



## **Ombudsperson Update**

As a friendly reminder to all staff and faculty, Jeff Stransky, our Ombudsperson, is here as an impartial resource for anyone within the Sait community. If you or any of your students have encountered a difficult situation, or you have questions or concerns about regulations, policies, or procedures, Jeff is accessible to provide confidential support.

Individuals may self-book an appointment from the Ombudsperson's [webpage](#). The Ombudsperson also has scheduled convenient drop-in hours posted on the [page](#). No appointment is needed during drop-in hours.

## **Meet Our New Ombudsperson – Jeff Stransky**

Jeff Stransky is Sait's new Ombudsperson effective Monday, Sept. 16. Jeff brings more than 20 years of experience working in the post-secondary sector, most recently having served six years as Ombudsperson for the University of Calgary. A graduate of the University of Waterloo, Jeff also holds certificates in human rights from Osgoode Hall Law School and the Alberta Human Rights Commission. Jeff replaces Kamini Bernard who has assumed the



role of Associate Director, Office of Community Conduct. Jeff will be located in MC201, Stan Grad Centre.

## **Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Update**

### **Introduction to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion course at SAIT**

Introduction to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion at SAIT is a one-hour online, asynchronous course which introduces foundational principles, concepts and terms related to equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI). It is designed to be the starting point for employees on their individual EDI journeys. Learners will begin to grow their understanding of self and how to relate to others, as well as identify tangible ways to promote a healthy campus environment where everyone feels welcome, respected and empowered to succeed.

Learning Objectives:

- Identify the current components of equity, diversity, and inclusion at SAIT
- Describe the foundational principles, concepts, and terms of equity, diversity, and inclusion
- Develop self-awareness and ways to respectfully work across differences
- Recognize the professional development opportunities available to continue EDI learning at SAIT

**New employees** are encouraged to complete the course as part of their new hire [Onboarding Checklist](#).

**Current employees** can complete the course by signing into [PeopleNOW](#).

### **Micro-learning: Teaching in Linguistically and Culturally Diverse Classrooms**

The Centre for Academic Development and Innovation (CADI) has created a pathway of four micro-learnings exploring teaching in culturally and linguistically diverse classes. Each module is asynchronous and can be completed in as little as 30 minutes.

**Log in to [PeopleNOW](#)** and search by module title to register:

- Module 1: Introduction to Supporting EAL Learners
- Module 2: Getting to Know Learners
- Module 3: Classroom Management
- Module 4: Assessments and Feedback

#### **4 Seasons of Reconciliation**

SAIT now offers the 4 Seasons of Reconciliation course in partnership with First Nations University of Canada. Those who complete this three-hour training will gain foundational knowledge on Truth and Reconciliation and earn a certificate.

The course, along with its online resources, promote a renewed relationship between Indigenous peoples and Canadians, through transformative and engaging learning towards anti-racism education. This learning is in direct response to the 94 Calls to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada and the importance of educating all Canadians in workplaces and classrooms.


- Employees can access the course through [PeopleNOW](#).
- Students can access the course through [mySAIT](#) using the [instructions found on \[sait.ca\]\(#\)](#).


#### **Enhance Your Skills: PERS 148: Introduction to Effective Intercultural Communications**

**Exciting opportunity alert** – registration is now open for 2024-2025 PERS 148 Sessions!

With the fall semester underway, the Office of EDI invites you to take part in opportunities for professional development and personal growth through the recently updated **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 – a highly relevant skillset for today's market. Better yet, 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!

**Next Sessions Starting:** Oct 15th from 5-6pm | Oct 30th from 12-1pm

**Ready to Register?** Click [HERE](#) 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](mailto:inclusion@sait.ca).

## **Pride Week on Campus!**

This year, we are celebrating Pride Week from October 7 to 11! We have in-person and virtual events, so there is something for everyone.

When attending Pride Week events, take time to reflect and celebrate the rainbow of identities that make up our SAIT students, staff and faculty!

## **Pride Flag Raising**

 Date: Monday, Oct. 7


 Time: 9 am

 Location: West of Heritage Hall by flag polls

Kick off Pride Week with us at the Pride Flag Raising Ceremony! This event is more than just raising a flag — it's about celebrating visibility, unity and support for our amazing 2SLGBTQ+ community. Come join the celebration, grab some rainbow candy and say hi to the Pride at SAIT committee at the entrances of Johnson Cobbe, Stan Grad and Heritage Hall!

## **Inclusion Talks | Faithfully Queer: Embracing 2SLGBTQ+ Identities and Christian Belief**

 Date: Tuesday, Oct. 8


 Time: 12 – 1 pm


 Location: Online, register [here](#).


Join us for an inspiring and insightful conversation with the amazing staff from SAIT's Interfaith Centre as we explore the intersection of sexuality, Pride and Christianity. This is

your chance to dive into an open discussion on how faith and identity can beautifully co-exist. You won't want to miss it!

### **Pop Up Pride Booth**

 Date: Wednesday, Oct. 9


 Time: 11:30 am – 1 pm


 Location: Senator Burns across from Tim Horton's


Swing by our Pop-Up Pride Booth in Senator Burns and meet some of the awesome Pride Committee members! Whether you're looking to learn more about the 2SLGBTQ+ community or just want to grab some great resources and support info, we've got you covered. Plus, it's the perfect chance to connect with fellow students!

### **4Nines Breakfast Buffet**

 Date: Thursday, Oct. 10

 Time: 7:30 – 9:30am


 Location: 4Nines, John Ware Building

 Price: \$13.95 (One trip to the buffet, beverage not included), with \$1 from each purchase donated to the [SAIT Pride Award!](#)

The 4Nines Breakfast Buffet is back, and this time, it's even more delicious with a purpose! A portion of every purchase will go towards supporting the SAIT Pride Award. Come fill your plate with all the breakfast goodness you can handle at one great price, while also making a difference for the 2SLGBTQ+ community. It's a win-win!

### **Drag Bingo**

 Date: Friday, Oct. 11

 Time: 12 – 1 pm

 Location: MacDonald Hall, via Stan Grad

Get ready for a fabulous finish to Pride Week with Drag Bingo featuring the amazing performers from The Fake Moustache Troupe! Expect fierce entertainment, fun prizes, tasty popcorn and an unforgettable lunch hour. Don't miss out—it's going to be the most colourful bingo game you've ever played!

### **The SAIT Truth and Reconciliation Event Series**

**Thank you to the SAIT community for participating in the SAIT Truth and Reconciliation event series!**

Your support and engagement were instrumental in making these events meaningful and impactful.

Below are some highlights from the series, reflecting our collective commitment to understanding, reconciliation, and inclusivity.

