Time: 2:00pm-4:00pm Saturday March 25<sup>th</sup> Location: The Theatre on King

Moderator: Charlie Petch Panelists: Angela Semple, Evangeline Gentle, Scarlett Palmer, Niambi Leigh Presented by: EC3 (Electric City Culture Council) and Public Energy

**Description:** Join us for a panel discussion with local artists, moderated by theatre artist, writer and performer Charlie Petch. This panel will address some of the following questions: What is the experience of trans and gender non conforming artists in Peterborough/Nogojiwanong? What makes spaces and organizations feel welcoming? What are the particular challenges faced by trans and non gender conforming artists? How do we work together to make spaces and organizations more inclusive? How can Peterborough lead by example? Are we accessing all the audiences we can? How can we do better together? We hope this panel will create dialogue around how we can increase diversity and nurture new audiences. Open to the public.

## **Biography:** Charlie Petch

Charlie Cathy Petch is a playwright, actor, spoken word artist, national haiku deathmaster, host and musical saw player. Petch's new full-length spoken word vaudeville play "Mel Malarkey" has toured all over Canada and has been awarded two Ontario Arts Council grants. They will be launching their new album "Mel Malarkey Odes & Acts" exclusively during this run at TTOK. They are a nationally touring spoken word artist and member of the League of Canadian Poets. Petch is widely published, has had 9 plays produced and won both the Playpen competition for new scripts with Mysterious Entity and "New Playwright" award from The Union Theatre. Petch is the creative director of "Hot Damn It's A Queer Slam". Petch is happiest onstage.

Find out more at: www.charliecpetch.com