



Welcome to our September 2020 Newsletter!

WE HAVE A NEW WEBSITE!

We're very excited to announce that our website has had quite the update! Our new website offers a more comprehensive, user-friendly experience, but still remains the jumping off point for 2SLGBTQ+ resources and programming needs. Visit us [here!](#)



NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BLOG!

"CCGSD deserves leadership that is honest, empathic, and feminist. Leadership that challenges the status quo and has the interests of the

communities it serves at the forefront of everything that they do. This organization has grown so much in the last 15 years and still remains first point of contact for many queer and trans youth across Canada looking to be involved in this line of work. As a result, we have a duty to model the behaviour we want to see fostered in our community. **We have to "walk the talk".**"

We're excited to introduce our Executive Director Blog! Here, Debbie Owusu-Akeyah will provide updates on her progress on shaping CCGSD to be what we all aspire for it to be.

[Check out Debbie's first ED blog post here!](#)

ORANGE SHIRT DAY SEPTEMBER 30TH

CCGSD, along with the rest of Turtle Island, recognized Orange Shirt Day on September 30th. This day is observed to honour the generations of Indigenous people who were severely harmed by the colonial violence enacted through residential schools.

People across Canada wore Orange Shirts on behalf of Spokesperson Phyllis (Jack) Webstad, who told her story of her first day at a residential school, on which a new orange shirt bought for her by her grandmother was taken away. We use this as a symbol of reclamation of dignity, heritage, and culture taken away from thousands of children in residential schools.

We hope you'll take this time in your homes, communities, and/or classrooms to dig deeper into the history of residential schools and the generations of harm these moments of history have had on our Indigenous peoples.

[Follow the link to the Orange Shirt Day Official Website.](#)

SUPPORT THE CCGSD!

AN UPDATE ON OUR ONLINE PROGRAMMING

School closures and re-openings have shifted the way we offer equity-based education this year but the CCGSD Programs Department is working hard to support

teachers and students across Canada during COVID-19. We spent the summer developing new visibility resources, poster kits, and history-based booklets and are excited to share them with you throughout the year.

As we continue our transition to offering more remote and digital learning, we are constantly working to adapt our content. We are committed to keeping our content *accessible, relevant*, and in accordance with provincial curriculum objectives. There are many ways to enhance your students' digital learning experience with CCGSD!

Are you interested in hosting a digital gender and sexuality conference at your school this year? Digital conferences run for 180-225 minutes of learning. Reach out to community@ccgsd-ccdgs.org if you'd like to book a day-long event.

Your classroom may benefit from a digital guest speaker on gender and sexuality! Please reach out to eliot@ccgsd-ccdgs.org for workshops in Ontario.

Athletics-based learning environments may enjoy a workshop on Sports Inclusion. Contact sports@ccgsd-ccdgs.org to book a virtual Sports workshop.

We are hosting *regional* events digitally through the following projects:

- Queer History Events - contact commemorate@ccgsd-ccdgs.org
- Allyship in Action - contact community@ccgsd-ccdgs.org
- Our *NEW* Economic Inclusion forums - contact prevention@ccgsd-ccdgs.org

These events have varying schedules and are FREE for High School and Universities across Canada. These sessions can be live or pre-recorded. We'll be able to provide you with more dates to come!

For now, feel free to check out the [programs](#) section of our website for more details about our year-long programming.

For now, we hope that everyone is staying safe, healthy, and responsible during these times of uncertainty.

