

LGBTQ+ Leaders Breaking Down Barriers and Disrupting the Workplace Panel Workshop

Description:

Being openly LGBTQ+ at school and in the workplace can sometimes be daunting, scary and challenge for many. Come OUT and learn from these successful LGBTQ+ Leaders and how each of them overcame barriers, stigmas and followed their passions to become a success as individuals, in life, in business and in the community. This panel will be a facilitated Q&A session inclusive of an attendee Q&A session.

Learning Objectives:

- Learn how being yourself can unleash your full potential and create professional and personal growth
- Understand why diversity and inclusion is what makes organizations grow and to be more productive
- Establish opportunities to learn how to define your own brand and approach
- Articulate the value of being your true authentic self
- Identify ways to leverage your network to find opportunities



Brien Convery | Him /His | Director, Early Talent Acquisition, RBC

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Brien is an accomplished, results-driven executive professional with 29 years of diversified and progressive experience spanning a wide range of industries and disciplines both in the private and public sectors across the globe.

As Director, Early Talent Acquisition, Attraction and Engagement, at RBC, Brien leads the Canada campus recruitment teams to attract, engage, recruit and mentor the “right” student talent at one of the world’s leading financial institutions.

As a champion for diversity and inclusion, Brien holds the title of Vice-Chair Recruitment and Mentorship for the RBC PRIDE Employee Resource Group focusing on the LGBTQ+ employees and community at-large.

Brien is an Employer Representative Board Member for the Co-operative Education and Work Integrated Learning Canada (CEWIL) and is a recent Canadian Association of Career Educators and Employers (CACEE) 2019 Award Winner for Outstanding Achievement in the field of career planning and recruitment. Brien also sits on a number of post-secondary advisory boards and holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration, Management and Operations from the University of Hartford, Connecticut.

Follow Brien and his Early Talent Acquisition, Attraction and Engagement Team on Twitter:
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Justin Ingraldi | Him /His | Development Editor at Scott Brothers Entertainment

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Justin has been working in the film and television industry for over 10 years. He is a freelance editor and post-production professional with experience working on various short films, television shows and online content.

Before becoming an editor, Justin worked for one of Toronto's leading cultural institutions, the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF), as the Senior Manager of Volunteer and Intern Resources. In this role, Justin helped to create and develop Volunteer and Internship programmes at TIFF with a key focus on diversity and inclusion.

Justin holds a Bachelor of Art Honours Degree from Queen's University in Film Studies.



Connor Taras | Him/His | Manager, Sales (Admissions) – Canada, General Assembly | Former National Team Athlete

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Connor has been working in the tech industry for the last 6 years. His professional career started in San Francisco where he was part of a venture funded startup in the blockchain space. After moving back to Toronto, he has since been working as the Canadian Sales (Admissions) Manager at General Assembly, a global pioneer in education and career transformation specializing in today's most in demand tech skills.

Previous to his professional career, Connor was a member of the Canadian Olympic National Team in Sprint Kayaking. He is a 2011 Pan American Games medalist, 2007 Jr. World silver medalist, 3x World cup medist and 16x National Champion. Connor came out as one of the first openly gay athletes in Canada. Since then, he has partnered with You Can Play, Egale Canada and the Canadian Olympic #OneTeam initiative to fight gender-based discrimination, homophobia, biphobia, transphobia or any other type of discrimination in sport.



**Elliot Fonarev | They/Them | Research Assistant @ GATE-Institute for Gender and the Economy |
Program & Policy Evaluator @ EYS**

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Elliot researches transgender inclusion in workplaces at the Institute for Gender and the Economy at the University of Toronto's Rotman School of Management while pursuing graduate studies at UofT. Elliot is trained as a human rights lawyer and has worked in big and small organizations in Toronto, Cape Town (South Africa), London (UK), and Vienna (Austria). He is a first generation Canadian and proud non-binary trans- and queer-identified Torontonionian.



Patrick Hunter | (He/Him) | Artist | Graphic Designer | Entrepreneur

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Patrick Hunter is a 2 Spirit Ojibway artist, graphic designer, and entrepreneur from Red Lake Ontario. 5 years ago he launched Patrick Hunter Art & Design with the intent to create artwork that makes people feel good.

He is best known for his paintings in the Woodland art style, but is also making a name for himself in the corporate world through artistic and graphic collaborations with RBC and BMO Banks, Ernst & Young, West Elm, Staples Promotional Products, eBay Canada, CTV and Global Affairs Canada to name a few.

Patrick's dream to create a better future has led him to become the Artist in Residence for the Prince's Trust Canada, a royal charity in which Indigenous language reclamation is one of the foremost priorities.

Recently Patrick was asked by ROGERS to be the first artist to showcase his work in their art gallery, which opened on National Indigenous Peoples Day until August 31st, 2019.