

Speaker Biographies

Ilona Alex Abramovich is a Doctoral Candidate at OISE-University of Toronto. Alex's research focuses on LGBTQ youth homelessness in Toronto. Alex is committed to investigating the changes that need to be implemented in the current shelter system in order for it to become safer, more accessible, and supportive for LGBTQ youth who are homeless. As an artist, activist, and researcher Alex is interested in the use of digital storytelling and film making. For more information, please visit: www.ilona6.com.

Suhail Abualsameed, an immigrant to Canada from his native Jordan, is a community worker, public speaker, researcher, designer and human rights advocate. Suhail has been working with immigrant and refugee queer youth and with health related issues within the Muslim communities of the Greater Toronto Area. With a background in architecture and an extensive travel history, Suhail carries loads of diverse experiences and knowledge which he makes good use of in many forums and spaces speaking at universities, high schools, conferences and other public forums around the country and internationally on issues of identity, human rights, immigration, youth and queer issues and the social determinants of health. He is Diverse City Fellow and a winner of the Toronto Vital People Award.

Heather Armstrong is a PhD Candidate in Experimental Psychology at the Human Sexuality Research Laboratory at the University of Ottawa. Her research focuses on sexual orientation issues, specifically in lesbian and bisexual women. She has also studied the experience of marriage in GLB couples as well as sexual pain disorders in sexual minority women. She is a member of the Canadian Sex Research Forum and the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality.

Greta Bauer is an Associate Professor in Epidemiology & Biostatistics in the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry at The University of Western Ontario. Her research interests are in the health of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and trans gender communities, and in viral sexually transmitted infections. She is a proponent of

community-based epidemiology for work with LGBT and other communities.

Kate Beatty is the Director of Equity & Quality at Northern Ontario School of Medicine.

Dominic Beaulieu-Prévost a été formé en psychologie et a été engagé comme professeur audépartement de sexologie de l'Université du Québec à Montréal en 2010. Ses principaux intérêts de recherche tournent autour des enjeux sociaux et de santé en lien avec l'orientation sexuelle, le genre et la victimization.

Dominic Beaulieu-Prévost was trained in psychology and was hired as a professor in the department of sexology of the Université du Québec à Montréal in 2010. His main research interests revolve around gender, sexual orientation and victimization and their relations with health-related issues.

Juana Berinstein is the Director of Policy and Communications for the Association of Ontario Midwives. She has been involved in policy initiatives, systemic advocacy and research in the areas of women's health and poverty. She has a Master's degree in Communication and Culture with a focus on public policy. She is fluent in Spanish and has been involved with the Latin American and LGBTTQ communities as a volunteer and activist. She lives in Toronto with her partner and two daughters.

Barb Besharat currently works as a program coordinator at both The 519 Church Street Community Centre and Sherbourne Health Centre. In their spare time, Barb is a student at Queen's University School of Kinesiology and Health Studies. Barb has been active in the recreational and elite sport communities for many years, both as an athlete and coach, though now prefers to spend their time and energy stretching, cycling, dancing and thinking about sport.

Jennifer Birch-Jones is a volunteer with CAAWS and the Program Lead for the Addressing Homophobia in Sport initiative. She has presented at the Ithaca Conference on Sexuality in Sport (2009), as well as in Copenhagen at the World Outgames Human Rights Conference (2009). Jennifer was a member of the 2010 Pride House Organizing Committee and was the lead in 2006 for Canada's first ever Positive Space in Sport for Team Canada at the Commonwealth Games in Melbourne, Australia. Jennifer has graduate degrees in public administration and kinesiology and over twenty years of experience in performance-based planning, facilitation, measurement and evaluation in both the government and not-for-profit sectors. Jennifer has facilitated a wide array of sessions, from evaluation planning, logic models and measurement strategies, to project team and committee meetings and stakeholder consultations.

Jenny Blaser is a self-defined Deaf, Queer, Disabled, Feminist, Youth and community activist with a zest for systemic advocacy. Jenny focuses her work on the intersection of communities and cultures and how this meshing of identities affects community, government, and support services. Having been a front line worker for eight years and an activist since pre-school, Jenny has worked to address an array of prejudice and oppression in marginalized communities.

Nimo Bokore holds a Masters degree Social Work from the Faculty of Social Work at the University of Toronto, with a specialization in mental health and health. Currently, she is working towards her doctorate in social work at York University's Faculty of Social Work. She has worked for a variety of community agencies and community health centers, including; the COSTI Immigrant Services, Women's Health In Women's Hands Community Health Center (WHIWH) and Scarborough Centre for Healthy Communities. She is also an active member of both the Somali and Ethiopian Community in Toronto.

Christiane Bouchard, is a Project Officer with Ottawa Public Health.

Kaitlin Bradley is a Research Assistant for the Infection and Equity Research Group in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the University of Western Ontario. She obtained her Master's of Science degree in Population Epidemiology in 2010 at The

University of Western Ontario, focusing on Canada's aging population. Ms. Bradley's current research centers on the health of gender and sexual minority populations, including gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities.

Racquel Bremmer is a community educator at Women's Health in Women's Hands Community Health Centre in Toronto which advocates for and provides primary health care to Black women and Women of Colour from the Caribbean, African, Latin American and South Asian communities in Metropolitan Toronto and surrounding municipalities. She works with diverse groups of women who are HIV-positive including those who are sexually diverse.

David Brennan is an Assistant Professor at the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto where he focuses on health care and social work practice. He is the recent recipient of the Ontario HIV Treatment Network's Scholarship Award. As a clinical social worker in the HIV/AIDS field since 1983, David's research has focused on the health needs of gay and bisexual men who have been marginalized by a variety of sociocultural factors including age, race, and HIV status.

Lisa Brousseau is currently a second year Masters of Social Work student who is working in the Nicotine Dependence Clinic at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.

Nicola Brown is the staff psychologist of the Gender Identity Clinic at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. She trained at York University and the Cambridge Health Alliance/Harvard Medical School. She has numerous academic and community publications in gender including Families in TRANSition, and is on the international guest editorial board for the forthcoming Trans Sexualities issue of the Journal of Homosexuality.

Alyssa Bryan, RN, MScN (c) is a masters student at the University of Ottawa, Faculty of Health Sciences, School of Nursing. She currently works as a research assistant (RA) for Patrick O'Byrne on projects involving marginalized populations, such as, men who have sex with men (MSM) and swingers. Alyssa has also been employed as a public health nurse (PHN) with Ottawa Public Health in the Healthy Sexuality and Risk Reduction Program for the past 3 years where she does research about MSM in Ottawa, and also works in the Sexual

Health Centre, a clinic for counselling and testing related to sexually transmitted infections (STIs). Additionally, Alyssa has five years of experience working in critical care at the Ottawa Hospital.

Mary Bryson's program of research engages key questions in gender and social informatics concerning: (1) the role of networked social media and information literacies in shaping access to health knowledge and its mobilization for QLB women and trans gender people, and (2) gender and sexual diversity and genealogical-phenomenological ethnographic methods for mapping geographies of knowledge-seeking, knowledge mobilization and community networks <<http://ubc.academia.edu/MaryKBryson>>. Co-author Brenda Beagan is a sociologist focusing on social inequalities in health and health care. Co-author Erin Fredericks is completing an Interdisciplinary PhD focusing on women's navigation of metaphors and discourses surrounding breast cancer. Co-author Lisa Goldberg's research seeks to examine the practices of perinatal nurses, nurses and primary care providers in their relations with women against the backdrop of gender, power, and heteronormativity.

Shelley Callaghan, CAAWS' Women 55-70+ Project Lead has been working in the area of physical activity and health promotion/prevention, communications/marketing, event coordination and program development/management for over 17 years. She has a Master of Arts degree in Leisure Studies from Dalhousie University and a Bachelor of Social Science degree, Honours in Leisure Studies, Concentration in Psychology from the University of Ottawa. As a consultant to government as well as national physical activity and health NGOs, Shelley has been involved in the development and implementation of many national and provincial initiatives. Her specialities include strategic planning, project management, research, communications, marketing, proposal writing, report writing

Danièle Caloz est enseignante, historienne et productrice de formation et vit à Toronto depuis 1970. Tour à tour enseignante, rédactrice, chercheuse, scénariste et productrice, elle a fondé sa propre compagnie de production, Médiatique inc., en 1994. Elle se consacre à la production télévisuelle à Toronto, principalement en langue française. Danièle Caloz désire participer au développement économique et culturel de la communauté francophone ontarienne tout en constituant un reflet autant qu'un agent de dialogue et d'épanouissement de cette communauté. Médiatique inc. a remporté un prix Génie ainsi que maintes nominations,

dont plusieurs aux Prix Gémeaux. Le documentaire 70 Ans et... au placard s'inscrit bien dans le mandat de Médiatique inc., qui est de traiter de sujets qui touchent aux nombreux défis rencontrés par la communauté francophone, comme à tout ce qui fait la richesse, le dynamisme et l'extraordinaire de notre société.

Danièle Caloz is a teacher, historian and producer by training, and has lived in Toronto since 1970. Teacher, editor, researcher, screenwriter and producer in turn, she founded her own production company, Médiatique Inc., in 1994. This firm focuses on television production in Toronto, principally in French. Danièle Caloz aims to participate in the economic and cultural development of the French-speaking community of Ontario, while at the same time offering a reflection of it, serving as an agent through which this community can dialogue and grow. Médiatique Inc. has won a Genie Award and many award nominations, including several at the Prix Gémeaux. The documentary 70 ans et... au placard [70 years of age and... back to the closet] is a good fit with the mandate of Médiatique Inc., which is to handle subjects that reference the many challenges encountered by the Francophone community, and all that which makes our society so rich, dynamic and extraordinary.

Line Chamberland is a professor at the Sexology department of Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM). She has lead many research projects on the social exclusion of sexual minorities and the multiple forms it can take, in particular in institutional contexts: education, employment, social services and health care. She is the Research Chair on Homophobia at UQAM.

Line Chamberland est professeure au Département de sexologie à l'UQAM. Elle a réalisé des recherches sur les différentes formes d'exclusion sociale des minorités sexuelles, notamment dans un contexte institutionnel : éducation, milieu de travail, services sociaux et de santé. Elle est titulaire de la Chaire de recherche sur l'homophobie à l'UQAM.

Stephanie Cohen received her Masters of Social Work Degree from the University of Toronto in 1997. Since that time, Stephanie has been working in the field of addictions and mental health at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. After four years as an addiction therapist in the Opiate Clinic, Stephanie transferred over as a therapist to the Nicotine Dependence Clinic. She has been a member of TEACH faculty since the initial pilot program in 2006.

Paula Cole is the Clinical Social Worker of the Windsor Family Health Team (Windsor FHT) in Windsor, Ontario. A native to the Windsor-Essex County region, Paula completed her Honors of Social Work degree as a general practitioner at the University of Windsor. She began practicing as a community based social worker in the areas of elder abuse and advocacy. She went on to practice as the first social worker at the emergency women's shelter in west Windsor, supervising social work students, and advocating for and counseling hard to serve women. Paula completed her Masters of Social Work degree focusing on adult mental health with a specialization in Cognitive Behavioral Therapy from Wayne State University, Michigan, USA. Paula currently offers individual, family and couples therapy to clients of the Windsor FHT. In addition to serving the general population, the Windsor FHT also focuses on primary care services for LGBT people. Through the specialized training and focus of the centre along with Paula's personal interest in LGBTTIQI health, she has successfully co-facilitated the first psycho-educational group in Windsor for Trans variant individuals. As a cisgender facilitator, Paula brings a unique experience to the discussion about supporting Trans people through group facilitation.

Todd Coleman has a degree in Health Sciences with a minor in Anthropology and is working towards a PhD in Population Epidemiology at the University of Western Ontario. He is a research assistant for the Trans PULSE Project and co-Principal Investigator of the Health in Middlesex Men Matters Project, a community-based research initiative based in London. He is also an active local community volunteer for several working groups and recently completed a fellowship with Universities Without Walls.

Gaston Cotnoir is the Healthy Sexuality Coordinator at Réseau Access Network; Gaston is an educator and front-line worker dedicated to issue of homophobia, heterosexism, gay men's health and youth sexuality.

Shannon Coyle is a Queen's University first year PhD student in the school of Kinesiology and Health Studies. She has obtained a BSc in Life Science (2001), a BAH MED in Psychology and Women's Studies, with a specialized certificate in sexuality and gender (2009), and a MA in Gender Studies (2011). She has previous work experience in field of information technology as well as running a small business coaching chiropractors. Shannon has also served as a board director for the Kingston Queer Film and Video Festival, Reel Out.

Jim Cullen, MSW, PhD, RSW, is the Clinic Head/Manager of the Rainbow Service and the IGT Clinic-Concurrent Disorders Service for the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. He is an Assistant Professor, University of Toronto, Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work. Jim has a long history working in health and mental/addiction programming in both clinical and management capacities. He has held various academic appointments at York, Ryerson, the University of Toronto, the University of Victoria and Thompson Rivers University in British Columbia and has been successful in research and publication.

Louis Esme Cruz is a Mi'kmaq, Irish and Acadian author, educator and artist. He currently advises Risk & Resilience Among Bisexual People in Ontario: A community-Based Study of Bisexual mental health, collaborates with the Native Youth Sexual Health Network, and is the Arts Program Coordinator at The Studio with Delisle Youth Services in Toronto, Three Fires Territory. His writing and art works appear in *Sovereign Erotics: A Collection of Two-Spirit Literature*, *Feminism FOR REAL*, *GLQ: Indigeneity, Nationality and Sexuality* and *Redwire Magazine*.

Andrea Daley is an Assistant Professor at the School of Social Work, York University, Toronto. Her research interests include access and equity issues in health care policy and program delivery for members of lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans gender, and queer communities (LGBTQ), women and mental illness, and sexuality and identity. Her research has explored the assumption of heterosexuality in health care policy and service delivery with a focus on the psychiatric and mental health service experiences of lesbian/queer women. Works in progress include a retrospective chart review of women's psychiatric in-patient charts for gender/sexuality content; an exploration of service access and equity issues related to in-home healthcare services for members of Ontario's LGBTQ communities; and an exploration of barriers to accessing culturally competent mental health care for gender and sexual minorities in Ontario.

Andrea Daley est professeure adjointe au département du travail social de l'Université York de Toronto. Dans ses recherches, elle s'intéresse aux questions d'égalité dans les politiques de soins de santé et la prestation de programmes pour les membres des communautés lesbienne, gaie, bisexuelle, transgenre et allosexuelle (LGBTQA), aux femmes et à la maladie mentale et aux questions de sexualité et d'identité. Dans ses recherches, elle s'est penchée sur la question de l'hétérosexualité assumée dans les politiques et la

prestation de soins, particulièrement dans le domaine des soins en santé mentale et psychiatrie chez les lesbiennes et les personnes allosexuelles. Présentement, elle travaille notamment sur une analyse des dossiers de patientes hospitalisées en psychiatrie pour des problèmes d'identité sexuelle ou de sexualité, étudie les questions d'accès aux services et les problèmes d'égalité liés aux soins à domicile pour les membres des communautés LGBTQA de l'Ontario. Elle se penche sur les obstacles à l'accès à des soins en santé mentale adaptés à la culture des minorités sexuelles en Ontario.

Alisa Das recently completed her Master's degree in Environmental Studies at York University, where she studied the intersections of women's queer sexuality, madness/mental health system involvement, and religion/spirituality. She is currently juggling many activities including working in LGBTQ health research, participating in mad/psychiatric survivor communities, and studying theology at Emmanuel College, University of Toronto.

Mahdiah Dastjerdi is an Assistant Professor at the School of Nursing, York University. She obtained her PhD in Nursing from the University of Alberta and focused on immigrant populations and access to health care services in Canada, specifically, Iranian immigrants and refugees. She is currently examining the quality of life of Iranian immigrant seniors in Toronto.

Barry Deepröse has been involved in gay liberation and AIDS activism for some 30 years. He helped found Pink Triangle Services and AIDS Committee of Ottawa and was on the first board of the Canadian Rainbow Health Coalition. He is currently a member of the Ottawa Senior Pride Network and is co-chair of the Gay Men's Wellness Initiative in Ottawa. He is in his 9th year of retirement from a career in Human Resources in the Department of National Defence and Justice Canada.

Melissa Deleary BA, is a two-spirited Dene and Anishnawbe woman from Ottawa, Ontario. She is dedicated to building the capacities of LGBTQ youth, communities & organizations in their ability to fully participate and engage in the decision-making and processes that affect their lives. Melissa has worked with the Assembly of First Nations as their Sexual Health & Injury Prevention Policy Analyst, advocating for the rights of Indigenous peoples. Currently, she is the Community Engagement Coordinator at LGBT Youth Line, helping to amplify and strengthen the voices of LGBTQ youth from across Ontario. She currently lives in Toronto but does not identify as a Torontonian.

Melissa Deleary B.A. est une femme bispirituelle qui appartient à la communauté Dene et Anishnawbe d'Ottawa, en Ontario. Elle se consacre au renforcement, chez les jeunes, dans les communautés et dans les organismes, des capacités nécessaires à participer pleinement et à s'engager dans la prise de décision et dans les processus qui ont des répercussions sur leur vie. Melissa a travaillé pour l'Assemblée des Premières Nations en tant qu'analyste en politiques de prévention des blessures et en santé sexuelle ainsi que défense des droits des autochtones. Elle est présentement coordinatrice en engagement communautaire à la ligne d'aide LGBT Youth Line, où elle aide à amplifier et à donner plus de poids à la voix des jeunes LGBTQA de partout en Ontario. Elle vit présentement à Toronto, sans pour autant se considérer comme une Torontoise.

Cheryl Dobinson, MA, has been involved in bisexual health research since 2003. She is currently focused on investigating bisexual mental health and well-being through her role as a consultant with the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health in Toronto. In addition to working on projects such as the bi women's zine she founded in 2002, *The Fence*, Cheryl facilitates support groups, leads workshops and teaches courses on bisexuality.

Farzana Doctor is a Toronto-based psychotherapist, author and activist. Her novels include *Stealing Nasreen* and *Six Meters of Pavement*. She has had her poetry, reviews, short stories and creative non-fiction published in *NOW*, *Trikone*, *Horizons*, *Siren*, *Aurat Durbar* and *Sightlines 7 Anthology*. She has also co-written a manual for therapists and was part of the video collective that produced the documentary, "Rewriting the Script".

Rosa Dragonetti has been with the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health since 1992, working in Education and Training, conducting research in gambling, alcohol, depression and anxiety. She has worked as a therapist in the Opiate Clinic and in the Nicotine Clinic. She is currently the Manager for the Nicotine Dependence Service which includes the Nicotine Dependence Clinic, tobacco-related research projects such as the STOP study as well as the TEACH project and other knowledge translation activities.

Natalie Duchesne is a doctoral candidate at Concordia University. Within the Literature and Social Sciences program, she is using an interdisciplinary approach to study the role of public policy in the lives of trans individuals in Montreal and Toronto. She is particularly interested in knowledge transfer in the domain of policy and HIV/AIDS.

Natalie Duchesne est doctorante à l'Université Concordia. Au sein du programme de doctorat en lettres et en sciences sociales, elle utilise une approche interdisciplinaire pour étudier le rôle des politiques publiques dans la vie des personnes trans à Montréal et à Toronto. Elle s'intéresse particulièrement au transfert de connaissances dans le domaine de politiques et du VIH-sida.

Jean Dumas travaille comme professionnel de recherche au sein de l'équipe Sexualités et genres : vulnérabilité et résilience (SVR) sur deux projets de recherche pancanadiens portant sur les usages d'Internet pour la prévention et la promotion de la santé auprès des minorités sexuelles LGBT.

Jean Dumas is a research professional working with the Sexuality and Gender Diversity : Vulnerability and Resilience Research Team (SVR) on two panCanadian research projects about the health-related use of the Internet for prevention and health promotion targeting LGBT sexual minorities.

Mickael Chacha Enriquez is a Masters student in Sociology and Feminist Studies at Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM). He is working on a research project on the emergence of trans activism in Quebec. He is also a collaborator on many projects addressing trans realities (for example, projects dealing with trans people's use of the internet and trans aging). He has been active as an ally in local trans activism and he offers his support to community groups to the best of his ability, for example in attempting to create alliances between different movements.

Mickael Chacha Enriquez est étudiant à la Maîtrise de Sociologie et d'études féministes à l'UQAM. Il mène une recherche sur l'émergence de la militance trans au Québec. Parallèlement, il participe à plusieurs projets de recherche touchant les personnes trans (notamment sur les thèmes du vieillissement, d'Internet). Il est un allié de la militance trans depuis de nombreuses années et apporte son soutien aux groupes communautaires dès qu'il le peut, notamment dans la construction d'alliances entre différents mouvements.

Rachel Epstein has been a queer parenting activist, educator and researcher for over 20 years and coordinates the LGBTQ Parenting Network at the Sherbourne Health Centre in Toronto. She has published

on a wide range of queer parenting issues, including assisted human reproduction, queer spawn in schools, butch pregnancy, and the tensions between queer sexuality, radicalism and parenting. Rachel recently edited a collection of writings on queer parenting entitled *Who's Your Daddy? And Other Writings on Queer Parenting* (SumachPress, 2009).

Vera Etches is an Associate Medical Officer of Health at Ottawa Public Health. A Public Health and Preventive Medicine specialist and a Health Promotion consultant, Dr. Etches is passionate about addressing social determinants of health and bridging government, academic and community sectors to strengthen local health outcomes.

Mark Ferrari is the Executive Director for the Windsor Family Health Team. Mark has been in healthcare administration for four years and has eighteen years in public administration experience. Under his leadership the Windsor FHT has made LGBT healthcare services a priority for Windsor and surrounding communities. He is the Community Family Health Team constituency director on the board of the Association of Ontario Health Centres and is also active in his community as an advocate for public services for LGBT youth and children as co-chair of SAFE (Service Alliance for Equality) Windsor.

Erin Fredericks is completing an Interdisciplinary PhD focusing on women's navigation of metaphors and discourses surrounding breast cancer. Brenda Beagan is a sociologist focusing on social inequalities in health and health care. Lisa Goldberg is a nurse educator and researcher focusing on the relational practices of nurses and primary care providers in the context of gender, power and heteronormativity. Ami Harbin recently finished a PhD in philosophy and is doing post doctoral research exploring the productive potential of 'disorientation.'

Clemon George's research focus is in the area of HIV social epidemiology. He is currently investigating Black parents and their children communication on sexual health issues as another strategy for HIV risk reduction. He was a principal investigator on the MaBwana study – a Canadian study on Black MSM. He teaches community based research at the University of Ontario Institute of Technology and is a founding member of the African and Caribbean Council on HIV/AIDS in Ontario (ACCHO).

Dr. Shuvo Ghosh is an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at McGill University, and Head of the Developmental-Behavioural Assessment & Continuity

Clinic (D-BACC) in the Child Development Program of the Montreal Children's Hospital. After completing his pediatric training in the US, Dr. Ghosh did his fellowship at McGill. His is the only pediatric clinic in the province of Quebec for children with gender differences between the ages of 2-18 years.

Sulaimon Giwa is a PhD candidate in social work at York University, with research, policy, and direct practice experience at the community and federal level, in youth health promotions, community and organizational practice in diverse communities, corrections, and policing. His research interests are in the areas of race and sexuality; critical social work pedagogy; antiracism/oppression; and the criminal justice system. He has taught in the social work programs at Ryerson and York Universities.

Lisa Gore is currently the LGBT Newcomer Settlement Services Coordinator with The 519 Church Street Community Centre's new settlement project. She served as the coordinator of the successful Among Friends program, and was seconded to The Toronto Newcomer Initiative for six months. A recent immigrant from Jamaica, Lisa is a passionate activist in the Caribbean LGBT community.

Megan Green has recently joined the Around the Rainbow program as a counsellor and community developer. Her current position is connected with Family Service Toronto's David Kelley Services and the Counselling Foundation's internship project, a three year project designed to support agencies in smaller urban and rural settings expand their capacities to serve the LGBTTTQ communities. Megan has participated in this project and is passionate about expanding LGBTTTQ and HIV/AIDS service provision.

Alisa Grigorovich is a PhD candidate in the School of Women's Studies at York University. She has a MA and HBA in Women's Studies from York University and a HBA in Psychology from the University of Toronto. Her research interests include: health and healthcare public policy, long term care, aging, women's health and LGBT health.

Marcel Grimard defines himself as of gay sexual orientation, and has lived with HIV for 10 years. His involvement in Francophone organizations has led to many social changes having a direct impact on the Francophone community's ability to be more inclusive of GLBTT individuals. He is also the co-founder of two

community organizations: FrancoQueer and Action positive VIH/Sida. Since March 2011, he has held the position of President of the French Language Health Planning Entity for the regions of Toronto-Center, Toronto-Center-West and Mississauga-Halton where he shares his socio-linguistic expertise to help the entity adopt an inclusive vision to include all Francophones in the process of establishing French language healthcare services in the region.

Marcel Grimard se définit comme étant d'orientation sexuelle gaie. Il vit avec le VIH depuis 10 ans. Son engagement dans les organismes francophones a conduit à plusieurs changements sociaux qui ont eu des répercussions directes sur la capacité de la communauté francophone à devenir plus inclusive pour les GLBTT. Il est également cofondateur de deux organismes communautaires : FrancoQueer et Action positive VIH/Sida. Depuis mars 2011, Marcel est président de l'entité de planification des services de santé pour les régions de Toronto-Centre, de Toronto-Centre Ouest et de Mississauga-Halton, où il partage son expertise en socio-linguistique afin que l'entité adopte une vision qui inclura tous les francophones dans le processus de mise en place des services de santé en français dans la région.

Shazad Hai is the MSM Outreach Coordinator at ASAAP who works with and develops programming for South Asian queers, namely gay/bi and other men who have sex with men. Shazad is the lead coordinator for the Colour Me Queer photography project.

Billy Hébert is a Masters student in Social and Cultural Anthropology at Concordia University in Montreal. His research interests center on social justice and social movements, in particular related to the realities of populations marginalized because of sexuality, gender, and other sites of oppression. His current graduate research project addresses the organizational and place-making practices of Montreal-based queer activists, a community in which he has himself been involved for a number of years. As a research assistant, he has collaborated on research teams investigating topics such as women's empowerment in Muslim contexts and the influence of research-based evidence on contemporary debates on sex work. Interested in bridging the gap between academia and activism, he sees himself as an "engaged" researcher who aims to participate in projects that work towards the empowerment of marginalized groups.

Billy Hébert est un candidat à la Maîtrise en Anthropologie sociale et culturelle à l'Université Concordia de Montréal. Ses intérêts de recherche portent sur la justice sociale et sur les mouvements sociaux, et son projet actuel de mémoire explore les pratiques organisationnelles et les créations d'espaces de militants queers de Montréal, un mouvement au sein duquel il est impliqué depuis plusieurs années. En tant qu'assistant de recherche, au cours de ses études de deuxième cycle, il a été collaborateur sur des équipes de recherche se penchant sur l'émancipation des femmes dans divers contextes, et sur des projets examinant l'influence des données empiriques sur les débats contemporains sur le travail du sexe provenant. Étant intéressé à concilier recherche académique et militantisme, il se considère comme un chercheur « engagé » qui désire participer à des projets ayant pour but de contribuer à l'émancipation des groupes marginalisés. Co-auteur Mickael Chacha Enriquez et co-auteure Line Chamberland.

Ellen Hibbard is a PhD candidate at Ryerson University in Communication and Culture Programme. Her PhD research interest is on the impact of video technologies on Deaf community. She is active in the Deaf community to improve network of information and resources for Deaf Queer individuals by serving on board of Ontario Rainbow Alliance of the Deaf. Ellen has been active in advocating for hearing people to understand Deaf people from an early age as result of desire to do something about the barriers she has experienced as a Deaf person. It is her personal goal that Deaf people and Hearing people can interact with each other in a way that minimizes those communication and cultural barriers that currently exist today. She has presented at conferences at Gallaudet University and RIT/NTID about cultural differences and challenges for Deaf people.

Beth Jackson is Manager of Research & Knowledge Development in the Strategic Initiatives & Innovations Directorate at the Public Health Agency of Canada. She has completed a PhD in Sociology (York University) and a Post-doctoral Fellowship in Health Services Research. Her interdisciplinary practice bridges theoretical inquiry, empirical social science research and applied policy activities. Her work at PHAC addresses social determinants of health, health inequities, and related theoretical & methodological tools such as intersectionality, systems thinking, and equity-focused health impact assessment.

Zeenat Janmohamed is a doctoral candidate at OISE at the University of Toronto and the Executive Director of the Atkinson Centre for Society and Child Development. Zeenat's area of expertise includes early child development; advocacy, policy and governance; and diversity, equity and inclusion. Zeenat has published in the area of systems integration, early childhood training and diversity. She has presented widely on early child development, diversity and difference and the connections between research, policy and practice.

Joseph Jilitovich is currently employed as the LGBT Settlement Counsellor in the Settlement Program at London Cross Cultural Learner Centre. Joseph immigrated from Bosnia and Herzegovina to Canada in 1994. Since then, Mr. Jilitovich worked in the settlement sector on a part time basis only to be employed on a full time basis in 2002. Mr. Jilitovich's present position enables him to advocate, provide information and orientation to help with solving settlement problems.

Amanda Johnston is an MSW student at York University. As an Ojibway, queer-identified woman she is focused on improving social work service provision through the increasing understanding of marginalized identities and inclusivity in program offerings. Amanda's background is in educational support and community development through program service planning and provision and she is actively involved in both Toronto's LGBTQ and Aboriginal communities.

Robert-Paul Juster is currently a student in the Integrated Program in Neuroscience at McGill University and is affiliated with the Centre for Studies on Human Stress under Dr. Sonia Lupien's supervision. His work applies the allostatic load model of chronic stress to detect health risks in vulnerable populations.

Marilyn Kanee has been Director Mount Sinai Hospital's Diversity and Human Rights Office since 2000 and is a member of the Hospital's Anti-Homophobia/Transphobia Action (AHA) Committee. The Diversity and Human Rights Office at MSH strives to create organizational change by addressing harassment and discrimination complaints, providing training on human rights and related issues, and developing policies to ensure equity in the hospital for patients, visitors and workers.

Wendy Katherine is the Manager of Women's and Family Health in the Health System Strategy and Policy Division of the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. A midwife and executive by background and a public servant of over 10 years, Wendy maintains an active interest in population health and maternal child health strategy, and innovative quality improvement initiatives that focus on reducing disparities in health outcomes.

Farrah Khan, at the age of 16, picked up the mic to speak out about sexual assault at a community concert and has not put down it down since. Named by the Toronto Star as one of 2011's "People to Watch," she has spent the last fifteen years working diligently to raise awareness of gender-based violence through counselling, art creation and collective work. Farrah holds a Masters of Social Work from the University of Toronto and daily supports women survivors of violence as a counsellor and advocate at the Barbara Schlifer Clinic. The non-profit organization is a counselling, legal, interpretation, and referral service for women who have experienced violence. Deeply disturbed by the 2007 murder of teenager Aqsa Parvez and rising Islamophobia, Farrah recognized that young Muslim women needed safer spaces to connect. She co-founded the award winning grassroots arts collective AQSAzine in 2007. AQSAzine provides opportunities for young Muslims to express themselves through writing, art and design. She was given in 2010 the Urban Alliance on Race Relations award as Canadian Council of Muslim Women, Women Who Inspire Award.

Lorelei King is a SOY Community Program Coordinator. She works specifically with Black Queer Youth as well as coordinating Fruit Loopz – SOY's Youth Stage Festival during Pride weekend. Lorelei is also a youth shelter worker, substance counselor, facilitator, gender bender community member, caterer, poet, musician, writer and Queer single parent. Lorelei takes pride in building bridges and supporting Queer Youth, and also takes pleasure in community involvement – and she votes.

Ambrose Kirby is an activist, educator and psychotherapist. As Trans Programs Coordinator at the Sherbourne Health Centre he co-facilitated Gender Journeys for 3 sessions. He has worked as a grassroots community organizer for the past 15 years and as a group facilitator and anti-oppression trainer for over 8 years. His practices aim to nurture the development of shamelessness through a radical attention to the

everyday effects of socio political power structures on interpersonal relationships.

Ed Kucharski is a Family Physician and the Medical Director at Sherbourne Health Centre. He attended medical school at the University of Ottawa and finished his residency training at the University of Toronto. His residency training was at a site within the Department of Family and Community Medicine that had many LGBT clients. He has been working with LGBT clients and their families, partners and friends for the past six years. Ed has presented Sherbourne's Trans Primary Care Guidelines with Rainbow Health Ontario on numerous occasions over the past two years.

Vivian Lee is the Policy Analyst for the Association of Ontario Midwives. She is one of the co-ordinators of the cultural competency training program at the AOM. She has been involved in community advocacy and academic research in the areas of policy initiatives affecting queer communities of colour in Canada. She has a Ph.D. in Women's Studies and her work explores the ways in which Canadian immigration and multiculturalism policies affect queer activists of colour in Toronto.

David Lewis-Pearl is the MSM Prevention and Research Coordinator with the Black Coalition for AIDS Prevention. He is a graduate student at York University, where his focus of study is in Program Evaluation, Black MSM youth, and Community interventions. He adapted the CDC's Many Men, Many Voices HIV and STD prevention intervention for Black CAP, the first program of its kind for Black youth in Canada. David is the principal investigator of this project's evaluation.

Alan Li, MD is a HIV primary care physician, researcher and long term LGBT activist and consultant/trainer on social justice and equity issues. Alan works at Regent Park Community Health Centre, is a co-founder of the Asian Community AIDS Services & the Committee for Accessible AIDS Treatment and a community scholar of the OHTN.

Kevin Linn BSc., MPH, is an Outreach Coordinator for the Canadian Cancer Society in Ottawa, Ontario. His educational background is in public health and has worked on various health promotion initiative aimed at reducing the burden of chronic disease in various populations. This is his first experience in reaching out the LGBTQ population and plans to make this population a priority in his future public health endeavors.

Judith MacDonnell is an Assistant Professor in the School of Nursing, York University. She has a background in community health nursing and is involved in research related to LGBTQ equity in health and education, participatory policy processes and health promotion. Current projects address LGBTQ access to home care, dynamics of career/work shaping wellbeing for trans health providers and mental health promotion for diversely situated immigrant women. She is co-chair of the Rainbow Nursing Interest Group of the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario.

Judith MacDonnell est professeure adjointe à l'école de soins infirmiers de l'Université York de Toronto. Elle a travaillé en soins infirmiers communautaires et participe à des recherches liées à l'égalité des clientèles LGBTQA en santé et en éducation, dans les processus de politique participative et en promotion de la santé. Ses projets actuels se concentrent sur l'accès des communautés LGBTQA aux soins à domicile, sur la dynamique du bien-être au travail pour les fournisseurs de soins de santé trans et sur les moyens de favoriser une meilleure santé mentale chez les femmes immigrantes de situations diverses. Elle est coprésidente du Rainbow Nursing Interest Group de l'Association des infirmières et infirmiers autorisés de l'Ontario.

Jay MacGillivray has been a midwife since the mid '80s. She is one of the original midwives that formed the nucleus of the legislated midwifery profession in Canada. Her areas of focus include health care and queer communities, HIV and pregnancy, international conflict and maternal health, street culture, substance use and pregnancy, health advocacy and promotion in marginalized communities, gender-based violence and pregnancy, external cephalic version. Jay is a social justice activist and frequent speaker on issues pertaining to the bisection of healthcare provision and community access.

Jessica McCutcheon completed her BSc at the University of New Brunswick and her MA in Applied Social Psychology at the University of Saskatchewan. She is currently continuing her education as a PhD candidate. Her research has focused on attitudes toward adoption by same-sex couples with a specific emphasis on how these attitudes are affected by the gender roles of each partner. She has also been involved with a number of programme evaluations for local community agencies.

Christopher McIntosh is a staff psychiatrist and clinic head of the Gender Identity Clinic at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. He trained at the University of Toronto, and is now on faculty with the Department of Psychiatry. He is on the advisory council of the Association of Gay and Lesbian Psychiatrists and is an editor with the Journal of Gay and Lesbian Mental Health.

Mad Students Society Working Group on Queer/Mad Intersections is a group of peers who met through participation in the Mad Students Society and are passionate about social justice. All of the presenters self-identify as psychiatric consumers/survivors and/or Mad with many of us being activists in these communities. As a group we identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, queer, heterosexual allies, cis-gendered, and gender-label free. Our educational experiences are varied with several B.A, B.Sc., Master's, and Doctoral degrees and other Bachelor's, Master's and PhD degrees in progress. These include: English and literature studies, linguistics, sociology, disability studies, social work, cognitive science, environmental studies and religious studies. We are direct service providers, policy writers, administrators, researchers, students, and teaching assistants. As a group we have held a variety of roles including working for organizations offering LGBTQ support; peer support work in psychiatric survivor and mental health communities; service providers in community-based mental health and addiction settings; counsellors and mental health clinicians; and violence against women advocates. As a group we are athletes, musicians, writers, artists, passionate readers, and of course great thinkers working and playing in the GTA.

Kelley Anne Malinen received her masters degree at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia. She is currently a doctoral candidate at Laval University in Quebec City. In the tradition of grounded theory methods, she is presently conducting field research as well as analysis in the context of her study on sexual assault between women.

Zack Marshall, is a community based researcher, social worker, and activist. Currently a doctoral student, Universities Without Walls Fellow, and an Instructor in the School of Social Work at Memorial University of Newfoundland, Zack's work focuses on the experiences of LGBTQ youth in Canada with an emphasis on HIV, ethics, sexual health, and the development of more accessible social services. From 2004 to 2010 Zack worked with Griffin Centre's ReachOUT Program and the research presented here came out of that experience.

Janet Mawhinney, MA is the Manager Diversity & Equity at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH). Her work is about equity and organizational change including employment equity, cultural competency, harassment and discrimination, bias 'free' hiring, and health equity. She has been a core member of the LGBTIQ change efforts at CAMH.

Merrick Pilling is a doctoral candidate in Women's Studies at York University. Research interests include theorizing madness, the intersections between critical disability studies and queer and trans studies, and the impacts of dominant understandings of mental health on the everyday lives of queer and trans people.

Anthony Mohamed has served as Diversity and Special Projects Coordinator at St. Michael's Hospital since 1995. Drawing from almost 25 years' experience in community and social justice initiatives, Anthony has specialized skills in facilitation, program management and applying an intersectional anti-oppression framework.

Chérie Moody completed her BA in Psychology at Concordia University in 2006. After working as a full-time research assistant for the McGill Group for Suicide Studies, she decided to pursue a MA and PhD in Counselling Psychology at McGill University, where she is presently completing the first year of her doctoral degree. She is a member of and cis ally to LGBTTIQQ2S communities and her research interests include suicidality, resilience, and coping in LGBT populations.

Dick Moore has worked for 30 years with retired people and their families. He was the coordinator of the older LGBT program at the 519 Community Centre from 2003 to 2010. Through his work with Toronto Homes for the Aged, he established recognition for the needs of seniors in the LGBT community. As a result, Fudger House, Kipling Acres, and True Davidson Acres are the first nursing homes in Canada to be designated and recognized by the community as "safe havens" for LGBT seniors.

Nick Mulé, PhD, is an associate professor at the School of Social Work at York University, queer activist and psychotherapist in private practice serving gender and sexually diverse populations in Toronto. He was a founding board member of the Canadian Rainbow Health Coalition (CRHC), founded and chaired the Rainbow Health Network and is currently founder and chairperson of Queer Ontario.

Nick Mulé, Dr., est professeur associé à l'école de travail social de l'Université York de Toronto, activiste allosexuel et psychothérapeute en pratique privée au service des populations sexuellement diverses de Toronto.

Donna Munro has been a Health Promoter at Centretown Community Health Centre (CCHC) for 20 years. Since 2008, she has played a key role in initiating and supporting the Ottawa Senior Pride Network. She was very actively involved in the "Enhancing GLBT Cultural Competence Project in Community Health and Resource Centres" (2003/4) and also worked with the Ottawa GLBT Wellness Project. (2000). She has chaired the CCHC Rainbow Team since 2003.

Nancy Nicol is a professor in Visual Arts at York University, and the principal investigator for Envisioning Global LGBT Human Rights. Her research, publications and documentaries examine social movement histories and issues of social justice. Her films have screened widely, with international recognition. In May 2011, Nancy was inducted into the Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives National Portrait Collection, in recognition of her contribution to research and films on LGBT histories in Canada.

Clare Nobbs coordinates community programs at SOY. Her work involves engaging LGBT youth in diverse arts and cultural activities, as well as building bridges between communities for social change. Clare believes in engaging young people to improve their own lives through community participation - leading to better opportunities for employment, housing, healthier relationships to self and others, skills development and health promotion. Clare is also a storyteller, popular educator and mother.

Patrick O'Byrne, RN, PhD, is an Assistant Professor in the School of Nursing, Faculty of Health Sciences, at the University of Ottawa. His field of research and clinical practice is public health, particularly in relation to sexually transmitted infections and HIV. As part of this, Dr. O'Byrne has been involved in various Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR) funded projects involving marginalized populations, such as, men who have sex with men (gay, bisexual, queer men), teens, swingers, and the homeless. Dr. O'Byrne has received a Governor General's Academic Gold Medal for this work. Dr. O'Byrne is also the recipient of an Early Researcher Award from the Ministry of Research and Innovation (Government of Ontario).

Jennifer Paterson identifies as a queer femme who disrupts notions of disability and difference. She is a graduate of the Disability Studies BA program at Ryerson University and the Critical Disability Studies MA program at York University. Jennifer teaches Disability Issues online at Ryerson, works for School of Disability Studies as Research Assistant and Student Engagement Coordinator and is a sexual health educator. She has been working and advocating with people labeled with intellectual disabilities and other impairments in various capacities for over twelve years. Jennifer's undergraduate and graduate thesis work examined disability and sexuality issues through qualitative research projects.

Jodi Pearce has been employed for 20 years as a Health Promoter at the Windsor Essex Community Health Centre (formerly the Teen Health Centre). She graduated from the University of Windsor with a BA Hons, and completed a Masters in Education program at the University of Phoenix in May 2009. As a health promoter, she facilitates programs in schools such as "Becoming Your Best" self-esteem programs, anger management, Portable Ropes Course and team building activities, adolescent sexual health and cancer prevention strategies for youth. Jodi is Co-Chair of the SAFE (Service Alliance for Equality) Committee whose mission is to address the current state of service provision for LGBT children, youth and their families in Windsor Essex County. She enjoys spending time with friends and family and loves watching kids play hockey and baseball!

Anna Penner has been involved in T.E.A.C.H. since 2001, when she joined the program as a volunteer. As the T.E.A.C.H. Program Coordinator at Planned Parenthood Toronto, Anna now trains youth Peer Facilitators on topics such as effective facilitation, anti-oppression and conflict resolution. She also has extensive experience providing anti-homophobia education to service providers, working with teachers, social service workers and healthcare providers to create more welcoming spaces.

Jade Pichette and Alex Thomas are the education coordinators at PTS, the centre for the celebration of sexual orientation and gender diversity in Ottawa. Alex is the TransAction coordinator whom gives trans inclusivity training and recently completed an audit of trans inclusivity in social services in Ottawa. Jade is the Creating Safer Spaces coordinator and gives workshops on how youth, educators and service providers can be queer inclusive and challenge queerphobia.

Emery Potter is a registered nurse working at the Sherbourne Health Centre on the LGBT family health team for over 2 years, and who has a special interest in trans health care. Previous to the Sherbourne, Nurse Potter worked within pediatric hospital settings in Montreal and Toronto; worked to implement a trans education clinic at Head and Hands; and was one of the founders of the St. Emile skillshare in Montreal.

Marnie Potter has almost 20 years of experience working with children, youth and families in community and camp-based settings. She holds a Masters in Social Work from Carleton University. For four years, she has been working as a Community Developer for the Around the Rainbow Program, at Family Services a la famille Ottawa. Her passion is to meld recreation and leisure within social work and social justice frameworks to create and deliver programs for high-risk children and youth.

Daniel Pugh has a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Social Work from the University of Waterloo. He is currently Director of Education for the Regional HIV/AIDS Connection in London, ON. Daniel helped form the London Homophobia, Biphobia, Transphobia (HBT) Working Group. He is co-principal investigator on the HiMMM Project and co-investigator on the BLACCH (Black African and Caribbean Canadian Health) study in London. He has also been on working groups of the Gay Men's Sexual Health Alliance.

Jake Pyne has worked in a variety of research and advocacy roles within the trans community in Toronto over the past 10 years. He is currently a research assistant with a study based at Concordia University exploring the social, educational and activist worlds of gender non-conforming children in Canada. Jake is also currently completing a Master of Social Work degree at Ryerson University with a focus on support for gender non conforming children. In 2010/2011 he coordinated the Transforming Family research project at the LGBTQ Parenting Network at the Sherbourne Health Centre in Toronto, supported by the Re:searching for LGBTQ Health team at CAMH and the Centre for the Study of Gender, Social Inequities and Mental Health at Simon Fraser University. More importantly, Jake is dad to two little ones in Toronto.

Leslie Ramsay-Taylor is the Communication and Partnerships Coordinator for the LGBTQ Positive Spaces Initiative at the Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants (OCASI), and is an experienced facilitator of anti-homophobia workshops. She has held a wide range of social service positions while volunteering on many governance boards in the non-profit sector. Leslie has a graduate degree in Social Work from the University of Toronto and is a Registered Social Worker.

Elke Reissing is the Assistant Director of the School of Psychology and an Associate Professor at the University of Ottawa. She also has a private practice in sex therapy serving the Ottawa/Gatineau region. She serves on the boards of the Archives of Sexual Behavior, the Journal of Sexual Medicine, the Canadian Journal of Sexuality Research, and the Canadian Journal of Behavioural Science. Her main research focuses are sexual pain disorders and sexuality and aging.

Laurie Rektor has worked nationally and locally in the voluntary sector in the areas of inclusion and oppression. She has worked as the executive director of the National Anti-Poverty Organization, with women in the areas of employment and violence, as a manager with the Voluntary Sector Initiative and spent two years working on interchange with the Public Health Agency of Canada. Currently, Laurie works as the Director of Community Programs at Family Services à la famille Ottawa.

Janice Ristock is Associate Vice-President (Research) and Professor, Women's and Gender Studies Program at the University of Manitoba. For the last 20 years she has engaged in community-based, anti-oppression research on a number of issues facing LGBTQ communities, including partner violence, mental health issues, and stigma. Her recent book is an edited volume entitled, *Intimate Partner Violence in LGBTQ Lives* published by Routledge Press.

Stacey Ritz is an Associate Professor at the Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM), and plays a variety of roles in the development, coordination, and implementation of the MD program.

Marie Robertson is an outspoken lipstick lesbian. A community activist for over 35 years, she's been referred to as a 'pioneer of the gay movement in Canada' and 'Ontario's first lady of queer liberation'. In 1994, she was awarded the Canadian Lambda Award for Excellence in Human Rights. Marie has been a counsellor/facilitator/trainer in the LGBT community for over 25 years.

Currently, she is a therapist in private practice and the Community Developer for the Ottawa Senior Pride Network.

Margaret Robinson is a Mi'kmaq scholar and bisexual activist from Nova Scotia. She is passionate about bisexual community, social justice for LGBTTIQ2 people, and Native self-government. She holds a PhD from the University of Toronto and is currently Project Coordinator of Risk & Resilience Among Bisexual People in Ontario: A community-Based Study of Bisexual mental health. Margaret has volunteered with the Toronto Bisexual Network and Bisexual Women of Toronto. She is a past co-chair of the Toronto Dyke March and is currently a Director of the Toronto Bisexuality Education Project.

Lori Ross is the leader of the Re:searching for LGBTQ Health Team of the Social and Epidemiological Research Department at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) in Toronto. Lori is also Associate Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Toronto. She uses a combination of quantitative and qualitative approaches in her researchwork, with a focus on integrating the principles of community-based research. Her research focuses on understanding the mental health and service needs of LGBTQ people.

Will Rowe is a doctoral student in the Social Work department at McMaster University as well as the Trans Outreach and Advocacy Coordinator for The Well, the LGBTQ Community Wellness Centre of Hamilton. Will has 17 years of frontline experience in social services working within anti-violence/anti-poverty/queer and trans social movements. Will's current research is a narrative project which explores notions of shifting embodiment as trans folks age as well as the ways we experience senior health and social care institutions.

Will Rowe est doctorant au département de travail social de l'Université McMaster et coordinateur des services de proximité et de la défense des droits des trans de l'organisme The Well au LGBTQ Community Wellness Centre de Hamilton. Il possède dix-sept années d'expérience en services sociaux de première ligne et travaille auprès de mouvements contre la violence et la pauvreté et auprès des organismes pour allosexuels et personnes trans. Il travaille présentement sur une recherche narrative qui explore basculements d'identité in carner associés au vieillissement des personnes trans, de même que la façon dont se vit la santé de sâinés dans les établissements de santé et de services sociaux

Hershel Russell, an older, white, transgender man, is a psychotherapist, seeing trans people and their families since 1995, and a professional trainer since 2003 whose lively workshops have proved effective in a wide range of organizations. He is involved in program and policy development and contributes to debates in the field of trans health care. As an educator, he believes that real learning is active, that respect for everyone is key, and that shared friendlylaughter can accomplish much!

Erin Sandilands is a family medicine resident, completing a PGY-3 year in emergency medicine. She is trained as a dramatherapist, and now works on the art of developing rapport in the fast-paced environment of urban emergency departments. As a visibly queer parent of four and physician, she is intimately familiar with the social barriers that still exist for sexual-,relational- and gender-non-conforming individuals in health care settings and elsewhere, and she is frequently approached for information about alternative sexual practices in the context of her work.

Allisa Scott has been pursuing a career in the field of diversity, gender and sexuality as an educator, consultant and trainer for the past 15 years. Ms. Scott possess two in sociology (focusing on family, sex and gender with a thesis published on fluid sexuality), and her third degree, a Master of Social work from Wilfrid Laurier University. Ms. Scott has been a writer, human rights advocate and very involved in Rainbow Communities across South-western and Central Ontario for over a decade now. Allisa currently contributes to Waterloo Region's Proud Magazine as a columnist, and she is currently the co-chair of the Waterloo Region Rainbow Coalition; that aims to foster a strong and inclusive local Rainbow Community. Allisa's business is called "Inclusive Counselling, Consulting and Training", which focuses on working with LGBTQ identified clients (and other marginalized communities) to offer counselling services and support to their diverse needs. In addition, she offers consulting and training to businesses and organizations, teaching them how to integrate diversity and inclusivity values into their business/organization. For more details visit her website at: www.inclusive.cct.ca.

Karine Silverwoman is a counselor and community activist and artist whose art practice includes poetry, video and dance. Her award-winning video, 'Hello, My Name is Herman' has screened internationally and her work has been presented and published in various venues around the world. She has facilitated Pink Ink, the creative writing group for queer and transyouth through

Supporting Our Youth for the past 3 years and currently works as a counselor at Sherbourne Health Centre with the LGBTQ team. She has recently completed a Master's of Social Work degree at Ryerson University and has worked in social services for 10 years.

Sarah Singh has worked in the Community Support Service sector with seniors for 15 years. She was instrumental in developing and leading the Toronto Ride transportation network. In her present role as the Senior Director of Community Services, Program Development and Outreach at SPRINT (Senior Peoples' Resources in North Toronto), Sarah has lead the LGBT seniors inclusiveness strategy at SPRINT. Sarah has been actively participating at the Senior Pride Network in Toronto for the past two years.

Rusty Souleymanov received his Bachelor's degree in Psychology and Research Specialist program from the University of Toronto. He has worked in the field of HIV/AIDS for several years, including work on employment initiatives for people living with HIV/AIDS at the Canadian Working Group on HIV and Rehabilitation, as well as in the field of HIV prevention for gay/bisexual men at the AIDS Committee of Toronto. Rusty is currently pursuing his second year of Masters in Social Work at the University of Toronto.

William Stabi, a long-time resident of Ottawa, has recently retired after a successful career as an executive in the public service. Mr. Stabi came out later in life at the age of 45 and since then has been involved in numerous GLBT community organizations and groups aimed at improving the lives of LGBT persons.

Danielle Sutherland, MSW, has been working and advocating to create more services, support and research for children and youth with LGBTQ parents for the last six years. The other panelists include Rosa Brooks, Sadie Epstein-Fine, Madeleine McDonald, Eliza Musselwhite and Sage Whitworth. All participants are Queerspawns between the ages of 17 and 26 who currently live in Toronto.

Rahim Thawer is a recent MSW graduate with multiple experiences working in the HIV-sector that include being a coordinator at ASAAP and currently working as a Bathhouse Counsellor with the ACT. Rahim was also part of the documentary Brown Like Me.

Alex Thomas and Jade Pichette are the education coordinators at PTS, the centre for the celebration of sexual orientation and gender diversity in Ottawa. Alex is the Trans Action coordinator whom gives trans inclusivity training and recently completed an audit of trans inclusivity in social services in Ottawa. Jade is the Creating Safer Spaces coordinator and gives workshops on how youth, educators and service providers can be queer inclusive and challenge queerphobia.

David Udayasekaran became involved in T.E.A.C.H. in 2003 when he joined the program as a volunteer. As the Peer Educator for the program he now supports youth in delivering anti-homophobia workshops. He is dedicated to ideals of equity and anti-oppression. He has a background in sex education and as a public speaker. His experience as a queer South Asian man gives him a different perspective than many who do this work and thus informs much of his work and activism.

Onyii Udegbe is the sprOUT Project Coordinator at the Griffin Centre's ReachOUT Program. sprOUT is all about connecting lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning people labelled with intellectual disabilities across Ontario. Within Griffin Centre, ReachOUT is a creative, inclusive & accessible program for lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, and queer youth and adults in the Greater Toronto Area. Activities include drop-in groups, community outreach, counselling, consultation, art & skills exchange. Onyii is also producer and director of the short video *Everyday Monsters*. She has published several pieces of creative non-fiction, her work is also published in the *Journal of Literary and Cultural Disability Studies* (2010).

Richard Utama has been involved in HIV/AIDS field as volunteer and staff for ten years and is the Men's Sexual Health Coordinator at ACAS. He and his colleague, Daniel Le, spearheaded the first S.L.A.M! in November 2009. He hopes to continue his work in HIV/AIDS by integrating Harm Reduction principle and cultural appropriate programming for Asian men.

Oth Vilaythong Tran is pursuing a Master's degree in the Social and Personality Psychology Program at York University. His research interests are reducing prejudice, person perception, and visual attention. In particular, he investigates how individuation and categorization of ingroup and outgroup members affect visual attention and memory. He is also interested in how anti-gay prejudice can be reduced and its relationship to specific emotions.

Chris Veldhoven works at The 519 Church Street Community Centre in Toronto where he coordinates Queer Parenting Programs - a variety of family planning courses, family resource drop-ins, events and community advocacy initiatives which focus on honoring sexual orientation and gender identity diversity in families. In his role at The 519, Chris recently spearheaded a survey assessing support needed by families with gender independent children in Ontario. More at www.the519.org

Tess Vo is the Supervisor of Community Connections and the ReachOUT Program at Griffin Centre. ReachOUT is a creative, inclusive & accessible program for lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, and queer youth and adults in the Greater Toronto Area. Activities include drop-in groups, community outreach, counselling, consultation, art & skills exchange. Tess has worked in nonprofit organizations in Toronto and New York City, and is also the producer and director of the award winning documentary *Our Compass*, created in collaboration with LGBTQ youth labelled with intellectual disabilities.

j wallace is part of the Equity and Inclusive Education team for the Halton District Schoolboard, with a particular focus on sexual orientation and gender identity. Outside of school, j is a professional trainer assisting organizations to become inclusive and welcoming spaces for people of all gender identities and sexual orientations. More at www.juxtaposeconsulting.com

Jillian Watkins is a PhD candidate studying Health Policy in the Department of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation at the University of Toronto. Jillian previously studied Gerontology at the University of Guelph and has extensive experience researching the delivery of health care services for frail seniors. Jillian's doctoral research explores the personal experiences of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender seniors receiving home and community care services in Toronto, Ontario.

Jillian Watkins est candidate au doctorat au Department of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation de l'Université de Toronto. Elle a d'abord réalisé des études en gérontologie à l'Université de Guelph et possède une vaste expérience dans la recherche sur la prestation de soins de santé aux aînés les plus fragiles. Les recherches doctorales qu'elle poursuit explorent les expériences personnelles des aînés lesbiennes, gais, bisexuels et transgenres qui ont reçu des soins à domicile ou des soins en santé communautaire à Toronto, en Ontario.

Phyllis Waugh is a Community Outreach Worker with Rainbow Health Ontario. Her background includes 30 years of activism in LGBT and other social justice issues; working at Toronto Western Hospital and other hospitals; and working as an artist. A founding member of the Rainbow Health Network (RHN), she led RHN's Training for Change project, which developed educational materials from an integrated anti-oppression framework.

Kimberley White works as an Associate Professor of Law and Society and Chair of the Department of Social Science at York University in Toronto. Her research examines cultural representations of mental illness/health, identities of citizenship, the production of knowledge and mental health policy. She is also an artist and, most significantly for the purposes of this conference, the parent of Sadie, an insightful and outspoken gender non-conforming six year old.

Charmaine Williams is an associate professor at the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work where she holds the Factor-Inwentash Chair in Social Work in Health and Mental Health. Her research bridges practice and access and equity issues that affect access to primary health care for racial minority women, HIV prevention in the Black communities, psychosocial interventions in the health care system and individual and family experience of living with serious and persistent mental illnesses.

Christina Yager has a Masters of Social Work Degree from the University of Toronto and a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and a certificate in lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender studies from Queen's University. Christina currently works as a therapist in Rainbow Services in the Addictions Program at the Centre for Addictions and Mental Health.

June Yee is an Associate Professor at Ryerson University, School of Social Work and Academic Coordinator for the Chang School's Internationally Educated Social Work Professionals (IESW) Program. As an anti-racism scholar and worker, June has worked in organizational development change processes in the workplace and in community based research. More broadly, she works in the areas of health, education, and social services in Canada and in the United Kingdom. She has authored articles, such as "Whiteout: Looking for Race in Canadian Social Work Practice" and "Critical Anti-Racism Praxis: The Concept of Whiteness Implicated." In 2002, she received the Professor of the Year Award for her excellence in research, teaching

and scholarship at Ryerson and, in 2008, she received the Leaders in the Community Award from the Ontario Association of Social Workers.

Andrea Zanin has been an LGBTQ and BDSM community organizer and activist for over 12 years, and has taught hundreds of seminars on BDSM in Canada, the US and internationally for universities, healthcare service providers, conferences and sex shops. She is currently pursuing a PhD in women's studies at York University with a focus on BDSM and Canadian leatherdyke history. Andrea co-organizes the annual Canadian leatherdyke weekend An Unholy Harvest and runs a book club for perverts called The Leather Bindings Society. She writes for Xtra! Toronto, Capital Xtra! and the Montreal Mirror and blogs at sexgeek.wordpress.com.

Art Zoccole is Anishinawbe Ogokwe from Lac des mille Lacs First Nation in Ontario and resides in Toronto. Art has been involved in activism for the last three decades on issues relating to Aboriginal people and HIV/AIDS. Art is a member of the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care's Hepatitis C Task Force; President, Board of Directors, the Ontario Aboriginal HIV/AIDS Strategy; Chair of the Board of Directors for the Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network, a past community member on the National Aboriginal Council on HIV/AIDS, an advisory body to the Public Health Agency of Canada, and an advisory member of the Ontario Gay Men's Sexual Health Provincial Advisory Body. Art is currently the Executive Director of 2-Spirited People of the 1st Nations (a not-for-profit Aboriginal social service agency with members comprised of Aboriginal two spirit, gay lesbian, bi-sexual, transgendered and intersexed individuals).

Krin Zook has worked both as a youth counsellor and an anti-homophobia trainer for the past 14 years. She is currently the coordinator of the Out and Proud Program of Children's Aid Society of Toronto. She has presented workshops on LGBTQ issues to teachers, social workers, police, and professional associations in Ontario. It was also her great fortune to work for nine years in the Triangle School Program through the Toronto District School Board as a Youth Counsellor.