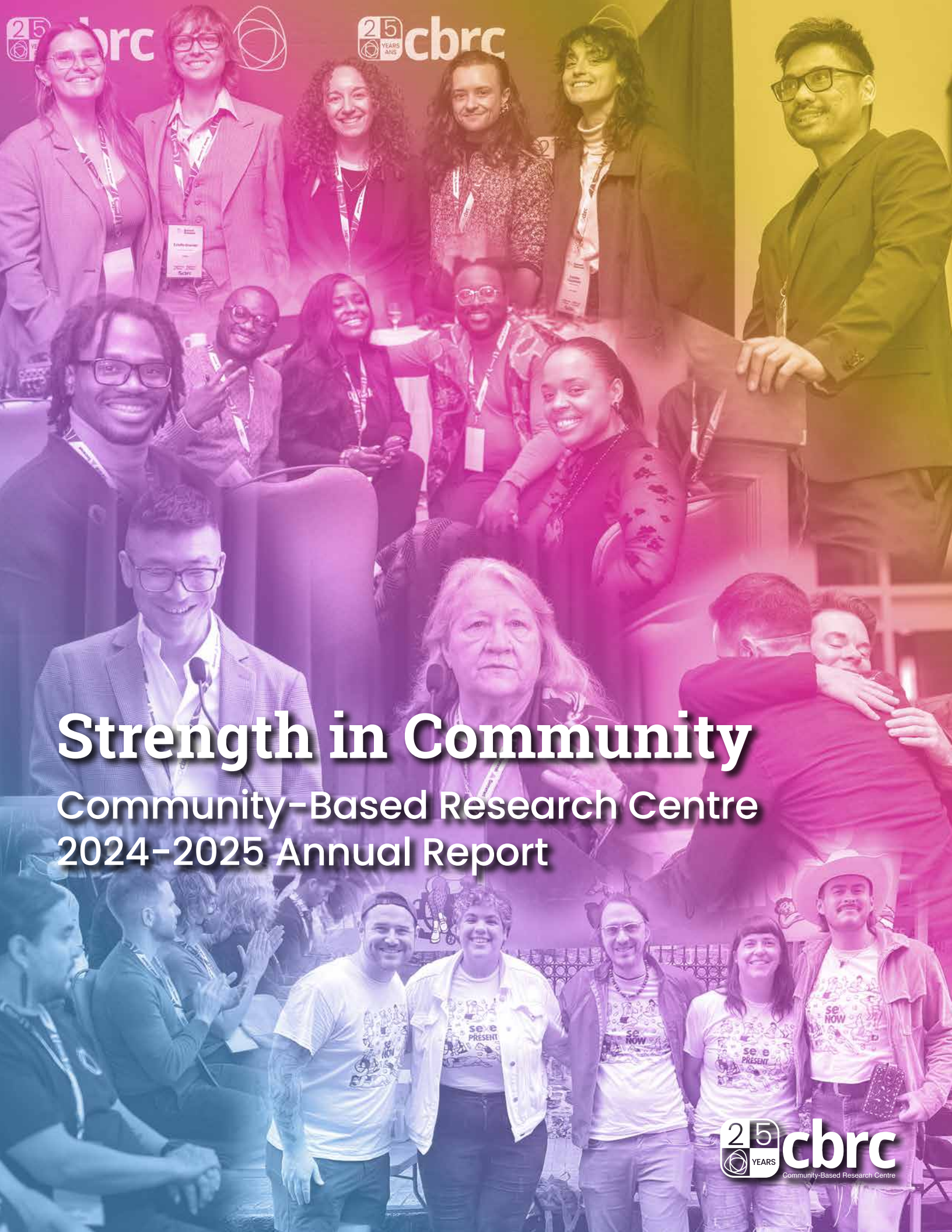




Strength in Community

Community-Based Research Centre
2024-2025 Annual Report

Table of Contents

Land Acknowledgement..... 3

Letter from the Executive Director and the Chair of the Board of Directors..... 4

Highlighting Our Strengths: Milestones of 2024–2025 5

 CBRC’s 25th Anniversary 5

 Sex Now 2024: Coming to You..... 5

 Summit 2024: Vigilance & Vision 5

 Two-Spirit Symposium 6

 Responding to Syphilis..... 6

 Knowledge 2eekers..... 6

 Our Health Community Reports 7

 Two-Spirit and Indigenous LGBTQQIA+ Celebration and Awareness Day 7

 We Deserve Chlamydia Care Project..... 8

 PHAC IAF National Coalition Project..... 8

Two-Spirit Program 9

Communications.....10

Education, Knowledge Mobilization, and Policy Development.....11

Operations 14

Research and Evaluation.....15

Thank You.....17

 List of Funders..... 17

 Financial Report..... 17





Land Acknowledgement

CBRC acknowledges that as a national organization, our work spans across the unceded, ancestral, and traditional territories of Indigenous peoples—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 of these lands that have been cared for by Indigenous peoples since time immemorial.

In 2016, CBRC endorsed the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. As an organization dedicated to the health and well-being of our communities, we recognize that true reconciliation requires more than an endorsement, and we have made a series of commitments in our work, including the full integration of Two-Spirit and Indigenous staff into the culture of the organization and the delivery of our programs, as well as creating and centring an intentional space at the Summit for Two-Spirit and Indigenous queer and trans people.

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.

You can find more information on some of the actions taken this past year to support Two-Spirit and Indigenous queer and trans people on page 9.

Letter from the Executive Director and the Chair of the Board of Directors

To our communities, partners, and funders:

This past year, we celebrated CBRC's 25th anniversary, and our accomplishments over the last twelve months show that CBRC is still going strong! In the face of ongoing political uncertainty and rising anti-2S/LGBTQIA+ sentiments, we continue to stand together in community, and it is as a result of our strength in community that our work keeps on making a difference.

This year, we saw a number of powerful partnerships in action. For instance, in response to growing rates of syphilis infection, we collaborated with numerous regional and national partners, including the other members of the [Advance Alliance](#), to produce a suite of [syphilis information resources](#) and host syphilis action plan meetings across the country. Additionally, our Two-Spirit Program published a [report](#) to showcase how their ongoing engagement with Indigenous leaders and organizations has helped bring the Two-Spirit and Indigenous LGBTQIA+ Celebration and Awareness Day to Indigenous communities across Turtle Island.

On the advocacy front, we strengthened our response to conversion "therapy" practices through a 1-year initiative aiming at building a national coalition to end such practices in Canada. As part of this project, we have expanded collaborations among representatives from a range of sectors to share knowledge and develop solutions, using tools like [policy briefs](#) to demonstrate how the federal law can be more effectively applied in healthcare policies, faith-based practices, and elsewhere.

As for our research and evaluation work, our community-based approach has continued to enhance the available evidence on 2S/LGBTQIA+ health. For example, [Sex Now 2024: Coming to You](#) was conducted in collaboration with the Public Health Agency and included administration of the periodic Sex Now survey along with screening of HIV, hepatitis C, syphilis, and hepatitis B to produce more robust data on the sexual health of Two-Spirit, gay, bisexual, queer, and trans men and non-binary people. We also began data collection for the [We Deserve Chlamydia Care](#) project to examine how well Ontario's current practices for chlamydia screening work for disabled Indigenous, Black, and People of Colour (IBPOC) who identify as trans or cis queer women, or as femme-presenting Two-Spirit, or non-binary people.

Finally, to strengthen CBRC as an organization, we have continued to make efforts to support our team members. Among these efforts, we have secured a new extended health benefits provider and sought additional coverage for fertility medication and gender-affirming care. We have also improved our human resources strategies regarding recruitment, compensation, and performance management, and drafted CBRC's next 5-year strategic plan (which will be released in fall 2025).

We are truly honoured to be involved in supporting this organization and its many initiatives to promote the health of people of diverse sexualities and genders. It is with great pleasure that we invite you to learn more about this work in the pages ahead.



Michael Kwag
Executive Director



Christopher Gallardo-Ganaban
Chair, Board of Directors

Highlighting Our Strengths: Milestones of 2024-2025



CBRC's 25th Anniversary

June 22, 2024, marked CBRC's 25th anniversary. To celebrate this major milestone, a comprehensive communications campaign was launched, including (among other things) the development of an official CBRC timeline capturing the organization's events and achievements since 1999, and a documentary that will bring the story of CBRC's 25 years to new and cherished audiences. To learn more, check out the [blog post](#) we published.



Sex Now 2024: Coming to You

For Sex Now 2024: Coming to You, CBRC team members conducted in-person data collection at Pride festivals and other 2S/LGBTQIA+ events in nearly 20 cities across Canada. This iteration of Sex Now was conducted in partnership with the Public Health Agency of Canada and included a survey and optional dried blood spot screening for HIV, hepatitis C, syphilis, and hepatitis B. Over 4,800 2S/GBTQ people participated in the study, with 1,700 providing blood samples, providing critical evidence on HIV and hepatitis C prevalence among 2S/GBTQ people in Canada.



Summit 2024: Vigilance & Vision

Summit 2024: Vigilance & Vision took place in-person and online from November 21-22, 2024, inviting presenters and attendees to come together, build coalitions, and make some noise in order to strengthen our position in conversations about 2S/LGBTQIA+ health. The Summit was a huge success with 697 registrants (up 9% from the previous year) and a lineup of fantastic speakers, including Theodore Kerr, Dr. Gbolahan Olarewaju, Celeste Trianon, and Jaylene Tyme. To learn more about the conference, check out the Summit 2024 Content Library, the Summit 2024 Report, and the Summit 2024 Vox Pop videos.



Two-Spirit Symposium

This year, our Two-Spirit Program hosted the 4th annual Two-Spirit Symposium. The event, which was held as part of Summit 2024: Vigilance & Vision, has become a central part of CBRC's programming organized exclusively for Two-Spirit and queer and trans Indigenous people. As in previous years, the event provided a space for Two-Spirit people to gather and exchange knowledge, stories, and teachings, and to collectively create opportunities to help further guide Two-Spirit resurgence.



25 YEARS cbrc
Community-Based Research Centre

Doxy-PEP: medication to prevent syphilis, chlamydia, and gonorrhea.

Doxy-PEP is a new sexual health strategy to prevent STIs other than HIV. By taking a commonly used antibiotic called doxycycline after sex, it can significantly reduce your chances of getting syphilis, chlamydia, and to a lesser extent gonorrhea.

Doxy-PEP can safely be taken alongside medication to prevent or treat HIV. But, doxy-PEP does NOT protect against HIV. To protect against HIV, check out [HIV PEP](#).

How do I know if doxy-PEP is for me?

Current evidence only supports the use of doxy-PEP in people assigned male at birth who are gay, bi or queer men, or are trans women. This may change in the future as clinical trials are published with data on trans men, cisgender women, and other gender-diverse people. Based on current evidence, you may find doxy-PEP particularly helpful if you were assigned male at birth and if any of the following apply:

- You had chlamydia, gonorrhea, and/or syphilis in the last 12 months
- You have multiple sexual partners (including oral sex), even if you haven't had a recent STI
- You don't always use condoms
- You are living with HIV
- You are already taking HIV PEP

Responding to Syphilis

In response to increasing rates of syphilis infection affecting 2S/LGBTQIA+ people across the country, we delivered a suite of activities targeted at service providers and community members. These activities included sharing [findings from a national syphilis consultation](#), developing syphilis prevention and care resources for community members and service providers (including a new [online learning module](#)), and coordinating five regional meetings to support the development of local syphilis action plans. Through these efforts, we have increased the knowledge and skills of community members and service providers across Canada to prevent and respond to syphilis infection.

Knowledge ZeekerS

Knowledge ZeekerS is a research capacity-building program for Two-Spirit and Indigenous LGBTQIA+ community members. The program includes a curriculum adapted from our original Investigaytors program and anchored in Indigenous values and ways of knowing. Following the pilot of the program in 2023-2024, a second cycle of the program was conducted this year with 10 Indigenous participants, who met weekly online to learn about community approaches to research, often through storytelling.



Our Health Community Reports

With the goal of continuing to share findings from the 2022 [Our Health: Canada-Wide 2SLGBTQIA+ Community Study](#), we published three new community reports focused on COVID-19 impacts among [2S/LGBTQQIA+ people who use substances](#), [LGBTQQIA+ newcomers](#), and [Black 2S/LGBTQQIA+ people](#). In a format more accessible than academic journal articles, these reports provide valuable data on COVID-19, chronic health, service access, and other topics, particularly as they relate to specific subgroups within the 2S/LGBTQQIA+ community. Although only these three reports were published in the past year, we also did much of the work to prepare some of the additional reports shared at the start of the 2025–2026 fiscal year, including the reports on [older adults](#), [people of colour](#), and [people living in rural areas](#) (all published on April 8, 2025).



Two-Spirit and Indigenous LGBTQIA+ Celebration and Awareness Day

This year, the Two-Spirit Program hosted the fourth annual Two-Spirit and Indigenous LGBTQIA+ Celebration and Awareness Day, which saw 200 Two-Spirit, queer, and trans Indigenous people gather in community in Vancouver on March 20, 2025. In addition, the team published a [report](#) to showcase how their ongoing engagement with Indigenous leaders and organizations has helped bring the Two-Spirit and Indigenous LGBTQIA+ Celebration and Awareness Day to Indigenous communities across Turtle Island.



We Deserve Chlamydia Care Project

Conducted in collaboration with Dr. Maryam Khan from Wilfrid Laurier University and researchers from Dalhousie University and the University of Victoria, we completed data collection for the [We Deserve Chlamydia Care](#) project. In particular, we conducted interviews with 23 disabled IBPOC who identify as trans or cis queer women, or as femme-presenting Two-Spirit or non-binary people. This exciting new qualitative research study generated significant data for improving Ontario's current practices for chlamydia screening and management, which do not effectively reach queer and trans people with intersecting identities.



What Now? A Legal & Policy Report on Conversion Practices in Canada

Drafted by Egale Canada to inform the work of the Community-Based Research Centre's PHAC-IAF Project



2024/10/31

PHAC IAF National Coalition Project

Funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada's Intersectoral Action Fund, CBRC completed a one-year project to establish a national coalition to end conversion "therapy" practices in Canada. Over the past year, a Coalition Advisory Committee was developed with 14 representatives, including survivors, academics, researchers, legal experts, 2S/ LGBTQIA+ community organizations, mental health-care organizations, affirming faith groups, and immigrants, newcomers, and refugees. This committee helped guide CBRC in the following priority areas: 1) partnership development, 2) education and leadership for communities and key groups, and 3) legal and policy analysis. This work has provided a solid foundation for ongoing coalition work following the end of the project.

Two-Spirit Program

Program Highlights:

	Conducted formative research, including an environmental scan, for a new collaboration on dementia care	→ Increased understanding of Two-Spirit people's needs as they relate to dementia care
Hosted the fourth annual Two-Spirit Symposium to provide a space for Two-Spirit people to gather and exchange knowledge, stories, and teachings	→ 80 symposium participants → 92% of participants surveyed reported that the symposium increased their ability to respond to the health needs of Two-Spirit and Indigenous people	
Delivered another cycle of the Knowledge 2eekerS research capacity-building program for Two-Spirit people	→ 10 program participants → Strengthened relationships and networking opportunities for participants to pursue aspirations in the field of community-based research	
Held the fourth annual Two-Spirit and Indigenous LGBTQIA+ Celebration and Awareness Day and published a <u>report</u> to share findings on the growing success of the event	→ 200 attendees → Increased community awareness and education of Two-Spirit people	

Project Spotlight: In Community on Haida Gwaii

In May 2024, the Two-Spirit Program team was invited to host a series of workshops on Haida Gwaii in partnership with the Skidegate Health Centre. Five members of the team, along with CBRC's Executive Director, travelled to the remote and picturesque island community for four full days of education and discussion on a variety of topics related to Two-Spirit history and identity, HIV and STBBI awareness and prevention, drag culture, and more.

During their time in Haida Gwaii, the team delivered six workshops to 80 people. The workshops took place at the Skidegate Community Hall, which had been decorated in rainbow colours for the occasion. To facilitate the conversations, the team had set up chairs in a circle formation. Medicines were also burned during a welcoming session led by an Elder each morning to ensure that everything started and ended in ceremony and in accordance with the customs of the Haida Nation. Additionally, all sessions were held in collaboration with local community members, Elders, and Two-Spirit individuals to ensure that the knowledge shared was grounded in cultural sensitivity and authenticity.

According to Jaylene McRae, Two-Spirit Research Coordinator, this time in community had a significant impact: "As we facilitated these discussions, we witnessed a powerful transformation unfolding within the community: a renewed sense of pride, understanding, and solidarity among participants."



Communications

Program Highlights:

Produced 10 videos in collaboration with CATIE for the Summit 2024 Vox Pop video series		→ 211 online views
		→ Increased awareness of impactful initiatives taking place across the country, as well as future directions and challenges for the 2S/LGBTQIA+ health sector
Launched a Black History Month campaign on social media to showcase Black leaders and community organizations in our sector, and to share findings on Black communities from the Our Health study		→ 780 likes and 138 shares/reposts (across Instagram, LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter)
		→ Acknowledgement of the strengths and areas for improvement in our sector with regard to supporting Black 2S/LGBTQIA+ people
628 new subscribers to the The Update newsletter, and 2,708 new followers on social media (Facebook: 418; Instagram: 1,435; LinkedIn: 1,006; YouTube: 97)		→ Expanded audience that is learning about our work and sharing it with others
52 blog posts published	→ 12,338 online views	→ 2S/LGBTQIA+ health knowledge and insights shared through diverse voices from our communities
28 media engagements completed	→ 14 news outlets sharing our work	→ Increased awareness of CBRC and our initiatives to advance the health of 2S/LGBTQIA+ communities

Project Spotlight: CBRC's 25th Anniversary

June 22, 2024, marked CBRC's 25th anniversary. To celebrate this major milestone, a comprehensive communications campaign was launched. The campaign has included the development of:

- an official CBRC timeline capturing the organization's events and achievements since 1999;
- a documentary that will bring the story of CBRC's 25 years to new and cherished audiences;
- a 25th anniversary logo and brand elements; and
- a newly redesigned and refurbished website to better share the many initiatives we take on as an organization.



Much of the legwork on these activities was conducted over the past year, and remaining outputs will be ready to share in the 2025–2026 fiscal year. In the meantime, we published a [blog post](#), where we share some initial reflections on CBRC's strong 25-year history. Together, these outputs have received over 439 online views and 115 likes, 5 comments, and 11 shares/reposts across Instagram, LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter during the past year.

Reaching our 25th anniversary milestone is undoubtedly a reflection of the strength of our community. And so, whether you're a current or former staff member, a funder, a partner, a program participant, or just someone interested in our work, we sincerely thank you for helping CBRC become Canada's leading organization when it comes to queer and trans-led health research and promotion, as well as a sought-after partner within the 2S/LGBTQIA+ sector, government, and media.

Education, Knowledge Mobilization, and Policy Development

Program Highlights:

Conducted knowledge mobilization for our HIV self-testing (HIVST) activities wrapped up in the previous year, including a comprehensive funder report with 11 appended regional data tables and a guide of recommendations for organizations and community leaders who are interested in distributing HIVST kits

→ 221 online views of the guide of recommendations

→ Sharing of best practices to improve to improve the delivery of HIVST kits to 2S/LGBTQIA+ people and other communities

Delivered a suite of activities to respond to increasing rates of syphilis infection across the country, including: sharing findings from a national syphilis consultation; developing syphilis prevention and care resources for community members and service providers (including a new online learning module); and coordinating five regional meetings to support the development of local syphilis action plans

→ 9,027 online views of the resources

→ 70 learning module participants

→ 109 regional meeting attendees

→ Increased knowledge and skills among community members and service providers to prevent/respond to syphilis—for example, 100% of learning module participants surveyed reported strengthened capacity to provide culturally responsive and culturally safe prevention, testing, treatment, and care services

Conducted one national incubator training and three regional incubator trainings for service providers and 2S/LGBTQIA+ community members on topics regarding 2S/LGBTQIA+ sexual health, reproductive health, and gender-affirming care

→ 51 training participants

→ 90% of participants surveyed indicated that participating in the training increased their ability to work with others to develop potential responses/strategies to ensure that 2S/LGBTQIA+ people receive sexual, reproductive, or gender-affirming healthcare that they feel is safe and relevant to them

Coordinated and delivered Summit 2024: Vigilance & Vision, a two-day knowledge exchange and capacity-building conference on 2S/LGBTQIA+ with in-person and online participation opportunities

→ 371 in-person participants and 326 online participants

→ 87% of professional participants surveyed reported that the Summit helped them stay informed about evidence-based best practices and/or program innovations, and 91% of community participants surveyed said that the Summit left them feeling a desire to become more engaged in 2S/LGBTQIA+ organizing and/or community activities

Project Spotlight: National Coalition to End Conversion Practices

Funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada's Intersectoral Action Fund, CBRC completed a one-year project to establish a national coalition to end conversion "therapy" practices in Canada. As an extension of CBRC's ongoing collaborative work in this area, this coalition will mobilize new and existing partners to share knowledge, develop solutions, and demonstrate how the federal law can be more effectively applied in healthcare policies, faith-based practices, and elsewhere to end conversion practices (CP).

Over the past year, a Coalition Advisory Committee was developed with 14 representatives, including survivors, academics, researchers, legal experts, 2S/LGBTQIA+ community organizations, mental healthcare organizations, affirming faith groups, and immigrants, newcomers, and refugees. This committee helped guide CBRC in the following priority areas:

- 1. Partnership development:** Strengthening and expanding partnerships among 2S/LGBTQIA+ community organizations, service providers, and key groups, including those with lived experience, in order to establish the national coalition.
- 2. Education and leadership for communities and key groups:** Identifying and mobilizing educational resources on CP and the federal law, including several blog posts and community profiles, a panel at the CBRC Summit, a webinar, an ["explainer" document on CP in Canada](#), a [policy brief on overcoming the challenges with Canada's approach to eliminating CP](#), and a [fact sheet on strategies to strengthen Canada's ban on CP](#).
- 3. Legal and policy analysis:** Conducting a legal, research, and policy analysis on the federal law (Bill C-4) and other anti-conversion "therapy" legislation and policies introduced to date in Canada, to identify barriers and gaps for CP prevention and to inform supplementary policy and program responses (e.g., accountability and enforcement structures). (This analysis was conducted over the past fiscal year and [published](#) in the weeks that followed.)

One of the activities that helped to facilitate action on these three priority areas was an in-person gathering held on November 20, 2024, in Vancouver, where 12 of the 14 advisory committee members along with four CBRC staff met to:

- strengthen their relationships with one other;
- review and discuss the initial draft of the legal and policy analysis report;
- develop foundational documents/frameworks for the coalition (e.g., vision, mission, values, goals, and objectives); and
- discuss how to sustain the work of this national-level collaboration following the end of the project.

In evaluation surveys conducted with Coalition Advisory Committee members, 88% of respondents felt that coming together helped strengthen collaboration and partnership in their work to end CP. As one respondent added, "The breadth and intersectional and intersectoral representation of the network were excellent. This was the most critical ingredient to our success, in my opinion." These findings reflect the strength in community embodied by the committee and hold promise for ongoing coalition work following the end of the project.

Fact Sheet:

Strategies to Strengthen Canada's Ban on Conversion "Therapy" Practices

Canada's Criminal Code bans conversion practices, but they continue throughout the country



What are Conversion "Therapy" Practices?

In 2021 the Canadian federal government passed legislation (Bill C-4) banning the widely discredited and harmful practice of conversion "therapy". The law, which came into effect on January 7, 2022, followed efforts at the provincial and municipal levels to ban these practices.

Conversion "therapy" is not a recognized therapeutic practice and has been discredited and denounced by many medical and professional bodies¹. However, the term is often used as it is commonly known and referenced within the Criminal Code². "Conversion practices" is a more appropriate term³.

Conversion practices are organized and sustained efforts to suppress the adoption or expression of lesbian, gay, bisexual, or queer sexual orientations, gender identities not assigned at birth, and/or non-conforming gender expressions. The actual practice could take the form of psychological, behavioural, physical, and/or faith-based practices, treatments, or services.

At its core, conversion practices are intended to enforce the assumption that heterosexuality is the only normal way to express sexuality, and that a person's gender identity or expression should match their assigned sex at birth.

What Acts Related to Conversion Practices are now Illegal?

The Criminal Code now contains four offences relating to conversion "therapy" practices, which are punishable by fines or prison time depending on the severity of the offence.

- Causing a person to undergo conversion therapy;
- Removing someone from Canada to another country to receive conversion therapy;
- Promoting or advertising conversion therapy; and
- Receiving financial or other material benefits for providing conversion therapy⁴.

¹ Professional Organizations Who Oppose Conversion "Therapy" Practice pamphlet https://stopconversionpractices.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/ProfessionalOrganizationsPamphlet_v3.pdf

² Canada's Criminal Code definition of conversion therapy <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/c4/page-46.html#docCont>

³ What Now? A Legal & Policy Report on Conversion Practices in Canada

⁴ Legislative Summary of Bill C-4: An Act to amend the Criminal Code (conversion therapy)

In terms of other learnings, this project has deepened our understanding of how we build meaningful, diverse coalitions that can address systemic issues more effectively. Conversion practices is a type of challenge that requires an intersectoral approach. Thus, in addressing this issue, we've learned that we can't only work within queer and trans communities and organizations. If we want to have a broader impact, we need to work with faith-based organizations and networks. We also need to think about other ways in which our community's experiences are showing up in society (e.g., newcomer and immigrant-serving organizations, social work services, etc.)

Through this project overall, we have successfully established the foundations for a national coalition to end CP in Canada. We are now in the process of developing a fundraising plan and are pursuing a range of funding opportunities through research, foundations, and government programs in order to continue this important work. As we prioritize fund development for the coalition, CBRC will also continue to support this work moving forward through a "hub and spoke model." More specifically, as the hub, CBRC will:

- coordinate quarterly meetings;
- maintain communications with partners;
- work together with other organizations on research grant possibilities;
- hire a fundraising consultant to research current and upcoming funding opportunities available to CBRC and/or the coalition; and
- work with existing coalition members regarding an official launch for the coalition, including an open call for additional members and a media release.

Operations

Program Highlights:

Sourced a new provider for extended health benefits and secured additional coverage for fertility medication and gender-affirming care	→ 36 staff covered under the new extended health benefits plan	→ Improved health coverage for CBRC staff and a cost-savings of about \$77,000 per year for the first two years of the contract
Hiring processes improved to be more accommodating to people with diverse accessibility needs, including neurodiverse candidates and people with information-processing limitations	→ Feedback from successful and unsuccessful candidates that they have found our interviews to be supportive, welcoming, and accessible	
Restructured the Operations department	→ Three new staff hired, and two staff promoted in the department	→ Increased department capacity and ability to support colleagues from other departments
Reinvigorated CBRC's student placement program to provide students with a meaningful work experience that allows them to connect their academic learning to real-world situations	→ Two new student placements hosted across CBRC	→ Opportunity for students to complete one or more tangible work products related to their studies (often bringing new perspectives, energy, and excitement to CBRC's work) while gaining valuable connections through networking and mentorship

Project Spotlight: Community Capacity Project

This was the second year of CBRC's Community Capacity Grant, funded by Women and Gender Equality. The project is focused on increasing CBRC's capacity to support 2S/LGBTQIA+ health leadership and mobilization in Canada. To achieve this goal, we have completed a range of activities focused on strengthening CBRC's strategic direction and organizational infrastructure. This year specifically, we reviewed and revised our policies and practices regarding recruitment (hiring and onboarding), compensation, and performance management, using insights from consultation activities conducted in partnership with MNP (formerly Jouta Performance Group). We also drafted CBRC's next five-year strategic plan, which will be finalized and launched in fall 2025. Finally, we developed two new learning modules to support skills development among CBRC staff and partners, with one module focused on grant writing and the other focused on project management. These modules will also launch towards the end of 2025.



Research and Evaluation

Program Highlights:

Presented at the <u>Colloque recherches lesbiennes</u> (36:15)	→ 100 attendees	→ Shared (for the first time ever!) analyses of Our Health data focused specifically on queer women’s health to inform future research and knowledge mobilization in this area, including the <u>Health and Healthcare Access for 2S/LBTQ+ Women and Gender-Diverse People in Canada</u> primer
Published three new community reports from the Our Health study focused on COVID-19 impacts among <u>2S/LGBTQQIA+ people who use substances, LGBTQQIA+ newcomers, and Black 2S/LGBTQQIA+ people</u> ; completed much of the work to prepare some of the additional reports shared at the start of the 2025-2026 fiscal year, including the reports on <u>older adults, people of colour, and people living in rural areas</u> (all published on April 8, 2025)	→ 686 online views	→ Increased awareness of findings from the Our Health study, particularly as they relate to COVID-19 impacts among specific subgroups within the 2S/LGBTQQIA+ community
Completed qualitative data collection for the <u>We Deserve Chlamydia Care</u> project	→ 23 participants interviewed	→ Generated rich new data to fill in knowledge gaps on how well Ontario’s current practices for chlamydia screening work for disabled IBPOC who identify as trans or cis queer women, or as femme-presenting Two-Spirit or non-binary people
Took on one new evaluation consultation (fee-for-service) project in partnership with AIDS Community Care Montreal (ACCM)	→ Refined the evaluation strategy and tools for one of ACCM’s government-funded projects in order to collect more accurate and consistent evaluation data to inform project reporting	

Project Spotlight: Sex Now 2024: Coming to You

Sex Now is Canada's largest and longest running survey of Two-Spirit, gay, bisexual, trans, and queer men and non-binary people's health. Originating at Pride festivals across British Columbia in 2002, Sex Now has been administered both online and in-person (at events) and has become an essential source of data on the health and wellbeing of 2S/GBTQ people in Canada. The study is community-based (led by 2S/GBTQ community members) and data from the

survey have been instrumental in advocating to ban conversion therapy practices in Canada and to reform Canada's blood donation policy for trans people and men who have sex with men.



Sex Now 2024: Coming to You illustrated how significant the study has become. This iteration of Sex Now was conducted in partnership with the Public Health Agency of Canada to provide critical evidence on HIV and hepatitis C prevalence among 2S/GBTQ people in Canada that will be used by the federal government to measure key indicators and inform program and policy development for our communities. The study included in-person data collection at Pride festivals, Two-Spirit pow wows, and other 2S/LGBTQIA+ events in nearly 20 cities across Canada. Participants completed an online survey using a tablet or one of their own devices, answering questions related to their sex lives, substance use, mental health, service access, and more. Additionally, participants had the option to provide a small blood sample via finger prick to complete screening for HIV, hepatitis C, syphilis, and hepatitis B. Over 4,800 2S/GBTQ people participated in the study, with 1,700 providing blood samples for the study.

Initial findings from Sex Now 2024 have been shared at various conferences, including a presentation at the CBRC Summit ("[Sex Now 2024 Roundtable: Gathering Community Input on Initial Findings and Future Knowledge Mobilization Priorities](#)"), where additional community input was sought. Look out for more findings from the study in the near future. Sex Now 2024 data will also soon be made available through the [Our Stats data visualization dashboard](#) and through the [CBRC data access process](#).

Thank You

CBRC continues to strengthen the health and wellbeing of 2S/LGBTQIA+ people because of the hard work and care of our staff, partners, and communities—thank you all!

A big thank you as well to the funders that have also supported our work, including those that provided grants and sponsorships to CBRC in 2024–2025:

List of Funders

- Alberta Health SOAR
- Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)
- Employment and Social Development Canada
- First Nations Health Authority (FNHA)
- Gilead Sciences Inc.
- Health Canada
- Heritage Canada
- Indigenous Services Canada
- McMaster University
- Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC)
- Unity Health Toronto
- University of Toronto (UofT)
- University of Victoria (UVic)
- Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH)
- ViiV Healthcare Canada
- Women and Gender Equality (WAGE)
- Wilfrid Laurier University

Financial Report

Our financial reporting information is available at cbrc.net/annual_and_financial_reports.

For more information and to support our work, please visit cbrc.net.