

Saskatoon Police Service

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LGBTQ2S



Saskatoon's LGBTQ2S (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, two-spirit) community is proudly growing every year. But LGBTQ2S people still face discrimination in many sectors of society, although that discrimination is lessening as society accepts that LGBTQ2S people are really no different than the rest of the population. They are family members, neighbours, co-workers, nurses and doctors, our teachers, the clerk at the grocery store or the police officer walking the beat. LGBTQ2S people make significant and positive contributions to the quality of life in Saskatoon.

Unfortunately, LGBTQ2S people still experience a higher rate of hate crimes than does the average citizen, but because of the fear of stigmatization, these crimes are generally under-reported. The Saskatoon Police Service is working to develop mechanisms to record and track hate and bias crimes, and encourage LGBTQ2S people to file a report when they have been the victim of a hate or bias crime.

The LGBTQ2S members of the Saskatoon Police Advisory Committee On Diversity (SPACOD) work to build understanding, trust and communication between the LGBTQ2S community and the Police. They provide education to the SPS on the facts of being lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer as well as on numerous issues that LGBTQ2S people face in our communities. Officers from the SPS often participate in LGBTQ2S community based events which is helping to improve communications and strengthen relationships between the LGBTQ2S community and the Police.

Chief Clive Weighill with Executive Director of OUTSaskatoon, Rachel Loewen Walker and Miki Mappin, a Trans Activist, officially opened a public, gender-neutral washroom in the lobby of the SPS Headquarters on September 22, 2016.



In November 2016, OUTSaskatoon, Saskatoon's Queer Community Centre, presented to the Saskatoon Police Executive Team on the history of LGBTQ2S communities and best practices in policing. In March of 2017, the presentation was made again, this time, to members of the SPS. The training that SPS officers and staff receive focus on learning the basics of gender, sexual orientation, and gender expression as well as the history of the LGBTQ2S community and policing, best practices in policing, and scenario based learning.

LGBTQ2S people can also be the victims of domestic violence by being physically, verbally, financially, emotionally or sexually assaulted, threatened, harassed or stalked by a partner or ex-partner. The SPS members have been educated on same-sex domestic abuse and LGBTQ2S people are encouraged to report such incidences. If you feel you have been discriminated against or mistreated because of your sexual orientation or gender identity, please call 306-975-2278.

The Saskatoon Police Service recruits from all communities and welcomes diversity in the service. To learn more about a career in policing, visit our Recruiting page. For more information on LGBTQ2S events in Saskatoon, how to access resources, how to be an ally, or how to create safer spaces, visit www.outsaskatoon.ca

Pride & the SPS

"It Gets Better" video - produced by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (BC)

"It Gets Better" video - produced by the San Francisco Police Department

Exhibit: *National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls*

Location/Phase: Part 2 Regina

Witness: Clive Weighill

Submitted by: Ashley Smith

Add'l info: P02 P02 P0301

Date: JUN 27 2018

Initials

I/D

Entered

63

71

Saskatoon Police Service

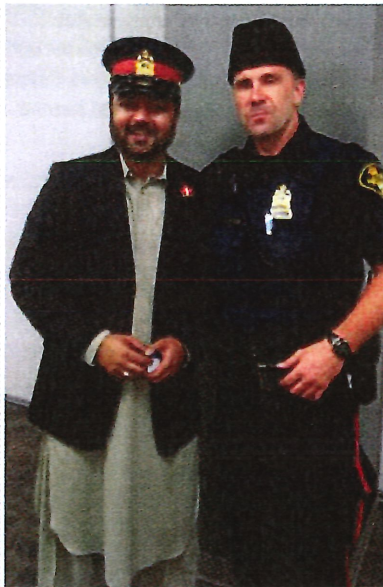
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Saskatoon Police Advisory Committee On Diversity (SPACOD)



The Saskatoon Police Advisory Committee On Diversity, SPACOD, was developed in early 2003 with representatives from the Open Door Society, Amnesty International, Metis Youth, University of Saskatchewan International Students, Saskatoon Tribal Council, Metis Nations of Saskatchewan, and the local LGBTQ2S community.

Over the years the committee has branched out to a cross-section of different, local organizations. It now includes OUTSaskatoon, TransSask Support Services Inc., Friendship Inn, Saskatoon Open Door Society, Global Gathering Place, University of Saskatchewan, Jim Pattison Children's Hospital, Saskatoon Tribal Council, FASD Network, Autism Services of Saskatoon, Riversdale BID, Saskatoon Crisis Intervention Service, City of Saskatoon, Sask. Association for Community Living, Radius Community Centre, United Way, The Islamic Association of Sask., Sask. Intercultural Association, The Lighthouse Supported Living, Sask. Foster Families Association, Sanctum Care Group, Saskatoon Correctional Centre, Ukrainian Canadian Congress and Saskatoon Regional Intersectoral Committee.

SPACOD strives to strengthen relationships with Indigenous and Metis People, new Canadians, persons with disabilities, Saskatoon's gender and sexual diverse community, the justice system, local tribal councils and numerous community-based organizations within our community.

The committee meets on a quarterly basis to share ideas and identify strengths and gaps in services which Police provide that impacts members of our community.

Many initiatives have come out of SPACOD including gender neutral washroom in the SPS headquarters, the Vulnerable Person Registry, LGBTQ2S training for members of the SPS, the transgender detention policy as well as reviewed recruiting policies.

SPACOD's mission is to serve as a link between the Saskatoon Police Service and the diverse communities of Saskatoon. The committee provides education and open lines of communication to improve relationships to better work with the community in an open and respectful environment.

