

**Ombudsperson Update**

As a friendly reminder to all staff and faculty, Kamini Bernard, our Ombudsperson, is here as a resource for anyone within the SAIT community. If you or any of your students have questions, or concerns, or need guidance, she is ready to assist.

Individuals may self-book an appointment from the Ombudsperson’s [**webpage**](https://outlook.office365.com/owa/calendar/Ombudsperson%40sait.ca/bookings/). The Ombudsperson also has scheduled convenient drop-in hours posted on the [**page**](https://www.sait.ca/student-life/office-of-the-ombudsperson#:~:text=Book%20an%20appointment-,Drop%2Din%20hours,-Date). No appointment is needed during drop-in hours.

Drop in hours:

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| **For May** |
| May 9, 2024 | 9 am – 11 am |
| May 15, 2024 | 10 am – 12 pm |
| May 16, 2024 | 12 pm – 2 pm |
| May 22, 2024 | 2 pm – 4 pm |
| May 23, 2024 | 2 pm – 4 pm |
| May 29, 2024  | 9 am – 11 am |
| May 30, 2024 | 12 pm – 2 pm |

**Book Your Workshop on Academic and Office Integrity**

Enhance your department’s commitment to academic and office integrity by booking a workshop with Susan Radke and Kamini Bernard. Their expertise will guide you in fostering a culture of ethical practices and transparency. To schedule this valuable session, please contact us at **ombudsperson.info@sait.ca.**

**Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Update**

**Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility (IDEA) Groups**

We are happy to introduce [**Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility (IDEA) Groups**](https://saitnow.ca/departments-and-schools/people-and-culture/equity-diversity-inclusion/idea-groups/)at SAIT!

Formerly known as Employee Resource Groups, we’ve rebranded to better reflect our higher ed context and expanded institutional support to sustain efforts. An IDEA Group is a voluntary opportunity for like-minded individuals to come together and advance the cause of an equity-deserving group at SAIT. Equity-deserving groups are communities who experience barriers to participation at SAIT including women, Indigenous people, people with disabilities, Black and racialized people, as well as 2SLGBTQ+ people. SAIT’s IDEA Groups—including [BEES](https://www.sait.ca/about-sait/equity-diversity-and-inclusion/black-empowerment-and-excellence-at-sait), [EMBRACE](https://saitnow.ca/departments-and-schools/people-and-culture/equity-diversity-inclusion/employee-resource-groups/embrace/), [Pride at SAIT](https://www.sait.ca/about-sait/equity-diversity-and-inclusion/pride-at-sait), [Neurodiversity Alliance](https://www.sait.ca/about-sait/equity-diversity-and-inclusion/neurodiversity-alliance) and [Women in Trades in Technology](https://www.sait.ca/about-sait/equity-diversity-and-inclusion/women-in-trades-and-technology)—add much value to our campus culture. Please show your support by making time for yourself and your teams to participate in the many activities occurring throughout the year.
 **IDEA Groups: Call for Membership**

We are actively seeking membership for:

* New members for Women in Trades in Technology
* New Chair for the BEES

Stay tuned for a call for membership in the SAITNOW forums in the coming weeks.

**Workshop an EDI Idea**

Have an EDI-related idea you’d like to implement? Bring it to the EDI Advisory Council to workshop it with our in-house experts. The council meets monthly in-person, usually the third Thursday of each month, and is happy to offer insight and feedback. Email **inclusion@sait.ca** to start the process.

**SAIT Accessibility Advisory Committee**

We are happy to share the relaunch of SAIT’s Accessibility Advisory Committee in Spring 2024. The purpose of the committee is to enhance and ensure accessibility and inclusivity for the entire SAIT community including students, employees and visitors. The committee will focus on identifying and eliminating barriers to create a more accessible learning and working environment. Collaboratively, the committee will review the feasibility of proposed improvements, provide recommendations, assist in the planning and prioritization of these initiatives, and incorporation into SAITs annual planning cycle for decision-making. Integral to the process is soliciting and considering feedback from the SAIT community, ensuring that recommendations are well-informed and prioritized based on their impact.

🌍 **Enhance Your Skills: "PERS 148: Introduction to Effective Intercultural Communication"**

Exciting opportunity alert! The Office of EDI is offering **PERS 148: Introduction to Effective Intercultural Communication.**This course is a fantastic resource for enhancing our skills in navigating and understanding the complexities of intercultural interactions. It's an excellent chance for both personal development and professional growth – and it's free for all SAIT employees and students!

**What You Need to Know:**

📆 **Duration:** 6 weeks, online-synchronous
⏰ **Weekly Commitment:** 2 hours/week (1hr live session + 1hr reading/homework)

🏅 **Bonus:** Earn a micro-credential badge upon completion!

**Future Sessions Starting:** May 14th, 5-6pm | May 22nd, 12-1pm | July 3rd, 12-1pm

**Ready to Register?** Click [HERE](https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/2023-2024-schedule-pers-148-1966749?utm-campaign=social&utm-content=creatorshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=odclsxcollection&utm-source=cp&aff=escb) to secure your spot.

If you have any questions or need more details, please don't hesitate to reach out to our EDI team at inclusion@sait.ca.

**Calgary Women in Leadership Summit 2024**

Join us on Wednesday, May 29th for the Calgary Women in Leadership Summit - *Shaping the Future of Work* as we will showcase leading employers catalyzing change across the technology, energy, and health care sectors. [Register here](https://www.womeninleadership.ca/events-1/calgary-women-in-leadership-summit-1) – early bird individual tickets are available for $105/each.

**Inclusion Talk | Gender Splendor: Creating Safe Spaces**

In honour of the International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, and Transphobia (IDAHBT), join us for a brief, accessible, and easily digestible introduction to gender diversity. This workshop meets all participants (students, staff, and faculty) where they are at, providing foundational knowledge and actionable steps to create more welcoming and affirming spaces at SAIT.

When: Thursday May 16

Time: 11am-12pm

Where: AA117

Register [here](https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/inclusion-talks-gender-splendor-creating-safe-spaces-tickets-876910873027?aff=oddtdtcreator)