

Intl Day of Pink Presents

COLOURING

WITH

PRIDE

12 trans and queer Canadians
you SHOULD know

ART: VALERIE BORDELEAU

INTL.
DAY 08
OF APRIL
PINK

Colouring with Pride
Day of Pink
Launched Winter 2020

CREATOR'S NOTE

Being yourself isn't easy for anyone. Each one of us has had times in our lives where we feel alone.

That is why we created this colouring book.

We found in our toughest moments it is important to realize that the struggles we face are not unique to us, but rather that others before us have gone through similar things. Not only did they survive beyond the challenge, but they thrived to create connection, community, and help others.

We want to thank the fantastic volunteers who participated in this book.

We also want you to know that this book is not done. We will be creating more, so please reach out, send us your ideas and names of folks you wanna see featured!

Learn more about the Day of Pink at:
DayOfPink.org

Thank you,

Valerie Bordeleau



Albert McLeod

TWO-SPIRIT ELDER

Over the past 35 years, well-respected knowledge keeper Albert McLeod has worked tirelessly for the rights of Two-Spirit (2S), lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, and queer (2LGBTQ+) people in the local community and across the continent.

McLeod is a status Indian with ancestry from Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation and the Métis community of Norway House. Known as a progressive thinker and visionary, McLeod has led the way for rights and recognition of 2S people in North America since 1986. Recognizing the importance of Elder Myra Laramée's vision of Two-Spirit in 1990, McLeod has worked with LGBTQ Indigenous people across the continent to organize under the name "Two Spirit" to remember the honoured roles of non-binary gender people in pre-contact First Nations, and the important spiritual role they played within their communities. Since then, the movement

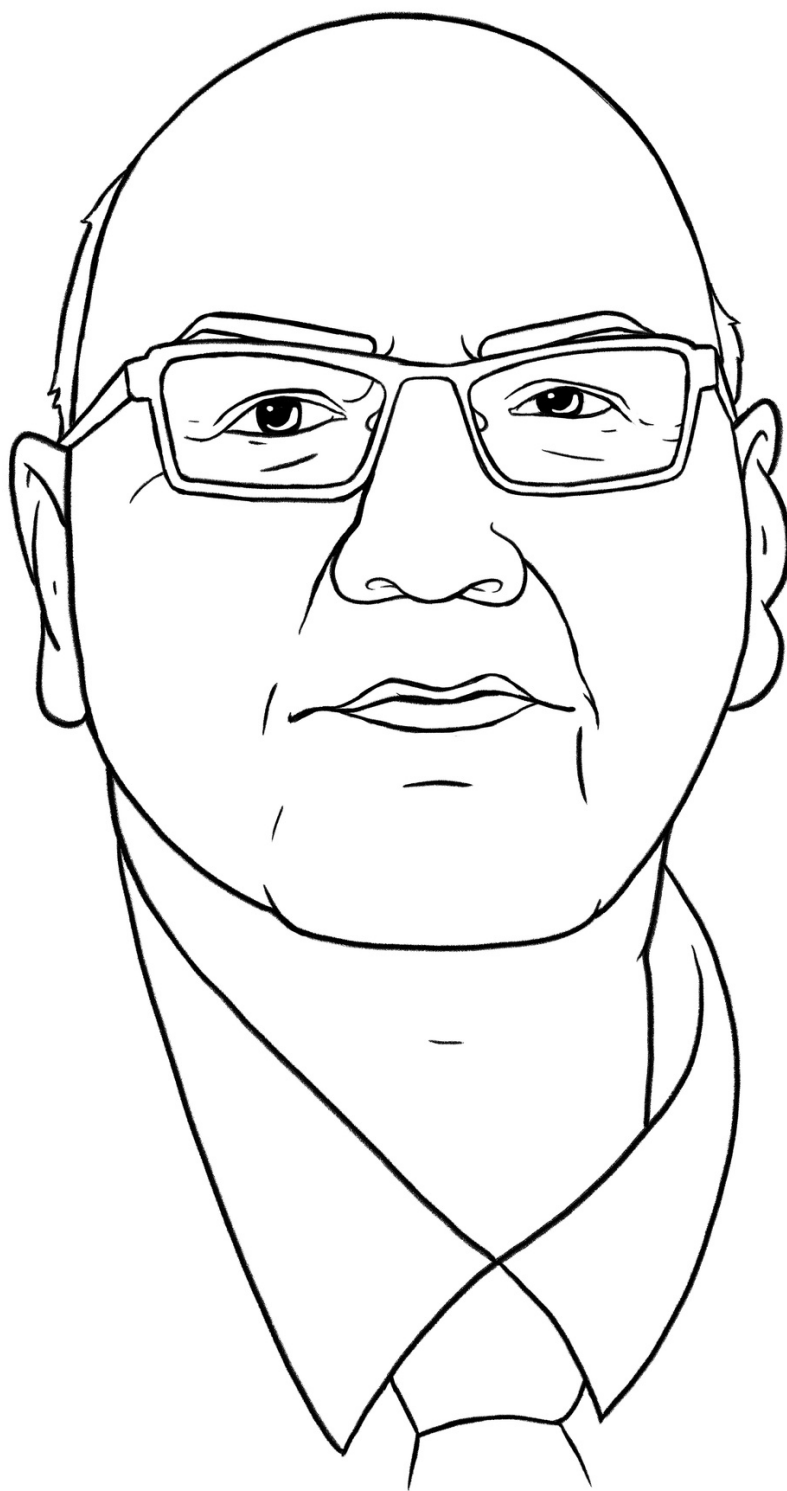
has grown to involve organizations throughout North America. It has also made an impact on academia that includes research and scholarly books on various aspects of Two-Spirit history, philosophy, and sociology.

McLeod's work extends beyond the 2LGBTQ+ community. He is also engaged in human-rights activism, cross-cultural training, cultural reclamation, and language workshops, and has served as an advisor and activist for Winnipeg's inner-city community.

Keep learning:

- Check out his website: albertmcleod.com
- Albert has long advocated for Two-Spirit people. Do you know where the word Two-Spirit comes from? What other Indigenous words exist for the community?
- What does the Truth and Reconciliation final report and the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women final report say about Two-Spirit people?





Arielle Twist

TWO-SPIRIT ARTIST

Arielle Twist is a Nehiyaw, Two-Spirit, Multidisciplinary Artist Originally from George Gordon First Nation, Saskatchewan. She is now based out of Halifax, Nova Scotia. She has work published with Them, Canadian Art, This Magazine, Prism International, The Fiddlehead and CBC Arts. 'Disintegrate/Dissociate' is her first collection of poetry.

In 2019, she was shortlisted for the National Magazine awards, received The Indigenous Artist Recognition Award from Arts Nova Scotia, was a UVIC Chair of Transgender Studies Fellow, and a RISE Indigenous Artist and Poet Fellow. She is currently working on her poetry collection 'Shedding Velvet'.

Keep learning:

- Check out her website: arielletwist.com
- How can we use art to express ourselves, our feeling, our identities and our communities?
- What Indigenous artists do you know about? Who is your favourite?
- Arielle has also written for a magazines and the CBC. What are the key messages she is trying to communicate? What can you do to support her messages?





Dr. Lee Airton

THEY IS MY PRONOUN

Dr. Lee Airton is an Assistant Professor of Gender and Sexuality Studies in Education at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario.

As a researcher, blogger, advocate and speaker, Dr. Airton focuses on enabling individuals and institutions to welcome gender and sexual diversity in everyday life. In 2012, they founded *They Is My Pronoun*, a Q+A-based blog about gender-neutral pronoun usage and user support with over 30,000 unique visitors in 2017 alone.

Dr. Airton is also the founder of the *No Big Deal Campaign*, a national social media initiative that helps people show support for transgender peoples' right to have their pronouns used. Dr. Airton's first book, *Gender – Your Guide: A Gender-Friendly Primer on What to Know, What to Say and What to Do in the New Gender Culture* which offers practical steps for welcoming gender diversity in all areas of everyday life.

As a university-based teacher educator for over ten years, Dr. Airton has worked with hundreds of teacher candidates to widen the circle of belonging and participation for students of all genders and sexualities.

They are also editing a forthcoming collection of lesson plans on gender diversity for K-12 teachers.

Keep learning:

- Check out their website: theyismypronoun.com
- Creating change requires learning and action. How can you use Dr. Airton's campaign: *No Big Deal Campaign* (nbdcampaign.ca) to advance the inclusion of trans & non-binary persons?
- What would you want to have learned in school about gender diversity and 2SLGBTQIA+ inclusion? How can you improve curriculum at your school?





Al Ramsay

COMMUNITY BUILDER

Originally from Jamaica, Al and his family moved to Canada in 1994 to start a new life and complete his education. He holds a Bachelor of Commerce from Ryerson University. Over the past 15 years, Al has held increasingly senior positions supporting TD's Diversity and Inclusion mandate spearheading customer, employee and community initiatives. He is instrumental in helping TD to become a leader in the LGBTQ2+ community.

Al has a passion for advancing inclusiveness in the workplace and in his community. He spearheaded the launch of several of TD's Employee Resource Groups, including its LGBTQ2+ and Black Employee Networks which have now expanded to include thousands of employees across North America.

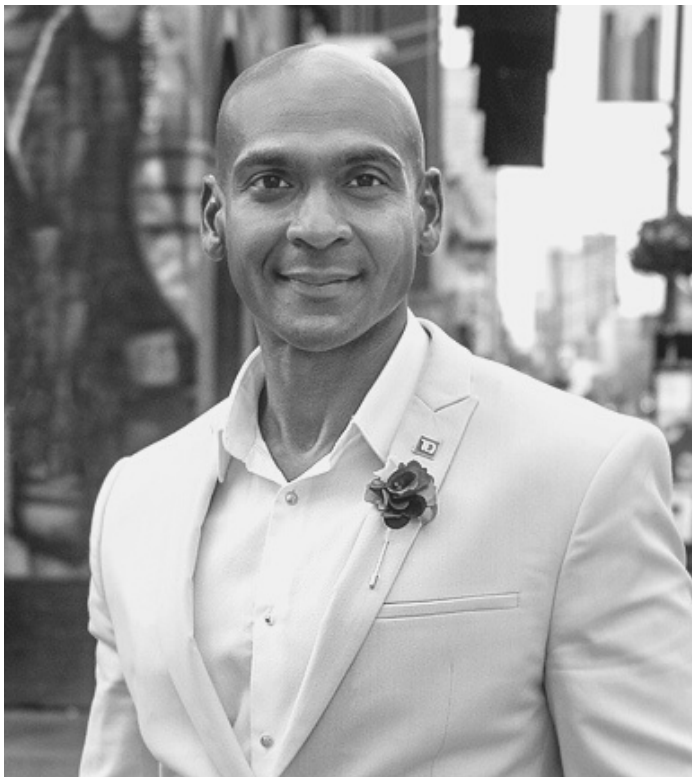
He has served on numerous work committees and boards championing Diversity and Inclusion. He currently sits on the board of the Canadian Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce, ExeQutive and The Rainbow Railroad.

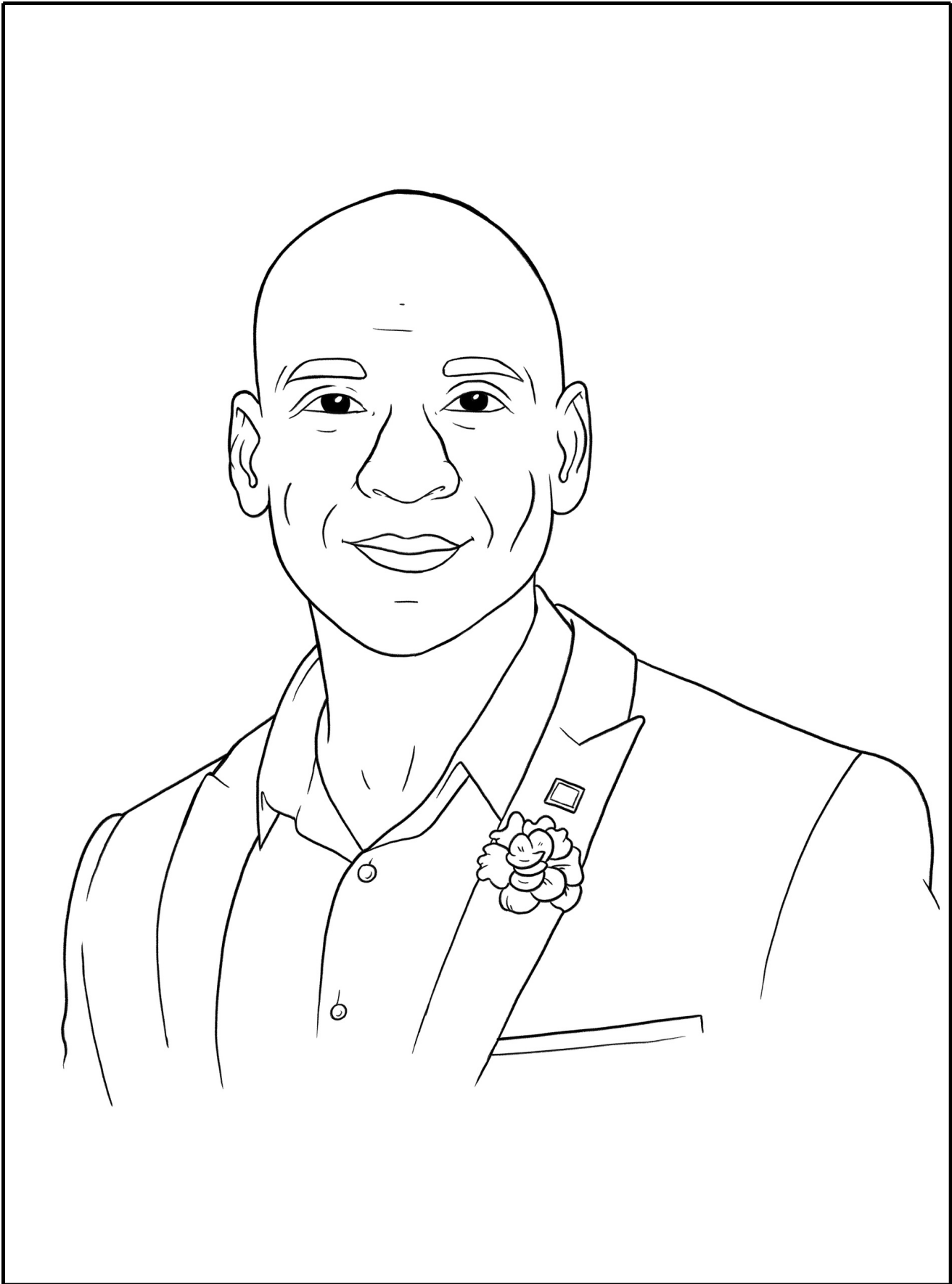
In 2016, Al was awarded TD's Vision in Action award, its highest honour for an employee. In 2018, Al was awarded the Ted Rogers School of Business Management's Trailblazer Alumni Award – for his leadership work in Diversity and Inclusion.

In his spare time, Al is an advocate for promoting health, wellness and creating safe spaces for everyone to feel a sense of belonging. He also enjoys mentoring students and young professionals to help them achieve their full potential both personally and professionally.

Keep learning:

- Jamaica is currently a country that criminalizes homosexuality. How would you feel if your identity was criminalized?
- Al has turned his story of survival into a story of giving back to his community. Why do you think he is so passionate about volunteering and helping others?
- What is your favourite volunteer activity?





Rev. Dr. Cheri DiNovo CM

FIRST QUEER ON MPP

Cheri is best known for performing the first legalized same sex marriage in Canada. She was voted Best MPP many times by NOW. She lobbied and passed critical legislation including the Parental Equality bill and Trans Day of Remembrance (demanding a moment of silence in the Ontario Legislature every November). She is known as the “Queen of tri-party bills” for tabling the most bills in the Legislature that have all three parties’ support. Cheri has also passed more Private Member’s Bills than any other MPP in Ontario’s record, and has passed more pro-LGBTQ legislation than anyone in Canadian history.

Cheri has been a 40+ year activist for LGBTQ issues. She was the only woman in Canada to sign the ‘We Demand’ statement in 1971—the first demand for gay rights on Parliament Hill. In 2012, Cheri succeeded in getting Toby’s Act passed, an amendment to the Ontario Human Rights Code to include gender identity and gender expression—the first of its kind in North America.



She made history again in 2015 by successfully passing Bill 77, which prohibits “Conversion Therapy” for youth (therapy intended to prevent young people from identifying as LGBTQ [lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, transsexual or queer]). This ground-breaking legislation also de-listed “conversion therapy” from OHIP. Following this, President Barack Obama called for a ban of the practice in the US, and Manitoba tabled legislation to ban the practice as well. DiNovo has championed Parental Equality for LGBTQ parents with her Bill, Cy and Ruby’s Act. Cheri has also been honoured to be the Grand Marshal in Toronto’s Pride Parade and was awarded the Order of Canada in 2020.

Keep learning:

- Check out Cheri's website: cheridinovo.ca
- Cheri's story speaks about addressing poverty. Why do you think this issue is close to her heart?
- Cheri describes Canada as still having a lot to do. What do you think needs to be done?





Danny Ramadan

LGBTQ-REFUGEES ACTIVIST

Danny Ramadan is an award-winning Syrian-Canadian author, public speaker and LGBTQ-refugees activist.

The Clothesline Swing, Ramadan's debut novel, won the Independent Publisher Book Award for LGBT Fiction, The Canadian Authors Association's award for Best Fiction, and was shortlisted for Evergreen Award, Sunburst Award and a Lambda Award. It was long listed for Canada Reads 2018. The novel is translated to French, German and Hebrew.

His children book, *Salma the Syrian Chef*, is to be released in March 2020.

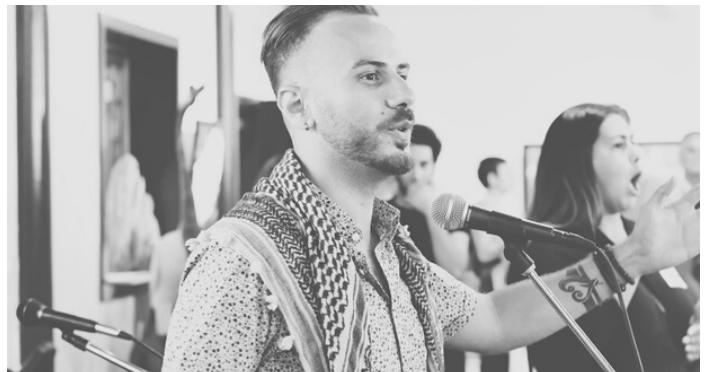
He is currently working on his next novel, *The Foghorn Echoes*, a collection of short fiction, *The Syrian Survival Notebook*, and a YA novel, *Son of the Silk Maker*.

He was named among the Top Immigrants to Canada 2017 as well as awarded the Mark S. Bonham Centre for Sexual Diversity Award for Excellency.

He is currently finishing his Masters in Fine Arts - Creative Writing at UBC and lives with his husband, Matthew Ramadan, in Vancouver.

Keep learning:

- Check out his website: dannyramadnan.com
- *The Clothesline Swing* (Danny's book) is a journey through the troublesome aftermath of the Arab Spring. A former Syrian refugee himself, Ramadan unveils an enthralling tale of courage that bring Danny to Canada. What parts of his story surprised you? How did it make you feel?
- He has raised over \$150,000 in funds for LGBTQ-identifying refugees and supported 23 people to find refuge in Canada. What can you do to support refugees?





Dr. Alex Abramovich

ADDRESSING LGBTQ2S YOUTH HOMELESSNESS

Dr. Alex Abramovich has been addressing the issue of LGBTQ2S youth homelessness for over 10 years. He is an award winning, internationally recognized leader in the area and one of only a few Canadian researchers studying this issue. Over the years, Dr. Abramovich has advocated continuously for policy and practice changes to improve the lives of LGBTQ2S youth.

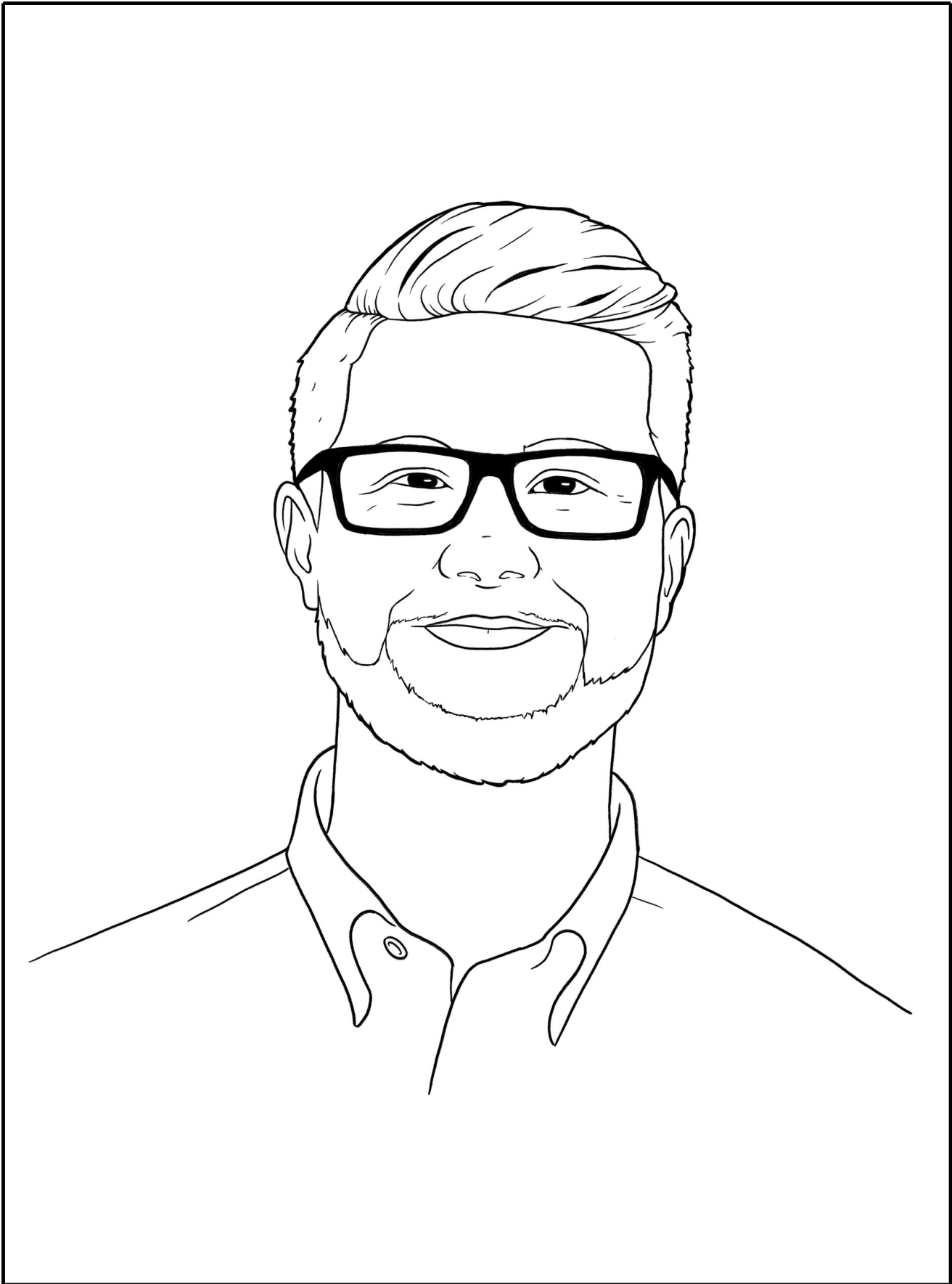
Dr. Abramovich is an Independent Scientist at the Institute for Mental Health Policy Research at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) and an Assistant Professor at the Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto. His program of research focuses on LGBTQ2S youth homelessness and transgender health. Dr. Abramovich's research has led to groundbreaking practice and policy reform, including the launch of Canada's first dedicated transitional housing program for LGBTQ2S youth.

He has worked closely with all levels of government to develop policies and strategies that address the needs of LGBTQ2S youth experiencing homelessness and is committed to research that successfully and ethically engages the community and situates LGBTQ2S young people experiencing homelessness as knowledge makers and creators.

Keep learning:

- Check out Dr. Abramovich's website: www.alexabramovich.me
- Why are 2SLGBTQIA+ youth at higher risk of experiencing homelessness than cisgender and heterosexual youth?
- Dr. Abramovich has interviewed numerous 2SLGBTQIA+ youth experiencing homelessness across Canada. What specific and unique challenges do you think that 2SLGBTQIA+ youth experiencing homelessness face compared to cisgender and heterosexual youth?
- Dr. Abramovich has provided recommendations to address and end 2SLGBTQIA+ youth homelessness across Canada. What do you think your community can do to help solve these issues?





Kathryn Foss

POSITIVE SPACE CHAMPION

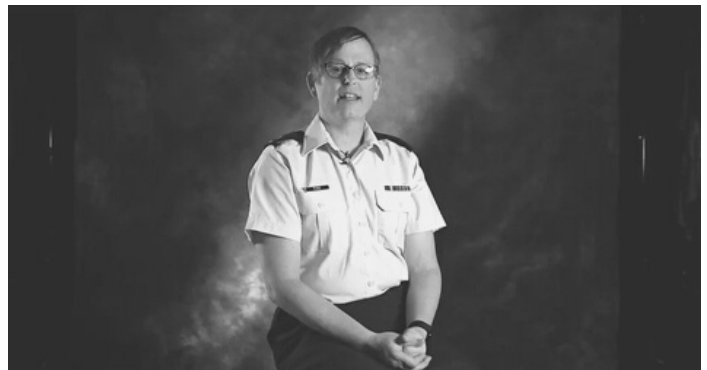
Major Kathryn Foss CD BSc MEng, has been a member of the Canadian Armed Forces since 1987 and retired in 2019. Kathryn is a transgender woman who came out and began her transition in fall of 2016. She has struggled for her whole life to fit in, some of the more difficult periods being during her employment with the Canadian Army. After facing both mental and physical health issues due to severe anxiety, she first attempted to come out as a gay man and failed to find the peace and ease she was seeking. Much soul-searching and supportive friends lead Kathryn to who she is before you today.

Kathryn took part in the Government of Canada Positive Space Initiative, is a Positive Space Champion/Ambassador, and has been working within the military to implement the program as one of the lead facilitators. Kathryn has used her training to provide advice and assistance to the production of diversity and transgender policy within National Defence.

Kathryn is a kind and compassionate soul, who is thriving as her true authentic self. She has grown in so many ways in the past few years and based upon her unique experiences and perspective loves to give back to the world who supported her by volunteering, mentoring and advocating. Kathryn took an active role on the Defence Women's Advisory Organization in Ottawa, is a trained Gender Focal Point, and is the founding chair of the National Defence Pride Network.

Keep learning:

- Coming out is tough. How do you think working in an environment like the military impacts one's experience coming out?
- Kathryn uses Positive Space training to create inclusive communities. What can you do?





Martine Roy

PURGE SURVIVOR

Martine Roy is the Chair of the Board of Directors of the LGBT Purge Fund.

Martine worked for 20 years at IBM, where she held positions as the Critical Resolution Coordinator and Account Manager. At IBM, she established resource groups to support LGBT employees and she was also deeply involved in raising staff and management awareness of LGBT issues. Martine was passionate about promoting an inclusive workplace.

Martine now serves as the Regional Director, Business Development LGBTQ2 + Quebec & Eastern Canada for TD Bank. Once again, Martine has taken up this new role with passion. A deeply committed activist for the rights of LGBT people, she also has a heart for her work and for business. Martine was dismissed from the Canadian Armed Forces for her homosexuality at the age of 19. She is a survivor of the “LGBT Purge”.

Martine was instrumental in bringing a class action lawsuit against the Canadian government that ended in a federal apology from the prime minister in 2017.

Martine sat on Pride at Work Canada’s Board of Directors for 10 years. Pride at Work, a Toronto-based organization, was co-founded by Martine and seven other people. She also served as the Chair of Fondation Émergence until 2015.

Over the years, a leader in fighting for inclusion in the workplace, Martine has received numerous awards and honours. In 2017, she was awarded the Medal of the National Assembly of Quebec.

Keep learning:

- What do you know about the 2SLGBTQIA+ Purge, when the federal government fired thousands of Canadian public servants and military personnel?
- Since the apology of the Purge, what do all Canadians have to do to ensure that discrimination like this never happens again?





Libby Davies

FIRST LESBIAN MP

Libby Davies has been a social activist for 45 plus years and began as a community organizer in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside in 1972. She was elected to Vancouver City Council for 5 consecutive terms, 1982-1993. As the Member of Parliament for Vancouver East for six consecutive terms, 1997-2015, she became NDP House Leader, (2003-2011) and Deputy Leader (2007-2015). Libby has been an outspoken advocate for human rights, housing, peace, and social justice throughout her political life. She was a key player in global parliamentary efforts around health and HIV/AIDS, serving as the Chair of Inter-Parliamentary Union's (IPU), Advisory Group on HIV/AIDS and Maternal and Child Health.

Her history as a strong community activist for Vancouver began over 45 years ago. She and her late partner, Bruce Eriksen, were key figures in the formation of the Downtown Eastside Residents' Association (DERA)

As the Member of Parliament for Vancouver East, Libby provided a strong voice for Vancouver East. She consistently raised issues of concern to her constituents in Parliament, including: community safety; the need for a national childcare program; and affordable and accessible post-secondary education. Libby was a tireless advocate in Parliament for a national housing program, and successfully forced federal governments to address this basic human right. Libby's community office helped hundreds of residents with federal government matters such as immigration, student loans, employment insurance, taxation, pensions, and Aboriginal affairs. Libby has been an outspoken advocate for drug policy reforms to stop the criminalization of drug users and the harm caused by Canada's prohibitionist policies.

Keep learning:

- Visit libbydavies.ca
- In her memoir published in 2019, "Outside In: A Political Memoir", she discusses sexism in politics. Do you think this is still a challenge for women in politics?





Warner Schaettgen

YOUTH ACTIVIST

Warner Schaettgen is a 12-year-old transgender activist who has been speaking out since she was 6 years old about the challenges of being transgender in the hopes that it will help others see that love and acceptance are the Canadian Way!

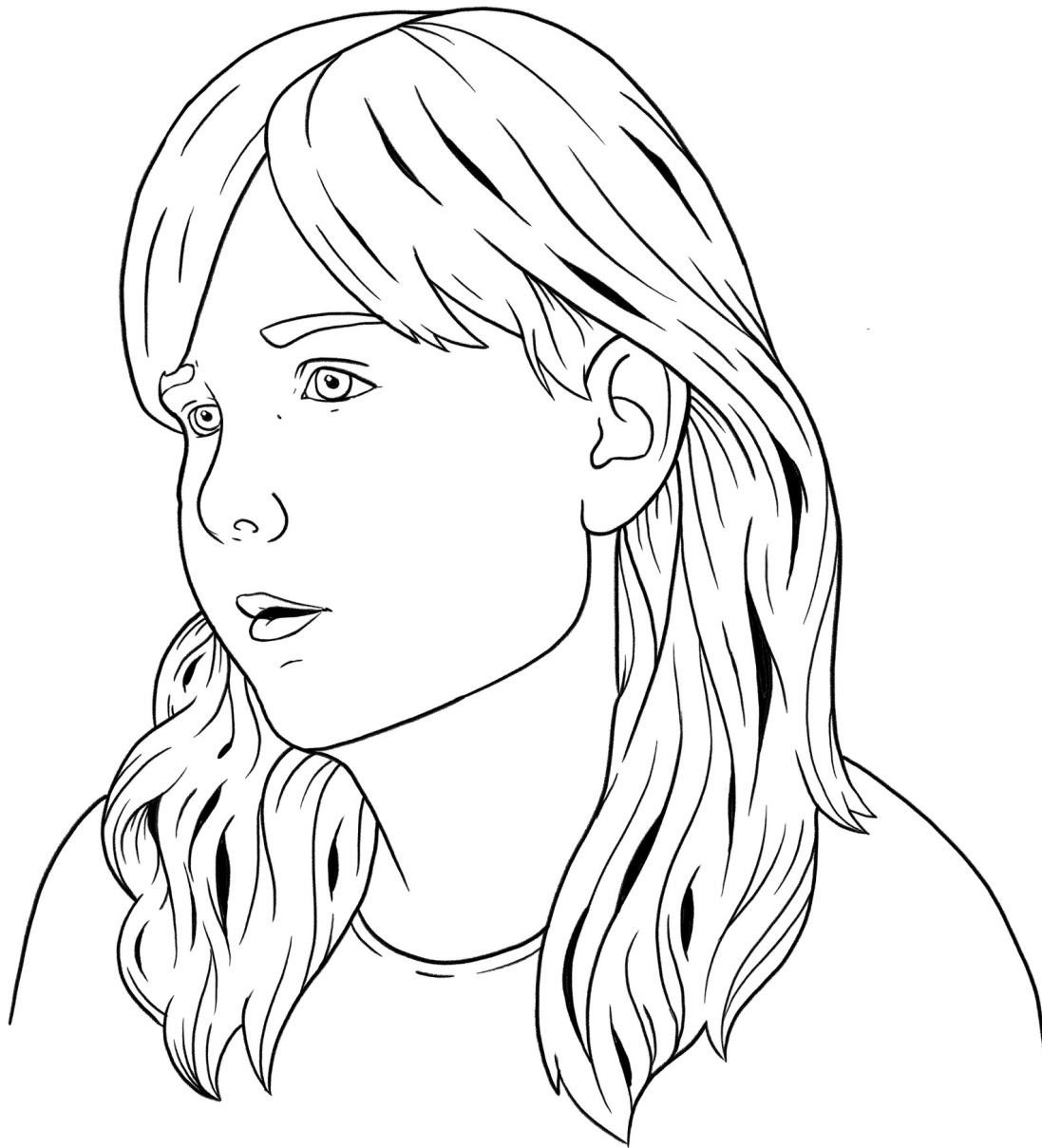
She helped pass the law in Canada that added protection from discrimination due to gender expression and gender identity to the Canadian Human Rights Act. She runs a buddy program that helps provide support to other gender non-conforming children and Warner is one of the youngest Canadians to receive a Medal of honour from Canada's Governor General for her work!

She is brave beyond her years and is hoping to help change our beautiful country so that everyone can live free of discrimination!

Keep learning:

- Warner is often described as courageous. Why do you think this is a good way of describing her character?
- Young activists like Warner are changing the way youth are being perceived by politicians. What messages do you think your politicians need to hear?
- Warner, like many trans youth, has experienced bullying and discrimination. What can you do to stop bullying in your school and community?





Anita Dolman

POET & ACTIVIST

Writer and editor Anita Dolman is an advocate for bisexual and mental health rights and representation. She has published both fiction and non-fiction on mental illness, bi erasure and the arts, and was a founding board member for Jer's Vision (now the Canadian Centre for Gender and Sexual Diversity).

Dolman founded Ottawa's Crafty Bi Nature for the bi/pan+ community in response to research showing lack of community support and feelings of invisibility contribute to bisexuals suffering the highest rates of mental illness, suicide and sexual assault among all orientations.

She works with other writers and organizations like the Bi Book Awards and Toronto's Bi Arts Festival to advocate for and support bi/pan+ creators, and with organizations such as All Out to defend LGBTQIA+ human rights in Canada and internationally.

Dolman is the author of *Lost Enough: A collection of short stories and two chapbooks of poetry*, and co-edited the international anthology *Motherhood in Precarious Times*. Her poetry and fiction have appeared in numerous journals, magazines and anthologies, including *Collective Unrest*, *Crush*, *Imaginary Safe House*, *Canadian Ginger*, *Arc Poetry Magazine*, and *On Spec*.

She is married to fellow Canadian bisexual author James K. Moran.

Keep learning:

- For more about bisexuality or how to support the bi community, visit bi.org or biresource.org
- In the late 2010s, online campaigns tried to divide the LGBTQIA+ community by suggesting "bi" literally meant attraction to two genders, reinforced the binary and was transphobic. Bi activists have since spread knowledge about the sexualities under the inclusive bi umbrella, and amplified bi support for the trans community (which includes many trans and nonbinary bi people) through campaigns like #BwiththeT. What misconceptions have you heard about bisexuality? What can you do to challenge them?



