

Agenda and Notes



Sex and Gender Working Group

February 23, 2021

Via Teleconference

February 23, 2021

Item	Purpose	Allocated Time	Presenter
1	Welcome and Acknowledgement	1 minutes	Kelly Davison
2	Purpose of the Infoway Sex and Gender Working Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Recap 2 minutes	Kelly Davison
3	Discussion – Fernand Comeau. LGBTQS Secretariat	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Discussion 15 minutes	Fernand Comeau
4	Presentation – France-Pascale Ménard and Elena Prokopenko. StatCan – Centre for Gender, Diversity and Inclusion Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Presentation 15 minutes	France-Pascale Menard and Elena Prokopenko
5	Presentation – Karen Courtney. University of Victoria – 2021 Planning Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Presentation 15 minutes	Karen Courtney
6	Group Discussion and/or Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Discussion	
7	Adjournment	2 minutes	Kelly Davison



Agenda and Notes



1. **Welcome and Acknowledgement**
 - Land acknowledgement
2. **Purpose of the Infoway Sex and Gender Working Group**
 - Overview provided.
3. **Discussion – Fernand Comeau. LGBTQ2 Secretariat**
 - Executive Director Comeau provided a comprehensive overview of the mandate, purpose and work of the LGBTQ2 Secretariat. The mandate is specified in the publicly available Minister of Heritage's mandate letter. Broadly, the purpose and work of the Secretariat is to connect community organizations to government. In Canada, LGBTQ2 rights have largely been driven by legal decisions. Equity, inclusion and diversity are all important foci of the current government.
 - Nov 27, 2020 – public launch of Action Plan. Online survey. In-field since then. 20K respondents. <https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/campaigns/free-to-be-me/lgbtq2-action-plan.html>
 - This work is continuing and will include an invitation for written submission soon. Then roundtables April May June. Then the process will continue in terms of policy development.
 - Policy direction – collect gender, not sex. Don't collect sex unless necessary. This work is underway. Suggestion: themes – safety, employment, access to health services, others. Feds might have a role in looking into things – something in our work that can help improve the lives of LGBT2 communities... can work through articulation and actions.
 - Data set may be opened for access via the OpenData portal.
4. **Presentation – France-Pascale Ménard and Elena Prokopenko. StatCan – Centre for Gender, Diversity and Inclusion Studies**
 - France-Pascale and Elena provided an update on the ongoing work of StatCan gender and diversity work including the content of the current consultation. <https://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/concepts/consult-variables/gender> open to March 12th.
5. **Presentation – Karen Courtney. University of Victoria – 2021 Planning Activities**
 - Karen provided an update on the status of current grant applications and the plans if funded, or if not funded.
6. **Group Discussion and/or Questions**
 - Andrea Downey had questions for Fernand about data collected and stored by Federal agencies, and agreed to take the conversation offline for timing reasons.
 - Dr. Aaron Devor has engaged with Corrections and Police for years, mostly in BC. Inclusivity in this, and all settings, is an important aspect of this work.
7. **Meeting schedule for 2021**
 - Overview provided.
8. **Adjournment**

