

# Wayves

## InterQ: a Chamber of Commerce with Pizzazz

by Bethana Sullivan

What started as a Business Breakfast Club Atlantic, attended by a few of the LGBT business community, has become InterQ, LGBT chamber + commerce atlantic.

Wanting or needing to network with a business tribe, Krista Snow, Carolyn James, Darrell Schuurman, and Jules Chamberlain attended a couple of meetings of the Business Breakfast Rainbow Club. It took only a few meetings for them to discover that something was missing: pizzazz—some colour, a little double entendre in the conversation maybe. But mostly it was a desire to be among their own, their tribe, so to speak. And from that spark of desire, InterQ was born: a stand-alone, down-home Halifax



That's Larissa Law on the left, Jules chamberlain, Ivan Nault in the centre, Willem Blois and Chase Barlet on the right.

creation. Not for them the Canadian Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce out of Toronto. This endeavour is born out of the heartbeat of Nova Scotians' LGBT community. Jules Cham-

berlain describes Halifax as having a heartbeat, strong and vibrant, like the land of Nova Scotia, and the people who live here.

InterQ is about the intersection of like-minded people caring about their own and others businesses, caring about the intersection of business with community development, and caring for the LGBT community as it intersects with the larger community. Each point of crossing is rich with new ideas, new friends, and exciting possibilities of how to grow each other and the community. InterQ is about being business oriented with a twist.

At their second social InterQintermix, hosted by MacInnes Cooper at their Purdy's Wharf offices, the turnout was even larger than the first. The setting was divine, light, and airy, with a sense of being contained but not

restricted. While suits dominated the scene, there was enough of soft image apparel to not scare off those in alternate enterprises. And an increased number of women were present, from insurance brokers, to social workers, to furniture designers. The ratio of men to women is out of balance and it will probably be a challenge for InterQ to attract not only more women but also people of colour. As someone said to me recently, "Where has all the colour gone?" But I think this group will be up to it. Certainly, the energy of the room spoke to the excitement of being part of something new, and something needed in the LGBT business community.

Interim chair Justin Schurman welcomed everyone to the second meet and greet and introduced its interim board: Michelle Clare, Darrell Schuurman, Benjie Nycum, Justin Mury, Lynn Iding, Krista Snow, Carolyn James, and Jules Chamberlain. Given the interest expressed in this new endeavour, the interim board is going ahead with setting up as a non profit society, creating its bylaws, and developing membership packages for the range of businesses from a single person to a large corporation. InterQ—a chamber +



Alex Henden, Jules Chamberlain, Nathaniel McAllister Lewis toasting a highly successful evening.

commerce atlantic will focus on promoting 'the rich diversity of the LGBT community.'

The next InterQintermix will be in September. Follow them on Twitter: @interQatlantic; like them on facebook: /interQ. Keep your eye on Wayves Magazine facebook page for details. It is an exciting time to be part of the Atlantic LGBT business community and Wayves will be sharing more of their story online at wayves.ca and in Wayves.



Michelle Clare, Trevor, Chad Bungay, Justin Schurman, and Laurie, schmoozing and otherwise networking.

## Moncton Pride To Go Ahead

by Nathan Adams

Some big changes have taken place with River of Pride Inc. in Moncton. With pride week less than a month away, the majority of the executive committee has resigned, including the president/chair of the board, leaving only 2 members to take the reins and make this Pride season a success. The remaining executive members, Wayne Richard and Jon Chaisson, have informed me that, "even though some executive members have resigned from the committee, the show will still go on. Most of the Pride events were planned months

in advance and everything is on schedule."

River of Pride held an open meeting on Sunday July 15th to recruit new members and volunteers to help out with this year's festivities. Greg Deborne, LGBT Activist and past board member, said that he would first like to start by thanking those who had to leave for whatever reasons for the hard work they have done to help our community this year. "I know from my own experience that working for an extended period of time on the committee can at times be very rewarding, and at other times be very difficult and draining. Having said that, I don't think we should judge anyone involved, and that the show must go on."

Stella Fougere of Triangles bar reiterated the sentiment that "being a volunteer for Pride can be draining ...and that's because there's only been 5-6 people doing all the work year round, and they get no thanks for it. Yes, the bar looks great at the colour parties, and everyone comments on it, but how many customers actually think about the time involved to decorate? We need volunteers to keep Pride going, and really

...continued on page 8

### Fun In The Sun!

Rainbow Bridges is hosting a gay and lesbian dance at The Rotary Center at the Hebron Recreational Complex in Yarmouth N.S., August 18th at 7pm, with free admission and door prizes. Bring a friend or two; enjoy the music and have a great time

### Regular Columns



Groups & Services 13 • Kibitz & Bitch 6 • The New New Glaswegian 8 • NSRAP Report 4 • The Sanctuary Garden 7 • The 416er 5



Deadline for September issue: Friday, August 3 (first Friday of every month!) submissions@wayves.ca • Online: www.wayves.ca • Join us on Facebook: Wayves Magazine Rocks! ... and on Twitter: @WayvesMagazine



# River of Pride Presents moncton pride 2012

**August 12<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>**

[www.fiertemonctonpride.ca](http://www.fiertemonctonpride.ca)

FROM PEI



ALEXAS DAVENPORT

MONCTON'S SWEETHEART



TRIXY SLAMBACK

MONCTON'S OWN DARLING



ROXY DIOR

BEATS BY



CYN-L

## august

**SUN 12 DINNER WITH PRIDE**

**MON 13 BOWLING WITH PRIDE**

**WED 15 PRIDE ACADIAN BINGO**

**THU 16 PRIDE FLAG RAISING / PRIDE KARAOKE**

**FRI 17 PRIDE ENTERTAINMENT REVUE**

**SAT 18 PRIDE BASEBALL / ALL WHITE PARTY**

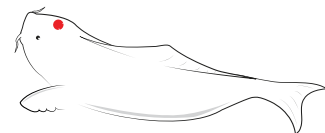
**SUN 19 PRIDE PARADE / PRIDE CELEBRATION PARTY**

**wayves**

*scuffed boots*  
PHOTOGRAPHY

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TOGETHER

**MONCTON**  
Our Tide is Rising - Une nouvelle vague nous soulève



[www.inkedkoidesigns.ca](http://www.inkedkoidesigns.ca)



## Wayves

**Wayves** exists to inform Atlantic Canadian lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and transgender people of activities in their communities, to promote those activities and to support their aims and objectives.

Wayves is an independent publication, published every month except February by a non-profit collective. Anyone who contributes to Wayves is automatically considered to be a member of the collective and is welcome to participate in all meetings and discussions. Wayves reserves the right to refuse material that might be reasonably considered heterosexism, racism, sexism or an attack on individuals or communities. Opinions expressed in Wayves are not necessarily those of the editorial collective. The article submission deadlines are posted in the *Important Wayves Dates* section of this page. Articles should be a maximum of 1,000 words and may be edited for length. Submissions should be emailed in plain text to the address below. Articles and letters may be published with pseudonyms or anonymously, but Wayves must have contact information for the author. The copyright for all submissions remains the property of the original author/creator.

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### Wayves

P.O. Box 34090, Scotia Square  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
B3J 3S1  
[submissions@wayves.ca](mailto:submissions@wayves.ca)  
[www.wayves.ca](http://www.wayves.ca)

## Important WAYVES Dates!

**Issue Content Deadlines:** Fridays: August 3, September 7, October 5; that is, the first Friday of each month (skipping January.) You can send your news, ideas, comments, criticisms, columns, cartoons and more to [submissions@wayves.ca](mailto:submissions@wayves.ca) any time!

**Production Meetings** (Halifax): Mondays: August 6, September 10, October 8; help decide what goes in the next issue, 6:30 PM, at a Place to be announced in Halifax. All welcome, every meeting.

**Magazine Layout** (Halifax): August 12, September 16, October 14; help build the paper—no special skills required, just enthusiasm, and joining us even once, or for a few hours, helps a LOT! 9:30 AM. Email us for location.

We're on the stands, in the mail, and online on the fourth Friday of every month!

# Atlantic News

## Queering the HRM Budget

by Hugo Dann

Early in July, I joined an impressive (and somewhat intimidating) group of academics, activists, and fellow citizens to take a look at how Halifax Regional Municipality's budget might better respond to the needs of its diverse communities, including the LGBT community. Organized by the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives-Nova Scotia (CCPA-NS), the goal of the exercise is to offer municipal politicians and citizens some creative solutions to the challenges facing our region's largest city. For 10 years, CCPA-NS has published an alternative analysis of the provincial budget. As the draft preamble states, "The goal for the Alternative Municipal Budget (AMB), is to make a persuasive case for how we can reallocate or/and raise additional public funds in order to create a society that is socially and economically just."

Municipal elections take place this fall across Nova Scotia, and it's important to start engaging candidates on LGBT issues and the role municipal governments can play in advancing equality. Truro, Antigonish still have "no flag" policies in place, as do the Councils of Pictou and Cumberland Counties. Given the fact the Nova Scotia's Human Rights Act still doesn't cover discrimination based on gender identity and gender expression, it's safe to bet that no municipal government offers gender identity protections in employment, housing, or other services. It was empowering to raise these and other LGBT issues at the meeting, and I will be drafting a section on how other cities in Canada support their LGBT citizens. I look forward to sharing more about this project with Wayves readers when the AMB is released towards the end of August. Wayves would like to have more about the upcoming elections in the weeks ahead. We encourage you to send us your thoughts to [submissions@wayves.ca](mailto:submissions@wayves.ca).

## Now Get Married in Yarmouth

On May 27, by a unanimous vote, the church Board of Beacon United Church in Yarmouth voted in favor of allowing same sex marriages to be performed in the church and also authorized its minister to perform these weddings. Beacon United Church is now the first and only church in Yarmouth and Digby Counties to do so. Trinity United Church in Shelburne (Shelburn County) will also perform same sex marriages.

## Hep C in Northern NS

by Janet McPhee

A study concluded that 5 of the 6 hot spots for drug use were in the northern region of Nova Scotia. The Public Health Agency of Canada granted funding in 2009 to the Northern AIDS Connection Society (NACS) to create the Hepatitis C Aware Project.

An awareness campaign places posters in the port-a-potties at the local Dutch Mason Festival. This has

led to not only putting them in the port-a-potties, but the rest rooms in all the buildings at the Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition during August. This will be the third year for this event. At the Exhibition, NACS conducts surveys asking the general public questions about Hep C to gauge their knowledge. Once the surveys are completed almost all participants want to know how well they have done, which allows staff and volunteers to have a conversation about the answers they have provided and how they have gained their knowledge, and answer questions that they ask.

Health Fairs, barbeques, open houses, training sessions, and work with youth are also many other ways that NACS is able to increase awareness of Hepatitis C. NACS has been going into school and youth groups for three years and promoting awareness around piercings and tattooing. By making the youth aware of Hepatitis C and talking to them about the risks of it, youth are made aware of how Hep C is transmitted. They need to ask questions when they get a piercing or tattoo, and it can be spread through unsafe needle use.

NACS project staff has also been traveling in partnership with Mainline Needle Exchange to talk with and distribute information to the Injection Drug Use (IDU) community. The staff has also formed a partnership with the Opiate Treatment Program in Truro. It was through this partnership that promotion of the methadone program, referrals to the center and greater awareness in the community was achieved.

The work that NACS does with youth has placed us in a position of trust. The youth feel comfortable and safe coming into our office to access condoms, information, clean needles and to ask questions when they are concerned, or looking for help to get into detox or the opiate treatment program. World Hep Day is Saturday July 28. Some of the ways that NACS is able to create awareness in the northern region is holding a barbeque at a local store. This is an event that the staff would like to have volunteers take into the Pictou and Cumberland areas. Posters have been put up around the northern region making people aware of the day. Through a discussion with Mainline Needle Exchange, a nurse at Indian Brook First Nations NACS was invited to participate in a Hepatitis Spa Day held prior to July 28th.

[www.worldhepatitisalliance.org](http://www.worldhepatitisalliance.org)

## Thank You from the Youth Project!

by Patrick Daigle & Youth Project Board of Directors

The Youth Project's first ever bowl-a-thon fundraiser, Strike Out Homophobia, was a huge success and exceeded our expectations! We couldn't believe the excitement and enthusiasm of all our participants, eager to raise funds and bowl to support the Youth Project's Education services. We are very grateful to our community for all their help, from pledgers to bowlers to those cheering us on (and to those

who bought goodies from our bake sales at Pretty Things Boutique!). Thanks to everyone's hard work, we raised approximately \$23,000! What will this do? This will ensure classrooms across Nova Scotia still have access to our anti-homophobia workshops and professional development sessions. Our education services are in high demand, and we work to supply them as much as possible—this will help get us there, and we are so thankful we get to do it!

Big thanks to bowl-a-thon coordinator Lee-Ann Poole, and Fairlanes Bowling Alley Halifax.

## AIDS Walk Season Is Here!



As summer commences, so does the organization of the annual Scotiabank AIDS Walk for Life in Truro, New Glasgow and Amherst. These walks are a few of the many that are to be held across the country as part of the national Scotiabank AIDS Walk for life campaign.

The Northern AIDS Connection Society will once again host the three AIDS Walks, which are to be held on Sunday, September 23.

According to the Public Health Agency of Canada, an estimated 65,000 people in Canada are living with HIV/AIDS. That is approximately one in every 523 people and there is still no known cure for HIV/AIDS. The Northern AIDS Connection Society is one of many organizations across the country providing support services such as referrals for anonymous HIV/AIDS testing, access to an extensive resource library, outreach programs, and preventative education.

The Scotiabank AIDS Walk for Life campaign is the Northern AIDS Connection Society's biggest fundraising event of the year and is necessary to the organization in order for these programs to continue. The local Sobeys has once again graciously sponsored the Truro, Amherst and New Glasgow walks hosted by the Northern AIDS Connection Society.

Community members are always encouraged to get involved and raise awareness by fundraising and attending the community walk. In order to meet a fundraising goal of \$20,000 the Northern AIDS Connection Society needs the support of individuals and businesses of the area.

Getting involved is simple; registration and pledge sheet orders can

be done by contacting the Northern AIDS Connection Society. Registration and donations can also be done online at [www.aidswalkforlife.ca](http://www.aidswalkforlife.ca). Friends, coworkers or family can register as a team to collect pledges, or registration can be done individually.

The Northern AIDS Connection Society has created an incentive for teams to create their own fundraising goals; 50% of the money raised by a team will be returned to assist in supporting an HIV/AIDS related cause of the team's choice. Teams are required to raise a minimum of \$100.00 to qualify for the 50% return.

On Sunday September 23, 2012, please come out to walk and raise awareness about HIV/AIDS. For more information, contact the North-

ern AIDS Connection Society at [nacs@eastlink.ca](mailto:nacs@eastlink.ca) or (902) 895-0931. Remember, HIV/AIDS truly does affect us all.

## LGBT Community Centre in Moncton?

by Nathan Adams, Bureau Chief Moncton

Over the past several weeks there has been much talk and debate about a possible LGBTQ Community Unity Centre in Moncton. The facebook group dedicated to this has been receiving both positive and negative comments: Will people attend? Where will the funding come from? Many people are in favor of having a place where the LGBT Community of Moncton can meet without yelling over loud dance music to talk with each other, a place that is open during the day, a place to discuss events that are important to the community as a whole. Some say this is a great idea and it could be a great benefit to all of us. It would be great to have a place where PFLAG and Safe Spaces could meet. It would also be great as a meeting spot for community activists to meet.

Some people feel that the LGBT community of Moncton is too divided for a place like this to work. One member of the facebook discussion goes as far as to say: "In principle, this is a good idea BUT unfortunately doubt this would work." While I respect this opinion, I know we can dream big and make it happen. Let's dream of a safe place where we can make new friends, meet singles, create a sense of belonging and even have fun.

...continued on page 7

## Where to find Wayves

Did you miss the last issue of Wayves, or did your favourite distribution point run out of copies? Do you

want to tell your friends where to get their own copy of Wayves? Your first stop should be to [www.wayves.ca](http://www.wayves.ca); you can download the current issue, and the archives too—we have lots of back

issues on line. Also get the complete list of our distributors in Atlantic Canada and around the country. If there are none handy to your home, write to [submissions@wayves.ca](mailto:submissions@wayves.ca) and

tell us where we should be! If you'd like to be notified when the current issue is online- email us at [submissions@wayves.ca](mailto:submissions@wayves.ca)!



## Lessons From The Margins: How the Past Informs Our Future

by Bethana Sullivan

At the Halifax Pride Special Meeting to address changes in the bylaws, it was said that the meeting wouldn't have happened if not for community members agitating for it after the Pride Committee had reformatted the 2006 bylaws with some critical changes. Though agitating may be too strong a word for some. While it speaks to my belief that agitating is an initial process for structures to begin to form/reform out of chaos, others may see it simply as some community members demanding a voice. The main points of contention focused on the continuation of community collaboration, the cost of membership (and thus the cost of having a vote), and the accessibility of the books to the membership. The discussions eventually led to amendments to the amendments.

The purpose of this article is not to inform you of those changes. Rather, I am looking at the process by which decisions were made.

The meeting was attended by an assortment of GLBTQ people, a fair representation of ages, more men than

women, more white than not—and mostly educated middle class SESs. In the spirit of openness, I make meaning of the world through being a lesbian, a white woman of Celtic ancestry, a feminist, a person who lives on the edge, a belief in the interconnectedness of all, and the knowing that it is through conflict and diversity that we grow and change.

The meeting progressed through use of Robert's rules of order—which wasn't made clear until well into the meeting. Robert's rules are an old tradition, and, while I like some traditions, this isn't one of them—at least, not as a dominant choice used routinely and without analysis for what can only be called group management.

The first edition of Robert's Rules came out in 1876, as a result of an unruly meeting in 1863 chaired by U.S. Army Colonel Henry Martyn Roberts. He was so embarrassed he decided to find a way to conduct 'fair and orderly meetings and conventions'. Based loosely on the US

House of Representatives, and the long-standing traditions of parliamentary procedure, Roberts Rules are widely used in the Canadian and US societies. Now remember that this was the time of Victorian England when

*"An observation: The more formal a group becomes in its structure, the less it seems to reflect its community."*

homosexual relations were criminal and lesbians were women who didn't adhere to female gender roles and were mentally ill. And if not ill, than just invisible.

When I attend a meeting, be it a board meeting, an annual general meeting, a community meeting, or even a meeting to plan a large public ritual, formal and informal versions of RRs are used. Robert's Rules of Order are a system that work to keep order, however, there are several downsides, particularly for a group that has historically been oppressed.

An observation: The more formal

a group becomes in its structure, the less it seems to reflect its community.

Under these rules, consensus building is very difficult, if not impossible. Keeping group order seems to be more important than helping a group find the best solution to an issue. Assembling a bare majority and pushing policy over the others is implicitly encouraged. Strategic coalition building tends to take the place of working together as a whole group to find mutually beneficial solutions. The few who are familiar with the complex workings of this parliamentary process can manipulate it to get their way.

"Everyone tends to talk past each other, which is frustrating and makes meetings take a long time" (Susskind and Cruikshank 2006).

An observation: People living on the margins often seek the centre and leave behind the richness and creative energy of the edges.

And this is how I saw it unfolding at the Halifax Pride Special Meeting. The decisions were either/or, the choice often spoken through the voice of a dominant personality. The differences were left on the edges like discarded weeds or flowers found wanting. Where is the creativity, the diversity, the felt sense of a job well done when the process is empowering, and inclusive? The path to decisions was narrow and hard, well trodden by feet in a hurry, rushing

on to the next challenge or accomplishment.

The worst of it is, it is so easy to get caught up in the dominant style, to seek to be the loudest voice, or the influential voice, moving farther away from the edges into the centre of power. If not choosing the path of power—over than choosing to be cowed into silence and thence to fester on the edge or disengage altogether. I no longer think that this lack of engagement in the community, whether it be an election, a community meeting to look at visioning, or running a project, is attributable to the old stand-bys such as 'being young, being old, a person of colour, poor or disenfranchised.' It is because the people on the margins have grown up and matured; they know when their knowledge, wisdom, and creative energy are being abused. They know only part of them is being called forth, the visible part, not the whole person able and willing to engage in the process of co-creation of whatever needs to be done to create a sustainable and inclusive community.

So let's revision a different process, one that reflects the core of our community, that speaks to how we envision a new world, a community in which all are welcome—and from diversity comes knowledge, contribution, wholeness and right relationship; let us really embody the lessons we have learned from being on the margins and seek not to replicate that which has been oppressive.

### NSRAP Report

## NSRAP AGM 2012

by Kirk Furlotte

On Saturday, June 23, NSRAP held its annual general meeting at Veith House in Halifax. Attendance was greater than any previous AGM with 45 members of the community present. The day was structured in two major parts: the presentation of our annual report, and a community forum.

Our 2011-2012 Vice-Chair, Curtis Cartmill, presented our annual activity report with reports from available committee chairs. The report ended with a section of highlights of events from the past year. Curtis also took a moment to thank Matt Numer, our outgoing Chair of three years, and Sean, our outgoing Past-Chair who was the longest-serving board member.

After the presentation of the annual report, Curtis chaired the election of the 2012-2013 board of directors. A full slate of nominees had been received prior to the AGM and no nominees were received from the floor. The 15 nominees were a mix of experienced NSRAP board members and those new to NSRAP. Each nominee present spoke for a moment to their desire for change. For those not present, prepared speeches were read. All nominations were accepted and elected to the board.

After the conclusion of the AGM, there was a brief break while the newly elected board of directors selected their executive committee. The 2012-2013 NSRAP Board of Directors are: Kevin Kindred (Chair), Rosie Porter (Vice-Chair), Matt Numer (Past Chair), Kate Shewan (Treasurer), Nathaniel Lewis (Secretary), John Britton (Member-at-Large), Jim Gouthro, Andrew Jantzen, Kate Keough, Justin Leblanc, Brenda Merritt, Alana Murray, Rebecca Rose, Nathaniel Smith and Lucas Thorne-Humphrey.

After the break, Kevin Kindred facilitated a community forum to inform NSRAP's strategic direction. This is the second year we have held

a community forum after our AGM and it was another success. Feedback from those present focused on two key topics:

- 1) How can NSRAP stay connected to the community?
- 2) What should be the top three priorities in 2012-2013?

Collaborating with other community groups was a key theme in response to connecting to the community. And "other community groups" includes those outside of HRM by highlighting and addressing their concerns. Connections should also be formed with non-queer community agencies such as health services and resource directories (such as 211). Developing tools that are up-to-date resources for members of our diverse communities was also cited as a way to help highlight NSRAP and clarify our role.

Themes from the question of setting priorities for NSRAP echoed many of the comments above but also included the suggestion that NSRAP needs to engage in more fundraising to support operations and expenses such as staff. It was also suggested that a needs assessment be conducted to better understand the needs of LGBTQ Nova Scotians across the province. It was also suggested that while working with other groups, NSRAP might become an "umbrella organization" for resources across the province.

NSRAP appreciates all the feedback we received and our board of directors will use it to inform them in the development of a strategic plan for the next year and beyond.

To view NSRAP's annual activity report, media review, community forum notes or AGM minutes, visit <http://nsrap.ca/agm>.

Kirk Furlotte is the administrative coordinator for NSRAP. To find out more about NSRAP, visit [nsrap.ca](http://nsrap.ca), [facebook.com/nsrap](https://www.facebook.com/nsrap) or [twitter.com/nsrap](https://twitter.com/nsrap).

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# Blood From a Stone

by Lucas Thorne-Humphrey

NSRAP has been working since 1995 across Nova Scotia as a voice for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Community (Rainbow Community). Part of our role is advocating for Nova Scotians' access to equitable and ethical health care; which includes the promotion of non-discriminatory and evidence-based blood collection and delivery services.

On June 12th, as chair of NSRAP's Health Committee, I attended a second consultation session with the Canadian Blood Services (CBS) regarding the current lifetime deferral on blood donation for men who have sex with men (MSM). Participation in these meetings came after an NSRAP presentation to a CBS board meeting in Halifax last year. Our initial meeting only involved LGBTQ groups and representatives from across the country but it soon became clear that a joint meeting of all interested parties was necessary to resolve differences in opinion that have worked to slow progress in the past.

Recently, the CBS board of directors passed a resolution mandating a change in the deferral period to no more than 10 years to no less than 5 years. This will effectively do little for our community in terms of improving our ability to give blood, however it is a step away from the current discriminatory and scientifically refuted policy of a lifetime ban. On behalf of NSRAP, at this meeting I advocated for a goal of a genderless, behavioral based screening tool to identify high-risk donations. Such a screening tool would look directly at high risk behavior, instead of discriminating against groups of people for generalities in HIV risk. This would

preserve the safety of the Canada's blood supply and allow many more Canadians to donate blood. I also agreed to support an intermediate stepwise approach with defined times for study and reevaluation towards the aforementioned end.

At the most recent consultations session, members of the pride community from across Canada met with patient groups directly affected by policy change.

After a long day of informative, open, and heart-felt discussion a majority of those present agreed to support the five year deferral proposed by the CBS with a firm goal of a genderless behavioral screening tool to be developed in

the future. Although not ideal, this compromise amounts to significant progress in the frustratingly slow process of change in the cautious world of health policy! We eagerly await the board's decision and possible Health Canada approval that will be influenced by reports produced by our consultations. I hope you will continue to support this worthy cause affecting LGBT Nova Scotians, and I challenge you to get involved in this or other fields of health inequalities affecting our vibrant, diverse and downright fabulous community! This can range from volunteering for the many groups advocating for this change (NSRAP's Health committee, the Aids Coalition of Nova Scotia, the Canadian Federation of Students) and even writing strongly worded letters to local MPs and the Federal Minister of Health!

*Lucas Thorne-Humphrey is an NSRAP board member and Health Committee Chair. To find out more about NSRAP, visit [nsrap.ca](http://nsrap.ca), [facebook.com/nsrap](https://www.facebook.com/nsrap) or [twitter.com/nsrap](https://twitter.com/nsrap).*

*Although not ideal, this compromise amounts to significant progress in the frustratingly slow process of change in the cautious world of health policy!*

## The 416er

by Randall Perry

# Why I Did It Naked

This year I attended Toronto Pride, the first time in 14 years. I wanted to make a mark in some way. So I marched naked in the parade.

I doubt very much my birthday suit is what my mother would have had me pick for the occasion. Shorts and a t-shirt. Or leather. Even mud. Feathers. Drag. Just cover my shame!

We live in interesting times, where the undressed body representative of less than 1% of the population is digitally augmented, smoothed and sculpted for advertising purposes, while the other 99% of us settle for everyday life in bodies un-corrected by Photoshop.

The "body beautiful" is society's ubiquitous meme. In the world of gay men, it can be a singular obsession.

My body falls into the "most average in the world" column. I don't have a gym-buffed, porn-star body bursting with muscles, or a crazy bubble-butt or a monolithic dick. (Remember the three basic sizes for dicks in porn: huge, gigantic, astronomic-unit.) Sure, I have a six-pack: it's hidden under a layer of 45-year-old paunch. I'm best described as "three hairs removed from a Sasquatch." My wedding tackle is as average as the next guy's. My butt sits at the top of my legs and thankfully it doesn't sag yet (some miracles are real).

Like most people, I have some sort of body image issue. Growing up small-town Catholic, I heard weekly how my flesh was backsliding, how sinful it was in the eyes of God—all the more if I should dare take pleasure in it. Discussions of the body were taboo. Sexuality was hinted and snickered at in the schoolyard but officially off-limits in any meaningful discourse. When puberty hit me full in the groin I had no idea of how my body was supposed to work and how it was changing. My deep gay secret added to the mix; I was the definition of repression and self-doubt.

I can't say I've been a complete mess, but it's taken years to slough off old, ingrained attitudes.

At the nude beach I'm always first to get my kit off, and on weekend mornings it's sometimes a couple of hours before a stitch of clothing covers me. However, those are situations I can control. Naked on the beach, I'm one with the crowd. Naked in the street, I'm outrageous... an iconoclast, a heretic flying in the face of decency.

So there I was, in sneakers and nothing else, starkers in front of a million people lining both sides of Yonge St. I checked out some of my fellow nudist club marchers, guys already bigger than me down there, wearing large PA piercings or multiple cock rings, all that weight dragging their junk more south, and I suddenly felt... inadequate.

My mind raced—oh no, people are going to see I'm not as big as those other guys, uh-oh, now it's shrinking, okay, think about that hot guy, crap, now it's getting hard, fuck, think about boobs, ah, that's better, stay put, you.

Before shedding my body issues, they had to be magnified ten-fold.

We're controversial, the naked guys marching in the Pride parade. Titillating to many; disgusting to others. Vain? Perhaps. Obscene? Difficult to judge. Consider the scores of pumped-up, beautiful men on the floats, nearly naked themselves, grinding away to pulsating music.

Maybe that's what pisses people off: that the ugly guys are shaking it, too, and getting their fair share of cheers.

Maybe we shatter another myth and show the world that the extraordinary is what we see in the mirror every day.

I say this: after being photographed in my natural state a million times that day, during the parade and later during the street party on Church, my poor body image is no longer the black dog it once was. As for next year, I doubt I'll do it again; once was novelty enough, given the blazing heat and the endless sunscreen I slathered on.

But I can always change my mind....  
the416er@gmail.com



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# Crandall University The Deeper Problem

by Kevin Kindred

The Crandall University story may seem like the oft-told tale of churches and their battles against queers. Scratch the surface, though, and you'll see how this one case raises tough questions about the relationship between law, religion, and government—questions that will continue to define the next phase of the struggle for queer equality.

In a nutshell, the story is that Moncton's Crandall University—which until recently was known as "Atlantic Baptist University"—requires its staff and faculty to abide by a "Statement of Moral Standards."

This Standard represents the University's version of "Christian standards of behaviour," which includes being truthful and honest, being respectful of one another, swearing off

porn, avoiding the occult, and saving sex for your heterosexual marriage. Students and members of the public are upset about what's being called an "anti-gay hiring policy." (I guess the witches and porn fiends have to fend for themselves.)

Institutions like Crandall aren't new—far from it. For most of Canada's history, education has been provided by church-based institutions, with the homophobic policies that entails. As recently as 2001, the Supreme Court of Canada confirmed that such institutions could continue to train our teachers and other professionals. However, Crandall and its ilk are certainly an anachronism in today's world, where we've come to expect universities to be bastions of liberty, intellectual freedom, and (let's face it) good old-fashioned debauchery.

Is Crandall's policy wrong? As a well-trained lawyer, I will stay away from such a vague and leading question. But is it legal? It's a good question. Human rights law, including the New Brunswick Human Rights Code, gives some leeway to private religious institutions to discriminate in ways that other institutions could never get away with. So long as the policy relates to a belief which is fundamental to the institution's religious mission, it might amount to a bona fide occupational requirement, which is allowed at law. It's the same law that guarantees that the Catholic Church will never have to accept women as priests, or marry divorced couples.

Mind you, it might be hard to show that the belief is really fundamental to Crandall's mission. As in cases where a Christian nursing home was forced to hire an openly gay woman, or a Catholic school was forced to allow Marc Hall to take his boyfriend to the prom, supposedly "religious" institutions can sometimes find that they have stumbled into the secular sphere by providing a service to the general public. If Crandall's students show that the University doesn't exclusively exist to serve the Baptist population, the school's defence gets a lot weaker.

For my part, though, I'd be happy to let Crandall continue to serve its

bigoted little Baptist community, and let the liberals and the gays (and the masturbators and the fortune-tellers) find their education in secular institutions. Crandall can take the rendering unto God part; I'll be happy with the bits that have been rendered unto Caesar.

However, the New Brunswick government doesn't allow us that secular luxury. By providing funds to Crandall as a post-secondary institution, they've allowed the lines between Church and state to be blurred. The tax dollars of New Brunswick

*"I'd be happy to let Crandall continue to serve its bigoted little Baptist community, and let the liberals and the gays (and the masturbators and the fortune-tellers) find their education in secular institutions."*

citizens—Baptists and Catholics, Muslims, Jews and atheists—are supporting an institution that requires its staff to treat gay sex as contrary to the "common good."

Cutting off public funds, though, isn't an entirely satisfactory

response. Anglophone students will claim—rightly—that Crandall is one of the few places for New Brunswickers to attain a liberal arts education within a reasonable budget. Just as some provinces have done with their religious public schools, New Brunswick continues to fail its citizens by relying on Church institutions to fill the void in the education system.

If every student is going to have the opportunity to learn in an environment that encourages equality and intellectual freedom, then our supposedly secular governments have to step up to the plate and support a true, affordable secondary education system. If religious institutions like Crandall continue to be the only realistic options for many students, then queer students and teachers and their allies will have to choose between a quality education system, and their right to live free and equal lives.

Anti-gay institutions like Crandall play a role in public life only because Canadian public policy hasn't yet fully grasped the separation of church and state. When our governments shake off these historical cobwebs and start taking seriously the need to provide citizens with public services on a secular basis, we won't have to keep asking whether universities like Crandall should be allowed to discriminate. Homophobic religious institutions will then be able to crawl off into their little corners, serving their own dwindling congregations, while Canadian society leaves them in our dust.

*Kevin Kindred is an activist for secularism and queer rights, working out of Nova Scotia.*

## Crawford Hastie's Kibitz & Bitch

Hey Tom,

I'm officially on vacation now, so at 9:30 in the morning I am still savouring my second cup of tea and lounging around in my sleep pajamas. I know, not exactly a walk on the wild side but very pleasant all the same. The first few days of holidays are always a bit weird, I keep thinking that there is something I should be doing; I even have this sense of guilt for not being at work. Then I remember that I'm on vacation and the guilt dissolves into gloating over my colleagues.

When I was a kid, my family often went camping on vacation. Last night as I listened to the rain pouring down and watched the night sky split by flashes of lightning, I thought of those camping in tents and how this meteorological display would be received by them with much less pleasure. I well remember waking up in a tent and struggling into clammy clothes and shivering in the morning chill, waiting for the sun to gain some strength. Memory is a funny thing, eh, Tom? Until last night's rain, if you had asked me about my childhood vacations I would have remembered an endless stream of sunny days, laughing in the back seat of the family station wagon as we travelled to PEI or Cape Breton.

I ran into an ex-boyfriend recently and had a similar collision of memory and reality. He looked great (hate that!) and introduced me as an old friend to his female companion. (I don't think they noticed me wincing.) He then proceeded to go into a list of "remember whens." You know the kind of thing: Remember that summer we went around the Cabot Trail (We arrived late, put up our tent in the pitch dark and didn't eat until 11 p.m.), or dancing at Rumours and meeting that guy from California (with whom he flirted and danced all evening) or going to see The Importance of Being Earnest at Neptune (if he saw the play it wasn't with me). "We had some good times, didn't we?" he sighed, the nostalgia heavy in his voice. We did have some good times together, in my view, but they weren't any of the times that he remembered. I still recall the time eating pizza at his apartment when he asks if I "wanna fork," to which I reply, yes but we should finish eating first. He laughed so hard he almost choked. Finding my jokes funny was one of his most endearing characteristics.

I also remember his saying he could never forgive someone cheating on him (the boyfriend before me) and then how he started seeing a married man a month after we broke up. Of course, I didn't voice any of my disagreements with his version of our past. What would be the point? He is basically a good guy with a kind nature; we just weren't the right "fit." Let him keep his memories and I'll keep mine.

But then, my perceptions are often at odds with the majority view. Here are some things I heard lately that have me shaking my head in disbelief:

- Katie Holmes is a feminist hero for leaving Tom Cruise and Cruise is responsible for Katie being unsuccessful in show business. Now, I am no defender of TC but the only person responsible for KH's lacklustre career is Ms. Holmes herself. She has the emotional range and acting skill of ...well, Kristen Stewart.
- Justin Bieber is the new King of Pop. Now I have great respect for Justin Bieber's business people and I don't resent (much) his multimillion dollar business. But he is a phenomenon, not a musician. And, am I the only one who has noticed that lately Bieber looks more and more like a young Anne Murray?
- The Boy Scouts of America voted, by a secret 11 member committee, to retain the ban on queer scouts or adult leaders, in spite of a petition of over 300,000 signatures asking for removal of the ban. What this means is closeted scouts and leaders will stay hidden and continue to feel shame and guilt about their sexual orientation. A missed opportunity to teach the importance of acceptance and inclusion in society.
- Those who are critical of the number of horse deaths during Chuckwagon Races of the Calgary Stampede are labelled "activists" by an organizer. When did the word "activist" become a bad word? Organizers cited the record numbers of spectators as the reason to continue the event. The Coliseum was full to bursting when the Christians were fed to the lions, too. Just sayin'.

One of the best advantages of vacation is the time to watch all the handsome handymen on the DIY channel. It's amazing, Tom. Handsome, fit men walk around in formfitting jeans and tee shirts with their hammers swinging from their belts, looking to make the homeowner happy. Add someone slapping an electric guitar in the background and you'd have the opening scene from a dozen classic porn films. Gotta run, popcorn's ready and Kitchen Cousins (two hunky Italian types) is about to start.

Love ya!

*Crawford*

### Our Cover

this month was designed, as usual, by Cam MacLeod, and shows some of the goings-on at this year's Dykes vs Divas game, held at the Canada Games Diamond Sunday, July 22, 2012.



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## Atlantic News, continued

...continued from page 3

Please join the group "Time to start a LGBTQ Community Unity Centre in Moncton" and voice your opinion, and donate some of your time. What events, discussions or activities would you like to see take place?

Nathan Adams, *Wayves* Moncton Bureau Chief  
nathan@wayves.ca  
(506) 856-8794

### McCreath Loses Battle; Not War

The Human Rights Commission of NL (HRC) has dismissed a 2009 complaint against the NL Medical Care Plan (MCP) by Jennifer McCreath, due to what they say was a lack of evidence in their investigation. McCreath, a marathon runner, trans activist, and journalist for *Wayves*, filed the complaint after being denied funding for procedures deemed medically-necessary by her doctor.

The funding policy, last reviewed in 1996, requires an approval from the controversial Centre for Addictions and Mental Health (CAMH), in Toronto, ON, in order for funding to be approved. Notwithstanding this policy, McCreath's doctors advised against her visiting the CAMH due to the long waiting lists and the financial burden of travel costs for multiple visits. CAMH's reputation for not assessing patients using global best-practices, as well as their historical

rejection of patients who did not fit their fetishistic theories precluded a successful outcome.

MCP also refused to cover the surgery if performed by Pierre Brassard, Canada's only surgeon, and one of the world's best. McCreath felt out of country travel was too risky, and decided to borrow \$20000 to pay for the surgery. Brassard agreed to operate given that McCreath's doctors had adhered to global assessment standards.

While disappointed, McCreath vows this is not over. Her lawyers have advised she has a strong case to further pursue this matter through other legal channels. Not only is McCreath's funding money on the line, but so is the credibility and reputation of the provincial health care system as a whole, as the suggestion that doctors in the province aren't competent to assess McCreath and other trans patients, would appear to be a major insult to what is supposedly a have-province (MCP insists that only CAMH is qualified).

Already in the process of launching Newfoundland Patient Association for Transsexual Health (NPATh.net), a non-profit society to undertake advocacy work for transsexual health accessibility, McCreath will now expedite this launch and start work immediately. McCreath recognizes the importance of taking steps to ensure trans people in all provinces can seek care from local doctors, who clearly do have the necessary qualifications.

## Voting in HRM More Important This Year Than Ever

by Bryn Jones-Vaillancourt

In October of this year, elections will take place for Halifax City Council and the Halifax Regional School Board. In HRM e-voting and telephone voting will take place from October 6 to 18 and traditional paper ballots will be cast on Saturday, October 20.

This election is unique compared to previous elections. The Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board (UARB) reduced the number of districts in 2011, from 23 to 16 plus the office of mayor. With the reduction in council size, district boundaries have been redrawn, which has resulted in drastic changes to current district boundaries. For many residents, the district that they resided in last election will not be the district they will reside in for this election. Because of these changes, this election is providing fertile ground for newcomers to enter the ring and attempt to win a seat over current, veteran incumbents. Additionally, HRM's incumbent mayor, Peter Kelly, is not re-offering. This means HRM is guaranteed to have a new elected leader by the end of October 20th.

Most importantly, there is a general consensus among citizens that many are unhappy with how local

government has been performing. A survey recently conducted by Forum

Research Inc. revealed that a mere 13% of respondents in HRM stated that they were "very satisfied" with city services. Combining all these factors, we as citizens of HRM have a perfect opportunity to reboot council. In 2008, of eligible voters, only 37% actually took the time to vote. Although many of us lead busy lives in the 21st century, one of our responsibilities as citizens in a democracy is to vote. We are so

blessed to live in a country where we have freedom and the right to elect our governing bodies, and all citizens should exercise their right to vote.

It is important to vote in every election, but in this upcoming city election it can be argued that it is imperative to vote. It is the time to challenge the status quo, and vote for the candidate that you believe will best engage and support their respective communities and city. So far, across the region we have sixteen newcomers to challenge incumbent councillors across various districts. For the office of the Mayor, we currently have four candidates offering: Tom Martin, Fred Connors, Mike Savage, and Matt Worona. Currently,

*"At the very least, it is a time to inform yourself of candidate's platforms, city issues and the democratic process."*

## The Sanctuary Garden

by Bethana Sullivan

### Radical Change

Today I write about change. It seems so much is changing all around me and so much is not. Take the garden. The other day I went out to water the planters and there was a cucumber, fully grown. It seems so magical! Yet first, I had to decide to have a garden, then what to plant, where, with what companions and even what I was going to do with the bounty. In times past I did the first couple of steps well, then the third, and now I plan for the crop. The cucumbers will be eaten, shared, made into pickles and probably some will make it to the compost, all part of the evershifting movement of life. And yesterday while working outside I saw a dead baby bird, half eaten. It hurts to see the bird but not as much as to be that bird. There was a time when I would not have looked, turning my eyes away, getting my Beloved to do the dirty. And this is just an example of what I would turn my eyes and heart away from.

We may like to think that by doing nothing we are not impacting the world around us or even ourselves. This belief is likely rooted in the patriarchal world view of separateness/independent of... meaning we are not connected to, nor change the life around us, without concrete, observable behaviour. Today there are increased numbers of people who believe in the interconnectedness of all, that just by being alive we affect each other and the life around us. And what has this to do with change, you may ask? One answer is that change is happening whether or not we want to be part of it. If this is so how do we plan, prepare, allow for, encourage, support, participate in, and open our eyes to this reality?

Change is: the Canadian Blood Services beginning to accept it cannot keep its lifetime rule regarding the "deferral of blood donation for men having sex with men"; Northwood raising its rainbow flag in acknowledgement of the reality of senior LGBTQ residents; the new LGBTQ chamber of commerce; *Wayves.ca*; the visible LGBTQ community of Nova Scotia. Change is really acknowledging these and other changes in our lives, recognizing and naming them for the purposes of acceptance and understanding of the process. And

for knowing how and why and what for, we are now called upon to change.

Change doesn't happen serendipitously just because we don't understand the concept. It occurs despite the obstacles or blinders that block awareness that change is not just about the goal, but also the process. And I can hear the moans and groans from all the concrete doers who think that process just complicates or adds to the work needing to be done. And, gosh darn it all, they may be right; right in that when process is poorly planned, and then ignored, it does just what the nay-sayers predict. If this is so, then what kind of change is needed now, in these new days of the 21st century? Radical change is called for! And to embrace radical change, attention must be paid to process—not just lip service to the theory of empowerment, to interconnection, to power-with, to inclusion of gender politics, to diversity and so on. You all know the isms and prisms of the lenses used to make meaning in our world, our shared world.

Mark Twain said, "Whenever you find yourself on the side of the majority, it's time to pause and reflect." This is where we are now, a time of reflecting upon and analyzing the accomplishments, and planning for the ways in which we need to continue to change, intra-personally, interpersonally, between groups, communities and cultures. Continuing to speed towards the goals of the 21st century, using the tools of the 19th and 20th century, will impair us in the long run. Awareness of change, acceptance of change and action for change are the paths forward. Let us look at how we can strengthen ourselves to bear the pain of looking at another being who is suffering through exclusion, be it by arms, words, silences and other violent means. Let us be grounded and held in the ancient rock of Nova Scotia; bending and moving like the branches of her trees; ebbing and flowing like her tides; using the light of awareness and the dark of contemplation to know from within the ancient lessons being reborn into consciousness in our daily interactions with each other. Each of us knows what is needed for our inclusion if we take the time for listening to ourselves and to each other. The radical is about process, structure, flexibility, and consequences.

trending issues for HRM are: crime control/prevention, Metro Transit (public transit system), regional development, tax reform and council accountability. There is still time for interested parties to enter the race for mayor or for city council. The deadline for official nominations is September 11, 2012. At the very least, it is a time to inform yourself of candidate's platforms, city issues and the democratic process.

Most candidates are currently recruiting volunteers to help with their campaigns. Volunteering for a campaign is a wonderful way to get involved and give back to your community. Elections are exciting times, where great ideas evolve and are shared. It is a time when we, the electorate, have the chance to help shape our communities and our city for the next four years, based on who we vote into office.

Local Sites for Election Information:

- Halifax Votes, Blog Site <http://Halifaxvotes.ca>
- Halifax Regional Municipality: <http://halifax.ca/election/index.html>
- District Boundary Information: <http://www.halifax.ca/BoundaryReview/index.html>

*Bryn Jones-Vaillancourt is a na-*

*tive of Dartmouth. In the upcoming municipal election, Bryn is running for councillor in Dartmouth Centre – District Five. He is young, passionate and committed to building a vibrant community in Dartmouth Centre and HRM.*

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## The New New Glaswegian

by Gerard Veldhoven

# The World Celebrates Pride

Celebrations and raising awareness are around us, especially this time of year. Some countries have the events earlier, or later; I have gathered some information about some countries in various parts of the world. As you read about some of these events, keep in mind that so many of our queer brothers and sisters live in isolation and fear. Space does not allow me to write extensively about global events. Nevertheless, here are a few that are interesting and give us insight to a few countries where Pride is a yearly event.

Amsterdam goes all out with the Gay Pride Canal Parade. This yearly event is organized by Amsterdam Gay Pride. It is recognized as one of the most spectacularly colourful events in the world. More than 300 events occur during this time in one of the world's great capitals of queer culture.

Meanwhile, Berlin hosted Europe's largest queer festival the end of June. Berlin was one of the first cities in the world to have queer bars and organizations. This was interrupted by Hitler and thousands of gay men died in concentration camps during the Second World War. Now Germany is on top again with terrific pride celebrations.

Brazil is not to be outdone with Pride events in October. A huge parade is scheduled this year in Copacabana. We tend to forget that the rest of the world celebrates and South America is no exception.

Over a million people usually come out in support of Pride celebrations in Mexico City. There is a huge and active queer population, but is more discreet and underground than any other North American country. However, Mexico City's Gay Pride is growing in

popularity heightens the LGBT community visibility.

Fewer nations have experienced a greater turnaround when it comes to attitudes and rights granted to the queer population than South Africa. In 1996 it became the first country in the world to expressly ban discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in the national constitution. Pride celebrations are held in Cape Town and lasted ten days from February 24 to March 4.

London this year experienced the biggest Pride parade to date in July. The event is named World Pride and the theme is, "One World, One Pride, One Voice." This event is held in honour of the World's LGBT community and is organized by Pride London.

Myanmar, also known as Burma, had its first pride celebration recently. Four hundred people packed a hotel room for speeches, performances and music. Homosexuality and same sex relationships are criminalized in this country. This is a far cry from its neighbour to the south.

Tokyo is celebrating Pride with two parades. Tokyo Rainbow Pride and Tokyo Pride are both having celebrations. The latter is a community based organization committed to protecting queer rights in Japan. Organizers feel that two parades create a dynamic event. TRP President Kayo Katsuragi says, "I want people to enjoy both parades and compare them and I hope that it will bring about changes in the Japanese community." Some 2500 people took part in the parade in April.

The Israeli city of Tel Aviv has celebrations that rival those in Amsterdam or New York. It has become one of main queer metropolises globally. The 14th annual parade took place in June. Israel is one of the

few places in the Middle East where queer couples walk hand in hand and kiss in public. This year Tel Aviv was picked by readers of Gaycities as the top gay destination, ahead of Amsterdam and San Francisco.

Speaking of San Francisco, this year marks the 42nd anniversary of the San Francisco Pride Celebration Parade. The theme is "Global Equality." The two day event is the largest LGBT gathering in the United States.

Canada's queer community does not need to take a back seat to any other nation when it comes to Pride celebrations. All our major cities and towns have been involved in special events for years. As a leader in LGBT rights and opportunities, we have learned how to make noise and be heard. Consequently, Canada is looked upon as a place where our LGBT citizens have gained recognition and respect, regardless of major remaining problems. From coast to coast to coast, there is the jubilant atmosphere that is indicative of the gains we have made. Therefore, we celebrate Pride and bring more awareness to the rest of the population. Toronto, Vancouver and yes, Halifax, where we have gained momentum as a major celebratory city in this country, all possess the queer initiative to stand up and be thankful that we live in such a great nation.

Happy Pride.



## Moncton Pride

...continued from page 1



River of Pride Interim Board: Chairperson, Jon Chaisson; Vice-Chair, Wayne Richard; Vice-Chair, Ryan Leger; Secretary, Stephane Mazerolle; Treasurer, Caitlin Furlong; Media Co Ordinator, Sebastien Bezeau.

it's just a few hours a year, if we can get enough people." Pride is all about our LGBTQ community, and before starting something else, let's volunteer and try to keep Pride going, and then move on to more things."

And that is what happened! A new interim board was elected. "We had an amazing turnout with standing room only, with community members competing for positions, and we are very excited to have young,

fresh, new faces getting involved," said interim Committee Chair Jon Chaisson.

The new committee thanked the LGBT Community of Moncton for gathering together to help make this year's pride celebration a success. For information on this year's Pride events in Moncton, go to [www.fiertemonctonpride.ca](http://www.fiertemonctonpride.ca) or Moncton's River of Pride on facebook. Hope to see you all in Moncton this year!

## Letter

### Not like any other

Dear Wayves:

I am, have been, and will be many things—a musician, an artist, a cabinet maker, a carpenter, a volunteer, a worker, a lesbian, a bi-sexual, a trans man. I am not, as Sara says, "a man like any other man." My path, my experience, and my views are not just a man's "like any other man." To say this is to disregard my past, my path, and the struggles I faced to be who I am today. It would disregard the connection I have with women. In my daily mundane life at work I am stealth by necessity, not choice. The "effort to present" as male in the workplace does not mean that I want people to ignore my past or my desire to be simply genderless. There are many people who are called trans who identify solely as "man" or "woman," and I respect their choice and will always address them as they

choose. I cannot speak for them, as they cannot speak for me. Sara's view leaves out many intersexed and gender queer people who don't identify as either gender.

The true problem is gender apartheid—we should not have to make a choice at all, if we don't want to. Gender apartheid must end, because be-

ing a trans man is as equally as valid as being a man... "like any other man," and being a trans woman is equally as valid as being a woman... "like any other woman." The disgendered state is not the measure-stick by which we trans people must judge ourselves.

Thank you,  
Fhinn

INTER    

LGBT chamber + commerce atlantic

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# WAYVES GROUPS AND SERVICES

## Atlantic Canada

**Al-Anon/Alateen:** for families & friends of problem drinkers. Does someone you know have a drinking problem? 466-7077 web: [www.freewebs.com/alanonmaritimes](http://www.freewebs.com/alanonmaritimes)

**Atlantic Canadian Lesbians:** Online Group For Lesbians from the Atlantic Provinces

**AtlanticPoz:** A new discussion group is for individuals living with HIV in Atlantic Canada. web: [health.groups.yahoo.com/group/atlanticpoz/](http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/atlanticpoz/)

**Egale Canada - Atlantic:** (888) 204-7777 email: [egale.canada@egale.ca](mailto:egale.canada@egale.ca) web: [www.egale.ca](http://www.egale.ca)

**Healing Our Nations:** Healing Our Nations is an Aboriginal HIV/AIDS service organization that serves the Atlantic region. 1.800.565.4255 email: [ea@accesswave.ca](mailto:ea@accesswave.ca) (Training offered on request at no charge for Aboriginal peoples and/or organizations.) at 31 Gloster Court, Dartmouth, NS B3B 1X9

**Mr Atlantic Canada Leather Society:** Dedicated to developing gay leather communities in the Atlantic region. email: [waydo7@hotmail.com](mailto:waydo7@hotmail.com)

**Names Project (AIDS Memorial Quilt):** panels - helping create, and lending. 902-454-5158 email: [larrybaxter@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:larrybaxter@ns.sympatico.ca) web: [www.quilt.ca](http://www.quilt.ca) (Call if interested in volunteering or making a panel) at 3544 Acadia St. Halifax, NS B3K 3P2

**Narcotics Anonymous:** a fellowship of recovering drug addicts who meet regularly to help each other stay clean. 1-800-205-8402 web: [centralnovaarea.ca](http://centralnovaarea.ca) at Call the phone number or visit the web page for meeting times and places.

**Project E:** Presentation for youth, on gender expression, myth busters, proper terminology and other facts web: [www.freewebs.com/xproiecte/](http://www.freewebs.com/xproiecte/) at available via web page

**Wayves Magazine:** Atlantic Canada's queer news and lifestyle magazine! email: [submissions@wayves.ca](mailto:submissions@wayves.ca) web: [wayves.ca](http://wayves.ca) (Deadline: the first Friday of every month; Editorial meeting: the Monday following that; layout the Sunday following that. Email us to be put on our notification list!)

## New Brunswick (506)

### Fredericton

**AIDS New Brunswick / SIDA Nouveau-Brunswick:** committed to facilitating community-based responses to the issues of HIV/AIDS. Needle exchange located in office at 65 Brunswick Street Fred. E3B 1G5 459-7518 email: [jennifer@aidnsb.com](mailto:jennifer@aidnsb.com) web: [www.aidnsb.com](http://www.aidnsb.com) (Office Hours: Monday to Friday, 8:30AM to 12:30PM and 1:30PM to 4:30PM)

**Fredericton Lesbians and Gays:** Email listserv of events/news in the Fredericton for gblt men and women. email: [jamesw@stu.ca](mailto:jamesw@stu.ca)

**Fredericton Pride:** Community-based, volunteer organization that oversees and executes Fredericton Pride Week. email: [info@frederictonpride.org](mailto:info@frederictonpride.org) web: [www.frederictonpride.org](http://www.frederictonpride.org)

**Integrity:** Supports and encourages Gays and Lesbians in their spiritual lives. email: [integrityfredericton@live.ca](mailto:integrityfredericton@live.ca) web: [www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=46207976587](http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=46207976587), meets 3rd Sunday (4:00pm) at Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton at 874 York Street

**PFLAG:** Support & education on issues of sexual orientation & gender identity (506) 455-7190 email: [pflagfredericton@yahoo.ca](mailto:pflagfredericton@yahoo.ca) web: [www.geocities.com/Pflagfredericton/](http://www.geocities.com/Pflagfredericton/), meets 4th Tuesday (7-9 pm (except December: 2nd Tuesday)) at Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton 874 York St. Fredericton NB E3B 3R8

**Spectrum:** Spectrum is a social/support group celebrating the diversity of the GLBTQ community and gay-friendly peoples at UNB and STU. Weekly meetings are open for both students and non-students to attend, and may feature various 'theme' nights from fun and games to more serious current event discussions impacting the GLTBQ community. email: [spectrum@unb.ca](mailto:spectrum@unb.ca) web: <http://www.unb.ca/clubs/spectrum/> (Group Meets Fridays at 5:30 pm (subject to change, see webpage for updates)) at University of New Brunswick - Fredericton Campus, Marshall D'Avry Hall, Room 235

**UNB/STU Women's Collective:** Women of all ages and orientations, meets every Monday at 5pm at the University Women's Centre at the SUB

### Moncton

**AIDS Moncton:** offers support to people living with HIV and their families and friends, education and awareness 506-859-9616 email: [sidaidsm@sida-aidsmoncton.com](mailto:sidaidsm@sida-aidsmoncton.com) web: [www.sida-aidsmoncton.com](http://www.sida-aidsmoncton.com) at (506-859-4726 fax) 80 Weldon St, Moncton, NB, E1C 5V8

**PFLAG:** Supporting all people with questions or concerns about sexual orientation and gender identity issues 382-7145 email: [monctonnb@pflagcanada.ca](mailto:monctonnb@pflagcanada.ca) web: [www.pflagcanada.ca/moncton.html](http://www.pflagcanada.ca/moncton.html), meets 3rd Monday (Occasionally on the 2nd Monday ,Ã please call) at YMCA, 30 War Veterans Avenue

**River of Pride-riviere de fierte INC. of Greater Moncton:** The organization meets regularly, to discuss upcoming events and activities, everyone is welcome to attend. check out time / location posted on the website. Media and general inquiries, including registration of volunteers and parade participation, can be made from the website or by email. email: [riverofpride@hotmail.com](mailto:riverofpride@hotmail.com) web: [www.fiertemonctonpride.ca](http://www.fiertemonctonpride.ca) (See webpage for schedule.)

**Transgendered Peer Support Group:** Open to all M2F, F2M, Andro and trans-supporters from across Atlantic Canada. email: [be\\_tgmoncton@live.com](mailto:be_tgmoncton@live.com)

**Un sur Dix - University of Moncton Association for the LGBT community and their allies (not only for students):** The mission is to ensure the well-being of the community and to end homophobia (mainly a french association, but also organizes some bilingual activities). For more information, please visit the website. email: [unsurdix@umoncton.ca](mailto:unsurdix@umoncton.ca) web: [etudiants.umoncton.ca/umcm-unsurdix](http://etudiants.umoncton.ca/umcm-unsurdix)

## Petit-Rocher (Bathurst area)

**Gais.es Nor Gays Inc. (GNG):** A bilingual volunteer association serving gay men, lesbians and bisexuals of northern New Brunswick. email: [info@gngnb.ca](mailto:info@gngnb.ca) web: [www.gngnb.ca](http://www.gngnb.ca) (Dances are held at GNG club every Saturday night. See [www.gngnb.ca](http://www.gngnb.ca) for a list of upcoming events.) at 702 rue Principale, Petit-Rocher NB. Look for rainbow flag and/or door with pink triangle at rear of parking lot.

## Sackville NB/Amherst NS

**Catalyst:** Catalyst, Mount Allison's Queer-Straight Alliance, provides support & information for all Mt. A students, staff, and faculty through meetings, seminars, and social events. Everyone is welcome. email: [catalyst@mta.ca](mailto:catalyst@mta.ca) web: [www.mta.ca/clubs/catalyst/](http://www.mta.ca/clubs/catalyst/) (Catalyst meets approximately every week from Sept-Dec and Jan-April. For meeting info contact the president at [catalyst@mta.ca](mailto:catalyst@mta.ca) or the Students' Administrative Council at [sac@mta.ca](mailto:sac@mta.ca).)

**PFLAG:** Support and education for GLBTQT2IQ persons, friends & family 536-4245 email: [sacknb@pflagcanada.ca](mailto:sacknb@pflagcanada.ca), meets 4th Monday (7:30 to 9:30pm, no meeting in July and August) at St Anthony's Presbyterian Church, 36 Bridge St.

### Saint John

**Affirming United Church - Centenary - Queen Square United Church:** invites you to worship! 506-634-8288 email: [cqsunited@nb.aibn.com](mailto:cqsunited@nb.aibn.com) web: [www.cqsunited.ca](http://www.cqsunited.ca), meets every Sunday (10:30am) at 215 Wentworth St, Saint John, NB

**AIDS Saint John:** To improve the quality of life for those infected & affected by HIV/AIDS, and to reduce the spread of HIV through education and a needle exchange program. Call the office for details. 652-2437 email: [aidsj@nb.aibn.com](mailto:aidsj@nb.aibn.com) web: [www.aidssaintjohn.com](http://www.aidssaintjohn.com)

**Gay Men,Ãs Supper Club:** web: [www.portcityrainbowpride.com](http://www.portcityrainbowpride.com), meets 3rd Saturday (See webpage for more information) at 220 Germain St. Saint John New Brunswick

**PFLAG:** Provides support to anyone dealing with issues of sexual orientation and/or gender identity. (506)648-9700 or 648-9227 email: [saintjohnnb@pflagcanada.ca](mailto:saintjohnnb@pflagcanada.ca) web: [www.pflagcanada.ca/saintjohn](http://www.pflagcanada.ca/saintjohn), meets 1st Friday (1st Friday of each month September - June from 7:00- 9:00 p.m. No meeting in July & August. ) at 116 Coburg Street in Saint John, New Brunswick in the Community Health Centre next to St. Joseph's Hospital.

**Port City Rainbow Pride:** Pride Celebrations Committee

**Saint John LGBTQ Lending Library:** over 300 fiction and non-fiction titles. 634-8288 email: [cqsunited@nb.aibn.com](mailto:cqsunited@nb.aibn.com) (open Monday through Friday, 9 AM to noon.) at the office of Centenary Queen Square United Church at 215 Wentworth Street.

**The UNBSJ Q-Collective:** A social and support organisation for UNBSJ students, staff and faculty. 506-648-5737 web: [www.unbsj.ca/clubs/qcollective](http://www.unbsj.ca/clubs/qcollective) (The UNBSJ Q-Collective is interested in hearing from other university LGBTQ organisations and would like to possibly meet or collaborate.) at Various locations; event particulars will be emailed to anyone who registers with the UNBSJ Q-Collective and/or who gets the UNBSJ weekly ,ÃE News,Ã. Past events include the annual Rainbow Peace March, guest speakers, movie nights, participation in Maritime Pride Parades, Supporters of PFLAG Canada's "Communities Encourage Campaign" and "Champions Against Homophobia".

### Woodstock

**Woodstock GLBT Youth Advocate and Family OutReach:** Books, movies, advice, directions, contacts, and support etc. for the family. 328-4868 email: [richardb@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:richardb@nbnet.nb.ca)

## Newfoundland & Lab (709)

**Frontrunners Newfoundland and Labrador:** Running/walking club. 722-5791 or 753-9529 email: [tonybrathwaite@bellaliant.net](mailto:tonybrathwaite@bellaliant.net), [jennifer.mccreath@yahoo.com](mailto:jennifer.mccreath@yahoo.com) (meeting times can be flexible to accommodate new runners.)

### St. John's

**AIDS Committee of Newfoundland & Labrador:** HIV/AIDS education and support for male/female/transgendered, all ages, Newfoundland and Labrador 579-8656 email: [info@acnl.net](mailto:info@acnl.net) web: [www.acnl.net](http://www.acnl.net)

**LBGT-MUN Resource Centre:** LBGT-MUN is an information/resource, service, and peer support centre staffed by trained volunteers! 737-7619 email: [lbgt@munsu.ca](mailto:lbgt@munsu.ca) (Open Monday-Friday 9-4. Biweekly meetings for members and volunteers. ) at Smallwood/University Center, UC-6022. Building located on Prince Phillip Drive. Call us! Get involved!

**LBGTQ Youth Group:** A monthly gathering for queer, allied, questioning, and any interested youth. We offer social events such as bowling, movie nights, and coffee houses. Contact group coordinator Rob Sinnott at the number listed, email, or visit the web page for more info. 699-0509 email: [lbgtq@nlsexualhealthcentre.org](mailto:lbgtq@nlsexualhealthcentre.org) web: [nlsexualhealthcentre.org](http://nlsexualhealthcentre.org)

**PFLAG Canada - St. John's NL Chapter:** Monthly Chapter meetings, support and information for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, transsexual, two-spirit, intersex, queer and questioning persons and their parents, families and friends. 699-0509 email: [stjohnsnl@pflagcanada.ca](mailto:stjohnsnl@pflagcanada.ca) web: [www.pflagcanada.ca](http://www.pflagcanada.ca) (We will aim to hold Chapter Meetings on the third Thursday of each month. Please check [www.pflagcanada.ca](http://www.pflagcanada.ca) for schedule and any changes.) at Community Connections, 9 Cathedral Street, St. John's NL.

**St. John's Pride Inc:** The officially-registered non-profit Pride company for St. John's email: [stjohnspride@yahoo.ca](mailto:stjohnspride@yahoo.ca) web: [www.stjohnspride.org](http://www.stjohnspride.org)

## Nova Scotia (902)

**Hepatitis Outreach Society:** Since 1999 the Hepatitis Outreach Society has been providing support, education and prevention information for those infected and affected by hepatitis in the province of Nova Scotia. 420-1767 in HRM or 1-800-521-0572 email: [info@HepatitisOutreach.com](mailto:info@HepatitisOutreach.com) web: [www.HepatitisOutreach.com](http://www.HepatitisOutreach.com) at Our office is located at 2973 Oxford Street, between Liverpool and Cork streets. Please call to make an appointment or email [Program@HepatitisOutreach.com](mailto:Program@HepatitisOutreach.com).

**South Shore Rainbow Families:** South Shore Rainbow Families is a group created by and for LGBTQ families (this is inclusive of LGBTQ parents and their children, as well as LGBTQ children and their parents), allies, prospective parents, and all other supporters, regardless of family size, ethnicity, culture, faith, or income level. South Shore Rainbow Families would like to strive to cultivate and promote a healthy and strong community through maintaining an active online community and holding ,ÃFamily Fun,Ã events in the area. email: [southshoreraibowfami](mailto:southshoreraibowfami)

lies@hotmail.com web: [www.facebook.com/groups/122754554526294/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/122754554526294/)

**SUNS GLB Constituency Committee:** 494-6654 at c/o the Students' Union of NS

**Venus Envy Bursary Society:** An annual award open to all women studying in NS. web: [www.venusenvy.ca/halifax](http://www.venusenvy.ca/halifax)

### Amherst

**Sexual Health Centre Cumberland County:** Open and inclusive services: information, education, workshops, free condoms. 667-7500 email: [shccc@ns.aliantzinc.ca](mailto:shccc@ns.aliantzinc.ca) web: [cumberlandcounty.cfsh.info](http://cumberlandcounty.cfsh.info) (9 - 5 drop-in or appt) at 11 Elmwood Drive (Side entrance). Confidential, hassle-free. Free condoms.

### Annapolis Valley

**Valley Gay Men's Coffee House:** Meets Thursday evenings at 7pm for coffee and socializing and host a gay/lesbian/bi and all genders 19+ dance on the first Saturday of each month from 9pm-1am.No Dance in November in leu of two dances held in October. 825-3197,363-2055 email: [menembracingmen@hotmail.com](mailto:menembracingmen@hotmail.com) (email or call for locations or special events or themes)

### Antigonish

**Rainbow Warriors:** Rainbow Warriors is a youth-run support group for LGBTQ youth and allies in Antigonish. We hold social events such as picnics and game nights, have educational discussions around topics such as stereotypes/assumptions and transsexuality, and raise awareness in the surrounding community by participating in functions such as the Highland Games Parade and the Farmers' Market. While our group is youth-focused everyone is regardless of age, and gender identity or sexual orientation! Find our group on Facebook "Rainbow Warriors - AHAH!" email: [antigonishrainbowwarriors@gmail.com](mailto:antigonishrainbowwarriors@gmail.com), meets every Monday (3:00-5:00pm) at The Antigonish Women's Resource Centre, located in the Kirk Building at 219 Main Street, Suite 204 (above Tim Hortons).

**X-Pride:** social & support group at X 867-5007 web: [www.stfx.ca/people/xpride](http://www.stfx.ca/people/xpride)

### Bridgewater

**Sexual Health Centre for Lunenburg County:** Confidential info, education&support for everyone. Safer sex supplies, library, pamphlets, workshops 527-2868 email: [LunCo@NS-SexualHealth.ca](mailto:LunCo@NS-SexualHealth.ca) web: [www.theSHaC.org](http://www.theSHaC.org) (Hours vary. Open by appointment or by chance. Please call ahead. ) at 4 Hillcrest Street Unit 8, Bridgewater. (On the corner of Dufferin and Hillcrest Streets). Closed during summers.

### Halifax

**Affirm United:** GLBT & Friends support, action and worshipping community within the United Church 461-4528 email: [alstew@eastlink.ca](mailto:alstew@eastlink.ca)

**AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia:** non-profit, community-based AIDS organization, provincially mandated. Provides direct service and support for people living with HIV/AIDS and also offers various prevention programs across NS. You can reach us locally to HRM at 425-4882 or across the province at 1-800-566-2437. (902)425-4882 email: [acns@acns.ns.ca](mailto:acns@acns.ns.ca) web: [www.acns.ns.ca](http://www.acns.ns.ca)

**Alcoholics Anonymous:** Live & Let Live AA Group for LGBTQ community (902) 425-8383/422-4972 email: [courage449@yahoo.ca](mailto:courage449@yahoo.ca), meets every Monday (at 8pm) at St Matthews United Church, 1479 Barrington St, Halifax (Use side door near Maritime Centre at bottom of stairs)

**Anonymous HIV/AIDS Testing:** 455-9656

**Bedford United Church:** An Affirming Ministry of the United Church of Canada - ALL welcome 835-8497 email: [bedfordunited@eastlink.ca](mailto:bedfordunited@eastlink.ca) web: [www.bedfordunited.com](http://www.bedfordunited.com), meets every Sunday (9 am service: Casual and contemporary, with free coffee and muff=ns before church to take into this service. 11 am service: Quieter and more reverent in tone, coffee after service. During the summer months, we have one 10 am service but occasionally during the year we change our service times for special occasions, so please call to confirm service times) at 1200 Bedford Hwy at Sullivan's Hill, near Atlantic Gardens

**BLT-Womyn of Halifax:** Bi Sexauls, Lesbian, Transgender Womyn's Discussion Group Online Sue's # 499-0335 email: [sueandrews1964@hotmail.com](mailto:sueandrews1964@hotmail.com) web:

[ca.groups.yahoo.com/group/blt-womynof-halifax/](http://ca.groups.yahoo.com/group/blt-womynof-halifax/) (No Meetings at Present! Please call if you have any questions, 499-0335 sue) at Dalhousie Women's Centre 6286 South Street (Beside Dalplex Driveway) Cancelled at the present time.

**DalOUT:** DalOUT is the award-winning LGBTQ society at Dalhousie University. We pride ourselves on hosting fun, engaging and educational events for the entire Halifax community. email: [dalout@dal.ca](mailto:dalout@dal.ca) web: [www.dalout.ca](http://www.dalout.ca), meets 2nd Thursday, and 4th Thursday (from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m.) at the Dalhousie Student Union Building (6136 University Ave., Room 321)

**Frontrunners Halifax:** Running/walking club 422-7579 email: [Bruce.Greenfield@dal.ca](mailto:Bruce.Greenfield@dal.ca) web: [www.frontrunners.org/clubs/index.php?club=Halifax](http://www.frontrunners.org/clubs/index.php?club=Halifax), meets every Saturday, and every Tuesday, and every Thursday (Sat: 9:30am, Tue: 6:00 pm, Thu: 6:00pm ) at Main gates of the Halifax Public Gardens, corner of Spring Garden Road and South Park Street.

**Gay Men's Prostate Cancer Support Group:** Prostate Cancer Canada Network is launching a support group for gay men and their families. Our meetings are informal and provide a forum for personal discussion with prostate cancer survivors, those newly diagnosed and their caregivers. For more information or to become a member contact Peter Mallette at 902-420-9449 or peter.mallette@prostatecancer.ca 902-420-9449 email: [peter.mallette@prostatecancer.ca](mailto:peter.mallette@prostatecancer.ca) at Prostate Cancer Canada Atlantic 5121 Sackville Street Suite 101 Halifax B3J 1K1

**GAY, LESBIAN & BISEXUAL YOUTH GROUP AT Q.E.H.:** Jeanie Buffet, Counsellor, at 421-6797

**Get Out, Halifax!** Recreation activities (team activities, cycling, running, rowing - you name it) for metro & beyond! web: [www.getouthalifax.ca](http://www.getouthalifax.ca) at Visit and get on the email list for more info.

**Girl-ish Productions:** Girl-ish puts on hot and heavy bi-monthly-ish dance parties for queer-ish folks and their friends. web: [www.girlish.ca](http://www.girlish.ca)

**Hal-Gal Mailing List:** Low-traffic Yahoo group providing events and information for queer women in the Halifax area. email: [hal-gal@yahooogroups.com](mailto:hal-gal@yahooogroups.com) web: [groups.yahoo.com/group/hal-gal/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/hal-gal/) (Join the list to keep in touch or post your events.)

**Halifax Sexual Health Centre:** Anonymous HIV testing, open and inclusive sexual health clinical services, education and workshops. Everyone welcome. Confidential and non-judgmental. 455-9656 web: [www.HSHC.ca](http://www.HSHC.ca)

**Imperial and Sovereign Court of Atlantic Nova Society:** Fundraising 902-449-7612 web: [www.imperialcourtns.com](http://www.imperialcourtns.com), meets 1st Sunday, and 2nd Sunday (Executive Meetings Are Currently Held Every Second Sunday) at Meeting Locations Vary

**Integrity:** Integrity is an organization of GLBT Anglicans and their friends, to encourage Christian gay men and lesbians in their spiritual life; to support the Church in its commitment to seek and serve Christ in all people; and to reach out to the GLBT community in Christian love and service. (902) 425-8383 web: [www.integrity-canada.org](http://www.integrity-canada.org), meets 3rd Sunday (4:00pm) at All Saints Cathedral

**Koinonia Ecumenical Church:** Meaning ,Ãcommunity,Ã. Koinonia is an ecumenical faith community offering open membership, equal marriage, practicing bible, church, religious and soul freedom, as well as open table communion. Koinonia offers Spiritual Care.Crisis support visitation and counselling for an honorarium. ALL are Welcome who celebrate God's Covenant to Love All of God's Creation. We are a registered charitable organization accepting donations from all who believe in the promotion of our all-inclusive community of faith. Contact Rev. Elaine @ 902-876-8771 for more information, or mail your contribution to 2410 St. Margaret's Bay Road Halifax N.S. B3T 1H1 with your name and address so we can issue your tax receipt. 876-8771 email: [koinonia@eastlink.ca](mailto:koinonia@eastlink.ca) (we gather bi-weekly at 12:30pm - 1:30 followed by a time of fellowship) at Petrie's Halifax Feast Dinner Theatre, Maritime Centre - entrance on the corner of Barrington & Salter Streets

**Manna For Health:** A special needs referral food bank for those living with life threatening illness. 429-7670

**MomSquared:** CALLING ALL LESBIAN MOMS. I know you're out there! A group for lesbian moms to connect and provide support and friendship to each other as well as friendship and interaction for our children. email: [ilovemy2moms@](mailto:ilovemy2moms@)



# Groups & Services continued

gmail.com web: momsquared.weebly.com  
**Mount Pride:** LGBTQ group at Mount Saint Vincent University email: mountpride@mountstudents.ca, meets last Monday (at 2:00pm. ) at Meetings in the Diversity Center in Roseria. Possible events that are being planned for the year include sexuality awareness, movies nights, social events, guest speakers, and many more. There are always LGBTQ community events to be involved with and events that are always fun. This group is open to anyone who would like to join. Also, join the "Mount Pride" Facebook group!

**Nova Scotia Rainbow Action Project:** NSRAP, the Nova Scotia Rainbow Action Project: for 15 years the leading advocate for Nova Scotia's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Community. Fostering change in our communities through education, outreach, and political action. 444.3206 email: nsrap@nsrap.ca web: www.nsrp.ca at TBA

**Outlaw:** GLBTQ & Allies Law Students Association at Dalhousie Law School email: schulich.outlaw@gmail.com web: www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2416842853 (Meetings vary. Please email for further information or check out our Facebook group.) at Dalhousie Law School. 6061 University Avenue. Halifax, Nova Scotia.

**PFLAG:** Support & education on issues of sexual orientation & gender identity. These meetings are open to all. For more information please feel free to contact Michelle Malette by phone or email. Hope you'll join us! 431-8500 email: halifaxns@pflagcanada.ca, meets 1st Thursday (We meet on the 1st Thursday of each month from 6:30 -8:30 pm 902-431-8500) at Youth Project, 2281 Brunswick St, Halifax

**Play Group for Queer Families:** 422-8780 (3-5pm) at Board Room (Play Room) at Needham Community Recreation Centre, 3372 Devonshire St (north end Halifax, near intersection of Duffus & Novalea, bus routes 7 & 9) Bring a snack for your child(ren). We will be collecting money from each family to cover the cost of the room rental, likely \$2-4 per week.

**Pride Week:** Producers of Atlantic Canada's largest LGBTQ cultural festival. 431-1194 email: info@halifaxpride.ca web: www.halifaxpride.ca

**prideHealth:** prideHealth is a program of Capital Health and the IWK Health Centre. If you are a member of the pride community and need support with any kind of health care call Anita our Clinical Nursing Specialist, number below. She is available free of charge, offers complete confidentiality, and can also give you support if you are experiencing homo or transphobia. prideHealth- improving safe access to health care. 220.0643

**Quakers:** Quakerism emphasizes that we all manifest the Divine. 429-2904 web: halifax.quaker.ca, meets every Sunday at Library at Atlantic School of Theology, Franklyn St. All very welcome.

**Queer Play:** A Queer performing arts group in Halifax NS email: queerplay@gmail.com

**SMU-Q:** A student-driven society that provides positive support, advocacy, activities, and education through the dissemination of information to the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, transsexual, queer, questioning, intersexual, and ally persons of Saint Mary's University and the LGBTQIA community at large. 902-496-8216 email: info@smuq.ca web: www.smuq.ca (See our facebook group http://www.facebook.com/SaintMarysUniversityQ and website for details on upcoming events) at Saint Mary's University

**Spirituality For Lesbians:** We seek to deepen our relationship with God, knowing that God loves us and calls us into life just as he has created us. Persons of every or no denomination are welcome. 459-2649, meets 2nd Wednesday (7:30-9PM, phone for meeting locations)

**Team Halifax:** All GLBT over 18, athletes and performance artists, as well as anyone willing to help out. 422-9510 web: www.teamhalifax.com (No fixed schedule at this time, look on website for further details.)

**The Youth Project:** Support, education and social activities for youth 25 and under across Nova Scotia. Weekly events, plus a youth food bank and Health nurse on site. 429-5429 email: youthproject@youthproject.ns.ca web: www.youthproject.ns.ca (Please see our website for an up-to-date calendar of events.)

**Trans Family Nova Scotia:** Trans Family is an open & supportive space welcoming families, friends and allies as well as trans and genderqueer folk themselves. If you are unable to join us at a meeting for any reason, we can you help source resources and refer you to other appropriate organizations to help meet your needs. For more information, please feel free to call or email Michelle. 902-431-8500 email: transfamily@eastlink.ca, meets 3rd Monday (6:30 to 8:30 pm) at The Youth Project 2281 Brunswick St., Halifax

**Universalist Unitarian Church:** an inclusive liberal religious community 429-5500 email: uuchurch@eastlink.ca web: UUCH.ca, meets every Sunday (10:30; see website for special events) at 5500 Inglis St

## Kentville

**Red Door:** Youth Health & Support Centre. Information and services for sexual health. Ages 13 - 30. 679-1411 web: thereddoor.ca (Monday to Friday 2pm to 6pm) at 150 Park Street

## Lunenburg

**Second Story Women's Centre:** We offer a meeting space for women, support counselling, programs, and referrals. (902)640-3044 email: secstory@eastlink.ca web: www.secstory.com at Second Story Women's Centre is located at 22 King Street, Post Office Centre, Lunenburg.

## Middleton

**PFLAG:** Information and support for GLBT community and their friends and families. 902-825-0548 email: middletonns@pflagcanada.ca web: www.pflagcanada.ca/middleton.html (Check online for meeting times and locations- or phone 825-0548)

## New Glasgow

**Pictou County Centre for Sexual Health:** Providing comprehensive and accessible sexual and reproductive health services in a safe, confidential and non-judgemental manner for women and men of all ages. PCCSH is affiliated with the Nova Scotia Association of Sexual Health and the Canadian Federation of Sexual Health. They are a pro-choice and GLBTQQI friendly organization. 695-3366 email: pcsexualhealth@hotmail.com web: www.pictoucountysexualhealth.com

**Pictou County Women's Centre:** Offering Individual Support Counselling and Crisis Intervention, Information and Referral, Advocacy and Accompaniment, Programs and Community Education 755-4647 email: pcwc@womenscentre.ca

## New Minas / Annapolis Valley

**Valley Youth Project:** Sexual Orientation. Gender Identity. Allies. Youth. email: valleyyouthproject@gmail.com (6-8:30 most Wednesdays through May) at New Minas Civic Center, 9209 Commercial St. Ages 25 & under. Free bus tickets available. Free food. Fun activities. Join us on Facebook at http://www.facebook.com/pages/Valley-Youth-Project/22418494995

## Sydney

**AIDS Coalition of Cape Breton:** Support, advocacy, prevention/education for those infected or affected by HIV/AIDS. Free

condoms! Queer Advocacy and Education, Needle Distribution, Food Bank, Coffee, Safe Space for those infected or affected. (902) 567-1766 Toll Free 1-877-597-9255 email: christineporter@acsb.ns.ca web: www.acsb.ns.ca (Free Anonymous Testing 1-902-567-1123 Monday and Tuesday each week from 8:30 to 4:30 and Thursdays from 8:30 to Noon. Check our Website for events and updates. ) at 150 Bentinck St, Sydney, N.S. B1P 1G6

**Cape Breton University Sexual Diversity Centre:** We provide a welcoming environment for GLBTQ people and their Allies. 902-563-1481 email: sdc@cbsu.com (Monday to Thursday 8:30-5 or by appointment) at the Students' Union Building, Cape Breton University.

**PFLAG:** Peer support & education on issues of sexual orientation & gender identity. email: sydney@pflagcanada.ca, meets last Sunday (of the month from 6:30-8:30pm. No meetings for June, July or August.) at Family Place Resource Centre, 714 Alexandra Street

**Pride Cape Breton Society:** Dances and Social Events. Monthly dances are Adults Only! Check website community events. (902) 539-4627 email: info@pridecapebreton.com web: www.pridecapebreton.com (Dances on the last Saturday of every month. Check website for dance and special event dates!) at Southend Community Centre. Maps are at our website.

## Tatamagouche

**Tatamagouche Centre:** We are an affirming centre, welcoming all gay, lesbian, and transgendered people. 1.800.218.2220 email: tatacent@tatacentre.ca web: www.tatacentre.ca

## Truro

**Central Nova Women's Resource Centre:** Resources, programs and services available for all women identified women. Advocacy and support - with outreach to rural areas. Also, see our Facebook group. Central Nova Women's Resource Centre http://cnwrc.weebly.com, cnwrc@eastlink.ca 535 Prince Street, Truro, NS B2N 1E8 (902) 895-4295 web: cnwrc.weebly.com

**Colchester Sexual Assault Centre:** Provides support and information to anyone (GLBTQ included) affected by sexual assault and abuse. 902-897-4366 email: trurosexualassault@hotmail.com (Centre Hours Mon-Thurs 9:30-4:30) at 80 Glenwood Drive, Truro Nova Scotia

**Hepatitis C Aware:** a project of Northern AIDS Connection Society (NACS) working to educate members of the communities in Colchester, Cumberland, East Hants and Pictou counties on Hepatitis C. 1-866-940-AIDS email: nacs@eastlink.ca

**Northern AIDS Connection Society:** HIV prevention education initiative

serving Colchester, Cumberland, East Hants & Pictou counties. We are located at 33 Pleasant Street, Truro, NS. Phone 895-0931 email: nacs@eastlink.ca web: northernaidconnectionssociety.ca (Our Board of Directors meet bi-monthly. Annual General Meeting held regularly in June. See webpage for contact information and upcoming events.)

**Rainbow Proud:** Rainbow Proud supports the LGBT\*\* community of Truro and surrounding areas. Our small group of volunteers work hard to put events together for everyone's enjoyment. Any feedback will be considered and can be sent to our email address. We hope you continue to come celebrate our community together. email: rainbowproud@hotmail.com web: rainbowproudnovascotia.ca (See webpage for schedule.)

**RESPECT:** Students Making Healthy Decisions 893-6300 email: respect@nsac.ca at P.O. Box 550, Nova Scotia Agricultural College, Truro, N.S. B2N 5E3

**SAAFE (Supporting An Alternative Friendly Environment):** Social/support group at the NS Agricultural College. 893-6300 email: lyoung@nsac.ns.ca (Meetings as requested. Membership changes each academic year.)

## Wolfville

**Acadia Women's Centre:** 585-2140 email: womens.centre@acadiau.ca (Acadia SUB Second Level Balcony )

## Yarmouth

**South West Nova Pride:** We are first & foremost a social group for SW Nova Scotia. All GLBT people of any age and in any stage of coming out are invited, we have a monthly gathering at Sobeys community room on Starrs Rd. in Yarmouth at 7:00 PM on the 2nd last Friday of each month. We create a monthly calendar of events for such things as pool, potluck parties, day trips or what ever members like to do. So come join us have fun and meet other GLBT people. 902-749-0977 email: diannefcc@eastlink.ca web: yarmouthpride.weebly.com/ (Check out our our facebook

at South West Nova Pride.)

## Prince Edward Island (902)

**Gay PEI Mailing List:** Electronic mailing list for all GLBT, questioning and friendly, focus is on PEI email: gay-pe-owner@yahoo.com web: groups.yahoo.com/group/gay-pe at All first posts are moderated to stop spambots, otherwise, it's an open list.

**GLBT Youth group:** Safe Space Drop-Ins 367-3408 or toll free 1 877 380 5776 (E-mail us for further details.) at 144 Prince St.

**PFLAG Canada - PEI:** Providing support, education and advocacy for GLBT persons, their families and friends in PEI 902-887-3620 email: pei@pflagcanada.ca web: www.pflagcanada.ca (Meetings take place on an as needs basis.) at Check with Mary or Bill Kendrick on this months location by calling 902-887-3620.

## Charlottetown

**AIDS PEI:** AIDS PEI offers HIV prevention and support services to all residents of PEI. 902-566-2437 email: info@aid-spei.com web: www.aidspei.com at 375 University Ave, Unit 2, Charlottetown PE, C1A 4N4

**ARC -- Abegweit Rainbow Collective:** Serving GLBT Islanders, their friends and families. 894-5776 email: info@arcofpei.com web: www.arcofpei.com, meets 1st Monday (6:00pm at 375 University Ave Suite # 2 Charlottetown, PE)

**Free To Be Me - GBLTQ Alcoholics Anonymous:** non-profit AA group with a GBLTQ focus.



## Lay Chaplaincy Services

Universalist Unitarian Church of Halifax  
5500 Inglis Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3H 1J8  
uuchurch@eastlink.ca  
**902-429-5500**

**Susan Stephen & Gwen Armshaw** Lay Chaplains  
sstephen57@gmail.com ♦ armshaw@hfx.eastlink.ca

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OUT CELEBRATING 25



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