

CALL TO CONVERSATION

TWO SPIRIT | QUEER PEOPLE OF COLOUR | LGBT | ALLIES

OCTOBER 20–22, 2017

CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS

This is a call to conversation. We are gathering scholars, community members, activists, artists, students, youth, and traditional knowledge holders to dialogue on the work being done in two-spirit (2S) and queer people of colour (QPOC) communities. We call on our communities and institutions to act in a spirit of reconciliation.

We are gathering for three days in October to discuss:

- Where our communities intersect
- What individual, institutional, and community efforts are needed to reconcile our relationships
- Relationship-building and coalition work occurring across our communities
- How we can celebrate our gifts and achievements
- How we can more deeply understand and enact the politics and practices of love in community

Winnipeg is located on Treaty 1 land and in the heartland of the Métis Nation. Winnipeg was the location of the 1990 “Third Annual Inter-tribal Native American, First Nations, Gay and Lesbian American Conference” where the term “two-spirit” was affirmed. Given the current political landscape, both nationally and in the US (for example, the Canadian federal government’s identification of 2S issues as a priority area and their announcement that they will make an apology to the queer community for state oppression by the end of 2017; Black Lives Matter’s challenge to the whitewashing of LGBT Pride marches; the regressive social policy reforms underway in the US), we are at an important historical moment that presents both dangers and opportunities for our communities. This conference therefore calls for critical dialogue between 2S and QPOC communities and with LGBT and cisgender heterosexual allies about how best to move forward.

Dialogue led by 2S/QPOC will seek to address damage of the past, and how to achieve stronger, more loving coalitionary community relations in future, through a set of sessions on five themes:

- Origins, History, and Resurgence of 2S and QPOC
- Reconciliation and Families (e.g., families of origin, children in care, chosen families)
- Reconciliation and Education (e.g., Indigenizing the K-12 and post-secondary curriculum, challenging racism in museums, queer erasure)
- Reconciliation and Institutions (e.g., religion, immigration, criminal justice, child welfare, health care)
- Reconciliation and Art (e.g., art as community, art as activism)

The conference will end with participants framing calls for action, including coalition building across various 2S, QPOC, and ally communities; research recommendations; and actions to help chart a course forward for communities and institutions.

We invite 100-word proposals for 20-minute papers and artist talks, and poster presentations on the above themes. Papers, artist talks, and poster presentations on other 2S, QPOC, and ally topics, and one-hour panel proposals are also welcome. All submissions should be accompanied by a 50-word autobiography. Presenters will be invited to submit their revised papers for inclusion in an edited collection following the conference.

Submissions are requested by July 31, 2017

Inquiries and submissions may be directed to Conference Co-chairs Dr. Chantal Fiola and Dr. Sharanpal Ruprai (c2c@uwinnipeg.ca)

For more information, visit:
uwinnipeg.ca/c2c



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