

# District Gender & Sexuality Alliance Notes

Tuesday, November 21, 2107  
4:00 – 5:00 pm  
Oak Bay High School

1. Welcome and Introductions - Name, School, Preferred Pronouns
2. School Updates
  - Lansdowne - currently there are approximately 12 students attending the meetings. We have created an advocacy poster campaign and have had a bake sale. Robin Stevenson, who wrote the book *Pride*, has attended and may attend a district GSA meeting. Our meetings are a safe and friendly place.
  - Oak Bay - currently planning the next Love is Love. Matt was here to help with the planning which included looking at what worked and what did not work. The event is scheduled for the pro-d on February 23<sup>rd</sup>. We are looking at fundraising opportunities as well as district support.
  - Esquimalt - we are hosting Out In Schools on January 10<sup>th</sup> for our grade 9 & 10 students. We are having Bake Sales as an excellent fund raiser for our GSA and are redoing our bulletin boards.
  - Shoreline - we are a new GSA and have had 2 meetings. We are currently figuring out what we are and we are going to start with a bulletin board.

- Monterey - we are a YCI group in our school supporting LGBTQ+ students that was started by a student last year. We are having bake sales as a way to fund for Camp Firefly. We continue to work on Pink Shirt Day and have booked the Learning Labs at the Royal BC Museum.
- Lambrick Park - Dominic and Eryn are the co-leaders of the student run GSA with Hope as a leader in training. We have about 15 people in the group and have organized the Orange Shirt Day as well as working on Pink Shirt Day. We are using Bake Sales as a fundraiser and meet Thursdays at lunch to plan what we can do and what we want to do. We have combined with the Leadership group to look at the youth housing crisis which has a significant impact on the LGBTQ youth. Together with Shine a Light Foundation our school hopes to make a difference by selling a light on a tree for \$10. We have partnered with Gordon Head Rec Centre for a Teen Drop In - see attached poster.
- Willows - rainbow week is the focus of the school. With the development of an elementary focused group there will be more elementary opportunities.
- Glanford - Sonnie Marsh is the new safe contact person and will work with the Shoreline group to co-create activities for the school.
- PFLAG - Sharon Doty representing PFLAG attended and on behalf of the Greater Victoria Library Union donated the book PRIDE to our Middle Schools.

### 3. Lindsay Herriot - Trans Tipping Point youth writing program

- Are you a trans/genderqueer/two spirit or nonbinary writer and would like to work on a book written by and for young trans folk? Please see the attached poster with information on applying. The deadline is December 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### 4. Guiding Question

Adjourn 5:00 pm

**Our next meeting is at Esquimalt High School on January 23<sup>rd</sup>.  
See you all there.**

#### Meeting Dates

January 23, 2018  
February 20, 2018  
April 17, 2018  
May 22, 2018

Esquimalt  
School Board Office  
Vic West Elementary  
School Board Office

**Are you a trans/genderqueer/two  
spirit or nonbinary writer?**

**Apply to the Trans Tipping Point!**

Goal: Publish a book written by and for young trans folks in 2018

**Weekend Writing Retreat: 2-4 February @ UVic**

**APPLY HERE BY DEC 15**

**(Adult Mentors): <http://bit.ly/ttpadult>**

**(Youth Ages 13-17) <http://bit.ly/ttpyouth>**



**Workshops with a team of trans mentors including:**

**Dr. Lee Airton** (No Big Deal Campaign/They Is My Pronoun)

**Kori Doty** (Farmer & Community Educator)

**Morgane Oger** (Former candidate, current VP of the BC NDP)

Facebook: [@TransTippingPointProject](https://www.facebook.com/TransTippingPointProject) Questions? [lindsayherriot@uvic.ca](mailto:lindsayherriot@uvic.ca)



# LGBTQ2+ HANG OUT

A drop-in for LGBT, Queer,  
2-Spirit (And Ally!) Youth!

Eat snacks, play games,  
hang out with  
supportive friends  
and mentors

A safer space  
where you  
can be  
yourself  
♡♡♡

For Youth  
13-18  
of all  
genders  
and  
orientations

**Wednesdays  
7-9pm**

starting Sept 27, 2017!

**Backdoor Teen Center  
@ Gordon Head  
Recreation Center  
4100 Lambrick Way**

**Loryn.Anderson@saanich.ca  
250.475.7111**

Struggling with issues of  
**sexual orientation**  
and/or  
**gender identity?**

*We can help!*



## PFLAG CANADA

### Our Mission Statement

PFLAG Canada is a national voice that speaks for a more accepting Canadian society by providing support, education and resources on issues of sexual orientation and gender identity.

Through our PFLAG Chapter and Contact network, we actively assist in the recognition and growth of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, transsexual, two-spirited, intersex, queer and questioning persons and their families and friends, within their diverse cultures and societies.

PFLAG Canada is a national, non-profit organization, formed in 2003 with three primary functions:

1. To provide information to local Chapters and Contacts on Canadian and international issues relevant to sexual orientation and gender identity so that they can better assist individuals, families and friends in their local communities.
2. To allow all the PFLAG Chapters and Contacts to have one strong, supportive and cohesive voice to address social and systemic events and issues that affect sexual orientation and/or gender identity in Canada.
3. To provide local Chapters and Contacts access to extensive print and published resource material.

PFLAG Canada's web site provides direct access to updated information and links to Chapter and Contacts across Canada. If you would like more information on PFLAG Canada check out our web site [www.pflag.ca](http://www.pflag.ca) or call us at 1-888-530-6777.



**PFLAG helps answer these questions...**

- Why did s/he have to tell me?
- How will we tell the family?
- Is it an illness? Can it be cured?
- It seems important to him/her that I know. Why?
- What will the neighbours say?
- Is it a choice or a phrase?
- What can I do to make our community more accepting?
- What kind of life will s/he have?
- Why do we have to talk about it?
- Can't s/he just keep it hidden?
- How can I learn more about this so I better understand him/her?
- We have accepted the situation, why must s/he flaunt it?
- How can I help my child, member, or friend?

**PFLAG provides information and support in a confidential environment...**

- "The meetings give me more confidence to communicate with my lesbian daughter."
- "Our fears are based on ignorance and this group gives me more knowledge. I get an all-round good feeling."
- "The meetings offer me a safe place where I can share the thoughts, ideas and feelings I have with others. I now know that I'm not alone."
- "Talking with the gay and lesbian people who attend offers a different perspective. I can ask questions I could never ask my kids."
- "The meeting is one of the few places I can be honest about being transgender and I feel accepted."
- "These meetings have given me the courage to speak out and admit that I have a gay son. I guess I was able to come out of the closet as a parent."
- "My lesbian daughter feels good that I'm going to PFLAG. She tells me she feels supported."
- "The meeting offers an opportunity to see a parent's perspective and how they felt. It helps me to my parents went through when I

**PFLAG can help, and so can you.**

- Work to end discrimination against sexual minorities.
  - If one of your family members or a friend is dealing with issues of sexual orientation and/or gender identity, let him/her know you love him/her unconditionally.
  - Don't put up with jokes about sexual orientation or gender identity.
  - Speak out for equality and respect for differences in society.
  - If you overhear someone making negative comments around sexual orientation or gender identity, let him/her know you don't agree with, or approve of the comments.
  - Become informed and share your information with others.
  - Encourage open and honest discussion of the issues around sexual orientation and gender identity.
  - Stand with those who believe that discrimination against anyone is a crime against humanity.
- Your local PFLAG Chapter or Contact can be reached at:

