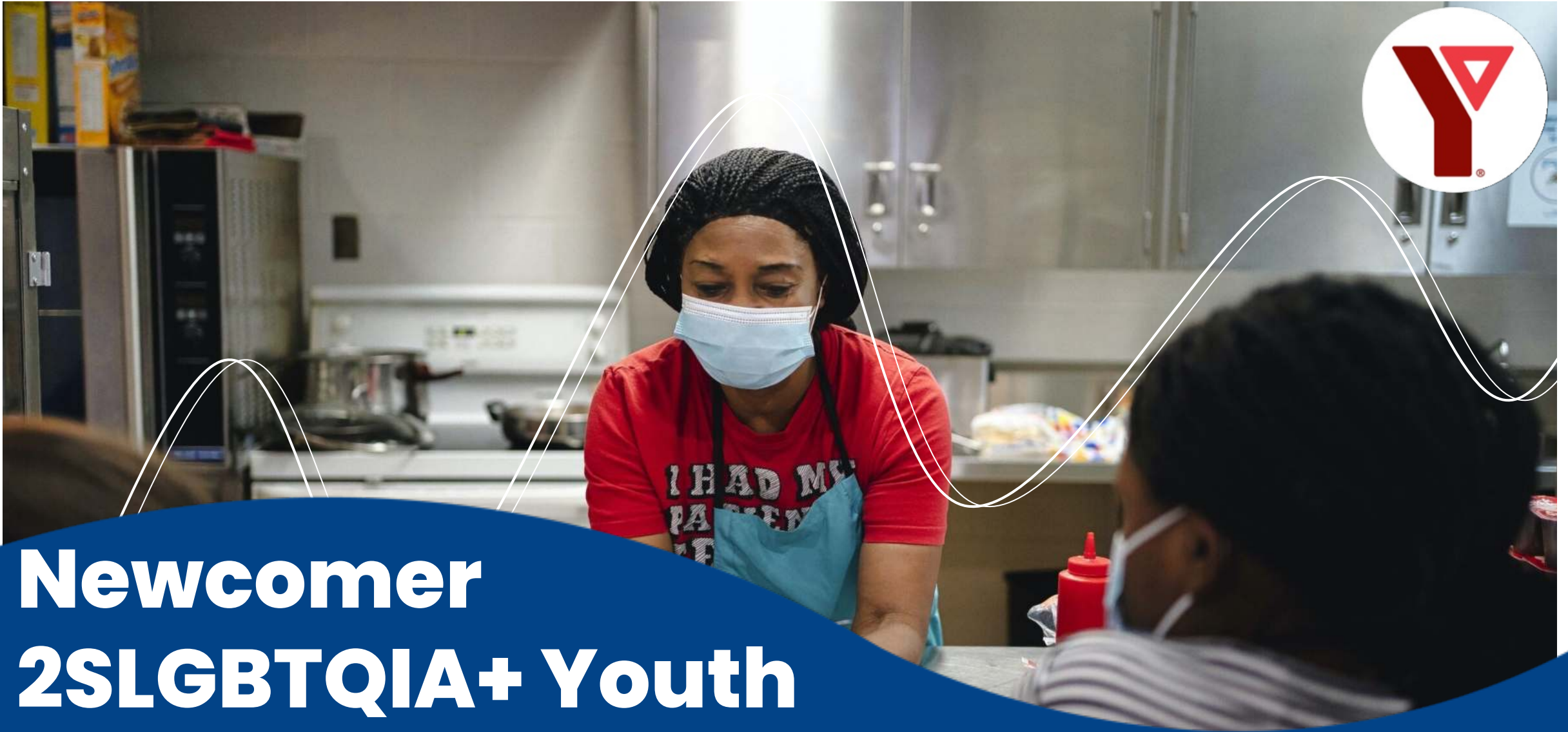




# Newcomer 2SLGBTQIA+ Youth Program



# Program Objectives



**Advocacy**

**Education**



**By Community  
with  
Community**





Connecting with people of similar ethnic groups

An understanding of newcomer experiences and challenges

People who are like me, speak like me and look like me work here

## POSITIVES

Programs and services are newcomer friendly

My culture and faith are empowered and celebrated

## Newcomer Spaces

I don't see queer newcomers represented in these spaces

How can I ensure my confidentiality coming out to staff who are from the same cultural community as me?

## CHALLENGES

Spaces and services for 2SLGBTQIA+ newcomers are hard to find

Not trans inclusive

The fear that if I am out I will be isolated from my cultural or religious community which is a crucial part of my identity

## Space for both identities

I see my gender identity and sexual orientation reflected in the space, staff and images

A space to be who I am and not worry that who I am will subject me to violence

## POSITIVES

Pronouns respected and not assumed

Supportive and open community where I am free to express myself

## BEST PRACTICES

Intersectional Representation (Religion/Race/Sex/Orientation/Gender/ etc.)

Pronouns on Name Tags Visible Allyship

Mandatory anti-oppression training for all staff

Recognizing that newcomer experiences are valid & different from mainstream 2SLGBTQIA+ services

2SLGBTQIA+ resources in multiple languages

Program/Services to learn or explore identity without needing to be out

## 2SLGBTQIA+ Spaces

Often anti-religious. Making people feel they have to choose between faith or sexual identity

In queer spaces there is often a hierarchy in terms of skin colour, body shape, and body structure

Spaces and services for 2SLGBTQIA+ newcomers are hard to find

## CHALLENGES

Language

Eurocentric

Fear that being out will isolate me from my cultural community

BIPOC objectified, tokenized, fetishized, and hypersexualized

Pressure to come out





YOUTH PROJECT!



# LAND TALKS

SAT DEC 4  
10AM to 3PM  
CANADIAN  
MUSEUM of  
IMMIGRATION  
@ PIER 21

VOICES OF  
ORIGINAL  
PEOPLES  
and  
DIASPORIC  
COMMUNITIES



## Women and Gender Equity Strategy Consultation

Are you an 18 to 35-year-old newcomer or immigrant individual who identifies as non-binary, transgender, gender-diverse individual and/or as a woman? Are you interested in advancing gender equality in HRM?

Join us to create an impactful consultation!

Date: February 24th, 2022 (Thursday)

Time: 5pm to 7pm

Location: Zoom online platform

Email [ahrthyh.arumugam@halifax.ymca.ca](mailto:ahrthyh.arumugam@halifax.ymca.ca) to register.

Participant will receive an honorarium as a recognition of your contribution.

Presented by HRM's Office Of Diversity and Inclusion/  
African Nova Scotian Affairs Integration Office and  
The YMCA Center for Immigrant Programs'  
Newcomer 2SLGBTQIA+ Youth Program and  
Gender Based Violence Prevention Project



HALIFAX



YMCA

invites you

PRIDE S

Open B

2SLGB

Living

Fitness

is a Dra

Home

Garden

Worksh







**OPEN BOOK**  
The 2SLGBTQIA+ Human Library

Presented by Toronto Public Library, Association of Nova Scotia Open Book, and  
Centre for Inclusive Programs, Association of Nova Scotia

**QUESTIONS!**

How does your identity(ies) change or grow across languages growing up or coming into your identity(ies)? Who were they and how did they impact you?

What do you do for work or fun?

How do you define your sexuality and/ or gender?

What is your favourite place in Halifax?

Do you celebrate PRIDE? If yes, how do you like to celebrate it?

If you were invited me for dinner, what meal would you cook?

How do you express your identity through your appearance?

What are some of your hobbies?

What is an example of a practice, service, or resource you used that made you feel safer as an 2SLGBTQIA+ person?

What is your favourite book and why?

When did you first realize you are 2SLGBTQIA?

What is your favourite flavour of ice cream or sorbet?

Open Book: The 2SLGBTQIA+ Living Library Feedback!

Did you have fun?

strongly disagree  
  disagree  
  neutral or not sure  
  agree  
  strongly agree

Did you make a friend?

strongly disagree  
  disagree  
  neutral or not sure  
  agree  
  strongly agree

What did you like the most about the Open Book event?

I liked the small group chat sessions. I liked that you took into account that "books" aren't repeating themselves ♡

What did you *not* like the most about the Open Book event?

I don't think I got to talk to everyone. Maybe 2 people at the same time in the future?

Were your accessibility needs met? If not, how can we improve?

✓

What information or events do you want in the future?

I loved that this event literally centered the queer folks for everything. Please do something similar to this.

Thank you!







## MAKING SPACE ART GROUP

Tuesdays 4:00-6:00 pm, March 21 - May 23  
Join a free weekly art group for  
LGBTQI+ newcomers!



We will focus on learning skills in ceramics, with guest artists who specialize in textiles, dance, video, and more!

Please email Andrea Puszkar (she/her) at [rrans.staff@gmail.com](mailto:rrans.staff@gmail.com) to get on the interest list!



**17<sup>TH</sup> WORLD CONGRESS  
ON PUBLIC HEALTH  
2023 May 2-6 ROME ITALY**

**M**etropolis

Social Determinants of Health





My Ma

# WHAT DO WE TO THE

CONNECTIVE  
CONVERSATIONS!  
SO MANY  
RECIPES!  
STORIES!

## MAKING MAURITI

- ALSO KNOWN AS C...
- MAURITIUS HAS NO IN...
- SO THE CUISINE IS A...
- WE SHARE A LOT OF...
- THEY JUST GO BY DIF...



- USE BREAD AS A BINDING...
- WELL-BEING & NUTRITION.
- HEALTHY IMMIGRANT EFFECT...
- IN A NEW ENVIRONMENT
- IT CAN AFFECT HOW WE...
- ABOUT OURSELVES



deep

(Arum



	CONNECTEDNESS	ISOLATION
Emotional	Empathy	cruelty
Social	Consensus	not accepting the person
Physical	the smile	whispering /
language	لغة إحدنا	استخدام لغتنا



# Ahrthyh's Notes

Red boxes are the themes identified.

different purposes of food

focus on connection and

economic aspects

healthy migrant effect

connection, belonging, agency

different perspectives of connection and isolation

qualities of connectedness

agency is important

Lack of identity (cultural, gender) affirming services

adaptation/flexibility/resourcefulness with food

effects of misconnecting

the environment to choose and express

structural and systemic barriers

aging

thing

ways to cope with stress

space to be accepted, not judged, and validated with identity

desire to build connection with broader Queer community

being able to see all identities and full self is important

discussion

ways to stay mentally well

spectrum of belonging

desire to be understood in intersectional identities

equitable settlement/immigration services

structural expectations (that limit or create barrier)

to

of identities

stigma awareness is greater for racialized Queer folks

living places



## MY RECIPE BOOK

East Coast Kitchen Parties Project



# Thank You!

# Welcome to our YMCA



مرحباً بكم

Bienvenue

Herzlich  
WILLKOMMEN!

Kaŕis Hylere

双 迎

Kou  
Kergruzigep!

Bimacmo!

Maligayang

어서오세요!

いよ, (L) ませ

Hos Geldin

Jacra bo  
Tosuu

SOODHOW

Mwaaniganigwe!

გვევლო  
გვე

BIENVENIDO!!

Karibull

آمید

## Newcomer 2SLGBTQIA+ Youth Program

YMCA Greater Halifax/Dartmouth | Centre for Immigrant Programs

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