



LGBTQ and 2S Preliminary Community Consultations

Presented by: Jocelyn Heaton & Kyra Kozole



Presentation Agenda

1. Introduction
2. Information about research
3. Future plans
4. Concluding remarks



Introduction

Who we are?

- Third-year Political Science students at McMaster
- Political Science 3PR3 Placement course, Research Assistants in the Office of Aidan Johnson



Current Coordinator at the Women and Gender Equity Network (WGEN) of the McMaster Student Union



Current President of SwimAbility Hamilton

Information about Research

Upcoming Needs Assessment...

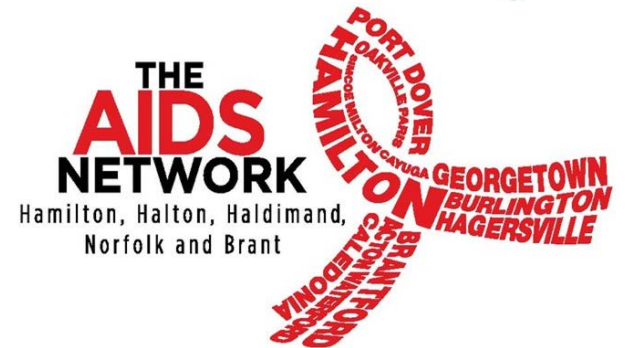
Researchers:

- Suzanne Mills
- Christ Borst
- Janice Lee
- Danielle Walton
- Chris Todd-Kane
- Marina Fensham
- James Diemert
- Mariko Bown-Kai
- Many more.....

Needs Assessment:

- Community driven initiative
- Consultations with diverse members of Hamilton's LGBTQ community
- Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Engage grant in partnership with the Aids Network
- Online Survey to be released in May 2018

McMaster
University





Previous needs assessments

- Report on the Needs Assessment of the LGBTQ Community of Hamilton (Social Planning & Research Council of Hamilton)- 2007
- Needs Assessment of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (LGBTQ) Community of Hamilton (City of Hamilton)- 2008

Needs assessment in progress:

- The AIDSNetwork, in collaboration with Dr. Suzanne Mills of the Department of Labour Studies at McMaster, and other community stakeholders



Community Consultations

- Deirdre Pike
 - Columnist at the Hamilton Spectator
 - Liberal candidate
 - Senior Social Planner with the Social Planning and Research Council
- Cole Gatley
 - Transgender activist
 - Leader of the Hamilton Trans Health Coalition
- Lyndon George
 - Indigenous Justice Coordinator at the Hamilton Legal Clinic
- More...

Our conclusions...

- Lack of services, especially for marginalized members of the LGBTQ and Two Spirit community
- Desire for permanent access to a safe organizing space
 - The Well was Hamilton's previous LGBTQ+ space
- Need for further research following the upcoming needs assessment...





City Staff meeting support

Attendees

- **Chris Herstek**- Director of Recreations
- **Jodi Koch**- Manager of Talent and Diversity
- **Courtney Groves**- Program Lead for Inclusion and Program Development
- **Cole Gately**
- More...

Discussion

- Use of existing recreational space and infrastructure
 - No guarantee of safe and inclusive space
- Hiring and consultation of LGBTQ and Two Spirit communities
 - Relevant representation is necessary for fully inclusive spaces and practices

Future Plans

Future stability for LGBTQ +2S Hamiltonians

- Awareness and openness towards the upcoming Needs Assessment and what the findings reveal about the LGBTQ and Two Spirit communities' needs
- Support of future efforts to assess the feasibility of creating permanent space for LGBTQ and Two Spirit community members



Concluding Remarks