

Leo L. Rutherford

Current Appointments

2023- Present	Research Scientist Community-Based Research Center, Vancouver BC
2023-Present	Adjunct Assistant Professor University of Victoria, Victoria BC
2024- Present	Founding Co-Chair Centre for Research, Education and Advocacy for Transgender Equity (CREATE) Society

Education

December 2024	Ph.D., Social Dimensions of Health School of Public Health and Social Policy University of Victoria Victoria, British Columbia, Canada
2015 - 2017	Ph.D. Student, Human Sexuality (<i>degree not completed</i>) California Institute of Integral Studies San Francisco, California, USA
2011 - 2013	M.A. Psychology California Institute of Integral Studies San Francisco, California, USA
2005 - 2009	B.S. Psychology Mansfield University Mansfield, Pennsylvania, USA

Research Funding

Active Funded Projects

Title:	Interdisciplinary Intersectional Community-Based Participatory Research to Improve HIV and Sexually
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Transmitted and Blood Borne Infection Population Health and Prevention Among Two-Spirit and LGBTQIA+ People Across Canada

Principal Applicant: Nathan J. Lachowsky
Co-Applicants: Michael Kwag, Kiffer Card, Ben Klassen...Leo L. Rutherford
Funding: Canadian Institutes of Health Research Team Grant. Embracing Diversity to Achieve Precision & Health Equity: CAD\$20,000. Funded 2024 - 2026

Title: **Addressing HIV and STBBI Outcomes and Determinants among Two-Spirit, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, and Queer Men in Canada Through Community-Led Research and Capacity-Building**

Principal Applicant: Nathan J. Lachowsky
Co-Applicants: Michael Kwag, Ben Klassen, Jessy Dame...Leo L. Rutherford
Funding: Canadian Institute for Health Research Strategy. HIV/AIDS and STBBI Community-Based Research: CAD\$100,000 Funded 2024 - 2025

Title: **Transgender Health Research Co-lab**

Principal Applicant: Leo L. Rutherford
Funding: Canadian Institute for Health Research, Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research, Transition to Leadership Award - Phase 2: CAD\$115,000 (annually) Funded, 2024 - 2027

Title: **Understanding the Impact of Trans-focused Primary Care on the Well-being of Trans and Non-binary People**

Principal Applicant: Leo L. Rutherford
Co-Applicants: Nathan J Lachowsky, Kiffer Card, Bobbi Turner,
Funding: Vancouver Foundation Investigate Grant: CAD\$300,000 Funded 2023 - 2026

Title: **Knowledge mobilization for PROGRESS**

Principal Applicant: Leo L. Rutherford
Co-Applicants: Noah Adams, Logan Berrian, Nicola Watts, Gaines Blasdel, Lucas Wilson, Aaron Devor, Nathan Lachowsky
Funding: CIHR Planning and Dissemination Grant: CAD\$25,000 Funded 2023-2025

Past Funded Projects

Title: **Health after gender-affirming genital surgery: a patient-guided study**

Principal Applicant: Leo L. Rutherford

Funding	Canadian Institute for Health Research (CIHR) Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR) Transition to Leadership Award_ - Phase 1: CAD\$165,000 Funded 2020 - 2023
Title:	“Our Trans Health Initiative”: A Community-Based Participatory Study of Transgender Population Health in British Columbia
Principal Applicant:	Nathan J Lachowsky, Chrys T
Co-Applicants:	<u>Leo L. Rutherford</u> , Kiffer Card
Funding:	Vancouver Foundation Investigate Grant: CAD\$300,000 Funded 2019 - 2022
Title:	Transgender Population Health and Engagement in Patient-Oriented Research: A Community-Based Participatory Study
Principal Applicant:	Nathan J Lachowsky
Co-Applicants:	<u>Leo L. Rutherford</u> , Kiffer Card
Funding:	Canadian Institute for Health Research: CAD\$80,000 Funded 2018 - 2020
Title:	Transgender Parents: A qualitative study
Principal Applicant:	Leo L Rutherford
Funding:	California Institute of Integral Studies, Social Justice Research Grant: USD\$2,000 Funded 2016

Graduate Awards and Scholarships

2023	Knowledge Translation Boost Award (CAD\$5,000) National Collaborating Centre for Infectious Diseases
2019	MITACS Accelerate Award (CAD\$10,000) Community Based Research Centre
2019	Patient-Oriented Research Award (CAD\$5,000) BC SUPPORT Unit
2019	Institute Community Support Travel Award (CAD\$1,500) Canadian Institute for Health Research
2019	Graduate Student Society Travel Award (CAD\$600) University of Victoria
2018	Institute Community Support Travel Award (CAD\$1,500) Canadian Institute for Health Research

2018	Engage Traineeship (CAD\$1,800) Engage for Gay Men's Health
2018	Doctoral Degree Research Scholarship (CAD\$5,000) Chair in Transgender Studies, University of Victoria
2018	3-Minute Thesis Finalist and Second Place Winner (CAD\$1,300) University of Victoria
2018	Forum Poster Session Award (CAD\$1,000) Canadian Student Health Research Forum
2017	Research Scholarship (CAD\$10,000) Faculty of Graduate Studies, University of Victoria
2017	Social Dimensions of Health Scholarship (CAD\$5,000) University of Victoria
2016	Theresa Sparks Scholarship (USD\$2,500) California Institute of Integral Studies

Publications

Peer-reviewed Articles

1. Rutherford, L. L., Castle, E., Adams, N., Berrian, L., Jennings, L., Scheim, A., Devor, A., Lachowsky, N. "Promoting trans patient autonomy in surgical preparation for phalloplasty and metoidioplasty: Results from a community-based cross-sectional survey and implications for preoperative assessments". (2024) BMC Medical Ethics.
2. Adams, N., Jacobsen, K., Li, L., Caron Francino, H. M., Rutherford, L., Scheim, A. and Bauer, G. (2024) "Health and healthcare access of autistic trans and non-binary people in Canada." Autism in Adulthood.
3. Jacobsen, K., Burchell, D., Davis, C. E., Rutherford, L., Lachowsky, N. J., Bauer, G. and Scheim, A. (2024) "Impact of misgendering on non-binary people's health and wellbeing in Canada." International Journal of Transgender Health.
4. Kia, H., Rutherford, L., Jackson, R. et al. "Impacts of COVID-19 on trans and non-binary people in Canada: a qualitative analysis of responses to a national survey". BMC Public Health 22, 1284 (2022).
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-022-13684-x>

5. Rutherford L, Stark A, Ablona A, Klassen BJ, Higgins R, et al. (2021). "Health and well-being of trans and non-binary participants in a community-based survey of gay, bisexual, and queer men, and non-binary and Two-Spirit people across Canada". PLOS ONE 16(2): e0246525. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0246525>
6. Card, K., St. Denis, F., Higgins, R. Klassen, R., Ablona, A., Rutherford, L., Jollimore, J., Ibáñez-Carrasco, F., & Lachowsky, N.J. (2021). "Who knows about U = U? Social positionality and knowledge about the (un)transmissibility of HIV from people with undetectable viral loads". AIDS Care, DOI: 10.1080/09540121.2021.1902928

Peer-reviewed Conference Presentations

**presenting author indicated with an asterisk*

1. Jacobsen, K.*, Rutherford, L. "Being trans and doing trans health research: challenges and opportunities". Community-Based Research Centre Summit. Vancouver, Canada. November 2024
2. Adams, N.*, Watts, N.*, Judah, W., Rutherford, L. "Podcasting as a community-based research tool." Poster presentation. Community-Based Research Centre Summit. Vancouver, Canada. November 2024
3. Castle, E.*, Rutherford, L. Adams, N., Devor, A., Scheim. A., Lachowsky, N. "Patient reports mental health improvement after phalloplasty and metoidioplasty: Results from a community-based participatory survey." Poster Presentation. World Professional Association for Transgender Health. Lisbon, Portugal. September 2024
4. Adams, N.*, Rutherford, L., Berrian, L., Blasdel, G. Jennings, L. "Neurodivergent people are just as prepared for phalloplasty and metoidioplasty as neurotypicals: Results from PROGRESS, a community-based survey." World Professional Association for Transgender Health. Lisbon, Portugal. September 2024
5. Rutherford, L., Adams, N.*, Berrian, L., Blasdel, G., Jennings, L., Stark, A. "Perceived mental health improvements after phalloplasty and metoidioplasty: Results from a patient-oriented, community-based survey". Presented at the United States Professional Association for Transgender Health. Denver, Colorado. November 2023

6. Rutherford, L.*, Adams, N., Berrian, L., Blasdel, G., Jennings, L., Wilson, L.*, Stark, A. "*Postoperative depression after phalloplasty or metoidioplasty: rates and what factors relate to it*". Moving Trans History Forward Conference. Victoria, Canada. March 2023.
7. Wilson, L.*, Adams, N., Berrian L., Blasdel, G., Jennings, L., Stark A., Rutherford, L. "*Centering trans communities in CBPR: An example from a community-driven initiative*". Poster presentation. CBRC Summit Vancouver, Canada. November 2023.
8. Rutherford, L., * Babin, C.,* Wilson, L., Adams, N., Berrian, L., Blasdel, G., Jennings, L., Stark, A. "*Sexual Satisfaction after phalloplasty and/or metoidioplasty*". Sexuality & Social Work. Glasgow, Scotland. July 2023.
9. Rutherford, L.*, Adams, N., Berrian, L., Blasdel, G., Jennings, L., Wilson, L., Stark, A. "*Do we need an anti-bullying campaign?*" *Experiences of negativity and sex-related body worries among trans and non-binary people after phalloplasty and/or metoidioplasty.* Poster presentation. CBRC Summit, Pushing Possibilities. Vancouver, Canada. 2022
10. Rutherford, L.*, Stark, A., Adams, N., Berrian, L., Blasdel, G., Jennings, L., Wilson, L., Devor, A., Lachowsky, N., Scheim, A. *Preparing patients for phalloplasty and metoidioplasty; Results from PROGRESS.* World Professional Association for Transgender Health conference. Montreal, Canada. September 2022
11. Rutherford, L.*, Stark, A., Adams, N., Berrian, L., Blasdel, G., Jennings, L., Pinder, K., Wilson, L. "*PROGRESS for phalloplasty and metoidioplasty: A community- directed way forward*". Virtually presented at the Transgender Professional Association for Transgender Health (TPATH) conference. July 2021
12. Rutherford, L.* "*PROGRESS for phalloplasty and metoidioplasty*". Moving Trans History Forward. Virtually hosted by the University of Victoria March 2021
13. Rutherford, L.*, Terry Howard, Everett D. Blackwell, Lu Wang, Nicanor Bacani, Heather L. Armstrong, Gbolahan Olarewaju, Eric A. Roth, Robert S. Hogg, David M. Moore, Nathan J. Lachowsky. "*HIV Status Disclosure During Sex: A Longitudinal Event-Level Analysis of Gay, Bisexual and other Men who have Sex with Men (GBM).*" Poster Presentation. Canadian Conference on HIV/AIDS Research. Saskatoon, Canada, May 2019.

14. Rutherford, L.*, “*Sexual health after bottom surgery: what we know and what we don’t*”. National Transgender Health Summit. California, USA. April 2019.
15. Rutherford, L.* “*Sexual health after bottom surgery: A scoping review*”. Canadian Sex Research Forum. Toronto, Canada. October 2018.
16. Rutherford, L.* “*Sexual health after bottom surgery: A community based participatory survey approach*”. Poster Presentation. Canadian Student Health Research Forum. Winnipeg, Canada, June 2018.
17. Rutherford, L.* “*Trans men’s sexual health*”. Moving Trans History Forward. Victoria, Canada. March 2018.

Teaching Experience

Instructor Positions

Instructor	Public Health and Social Policy, University of Victoria
Winter 2025	HLTH 252: Population Health
Fall 2024	HLTH 300: Social Determinants of Health

Teaching Assistant Positions

Teaching Assistant	Public Health and Social Policy, University of Victoria
2022 - 2023	PHSP 506: Public Health Research and Evaluation
Fall 2017	HLTH 251: Healthy Sexuality
Teaching Assistant	California Institute of Integral Studies
Summer 2016	Research Methods
Spring 2016	Community-Based Participatory Action Research
Spring 2013	Holistic Sexuality

Mentoring and Trainee Supervision

Research Staff

2023 - Present	Research Assistants (x3), Trans Healthcare Co-lab
2020 - 2023	Research Assistant (x1), PROGRESS
2016 - 2017	Arcus Fellowship Student Mentorship (x1)
<i>Student Mentorship</i>	
2025- present	Mentor, “Investigaytor” Capacity Building Program
2016 - 2017	Arcus Fellowship Mentor

Research Assistant Positions

2020 - 2022	Trans PULSE Canada COVID 19 qualitative data collection working group Western University and University of Victoria, Canada
2019 - 2020	Trans PULSE Canada Research Assistant Western University and University of Victoria, Canada
2019	Mitacs Accelerate Internship with CBRC Sex Now Survey Community-Based Research Centre
2018 - 2019	Engage Studentship Award and Research Assistantship University of Victoria
2015 - 2016	Policy Intern, Our Family Coalition, San Francisco, California

Selected Professional Service

2023	Consultant, National HIV Surveillance, Public Health Agency of Canada
2022 - 2023	Graduate Student Board Member, Human Research Ethics Board, University of Victoria
2020 - 2022	Steering Committee Member, Trans PULSE, Western University
2020 - 2021	Senior Student Representative, Canadian Sex Research Forum
2019 - 2020	Junior Student Representative, Canadian Sex Research Forum

Peer Review of Academic Publications

2022	Transgender Health
2021 & 2022	Canadian Journal of Human Sexuality
2021	Journal of AIDS and Behaviour

Community Advocacy

2022	Co-Author, Letter to the Ontario Minister of Health “Policy changes to virtual healthcare that will impact access to gender-affirming care”
2023	Co-Author, popular media article “Impact of rate cuts to telehealth services on gender-affirming care access in Ontario”. Published in <i>The Conversation</i> https://theconversation.com/cuts-to-telehealth-in-ontario-mean-fewer-trans-and-non-binary-people-will-have-access-to-life-saving-health-care-198502?
2016	Author, Community Report “Transgender Parents: Challenges and Policies”. Our Family Coalition Internal Documents.

Invited Lectures, Presentations and Workshops

2019	Engage Trainee Seminar, online, Engage
2019	Traineeship data analysis update, Pre-Canadian Association for HIV Research Engage meeting
2019	Sexual Satisfaction as an Aspect of Sexual Health, Island Sexual Health
2019	Gender Development and Gender Identity, HLTH 251: Healthy Sexuality, University of Victoria
2018	Community Consultation: Transgender Health in British Columbia, Rainbow Health Co-Op annual meeting

2018	Dissertation plan presentation, Chair in Transgender Studies Graduate Student Colloquium, University of Victoria
2017	Gender Development, Gender Roles, and Gender Identity, HLTH 251: Healthy Sexuality, University of Victoria
2016	Cultural Competence in Working with Gender and Sexual Minorities, American College of Traditional Chinese Medicine

Research Outputs and Knowledge Translation

PROGRESS

2024	PROGRESS for Phalloplasty and Metoidioplasty Research results and Community Report
2024	Common Experiences of Phalloplasty: A Zine with results from the PROGRESS survey
2023 - Present	Progress for Phalloplasty and Metoidioplasty PROGRESS Podcast
2021 - Present	PROGRESS Snap Stats

Professional Association Memberships

Canadian Sex Research Forum

Transgender Professional Association for Transgender Health

World Professional Association for Transgender Health