



STRENGTHENING THE STATUS QUEER:

A LEADERSHIP
SYMPOSIUM FOR AND
BY QUEER PEOPLE

Friday Oct. 20, 2023 (all day)
at The University of Manitoba
(Faculty of Education)

mts THE
MANITOBA
TEACHERS'
SOCIETY



University
of Manitoba



RRC
POLYTECH



CANADA RESEARCH CHAIRS
CHAIRES DE RECHERCHE DU CANADA

Program of Events

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2023

Faculty of Education, University of Manitoba
71 Curry Place, Winnipeg, MB

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| 8:00 am – 8:30 am | Registration |
| 9:00 am – 10:00 am | Opening Keynote |
| 10:15 am – 11:45 am | Breakout Sessions
(choose one A session) |
| 11:45 am – 12:30 pm | Lunch |
| 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm | Queer Leader Panel |
| 1:45 pm – 3:15 pm | Breakout Sessions
(choose one B session) |

STRENGTHENING
THE STATUS
QUEER

Cost

REGULAR: \$40

UNEMPLOYED: \$20

BEEd UNIVERSITY: FREE

The Manitoba Teachers' Society respects safe spaces for everyone. Photos will be taken during the Symposium and might be shared on our website, publications and social media. By attending this event, you may be included in these photos. If you do not consent to being in a photo please let us know. While all efforts will be made to respect your decision, there may be circumstances where this is not possible.



- Join us for the Qmunity event from 3:30 PM - 9:00 PM
@ The Faculty of Education Building Room 200



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Schedule

Opening Keynote	9:00 am – 10:00 am	Dr. Andrew Campbell
A Sessions	10:15 am – 11:45 am	<div><div>A1</div>Microaggressions in the Workplace</div> <div><div>A2</div>Creating and Implementing Diversity Policies and Advocacy</div> <div><div>A3</div>Educational Reform</div> <div><div>A4</div>Queer Storytelling, and Why It's Important</div>
LUNCH	11:45 am – 12:30 pm	
Queer Leader Panel	12:30 pm – 1:30 pm	Chris Yendt; Tannys Moffatt, Lindsay Brown (Moderator)
B Sessions	1:45 pm – 3:15 pm	<div><div>B1</div>Stigma and Mental Health</div> <div><div>B2</div>Queer Leadership in the Research</div> <div><div>B3</div>Disrupting Racism/Anti-black Racism as Educators: Presence, Pedagogy, & Practice</div> <div><div>B4</div>Queering Education</div>

Opening Keynote – Andrew Campbell, OISE (Antiracist Queer Praxis in Educational Leadership)

TIME: 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM

LOCATION: SMALL LECTURE HALL

DR. ANDREW CAMPBELL



LEADING WITH PRIDE

Often as leaders we have the opportunity to ask questions and gain the responses. We are in spaces where others are accountable to us. In this engagement I ask leaders seven questions that I use as my personal guide as I think about my leadership journey, invest in my growth, and work to ensure my impact and influence. This leadership conversation with queer leaders will draw attention to the continued learning, unlearning, resistance, empathy and love needed in our schools and communities where 2SLGBTQIA+ members remain “invisible” due to a myriad of reasons.

Dr. Andrew B. Campbell (DR.ABC) is an Assistant Professor, Teaching Stream in Leadership for Racial Justice in Education, and the Teaching and Learning Coordinator for the Master of Teaching program in the Department of Curriculum, Teaching and Learning (CTL) at the University of Toronto – Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE). DR.ABC is well known to the OISE community for his leadership on advancing anti-discrimination work in teacher education, and recently received OISE's 2022 award for Excellence in Initial Teacher Education.

A1 Microaggressions in the Workplace

PRESENTER: CHANTAL RAMRAJ

TIME: 10:15 AM – 11:45 AM

This workshop aims to engage participants in collaborative discussion about pushing back against the interpersonal and structural violence perpetrated against many 2SLGBTQIA+ educators in the workplace. Participants will walk away with strategies to establish networks of support within their own communities, and to build coalitions with folks from other marginalized groups.

CHANTAL RAMRAJ



Chantal Shivanna Ramraj (she/they) is a 34-year-old non-binary, queer teacher from Winipihk/Gaa-okosing (Treaty 1 Territory). They are a descendent of Indo-Guyanese indentured labourers. Chantal recently completed a Masters of Education in Social Justice Education. She loves teaching and is interested in how education workers can organize ourselves best to respond to the challenges of our times.

A2 Creating and Implementing Diversity Policies and Advocacy

PRESENTERS: CAMERON GRANT & JESSY DAME

TIME: 10:15 AM – 11:45 AM

This workshop will focus on connecting with conference attendees to ensure all of us are in the same path of responsibility related to creating and implementing policies for change. Key topics will include advocacy, 2SLGBTQ, the role of unions with respect to 2SLGBTQ rights, allyship, supporting each other and challenging ego to become responsible.

JESSY DAME



Jessy Dame is a very proud Two-Spirit, Métis, Certified Registered Nurse. Jessy's family is from Treaty 1 and 2 territory, which is known today as Winnipeg and St Rose-du-lac. Jessy has worked within Neonatal/Postnatal health. He currently works casually within a queer sexual health clinic in downtown Vancouver. Jessy is the Indigenous Sex and Gender Leader within the Indigenous Wellness team and the Two-Spirit Program Manager with the Community Based Research Centre. Through these roles Jessy is able to work with and for the Two-Spirit community to create resources and advocate for services.

CAMERON GRANT



Cameron strives to represent the interests of Northern Ontario. Passionate about the socio-economic landscape of the North, he keeps LGBTQIA+, climate change, Indigenous relations, renewable generation and the natural resource sector at the heart of his advocacy work. He is a founding member and Director for the Federation des gens d'affaires de l'Ontario, a public appointee to the Ontario Trillium Foundation, and a director for the Timmins and District Hospital. He was also instrumental in re-establishing the Independent Arts Council for Timmins. He previously sat on the Boards of the Public Affairs Association of Canada, and the Ontario Caucus Advisory

Council and as Provincial Co-chair for the Governor General's Canadian Leadership Conference. Engaged in the community, Cameron divides his time between the various non-profit organizations that seek to advance arts and culture in Timmins. He has been a long-time member of the Timmins Symphony Orchestra as a classical violinist and Director of the Board. He fulfils his love of winter sport, coaching the Timmins Ski Racers and as President and Chair of Mount Jamieson Resort.

A3 Educational Reform

PRESENTER: CHRIS CAMPBELL

TIME: 10:15 AM – 11:45 AM

This workshop will include a presentation of Manitoba's recent legislative reform effort, Bill 64, and public response, with a particular focus on the potential impacts on 2SLGBTQ+ content and people; the role of leadership in education and in the context of reform; and discussion on navigating systemic oppressions in education policy change.

CHRIS CAMPBELL



Chris Campbell (he/him) is a PhD candidate in the Faculty of Education at the University of Manitoba. His work focuses on education reform efforts in Manitoba, specifically looking at the attempted reform effort introduced by Bill 64, The Education Modernization Act, and its potential impacts for 2SLGBTQIA+ students and content. He is a white settler living and working in Winnipeg on Treaty One territory. Chris worked for 10 years as research project coordinator on the RISE Research Program (uwinnipeg.ca/rise) on various projects focusing on 2SLGBTQ+-expansive education.

A4 Queer Storytelling, and Why It's Important

PRESENTER: CARLA E. HERNANDEZ

TIME: 10:15 AM – 11:45 AM

In this session Carla will be sharing how queer representation, and queer stories helped save her life.

CARLA E. HERNANDEZ



Carla E. Hernandez (She/Her/They/Them) is an award-winning filmmaker, projection designer, and content creator focused on sharing stories about the beautiful & the hard. Carla is a member of the LGBTQ+ and Latinx communities, and is driven to bring awareness, education, and support through her art. Stay connected with Carla here: linktr.ee/carlaeher

Queer Leader Panel

PANEL SPEAKERS: CHRIS YENDT, TANNYS MOFFATT, GWENDELYN FREEHEART, MACKAYLA TAYLOR, LINDSAY BROWN (MODERATOR)

TIME: 12:30 PM – 1:30 PM

TANNYS MOFFATT



Tannys (she/her) is an educator in the Winnipeg School Division and a member of the Manitoba Teachers' Society Teacher-Led Learning Team. Primarily a science teacher, she has been involved in planning and

implementing alternative programming for students needing additional academic, social-emotional, mental health and behavioural supports. She is a strong advocate for anyone who may feel marginalized by a binary and heteronormative society.

CHRIS YENDT



Christopher/C. Yendt (he/they) is a PhD Candidate in the Faculty of Education at UM as well as a certified teacher and student leader. They are passionate about exploring the experiences of queer student

leaders and challenging systems that continue to marginalize student voices. Their research focuses on reconceptualizing the notion of leader by (re) centering the student voice within discussions of leadership within post-secondary education spaces.

GWENDELYN FREEHEART



My name is Gwendelyn Freeheart and I'm a 19 year old non-binary person. I am passionate about movies, music, Guinea pigs, and advocating for queer rights!

MACKAYLA TAYLOR



Tansi! Nizho Misko Miigoganog nisithikason! Hello my spirit name is Two Red Feathers, and my name is Mackayla Taylor. I am a Two-Spirit Indigi-queer individual. After my second year of high school I took on

the role of caregiver to my grandfather, I am now first year University Student! I am currently doing the University 1 program, working towards a career in Social Work primarily action therapy. I actively advocate for rights within the LGBTQIA2S+ community, and have a passion to educate people on issues regarding Indigenous people.

While in my last years of high school, I mentored and worked alongside other Queer Indigenous youth, and helped them understand that their sexuality didn't define who they were as an individual. This was a highlight for me, especially because not only did I not have someone to turn to when my sexuality became a conversation starter. But because I was raised by people of the older generation who didn't accept or understand my sexuality until later in my life.

LINDSAY BROWN



Lindsay Brown is a classroom teacher, a member of the Seven Oaks Teachers' Association, and a Member-at-Large on the MTS Provincial Executive. Lindsay is currently a lead facilitator with QUESO:

Queering Seven Oaks, a collaborative network of 2SLGBTQIA+ educators promoting queer-expansive education.

B1 Stigma and Mental Health

PRESENTER: SHAYNE REITMEIER

TIME: 1:45 PM – 3:15 PM

This presentation outlines how being a queer leader in a stigmatized environment has implications on personal health and wellness.

Topics that will be examined include: **stigma, mental health, leadership, sexual and gender diversity.**

SHAYNE REITMEIER



Dr. Shayne Reitmeier is a rural physician working in Southern Health. He has been recognized both locally and nationally for his leadership and advocacy. Dr. Reitmeier completed his education at the University of Manitoba, and was a 2018 Distinguished Alumni Award Recipient. He is one of the only physicians in rural Manitoba who visibly and proudly provides consults for gender-affirming care, healthy sexuality, and harm reduction.

B2 Queer Leadership in the Research

PRESENTER: ROBERT MIZZI

TIME: 1:45 PM – 3:15 PM

This workshop features current research involving queer leaders and explores why their involvement is crucial towards advancing inclusion.

Topics that will be examined include: **Queer leaders; struggles; barriers; anti-homophobia education; leadership education.**

DR. ROBERT MIZZI



Robert C. Mizzi is the Canada Research Chair in Queer, Community and Diversity Education and Associate Professor in the Faculty of Education at the University of Manitoba, Canada. He has over 200 publications and presentations, including articles published in the Journal of Homosexuality and the International Journal of Educational Policy and Leadership. He has also published five books, with the most recent being the Handbook of Adult and Continuing Education in 2020.

B3 Disrupting Racism/Anti-black Racism as Educators: Presence, Pedagogy, & Practice

PRESENTER: ANDREW CAMPBELL

TIME: 1:45 PM – 3:15 PM

"Advocacy often has no manual. It is more about being brave and standing between the vulnerable and power. It is a brave space. It is an exposed space." (DR.ABC, June 17, 2020).

Doing the work of advocacy and anti-racist work as educators **within** the system is challenging as you are situated closer to the issues and closer to the systems of oppression. You are part of the very system you wish to disrupt. This workshop will engage participants to examine the urgency with which change must happen within our schools and classrooms to disrupt and dismantle racism, hate, anti-Black racism, inequities, oppressive practices, and denials. We will examine the ways in which educators can do this work within their practice and pedagogy.

ANDREW CAMPBELL



Dr. Andrew B. Campbell (DR.ABC) is an Assistant Professor, Teaching Stream in Leadership for Racial Justice in Education, and the Teaching and Learning Coordinator for the Master of Teaching program in the Department of Curriculum, Teaching and Learning (CTL) at the University of Toronto – Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE). DR.ABC is well known to the OISE community for his leadership on advancing anti-discrimination work in teacher education, and recently received OISE's 2022 award for Excellence in Initial Teacher Education.

B4 Queering Education

PRESENTER: JAKE BERGEN

TIME: 1:45 PM – 3:15 PM

LOCATION: Room 200, Faculty of Education, University of Manitoba

This workshop will be a space to learn and share practical strategies for implementing support. This workshop will cover: cis-heteronormativity in schools, the need and basis for supporting 2SLGBTQ+ students in Manitoba, areas where teachers and implement support, priorities from students across Canada, and relevant teaching strategies and resources.

JAKE BERGEN



Dr. Jake Bergen (they/them) works in teacher education at the University of Winnipeg and facilitates research in social studies, anti-oppressive pedagogy, 2SLGBTQ+ inclusivity, and mental health. Jake is also a director on the boards of Trans Sask, a research and advocacy organization for Two Spirit, trans, nonbinary, and gender nonconforming people, and New Directions, a non-profit providing support services for marginalized and people with disabilities in Manitoba. Teacher Education.

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Notes

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