduction approach. She had the opportunity to lead the organization GRIP in more recent years and grow alongside it. She is now the director of the Conseil Québécois LGBT, an organization that advocates for the rights of LGBTQ+ people in Quebec.



Djemila Carron

Djemila Carron (they) is a professor in the Département des sciences juridiques at UQAM, where they lead UQAM’s Social Justice Clinic (cliniX), a clinic that trains law students to reflect on and work with the community sector on issues related to gender and sexualities. In their research and teaching, Djemila focuses on questions of gender and sexuality in law, queer approaches to law, and critical pedagogies. Before teaching at UQAM, Djemila co-created and co-directed the Law Clinic at the University of Geneva.



Chacha Enriquez

Chacha Enriquez (they/she/he) is a college-level sociology professor and a lecturer at UQAM, where they regularly teach the course “Sociologie queer.” They have been a queer activist for about twenty years and were one of the key figures in the development of Francophone queer activism in Quebec. They coordinated the collective work *Sexualités et dissidences queers*, published in 2024 by Remue-Ménage. Since then, they have been traveling throughout Quebec and French-speaking Europe to give presentations and workshops on sexuality and the resistance to the rise of fascism.



Celeste Trianon

Celeste Trianon (she), LL.B., is a transfeminine jurist and activist, living on unceded land traditionally in the custody of the Kanien'kehá:ka (also known as Montréal, Québec). The founder of her own legal clinic, she offers pro-bono services to her community, having helped over a thousand trans people in multiple jurisdictions access legal name and gender changes. A front-line activist that you won't miss at local trans rights protests (or in the media), she dreams of a world in which “justice” isn't a mere theoretical ideal, but instead something that can be felt and lived by everyone.



Marianne Chbat

Marianne Chbat (she) is a sociologist, researcher, and activist. She is the Director of Research at GRIS Montréal and also a co-investigator at Clinique Mauve, a social lab at the Université de Montréal that develops research with LGBTQ+ migrant and racialized communities. Her research interests focus on migration and sexuality, through intersectional and decolonial approaches. She is the author of “Familles Queers,” an essay published in 2024 by Remue-Ménage in collaboration with the LGBTQ+ Family Coalition in Quebec.



It's Time for Change: Responding to Intimate Partner Violence in 2S/LGBTQIA+ Communities

Javi Fuentes Bernal

Javi Fuentes Bernal (they/them) is a licensed social worker, trans-disciplinary artist and PhD candidate in Social Work at Université de Montréal. Their work examines gender diversity, migration, and decolonial approaches to care, centering Indigenous and travesti-trans antifascist ways of knowing from the Global South. They provide mental health support to trans and gender-diverse migrants at Clinique Mauve, drawing on trauma-informed, somatic, and arts-based methodologies. They currently serve on the Board of Directors of the Canadian Professional Association for Transgender Health (CPATH).



Kate Crozier

Before joining Community Justice Initiatives (CJI), Kate Crozier (she) dedicated much of her career to supporting individuals impacted by violence. Along the way, she worked with criminalized youth, women experiencing homelessness, and sexually abused men — experiences that deepened her understanding of how systemic failures often lead to criminalization rather than the support people deserve. Over the past two decades, she has spent 10 years in the Violence Against Women (VAW) sector and 10 years in restorative justice. This journey has allowed her to address the impacts and root causes of gender-based violence while coordinating community-based projects and partnerships between CJI and other organizations. One of the most rewarding aspects of this work for her is collaborating with people who prioritize meaningful accountability, community building, and responding to the unique needs that arise from harm. Outside of work, she is passionate about CrossFit and enjoys encouraging others to experience its challenges and rewards.



Jessy Dame

Jessy Dame (he) is a very proud Two-Spirit, Métis, Certified Registered Nurse. Director of Two-Spirit health at CBRC and works casually within a queer sexual health clinic in downtown Vancouver.



Lee Hodge

Lee Hodge (he), is a registered nurse who has worked in harm reduction, health justice, and settings-based approaches to wellbeing in Canada & Aotearoa/New Zealand for over 25 years. He works to envision and create transformations in systems and institutions to allow for the emergence of caring alternatives. He is the Director of Community Wellbeing at Toronto Metropolitan University, and a PhD student at Dalla Lana School of Public Health.



Zack Marshall

Zack Marshall (he) is an Associate Professor and Graduate Program Director in the Department of Community Health Sciences at the University of Calgary. With transdisciplinary training in psychology, social work, and community health. Building on a history of work with queer and trans communities related to mental health, harm reduction, and gender-based violence, Zack is passionate about how we can leverage research for transformative social change. His current projects focus on meta-science or research on research, evidence synthesis, and the ethics of research with individuals and communities who experience structural oppression.



Fallon Rouillier

Fallon Rouillier (they) completed their master's thesis on the history of the Archives Traces lesbiennes de Montréal, now renamed the Archives lesbiennes du Québec. Situated at the intersection of social movements, queer communities, and the city, they are interested in the role of archives in the construction of collective memory as well as in intergenerational connections within marginalized communities. Fallon lives in Tiohtià:ke/Montréal, which is located on the territory of the Kanien'keha:ka Nation.



Community-Based Health Literacy: A Call to Action

Lance McCready

Dr. Lance T. McCready (he/they), Associate Professor in the Department of Leadership, Higher and Adult Education and former Director of the Transitional Year Programme at University of Toronto, is an experienced community-based researcher of the education, health and welfare of Black families, youth and adults. He has over three decades of experience as an administrator, researcher, program developer and educator in Black and 2SLGBTQIA+ communities in the United States and Canada.



Leveraging the Law to Protect the Health and Well-Being of 2S/LGBTQIA+ Communities

Andrew Brett

Andrew Brett (he) is director of communications at CATIE, Canada's source for HIV and hepatitis C information. His career in health communications has included roles at the AIDS Committee of Toronto, the UN Relief and Works Agency and the International AIDS Society. He has also held elected volunteer positions with AIDS Action Now, the Canadian Union of Public Employees and the Ontario Federation of Labour. He holds a master of science degree in public health. Originally from Toronto, Andrew is now living the dream and working remotely from rural Quebec. In his spare time, he files access-to-information requests.



Bennett Jensen

Bennett Jensen (he) is the Director of Legal at Egale Canada, the country's leading 2SGLBTQI rights organization, where he develops, leads and directs strategic litigation in furtherance of 2SGLBTQI rights, including as co-counsel in *UR Pride v Saskatchewan* (school pronoun legislation, use of notwithstanding clause) and *Egale v Alberta* (ban on gender affirming health care for youth) and *Egale v Alberta* (school pronoun legislation). Before joining Egale, Bennett worked as a litigator and in the pro bono practice at a global law firm in New York City, where he led responses to national rights violations like the Muslim travel ban and the family separation crisis. He then served as a policy advisor and then as Director of Litigation to the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada where he supported the passage of the criminal ban against conversion "therapy." Bennett has been recognized as a Rising Star by the American Bar Association, as one of the LGBTQ+ Bar Association's Best 40 Lawyers under 40, and, most recently, with the 2024 Canadian Bar Association's National SAGDA Hero Award and 2025 Guthrie Award.



Douglas W. Judson

Douglas W. Judson (he) volunteers on the boards of the Northwest Community Legal Clinic, the Rainy River District Law Association, and Borderland Pride. He served as a municipal councillor in Fort Frances from 2018–22, as chair of the Federation of Ontario Law Associations from 2022–24, and on the board of the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre from 2019–25. Douglas was recently recognized by the Osgoode Hall Law School Alumni Association as "One to Watch" (2024) and by the Canadian Association of LGBTQ2S+ Lawyers for local leadership in 2SGLBTQ+ advocacy (2025).



Michael Kwag

Michael Kwag (he) is the Executive Director of CBRC and is a long-time staff member who previously oversaw the organization's communications, knowledge exchange, and policy and public affairs initiatives. He began his career in HIV and community-based research as a peer youth coordinator supporting the development of CBRC's foundational programs including Sex Now, Summit, and Totally Outright. After several years of working in HIV and sexual health promotion through public health and other community organizations, Michael returned to CBRC in 2017 to help lead the organization's expansion towards a national and bilingual mandate, and a more inclusive mandate in 2021 to promote the health of all 2S/LGBTQIA+ people and communities.



Ancillary Events

Community Consultations on 2SLGBTQ+ Poverty in Canada

10:30–12:00 PM | [Salon 1](#) | *In English*

1:00–2:30 PM | [Salon 1](#) | *In French*

Join us for one of two community consultations (one in English and one in French) to discuss the social and economic wellbeing of 2SLGBTQ+ communities. Canada's first national study on how economic challenges and poverty are affecting 2SLGBTQ+ people is seeking your input on matters such as access to education, housing, food security, health and social services, among others.

Levelling Up HIV PrEP in 2S/GBTQ Communities: A Symposium on How Expanding Choices and Updated Guidelines Can Help Address Inequities

Presented by Gilead Sciences Canada and ViiV Healthcare

12:00–3:00 PM | [Ballroom Centre / West](#) | *In English, with French interpretation*

In the nearly ten years since Health Canada's approval of the first HIV PrEP option, community, clinical, and public health mobilization efforts have greatly expanded access to PrEP across 2S/GBTQ communities. However, inequities in access persist, especially among 2S/GBTQ communities who face intersecting barriers. Join us as we share key clinical and research findings, discuss educational challenges and opportunities, and refine PrEP access priorities for our communities.

Workshop Invitation: Building Bridges for 2S/LGBTQI+ Health Research

1:00–4:00 PM | [Drummond Centre / West](#) | *In English, with French interpretation*

Hosted by CIHR's Institute of Gender and Health, this session will bring together researchers, trainees, community organizations, practitioners, and people with lived/living experience to identify shared priorities and sketch early-stage concepts for future collaboration.

Registration might still be open for some of this year's ancillary events. Please visit www.cbrc.net/summit_2025_ancillary to find out which ones.

Day 1: Thursday, November 20

OPENING PLENARY Indigenous Opening and Welcome

5:00–5:20 PM | *Ballroom Centre / West* | **Sedalia Kawennotas Fazio** (Kanien'kehá:ka, Kahnawake); **Jaylene McRae** (Métis, Zagimē Anishinabek First Nation, Kawacatoose First Nation, Green Lake, Saskatchewan); **Sheila Nyman** (Siylix and Métis, Lower Similkameen); **Wayne Seward** (Snueneymuxw First Nation) | *In English, with French interpretation*

Summit 2025 begins with an Indigenous Opening and Welcome conducted according to the Indigenous protocols of the lands we will be learning on. As this year's conference takes place in Tiohtià:ke (Montreal), Elder Sedalia Kawennotas Fazio of the Kanien'kehá:ka (Mohawk) Nation will welcome us, and help set the tone for a respectful and meaningful gathering. We will also be joined by Elders Sheila Nyman and Wayne Seward, longtime collaborators who have guided us through several Summits, as well as Jaylene McRae, Two-Spirit Research Coordinator at CBRC.

EVENING PLENARY In-Circle with the Two-Spirit Program Team

5:20–6:10 PM | *Ballroom Centre / West* | **Lane Bonertz** (Blackfoot, Piikani Nation); **Jessy Dame** (Métis Nation, Treaty 1 and 2 Territories); **Kris Reppas** (Kanien'kehá:ka, Kenhtè:ke); **Quinton Delorme** (Cree, Treaty 4 and 5); **William Flett** (Haida, Haida Nation); **Jaylene McRae** (Zagimē Anishinabek First Nation, Kawacatoose First Nation, Metis Nation Saskatchewan); **Skye Wilson** (Gitxsan, Kispiox); **RJ Jones** (Saulteaux and Cree, Gordon's First Nation); **Ella Dufault** (Kaska Dena, Ross River Dena Council) | *In English, with French interpretation*

Join us for an in-circle session with the Two-Spirit Program team at CBRC. Rooted in the relational and ceremonial practices that ground their work, the team will gather at the centre of the room to share reflections on the past year. Each member will speak to the distinct initiatives undertaken to advance Two-Spirit health and wellbeing across Canada. The session will highlight these collective efforts, focusing on community-driven research, knowledge translation, policy development, and advocacy by and for Two-Spirit people.

Attendees will be invited not only to listen but also to learn about and honour the labour and leadership that Two-Spirit people bring to advancing health outcomes within their communities. In keeping with Indigenous protocols, this session will also hold a ceremonial dimension, creating space for everyone present to participate respectfully in a shared moment of recognition, gratitude, and solidarity. By gathering in a circle and sharing our stories, we hope to spark dialogue, deepen understanding, and strengthen relationships between Two-Spirit communities, allies, and health systems.

SCREENING CBRC 25th Anniversary Documentary

6:10–7:00 PM | *Ballroom Centre / West* | **Asya Gunduz** (CBRC); **Adam Jalali** (CBRC); **Michael Kwag** (CBRC) | *In English and French, with subtitles*

To celebrate our 25th anniversary, CBRC created an ambitious documentary film featuring interviews with past and present staff, board members, and supporters who reflect on the organization's 25 years of community connection, research, and growth. We will also take this opportunity to share Strategy 2030, our new strategic plan that will guide our work over the next five years.

RECEPTION Poster Presentations & Exhibit Viewing

7:00–8:30 PM | [Ballroom East & 3rd Floor Foyer](#)

Join us for a reception featuring poster presentations and special exhibits that showcase the latest research, innovations, and projects from members of our communities. Presenters will be available to discuss their work, answer questions, and exchange ideas in a friendly setting.

For a list of this year's poster presenters and exhibits, visit www.cbrc.net/summit_2025.

MARCH Trans Day of Remembrance March

7:00 – 11:00 PM | [Square Dorchester](#)

Montreal trans activist and Summit presenter Celeste Trianon leads a vigil and march for the Trans Day of Remembrance. The march leaves Square Dorchester, located one block from Le Centre Sheraton, at 7:45 PM.

Day 2: Friday, November 21

Trans and Non-Binary Networking Space

8:00–9:00 am | [Salon 1](#)

Trans and non-binary conference participants attending Summit 2025 are invited to join this space to network and connect over morning coffee.

This space is exclusively for trans and non-binary attendees.

PLENARY SESSION Queer and Trans Dissidence in Quebec: Resisting Exclusion and Institutional Intimidation

9:00–10:15 AM | [Ballroom Centre / West](#) | **MP Boisvert** (LGBT+ Family Coalition); **Magali Boudon** (Conseil québécois LGBT); **Djemila Carron** (Université du Québec à Montréal); **Chacha Enriquez** (Université du Québec à Montréal); **Celeste Trianon** (Juritrans, Lawyers Against Transphobia) | Facilitated by **Marianne Chbat** (GRIS Montréal) | *In French, with English interpretation*

Over the past few years, there has been an increased politicization of queer and trans lives in Quebec, marked by direct attacks on their rights, a decline in inclusive policies and legislation, and a rise in hate in the public sphere. The Comité de sages, formed by the Quebec government and mandated to “reflect on the place of gender identity in public policies and spaces,” exemplifies this climate and has had significant negative impacts on the lives of trans and queer people, even before the publication of its report in May 2025. Our communities were largely ignored and sidelined by this committee and its work, which has already led to an increase in overt discrimination in Quebec. At the same time, struggles for the recognition of multiparent families have emerged and continue. Despite fragmented political debates that have further fueled the politicization of hateful discourse against our communities, forms of resistance have developed, bringing together community organizations, activists, researchers, and other engaged actors to counter this climate of exclusion and institutional intimidation. During this panel, groups and individuals involved in these struggles will discuss these issues and the strategies of dissidence they implement, which include both innovative methods as well as traditional approaches that our communities have long used to resist.

CONCURRENT SESSION A

A1. SHORT ORAL PRESENTATIONS Community-Based Responses to Anti-2S/LGBTQIA+ Hate

10:30–12:00 PM | *Ballroom Centre / West* | Presentations in English and French, with interpretation to the other language

- ***Navigating Digital Harms: Addressing the Rise of Transphobic Online Hate Through Community-Based Research***
Evan Vipond
- ***We Shield Each Other – Community as a Tool of Resistance in Egale’s Against the Current Study***
Bre O’Handley (Egale Canada); **Noah Rodomar** (Egale Canada)
- ***Hate Crimes and Mental Health: An Analysis of the Impacts on 2SLGBTQIA+ Communities***
Kim Dubé (Université de Moncton)
- ***Policy Won’t Save Us, But Politics Might: A Call for Community-Based Research on State Power***
Francesco MacAllister-Caruso (Concordia University)

A2. ROUNDTABLE Multiple Borders: Forms of Care, Mobilization and Solidarity for LGBTQ+ Racialized and Migrant People

10:30–12:00 PM | *Drummond Centre / West* | **Reem Alameddine** (Clinique Mauve); **Oswaldo Arias** (Agir Montréal); **Marianne Chbat** (Clinique Mauve); **Raymond Van Huizen** (SanterCom); **Renata Miltzer** (Clinique Mauve); **Clark Pignedoli** (SanterCom); **Laura Tsague** (Agir Montréal) | *In French, with English Interpretation*

Co-organized by AGIR and Clinique Mauve, this roundtable will explore tensions, possibilities, and strategies emerging from the intersections of migration, race, and sexual and gender identities. AGIR is a non-profit organization by and for the LGBTQIA+ migrant community in Montreal, while Clinique Mauve is an interdisciplinary social lab from the Université de Montréal transforming care for these populations.

In a context where restrictive immigration policy, systemic racism, and transphobia are barriers to care and resources, our panelists will share their concrete experiences in intervention, research, and mobilization. Through stories, case studies, and community perspectives, this discussion will highlight clinical, community, and activist practices that foster social justice and dignity for all. Among other topics, the panelists will discuss:

- Systemic barriers to care for migrant and racialized LGBTQ+ people;
- Forms of resistance and reinvention developed by communities;
- Conditions for ethical and equitable partnerships between academic research and community spaces.

Weaving together knowledge from research, work in the field, and lived experience, this roundtable seeks to inspire approaches to health, inclusion, and justice for 2S/LGBTQIA+ communities in Canada and around the world that are integrated, critical, and rooted in solidarity.

A3. INTEGRATED PANEL Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare for Deaf and Dis/abled Trans and Queer People: Barriers, Agency, and Reproductive Futures

10:30–12:00 PM | Drummond East | Artemis Guay (Université du Québec à Montréal); **Raphaël Jacques** (University of Ottawa); **Florence Lacombe** (HEC Montréal); **Geneviève Pagé** (Université du Québec à Montréal) | *In English*

Both 2S/LGBTQIA+ communities and dis/abled or Deaf communities face similar challenges when it comes to accessing sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services. Whether because of the systemic inaccessibility of the healthcare system, the limited knowledge of professionals about their reality, or the complexities of identity disclosure, previous research has demonstrated that SRH care is often secured only after navigating a path filled with obstacles. But what about those at the crossroads of these identities? This panel will focus on the intersectional barriers and strategies related to SRH services among Deaf and dis/abled queer and trans people. Drawing primarily on an action-based study conducted with thirty-five participants from across sexual, gender, and dis/ability spectrums and in collaboration with five community organizations, each presentation will offer a distinct perspective on the topic. The first, “Negotiating Our Coming-Outs as Dis/abled and Queer People: Tensions in Being In/visible in SRH Settings,” will explore the decision-making processes involved in sharing information about gender, sexual orientation, and dis/ability with healthcare providers. The second presentation, “Medically Assisted Reproduction Among Trans and Queer Adults: A Surveillance Minefield for Dis/abled Bodyminds” will examine how reproductive technologies intensify ableist forms of monitoring. The third presentation, “When Accessibility Sparks Distrust: Confidentiality Negotiation for Deaf Queer and Trans People Using Interpreting Services in SRH Settings,” will analyze fears of involuntary disclosure of sexual orientation or gender identity stemming from interpreter-mediated communication.

A4. ROUNDTABLE Open Discussion on Improving Access to Long-Acting HIV Treatment Among 2S/LGBTQIA+ People and Other People Living with HIV

10:30–12:00 PM | Salon 4 / 5 | Sarah Chown (Ribbon Community); **Francisco Ibáñez-Carrasco**; **Ben Klassen** (CBRC); **Valkyrie Fox Morningstar** (CBRC, Lookout Society, VANDU, Empower me); **Ryosuke Takamatsu** (CBRC) | *In English*

Imagine finally having an HIV treatment option that fits your life—but being told it is not available to you because of who you are, where you live, or how you are seen by society. New long-acting (LA) HIV treatment options have the potential to improve quality of life and health outcomes for people living with HIV. One form of injectable LA HIV treatment received Health Canada approval in 2020; however, in BC, publicly funded LA HIV treatment remains inaccessible to most people who want it. To identify the key priorities of people living with HIV in BC for the delivery of LA HIV treatment, particularly injectable options, we conducted a community-based qualitative study with 50 participants living with HIV in BC, of whom half were 2S/LGBTQIA+ people. Participants shared their experiences with access barriers such as a lack of information, HIV stigma, anti-2S/LGBTQIA+ stigma, substance use stigma, racism, ageism, and sexism in healthcare and research. Participants also wanted patient-centered care and respect for their lived experience or expertise as people living with HIV. These general issues with healthcare need to be addressed when considering the delivery of LA HIV treatment, and these new treatment options need to be accessible and provided in ways that make sense to people living with HIV. In this session, we will share the results of our study and facilitate a discussion about ways to increase access to LA HIV treatment.

A5. WORKSHOP Improving Sex and Gender Science: Methodological Guidance for 2S/LGBTQI+ Health Research

10:30–12:00 PM | [Salon 6 / 7](#) | **Yas Botelho** (CIHR Institute of Gender and Health, Simon Fraser University); **Kalysha Closson** (CIHR Institute of Gender and Health, Simon Fraser University); **Robert-Paul Juster** (Université de Montréal); **Angela Kaida** (CIHR Institute of Gender and Health, Simon Fraser University) | *In English*

Inclusive research practices are essential to advancing health equity for 2S/LGBTQI+ communities. However, many researchers struggle to apply sex and gender-based analysis (SGBA+) in ways that are rigorous, community-informed, and affirming. Challenges include conflating gender and sex, exclusionary eligibility criteria, and overlooking intersectionality, compromising research rigour and relevance.

This 90-minute interactive workshop from CIHR's Institute of Gender and Health (IGH) offers practical guidance for inclusive sex and gender science. Drawing on IGH's Meet the Methods series, the Gender & Sex in Methods & Measurement Research Equity Toolkit, and the REIMAGYN study's youth-engaged approach to gender and sexual orientation measurement, it supports participants in applying SGBA+ methods in qualitative and quantitative research.

The learning objectives of this workshop are to support participants in defining inclusive eligibility criteria and measure gender and sex in ways that reflect lived/living experiences of 2S/LGBTQI+ communities. Through worksheets, case examples, and collaborative discussions, participants will learn how to design rigorous and inclusive studies. Additionally, we will highlight how strong sex and gender considerations can enhance the competitiveness and quality of funding applications.

Reflecting IGH's commitment to learning from community, we will listen, gather insights, and co-create strategies to support 2S/LGBTQI+ researchers, trainees, and communities in doing excellent science that advances health equity. As part of this commitment, we will co-develop a knowledge product based on participants' insights and priorities to help bridge community-identified priorities with CIHR-funded research.

ALT FORMAT In the Blur of Pleasure: A Photo Exhibit on Consent in the Context of PnP/Chemsex

10:30–12:00 PM | [Hemon](#) | **Maxi Gaudette** (Qollab, Université de Montréal)

Step into a reflective and emotionally resonant space where queer sexualities and drug use converge, and where sexual consent emerges through art. This photo exhibit features the work of individuals who engage in Party 'n Play (PnP)/chemsex, offering personal and political reflections on how consent is navigated in spaces shaped by drugs, desire, transgression, and ambiguity.

The exhibit was co-created with the community advisory board and research participants from the PnP & Consent project, a photovoice initiative by and for gay, bi, and queer men, and trans, and non-binary people who engage in PnP. Participants were invited to express themselves freely through photography, capturing their experiences, emotions, and perspectives on sexual consent in the context of PnP. After taking photos, they participated in an interview to explore the meaning behind their images and deepen reflections on consent. These photos sparked rich conversations about the complexity of consent in PnP contexts, as well as intersecting realities that shape them, such as sexual racism, gender expression, transness, neurodivergence, mental health issues, sex work, resilience, and forgiveness. These stories reveal the transformative power of art: to make the unspoken visible, to foster empathy and healing, and to challenge stigma and dominant narratives.

The exhibit invites attendees to reflect, alone and with others, on the different ways we can imagine consent in the blur of pleasure.

IBPOC Networking Lunch

12:00–1:00 PM | [Salon 1](#)

Indigenous, Black, and other people of colour attending the Summit are invited to join this networking space. This casual drop-in space is by and for IBPOC folks, including mixed race people, at Summit 2025.

This lunch is exclusively for IBPOC attendees.

PLENARY SESSION It's Time for Change: Responding to Intimate Partner Violence in 2S/LGBTQIA+ Communities

1:00–2:15 PM | [Ballroom Centre / West](#) | **Javi Fuentes Bernal (Université de Montréal); **Kate Crozier** (Community Justice Initiatives); **Jessy Dame** (CBRC); **Lee Hodge** (Toronto Metropolitan University, University of Toronto); **Zack Marshall** (University of Calgary); **Fallon Rouillier** (Archives lesbiennes du Québec) | *In English, with French interpretation***

2S/LGBTQIA+ communities experience high rates of intimate partner abuse and sexual violence, with most demographic groups within the broader community showing rates of experiencing physical and sexual violence in excess of 50%. Despite this, formalized prevention and response services are often limited, and exclude our communities from accessing the support they need. In this plenary session, we will share community-based research and perspectives to illuminate the issue and provide context to begin to develop supportive solutions. Centering abolitionist and practical approaches, panelists will share and discuss critical perspectives on interpersonal violence in our communities, and highlight approaches being implemented to prevent, respond to, or heal from intimate partner violence and sexual harm.

ALT FORMAT Chemstories Podcast Listening Party: Exploring Chemsex and Reflecting on Intersecting Realities Through Storytelling

1:00–2:15 PM | [Hemon](#) | **Maxi Gaudette (Qollab, Université de Montréal), **Patrice St-Amour** (Qollab, Université de Montréal)**

Chemstories is an innovative research initiative that uses participatory podcasting to explore the lived experiences of gay, bisexual, and queer men (GBQM) and gender-diverse individuals engaging in chemsex (the intentional use of substances during sex) in Canada. Through storytelling, the Chemstories podcast invites listeners to engage with diverse stories gathered during group discussions facilitated by local hosts in Montreal, Toronto, and Halifax.

This listening party provides an opportunity for attendees to experience these stories in a communal setting. Each curated excerpt from the podcast will explore themes that intersect with various experiences within 2S/LGBTQIA+ communities, including pleasure, gender exploration, substance use issues, harm reduction, community care, and sexual empowerment. These excerpts are designed to promote personal reflection and spark collective dialogue about how these stories relate to the diverse experiences of 2S/LGBTQIA+ individuals.

This session will demonstrate the power of participatory podcasting to transform individual voices into collective insights. By listening to stories, discussing emotions, and engaging in meaningful conversations, our goal is to foster empathy, strengthen community resilience, and advance advocacy within 2S/LGBTQIA+ communities.

Poster Presentations & Exhibit Viewing

2:15–3:00 PM | *Ballroom East & 3rd Floor Foyer*

Discover this year's poster presentations and special exhibits that showcase the latest research, innovations, and projects from members of our communities.

CONCURRENT SESSION B

B1. SHORT ORAL PRESENTATIONS Celebrating Trans and Gender Diverse Joy and Strength (EN+FR)

3:00–4:30 PM | *Ballroom Centre / West* | Presentations in English and French, with interpretation to the other language

- **Where Kiki Meets Care: Reimagining Mental Health for Black Queer and Trans Communities**
Vincent Mousseau (Dalhousie University)
- **Exploring Gender Euphoria Through Arts-Based Research with Trans, Intersex, and Gender Diverse Youth and Their Caregivers**
Avery Follett (Mount Royal University); **Leah Hamilton** (Mount Royal University)
- **We Will Continue to Be Here: Trans Joy and Strength**
Theodore Forest Quinn (CARE Lab, Toronto Metropolitan University)
- **Families in TRANSition: The Last 5 Years of Mental Health Work with Trans Youth and Their Caregivers**
Anna Mertens (Central Toronto Youth Services)

B2. SHORT ORAL PRESENTATIONS Beyond the Big Cities and Regions: Centering the Needs of Rural and Remote Communities

3:00–4:30 PM | *Drummond Centre / West* | Presentations in English and French, with interpretation to the other language

- **Equitable Testing Made Easy: How to Start Your Own DBS Clinic**
Scott Alan (PEERS Alliance, CATIE)
- **Dynamic Partnerships to Advance Harm Reduction Services in Hard-to-Reach Populations**
Dylan Wall (Health Initiative for Men)
- **What We Heard: Patient and Provider Perspectives on the NWT's Trans+ Health Care Guidelines**
Mikayla Hunter (University of Manitoba); **Emily Smith** (Northern Mosaic Network)
- **Out in the Field: 2SLGBTQIA+ Workers' Safety and Survival in Canada's Energy Sector**
Dr. Ting-Fai Yu (Pride at Work Canada)

B3. SHORT ORAL PRESENTATIONS Exploring Social Determinants of 2S/LGBTQIA+ Health

3:00–4:30 PM | [Drummond East](#) | *In English*

- ***The “Quiet Frontline” – How 2SLGBTQI+ Unhoused Veterans Build Collective Strength***
Gazel Manuel (Egale Canada)
- ***Queerscape: Mapping Queer Diasporic Belonging***
Simon Liao (University of Waterloo)
- ***Social Cohesion as an Upstream Determinant of Sexual Health Among GBQ+ Men Engaged in Digitally Facilitated Sex Work***
Val Webber (Dalhousie University)
- ***“The Benefits Far Outweigh the Challenges”: Examining Possibilities and Practices of Queer Shared Households***
Celeste Pang (Mount Royal University); **Victor Perez-Amado** (Toronto Metropolitan University)

B4. TALKING CIRCLE Walking with Two Medicines: Indigenous Health Advocacy through Traditional and Clinical Approaches in Hospital Settings

3:00–4:30 PM | [Salon 4 / 5](#) | **Heather MacDonald** | *In English*

This session offers participants an opportunity to journey through Indigenous understandings of health and wellness using the Medicine Wheel as a guide. Rooted in the lived experience of Indigenous Health work within a hospital setting, the presentation explores how physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual aspects of health are interconnected—and how imbalance in any one area can affect the whole person, family, or community.

Participants will be invited to reflect on their own relationship to health, to understand how colonial systems prioritize physical wellness while often neglecting emotional, mental, and spiritual needs—especially for Indigenous patients. Through the teachings of the Medicine Wheel, this session introduces a more balanced approach to care, one that affirms relationality, culture, and self-determination.

Grounded in both traditional knowledge and clinical advocacy, the presenter will speak to lived experience while addressing the importance of visibility for 2S/LGBTQIA+ community members and the role of Indigiqueer leadership in reclaiming care spaces. This session blends storytelling, reflective practice, and gentle invitation to choose a path of balance. Participants will leave with a deeper understanding of how Indigenous frameworks like the Medicine Wheel can shape personal and systemic healing in meaningful ways.

B5. ROUNDTABLE HIV Disclosure, U=U, Inflammation, Living and Aging

3:00–4:30 PM | [Salon 6 / 7](#) | **Asif Ali** (AIDS Committee of Ottawa); **Devan Nambiar** (Gay Men’s Sexual Health Alliance); **Kurt R. Wolfear** (Community-based Organization) | *In English*

In 2008, U=U was a breakthrough in reducing HIV stigma. While U=U is important, it oversimplifies HIV, reducing it to a catchphrase. U=U leaves out the very real concerns around disclosure and the long-term impacts on the body of the inflammation caused by HIV infection.

For 2SGBTQ+ PLHIV disclosure is still a grey messy area, compounded with anxiety, isolation, racism, homo/bi/transphobia, depression, and trauma. HIV disclosure varies from a sense of obligation to situations, partner(s) responsibility to legal implications.

Compounding the stress for PLHIV is the impact of HIV inflammation. HIV is an inflammatory disease and causes chronic inflammation. Canadian research has shown that, in the first days of infection, HIV can create reservoirs where it will hide and persist during antiretroviral therapy. Even with U=U, new HIV viruses contribute to lower levels of continuing inflammation. HIV inflammation can accelerate changes normally associated with aging, which translates to higher rates of heart disease and non-HIV-related cancers.

Canada has a large cohort of aging PLHIV. In over 40 years of HIV, there has been minimal advocacy to reduce the collective stigma of HIV and how to manage HIV inflammation. Clinical care and social services for PLHIV have not addressed the impact of HIV aging, inflammation, and disclosure.

Three panelists—a Two-Spirit father, and an older and younger racialized gay PLHIV—will discuss intersecting HIV lived experiences and how to improve community health outcomes, via clinical and culturally appropriate health promotion and advocacy.

ALT FORMAT In the Blur of Pleasure: A Photo Exhibit on Consent in the Context of PnP/Chemsex

3:00–4:30 PM | [Hemon](#) | **Maxi Gaudette (Qollab, Université de Montréal)**

ALT FORMAT RISE: Exploring Experiences of Gender-Based Violence with 2SLGBTQIA+ Communities Through Art

3:00–4:30 PM | [Musset](#) | **Jillian Bagan; **Jaylene McRae** (CBRC); **Evan Matchett-Wong** (HIM); **Mattie Walker** (CBRC, University of Northern British Columbia)**

Reach Into Self Expression (RISE) represents work that is being done as part of a research project through a partnership with the Community-Based Research Centre and Health Initiative for Men focused on understanding 2SLGBTQIA+ people's experiences with gender-based violence (GBV) and GBV services. 2SLGBTQIA+ people have unique experiences of GBV that are not well understood by service providers, policy-makers or researchers. While 2SLGBTQIA+ communities face higher risks of experiencing violence they also experience greater barriers to accessing supports. This project centres 2SLGBTQIA+ survivors' voices through art-based exploration to understand their experiences, needs, and hopes for change related to GBV.

This workshop brings together researchers, community members, and service providers as co-facilitators. Our team will share what brings us to the work of GBV, initial findings from the art-based sessions, and our perspectives on community, connection, and art as a means to healing. Grounded in our own stories of survival and strength, we will invite participants to reflect on their own understanding of GBV through discussion and art-making. We will offer facilitated art-making activities where participants will reflect on their own definitions of GBV and what they want the community and others to know about GBV, healing, and 2SLGBTQIA+ community strength. Participants will have the option to contribute their artwork to the project's participant and community art showcase occurring in 2026.



CONCURRENT SESSION C

C1. SHORT ORAL PRESENTATIONS Strengthening Health, Education, and Social Systems

4:45–6:15 PM | *Ballroom Centre / West* | In English, with French interpretation

- **Community Collaboration to Address Gaps in GBV Prevention Education in Newfoundland and Labrador**
Kari Esparza-Sosa (YWCA); **Kim Seida** (Egale Canada)
- **A Framework for 2SLGBTQ+ Health Education in a Backlash Era: Why You Should Fill this Prescription**
Tristan Lai (University of British Columbia)
- **Healthcare Provider Lived Experiences and Insights on Culturally Safe Care for 2S/LGBTQIA+ Communities**
Tyler Glass
- **Exploring the Practice of Radical Mutualism for Building Systemic Change**
Kira London-Nadeau (CHU Ste-Justine, Université de Montréal); **Sandra Mouafo** (Project 10)

C2. SHORT ORAL PRESENTATIONS Intersectional Responses to 2S/LGBTQIA+ Chronic Health and Disability Needs

4:45–6:15 PM | *Drummond Centre / West* | Presentations in English and French, with interpretation to the other language

- **Health Service Use, Access, and Challenges for People with Rheumatic Conditions During COVID**
Codie Primeau (Western University, Arthritis Research Canada)
- **We Deserve Chlamydia Care – Experiences of Chlamydia Testing and Care for Disabled Queer Women, 2S, and Non-Binary People**
Malek Yalaoui (CBRC)
- **Disability, Desire, and Disruption: A “Crip” Sociology of Fucking**
Alan Santinele Martino (University of Calgary)
- **Priority Issues in Community HIV Research in Quebec: Results from Consultations with People Living with HIV, Community Workers and Academic Stakeholders**
Janyck Beaulieu (COCQ-SIDA, University of Ottawa)

C3. INTEGRATED PANEL New Horizons in STBBI Prevention for Two-Spirit, Gay, Bi, Trans, and Queer Men and Non-Binary (2S/GBTQ) People: Early Experiences with Doxycycline as STI PrEP/PEP

4:45–6:15 PM | *Drummond East* | **Kartik Arora** (CBRC, HIM); **Adam Awad** (MAX); **Alexandre Dumont Blais** (RÉZO); **Lucas Gergyek** (CBRC); **Mark Hull** (University of British Columbia); **Ben Klassen** (CBRC); **Jose Benito Toviilo** (University of Victoria); **Tin D. Vo** (University of Toronto) | Facilitated by **Aaron Purdie** (HIM) | In English

Doxycycline as prophylaxis (doxyPrEP/PEP) can reduce the impact of some STIs disproportionately impacting 2S/GBTQ people. As doxyPrEP/PEP is scaled up, we must explore 2S/GBTQ, provider, and community-based organization (CBO) experiences with doxy to optimize access, uptake, and delivery while addressing underlying inequities. In this panel session, we will share clinical data alongside key findings from several community-based

research projects that included interviews with 2S/GBTQ community members in BC (N=21) and healthcare providers (N=44) across Canada to provide background on doxy PrEP/PEP and to identify key preferences for accessing and delivering doxyPrEP/PEP. As well, audience members will hear from a panel of 2S/GBTQ community-based organization staff, who will share about their experiences with doxy PrEP/PEP implementation, delivery, and lessons learned through community education, health promotion, and engagement related to doxy PrEP/PEP. Successful implementation requires tailored and culturally-competent health promotion for 2S/GBTQ communities that situates doxyPrEP/PEP within the broader landscape of HIV/STI prevention. The lack of national guidelines for doxyPrEP/PEP in Canada poses a challenge for implementation, particularly when considering equitable access. Key lessons from early implementation, including the importance of leveraging existing 2S/GBTQ-friendly STI prevention infrastructure, can enhance rollout. Triangulating clinical data, research findings, and experiences of CBOs will help us assess the current context for doxy PrEP/PEP implementation and delivery, so that entrenched inequities are challenged, and doxy PrEP/PEP reaches those who would benefit most.

C4. ROUNDTABLE Authentic Community Voice: Converging Sex-Work Archives, Photovoice & Intermediary Partnerships to Emerge Safer 2S/LGBTQIA+ Futures

4:45–6:15 PM | [Salon 4 / 5](#) | Jelena Vermilion (Sex Workers' Action Program Hamilton) | *In English*

Sex worker knowledge systems have long safeguarded queer and trans communities, yet grassroots evidence seldom drives mainstream health or safety policy. For example, 88–95 % of Indigenous and racialized workers anticipate police harassment.

This 90-minute workshop spotlights three converging data streams:

- Sex Workers Speak for Themselves—a 2024 photovoice audit where 90% of 40 Hamilton participants asked for practical safety tools like lighting, phones, and surveillance, with 53% naming hostile policing as a top barrier;
- a 2024 national literature review showing nearly two-thirds of sex workers report unmet healthcare needs; and,
- an intermediary-led collaboration between SWAP Hamilton and McMaster's Office of Community Engagement that probes how authenticity is negotiated through "intermediaries"—community organizations or lived-experience leaders who bridge campus and street yet carry representation risks.

In this session:

- Roundtable discussions will be guided to narrate each of these projects and to glean the findings from each;
- There will be an opportunity to role-play the Authentic Community Voice checklist—questions that each side can ask to gauge trust and representation; and,
- Participants will imagine possibilities for applications of arts-based engagement and research grounded in intermediary reflections in their own contexts, and reflect on an over-reliance on intermediaries versus empowerment.

By centering sex worker voices, this session models Summit 2025's call to "pool our spheres of influence" and advances priority themes such as harm reduction, mental health and anti-violence strategies.

C5. ROUNDTABLE Good Grief! Building Solidarity Across 2S/LGBTQIA+ People's Experiences of Bereavement, Grief, and Loss

4:45–6:15 PM | *Salon 6 / 7* | **Hannah Crouse** (Carleton University); **Anna Penner** (2SLGBTQ+ Health Hub) | *In English*

Within academic literature and clinical practice there has been a call to understand grief as a multidimensional response to death and non-death loss. While this renewed approach to understanding grief has illuminated the ways structures of power shape individual and collective experiences of loss, limited attention has been paid to how grief is uniquely experienced by 2S/LGBTQIA+ people. This gap in understanding is particularly salient, as scholars have identified how queer and trans people are often represented in relation to death and loss, including, but not limited to, the HIV/AIDS crisis and increased rates of suicidality. In turn, this session aims to create a space to explore and express our unique experiences of grief as 2S/LGBTQIA+ people, while emphasizing how these experiences can act as a tool for collective action.

In this session, participants will be encouraged to think about how our individual and shared experiences of grief can be a tool for collective action. The session will begin with an overview about bereavement, grief, and loss, and identifying how these are uniquely experienced by 2S/LGBTQIA+ people. The presenters will then invite participants to reflect on their experiences of grief, with an opportunity to engage in an arts-based activity to help think through these experiences. Sharing your reflections with fellow participants and engaging in the art-based activity is entirely optional, and we welcome anyone to attend who is committed to holding space for the diversity of grief-related experiences attendees may have.

ALT FORMAT In the Blur of Pleasure: A Photo Exhibit on Consent in the Context of PnP/Chemsex

4:45–6:15 PM | *Hemon* | **Maxi Gaudette** (Qollab, Université de Montréal)

ALT FORMAT We Refuse to be Silenced: Discussion on Digital Safety, Resilience, and Queer Joy (main session)

4:45–6:15 PM | *Kafka & Lamartine* | **Vivian Lee** (ODLAN); **Stephanie Jonsson** (ODLAN)

This session offers a critical and empowering exploration of digital self-awareness. In an increasingly interconnected world, understanding one's digital footprint is paramount to personal safety and privacy. We will demystify the concept of "self-doxing," reframing it not as a malicious act but as a proactive defense mechanism where individuals utilize the very same tools and strategies employed by bad actors to discover their own publicly available information online.

Participants will discover the various layers of the internet to understand where their data might reside. We'll identify the types of personal information commonly found online, including past and present names, addresses, phone numbers, birthdays, photos, online profiles, and geotagged locations. A key takeaway will be a practical understanding of how search engines operate and how they personalize results. The session will then introduce powerful search techniques, including Boolean terms and "Google dorking," demonstrating how these can uncover personal information like email addresses or specific file types.

Engagement will be fostered through live demonstrations and interactive practice sessions, encouraging participants to apply these techniques in real-time. We will also introduce a selection of free digital identity tools. Beyond defense, a portion will be dedicated to "Digital Delights," fostering a dialogue about experiencing and cultivating queer joy in

online spaces. This session empowers participants with knowledge and practical skills to proactively assess digital risks while celebrating the vibrant, positive aspects of our online communities, fostering both safety and joy in our digital lives.

Day 3: Saturday, November 22

PLENARY SESSION Community-Based Health Literacy: A Call to Action

9:00–10:15 AM | *Ballroom Centre / West* | **Lance McCready** (Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto); Moderated by **Ben Klassen** | *In English, with French interpretation*

We live in a time where sexual health information and tools are abundant, yet we continue to struggle to make these culturally relevant, with intersecting barriers that continue to limit access and use. This plenary highlights the paradox Black and other racialized queer and trans communities face, drawing on lived experience, research, and community practice in sexual health education, and makes the case for community-based health literacy as a critical, but often underappreciated approach to addressing health inequities. A practical framework and examples from community-based organizations in Canada illustrate what works in supporting health literacy and community empowerment. The presentation concludes with concrete steps and a call to action, inviting communities and practitioners to co-create accessible, culturally grounded, and sustainable solutions.

CONCURRENT SESSION D

D1. ROUNDTABLE PnPnPnP: Intersections of Peer, Person and Professional in PnP Community Work

10:30–12:00 PM | *Ballroom Centre / West* | **Daniel Boyle** (Health Initiative for Men); **Sebastian Westerlund** (Health Initiative for Men) | *In English, with French interpretation*

Peer work is essential in supporting gay, bi, and queer men and gender-diverse people with sexualized substance use (chemsex, party and play, PnP). At the same time, peers face unique challenges including navigating the systems they use and work in, recovering while helping others with substance use, and negotiating power. This session explores the complexities peer workers navigate working in health and community sectors that benefit from their lived experience while simultaneously reinforcing stigma and hierarchies.

Drawing from the experience of our own peer-led programming, we will share lessons from learned and emerging practices around mental health, substance use, and community accountability. We will reflect on the challenges and insights that come with being “out” as someone who uses drugs while also being seen as a professional.

Participants will discuss how peer workers engage in storytelling, navigate emerging power dynamics, and support each other in learning how to “play the game.” We will explore how peers coach and empower each other to counter stigma, surveillance, and internalized expectations of perfection and/or suffering. This session is an invitation for dialogue between peers and allies in different roles on how we can challenge stigma and power dynamics while building sustainable, respectful peer work structures.

Key questions:

- How do we support peer success, and how have we sometimes failed to?
- How do we recognize that experience is valuable, but not universal?

D2. SHORT ORAL PRESENTATIONS Centering Two-Spirit Knowledge and Indigenous Approaches

10:30–12:00 PM | *Drummond Centre / West* | Presentations in English and French, with interpretation to the other language

- **“If You Identify as Two-Spirit, That’s What It Is to You”**: Exploring Two-Spirit Identity, Indigenous Masculinities, & Sexual Well-Being Through Land-Based Practice
Arthur Dave Miller (Dalhousie University); **Matthew Numer** (Dalhousie University)
- **Co-Creating Research with 2S/LGBTQ+ Indigenous Peoples – Developing Community-Driven Priorities**
Deanna Henry
- **A Place in the Circle – 2S/LGBTQIA+ Inclusion and Wellness in the Metis Nation of Ontario**
Jennifer St. Germain (Métis Nation of Ontario)
- **Two-Spirit Inclusion in LGBTQ+ Spaces in So-Called Quebec: Rethinking Convergence to Leave No One Behind**
Estelle Santerre (Université du Québec à Montréal)

D3. INTEGRATED PANEL Advancing Community-Based Research in Practice: Investigaytors, Knowledge ZeekerS, and Jeunes chercheur.e.s Queers

10:30–12:00 PM | *Drummond East* | **JP Armstrong** (NorQuest College); **Kartik Arora** (HIM); **David J. Brennan** (CRUISElab, University of Toronto); **Finn St Dennis** (QTHC); **Marie Geoffroy** (CBRC); **Mikayla Hunter**; **Juliana Kaneda** (QTHC); **Nathan Lachowsky** (University of Northern British Columbia, CBRC); **Landon Turlock** (QTHC); **Skye Wilson** (CBRC) | *In English*

While acceptance of Community-Based Research (CBR) has grown, few practical models exist, especially when working at a national scale. Launched in 2011 by CBRC, the Investigaytors program now runs six cohorts. The program has also expanded to reach community-based organizations in Alberta, and into an Indigenous-led program called Knowledge ZeekerS. In the past year, these programs successfully mobilized to implement major CBR projects, tackling 2S/LGBTQIA+ health issues with a deeply personal and political approach. Programs focused on providing key foundational research capacity-building and on ensuring community needs and experiences were at the core of research initiatives. For instance, many programs focused on the development of a national survey and in-person data collection (Our Bodies, Our Health), while a newer program co-created and co-conducted applied research projects driven by 2S/LGBTQIA+ organizations’ needs in Northern and Central Alberta.

The goal of this panel is to share knowledge from these programs to advance CBR in local and national settings, and as a means of empowering 2S/LGBTQIA+ communities in response to the current sociopolitical climate. Our talkshow-style panel will include program participants and coordinators, forefronting the voices of our community researchers. The panel host will look back on the past year of these programs, holding space for sharing challenges and successes with the programs, their research process, and the impact they created. The panel will conclude with sharing wisdom on the value of these programs and takeaways for others engaging in CBR.

D4. ROUNDTABLE Unsettling the System: Converging Identities and the Emergence of Inclusive Practices for LGBTQ+ Newcomers and Community Organizations

10:30–12:00 PM | [Salon 4 / 5](#) | **Kari Esparza-Sosa** (YWCA St. John's); **Dr. Sulaimon Abiodun Olawale Giwa** (Memorial University of Newfoundland and Labrador); **Kimberly Offspring** (YWCA St. John's) | *In English*

Canada will welcome 1.45 million newcomers by 2025 as national narratives of inclusion obscure the exclusion LGBTQ+ migrants face within mainstream settlement services. In Newfoundland and Labrador, exclusions are intensified by the convergence of intersecting identities—sexuality, gender, race, and precarious migration status—shaping newcomers' lived realities.

This presentation investigates how settlement systems engage LGBTQ+ newcomers in the province and how structural neglect produces exclusion. It explores institutional failures and emergent forms of resistance. Through a community-based research model with YWCA St. John's, using a mixed-methods approach, data were collected through surveys and in-depth interviews with 14 LGBTQ+ newcomers and 3 service providers. Thematic analysis identified patterns of erasure, disconnection, and resilience.

Three core themes emerged: (1) the near-absence of LGBTQ+-specific programming within settlement infrastructure, (2) service providers' limited understanding of intersectional identities, and (3) a pressing need for sustained, community-rooted care. These findings illustrate how fragmented service models reproduce marginalization, while also pointing to the emergence of activist strategies led by LGBTQ+ newcomers and allied practitioners. These strategies demand a shift from assimilationist frameworks toward anti-oppressive, justice-oriented service design.

Join a dynamic conversation for a convergence of research, activism, and community experience and a path forward. To meaningfully support LGBTQ+ newcomers, organizations must adopt intersectional praxis, centre lived expertise, and embed continuity of care. What emerges is not only a critique of exclusion but a roadmap for transformative inclusion through peer support, mentorship, and organizational capacity building.

D5. ROUNDTABLE Strategies for Recruiting Trans and Gender-Expansive Participants in Health Research

10:30–12:00 PM | [Salon 6 / 7](#) | **M Khonina** (Simon Fraser University) | *In English*

Recruitment of trans and gender-expansive (TGE) participants for health research has become increasingly challenging. The current climate, with rising anti-trans sentiment, online disinformation and hate speech, and an increase in fraudulent research responses, makes it increasingly challenging to reach TGE communities. At the same time, the need for meaningful, community-engaged TGE health research has never been greater.

Our research team and colleagues have tried various recruitment strategies, including posts in closed online community groups, advertisements on Meta and other social networks, and outreach through community networks. We encountered considerable challenges, including high rates of fraudulent responses online, risks of online disclosure and hate speech, and persistent difficulty finding participants, especially from groups traditionally underrepresented in gender minority research.

This roundtable will bring together community leaders, researchers, and advocates to problem-solve the recruitment of TGE research participants in today's climate. We will

discuss challenges, share best practices, and explore new approaches to recruiting TGE research participants. A list of questions will be circulated in advance to generate a solution-oriented dialogue. We will create a safe and affirming space for all participants and intentionally include voices typically excluded from conversations on health research.

Findings and recommendations from this roundtable will be shared with Summit attendees and the broader community. The broader goal is to collectively identify recruitment practices that reflect the diversity and needs of TGE communities, moving toward more ethical, affirming, and community-centered health research.

ALT FORMAT In the Blur of Pleasure: A Photo Exhibit on Consent in the Context of PnP/Chemsex

10:30–12:00 PM | [Hemon](#) | **Maxi Gaudette** (Qollab, Université de Montréal)

ALT FORMAT We Refuse to be Silenced: Discussion on Digital Safety, Resilience, and Queer Joy

10:30–12:00 PM | [Kafka & Lamartine](#) | **Vivian Lee** (ODLAN), **Stephanie Jonsson** (ODLAN)

Making Space: A Mentorship Lunch for 2S/LBTQ+ Women and Gender-Diverse people

12:00–1:00 PM | [Salon 1](#)

This mentorship event will bring established 2S/LBTQ+ women and gender-diverse researchers and community organizers together with students, trainees, and early career researchers and organizers, for networking and conversations about engaging in 2S/LBTQ+ research-related work.

This mentorship event is a space for 2S/LBTQ+ women and gender-diverse people attending CBRC Summit. Separate registration is not required.

Conversation topics include:

- Pathways to careers and relationships in 2S/LBTQ+ community-engaged research
- Methods & advice for people looking to get into 2S/LBTQ+ community-engaged research

PLENARY SESSION Leveraging the Law to Protect the Health and Well-Being of 2S/LGBTQIA+ Communities

1:00–2:15 PM | [Ballroom Centre / West](#) | **Andrew Brett** (CATIE); **Bennett Jensen** (Egale Canada); **Douglas W. Judson** (Judson Howie LLP); **Dalia T.** | Facilitated by **Michael Kwag** (CBRC) | *In English, with French interpretation*

2S/LGBTQIA+ communities are coming under greater attack in Canada, from online hate and disinformation campaigns, to legislative attempts to take away our rights and freedoms. We are fighting back against this increase in stigma towards our communities—and specifically attacks on comprehensive sexual health, harm reduction, and gender inclusive schools—through education, advocacy, research, and sometimes, the legal system.

In this plenary session, we will hear from lawyers and community organizers who have leveraged the law to defend the health and well-being of 2S/LGBTQIA+ communities and achieve precedent-setting wins. The panel will explore how people working in community health impacted by hate and misinformation can collaborate to achieve legal victories, and protect our work to promote the health and well-being of our communities.

ALT FORMAT Chemstories Podcast Listening Party: Exploring Chemsex and Reflecting on Intersecting Realities Through Storytelling

1:00–2:15 PM | *Hemon* | **Maxi Gaudette** (Qollab, Université de Montréal), **Patrice St-Amour** (Qollab, Université de Montréal)

Poster Presentations & Exhibit Viewing

2:15–3:00 PM | *Ballroom East & 3rd Floor Foyer*

Discover this year's poster presentations and special exhibits that showcase the latest research, innovations, and projects from members of our communities.

CONCURRENT SESSION E

E1. SHORT ORAL PRESENTATIONS Addressing Substance Use and Harm Reduction Needs for 2S/LGBTQIA+ Communities

3:00–4:30 PM | *Ballroom Centre / West* | *In English, with French interpretation*

- *Drinking Motives of Trans and Gender Diverse Youth and Adults in Canada*
Theodore Forest Quinn (CARE Lab, Toronto Metropolitan University)
- *Cannabis Consumption and Self-Care: A Cellphilm Study by and for Queer Youth*
Amy Rhanim (Qollab)
- *Reflexivity and Positionality in Participatory Research: Differing Perspectives on Chemsex within the 55+ Age Group*
Julie Deslandes-Leduc (Université du Québec à Montréal); **André Patry** (Université du Québec à Montréal)
- *Informed Choices, Safer Communities: Spectrum Drug Testing in Alberta*
Kayla Halliday (Queer and Trans Health Collective); **Douglas Rusk** (Queer and Trans Health Collective)

E2. SHORT ORAL PRESENTATIONS Strengthening Suicide Awareness and Prevention in 2S/LGBTQIA+ Communities

3:00–4:30 PM | *Drummond Centre / West* | *In English, with French interpretation*

- *Pride Talk: Co-Designing a Suicide Prevention Training with 2S/LGBTQIA+ Communities*
Kinda Wassef (Université de Montréal)
- *LGBTQ+ Youth in Rural Quebec: Lived Experiences and Stories of Searching for Mental Health Support*
Simon Ouellet (Université de Montréal)
- *Reimagining Spirituality: A Photovoice Exploration of Racialized LGBTQ Men's Experiences with Suicidality*
Calvin C. Fernandez (University of British Columbia)
- *Ethical Considerations of Queer Connection and Support Across Distance – Understanding Online Peer Support in the Context of Suicide*
Keven Lee (Université de Montréal, Centre de recherche en santé publique)

E3. INTEGRATED PANEL HIV Is Not a Crime: Criminalization, Queer Resistance, and Legal Reform

3:00–4:30 PM | *Drummond East* | **Ahmad Ezeddine** (HIV & AIDS Legal Clinic Ontario); **Colin Johnson** (Canadian Coalition to Reform HIV Criminalization); **Ryan Peck** (HIV & AIDS Legal Clinic Ontario); **Florence Rainville** (Dr. Peter Centre and British Columbia Centre on Substance Use) | *In English*

Despite advances in HIV prevention and treatment, Canada remains a leader in prosecuting people living with HIV in relation to HIV non-disclosure. These laws disproportionately affect Indigenous and Black people, as well as men who have sex with men. Under Canadian law, individuals can face charges of aggravated sexual assault, even in circumstances where (a) sex is consensual; (b) there is no intention to transmit HIV; (c) transmission does not occur; and, (d) where there is negligible to no risk of HIV transmission. Canada's approach ignores scientific evidence and human rights.

This panel brings together different perspectives: legal expertise, policy/researcher experience, frontline provider familiarity, and living experience. We will explore how HIV criminalization is rooted in racism, stigma, and colonialism, and how it harms public health, violates human rights, and silences those most affected. We will discuss how fear of prosecution creates barriers to testing and treatment. We will share information about the current state of the law and community efforts to reform the law.

In particular, the session will highlight how the Canadian Coalition to Reform HIV Criminalization is working to change the law. Participants will deepen their understanding of the legal landscape and reform efforts, alongside engaging with the insights and experiences of those impacted. This session provides practical advocacy, legal education and community mobilization tools.

E4. WORKSHOP Our Bodies, Our Health: 2S/LGBTQIA+ Community Sexual and Reproductive Health: Early Findings

3:00–4:30 PM | *Salon 4 / 5* | **Marie Geoffroy** (CBRC); **Nathan Lachowsky** (University of Northern British Columbia, CBRC); **Ren Lo** (CBRC); **Sammy Lowe** (QTHC) | *In English*

The Canada-wide "Our Bodies, Our Health" (OBOH) survey emerged from a need to better understand and address 2S/LGBTQIA+ sexual and reproductive health (SRH) experiences, needs, and barriers. Co-developed by CBRC, seven Investigaytors and Knowledge 2eekers programs across Canada, and academic researchers, OBOH supports community-driven, evidence-based advocacy, and policy change efforts.

Community-prioritized SRH drivers and indicators for our questionnaire as well as recruitment branding, visuals, and language were developed through continued community engagement. All 2S/LGBTQIA+ people aged 15+, who were living in Canada, were eligible to complete the survey in English, French, or Spanish. Data collection occurred through online and in-person recruitment from May to September 2025 with Investigaytors and Knowledge 2eekerS across Canada.

Our roundtable discussion will include reflections on our community-based research approach, presentation of preliminary findings from the survey, and priority setting for future data analysis and knowledge mobilization. Preliminary OBOH data will include 2S/LGBTQIA+ population-level indicators of barriers and access to SRH care (e.g. gender-affirming care, fertility and family planning care, abortion care, sexual health care). We will also describe experiences with sexual education in different jurisdictions, experiences of

discrimination and sexual violence, and sexual pleasure. We will stimulate discussion with workshop attendees that reflects on these initial findings, future data analysis priorities, and strategies for sharing study findings with different audiences, including decision-makers, healthcare providers, and community leaders.

E5. WORKSHOP What Inclusion Really Means: Uplifting Two-Spirit Leadership in Community Work

3:00–4:30 PM | [Salon 6 / 7](#) | **Sadie Thompson** (Sacred Circles Village); **Stephen Wright** (Sacred Circles Village) | *In English*

In times of political uncertainty and rising anti-2SLGBTQIA+ hostility, the need for transformative leadership has never been greater. This 90-minute workshop explores how Two-Spirit leadership, grounded in Indigenous knowledge systems, relational accountability, and lived experience, can reshape how community and social service sectors operate. Facilitated by Two-Spirit leaders, the session creates space for honest dialogue, shared learning, and skill-building that moves beyond symbolic inclusion and into deeper systemic change.

Participants will reflect on the barriers that Two-Spirit leaders face in social service environments and examine practical strategies to foster respect, safety, and meaningful inclusion. The workshop includes grounding practices, storytelling, small group dialogue, and collective toolkit creation. Together, we will explore how to shift hiring practices, program design, and decision-making in ways that truly support Two-Spirit leadership.

Rooted in community care, cultural resurgence, and anti-colonial practice, this session is intended for service providers, administrators, educators, and advocates who are ready to move from performative gestures to lasting commitments. Participants will leave with practical tools, an increased understanding of intersectional barriers, and a renewed sense of responsibility to Two-Spirit people within their communities and organizations. By centering Two-Spirit voices and building shared responsibility for change, this workshop supports the emergence of stronger, more accountable systems of care. These systems will serve everyone more fully by making space for those who have long been excluded.

ALT FORMAT In the Blur of Pleasure: A Photo Exhibit on Consent in the Context of PnP/Chemsex

3:00–4:30 PM | [Hemon](#) | **Maxi Gaudette** (Qollab, Université de Montréal)

ALT FORMAT Mic'd Up and Mobilized: Telling 2SLGBTQI+ Stories Through Digital Storytelling and Live Podcasting

3:00–4:30 PM | [Jarry & Joyce](#) | **Abubaker Bukulu** (National Network for Immigrants and Refugees-Canada); **Sharifah Nalugo**; **Esther Namalwa**

Mic'd Up & Mobilized is a live podcast workshop that explores how digital storytelling can be used as a powerful tool for advancing 2S/LGBTQIA+ health equity, resilience, and collective visibility. Rooted in an intersectional approach, this session invites participants to experience a real-time recording of the Voice Up podcast, a youth-led platform amplifying the voices of Black, newcomer, and racialized 2SLGBTQI+ storytellers. The live episode will focus on themes of identity, belonging, resistance, and care narrated by those whose experiences are often pushed to the margins of health discourse and policy.

Following the recording, the session transitions into an interactive discussion and hands-on skill-sharing space where attendees will explore how podcasting can be adapted to their own contexts as a means of community engagement, grassroots advocacy, trauma-informed communication, and culturally relevant health promotion. Participants will be introduced to accessible tools and techniques to support the creation of inclusive, community-rooted audio storytelling.

By foregrounding lived experience, creativity, and digital inclusion, Mic'd Up & Mobilized offers a replicable, low-barrier model for fostering solidarity, healing, and intergenerational dialogue. It embodies the spirit of convergence bringing together storytellers, health workers, and activists and supports the emergence of new strategies to promote 2S/LGBTQIA+ wellbeing in an increasingly hostile and under-resourced climate. Whether you're a front-line worker, artist, researcher, or organizer, this session will leave you inspired to tell new stories, build deeper connections, and transform how we imagine care in our communities.

CONCURRENT SESSION F

F1. SHORT ORAL PRESENTATIONS Enhancing Inclusion in 2S/LGBTQIA+ Health Research and Promotion

4:45–6:15 PM | *Ballroom Centre / West* | Presentations in English and French, with interpretation to the other language

- **Enhancing 2S/LGBTQIA+ Inclusion within the Sex Now 2025 Survey: Findings and Lessons Learned**
Marie Geoffroy (CBRC); **Ben Klassen** (CBRC); **Malhar Shah** (CBRC)
- **Better Listening for Better Action: Results and Avenues for Action from Intersectional Community Consultations in Lesbo-Queer Spaces**
Tara Chanady (Quebec Lesbian Network); **Inès Pécoul-Cabanes** (Quebec Lesbian Network)
- **PLUS! And Chupa con HIM – HIV/STBBI Testing for Spanish-Speaking and Latinx Pop'ns**
José Alvaro Aliseda (HIM); **Andrés AVECias** (HIM)
- **Providing Safer, More Inclusive Sexual Health Care: Insights from a Community-Based, Intersectional Evaluation of an Online Intervention for Sexually-Transmitted and Blood-Borne Infection Stigma**
Brandon Hey (University of Toronto, Canadian Public Health Association); **Sylvain Nkankeu**

F2. INTEGRATED PANEL Queer and Trans Family Building in Canada: Past, Present and Future

4:45–6:15 PM | *Drummond Centre / West* | **Rachel Epstein** (Independent 2SLGBTQIA+ Parenting); **Jen Goldberg** (McMaster Midwifery Research Centre); **Mona Greenbaum** (LGBT+ Family Coalition, Institut national de santé publique du Québec); **Lori Ross** (University of Toronto); **Michelle W. Tam** (LGBTQ Health Center of Excellence, Harvard University) | *In English, with French interpretation*

Canada has a rich history of activism, community-building, and research related to queer and trans family building. In this panel discussion, community organizers and researchers will come together to share some of this history, present examples of recent research on queer and trans family building, and reflect on what comes next, particularly in this moment where queer and trans families are increasingly the targets of state-sanctioned exclusion and violence.

The panel will be chaired by Lori Ross, an academic with two decades of experience leading community-based research on 2SLGBTQ+ parenting, and will have four speakers. First, Mona Greenbaum, founder and former executive director of the LGBT+ Family Coalition, will share reflections on her 30 years of involvement in activism for LGBT+ families. Second, Jen Goldberg, postdoctoral research fellow in the McMaster Midwifery Research Centre, will share findings from their doctoral study about queer and trans peoples' experiences with midwifery care. Third, Michelle Tam, postdoctoral fellow at the LGBTQ Health Center of Excellence (Harvard University), will present her doctoral research on the experiences of BIPOC 2SLGBTQ+ people with assisted reproductive technologies. Finally, Rachel Epstein, a long-time queer parenting activist, educator and researcher, will reflect on 30+ years of community building and activism with queer and trans parents, including the disappearance of in-person spaces for queer and trans families to gather together. We will close by inviting the audience to join us in a discussion of what comes next for queer and trans family building in Canada.

F3. SHORT ORAL PRESENTATIONS **Prioritizing Im/migrants and Newcomers in 2S/LGBTQIA+ Health**

4:45–6:15 PM | *Drummond East* | *In English*

- **Reclaiming Resilience: Working With Racialized 2S/LGBTQIA+ Newcomers**
Zainab Soje (Community Alliance for Accessible Treatment); **David Soomarie** (Community Alliance for Accessible Treatment)
- **Advancing Health Equity Among Racialized Immigrant LGBTQ+ Older Adults**
Michael Butac (Toronto Metropolitan University)
- **Challenges and Resilience of LGBTQ+ Migrants in Canada**
Hazal Göktaş (York University); **Roya Haghiri-Vijeh** (York University)
- **Health and Wellbeing of 2S/LGBTQIA+ Im/migrants and Refugees to Canada: Our Health 2023**
Kimia Rohani (University of Victoria); **Ryosuke Takamatsu** (CBRC)

F4. ROUNDTABLE **What's Happening with Blood Donation Policy and Implementation Research? A Community Discussion on Research, New Policy, and Intervention Co-Development**

4:45–6:15 PM | *Salon 4 / 5* | **Cole Etherington** (Ottawa Hospital Research Institute); **Nathan Lachowsky** (University of Northern British Columbia, CBRC); **Glenndi Miguel** (Community partner, primary care paramedic); **Amelia Palumbo** (University of Ottawa, Ottawa Hospital Research Institute); **Elisabeth Vesnaver** (CHEO Research Institute) | *In English*

In 2022, there was a significant shift in Canadian blood donation policy. The historic time-based policy for “men who have sex with men” (MSM) was replaced with a gender-neutral sexual behaviour specific screening policy. This meaningful yet insufficient step toward equity in the donor system left many disappointed and disengaged. At the same time, 2S/LGBTQIA+ communities have a history of showing up for those in need, and many wish to exercise their altruism by donating blood. This roundtable will engage attendees on the changes to blood donation policy, their implementation, and remaining gaps. To support discussion, we will present research across two teams who are conducting community-engaged participatory research to understand acceptability of the new policies and develop interventions to address barriers to engagement in the blood system. We will present: 1) findings from the Sex Now 2024 survey (N=2,227) on attitudes towards the

current policy and top barriers and motivators for donation among 2S/GBTQ+ participants; 2) findings from one-on-one interviews (N=12) with newly eligible blood donors (previously excluded by the MSM criteria) about their experiences with donation; and 3) two interventions co-developed with and for 2S/GBTQ+ communities to support donation interest and positive donation experiences for those who can and choose to donate (i.e. screening of a 5-minute professionally-produced film). We will gather feedback on next steps to help shape future research priorities and guide advocacy to government, Health Canada, and blood operators.

F5. ALT FORMAT On Being Infectious

4:45–6:15 PM | *Salon 6 / 7* | Alexander McClelland (Carleton University), Mikiki | *In English*

This performative lecture and discussion explores HIV infectiousness as a site of inquiry. By infectiousness, we mean acts of and from being infected, of having a high viral load, of not being virally suppressed, of being in a position to infect others. HIV-positive people are often only seen through the lens of infection, while speaking from an embodied place of infectiousness remains morally regulated and silenced.

Dominant narratives frame HIV infectiousness through biomedical and criminal legal systems, producing binaries such as sick/well, safe/dangerous, victim/criminal. Following feminist scholar Donna Haraway's cyborg philosophy, we reject these dualisms and instead explore infectiousness through modulations—of power, sound, and viral replication.

Under capitalism, biomedicine, and legal regimes, our bodies become para-pathological sites mediated by branded pharmaceuticals designed to control replication and transmission. Yet, as late trans HIV-positive sex worker Bryn Kelly expressed, we can resist these frameworks—to be “the ghost in the machine.”

We ask: how can this transcendence be realized? We propose living with HIV as a form of conceptual art—a mode of survival and creative resistance. Our performance blends scholarly lecture, video screening, DJ set, and artistic intervention to explore the productive nature of infectiousness. We interrogate how conceptions of infection shape ways of being and knowing, and examine their material effects on the epistemologies and ontologies available to us as people living with HIV.

ALT FORMAT In the Blur of Pleasure: A Photo Exhibit on Consent in the Context of PnP/Chemsex

4:45–6:15 PM | *Hemon* | Maxi Gaudette (Qollab, Université de Montréal)

CLOSING PLENARY

6:15–6:45 PM | *Ballroom Centre / West* | *In English, with French interpretation*

Summit 2025: Convergence & Emergence comes to an end with our closing plenary where we reflect on some of what we have learned at this year's event, and where we need to go next.

Ancillary Events

Setting a Community-Based Research Agenda By, With, and For 2S/LBTQ+ Women and Gender-Diverse People

10:00–2:15 PM | [Salon 4 / 5](#) | In English, with French interpretation

In collaboration with Dr. Celeste Pang, Assistant Professor at Mount Royal University, CBRC is co-organizing an agenda-setting gathering on issues facing 2S/LBTQ+ women and gender-diverse communities. The meeting will include two main activities: a gathering for 2S/LBTQ+ women and gender-diverse participants, and a public panel open to everyone.

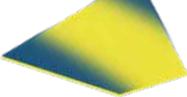
Queer Pandemic Preparedness: Addressing the Mpox Response and Where We Go from Here

12:00–2:00 PM | [Drummond Centre / West](#) | In English, with French interpretation

This event will be hosted by research teams from the University of British Columbia, the Université de Montréal, and University of Toronto to gather inter-provincial, cross-sectoral collaborators to discuss experiences, learnings, and study findings from two CIHR-funded team grants researching the learnings from mpox.

Registration might still be open for some of this year's ancillary events. Please visit www.cbrc.net/summit_2025_ancillary to find out which ones.





Posters Exhibit

Discover a wide array of posters highlighting groundbreaking research, community-led health initiatives, and evidence-based programs. This exhibit offers a chance to engage with presenters, explore current trends, and gain insights into the evolving landscape of health and wellness.

For a full list of posters, please see below:

Removing the Weight of Health Binaries: Weight-Neutrality as an Affirmative and Strength-Based Approach to Health Promotion with 2SLGBTQIAA+ Communities

Dr. Kheana Barbeau (University of Calgary);
Dr. Danielle Lefebvre (Deep Sea Psychological Inc)

From Erasure to Emergence: Arts-Based, BIPOC-Led Approaches to Decolonizing 2SLGBTQIA+ Research and Representation
azka

Addressing Gender and Sexual Orientation: Developing Toolkits for Effective Sexual Health Education

Arlette Ibrahim, Claire Lin, Sophia Greene, Jessica Wood (SIECCAN)

Determining Trans and Nonbinary Community Research Priorities

Kai Jacobsen (University of British Columbia, CREATE); **Leo Rutherford** (University of Victoria, CREATE); **Monica Rudd** (St. Michael's Hospital, CREATE); **Noah Adams** (University of Toronto, CREATE)

"A Lot of People are Hiding": Exploring Pre-Migration Experiences of SOGIE Refugees Through the Lens of Ecological Systems Theory

Moni Sadri (Wilfrid Laurier University)

Taking Action: Conversations and Support for Nicotine Use Within Queer and Trans Communities

Luc Grey (Canadian Cancer Society); **Lynn Planinac** (Ontario Tobacco Research Unit - University of Toronto); **Ron Renaud** (Montreal LGBTQ+ Community Centre)

Creating Our Own Communities of Care

Jennifer Prosser (Pro-Choice Society of Lethbridge and Southern Alberta)

The LGBT Purge Fund's 2SLGBTQI+ National Monument

Albert McLeod (Fabulous Animate Being, Indigenous Expert, Team Thunderhead)

Repairing Relationships with 2SLGBTQIA+ Communities – the Canadian Blood Services' Apology, Policy Reforms, Microgrant Funding, and Engagement Efforts

Dennis Stuebing (Wisdom2Action); **Terrie Foster** (Canadian Blood Services); **Chris Kennedy** (pflag, Canadian National Board); **Vash Ebbadi-Cook** (pflag, Canadian National Board); **Michael Kwag** (CBRC)

The Ins and Outs of Healthy Relationships

Andrew Cram (Planned Parenthood Newfoundland and Labrador Sexual Health Centre)

Check Me Out: A Customizable Sexual Health Checklist

Hanley Smith, Chana Morgan (Health Equity Alliance of Nova Scotia)

2S/LGBTQIA+ and Chronic Health: Roundtable on Diabetes Within Our Communities

Chris Draenos, Malhar Shah, Ben Klassen, Ed Barre, Nathan Lachowsky

Envisioning Ideals: A Discussion of Patient Preparedness for Gender-Affirming Surgery While Dreaming a Future for Our Care

Leo Rutherford (CBRC, University of Victoria); **Nic Watts** (University of Victoria)

Queering "Professionalism": Ethical Frameworks for Centering Community Care

Ljudmila Petrovic (Collective Healing Counselling)

Exploring Sexual Health Needs and Access among 2S/LGBTQIA+ People in Northern and Central Alberta

Juliana Kaneda, Landon Turlock (QTHC); **JP Armstrong** (NorQuest College)

Questioning the 28 Day PEP Standard – Preliminary Evidence from a Retrospective Chart Review

Monica Rudd (St. Michael's Hospital, MAP Centre for Urban Health Solutions); **Darrell Tan** (St. Michael's Hospital, MAP Centre for Urban Health Solutions, University of Toronto)

Experiences of Safety in Research for Two-Spirit People

Amy Wright (University of Toronto); **Stephanie George** (McMaster University); **J. Dame**; **W. Spring**; **K. McCrady**; **S. Acharya**

Developing UBC PrideMind: A Community of Care and Digital Resource Hub for 2S/LGBTQIA+ Psychology Members in Higher Education

Fides Arguelles (University of British Columbia)

Beading A Lifeline: Employing Cultural Resources to Reduce 2SLGBTQ+ Indigenous Youth Suicide

Elijah De Corte

Queers in Carharts: 2SLGBTQ+ Lived Experiences in Construction Trades

devin west (Queens University)

Documentation d'un processus de co-construction d'une intervention numérique en santé sexuelle auprès d'hommes cis, trans, queers et non-binaires gais et bisexuels : résultats préliminaires

Thomas Geray (Université du Québec à Montréal)

Bullying & Harassment Among LGBTQ+ Populations in Education, Workplace, and Community Settings

Martin Blais, **Fred L. Dion** (Université du Québec à Montréal)

Breaking Barriers for Two-Spirit, Transgender and Non-Binary People Facing Suicidality

Jimmy Chokmeesuk (University of British Columbia, Vancouver Coastal Health Trans Specialty Care); **Bridget Simpson** (Vancouver Coastal Health Trans Specialty Care); **Drew B. A. Clark** (University of British Columbia)

LGB...T?: Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming (TGNC) Perceptions of Access to Interventions for the Social Determinants of Health

Anthony Lenarduzzi (University of Guelph)

The Affirming Care Alberta Project: Working with Community and Healthcare Professionals to Improve Gender-Affirming Care

Shanni Pinkerton, **Ash Noelck**, **QC Gu** (Queer & Trans Health Collective)

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Harm Reduction Needs and Access Among 2S/LGBTQIA+ Communities: Preliminary Findings from the National 2S/LGBTQIA+ Substance Use Study

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Strengthening Our Vigilance Against Queer Disinformation

Tristan Coolman (pflag York Region)

Examining the Health Care for Trans and Gender Diverse Youth in Canada: A Scoping Review

Christopher Pang, **Arati Mokashi**, **Tania Wong** (IWK Health, Dalhousie University); **Chloë Blair**, **Matt Numer**, **Val Webber** (SHaG Lab, Dalhousie University); **Terra Kennedy** (Dalhousie University)

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A. Kendrick (PEI Transgender Network); **M. Dykhuizen** (Saskatchewan Polytechnic); **A. Curitz** (Our Landing Place); **A. Inman** (Dalhousie University); **M. Burns, P. Drake, L. Fusca, A. Morrell, V. Bakker, S. Lloyd, J. O'Reilly** (University of Prince Edward Island)

From the Woods to the World: How Camp Eclipse Grew a Queer Community in NL

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The Our Health Data Dashboard: A Hands-On Workshop and Community Consultation on Future Development

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Gender-Affirming Care (GAC) in BC: A Policy Blueprint Rooted in Community

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On the Line: Peer Support, Connection, and Care Across Communities

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Sahel Mirrazavi, Harman Grewal, Tadiwa Nemutambwe, Yas Botelho, Colby Hangle, Zoë Osborne, TJ Salway, João Luiz Bastos, Angela Kaida, Kalysha Closson (Simon Fraser University); **Stevie Thompson** (Simon Fraser University, YouthCO); **Skye Barbic** (Foundry BC, University of British Columbia, Centre for Advancing Health Outcomes); **Chenoa Cassidy-Matthews** (Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute); **Jonathan Ichikawa** (University of British Columbia); **Anita Raj** (Tulane University)

Minority Stress and Barriers to Parental Support for Transgender Youth

Kyran Ferrier (Wilfrid Laurier University)

Forest, Pools, and Wildrose: Exploring Climate Health Impacts, Resiliency, and Empowerment Among LGBTQIA+ Albertans through Photovoice

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Kyle John Wilby (Dalhousie University)

Healing Through the Multiple Loss Journey: Adapting an AIDS Crisis Grief Model to Community Crises

Albert McLeod (Fabulous Animate Being, 2Spirit Consultants of Manitoba); **Laur Kelly** (AIDS Bereavement and Resiliency Project of Ontario)

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Investigating All-Cause Mortality by Sexual Orientation in Canada

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Moni Sadri, Vanessa Oliver (Wilfrid Laurier University)

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Sarah Graham (University of Victoria)

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Why Mpox in Canada Still Matters

Devon Greyson, Jeff Pacis (University of British Columbia); **Nathan Lachowsky** (University of Northern British Columbia); **Yianne Metabanzoulou** (Université de Montréal); **Mac Stewart, Tega Ubor, Daniel Grace** (University of Toronto); **Lane Bonertz** (CBRC)

Exploring Online Support Group (OSG) Use Among Sexual and Gender Diverse (SGD) People Diagnosed with Cancer in Canada

Lauren Squires (University of Toronto, University Health Network)

“How Normal Can You Be?”: Investigating the Workplace Experiences of Transgender and Gender Diverse Individuals in the Waterloo Region

Maddie Katz (Dalhousie University); **Moni Sadri-Gerrior, Robb Travers, Todd Coleman** (Wilfrid Laurier University)

Sexual and Gender Minority Health: A Roadmap for Developing Evidence-Based Medical School Curricula

Douglas Lebo (Université de Montréal)

Out in the Field: 2SLGBTQIA+ Workers’ Safety and Survival in Canada’s Energy Sector

Dr. Ting-Fai Yu (Pride at Work Canada)

Investigating SOGIE (sexual orientation, gender identity and expression) Diverse Health in Rural-Urban Counties, Ontario

Dr. Todd Coleman, Samson Tse (Wilfrid Laurier University)

Engaging Policy: Constructing Policy Problems, Subjects, and Resistance

Christopher Campbell (University of Manitoba)

Promoting Mental Health, Self-compassion, and Resilience through Mindfulness: Engaging with GBM and Trans and Gender Diverse Middle Eastern and North African Youth in Ontario

Roula Hawa (Western University); **Ahmad Ezeddine** (HIV & AIDS Legal Clinic Ontario); **Nona Abdallah** (Trans Wellness Ontario)

Grassroots Trans Health Activism in the Era of “Protect the Dolls”

Clio Lake

Identifying Priorities for Research on the Experiences of Gender-Affirming Care Providers in Canada and Beyond

Rodrigo Sierra-Rosales, Mark Gilbert (University of British Columbia, BC Centre for Disease Control)

Let’s SextEd!: Operating a Sexual Health Texting Hotline

Noa Ellyn, Zackary Derrick (AIDS Community Care Montreal)

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and Hormonal Imbalance in Sexual Minority Women

Michelle Tam (Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, University of Toronto); **Payal Chakraborty, Brittany M. Charlton** (Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Institute, Harvard Medical School); **Colleen A. Reynolds** (Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Institute)

Where are The Trans Doctors? How Medical Education Fails Trans and Gender Expansive People

Franca Ciannavei

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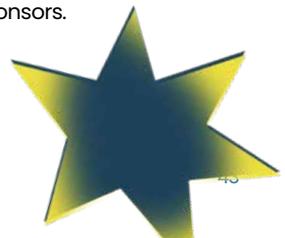
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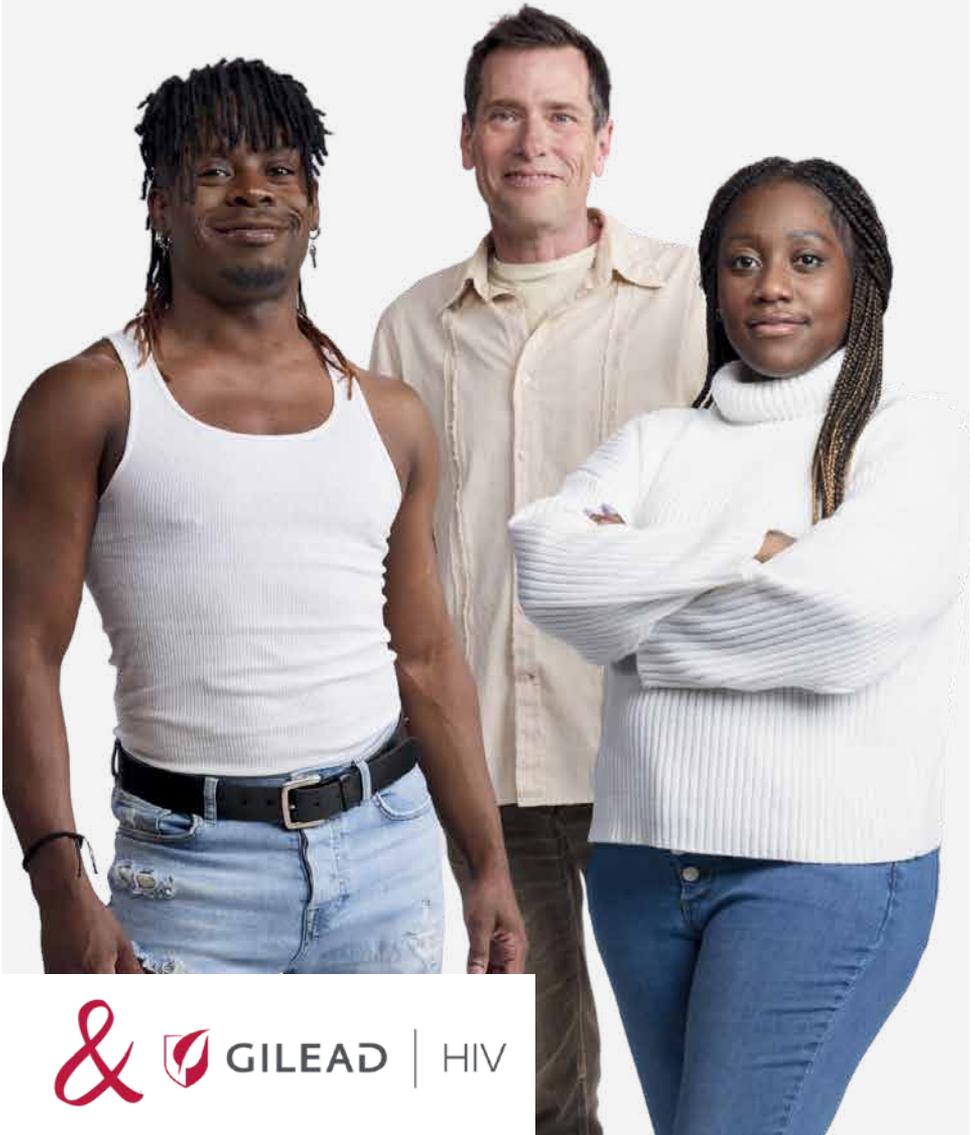
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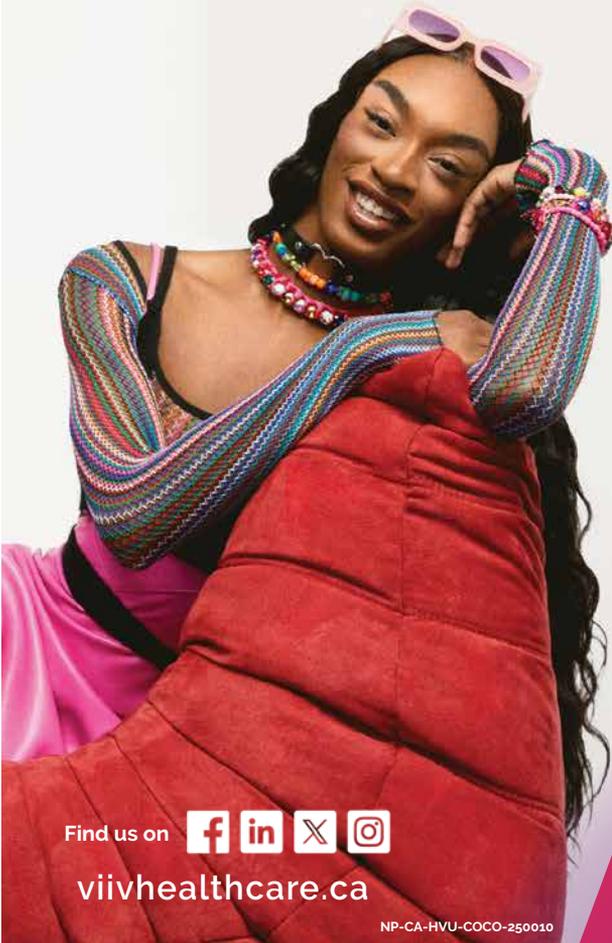
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