



QUEER

nova scotia

conference

OCTOBER 23RD - 25TH, 2026
NSCC - TRURO CAMPUS

PRESENTED BY

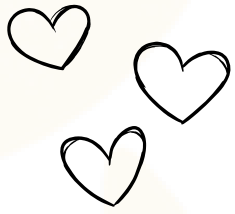


FUNDED BY



Office of Equity and Anti-Racism

WITH GRATITUDE FOR THEIR SUPPORT



**NSCC
Truro Campus**



**Seahorse Strategies
Tania Cheng**



**Tailored Consulting Service
Jamie Matthews**



**The Commune Snack Bar
Jenna Tait and Darrick Pierre**

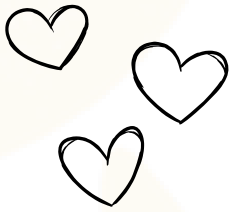
LOVELY ENTERTAINMENT PROVIDED BY

ROZ KENNERY

CODY LEWIS

X

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR PRESENTERS



Seahorse Strategies
Tania Cheng



MLA Lisa Lachance
Halifax Citadel-Sable Island



Nova Scotia Rainbow Action Project
Sky Smith



Seahorse Sexual Health
Robin Metcalfe



Transgender/Non-Binary Rights
Advocacy Nova Scotia
Mica Daurie



The Youth Project
Carmel Farahbakhsh



Queer Momentum
Fae Johnstone



Accommodations

Willow Bend Grand Suites
277 Willow St. Truro, NS

The Inn on Prince
437 Prince St., Truro, NS

For both accommodations:

- Parking provided on-site
- Continental breakfast provided
- Check-in 3pm - Friday Oct. 23rd

Communication was sent out regarding where you will be staying. Due to the large interest in the conference, we had to book additional rooms. If you have any questions, please reach out to **Jess** at **jess@truopride.ca** or **519-217-2376**

Travel Stipend

A travel stipend will be provided. There has been **\$50 allotted per organization**. If there are additional funds, we will be providing them to folks who traveled the furthest to attend.

Registration

Registration will happen in the lobby of the **Willow Bend Grand Suites between 3pm and 6pm**. When you arrive in town, please head there first to register, then proceed to where you will be staying.

Conference Location

The conference will be taking place at the **Truro NSCC Campus at 36 Arthur St., Truro, NS**. Most sessions will be in **Forrester Hall, Rm 138 (downstairs)**. A map is included in this packet to help you navigate the campus.

Parking

Parking spaces are located around the campus (included in the map) You may park in any of the student parking areas. **Accessible Parking** is located in front of Forrester Hall.

Accessibility

The event space is **accessible by elevator**. Here are some additional steps for accessibility that we have taken based on feedback:

1. This is a SCENT-FREE environment.
2. Fidgets and other sensory items are provided.
3. A separate space at NSCC for breaks.
4. A large air filter in conference spaces.
5. Masks and hand sanitizer are available.
6. Adjusting lighting as needed.

We will try to accommodate all requests, but please note that we can only control so much regarding the rental space's physical operations and the individuals attending.

If you have any questions, please let Jess or one of our volunteers know; they will be happy to help!

Additional Information

The purpose of this conference is to **create connections with other Queer organizations within the province** and to create concrete ideas and plans to move forward in our work.

Sometimes conversations **may get heavy or triggering for folks**. Please **use the space as needed; this means getting up and moving, taking breaks, and listening to your own needs**. Please dress for comfort and **what you feel best in**; we are happy to welcome you to Truro and **can't wait to have a wonderful weekend of learning and connection!**

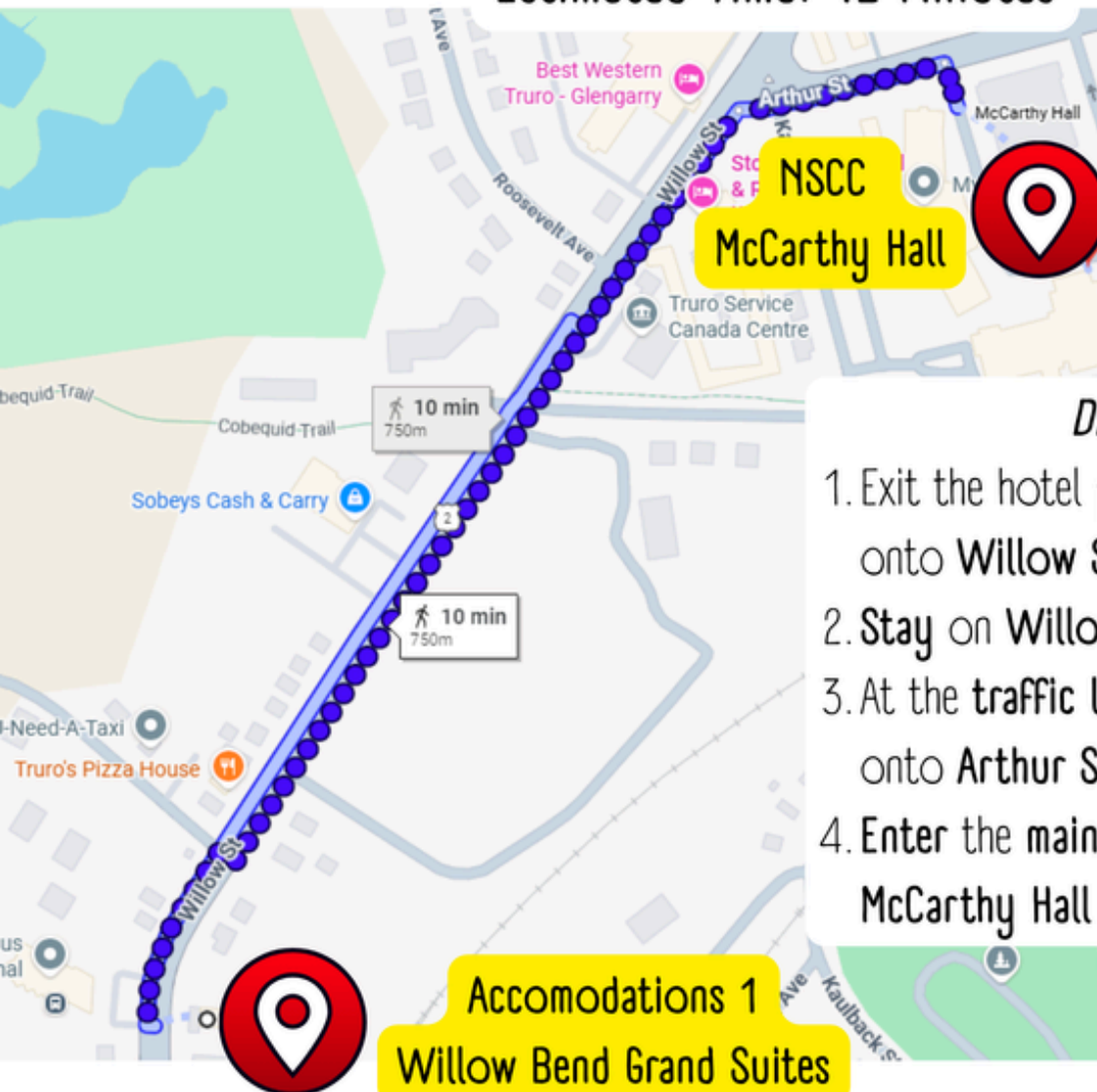
Contact

If you have any questions, concerns, or other needs, please contact **Jess Blakely-Smith at jess@truropride.ca or 519-217-2376**

Maps

Directions: Willow Bend Grand Suites to NSCC

Estimated Time: 12 Minutes



Directions:

1. Exit the hotel parking lot and turn right onto Willow Street
2. Stay on Willow St. for approx. 650 m
3. At the traffic light, take a small right onto Arthur St.
4. Enter the main campus at the NSCC sign - McCarthy Hall will be on your left.

Maps

Directions: Inn on Prince to NSCC

Approx. 15 minutes

1. Exit the parking lot toward Prince St/NS-2 N
2. Turn left onto Prince St/NS-2 N for approx. 270m
3. Turn right onto Willow St/NS-2 N for approx. 600m
4. Turn left toward Arthur St
5. Turn left onto Arthur St
6. Turn right



Maps

nscc Truro Campus



Accessibility note: This is a detailed map of Truro Campus. If you need support navigating the campus, please call Student Services at 902-893-5346.

Welcome to Truro Campus

Forrester Hall

- Lobby**
1. Security
 2. Learning Commons
 3. Café
- 1st Fl**
4. Nursing lab
 5. Mindfulness Centre
 6. Lecture theatre
 7. Student Services and Business Office
 8. Academic Chairs' offices
 9. Technology Services
 10. Bookstore
 11. Medical Office Administration lab
 12. 2nd Floor "Mezzanine": The Peak
- 2nd Fl**
13. Life drawing studio
 14. Pedway access

McCarthy Hall

- 1st Fl**
15. Cultural centre
 16. Study and meeting spaces
 17. Learning Commons, Computer Lab
 18. E-sports lounge
 19. Library and Learning Commons
- 2nd Fl**
20. Testing Centre
 21. Meeting rooms and study spaces
 22. Principals' office
- 3rd Fl**
23. Creative Industries studios
 24. Pedway access

Centennial Building

- 1st Fl**
25. Trades shop
 26. Centre of Forest Innovation
- 2nd Fl**
27. Lounge

Sport and Wellness Centre

- 1st Fl**
28. Strength and conditioning room
- 2nd Fl**
29. Gymnasium

Davis Hall

30. Campus Housing
31. Cafeteria (Sculoon Hall)

nscc Truro Campus



Links for addresses and directions

NSCC - Truro Campus

36 Arthur St.

Willow Bend Grand Suites

277 Willow St.

Inn on Prince

437 Prince St.

Friday, October 23rd

3:00pm to 6:00pm

Queer Nova Scotia Conference Check-In

Hosted by: Colchester County Pride

**Willow Bend Inn & Suites
277 Willow St. Truro, NS**

6:30pm to 9:30pm

Queer Nova Scotia Conference Welcome Event

Hosted by: Colchester County Pride

**NSCC Truro - Forrester Hall
Room 138 - Downstairs**

6:35pm - Welcome and Introductions - Jess Blakely-Smith

6:40pm - Welcome Address by Special Guest

Minister Scott Armstrong, Office of Equity & Anti-Racism

6:50pm - Eat and Mingle

7:00pm - Roz Kennerly

7:30pm to 9:30pm - Eat and Mingle

Saturday, October 24th

Morning

Continental Breakfast at Accomodations

**Willow Bend Grand Suites
277 Willow St., Truro, NS
&
Inn on Prince
437 Prince St., Truro, NS**

Coffee, Tea, Water and snacks will be provided throughout the day

8:30am

Settle in for Welcome Session

Hosted by: Colchester County Pride

**NSCC Truro - Forrester Hall
Room 138 - Downstairs**

9:00am

Welcome and Housekeeping

Hosted by: Colchester County Pride

Welcome to the space, orientation of where to go for what, overview of the weekend agenda.

**NSCC Truro - Forrester Hall
Room 138 - Downstairs**

Saturday, October 24th

9:30am

Keynote Speaker

Hosted by: MLA Lisa LaChance Halifax
Citadel-Sable Island

**NSCC Truro - Forrester Hall
Room 138 - Downstairs**

9:50am

BREAK

10:00am

2 Session Options

Session 1A: Building Strong Governance, Communication in Community Groups

Hosted by: Mica Daurie
T.R.A.N.S

**NSCC Truro - McCarthy Hall
Room 111 - Downstairs**

OR

Session 1B: Exploring Strategies for Building Trust and Community Individuals Traumatized by Homophobia and Transphobia

Hosted by: Robin Metcalfe
Seahorse Sexual Health Centre and Sheet Harbour Pride

**NSCC Truro - Forrester Hall
Room 138**

Saturday, October 24th

11:20am

BREAK

11:30am

Session 2: Uplifting Queer Lives in Rural Nova Scotia

Hosted by: Jess Blakely-Smith
Colchester County Pride

**NSCC Truro - Forrester Hall
Room 138**

12:30pm

LUNCH

1:30pm

Session 3: Open Space: Queer Knowledge Exchange

Hosted by: Tania Cheng
Seahorse Strategies Inc & SMB Pride

**NSCC Truro - Forrester Hall
Room 138**

3:00pm

Wrap-Up and Next Steps

Hosted by: Jess Blakely-Smith
Colchester County Pride

**NSCC Truro - Forrester Hall
Room 138**

Saturday, October 24th

3:15pm

Session 4: Chat and Collabs

Hosted by: Jess Blakely-Smith
Colchester County Pride

NSCC Truro Campus or other spaces.

4:15pm

FREE TIME

6:30pm

Conference Celebration

Hosted by: Colchester County Pride

**NSCC Truro - McCarthy Hall
Room 111 - Downstairs**

Featuring Drag BINGO hosted by X!

Sunday, October 25th

Morning

Continental Breakfast at Accomodations

**Willow Bend Grand Suites
277 Willow St., Truro, NS
&
Inn on Prince
437 Prince St., Truro, NS**

Coffee, Tea, Water and snacks will be provided throughout the day

8:30am

Settle in for Sessions

Hosted by: Colchester County Pride

**NSCC Truro - Forrester Hall
Room 138**

9:00am

Session 5: Combatting Anti-Queer and Anti-Trans Hate: A Provincial and National Perspective

Hosted by: Carmel Farahbakhsh
The Youth Project

Hosted by: Fae Johnstone
Queer Momentum

**NSCC Truro - Forrester Hall
Room 138**

Sunday, October 25th

10:30am

Session 6: From Listening to Connection: Building a Provincial 2SLGBTQIA+ Network.

Hosted by: Sky Smith
Nova Scotia Rainbow Action Project (NSRAP)

**NSCC Truro - Forrester Hall
Room 138**

11:30am

BREAK

11:40am

Session 7: Provincial Funding

Hosted by: Luke Power
Nova Scotia, Office of Equity and Anti-Racism

Hosted by: Meghan Hallett
Nova Scotia, Office of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage

**NSCC Truro - Forrester Hall
Room 138**

12:10pm

Wrap-Up & Closing

Hosted by: Jess Blakely-Smith
Colchester County Pride

**NSCC Truro - Forrester Hall
Room 138**

1:00pm

BAGGED LUNCH TO-GO or TO-STAY