

Post-Conference Report

EnVision 2017

November 15-16, 2017

Written by: Jeremy Piamonte, Conferences Coordinator

Introduction

The Toronto District School Board and the Canadian Centre for Gender and Sexual Diversity were excited to partner again for the third annual EnVision Conference, a 2-day conference for over one thousand TDSB secondary and middle school students.

The EnVision conference focused on: identity, self-acceptance, navigating relationships, dealing with and overcoming homophobia, biphobia, transphobia, transmisogyny, bullying, intersectional oppression, and discrimination in our schools and communities. It was two full days of workshops, activities, speakers, and resources and a space to meet other people!

This conference gave students the opportunity to:

- Form meaningful relationships with other questioning, lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, non-binary, gender-queer, gender-fluid and straight youth from across the TDSB.
 - Have the opportunity to express their concerns and have their voices heard by other advocates, teachers, and school board administration
 - Learn the ways that they can create a positive and welcoming environment in their schools
 - How to support other students and teachers who identify in the LGBTQ2S+ community
 - Explore their own identities and their relationships with others
 - Learn how to create healthier relationship behaviours in your life based on awareness, respect and consent
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Schedule

8:30 - 9:00am - Arrival/Registration

9:00 - 9:15am - Opening and Land Acknowledgement

9:15 - 10:00am - Keynote

10:00 - 11:00am - Workshop Session 1

11:00 - 12:15pm - Lunch

12:15 - 1:15pm - Workshop Session 2

1:15 - 3:00pm: Open Space Discussion

Presenters

Ryan G. Hinds; www.ryanghinds.weebly.com: Keynote

Jade Pichette; www.clga.ca : Keeping Queer History Alive

David Stocker; All Gender Washrooms: Make Them Happen!

Doug Kerr and Tasheka Lavann; www.dignityinitiative.ca : Combating Homophobia and Transphobia Internationally

Jennifer Paterson; www.toronto.ca: Social Media Makes My Relationships Awesome! Until it Doesn't...

Andrea Luey; www.jfcy.org : Know Your Rights (And Use Them!)

Chris Veldhoven; www.sherbourne.on.ca: PANEL: Queer and Trans Parenting

Adam Davies; How to Talk to Your Teacher When They Are Closed Minded

SOY Heat; www.soytoronto.ca : Anti-Oppression and Intersectional Identities



- Stephanie Sapienza;** www.ccgds-ccdgs.org : Gender Diversity in Professional Sports
- Farrah Khan;** www.farrahkhan.ca : Totally Rad Queer Muslims
- Lucas Anderson and Miriam Selick;** www.canvas.org : The C-Word: All About Consent
- Joey Vanderwel and Rain Chan;** www.canvas.org : SpeakOUT: LGBTQ2S+ Inclusion in Art
- Wendy DeSouza;** www.metrac.org : Coming Out to Parents
- CJ Chasin and Bess Jarvis;** www.acetoronto.wordpress.ca : Asexual and Aromatic Identities
- Anna Penner and Shayna Sayers-Wolfe;** www.ppt.on.ca : Queering Sex Ed
- Robert Durocher;** Intentionally Embedding Equity in the Classroom
- Berkha Gupta;** www.youthline.ca: Listening to What Young People Are Telling Us
- Makeda Zook and Brittany Neron;** www.sexualhealthandrights.ca: Beyond the Basics: Queer and Trans Positive Sexual Education
- David Udayasekaran;** www.ppt.on.ca: PANEL: Queer/Trans Youth of Colour Kicking A\$\$
- Gabe Thirwall;** DIY Art Project: Art for Change
- Merlin Hargreaves;** www.whitenonsenseroundup.ca: How to be White Anti-Racist Ally in Queer and Trans Spaces
- Yara Kodersshah and Sizwe Inkingi;** www.positivespaces.ca Why are GSAs often White - How do we authentically create spaces that centre BIPOC and Muslim youth?
- Kai Cheng Thom;** www.ctys.org Giving Birth to Yourself: Revolutionary Storying for People of Colour
- Lee Airton;** www.leeairton.com Gender Neutral Pronouns

Quotes of the Day

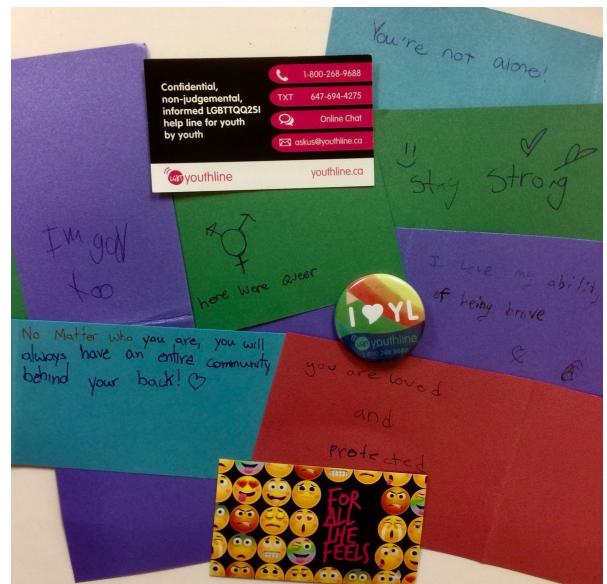


"I believe you. I hear you."

"This is a place where we can all be ourselves."

"I can't believe there's so many people here. It's amazing!"

"If I can make one new friend today, I'll be so happy."



"The workshop selection is so good!"

"This is the best day of the year!"