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My name is William Bridel and I am an Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Kinesiology at the University of Calgary. I am leading a research team on a project exploring LGBTQ2SI inclusion in Canadian sports, and figure skating specifically. The University of Calgary Conjoint Health Research Ethics Board has approved this research study (REB17-1577) and it is funded by the Social Science and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC). Skate Canada is supporting the project as the organization wishes to better understand and address diversity and inclusion in the sport.

We are looking to interview current Skate Canada members who identify as LGBTQ2SI. You can be an athlete, a coach, an official, a volunteer, or an administrator. To participate, you must be 18-years of age or over; while I am unilingual (English) a translator will be available should you wish to do an interview in French. Interviews will likely last between 90- and 120-minutes and will be digitally recorded (audio only). We will discuss your experiences in figure skating as an LGBTQ2SI person. You will also be asked questions about gender and sexuality more generally. The interviews will be confidential and steps will be taken to ensure your privacy through the process. If you choose, a pseudonym can be used in place of your real name in any presentations and publications that result from the research.

If you are interested in participating in this interview, please send an email to william.bridel@ucalgary.ca with the following information: (1) name; (2) year of birth; and (3) how you self-identify in terms of gender and/or sexuality.

Once your message is received, I will contact you to discuss the study in further detail and to determine if you are still interested in volunteering to participate. If that is the case, then you will be able to select a place where you want to be interviewed as well as a day/time that is convenient for you. Interviews will be conducted in person when possible but Skype can also be used if that is preferred and/or easier to facilitate.

Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions you may have regarding this research project. I can be reached at william.bridel@ucalgary.ca or at (403) 210-7246. Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Best,

William Bridel, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor, Faculty of Kinesiology