



PRIDE SOCIETY OF THE COMOX VALLEY

Community Conversations Frequently Asked Questions

1. Who can participate?

Anyone that identifies within the 2SLGBTQIA+ community and lives in the Comox Valley region (including remote and rural communities). If you experience queer/trans imposter syndrome—your voice is valuable and we'd love to have you participate!

2. What is the purpose of the community conversations?

Nothing about us, without us. Community members have different lived experiences and intersecting identities, and your voice is essential in shaping an inclusive path forward and improving the lives of local 2SLGBTQIA+ folx.

It's to gather insights about the strengths and challenges of 2SLGBTQIA+ members to develop resources that will affect policy and social change and create a connected community.

3. What will I have to do?

The group will be asked to share experiences of belonging, connection, safety, and joy as well as barriers on a range of topics that are most relevant to you. For in-person focus groups, pens and paper will be provided if you prefer to write things down and share them with the group or with the facilitators at the end of the session.

Once a date and time for your focus group is confirmed, an outline and discussion question examples will be emailed to help you prepare and feel more comfortable during the meeting.

If you prefer not to share in a group setting, a one-on-one conversation can be scheduled.



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4. How will the information shared in the focus group be used?

The insights shared will be de-identified and captured through graphic recordings or summarized in a recommendation report. These visuals and summaries will be shared with participants via email, posted on our website and social media, and reviewed in upcoming community engagement sessions to help determine priorities and guide resource development.

They will also support future funding requests and help shape the direction of Comox Valley Pride moving forward.

You'll have the opportunity to choose what kind of follow-up feels right for you, so you can stay connected to the impact of sharing your experiences and perspectives.

5. What is graphic recording, and how does it work?

Graphic Recording is a process where experiences, ideas, and stories are shared by participants and translated into a visual narrative by an artist drawing in real-time. Participants are encouraged to contribute feedback to ensure their voices are represented as they wish. Only some groups will have a graphic recorder present.

6. What if I experience barriers to participation?

If you experience any barriers to participation, please email Janine at pscv2021@gmail.com to arrange support. Barriers might include having to miss work to participate, covering care costs, transportation, not having a computer to fill out the survey, or you may need to learn more about the process before registering.

7. Will the focus group sessions be accessible?

Yes, and ASL, language translation, and other support can be requested. If you need specific accommodations, please reach out to discuss. Our goal is to schedule co-facilitators for each group to help balance power dynamics and ensure representation.



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8. What kind of support is offered after sharing experiences?

We'll have a support person available and you'll have time to check in with the facilitator(s) at the end of each session. In the weeks following each group, drop-in hours will be offered by two community members to offer counselling and peer support, giving participants space to debrief that is specific to the focus group discussion.

An anonymous form will be available to participants to share feedback.

9. How will my privacy be protected?

All contact information is kept secure on a password protected computer and registration forms. Experiences shared will be de-identified and summarized without using names in any reports.

10. Who's involved in the project?

Janine Scheffler (she/her), the facilitator for PSCV, working alongside ten community advisors with diverse backgrounds, and guidance from PSCV board members. Some community advisors and volunteers are supporting in either a peer support or co-facilitator role for the focus groups.

Contact: Janine
psc2021@gmail.com

Additional information can be found on the registration form:

<https://form.jotform.com/250366095083054>