

23 July 2025

Dear SSHRC Connection Grant Adjudication Panel:

The Elderberries Society of Nova Scotia is very happy to support the grant request to SSHRC from Denyse Rodrigues, MSVU Librarian, regarding the proposed 2026 conference, From Marginalization to Visibility: Queer Archives and Public Memory.



As the voices of our earliest activists fall silent and attacks on our very existence ramp up in many countries, it is ever more important that our written and recorded legacy be preserved and made available to researchers and to future generations of our own communities and our allies.

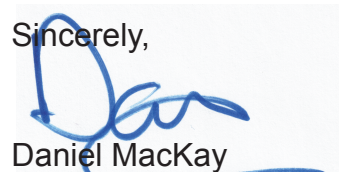
Elderberries is a nonprofit society of 2SLGBTQIA+ seniors and allies founded in Nova Scotia in 2010 as a result of a gathering where we talked about the needs of the senior Q communities. One of our aims is building awareness of Q history; to this end we have presented many relevant programs over the years including many storytelling salons, and presentations from early activists. These programs both drew from the resources of local archives, and contributed to those as fresh voices, or fresh takes on past events.

Although we are a small nonprofit organisation, we will also support this conference financially with a donation of \$100 and the services of two to four volunteers.

Because of our continuing interest in 2SLGBTQIA+ history and archives, we keenly look forward to this national level conference which will extend both the knowledge of archival resources, and the profile of these projects locally and nationally.

We strongly solicit your support for this valuable conference.

Sincerely,



Daniel MacKay  
Secretary, Elderberries Society of Nova Scotia