



WHAT: a free drop-in group

WHO: for guys 16-24 who identify as:
two-spirit, intersex, trans, non-binary, gay, bi, queer

WHEN: 2nd & 4th Tuesday each month; 6:30-9pm

WHERE: 65 Wellesley St. East, Suite 300
(downtown Toronto, SW corner of Church & Wellesley;
2min walk from the Wellesley Subway Station)

Front Door Access: buzz 1100 ext. 271

CONTACT: david.yeh@ctys.org



Vision

We envision healthy, resilient 2SITGBQ guys living in affirming communities and relationships free of all forms of violence, discrimination, oppression and prejudice.

Mission

Boyoboy is an equity based group which strengthens mental health, builds resilience, and fosters pride in 2SITGBQ guys. We strive to provide a supportive, anti-oppressive space for everyone where youth can share their stories and learn from each other in mindful ways. We especially welcome the stories of youth who are Black, Indigenous, racialized, disabled, and youth of all marginalized identities.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

What is Boyoboy?

- Boyoboy is a free, drop-in, discussion-based group for 2SITGBQ guys age 16-24;
- Boyoboy explores the intersecting issues of health, identity, relationships and community;
- Boyoboy is offered every second & fourth Tuesday monthly, 6:30-9pm;
- Boyoboy is a project of the [Pride & Prejudice Program](#) at [Central Toronto Youth Services](#)

Why does Boyoboy focus on 2SITGBQ guys?

Guys want spaces to be vulnerable, to explore and celebrate all the rich, diverse expressions of masculinity that may be affirming for them. What does it mean to be a young 2SITGBQ guy in Toronto and how does this intersect with our other diverse identities? How do I navigate these issues that feel



today? How does this intersect with my other diverse identities? How do I navigate these in ways that feel healthy to me? Trans guys, in particular, experience unique intersections of oppression and unique opportunities. How do I build resilience and pride while resisting oppression? Toxic masculinity - with its assumptions, labels and expectations - places unique challenges on guys and their relationships. Boyoboy strives to raise awareness about the challenges and opportunities faced by 2SITGBQ guys, and to offer support and inspiration for guys exploring adventurous, authentic lives.

Who facilitates Boyoboy?

The 2018/19 facilitators are David Yeh (a Program Coordinator with [CTYS' Pride & Prejudice Program](#)); and Javier Davila (a Student Equity Program Advisor with the [TDSB's Gender-Based Violence Prevention Office](#)). From time to time, guest co-facilitators may be invited into special workshops.

Who attends Boyoboy?

Participants are typically queer and trans guys 16-24. However, *all youth 24 and under are welcome, regardless of gender or sexual orientation.* Usually, up to ten youth might attend any given evening, representing a diversity of backgrounds. Note: if you're under 16, a permission form signed by a parent/guardian is required.



How do I attend & what's my commitment?

Just show up! Doors open at 6:30. Activities move along quickly, so we encourage arriving early. Everyone fills-in a sign-in-sheet and wears a name tag. If you want to know about future groups, we can place you on Boyoboy's confidential mailing list. Drop-in to as few or as many groups as you like. *There is no commitment.*

What happens at Boyoboy?

Lots! Each group starts with a welcome & introduction, a review of "safer/braver space" rules, and a check-in round. Each evening has a specific focus (e.g. "building resilience"; "gender & masculinity"; "healthy relationships;" etc.). Discussions may be accompanied by: videos, games & exercises, and art-based activities. Each evening ends with a brief meditation, and a check-out round.

I'm still feeling a little shy...

"Safer/braver space rules" highlight respect, empathy and open-mind. Healthy discussion is encouraged, but just listening quietly is okay too. Boyoboy is a relaxed and playful space. The facilitators take a sex-positive, harm-reduction, anti-oppressive approach. There is no tolerance for deliberate homophobia, transphobia, sexism, racism, ableism, or any other forms of oppression.

Anything else I should know?

Boyoboy is a great place to meet peers and make friends. The site is wheelchair accessible, with an all-gender washroom. Snacks are provided. TTC tokens are available to those who need them. Each evening ends with a free raffle draw for a gift certificate to [Glad Day Bookshop](#).

Bring a friend, and check us out!

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