

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***thank u, next* Examines the Gendered Impact of the Pandemic on Edmontonians** *interVivos hosts first community-engagement event in three years*

Edmonton, AB, *May 5, 2022* — interVivos will host its first community-engagement event in three years on May 11, 7 - 9 p.m. The event, *thank u, next*, will be held virtually bringing together experts to discuss the hidden, gender-based impacts of the pandemic on Edmontonians and developing inclusive grassroots solutions, focused on gender-diverse folx and women.

“Women and gender-diverse people have faced unique struggles during the pandemic – many of these struggles go unseen and unacknowledged,” says interVivos President Zohreh Saher. “Basically, we’re saying *thank u, next* to all the gender-based pandemic roadblocks, and thank u, yes to practical community-based solutions.”

While *thank u, next* is focused on challenges faced by women and gender-diverse folx in Edmonton, this is an inclusive event, and allies are welcome and encouraged to join.

Cynthia Decore, writer and advocate, will speak at *thank u, next* about the impact of the pandemic on folx with disabilities and how we can come together in support of one another. “When I saw the event, my immediate thought was how significantly different our experiences of this pandemic have been,” Decore says. “This pandemic has been a period of severe isolation but also great connection.”

thank u, next features diverse speakers with unique insights and tools. Attendees will have the opportunity to interact with experts, speakers, and community members in small groups.

Concepts will include:

- Mental health impacts
- Work-life effectiveness & setting boundaries
- Growing a career in the face of uncertainty
- Championing diversity & allyship
- Access to healthy safe spaces
- Equal partnerships & unpaid work

Tickets are available on a sliding scale for \$5, \$10, and \$15 on the [interVivos website](#). Attendees are encouraged to pick a price that suits their personal circumstances. Attendees can [contact the organization directly](#) for a reduced ticket price, questions, or to discuss accommodations.

Speakers will be announced on the interVivos website and social media as they are confirmed.

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About interVivos

interVivos is a volunteer-run organization that has been cultivating leadership in Edmonton through dialogue, engagement, and mentorship since 2006. 100% of ticket proceeds go towards organization programs and events. Like interVivos, *thank u, next* is non-partisan and not affiliated with any person, group, or political party.

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