



Trans Connect

On January 20, 2009, ANKORS opened its doors to Trans Connect.

Transgender (Trans) is used to describe a wide variety of people; people whose identity, history or way of expressing themselves extends beyond social norms relating to gender.

Trans Connect is a project that provides support and resources for Transgender and Gender Variant folks in the East and West Kootenays.

Trans Connect also provides educational workshops and resources for service providers, educators, mental health workers, and police in the Kootenays.



Trans Connect Group on Facebook – [Kootenay Transfolk](#)

Visit us on the web: kootenaytransgender.com

Christopher Moore is the coordinator of Trans Connect, and welcomes everyone to drop by or call.



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Mission

To empower and support the well-being of transgender people in the East and West Kootenays.

Development

- 1.) Trans 101 Workshops – Educate Service Providers and General Public on Trans Awareness
- 2.) Buddy System – connections via email for peer-support
- 3.) Weekly-Drop-In – local connections are made and resources shared
- 4.) Gender Outlaws – Nelson and Cranbrook – Social/Support group
- 5.) Resource and Referral Network – e-mail and active web-site
- 6.) Testosterone Shots – Student Nurses from Selkirk College

7.) Transgender Day of Remembrance – held yearly on Nov.20, as part of an event held worldwide to acknowledge the violence and other forms of discrimination that Transgender People experience

Strategy

Trans Connect strategy is:

- 1.) To increase the knowledge and skills of rural community service providers, health care providers, police, educators, mental health workers and the general public on Trans Awareness.
- 2.) To provide a resource and referral network for Trans Folk & Service Providers
- 3.) To connect rural Trans Folk to each other and to services in the East and West Kootenays, including peer-support



Trans Connect Backstory

Trans Connect was begun as a volunteer organization to support Transgender People, in 2002 starting with a peer/support group "Gender Outlaws" and a series of educational workshops in the Nelson area. It became apparent that there was a growing need for additional service for Transgender People and their service providers in the East and West Kootenays. Trans Connect became a program under the auspices of AIDS Network Kootenay Outreach and Support Society (ANKORS) when funding was received from Columbia Basin Trust, Vancouver Foundation and ANKORS in January 2009. In 2010 funding was received for the 2nd year of operation. Trans Connect is looking for funding from other sources in order to keep this vital program running.

Trans Connect Support

Trans Connect project is supported and funded by:



Trans Connect Movie



Trans Connect Movie [Facebook Page](#)

Release Date	TBA
Genre	Documentary
Studio	www.watershedproductions.ca
Description	We are doing a film doc. on the lives of trans/gender diversity folks who live in rural British Columbia. The documentary will include what Trans Connect has been doing the past 2 years..going on 3. The film is being sponsored by Vancouver Foundation.
Directed By	Amy Bohigian
Website	http://kootenaytransgender.com