



FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES  
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July 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write this letter of support for the Sher Vancouver LGBTQ Friends Society to assist them in obtaining funding for their new documentary film which is tentatively titled, "Emergence."

Emergence is about the strengths and struggles of LGBTQ South Asian people in Metro Vancouver. The film reflects on their coming out journey and the reactions of their parents. Emergence is a valuable educational tool and will help many people, especially youth, deal with their sexuality, gender identity, and coming out journey from a cross-cultural perspective. This short documentary film will empower young people, help save lives, and create a sense of community and critical awareness for South Asian parents with LGBTQ children.

Sher Vancouver was founded by Alex Sangha, an activist, registered clinical social worker, recipient of the Meritorious Service Medal from the Governor General, and producer of Sher Vancouver's award-winning documentary film My Name Was January. The Metro Vancouver Premiere of My Name Was January, about transgender women of colour issues, was held at SFU Surrey in February 2019. The premiere was sponsored by the Department of Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies as part of the Margaret Lowe Benston Lecture Series in Social Justice. This was a well-attended screening followed by a panel discussion with the producers, directors, and cast members, and a formal reception.

Sher Vancouver Founder Alex Sangha played a key role in organizing this successful premiere. He is collaborative, organized, and open to feedback. He wrote and distributed press releases, contacted local print and tv media, and organized media attendance at the premiere. Alex has a passion for sharing social justice stories and is committed to uplifting the voices of some of the most marginalized people in society. The organizing committee for the Benston Lowe Lecture series – myself and Dr. Jennifer Marchbank – can state with great enthusiasm and without hesitation that the department would be delighted to work with Sher Vancouver and Alex Sangha in the future.

If I can provide any further details, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

*Lara Campbell*

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