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KW Counselling Services partners with City of Cambridge to offer new OK2BME program for LGBTQ2+ youth in Cambridge

KW Counselling Services has been operating youth groups for LGBTQ2+ teens since 2005. Now through a unique partnership with the City of Cambridge, the OK2BME program offered by KW Counselling Services brings LGBTQ2+ teen programming to Cambridge.

The new Cambridge OK2BME program is a pilot program running out of Idea Exchange's Queen's Square location until the end of 2018. The program has been funded by the City of Cambridge and will include programming such as a variety of guest speakers, event planning, and social activities for teens.

"We're excited to be working with KW Counselling Services to offer more LGBTQ2+ programming in Cambridge," explained Heather Melo, Youth Recreation Coordinator with the City of Cambridge. "We're a diverse community and it's important to us to create a city that is safe and inclusive."

The Cambridge OK2BME group will be for teens aged 13-18. They will meet on alternating Tuesdays at Idea Exchange, Queen's Square. OK2BME Program Coordinator, Washington Silk, explains, "this is a social and recreational group. It will provide support, and opportunities for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/questioning, and two-spirit youth to develop leadership skills and socialize with one another in a safe space."

Youth do not need to pre-register or commit to attending the group for any length of time. Silk notes, "youth can visit just for a few minutes to test the waters or they can attend every time! We're very excited to be able to bring this opportunity to the LGBTQ2+ teens of Cambridge, some of whom have previously travelled to Kitchener to attend our original OK2BME group."

For more information, visit www.ok2bme.ca and find "Youth Groups" under "Services" or e-mail the OK2BME team at ok2bme@kwcounselling.com

About KW Counselling Services

KW Counselling Services is a multi-service agency offering counselling supports to individuals, couples and families in the Waterloo Region. In addition to our counselling work we offer a variety of parenting education workshops, leadership training for members of the multicultural community, and community development support for newcomers to Canada and the LGBTQ2+ community. We are proud to have been supporting children, youth and families in Waterloo Region since 1950.

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