

# Disability Inclusion, Intersectionality, and Knowledge Translation

KTDRR's 2024 Virtual KT Conference  
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Center on  
**KNOWLEDGE TRANSLATION FOR  
DISABILITY & REHABILITATION RESEARCH**

# Let's Talk Disability & Sex! Co-creating resources for youth, with youth

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# Agenda

1. Disability & Sexuality
2. We Are Sexual Too! Project overview
3. Youth engagement in knowledge translation
4. Video creation process and lessons learned
5. Hear from a Youth Advisory Council member



# What is Sexuality?

Sexuality is an integral part of the personality of everyone..[..]; it is a basic need and aspect of being human that cannot be separated from other aspects life. It influences thoughts, feelings, action and interactions and thereby our mental and physical health.

Sexuality can **intersect** with other identities, such as disability.

Source: World Health Organization, 2006; Giles et al., 2023

# Disability & Sexuality

- Young people with disabilities have the right to access information about sexuality.
- Young people with disabilities have the same hopes and desires for sex and relationships as non-disabled peers.
- The importance of sexuality is often not recognized by teachers, parents and healthcare providers.

# Project Overview

We Are Sexual Too: A Partnership to Support the Intimate Citizenship of Disabled Youth Across Canada by Mobilizing Knowledge About Sexuality and Disability

# Project Overview

A 3-year initiative funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Partnership Development Grant with the goal of better supporting the sexuality of disabled youth and building capacity across organizations in Canada

# Youth Advisory Councils

## Junior Group

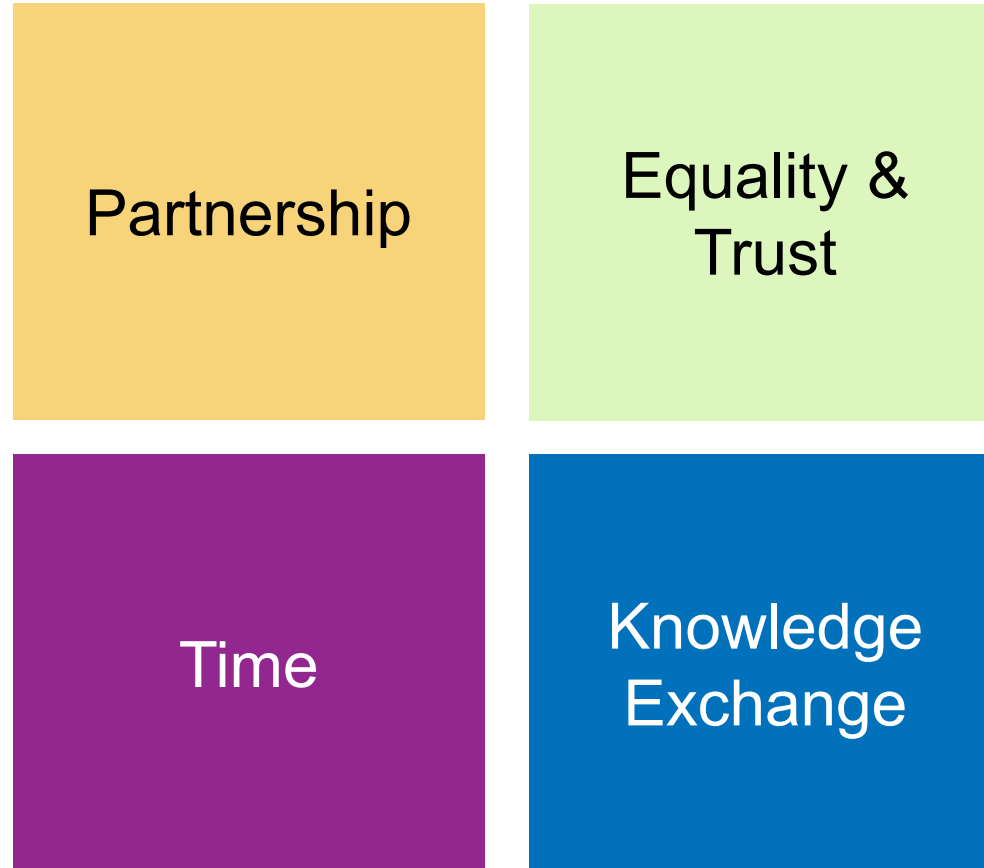
Aged 12–17 years old, identify as having a disability, and interested in discussion disability and sexuality. This group currently has 3 members.

## Senior Group

Aged 18–30 years old, identify as having a disability, and interested in discussing disability and sexuality. This group currently has 6 members.



# Youth Engagement in KT: Knowledge That Matters



Source: van de Mheen (2019)

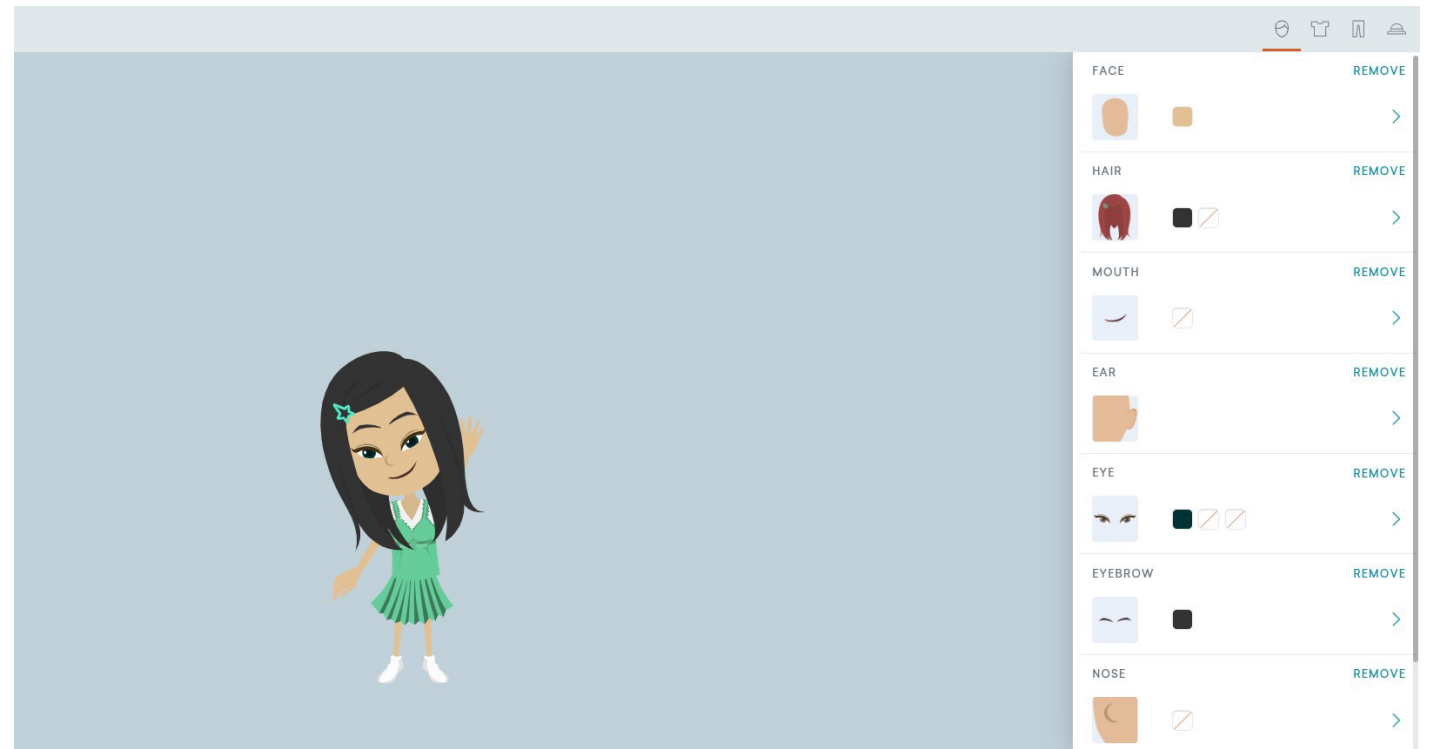
# Video Creation Process

# Step One: Brainstorming



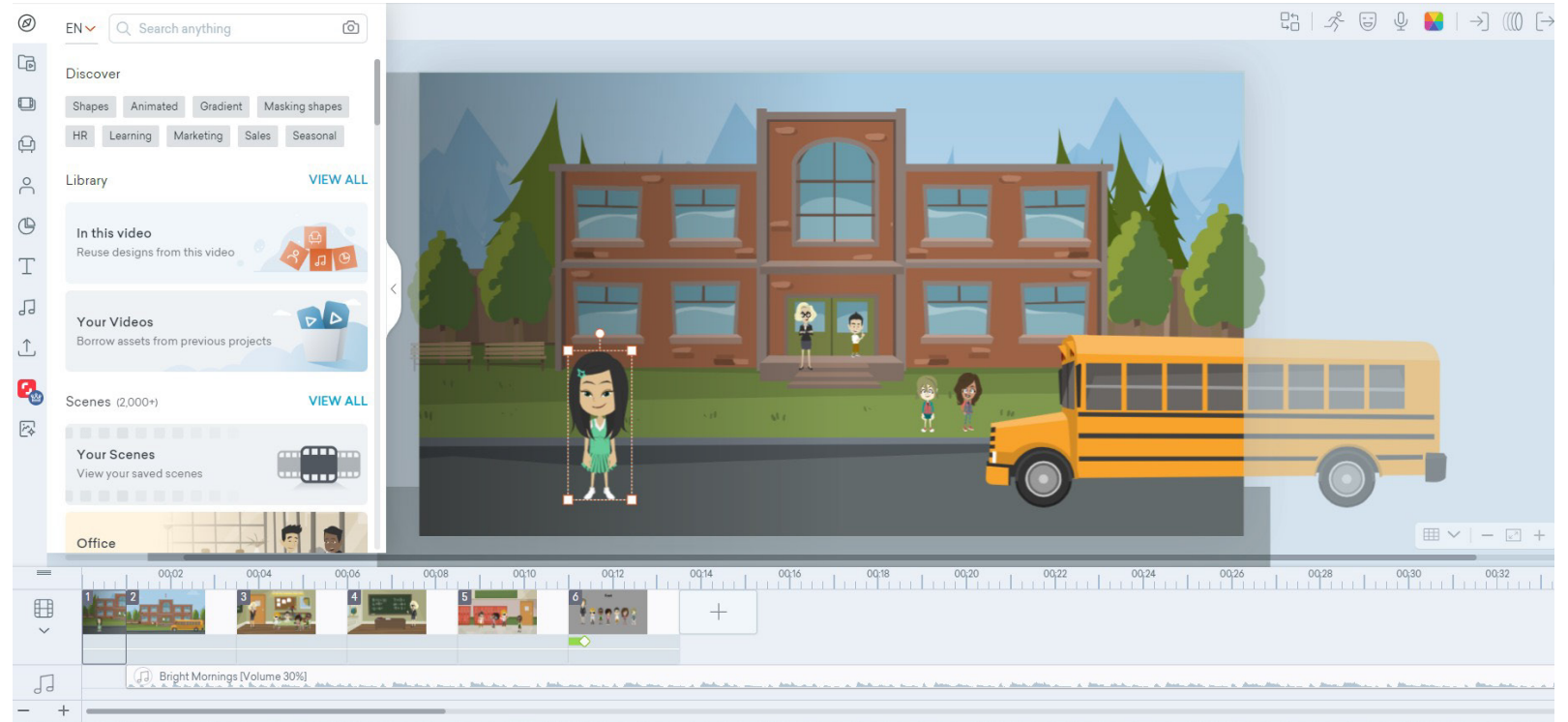
Image by [Alexandra Koch](#) from [Pixabay](#)

# Step Two: Character Creation



VYOND

# Step Three: Video Creation



VYOND

# Final Steps: Multiple Rounds of Feedback



Image by [Alexandra Koch](#) from [Pixabay](#)

# Cameron's Video



Video Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vfD2imqyjsA>

# Lessons Learned

1. Virtual versus in-person engagement
2. Revisions, revisions, revisions!
3. Flexibility: Meeting youth where they are



# Meet Gavi Engel-Yan, Youth Advisory Council Member



Video Link: [https://youtu.be/GtCdt\\_eGhdo?si=EZH\\_o4pAdx8USnef](https://youtu.be/GtCdt_eGhdo?si=EZH_o4pAdx8USnef)

# Conclusions

1. Co-creation is an important knowledge translation tool that can amplify the voices of youth with multiple and intersecting identities.
2. Fostering safe, inclusive spaces for discussion can improve the relevance, authenticity, and impact of the information shared.



[www.hollandbloorview.ca/sexuality](http://www.hollandbloorview.ca/sexuality)

# References

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**Q&A**

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