

## **Gender Journeys Pilot – Expression of Interest**

### **Community Teleconference – Questions & Answers - March 7 2017**

**Q: What role does the registered clinical counsellor (RCC) or registered social worker (RSW) play in Gender Journeys?**

A: The RCC or RSW will play a lead role in facilitating the Gender Journeys pilot group with co-facilitation support from the Peer Co-Facilitator. The Lead Facilitator will have the skills to hold a safe space for the group and will ideally be able to offer some level of support to group participants should they need brief 1:1 support outside of the Gender Journeys sessions. The Lead Facilitator's role may also depend on the organizational capacity of the host organization and may differ from site to site. The Peer Co-Facilitator will contribute valuable lived and professional experience to this group also. The Peer Co-Facilitator will also have access to clinical consultation during the course of the pilot.

**Q: Will groups be hosted at PHSA locations?**

A: Ideally Gender Journey pilot sites will be distributed across the province in different regions with the actual Gender Journeys group being facilitated out of community space and/or from within community-based organizations (rather than PHSA sites).

**Q: Is this a better opportunity for community organization that already have RCCs who can offer staff as a resource?**

A: Yes. Ideally, Gender Journeys pilot sites are organizations that have appropriate staff resources that they can bring to the table.

**Q: Does the Lead Facilitator have to be trans identified?**

A: At least one of the facilitators – either the Lead Facilitator or the Peer Co-facilitator should identify as trans or gender diverse or non-cis gender.

**Q: Is there the option for partnerships to apply for this opportunity (e.g. one community organization that has an RCC on staff teaming up with another organization that may not)?**

A: Yes. Partnerships are ideal and help to build strong networks.

**Q: What is the general timeline for implementing the full pilot?**

A: There will be four Gender Journey pilot sites selected. The deadline for applications is March 31<sup>st</sup> and site selection will likely happen by then end of April. May and June will be a time for working with each site to get consultation/input to various implementation processes and to provide training. We are anticipating starting the Gender Journeys group in early Fall (September) with project wrap-up components being implemented by the end of December, 2017.

**Q: Are you proposing the clinical supervision of the Peer Co-Facilitator be carried out by Trans Care BC staff or the Lead Facilitator (RCC/RSW at the host site)?**

A: Officially, clinical supervision falls to the agency of record/host site. However, Trans Care BC will be offering all Lead Facilitators and Peer Co-Facilitators the opportunity for group clinical consultation and debrief support. Trans Care BC will take the role of ensuring that both the Lead Facilitator and Peer Co-Facilitator feel well supported throughout the pilot process.

**Q: The Lead Facilitator is expected to contribute 60-80 hours of time over the duration of the pilot project. Is this an accurate estimate?**

A: Although it may vary from organization to organization, we anticipate that the Lead Facilitator will need to be involved with the Gender Journeys pilot for a total of 60-80 hours over the duration of the full pilot. This includes their involvement in: training components, planning components, facilitation, attendance at clinical consultation time etc. The Trans Care BC team will work with selected sites to collaboratively arrive at the actual amount of time that might need to be contributed. For some organizations it may end up being less than 60 hours; for some it may be more. For example, some pilot sites may have an Executive Director or Program Manager deal with the administrative elements that come with being a pilot site so the RCC/RSW will not have to spend their time doing so.

**Q: Will TransCareBC provide support with finding speakers and panelists?**

A: Trans Care BC has a Care Coordination Team that might be able to provide some suggestions with regards to finding speakers, panelists and guests to attend Gender Journeys sessions but we anticipate that local community connections and resources might be more useful. There will be support from Trans Care BC to come up with creative solutions where sites find difficulty in lining up speakers or panelists.

**Q: Will the 'training' component be localized or tailored in any way?**

A: Each selected pilot site will engage in consultation with Trans Care BC in the early stages of the pilot to identify any training needs they have. This consultation process will inform the way in which the training is developed, tailored and implemented for the group of Gender Journeys pilot sites. In addition to the training that happens at the front-end of the pilot, the Peer Co-Facilitator will be learning as they go along and they will be well supported by the Lead Facilitator who will act as a mentor.

**Q: Can an RCC be either a Lead Facilitator or Co-Facilitator?**

A: This is absolutely an option. The important piece is that there is one RCC who is taking a lead on holding the group.

**Q: Is Trans Care BC aware of the mental health resources available in each community?**

A: BC is challenged in that the mental health system doesn't offer a lot of publicly funded, upstream, mental health/wellness resources. The Trans Care BC Care Coordination Team is aware of some resources that exist in certain communities. We anticipate that it might be difficult for a pilot site Lead

Facilitator to easily refer someone to a mental health resource. We do hope that the Trans Care BC Care Coordination Team may learn of new community-based resources that exist around the province as a result of this pilot.

**All additional questions can be directed to: [transcarebc@phsa.ca](mailto:transcarebc@phsa.ca)**