

# Creating Understanding and Awareness of the Transgender Community

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## *Speakers Notes*

### *Slide 1*

- No Notes

### *Slide 2*

- **This is the organization that worked with Greater Sudbury Police Service to create the video**

### *Slide 3*

- The purpose of our training video is to provide agencies with a true understanding of the Transgender community and their struggles
- Ie: if I have lived as a male for 20 years, but still have female anatomy I may very well not want a female nurse, doctor PSW etc to examine me.
- New changes to the Ontario Human Rights Code in June 2012

### *Slide 4*

- This will provide some global perspective on stories that are currently in the news. New generation of Trans Youth stepping forward.
- Play the WREN video
- Explain will show Jazz's story at the end
- Saskatchewan mom wants ID changed
- (note: you will have to have internet connection for the links to work off the PowerPoint)

### *Slide 5*

- Some interesting facts that were sighted by the Toronto Star in WRENS' story.

### *Slide 6*

- **A Quick Recap on Sex & Gender Definitions:**
- What is sexual identity?
- Sexual identity refers to the concept at birth. A child is male or female according to their genitalia.
- Sexual identity characteristics may include: Visual inspection of genitalia, Chromosomal make-up, Secondary sex characteristics such as Hair growth and Body Shape.
- The binary gender system (male or female) does not consider transgender persons.
- We live in a society where many believe that 'sex determines gender' however this is not the case.
- What is gender?

- The traditional definition of gender is male or female. However, according to the human rights code, gender also refers to how the individual will express femininity or masculinity.
- Remember, Sexual Identity: is how you identify as sexually, male or female. Gender Characteristics: come with one's chosen sexual identity.

#### Slide 7

- **Human Rights Code & Toby's Act:**
- The Ontario Human Rights Code is a provincial law that gives all people equal rights and opportunities without discrimination in specific areas such as housing and services. The Code's goal is to prevent discrimination and harassment because of race, colour, gender identity, gender expression, sex, sexual orientation, disability, creed, age and other grounds.
- Also known as Bill 33, an act to amend the Human Rights Code with respect to gender identity and gender expression. It looks to codify protections for trans people, mimicking protection that already exists for much of the LGB community. This act is named after Toby Dancer, a trans woman who took her life due to social struggles in society.

#### Slide 8

- Is partially explained in video. You may want to expand on other definitions
- Above the umbrella is Feminine women, masculine men, and CISGENDER = people who identify with their biological gender-
- **Masculine Women-** Persons who identify as per their biological sex= female but may be seen by society as “acting male, or following male stereotypical roles/behaviours”
- **Androgynous Persons-**Persons who choose not to ID themselves as either male or female. They may express themselves in very gender neutral ways (visually hard to “fit them into a category....are they male or female)... An Androgynous Person.. has the “gender expression” that appears to neutral, neither fitting exactly the socially constructed binary of male or female. However, they do have a distinct “gender identity” of either being male or female.
- [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wl\\_oil1a\\_YE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wl_oil1a_YE)
- **Feminine Men-** Persons who identify as per their biological sex= male but may be seen by society as “acting feminine, or following female stereotypical roles/behaviours”
- **Hijra-** Once revered, many within India now live on the fringes of society. That is the plight of India’s estimated 5 million “hijras.”The term applies to a diverse group who identify as neither male nor female. They can range from natural intersex to male cross dresser. Respected by the Mughals, but considered criminals by British colonizers, today many live as sex workers and beggars. <http://stream.aljazeera.com/story/201310170000-0023115>
- **Transsexual-** People who were identified at birth as one sex, but who identify themselves differently. They may seek or undergo one or more medical treatments to align their bodies with their internally felt identity, such as hormone therapy, sex reassignment surgery or other procedures.
- **Two Spirited-** A person of the native language used to describe those who display both characteristics of male and female and the ability to see the world from two perspectives at the same time.

- **Intersex Persons**- People who are not easily classified as “male” or “female,” based on their physical characteristics at birth or after puberty. This word replaces the inappropriate term “hermaphrodite.”
- **Bigender**- The tendency to move between masculine and feminine gender-typed behaviour depending on context, expressing a distinctly male persona and a distinctly female persona.
- **Third Gender**- Describe individuals who are categorized (by their will or by social consensus) as neither male nor female, as well as the social category present in those societies who recognize three or more genders.
- **8. DRAG**- From the era of William Shakespeare.. women were not allowed to participate in theatrical productions, so male actors would impersonate females for the sake of the performance.
- **Currently**: This encompasses two categories DRAG QUEENS (males that impersonate females), DRAG KINGS (females that impersonate males). Individuals that fall into these categories are covered under the transgender umbrella, however participate in this form of “cross dressing” for entertainment/employment purposes. Individuals that identify with being DRAG QUEENS/KINGS are comfortable with their birth gender identity.
- **9. Cross dresser**- A person who, for emotional and psychological wellbeing, dresses in clothing usually associated with the “opposite” sex.
- **10. Transvestite**- A term that is viewed as *derogative and should no longer be used*
- **11. Inter gender**- Individual have a [gender identity](#) and/or [gender expression](#) that is between the [binary genders](#). They may describe this in terms of being between female and male, between man and woman, between masculine and feminine or simply 'in between'.
- **12. Gender Queer**- a person who feels that his/her gender identity does not fit into the socially constructed "norms" associated with his/her biological sex.
- **13. A gendered**- transgender person who does not have a gender, or lacks a gender identity. **Bigender/Intergender/A-Gender**: the definition are all appropriately identified as Gender Neutral/Fluid.

#### Slide 9

- **Expand** on the Trans Pulse Project.
- Give class the stat on 75% having a college/university education yet income being below \$15,000. Ask them WHY?
- A: Answer is within Vincent’s dialogue in the video.
- If you complete your diploma/degree in your old name you can’t put it on a resume without outing yourself
- To change your name on legal documentation is costly- if you are making \$15,000 or less, your financial priorities are housing/food
- <http://transpulseproject.ca/>
- **Dr. Carys Massarella**: from Hamilton Ontario is a trans female who also speaks about Trans Issues and the Trans Pulse Survey
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EtuX8lDmty4>

- Dr. Carys Massarella is a current Trustee of the Hamilton Board Committee and has been a member of the Emergency Department medical staff since 1997. Dr. Massarella is Assistant Clinical Professor in the DeGroot School of Medicine at McMaster University and is the attending emergency physician at St. Joseph's Healthcare Centre in Hamilton. She was also the past President and Medical Staff at St. Joseph's Healthcare. She is also the lead Physician of the Transcare Program, Quest Community Health Centre in St. Catharine's.

#### *Slide 10*

- Additional facts from Trans Pulse. Emphasizing that for officers we should not EXPECT people to have the ID that matches their gender
- <http://transpulseproject.ca/>

#### *Slide 11*

- No Notes.

#### *Slide 12*

- There are many other internet websites and videos that can be used to expand people's understanding of Transgender Issues.
- The **Story of Jazz** is a perfect exposure to "young trans- members and their stories"
- **Annabel-** In 1968, into the devastating, spare atmosphere of the remote coastal town of Labrador, Canada, a child is born: a baby who appears to be neither fully boy nor fully girl, but both at once. Only three people are privy to the secret: the baby's parents, Jacinta and Treadway, and a trusted neighbor and midwife, Thomasina. Though Treadway makes the difficult decision to raise the child as a boy named Wayne, the women continue to quietly nurture the boy's female side. And as Wayne grows into adulthood within the hyper-masculine hunting society of his father, his shadow-self, a girl he thinks of as "Annabel," is never entirely extinguished
- **Warrior Princess-** Chris Beck played high school football. He bought a motorcycle, much to his mother's dismay, at age 17. He grew up to become a U.S. Navy SEAL, serving our country for twenty years on thirteen deployments, including seven combat deployments, and ultimately earned a Purple Heart and the Bronze Star. To everyone who saw him, he was a hero. A warrior. A man. But underneath his burly beard, Chris had a secret, one that had been buried deep inside his heart since he was a little boy-one as hidden as the panty hose in the back of his drawer. He was transgender, and the woman inside needed to get out. This is the journey of a girl in a man's body and her road to self-actualization as a woman amidst the PTSD of war, family rejection and our society's strict gender rules and perceptions. It is about a fight to be free inside one's own body, a fight that requires the strength of a Warrior Princess. Kristin's story of boy to woman explores the tangled emotions of the transgender experience and opens up a new dialogue about being male or female:

#### *Slide 13*

- No Notes.