**LGBTQ EDUCATION TIMELINE**

**1969**

On October 24, 16 people attend the first meeting of the University of Toronto Homophile Association (UTHA). UTHA is the first post-Stonewall gay organization and the first formed at a Canadian university. One of the founding members, Jearld Moldenhauer, is fired from his position in the University of Toronto’s Physiology Department for his role in starting and defending the association.

**1985**

In June, Kenneth Zeller, a secondary teacher-librarian, is murdered in Toronto’s High Park. This hate crime spurs the City of Toronto School Board to implement one of Canada’s first programs to combat anti-gay discrimination and violence in its schools.

**1996**

The Toronto District School Board launches the Triangle Program, Canada’s first alternative high school program for at-risk LGBTQ youth.

**1999**

Sault Ste. Marie secondary school student Jeremy Dias becomes the target of bullying and physical violence. In November 2002, alleging that Sir James Dunn Collegiate staff members would not allow him to start school clubs for non-heterosexual students, Dias successfully sues the Algoma District School Board for not allowing him to form an LGBTQ club at his school. Later, in 2005, Dias uses the money he receives from the case to found Jer’s Vision: Canada’s Youth Diversity Initiative, which in 2015 becomes the Canadian Centre for Gender and Sexual Diversity.

**2002**

On May 10, a judge orders the Durham Catholic District School Board to allow Marc Hall, an openly gay student, to bring his same-gender date to the high school prom. The decision comes just a few hours before the prom, enabling Marc to attend with his boyfriend, Jean-Paul Dumond.

**2008**

Sunnyside Public School in Kitchener starts the first elementary school Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA) in Ontario. Led by teacher Debbie Samson, this club paves the way for more GSAs in elementary schools. ETFO awarded Samson with its Rainbow Visions award for her contribution to creating safer spaces in elementary education.

**2011**

On October 14, Jamie Hubley, the son of Ottawa City Councillor Allan Hubley, dies by suicide after having blogged for a month about the anti-gay bullying he was facing at school. The bullying had begun as early as Grade 7, with students on Jamie’s bus attempting to stuff batteries in his mouth because he preferred figure skating over hockey. The incident leads to several Canadian media and political figures posting videos dedicated to Hubley as part of the online It Gets Better Project. It also leads to the Government of Ontario passing the Accepting Schools Act (Bill 13) in 2012, which mandates clearer and stricter bullying responses in schools. It also mandates that all publicly funded schools in Ontario must allow students to start a GSA if they want one.

**2013**

In December, Lee Hicks, a Grade 6 teacher at Palmerston Avenue Junior Public School in Toronto, speaks out about transitioning while continuing to teach. He chronicles his experiences, filming much of his material at his school in a video called Both/And Indiegogo Video.

**2015**

At the ETFO Annual Meeting in August, delegates from across Ontario vote to approve the organization’s first Transgender Policy, demonstrating ETFO’s commitment to equity and social justice for all.