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## *interVivos launches Summer 2022 Mentorship Program*

*interVivos' first program to feature 2SLGBTQ+ mentors*

Edmonton, AB, June 23, 2022 — interVivos is launching its Summer 2022 Mentorship Program on June 27, 2022. This Edmonton program will showcase 2SLGBTQ+ volunteer mentors. Ambitious professionals from all backgrounds are invited to take part as protégés in the ever-popular mentorship program.

“By showcasing 2SLGBTQ+ mentors, we are taking proactive and purposeful action to ensure that diverse voices are heard, supported and amplified not only during June or Pride Month”, says Zohreh Saher interVivos co-founder and board president. “If we fail to challenge the system, we perpetuate the norm, which means that we wait for change to catch up rather than embracing and meeting it.”

interVivos mentorship programs are offered twice per year and this will be the first in-person launch in over two years. This program will create a safe, trustworthy, supportive, welcoming, inclusive, and reciprocal atmosphere for all participants. After the launch, mentors and protégés will be matched together based on their preferences. Mentors and protégés then collaborate over a six-month period where mentors help the protégés realize their professional goals. The two groups are required to meet at least three times in person or virtually from July 2022 to December 2022.

Past protégé Sarah Teasdale believes that her participation in the mentorship program propelled her career forward and taught her new skills. “My time as a protégé in the interVivos program was so valuable. My mentor helped me through a complicated work situation and gave me the push and the confidence to step out of my comfort zone and strengthen my voice. I believe this program will bring new mentors and voices to the forefront that will support and speak to a new generation of protégés and help them do the same.”

The following are the confirmed mentors and emcee for the Summer 2022 Mentorship Program are:

- [Adam Henley](#), RN and CEO, Consortia Care
- [Alyssa Dubue](#), Digital Marketing Manager, zag
- [Cynthia Decore](#), Playwright and author, Disabled Discourse
- [Elli McDine](#), Director Member Journey Transformation, Alberta Motor Association
- [Jackie Foord](#), Non-profit advocate
- [Janelle Snow](#), Digital Strategist and Online Engagement Specialist, Government of Alberta
- [Jeff Herzog](#), Assistant Lecturer, University of Alberta
- [Joshua Wolchansky](#), Entertainment Director, Fruit Loop Society of Alberta
- [Ron Byers](#), Community Leader and Queer Historian, Rainbow Story Hub | Edmonton Queer History
- Emcee: Janis Irwin, [MLA for Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood](#)

Cynthia Decore will be a first-time mentor for the event and is appreciative of the collaborative approach interVivos takes with mentorship. “The program recognizes the expertise of the protégé to identify the goals that would be most meaningful for them to achieve, and mentors are encouraged to learn just as much from their protégé as their protégé learns from them. It’s not just a dynamic that’s mutually empowering (which is already pretty cool), it also demonstrates deep roots in the community. I think it’s the perfect context in which to make meaningful connections in Edmonton.”

Register to become a Summer 2022 protégé by visiting:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/summer-2022-mentorship-program-protége-registration-tickets-362810274297>

## **About interVivos**

interVivos is a volunteer-run organization that has been cultivating leadership in Edmonton through dialogue, engagement, and mentorship since 2006.

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