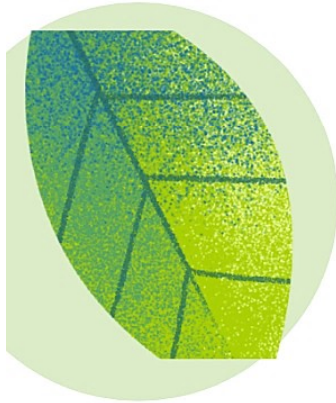


BECOMING & BELONGING...



CONVERSATIONS WITH SELF

Confusion, conflict and change are persistent factors in coming to terms with oneself. The norms we are raised by and to, inclusive of gender roles, expression, relationships, spirituality, personal progression and education. It seems there is no escape to navigating peer pressure, family expectations and understanding that you might be different in some way.

CONVERSATIONS WITH OTHERS

Those who are lucky enough to have LGBTIQ+ friends, can secure information safely. Some seek out help with psychological professionals, counsellors and trusted family members. The internet has become a safer option for better understanding what one might be going through or discovering who they are.



BECOMING

All fears, trauma and grief of recognition are set aside; whether through self-reliance, independence, support structure encouragement, enabling environment or escaping what should be. We finally see ourselves for who we are and want to live our truth. This starts by ways of dress, affiliation, expression, relationships. friendships, language, association, make up or some other form of visibility or simply acknowledging oneself and not needing to be public about it. Self-acceptance is key.

BELONGING

When one is comfortable enough to be intentional or public with their truth. Living freely or politically in all the glory of their diversity and beauty. This can end up taking shape in activism, being vocal where there is injustice, fulfilling their passion, challenging norms, self-determination, self-actualization within a community and exercising their freedoms with no restriction.

