Introduction

Welcome to "Understanding and Addressing Online Hate Targeting 2SLGBTQIA+ Organizations," developed by the Ontario Digital Literacy and Access Network (ODLAN) in partnership with NTEN.

My name is Evan Vipond. I am the Director of Learning and training facilitator at ODLAN and I will be guiding you through these learning modules.

About ODLAN

ODLAN is a nonprofit organization that works to remove digital literacy and access barriers 2SLGBTQIA+ people and communities face on the internet. ODLAN creates resources, hosts training sessions, and conducts research to work toward more equitable online experiences for 2SLGBTQIA+ people.

ODLAN staff, board members, and volunteers are located throughout the colonial state of Canada, and this project was carried out in Tkaronto, which is the territory of the Anishinabek Nation, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, and the Huron-Wendat and is now home to many First Nation, Inuit, and Métis communities. Tkaronto is subject of the Dish with One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement to peaceably share and care for the Great Lakes region. You can learn more about the Indigenous land you're located on on Native Land Digital's website, which is linked in our resources section.

ODLAN acknowledges that colonization and white supremacy have created the social conditions that sustain inequality and marginalize 2SLGBTQIA+ people—even in digital spaces. ODLAN stands in solidarity with the Indigenous Peoples of Turtle Island against settler colonial violence in so-called Canada. We recognize that the digital divide is part of this ongoing colonization, and digital access and safety for all cannot be achieved until Indigenous Peoples across Turtle Island have full access to digital spaces. ODLAN stands firm in our conviction that digital safety and accessibility remain fundamental to this broader project of decolonization.

Project Context

These modules were developed from existing research on anti-2SLGBTQIA+ online hate, webinars ODLAN hosted with online hate experts, and a research project ODLAN conducted in collaboration with Wisdom2Action on nonprofit experiences with anti-2SLGBTQIA+ online hate in so-called Canada.

Module Overview

Module 1, "Anti-2SLGBTQIA+ Online Hate: Key Terms," defines different forms of online hate and provides examples of how these forms of online hate have been used against 2SLGBTQIA+ people and organizations in Canada.

Module 2, "Anti-2SLGBTQIA+ Online Hate: Facts and Figures," outlines existing research on anti-2SLGBTQIA+ online hate, including the effects of online hate on individuals and organizations. Module 2 takes an intersectional approach to show how racialized, Indigenous, and disabled 2SLGBTQIA+ people are disproportionately targeted by online hate.

Module 3, "Understanding Anti-2SLGBTQIA+ Online Hate," identifies the four main components of hate speech that are used to target 2SLGBTQIA+ people, communities, and organizations online and examines the justifications that people use to rationalize these harms and violence.

Module 4, "Impacts of Online Hate on 2SLGBTQIA+ Nonprofit Staff," presents findings from the research study ODLAN and Wisdom2Action conducted with 2SLGBTQIA+ nonprofits. We examine different forms of online hate that 2SLGBTQIA+ nonprofits have experienced as well as the factors that nonprofit staff said increased the levels of online hate they experienced.

Module 5, "Case Study of Rainbow Faith and Freedom: How One 2SLGBTQIA+-Serving Nonprofit Responds to Online Hate," describes how the nonprofit organization Rainbow Faith and Freedom deals with online hate.

Module 6, "Developing Digital Safety Strategies for Your Organization," presents digital safety strategies that nonprofits can implement to address anti-2SLGBTQIA+ online hate, with a focus on how organizations can support staff.

Each module begins with a note about the content in the module so that you can make an informed decision about whether or not to engage with the material at that time.

Acknowledgement of Funding:

Resources

Native Land Digital: https://native-land.ca/