



Suite C - 2288 Elgin Avenue, Port Coquitlam, BC V3C 2B2
Tel: (604) 474-0524 Toll free: 1-866-529-4397 Email: info@bccpac.bc.ca

The B.C. Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils (BCCPAC) is the voice of public school parents. We unequivocally encourage a culture of acceptance, inclusion and equality as expressed in our mission statement.

BCCPAC believes it is time, alongside our community of District Parent Advisory Councils (DPACs) and Parent Advisory Councils (PACs), to publicly reaffirm our commitment to stand with Two Spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Questioning, Intersex, Asexual, Pansexual and other students, educators, and family members who are members of the 2SLGBTQ+ community. We are here for you. It is imperative you know that we see you, we hear you and you have our unwavering support.

BCCPAC, together with DPACs and PACs, will continue to work towards ensuring the children of this province are educated in an unbiased atmosphere, regardless of race, colour, religion, politics, family status, gender, sexual orientation, sexual identity or ability.

SOGI 123 resources continue to be critically important to cultivate understanding, empathy and respect in our schools, nurturing a community where everyone feels seen, heard and valued. When these resources were first introduced in BC schools, BCCPAC provided a <u>fact sheet</u> that shared these statistics:

- 19% of B.C. high school students identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual or not exclusively heterosexual.
- 1% of B.C. high school students identify as transgender and 5% of Aboriginal students identify as Two-Spirit.
- 42% of BC LGBTQ K-12 students have been victims of cyberbullying, compared to 14% of non-LGBTQ students.
- In the past year, lesbian, gay, and bisexual youth were seven times more likely to attempt suicide compared to their heterosexual counterparts (28% vs 4%)

These statistics are not just numbers; they represent the lived experiences of our children and youth. Many caregivers and those employed in the education sector also identify as 2SLGBTQ+. SOG1 123 resources have extended understanding and acceptance to these caring adults, bringing more safety overall to everyone within the education system.

Here are some resources available online:

- SOGI FAQ from Parents (BCCPAC)
- SOGI 123 website

BCCPAC remains steadfast in ensuring the principles of equity and inclusion are never compromised.

BCCPAC Board of Directors