

About SPECTRUM



SPECTRUM is Waterloo Region's first-ever rainbow community space.

SPECTRUM is an organization that serves, affirms, and supports the well-being of LGBTQ2+ individuals in Waterloo Region and the broader community through peer support, community partnerships, education and training, resources, and events. Our vision is an inclusive community where all LGBTQ2+ individuals are

welcomed, celebrated, and supported as their authentic selves.

SPECTRUM offers more than 20 different groups and activities each month, including: transgender peer support groups, games nights, SPECTRUM Prime for LGBTQ2+ adults 55+, and Rainbow Multicultural Connect. Additionally, SPECTRUM offers services such as a 2SLGBTQ+ Legal Aid Clinic, a lending library of books and movies, an online gender-neutral washroom map of our community, monthly calendars of 2SLGBTQ+ events, and a resource directory of 2SLGBTQ+ friendly businesses and organizations.

SPECTRUM is built on the hard work and dedication of our volunteers. From the volunteer Board of Directors, to event organizers and group facilitators, to special projects, research, staffing drop-in hours, administrative work and much more, SPECTRUM relies on the hard work and dedication of our volunteers. As a registered charity, our work is supported by donations from individuals, businesses and organizations in our community, and grants.



SPECTRUM's Land Acknowledgement



SPECTRUM acknowledges the truth that we are situated on the Haldimand Tract, which is the traditional land of Haudenosaunee and Mississauga Anishinaabe nations. We also recognise the Chinonton Peoples of what has come to be known as the Neutral Nations, a people entirely eliminated by the colonisation of this land.

The land on which we meet, live, love, and work is land that was originally shared with open arms by the Indigenous peoples who have always called this place home with the settlers of this region. We recognise that our presence here has disrupted thousands of years of culture and belonging. The very land upon which the SPECTRUM space exists is at the edge of a great wetland that served as a hunting

ground and overwintering space, and is no more than a short distance from villages, feast and ceremony grounds, and settlements.

We also recognise that the Indigenous Peoples of this land recognise Two Spirit as a sacred way of being, an individual who carries in them the medicines and teaching of many genders and sexualities. We recognise that this traditional regard for Two Spirit peoples has set them apart in their knowledge but also that they have been always regarded as important, respected, and fully accepted members of their communities. We recognise that the histories and teachings of Two Spirit peoples have always influenced and added to Indigenous ways of knowing.

This territorial acknowledgement alone cannot accomplish justice and we are committed to working towards reconciliation and ensuring that our programs, services, and practices are culturally relevant and accessible to Indigenous peoples in our community.