



**University  
of Victoria**



**THE UNIVERSITY  
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA**

**Project Title: Examining the influence of pre-treatment HIV experiences on older gay men's contemporary constructions of quality of life (QOL)**

We are extending an invitation to all men who self-identify as gay, age 50 and older, who currently reside in Victoria to participate in the above research project. This study seeks to gain insight into how experiences during the pre-treatment HIV period – inclusive to clinical encounters, grief and loss, and sustained discrimination – have informed current understandings/perspectives of quality of life (QOL) and strategies to enhance well-being. Ultimately, the findings will contribute to meaningfully supporting the psychosocial well-being of older gay men.

This study involves participating in an individual interview virtually (via Zoom) and will take one to two hours of your time. This study is minimal risk; however, due to the potentially emotionally evocative nature of the content, contacts for support services will be available should the need arise. Any information that is obtained in connection with this study and that can be identified with you will remain confidential and will be disclosed only with your permission. The interview will be audio recorded for transcription purposes only. The audio recording will be transcribed in a manner that de-identifies your information.

Please feel free to share this letter with friends/peers that you feel may be interested to participate. The ethics protocol for this study was reviewed by the Uvic Research Ethics Board and the UBC Research Ethics Board via the Provincial Research Ethics Platform, which provided approval to conduct the research as of June 1, 2021. If you have any ethical concerns or questions about the study, please contact: The Human Research Ethics Office, University of Victoria, (250) 472-4545 [ethics@uvic.ca](mailto:ethics@uvic.ca)

For more information or to participate, please contact:  
Ingrid Handlovsky, Assistant Professor, School of Nursing, University of Victoria  
[ihandlovsky@uvic.ca](mailto:ihandlovsky@uvic.ca) or (778) 922-1198

We thank you in advance for your consideration and potential participation in this study.