



Uniting Niagara's Sexual and Gender Diverse Community

*Informed, Inclusive, Indivisible:
Collectively Advancing 2SLGBTQ+
Equality in Niagara+ Project*

Background



- Founded in 2004 focused on uniting Niagara's sexual and gender-diverse community
- Member based organization
- Mission:
 - Celebrate, inform, support and collaborate with the sexual and gender-diverse community of Niagara
 - Contribute to the success of our partner organizations
 - Preserve Niagara 2SLGBTQQIA+history
- Core Values
 - P artnerships
 - R emembrance
 - I nformation
 - D iversity
 - E mpowerment

Current work



- [2SLGBTQQIA+ Community Fund](#)
- Community Events
 - Culture Days 2020
 - Trans Day of Remembrance
 - Trans Day of Visibility
 - 2SLGBTQ+ Film Series (tabling)
 - Support for municipal flag raisings, and pride crosswalks
- Online Campaigns
- Advocacy Work
- [Informed, Inclusive, Indivisible: Collectively Advancing 2SLGBTQQIA+ Equality in Niagara+](#)

www.outniagara.org
info@outniagara.ca
IG & FB: @outniagara

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Indivisible: Collectively
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Equality in Niagara+*

Canada 



Women and Gender
Equality Canada

Femmes et Égalité
des genres Canada

- Awarded \$299,941 from the Department of Women and Gender Equality Canada (formerly the Department for the Status of Women), under their LGBTQ2 Community Capacity Fund
- OUT IN Niagara (a community advisory with representation from across the 12 Niagara municipalities)
- Community Strengths & Needs Assessment
 - Surveys, Participatory Mapping, Focus Groups, Arts Workshops
- Internal governance develop & strategic planning
- Niagara District CUPE Council is an identified partner in project

Role in the project

- Provide representation on a project Advisory Committee(s) and/or sub-committee(s) to help ensure that diverse perspectives within the community are part of all aspects of the project and/or share my organization's specific expertise
- Share studies, reports and/or other documents that may be relevant to the information being gathered through the Asset Mapping and Needs Assessment
- Distribute surveys, invitations and information as part of the Asset Mapping and Needs Assessment
- Assist with recruitment of participants and/or provision of space for focus groups, interviews, arts-based sessions, and/or other in-person activities that form part of the Asset Mapping and Needs Assessment
- Participate in sharing information about the work of the organization with the 2SLGBTQ+ community and identifying the priorities and needs of the organization to strengthen this work
- Provide feedback on initial findings and/or a draft report of the Asset Mapping and Needs Assessment
- Participate in planning activities as they may arise out of the Asset Mapping and Needs Assessment, as part of strengthening and ensuring sustainability of ongoing and/or new collaborations arising out of this project
- Participate in training sessions relevant to my organization as they may arise out of the Asset Mapping and Needs Assessment, as part of strengthening the network serving 2SLGBTQ+ communities in Niagara

Project Goals



- Increase data related to the 2SLGBTQQIA+ populations across the 12 municipalities in the Niagara region
- Prioritize the voices and communities often left out of these community conversations: QTBIPOC, rural/ remote, over adults, youth, and francophone communities
- Publish & share a community informed Community Strengths & Needs Assessment Report that can be widely shared with our community partners
- Use recommendations in report to implement needed changes for 2SLGBTQQIA+ people in the region
- Expand the capacity of OUTniagara to offer more to the region

Achievements to date



- Honouraria at all levels of participation
- Creation OUT IN Niagara - the OUTniagara regional advisory committee
- Agencies and Partners working group
- Participatory mapping, key informant interviews, survey, partners presentation
- Working with consultants from across Ontario
 - Wisdom2Action
 - Decolonize Now
- Updated Bylaws and currently elected more and new Board members



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BEYOND THE RAINBOW

RESOURCE SYLLABUS

- A collection of online self-education resources covering topics across various 2SLGBTQQIA+ experiences, identities, and communities
- Within each topic includes recommendations of books, zines, articles, podcasts, and videos, as well as organizations, activists, artists, and accounts to follow.
- We will be publishing 3 volumes of Beyond the Rainbow via PDFs. As we published the updated volumes, we will be adding those resource sections to this page! The first two volumes will look at non-fiction topics and the third will cover arts and fiction
- www.outniagara.org/resources/beyondtherainbow
- In Vol. 2, we will be adding a section for Labour/ Workers

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BEYOND THE RAINBOW

RESOURCE SYLLABUS

Resource Recommendations!

- **CLC Resource (2019): WORKERS IN TRANSITION: A Practical Guide for Union Representatives and Trans Union Members**
 - <https://canadianlabour.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/WorkersInTransition-Guide-EN.pdf>
- **Teen Vogue Article (2019): How LGBTQ Union Activists Transformed the Labor Movement**
 - <https://www.teenvogue.com/story/lgbtq-union-activists-transformed-the-labor-movement>
- **CUPE 905 Video (2020): Celebrating Queer Activism in the Labour Movement**
 - "Celebrating Queers in the Labour Movement," a panel hosted by CUPE 905's LGBTQ Committee. Speakers include CUPE Ontario President, Fred Hahn, Activist & lawyer, Adrienne Smith and Writer/Activist Paige Galette.
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3v_FVX4hKF0
- **Your Queer Story Podcast (2021): Radicals & Laborers**
 - <https://open.spotify.com/episode/3Jf0XtBSWc3J3PUhegFvjm>

What's ahead for the project



- Small community group discussions
 - QTBIPOC, Rural/remote, Francophone
 - www.outniagara.org/community-project
- [Creative submission option](#) still open until Nov 22 at 1pm
- Launch & presentation of the results of Community Strengths & Needs Assessment - future presentation?
- Strategic Planning & implementation process for OUTniagara
- Ongoing dialogues with community partners (Equity Committee, trainings, etc.)
- Building an action plan within your spaces to continue to work with OUTniagara
- Issue and skills based workshops & community education
- Participate in the [Niagara Region Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Community Survey](#) (different than the OUTniagara survey)

Ongoing supports



- Review your policies & trainings related to 2SLGBTQQIA+ solidarity and supports. If you need updated trainings, get in contact and we can help connect you!
- Use the OUTniagara Community Calendar at www.outniagara.org/events to post and see updates about community events
- Stay connected to OUTniagara
 - Follow us on social media (Facebook, Instragram, Twitter)
 - Share updates with your communities
- Become an annual OUTniagara member at www.outniagara.org/our-community/membership
- Become a donor/ financial sustainer so we can continue this work!



*A gathering to honor trans lives that have been lost
and find strength in community*

November 20, 2021

2-4 PM

Virtual Panel | Performances | Trans-Inclusive Resources |
Limited In-Person Live Screening of Event

Register via Eventbrite

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/niagara-transgender-day-of-remembrance-virtual-gathering-tickets-207433177217>

*This event is hosted by
the Niagara Transgender Action Coalition
(NTAC), a group made up of Trans individuals
and community organizations including:*



Eventbrite registration link: www.eventbrite.ca/e/niagara-transgender-day-of-remembrance-virtual-gathering-tickets-207433177217

Questions?

- Website - www.outniagara.org
- Project - www.outniagara.org/community-project
- Social media ([Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#)) - @outniagra
- General Inquiries/ Board of Directors - info@outniagara.ca
- Project Specific/ Staff - kerry@outniagara.ca or kate@outniagara.ca

