



# CALL FOR PROPOSALS

## *2SLGBTQI+ Entrepreneurship Knowledge Hub*

**Making a Life, Making a Living**  
*Community, Knowledge, and Socio-economic Mobility*  
**November 12-15, 2025 Edmonton, AB**

### CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

This gathering brings together diverse voices from community, business, research and government sectors to explore and celebrate 2SLGBTQIA+ entrepreneurship through lenses of connection, knowledge, joy, and confidence. We especially welcome proposals that center Two-Spirit and Indigenous knowledge systems, experiences of Black and Indigenous Trans women, Newcomers, decolonial approaches to business, and intersectional perspectives, including disability justice, gender diversity, and equity against racism, with the goal of enhancing financial and socio-economic growth in our community.

We take an expansive definition of “entrepreneurship” that involves holistic wellbeing of individuals, communities, and society through economic and social liberation. We go beyond the traditional definition of business creation and wealth accumulation by taking a lens of emancipatory entrepreneurship: entrepreneurship that “frees people from oppressive economic powers, societal constraints, and inequalities”. We invite submissions from anyone with entrepreneurial experiences, interests, or mindsets.

**Registration and Opening Evening: November 12, 2025**

*This initiative is made possible thanks to funding from CGLCC's 2SLGBTQI+Entrepreneurship Knowledge Hub, with backing from the Government of Canada.*



## GUIDING QUESTIONS FOR PROPOSALS

We invite creative, collaborative proposals that might draw inspiration from, but not be limited to, the following themes and questions.

### CONNECTION & COMMUNITY

- What forms of mentorship and knowledge-sharing can nurture 2SLGBTQIA+ entrepreneurial networks and community spirit?
- How can business practices honor and strengthen connections between land, community, and commerce?
- How do Indigenous and Two-Spirit ways of knowing reshape our understanding of entrepreneurship, reciprocity, and business relationships?
- How can we mobilize allies to help 2SLGBTQIA+ people navigate systemic barriers in their entrepreneurial journey?
- How can entrepreneurship engage people in civic participation and queer kinship to challenge dominant narratives and contribute within and outside our communities?
- In what ways does emancipatory entrepreneurship connect to and support business creation and development of successful projects?

### CLARITY & KNOWLEDGE

- What research methodologies emerge when we center 2SLGBTQIA+ or Indigenous ways of knowing?
- How do intersectional experiences (disability, racism, gender diversity, class, age) inform approaches to and experiences of entrepreneurship?
- How do we create metrics that incorporate alternative knowledge frameworks?
- How do we incorporate 2SLGBTQIA+ knowledge and experiences to support the inherent need for business profitability from entrepreneurial ventures?
- How do we reconcile and resist capitalism in emancipatory business ventures - social enterprises, cooperatives, and other anti-capitalist models.
- What are different models of entrepreneurship?

### JOY & CELEBRATION

- What role does celebration play in building sustainable, community-centered enterprises?
- How can research and business practices honor the pleasure and play inherent in creative inspiration and entrepreneurship?

### CONFIDENCE & GROWTH

- What strategies support 2SLGBTQIA+ entrepreneurs in navigating systemic barriers while maintaining authenticity?
- How do traditional and contemporary Indigenous business practices inform skill building and leadership?
- What approaches to growth and scaling honor community values and collective wellbeing?
- How can 2SLGBTQIA+ entrepreneurs develop successful businesses while still pursuing issues of justice?

## SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Submissions will be received at: <https://tinyurl.com/REKHCSEA2025>

1. Proposals should include these sections:
  - Brief Overview or Abstract (500 words or less)
  - Format choice:
    - » Panel (60 minutes)
    - » Presentation (15 minutes)
    - » Posters
    - » Workshop (60 minutes)
    - » Roundtable (60 minutes)
    - » Performance (30 minutes)
    - » sharing circle (60 minutes)
    - » storytelling; (30 minutes) and
    - » other presentation modalities.
  - Short biography of presenters and panelists (150 words)
- Feel free to be creative and inspirational in your proposal
2. Indicate which domain(s) your proposal addresses:
  - » University;
  - » Community Member;
  - » Collective;
  - » Government; or
  - » Business.
3. Explain how your proposal engages with entrepreneurship and the conference themes
4. Collaborative proposals spanning multiple sectors are especially welcome
5. Priority will be given to proposals that center equity-deserving voices and perspectives

### IMPORTANT DATES:

**Proposal Submission Deadline:** June 30, 2025  
**Notification of Acceptance:** July 30, 2025  
**Conference Dates:** November 12-15, 2025

This initiative is made possible thanks to funding from CGLCC's 2SLGBTQI+Entrepreneurship Knowledge Hub, with backing from the Government of Canada.

