



SEMINAR SERIES

DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM & PEDAGOGY

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The Edmonton Queer History Project (EQHP): Heritage Practices Re-Imagined through Community-Engaged Social Justice Research

Dr. Michelle Lavoie | MacEwan University, Edmonton

Dr. Kris Wells | MacEwan University, Edmonton

Host | Dr. Anita Sinner

▶ **Friday, March 22, 2024** | 12:30 - 2:00 p.m. (PST) | Via Zoom

* for zoom details, please email edcp.educ@ubc.ca

This presentation highlights the importance of studying, preserving and sharing local queer histories. We unpack the process and results of our research, focused on Edmonton Alberta, to demonstrate the potential of community-engaged research to unearth hidden histories, provide platforms for silenced stories, and generate inclusive, participatory, and innovative forms of knowledge dissemination.

Dr. Michelle Lavoie (she/her) is a lesbian and queer artist and curator, researcher, community and post-secondary educator, and longtime 2SLGBTQ+ community activist. Michelle is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow with the Faculty of Nursing, MacEwan University, Edmonton Alberta working on innovative strategies to support youth mental health. She is also a Research Associate, and past Postdoctoral Research Fellow with The Centre for Sexual and Gender Diversity, MacEwan University, continuing work on the Edmonton Queer History Project, which began in 2015 alongside Dr. Kristopher Wells. Michelle completed her Ph.D. in Educational Policy Studies at the University of Alberta in 2021. Her SSHRC funded doctoral research focused on finding new ways to mentor trans and non-binary youth through art practice. Her doctoral dissertation was awarded the Governor General's Academic Gold Medal. Her work as a narrative inquirer and art-based researcher ties visual and narrative ways of thinking, knowing and mobilizing knowledge to support 2SLGBTQ+ individuals and communities, inform policies, and educate publics.

Dr. Kristopher Wells (He/Him) is an Associate Professor and the Canada Research Chair (Tier II) for the Public Understanding of Sexual and Gender Minority Youth at MacEwan University. He also serves as the founding director for the MacEwan Centre for Sexual and Gender Diversity. His scholarly work specializes in sexual and gender minority youth, health, education, sport, and culture. Dr. Wells is one of the driving forces behind the creation of many ground-breaking initiatives including PrideTape, Camp fYrefly, Edmonton Queer History Project, and the Alberta GSA Conference and Network. Dr. Wells is a frequently invited national and international speaker on sexual and gender minority youth issues. He has served as an expert scientific consultant to the Government of Canada, Canadian Senate, Canadian Museum of Human Rights, Canadian Teachers' Federation, RCMP, Public Health Agency of Canada, UNESCO, World Health Organization, and many provincial and municipal governments across Canada. Currently, Dr. Wells serves as the Editor-in-Chief of the *International Journal of LGBT Youth*, which is the world's leading research publication on 2SLGBTQ+ youth. His work has been recognized with over 50 scholarly and community awards and recognitions including the Alberta Teachers' Association's Public Education Award, University of Alberta's Alumni Horizon Award, Alberta Centennial Medallion, and the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Medal.