

Sanctity and Queer Identity: An Interfaith Panel

8:30 p.m - 9:30 p.m., MNJCC, Room 308

(presented at the [Tikkun Leil Shavuot Jewish Learning Festival](#))

Andi Yumansky (moderator) is an observant, queer / trans Jew who has recently completed a master's degree in Pastoral Studies at Emmanuel College, University of Toronto. They are passionate about community building, inter-faith organizing and spiritual-care giving. Andi currently practices psychotherapy and chaplaincy in Toronto.

[Rabbi Dr. Aviva Goldberg](#) (panelist) is the spiritual leader of [Congregation Shir Libeynu](#), an unaffiliated, liberal and inclusive synagogue in downtown Toronto. She is a retired professor of Humanities at York University and specialized in the area of Women and Religion. Rabbi Goldberg is a sought after lecturer, teacher, moderator and workshop leader in the areas of contemporary Jewish liturgy, ritual and theology.

Reverend Dr. Cheri DiNovo (panelist) serves as Minister at Trinity-St. Paul's United Church and Centre for Faith, Justice and the Arts and a former MPP who passed most of the private bills in Ontario's history and most of the LGBTQ bills in Canadian history.

Haran Vijayanathan (panelist) is an openly gay, Sri Lankan Tamil man, who has been working in the HIV and LGBTQ+ sector over the last 18 years. He is currently the executive director of ASAAP – the Alliance for South Asian AIDS Prevention. Due to the homophobia that exists within community and culture – he was forced to ignore the religion he loved. Only after learning more of Hinduism's stance on homosexuality, was he able to reconcile his religion, culture, and sexual orientation.

[More Information](#)