# Generational Allies Allies

Module 1

Produced by:



### TERRITORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We would like to acknowledge and extend our respect to the communities and Nations of the Lekwungen and WSÁNEĆ Peoples, specifically the Songhees, and Esquimalt Nations on whose unceded territories we are privileged to work, live and play. Within the context of this project, we recognize the inherent connection between colonialism and systemic oppression and strive to work toward peaceful, and mutually beneficial ends.

Please extend this acknowledgement to the Nations and communities whose territories you are currently in and participating in this workshop from. You may find the names of the Nations at: <a href="http://www.antiviolenceproject.org/about/territory-acknowledgement">http://www.antiviolenceproject.org/about/territory-acknowledgement</a>

### THINGS TO HAVE HANDY

Please be sure to have a pen or pencil and some paper to write a few things down during the workshop, or if you prefer to write on your computer feel free to do that.

There will be a few instances where you will be asked to write things down for yourself or possibly for a small group.

Please download the one page handout (print it if you like) and use it as a guide for the workshop module.

2SLGBTQIA+
History
Timeline
2SLGBTQIA+ HISTORY TIMELINE

In the left margin of each page of this presentation you will find a milestone in Two-Spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex and Allies plus (2SLGBTQIA+) history.

As you go through the workshop, please consider these points in history and let them help you imagine the context of the stories you are witnessing and the issues you are discussing.



"John Tanner (he/him) a white American living in the Great Lakes and Red River regions, writes about an encounter with an Ojibwe community member, a person who, "...was one of those who make themselves women (...) They are commonly called A-go-kwa..." (Tanner, 1830, p. 105) "

- MMIWG2SLGBTQQIA+ National Action Plan Final Report

# 2SLGBTQIA+ HISTORY TIMELINE

This milestone records the presence of people in Indigenous communities, now referred to as Two-Spirit, in the year 1830. The Agokwa in Ojibwe culture, had a name in their language, and an acknowledged cultural role in their society.

2SLGBTQIA+
History
Timeline

#### 1833:

Slavery Abolished in Britain and the Colonies

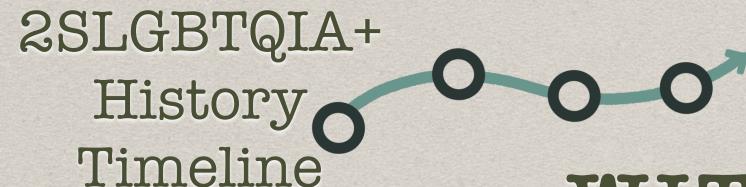
#### 1880-1996:

Residential Schools were initiated and run by the Catholic Church across Canada. The intent was to assimilate Indigenous children into white culture. Thousands of children were killed and abused at the hands of the Catholic Church over this time.

## SAFER SPACE GUIDELINES

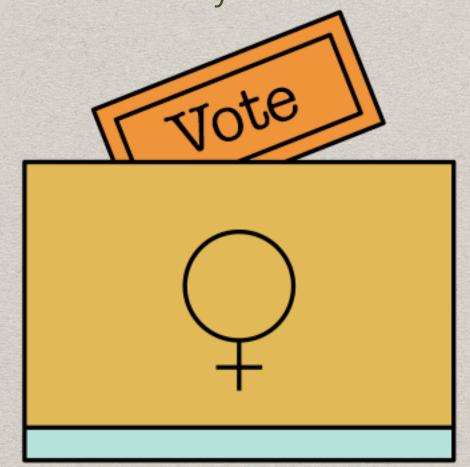
There are many reasons that some people may not feel safe in a group discussion, creating a group agreement is a way to help build trust and encourage positive communication in a group setting.

- Avoid making assumptions about the identity, experiences, and/or histories of other people
- Respect the confidentiality of information and narratives shared with you
- Assume that others are acting and speaking from a place of positive intent
- Be aware of the impacts of your own behaviour and take responsibility for what you say and do
- Respect the physical, mental and emotional boundaries of yourself and others - ask for consent before engaging in physical contact
- Would you like to add or change something?



#### 1916-1940:

White women get the right to vote Provincially in Canada.



#### 1918:

After much lobbying and protest, white women get the right to vote Federally in Canada.

# WITNESSING THE STORIES

#### A note from the workshops developers:

In creating the Generational Allies workshop series, onmyplanet.ca interviewed a number of 2SLGBTQIA+ older adults about their lives and personal experiences. It is our intention to represent all the storytellers, their decisions and their opinions with the utmost of respect and dignity.

We acknowledge the storytellers' courage in stepping forward and we are grateful for their honesty and vulnerability so that others could benefit from their experiences. We acknowledge the incredible value of these stories and offer the storytellers our gratitude for sharing a part of their lives with us.



#### 1944-1949:

Japanese Internment camps in Canada. 21,000 Japanese Canadians confined and/or deported.

#### 1946:

Viola Desmond refused to leave a segregated whitesonly section of the Roseland Theatre in New Glasgow, NS. She is now depicted on the Canadian ten dollar bill.

#### 1948:

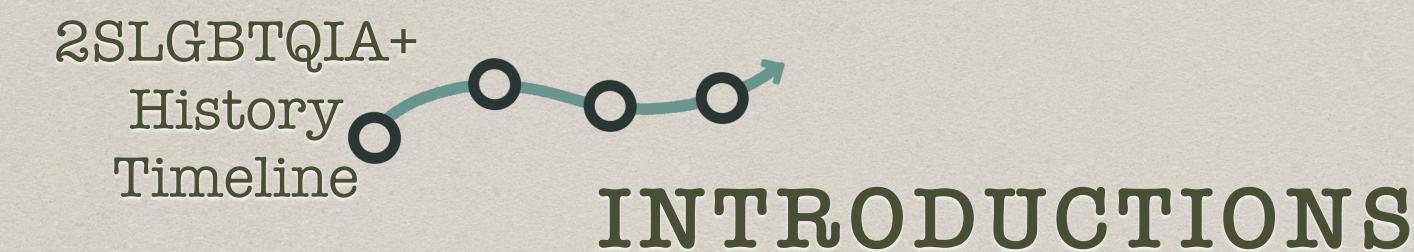
Asians get the right to vote in alignment with the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

# WITNESSING THE STORIES

A note from the workshops developers: Cont'd

Everyone deserves the respect of being heard with an open mind. In witnessing their stories we invite you to participate in an active listening process and thereby become part of the ongoing healing process.

We encourage you to extend the utmost of respect not only to the storytellers in the videos but to each other and to yourselves.



Cooper's Donuts riot in Los Angeles, California.



Please introduce yourself.

Tell the group your first name, your pronouns and one word that describes how you're feeling about being in this workshop.

#### For Example:

Hi, my name is Brian, I use the pronouns He and Him, and I'm excited about today's workshop.

#### Or:

Hi, my name is Chris, I use the pronouns She and Them, and I'm a little nervous about the workshop, but I'm glad it's happening.



Most women of colour get the vote federally in Canada, includes Indigenous peoples. However, this changes the relationship that Indigenous peoples have as Sovereign Nations, with Canada, without consent or discussion.

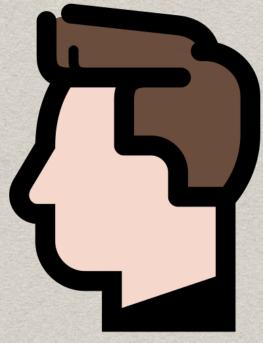
BIPOC

Write down your definition of an 'Ally'.

2SLGBTQIA+
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VIDEO#1

1963:

John F. Kennedy assassinated.



1964:

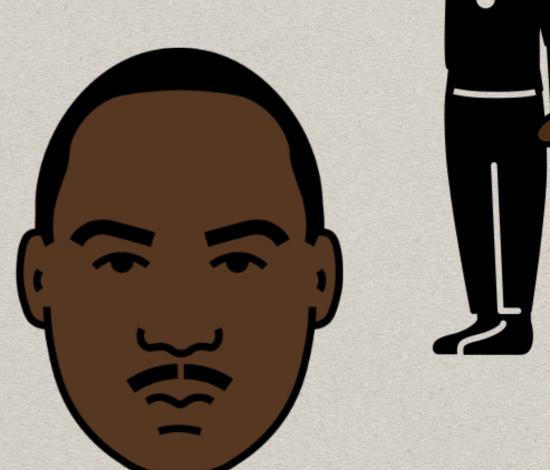
Civil Rights Act in USA.
Ended segregation in public places and banned employment discrimination on the basis of race, colour, sex or national origin.

URL for Video #1 at onmyplanet.ca:

https://onmyplanet.ca/gen-allies-module-5
30 mins.

History O O O Timeline VIDEO #1 - QUESTIONS

1964:
Malcolm X
assassinated.



1968:

Martin Luther King Jr. assassinated.

- Do you have any general questions about anything mentioned in the videos?
- Were there any terms that you didn't understand?

# 2SLGBTQIA+ History Timeline ACTIVITY #2

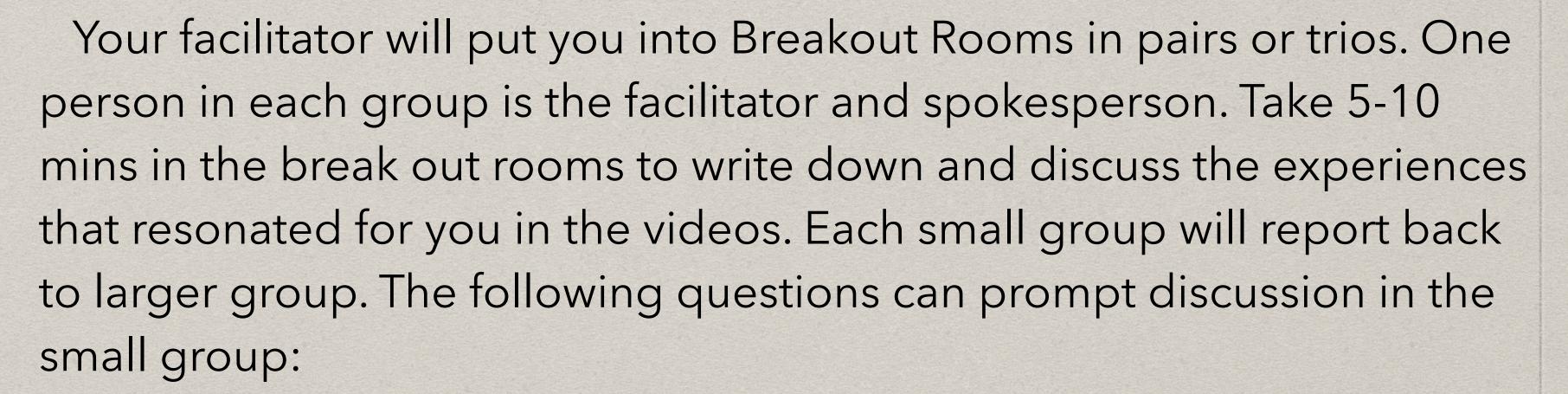
1969:

Decriminalization of
Homosexuality in Canada.
"there's no place for the state
in the bedrooms of the
nation...what's done in
private between adults
doesn't concern the Criminal
Code."

- Pierre Elliot Trudeau

1969:

Stonewall riots in New York, New York, USA



Did you identify with anything that was talked about in the video?

2. How do discrimination, racism and/or sexism affect the lives of the people in the video? How might the combination of these things affect someone's life?

3. List one thing you want to learn more about.





URL for Video #2 at onmyplanet.ca https://onmyplanet.ca/gen-allies-module-5 8 mins.

#### 1970:

FLQ Crisis in Quebec, Canada

#### 1981:

Project Soap - Bath House raids in Toronto, ON, Canada. 300 people arrested. Huge protest followed on June 20th 1981.





1982-Ongoing:

AIDS Crisis throughout North America and globally. Your facilitator will put you into Break Out Rooms in pairs or trios. Try to group with different people than in Activity #1. One person in each group is the facilitator and spokesperson. (Let someone else do it if you did it last time).

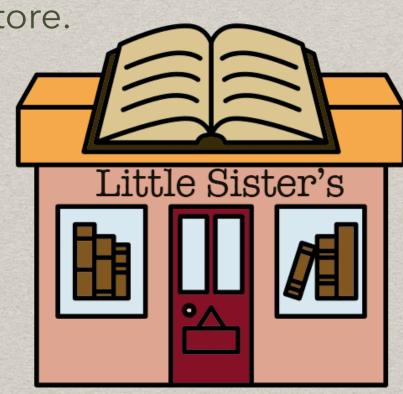
Use the following questions to prompt discussion:

- 1. What is trust? How do you define it?
- 2. How have you built trust within your community? And/or in your personal relationships?
- 3. Describe a situation where someone acted as an ally for you.
- 4. Whose responsibility is it to educate around 2SLGBTQIA+ issues and allyship practices?
- 5. Why is it best to ask how you can help?



#### 1990-2007:

Little Sister's Bookstore Prolonged legal battle with
Canada Border Services
Agency over censorship and
seizure of imported literature
and materials destined for
the bookstore.



1990:

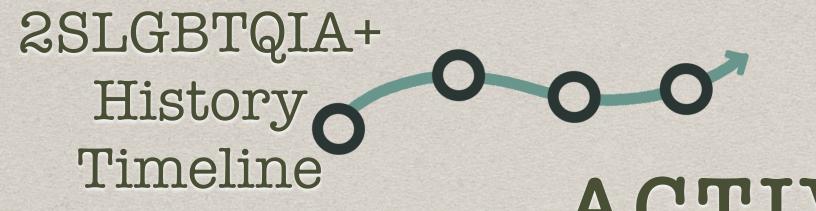
The Gay Games - Held in Vancouver, BC, Canada

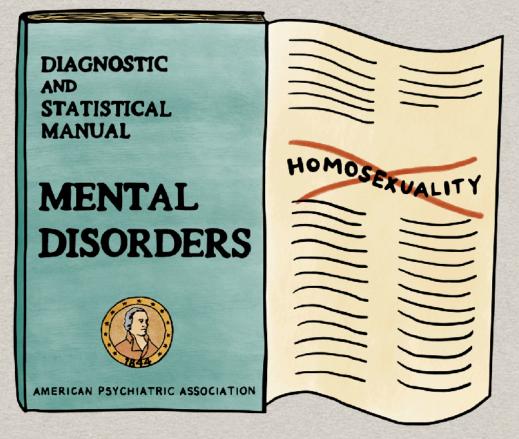
For larger group

Discuss Allyship Techniques section in the handout.

Use examples from the videos or from your own experience.

- 1. **Active Witnessing** making your presence known in the situation.
- 2. **Supportive Actions** correcting pronouns or language use, or discouraging discriminating conversation or put-down comments when the person in question isn't present, regularly including someone in an activity, sitting with or talking to a person who is being bullied.





Homosexuality is removed from the American Psychiatric Association's Diagnostic and Statistical Manual ACTIVITY #4, CONT'D

Discuss Allyship Techniques section in the handout.

Use examples from the videos or from your own experience.

- 3. **Standing Up -** Calling someone out, telling someone when you witness bullying or discrimination like your co-workers, a manager, a counsellor or someone you trust.
- 4. **Calling In** Calling someone in is very similar to calling someone out in taht you are calling attention to oppressive beliefs and behaviour, but it's done with more compassion and offers a conversation and some education. The following article describes the process of Calling In: <a href="http://everydayfeminism.com/2015/01/guide-to-calling-in">http://everydayfeminism.com/2015/01/guide-to-calling-in</a>

2SLGBTQIA+
History
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# A FEW MORE ALLYSHIP TIPS

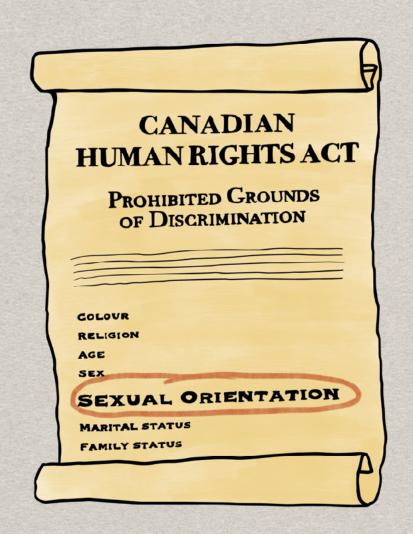


Dr. Myra Laramee shares the concept of Two-Spirit at the gathering of the Annual Native American Gay and Lesbian Gathering in Winnipeg.

-MMIWG2SLGBTQQIA+ National Action Plan Final Report

- There is no one way to be an Ally
- You don't have to understand someone's identity to respect it.
- Identity may not be what you expect it to be. Ask about pronouns, be open to possibilities.
- Continue to educate yourself.





Sexual Orientation added to the list of Prohibited Grounds for Discrimination in the Canadian Human Rights Act Please write down how your definition of an 'Ally' has changed.

Can you share with the group how your definition of 'Ally' has changed?

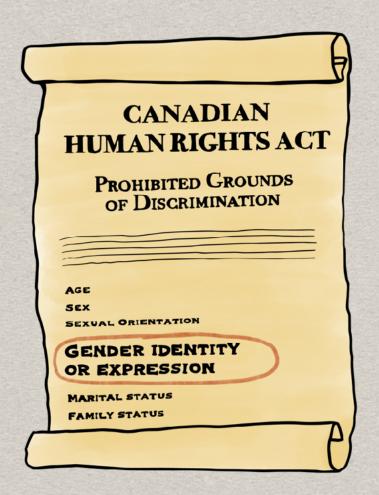
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VIDEO #3



2005:

Same Sex Marriage becomes legal in Canada URL for Video #3 at onmyplanet.ca https://onmyplanet.ca/gen-allies-module-5 10 mins.



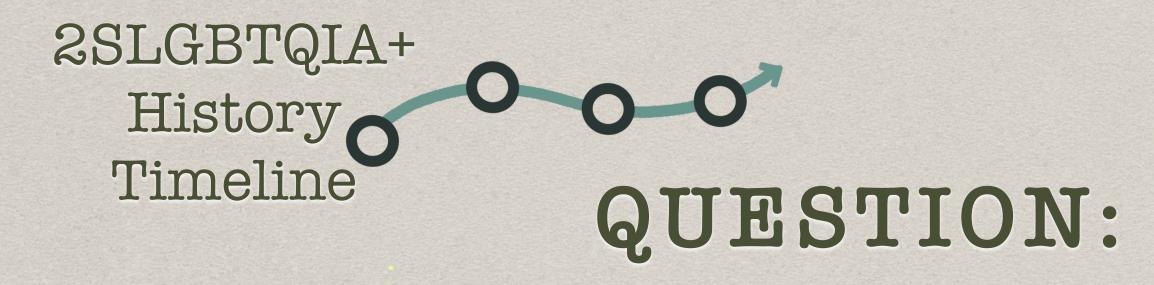


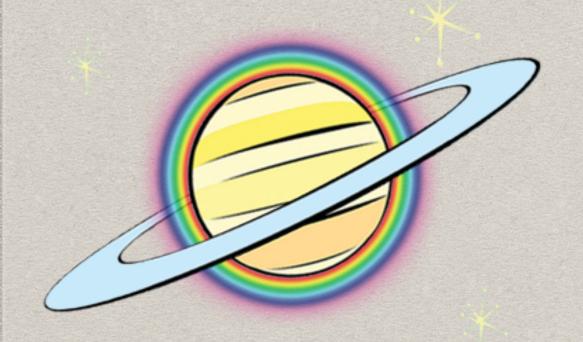
Gender Identity and
Expression added to the list
of Prohibited Grounds for
Discrimination in the
Canadian Human Rights Act.

# ACTIVITY #6

After watching Video #3 discuss the following questions in the larger group:

- 1. How would you apply the allyship techniques in your interaction with 2SLGBTQIA+ seniors and/or youth? Give examples of how these techniques can be used in a number of different situations.
- 2. What can you do in your relationships to foster a sense of belonging? To initiate intergenerational relationships? To develop allies?



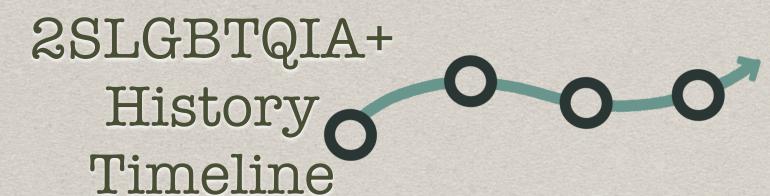


1. What's one thing you can do to be a better Ally?

www.onmyplanet.ca
A queer and trans positive website

#### 2018:

onmyplanet.ca Completes
1st series of Allyship
workshops that promote
2SLGBTQIA+ Inclusion and
Allyship Practices:
GenderAlly.ca



# As y



#### 2022:

onmyplanet.ca Completes
2nd series of workshops
that promote LGBQT2SI+
Inclusion and Allyship
Practices - Generational
generational-allies.ca

# CLOSING THE SESSION

As you leave the space we've created, please keep our Safer Space Agreement in mind.

- 1. Respect the confidentiality of information and narrative that were shared with you.
- 2. Avoid making assumptions about the people that were in the workshops or in the videos.
- 3. Respect the physical, mental and emotional boundaries of others. Always ask for consent.
- 4. Be aware of the impacts of your own behaviour and take responsibility for what you say and do.
- 5. Assume that others are acting and speaking from a place of positive intent.

#### Produced by



# Generational Allies Allies

## THANK YOU

Thank you for participating in this Generational Allies Workshop. We hope it was helpful and gave you some insight into the people in your communities.

Time permitting your facilitator can answer some of your questions or direct you to some resources.

There is a free Terms and Definitions List, and a Resources List available for download on the Generational Allies pages of the <a href="https://onexplanet.ca">onmyplanet.ca</a> website, <a href="https://www.generational-allies.ca">www.generational-allies.ca</a>

If you or a group you're involved in would like to set up another workshop with us, please contact lulu@onmyplanet.ca