## Trekkers' Philosophy on Inclusion

At Trekkers we cultivate the inherent strengths of young people, and consider identity as a strength. At Trekkers our core value is to meet young people where they are, and recognize that identity is a journey for all people.

Our programs work to offer a safe, positive environment for youth, staff and families of all sexual orientations, gender identities and gender expressions. It's part of our broader mission to ensure every young person has access to quality after school opportunities where they are physically and emotionally safe, healthy and develop the leadership skills they need to be thriving individuals.

## **Commitment to Inclusion**

We believe in the inherent strengths of all young people. The mission and core beliefs of Trekkers fuel our commitment to promoting safe, positive and inclusive environments for all. Trekkers supports all youth and teens – of every race, ethnicity, gender, gender expression, sexual orientation, ability, socio-economic status, and religion – in reaching their full potential.

## **Core Beliefs & Values**

- Meeting people where they are
- Being comprehensive in our approach
- Development occurs over time
- Sexual identity, orientation and expression also develop over time
- We can't lead someone where we haven't gone ourselves
- Creating the most safe, comfortable environment for every individual cohort