

## Gender and Sexual Diversity Survey Invitation Letter

### Background

The 2013-2020 Strategic Plan affirms Sheridan's commitment to providing a learning and working environment that values the inclusiveness of our community.

As part of that commitment a task force was formed to focus on issues related to gender and sexual diversity in the Sheridan community.

The Gender and Sexual Diversity Taskforce (GSDT) is a voluntary advisory body comprised of members representing a diverse cross-section of our community. The membership includes staff and students, with specific attention to ensuring taskforce participation of persons with lived experience within the LGBTQ+ communities.

**The mandate of the GSDT is to carry out a needs assessment of the Sheridan community with respect to issues of gender and sexual diversity.** A web-based survey was chosen as the most appropriate tool to gather information for this purpose.

### Purpose of Survey

The purpose of this survey is to:

- Assist Sheridan to identify gaps that may exist related to gender and sexual diversity initiatives
- Inform and build our continued efforts to create an inclusive, respectful, learning and working environment.

The results of the survey will be provided to the Sheridan community and directly inform the development of future initiatives.

We would appreciate if you would complete the brief survey.

### Instructions to participate in GSDT Survey

Participation in this survey is completely voluntary and at no time will you be asked or required to provide any information that could identify yourself.

The survey should take no longer than 10 minutes to complete and you may withdraw from the survey at any time. Should you withdraw, please know that none of the data you provided up to the point of withdrawing will be retained. All survey data will be collected for the purpose of analyzing results. The information will be kept for one year in a secure location.

Please note that this online survey is hosted by Survey Monkey which is a web survey company located in the USA. All responses to the survey will be stored and accessed in the USA. This company is subject to US laws, in particular the US Patriot Act that allows authorities access to the records of Internet Service Providers. If you choose to participate in the survey, you understand that your responses to the questions will be stored and accessed in the USA. The security and privacy policy for Survey Monkey can be viewed at [www.surveymonkey.com](http://www.surveymonkey.com).

By clicking "I Agree", you acknowledge that you have read and understand the information above and freely consent to participate in the survey.

Your participation in this survey will provide valuable insight.

If you wish to participate, please visit the survey website at [www.surveymonkey.com](http://www.surveymonkey.com). From this page, click on "start survey" and follow the instructions provided. If you encounter a problem,

# Sheridan

please contact us and we will make arrangements to provide you with another method of participation. Additionally, alternate formats of this survey are available upon request.

If you have any questions regarding this survey or would like additional information to assist you in reaching a decision about participation, please contact Mr. Joseph Henry, Associate Dean, Student Success, at (905) 845-9430 Ext. 5517 ([joe.henry@sheridancollege.ca](mailto:joe.henry@sheridancollege.ca)) or Ms. Margaret Sanderson, Manager, Diversity and Inclusion at (905) 845-9430 Ext. 2775 ([Margaret.sanderson1@sheridancollege.ca](mailto:Margaret.sanderson1@sheridancollege.ca))

This survey has been reviewed by and received ethics clearance from the Sheridan Research Ethics Board (SREB). If you have any questions or concern resulting from your participation in the survey, please contact Dr. Kirsten Madsen, Chair, SREB at (905)845-9430Ext.2795 ([Kirsten.madsen@sheridancollege.ca](mailto:Kirsten.madsen@sheridancollege.ca))

We wish to thank you in advance for your participation.

Yours sincerely,

Joseph Henry  
Associate Dean  
Student Success  
Sheridan

Margaret Sanderson  
Manager  
Diversity and Inclusion  
Sheridan