

# Pride at SAIT Newsletter

Welcome! Pride at SAIT works towards building a community on campus that is inclusive of and accessible to all individuals regardless of gender expression, gender identity or sexual orientation. Through our monthly newsletter, we hope to share resources and important information for our 2SLGBTQ+ community and effect positive change!

## Important dates in March:

- Mar 1: [Self-harm Awareness Day](#)
- Mar 6: [International Women's Day Conference @ SAIT](#)
- Mar 8: [International Women's Day](#)
- Mar 20: [Responding to Disclosures of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence](#)
- Mar 21: [International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination](#)
- Mar 25: [International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade](#)
- Mar 27: International Transgender Day of Visibility Pop – Up resource booth @ SAIT
- Mar 31: [International Transgender Day of Visibility](#)

## Preferred name changes #HereAtSAIT

A preferred name is the name an individual wants or has elected to be called, which might be different than their legal name. Preferred names are important to a wide population of students and employees who may choose to go by a different name for reasons such as their cultural background or marital status.

For transgender and non-binary people, preferred names (sometimes called “chosen names”) are especially important to affirm their gender identity!

Please follow this [link](#) to learn about the process for staff and students.

<https://saitnow.ca/departments-and-schools/external-relations/equity-diversity-inclusion/preferred-name-changes/>

## Together, we are stronger.

In light of recent challenges faced by our 2SLGBTQ+ community, we are with you in solidarity and support. If you find yourself in need of support during this difficult time, remember that you are not alone. In Calgary, there are resources available to offer guidance, assistance, and a listening ear.

Some of these include the [Skipping Stone Foundation](#), [End of the Rainbow Foundation](#), and the [Centre for Sexuality](#). Additionally, organizations like [Calgary Outlink](#) provide safe spaces and valuable services tailored to the diverse needs of our community.

Let's continue to uplift one another and foster a culture of inclusivity and acceptance.

If you or someone you know requires support, SAIT's Student Development and Counselling is here to help ensure the well-being and success of students. We offer free in-person, telephone, or video appointments, along with various online wellness workshops and self-help tools.

To schedule an appointment, call 403.284.7023, connect on Microsoft Teams by searching 'Student Development and Counselling, or visit here for more information.

Additional Resources:

[LGBTQ2S+ / Sexual and Gender Diversity with AHS](#)

[Distress Centre - 24/7 crisis line via phone or chat - 403-266-HELP \(4357\)](#)

[Aura - Housing first program for youth ages 14-24 that works alongside LGBTQ2S+, gender nonbinary and gender nonconforming youth who are at risk of or are currently experiencing homelessness](#)

[The Alex - Community Health Centre - A full-service health clinic with doctors, nurses and a social team who are here for your well-being and to understand your needs](#)

[PFLAG Calgary - Peer support group for friends and families of LGBTQ people](#)

[Trans Lifeline - Direct emotional and financial support to trans people in crisis—for the trans community, by the trans community](#)

### **Universal washroom open in Aldred Centre**

The universal washroom renovation in CA105B on the first floor of the Aldred Centre is now complete. You can find the barrier-free and gender neutral facility beside the Second Cup near the cafeteria.

The next closest men's washroom is located at CB103C, in the south wing of Aldred Centre.

We look forward to adding another inclusive space to campus!

Check out the other universal washroom around campus:

- Heritage Hall (AA126)
- Senator Burns building (NJ102B)
- Thomas Riley building (TT113)
- John Ware Building (E13)
- E.H. Crandell building (G102D)
- Green Building Technologies (Lab and Demonstration Centre)

Please contact [inclusion@sait.ca](mailto:inclusion@sait.ca) if you have any questions.

### **Pers 148: Introduction to Effective Intercultural Communication**

Our recently updated course offers an even more engaging online learning experience, focused on enhancing intercultural understanding and communication skills. This six-week course, provided free

of charge to SAIT employees and students, accommodates busy schedules with flexible options for both lunch-hour and evening classes.

### **Why PERS 148?**

**Cultural Competency:** This course hones critical skills for effective communication in our increasingly multicultural environment, essential for both personal and professional interactions.

**Flexible Learning:** Offers convenient class schedules to fit your team's needs.

**Recognition:** Completing the course earns a valuable micro-credential badge, symbolizing a commitment to continuous learning and cultural awareness.

Aligned with SAIT's commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI), PERS 148 is not just an investment in individual growth but a step towards enriching our campus culture.

The next offering starts May 14, To secure a spot, please register [HERE](#) (the March session starts next week!).

If you or someone you know is interested in learning more, additional course offerings are listed below:

### **PERS 020: Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Starter Pack**

This micro-credential offering launched in June 2023. The course is open to anyone and provides a Canadian lens on eight topics, including inclusion at work, anti-racism, understanding ableism, queer essentials, decolonizing business and turning allyship into action.

**Commitment:** One month, self-paced

**Delivery:** Online

**Cost:** \$99

**Who's eligible:** Anyone

### **PERS 143: Queer Inclusion and Belonging at SAIT**

This is an online self-directed course covering terminology, history, unconscious bias and related resources. SAIT students can register by completing the online form, while employees can access it on PeopleNOW.

**Commitment:** 60 – 90 minutes

**How:** Online

**Cost:** Free

**Who's eligible:** Students and employees

More info can be found on the SAIT website. Should you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to connect with our EDI team at [inclusion@sait.ca](mailto:inclusion@sait.ca)