

An Introduction to 2SLGBTQIA+ Gender and Sexual Diverse Youth

Recent statistics show that up to 15% of youth in Canadian schools identify as a sexual minority or gender non-conforming. Studies also show that these youth are vulnerable to isolation, ostracization, and psychosocial stress from the impacts of homophobia, heterosexism and transphobia.

This 1.5 hour awareness and questions and answers workshop is designed as an introductory session that will introduce human sexuality concepts and principles that create an affirming environment for 2SLGBTQIA+ youth. Topics include the use of affirming language, health and wellbeing, youth resilience and responses to disclosure.

Facilitator: Dr. Reece Malone – Diversity Essentials

Dr. Reece Malone is the CEO and founder Diversity Essentials. For 20 years, he has delivered training and policy consultation to service providers in education, healthcare and social service sectors and has been consulted by local, national and international organizations including the World Health Organization, the Public Health Agency of Canada, and The Canadian Human Rights Commission. Dr. Malone authored the *Canadian Human Rights National Roundtable on Gender Identity and Gender Expression* that helped lead to the inclusion of Gender Identity to the Canadian Human Rights Act and changes to the Canadian Criminal Code.

He is the author of *ShoutOut Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia* a resource dedicated to sexual and gender diverse youth. Since publication, it has been distributed to over 100,000 youth across Canada.

Dr. Malone also holds a private practice in Winnipeg serving individuals and families and is an Adjunct Professor at Antioch University Seattle - Couple and Family Therapy Department.