

We're Here



Indigenous 2SLGBTQ+ Youth Across
Ontario Assert Needs and Experiences

144 participants identify as Indigenous

which includes First Nations, Métis and Inuit youth

"I am my own person who is unique and the creator gifted me this to help other people like myself."

How Indigenous youth take care of their mental health

- #1 Talking to friends
- #2 Self-care

40% of participants say their mental health needs *are not* being met

Changes that Indigenous 2SLGBTQ+ youth would like to make in their community

- #1 Spaces and events where Indigenous 2SLGBTQ+ youth can meet one another and build connections
- #2 Specific programming including spaces that respect cultural identities
- #3 Health resources including mental health, access to doctors, and substance use support
- #4 Educating community awareness and acceptance by the broader community

58% of participants say they *do not* feel a sense of community

"I love that I can be me everyday"

What Indigenous youth love about being part of the 2SLGBTQ+ community

- #1 Sense of community
- #2 Cultural identity

"Nothing, it sucks"

“What future do we have?”

“Make my home community safer and more welcoming for the lgbt people where I live”

Top needs when accessing services and resources

- #1 Low to no financial costs
- #2 Staff knowledge of 2SLGBTQ+ identities and experiences
- #3 Confidentiality

Top needs for 2SLGBTQ+ dedicated spaces

- #1 Low to no financial costs
- #2 Accessible
- #3 Close in distance
- #4 Youth-based services

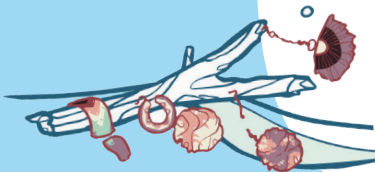
51% of Indigenous youth have *not* accessed a dedicated space

“Being in a 2S space, I get to connect all of my identities”

“I feel so defeated regarding our political climate”

What Indigenous 2SLGBTQ+ youth would say to people who are making decisions about their lived reality

- #1 “Listen to us”
- #2 “We need real systemic change”
- #3 “We need free, safe, sober, Indigenous-only community spaces”



“Indigenous people matter and we deserve access to clean water, mental health services and education.”

“Listen to activist groups and engage in meaningful dialogue with them about policy rather than just memorizing LGBTQ + talking points.”

“You need to have diverse representation when you are making decisions that will directly affect people who aren’t like you. Have some integrity and make decisions based on how it will benefit the most vulnerable amongst us and not what will line your pockets.”

“[You] need to do more to help find Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW) and Two Spirit people.”

LGBT YouthLine’s Provincial Youth Ambassador Project (PYAP) brought together 18 2SLGBTQ+ Youth Ambassadors from across Ontario to lead an assessment about the experiences and needs of 2SLGBTQ+ youth (29 and under) in Ontario, while also amplifying their resilience.

This Snapshot exclusively explores the responses from 144 Indigenous youth from across Ontario, which includes First Nations, Métis, and Inuit youth.

LGBT YouthLine is a 2SLGBTQ+ youth-led organization that affirms and supports the experiences of youth (29 and under) across Ontario.

Access other snapshot reports, and long form report at youthline.ca