



Pictou Councillors Protect Their Pole

interested in considering the proposed options.

The eventual 7-6 vote was passed only after it was made very obvious that the GLBT community members present were not the only ones who felt this was reaction brought on after the Truro flag flying incident. While the GLBT people sat quietly and listened, those on council who were against the bill spoke openly and with candour. One member of council went as far as refusing to raise his hand, as a protest at what he considered an unjust action caused by a homophobic reaction to the Truro incident. The Warden spoke last before the vote and the first statement made was to point at his head and declare he had no horns. While he demanded we understand he

was not homophobic and this was not a homophobic issue, I sat with a feeling of ice in my stomach as I looked around the room and observed the people, many of whom could not look us in the eye. It has been eighteen hours since I sat in that meeting and as I sit writing this, that atmosphere of pervading homophobia still clings on me like an oil slick clings to the shore.

My emotions were numb, leaving me wondering why in a county of an estimated 47,000 people, it is so wrong for a community that is approximately 10%—nearly five thousand people—are so wrong to desire to be able to publicly express their presence and their community Pride. The GLBT community has lived, fought and help build Canada and roughly half the

population has a direct family member who is gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender. They, too, are simply people who are not evil and do not have horns.

There was no problem with events groups flying flags until a minority of the population who had been systematically put down and attacked simply for being different to the majority, often physically attacked, found the strength to respect themselves and celebrate their differences, social presence and family love in Pride.

While I could respect a separation of church and state type of ruling, this was a regressive action by a council that may have unprecedented results on the Pride community that will cost us all for years to come.

By Denise Holliday

I went to Pictou County to see first-hand the process of municipal management at work. I could talk about eloquent speeches and powerful orations by mature and professional politicians, but alas, that was sadly missing in the meeting I attended.

While the only spokesperson

for the Pictou County Pride group allowed to speak, giving what amounted to a well-prepared and presented proposal with three viable options of possibility, the councillors who eventually voted for the “No Flag Flying” bill made it clear they were not interested and failed to even look courteously

Jane Morrigan's Presentation

Although I am here as a resident of the County, and as a lesbian woman, I wish to advise Council that my remarks reflect a broad consultation with members of the LGBT community here in PC, with leaders of the LGBT community at the provincial and national level, and with friends and allies from all walks of life, many of whom you see here before you this evening.

I am thankful to all those who offered comments and support. There are many fair-minded and justice-seeking residents of Pictou County who perceive that homophobia is at the centre of Council's proposed flag policy.

My goals here tonight do not include vitriol or judgment of this Council nor of any of its members. Instead, firstly I wish to inform Council of the negative impact that poor decision-making in govern-

ment policies has on the lesbian, gay, bi-sexual and trans-identified (LGBT) community and the whole of our society. Secondly, I offer 3 concrete suggestions as to how Council might more wisely address the issue of a flag policy. Lastly,

I will appeal to Council to understand the value and benefit of flag-raising in a public venue, and recognize the opportunity

it has to send a truly positive message... a democratic, welcoming, inclusive and respectful message to all county residents and beyond... that prejudice and discrimination is always wrong, and that respect, diversity and inclusiveness are sound principles by which a fair-minded Council pledges to operate.

The debacle created by Truro Town Council last summer sent a chill throughout the LGBT community

Continued on page 5

Bullying: A Bathurst Response

By Robert Frenette
(re-printed with permission)

The life of a fifteen year old Grade 10 student should be full of laughs and good times but that is not the case for Ryan Maynard, a student from Salisbury, New Brunswick. Ryan's day begins with homophobic comments from fellow school and classmates because Ryan is trying to be making a difference among his peers for all the right reasons.

Ryan is a very outgoing student who strives to change the outlook on homosexuality among his peers and also among residents of his community. Maynard also has been through his fair share of bullying. He says that students have thrown many different objects at him, including eggs, footballs, soccer balls and the list goes on and on.

One can only ponder why youth would be this mean to a fellow classmate and former Student Council President. Ryan wakes up every morning hoping that he can

have what he calls a “good day”; in many of our minds Ryan's good day is one of our worst days. Ryan holds on to the small percentage of hope that he will not be abused physically, mentally, or verbally by fellow classmates.

“When I ask for a good day, I'm usually asking for the dirty looks, being called names like ‘faggot,’ ‘queer’ or maybe even turning one

All Ryan wants is one day without homophobic comments

more person into someone who ‘understands’ homosexuality.” All Ryan wants is one day without homophobic comments, without words and objects thrown at him. Ryan says, “People that do not know you, but have heard about you will definitely judge you based on what they've heard. I am no exception.”

Maynard, when asked if he wanted his name removed from this article to protect his identity says that he would rather have it printed so he can take a stand and get the message out that he just



Robert Frenette

like everyone else and should not be judged.

His sexual orientation should not make him the target for cruel and hurtful comments. Ryan is not even able to change with his classmates, in physical education class. He says, “People have gone so far

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Menz Bar and Mollyz Diner on the Move



At this moment, renovations of the new space are going well and Menz Bar and Mollyz Diner should be open for business in early March, followed by a grand opening party scheduled for early April.

Mollyz Diner will have a new look and menu. Doug describes Mollyz

Halifax's Menz Bar and Mollyz Diner have moved to a new home at 2182 Gottingen Street, just a two minute walk north from the old location. Owners David Landry and Doug Melanson believe the new location will provide an interesting and exciting environment the gay and lesbian community in Halifax.

as being transformed into more of a cafe-style environment, with a more health-conscious menu. The new Menz Bar will have a totally different layout, allowing for a much larger dance floor, VIP rooms, beer den/library, pool room and several other spaces, which will make booking of private parties or meetings much easier to organize



than in the old space.

The legacy of the old Menz Bar will not be forgotten. Over 350 guests attended the Blowout Bash party on Saturday, January 19. Thirty-five early birds got a tour of the new location and received a complementary Menz Bar T-shirt. If you missed that party, don't be too disappointed as you will have a chance to party with "the Boyz" very soon and enjoy of new and exciting line up for 2008!

New Group: WomynZone

WomynZone is dedicated to creating social activities for womyn who love womyn in the Halifax region. Our aim is to provide lesbian, bisexual and transgender womyn with events and social activities where we can meet, socialize and be ourselves.

Our first event, the "WomynZone Entertainment Extravaganza," will be held Saturday, March

1, at 8:00 pm at the Blue Moon on Gottingen St.

There will be dancers, comedians, singers and musicians from the womyn's community. If interested in performing, or for more information on the event or WomynZone, visit our website at www.geocities.com/womynzone or contact our entertainment coordinator, Katey Day, at womynzone@eastlink.ca.

Bullying from p. 1

as to make things up and tell the principal so that I would not be able to change in the same room as them for Phys. Ed. Luckily, my principal believed me, I hope. The problem is that students nearly forced me to change in the separate room—with the door closed."

Ryan has also taken on the role of trying to educate his fellow classmates and teachers about

homophobia by organizing an assembly to help provide some light on this taboo topic. "A couple of my friends and I tried to eliminate the taboo of homosexuality in schools, by organizing an assembly on homophobia and its effects on youth in general. It has informed students and teachers, which made me very happy." He continued, "We also got students and faculty to write their comments about the assembly on a sticky note. Although many comments included such infamous and controversial sayings as 'Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve,' eighty percent of the comments were very positive and suggested more assemblies of the sort."

Ryan had one final important message to pass along: "To anyone who is homophobic, don't be afraid of something because you don't understand it. Know the facts, and think before the next time you call something or someone 'gay.' When you use that word in a negative way, you are giving one in ten people one more reason not to come out."

Robert is a Grade 12 Bathurst High School student. He is also the student reporter for The River Valley News, a community newspaper serving the Saint John, NB area.

BullyingCanada.ca is an anti-bullying website, for youth by youth. Our website has tips, for a bystander, victim, and bully. We also have a database of links to other anti-bullying websites. We most recently created free e-newsletter called "Youth Voices" that has information about anti-bullying work around the country. To subscribe send an e-mail to: Subscribe@BullyingCanada.ca.

Our Cover:

Jane Morigan presents her argument to Pictou County Councillors, asking them to reject, or table the motion to restrict the county's flagpole usage to government-only flags. At the back, Wayves writer Denise Holliday records the proceedings for her radio show, *Over The Rainbow*.

Photo by Daniel MacKay



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Presentation Continued from p. 1

Discrimination and prejudice hurt real people

The debacle created by Truro Town Council last summer sent a chill throughout the LGBT community because Mayor Bill Mills made it painfully obvious how bigoted, narrow-minded and regressive some politicians' views are toward LGBT members of the public. We winced at the cruel precedent that he set, because we know that exclusion comes at a price, and that our community would be the one to pay it. Indeed, instances of homophobic bullying increased in local schools, openly gay men and lesbians experienced harassment on the streets and even death threats. I can tell you that we were not only appalled and angry, we were also afraid. I was personally afraid, afraid especially for LGBT youth growing up in a community that made it clear that LGBT people are not welcome, not respected, and not valued in the Town of Truro. No wonder so many LGBT youth move away to big cities as soon as they get the chance! According to recent research, 97% of LGBT youth regularly experience harassment in school. So you should not be surprised that our community and supporters are reacting strongly to a proposed motion to restrict the type of flags to be flown. Anyone, especially in the LGBT community seeing this Council trying to do this would read it as homophobia.

Unfortunately, the reality of life for us in the LGBT community involves homophobia at practically every turn. Just as people of colour experience racism as a constant in their lives, so do LGBT individuals experience the ubiquitous, persistent reality of rejection, ridicule, and a profoundly demeaning and hurtful society at large... in relation to our simple desire to live as whole people, true to ourselves and deserving of acceptance and respect. I can tell you that I personally have had the privilege of the love and support of truly amazing women for the last 33 years of my life. Despite these benefits, I have also had to make my way in a society that is still largely intolerant and infused with homophobia. What I'm trying to tell you is... whenever a person or organization in authority does something that reinforces old prejudices and sends a message of intolerance, I feel it, and I hear it as, "You don't belong here," "You have no legitimate place in this community," and "You have no value as a person."

All of us are to some extent homophobic, just as we are racist

and sexist, because unfortunately we live in a society that is still rife with discrimination and prejudice. So I understand that you may be afraid that some people will judge you harshly if you do anything in Council that might recognize and support the LGBT community's efforts to stand proud and take our rightful place in Pictou County. For that is homophobia too. But I am here to tell you in no uncertain terms that you have a moral and a legal obligation to respect every member of your community, and that includes me and all my lesbian, gay, bi-sexual and trans-identified brothers and sisters. It is your responsibility, indeed your duty to make every conceivable effort to affirm the value of all members of your community, to condemn discrimination and prejudice in all its forms, and to promote equality and respect for all people.

Alternative options

I sincerely ask that Council consider other options than the one proposed in the current motion. I wish to suggest, first and foremost, that you recognize that pursuing a restrictive policy would be unwise given the reaction you have received from the public in the last week and seeing here tonight.

Option #1

In light of the fact that a clear and transparent process of public consultation has so far not been put in place, therefore I urge you to table the motion with the intention of striking a committee to "do the homework" that is required, including public hearings on the subject. In this way, Council will be more fully informed and better equipped to make a fair and considered decision, and also will be seen to have shown due diligence in a fully open and democratic process.

Option # 2

Another option I suggest that you consider is to maintain the status quo, i.e., not have a flag policy. My understanding is that the only groups in the past that have requested permission to fly their flags have been the VON, 4-H and the Multiple Sclerosis Society. I suggest that having more requests would be a nice problem to have! And I do not think that Council is justified in turning away these groups, nor the Gay Pride group with a policy that prohibits all community groups from flying their flag at the County building. More will be lost than gained if this approach is taken. Also, it has been stated that

"the County doesn't want to be in the position of having to say no to a particular group, such as hate groups." I say to you: The potential of Council being approached by a group promoting hatred can be dealt with by rejecting such a request on the basis of strong existing laws in Canada, such as hate crimes legislation, the Human Rights Act and the Charter of Rights. Therefore, if Council truly wishes to present itself as non-discriminating and promoting equal rights, it can do so by welcoming and inviting community groups in the County to make use of the community flagpole if they wish. You know, I am involved as a volunteer with the West Branch Community Association, and I can tell you that we are continually welcoming members of the community to get involved and make use of the hall for dances or classes and so on. We should be so lucky to have lots of folks wanting to use the Hall! My point is: it's all about community participation, and likewise I believe this Council should be thrilled if it receives more requests from the community to fly flags. It would mean that community groups look to their county government for support with their goals, and a concrete venue by which to raise awareness of a particular aspect of community life. At the same time, it is an opportunity for Council to demonstrate a commitment to the composite parts that make up the diverse and beautiful county we all call home. In Truro, there is a new Diversity group that has brought together the Northern AIDS Connection Society, the United Way, the Colleges, Truro Pride and others... in a wonderful effort to turn things around in Truro after the regrettable action by Town Council there. The situation here in Pictou County can be turned around before it gets worse. A bad start can be transformed into a positive situation, it's up to you.



Option # 3

A third and final option I suggest you consider is a blend of the other two options described. A policy that on the one hand permits community groups to request permission to fly their flag, and on

the other hand establishes clear ground rules such as compliance with existing Canadian laws to prevent the promotion of hate, and

Continued on page 8

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 January - 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 calendar of the Community Events page. Articles should be a maximum of 1,000 words and might be edited for length. Submissions should be e-mailed - in plain text - to the address noted below. The copyright for all submissions remains the property of the original author/creator.

Advertising: Jim Bain, Advertising Manager; e-mail at ads@wayves.ca or call 902-889-2229. Responsibility for errors in advertisements is limited to the value of the space.

Circulation: Jim McMillan - call 902-826-7356 (or e-mail wayves) or call Doug Brown at 902-463-3728. Subscriptions, per year, are in Canadian dollars: \$20 in Canada, \$30 in the United States and \$35 elsewhere. Mail in your subscription request.

How to reach us...

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www.wayves.ca

Important WAYVES Dates!

Issue Content Deadlines: Feb 1, Mar 7, Apr 4, the first Friday of each month, send your news, ideas, comments, criticisms, columns, cartoons and more to submissions@wayves.ca any time!

Production Meetings (Halifax): Monday Feb 4, Mar 10, Apr 7

Help decide what goes in the next issue, 7:30 PM, location TBA - email us at submissions@wayves.ca. All welcome!

Layout Parties (Halifax): Feb 10, Mar 16, Apr 13 Help build the paper - no special skills required, just enthusiasm, and helping even once or for a few hours helps a LOT! 9:30 AM,

On The Stands and In The Mail: Feb 22, Mar 28, Apr 25

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Your Name Here!

Following the logic that if you have the paper in your hand, you don't need to know where to get it, we're dropping the full text of the *Where To Get Wayves* column.

We're replacing it with changes to our distribution network. If you'd like to tell your friends from away where to get Wayves, see <http://www.wayves.ca>.

Dawn's Early Light

Dear Dawn,
My partner and I seem to be especially horny while on our periods. Neither of us has a problem with a little blood but we have both heard it can be dangerous to have sex while on your period. What do you think?
Sincerely, M & M

Dear M & M,
Thank you for your question. As I have said before I am not a doctor. Any information I have you can also access through your doctor, a community health nurse or through some "credible" on-line resources try www.sexualhealth.com, or www.lesbianhealthinfo.org.

I strongly recommend that you and your partner research this together. My partner and I have a very good book that has been a great resource for us. It's called, "The Whole Lesbian Sex Book," by F. Newman which you can get at Venus Envy in Halifax. If you are outside Halifax you can go to their website at www.venusenvy.ca.

What I have been able to discover is that it's normal to be hornier then usual around that time of the month because your hormones are raging. There has been very little research done on women who have

sex with women and even less on having sex during your period, but what we do know is that, while women on women sex tends to be lower risk, the issue of adding blood to the mix increases your risk for certain diseases such as HIV, and Hepatitis B and C.

Having said all that it doesn't mean you have to stop—just protect yourself. Dental dams are fantastic for this; make sure you use gloves and condoms for toys and change the condom if you are sharing toys. Basically you just want to ensure you do not make contact with each other's blood: in your mouth, on your fingers or

anywhere else in or on your body. If you can do that go nuts, have fun and enjoy yourself.

In light, Dawn

Come To The Light!

Dawn wants to hear from you. Let Dawn shed some light on your personal problems. Contact her at dawn@wayves.ca.

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Tatamagouche Women's Gathering 2008

by Paula Arsenault

Over 100 women arrived in the small rural village of Tatamagouche, located on the north shore of Nova Scotia. This is an annual migration to a mid winter celebration of being a woman. Over seven years ago, Rose Johnson was interested in getting some of her women friends from over the province together. Her partner, Muriel Agnes, was working at Tatamagouche Centre (www.tatacentre.ca) and knew that the Centre has space for hosting a gathering and could also offer accommodation. Rose then contacted her friend, Bernadette MacDonald, who was the director of the Pictou County Women's Centre, to see if she would be interested in having the funds raised from a dance donated to the Centre. So, it began.

In the beginning about a dozen

women gathered, and since then the numbers have increased as the word about the dance has spread. This year was the largest number with over 75 arriving for supper at 6:00 p.m. The numbers went up after supper as more women arrived to dance late into the night. They

arrived from as far away as Yarmouth and Fredericton. At different tables women gathered from the

same region; south shore women, HRM women, Truro women, and women from Pictou County. There were women of all ages, although one woman commented that, "the average age is probably peri-menopausal."

There were women out forever, just out, coming out, not out and women in transition. There were women of all areas of life: from homemakers to professors, therapists to clients, unemployed to students. This is a yearly event

without much publicity so in the past the only way women found out about it was through the grapevine—just the old fashioned word of mouth, not through a paper or Internet listing! If you are a woman and are disappointed you missed out on this delicious gathering of ex-lovers, current lovers, not-yet-lovers, single, married, divorced, widowed, do not despair, because there will another gathering in mid-January, 2009. To get on the email list send a message to whisperingwoodsproductions@yahoo.ca.


**NEXT ISSUE
DEADLINE:
First Friday
of the Month**

*There were women
out forever, just out,
coming out, not out and
women in transition.*

Employment Opportunity Calendar of Events Editor

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Review

"Natural Inheritance" by Donald Noyes
Haydn Publishing (Church Point, NS), 2007
Trade paperback, 152 pp.
Book review by Randall Perry

Donald Noyes is a Connecticut-born playwright, poet and fiction writer who now lives in Grosses Coques, NS. His recent book, "Natural Inheritance," is a collection of sixteen short stories that deal in one way or another with gay men as everyday people—their lives, loves and losses. One of the stories, "A Celebration," appeared in *punoqun* 2007, published last fall by Wayves.

The stories in this slim volume, covering hundreds of years of history, are divided into three recognizable sections: "Ages Past," "No So Long Ago" and "Generations." I must admit I've not considered an alternate history of Sherwood Forest, nor have I peered into Walt Whitman's diary or considered how one of Sigmund Freud's patients may have had a streak of Titanic heroism. For sheer variety of characterization, locale and time-frame, the "Ages Past" section is bound to have something for all readers. The following two sections deal more with contemporary times, from the turn of the twentieth century to the latter half, and the characters more accurately fit Noyes's "everyday people" motif.

The overall tone of "Natural Inheritance" is rather dark and the book is filled with tales of loves and losses of gay men throughout the ages. The writing is dense and complex, harkening back to a dif-

ferent literary era. Many of the stories deal with beauty turned tragic and the sometimes difficult subject matter may not be everybody's cup of tea.

I found some real gems in this collection. In "Easter Lilly," a middle-aged mother of a gay son puts a closed-minded Society lady in her place; "From the Pulpit" deals with an Episcopal priest who tells her congregation of her railroading by the bishop after she blesses the anniversary of a devout male couple. "The Poem" will both break your heart and affirm the existence of unconditional love. The collection contains a brilliant single-scene play, "Fly Allied Air," which could be easily and effectively produced by any community or high-school drama club.

"Natural Inheritance" is not without its little problems. The book suffers from a lack of editing and proofreading. A good editing would have strengthened some of the stories by freeing them from their stylistic shackles. Careful proofreading would have helped identify and eliminate a number of distracting typographical errors.

I have a suggestion on how to improve the book if Noyes decides to go into another printing: delete the introduction. It weakens the entire text and ultimately adds nothing of value to the stories. The author expresses his desire to portray gay men as "everyday people" and then takes us on a somewhat tragic journey throughout the book. Surely the fates shine brighter on the lives of everyday people!

In the broadest sense, the idea of gay people as "everyday" is not unusual. However, I believe that gay people are that, and much more: we create our own unique existence within a culture which still shuns us, despite the legal and societal equalities acquired through the last few decades. Many of the characters in "Natural Inheritance" are ordinary people who happen to be gay. The author has achieved the goal set out in his introduction, and even though the characters do not pop off the page they achieve that state of extraordinary because they dare to love and exist.



punoqun 2008 Call For Submissions

It was hugely successful last year, and it's back for 2008! Reborn and unbound, *punoqun* is Atlantic Canada's literary annual, written by Atlantic Canadians and published by Wayves.

For *punoqun* 2008, we want submissions of fiction, poetry and creative non-fiction from writers living in the region for its 2007 edition, to be published and launched in September. Submit your best work, since there are no restrictions on style or substance. Original, unpublished work from all four Atlantic provinces is encouraged.

Fiction and creative non-fiction submissions should be no longer

than 1,500 words; 500 word maximum for poetry. Manuscripts can be e-mailed to punoqun@wayves.ca as attachments or text directly within the e-mail. If submitting by postal mail, manuscripts must be typed double-spaced on 8 1/2 x 11 paper. If you wish to use a pseudonym on your work, please provide your real name, which will not be used, in addition to the pseudonym.

Deadline for submissions is Saturday, May 31, 2008. If submitting by postal mail, please postmark by this date to Wayves, P.O. Box 34090, Scotia Square, Halifax, NS, B3J 3S1.

Interested in local queer writers?

If you are, check out the *You Tell Us* question on page 15 for a chance to win a copy of Donald Noyes' book.

Wayves On Line!

Did you miss the last issue of *Wayves*? Or did your favourite distribution point run out of copies? Don't fret. We've made some improvements to our website. Now you can visit www.wayves.ca, and download archival copies. We have 2007 back issues on line now and will be adding 2006 soon.



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Crawford Hastie's KIBITZ AND BITCH

Hi Tom

There are certain events in our lives that we take for granted and only years later, when viewed through the nostalgic lens of distance and time gone by, do we recognize the special quality of those days. Like when you lived here in the area, Tom, and a bunch of us – well, mainly you and your harem of fag hags – would get together for pot luck suppers. Remember? So many were superb cooks – you chief among them. (“NO, NO. It must be fresh mozzarella. Only this brand of Dijon mustard will do! Who dared to bring canned mushrooms into my house?!”) Those impromptu meals were like something from ancient Rome in quantity and quality of food. I guess we assumed those days would just continue but they turned out to be just as transitory as taut skin or bell bottoms.

Then there are other occasions when we are aware of the special time as it is taking place, when we are completely alive to the pleasure of the moment. Sex sometimes provides such a moment, although unfortunately much less frequently than one might wish. (I get distracted by thoughts like – hoping he’s not allergic to my deodorant, deciding whether to have my eyes open or shut while kissing and trying to remember not to shout out “YES, SHEMAR, YES!” Again.) Arriving in a new place never fails to give me that tingling excitement of I’m here, I’m really here, when I know every minute is special and I consciously savour every sight, sound and delicious aroma.

My recent trip with the Anthill and Fisherman’s Freud to visit Butch Gaylick and Barry Poppins falls into the latter category. FF’s solid, cheerful presence together with The Anthill’s energetic enthusiasm make them both wonderful travel companions. Winter’s cold and lack of daylight tends to exaggerate even small problems so my joie de vivre had been at a rather low ebb. A brief holiday into hedonism for the three of us seemed like the perfect antidote to my snowy blues. And so it turned out to be.

Butch and Barry are really the ideal hosts. I spent my days relaxing, gorging on delicious meals and needing only to lift a delicate hand to find a perfectly mixed cocktail placed in it. With the other hand I would pet the head of one of the numerous canines that roamed in packs throughout the house. Some kind of informal doggy day care seemed to be set up which meant that in addition to their dogs Britney and Justin, there were now several other pooches requiring “walkies”. They were calm creatures and very well-behaved but with a total lack of interest in human affairs. A bit like Conservatives.

I’m rather vague on what Butch and Barry do for a living except that on the days when Butch works from home he shuts himself up in the room in the basement with a computer.... and the large screen TV. Barry works for some company that sounds religious but really isn’t, although I’m pretty sure that if his Holiness were to come to Canada, Barry would be the head of the pit crew for the Popemobile.

As a couple they are a study in contrasts. Barry has a gruff and sarcastic exterior which he hopes will hide his warm and loving heart. Butch, on the other hand, has a veneer of friendly concern for others that is as thin as the gilt on a Renaissance angel, the kind that comes off in flakes if you scrape it with your thumbnail. Underneath there is a sly, twisted man full of laughter and mischief. It was Butch, for example, who got me to play a surreptitious game of Spot the Hidden Homo at a dinner party. I used to be pretty good at this kind of game but that was before queers became fashionable and metrosexuality gained momentum. Now, even straight men care about grooming and fashion so it is more difficult to know who is secretly longing to put on the ruby slippers. Butch should have asked the Anthill since she’s had enough gay men in her life to form a Broadway chorus line. As for the game, I guessed correctly – by that I mean that I confirmed Butch and Barry’s opinion – but I wasn’t able to get my hands on any hard evidence.

One of the highlights of the trip was seeing Les Ballets Trockadero, the all male dance troupe who perform as ballerinas. Supple, athletic bodies, wonderful dancing ability combined with superb comic timing had us laughing uproariously and then applauding at the end until our palms were stinging. The Anthill and I both brought away feathers from a tutu as mementoes of the evening.

A whirl of shopping, some late night dancing at a gay bar, more shopping – got to have a souvenir tee shirt! – and it was time to head home, tired but happy.

Then the sad news of Heath Ledger’s death. A beautiful man with a rare gift. I hope he knew that. We did.

Got to run, Tommo. Time for chorus rehearsal.

Love ya!

Crawford

News from Northern AIDS

By Al McNutt

With winter snow still swirling around us, the Board of Directors, staff and volunteers of the Northern AIDS Connection Society have been extremely busy.

In the fall of 2007 we celebrated AIDS Awareness Week and World AIDS Day. The Society was fortunate to acquire three sections of the AIDS Memorial Quilt to display in Truro, New Glasgow and Amherst. The quilt helps us to remember those who have passed away and helps those working in the HIV/AIDS area regain their focus and inspiration.

We are getting geared up for the “Spring for Life Gerbera Sale.” Our flowers will be delivered on March 17 and then our volunteers will proceed with snipping and packaging. Pre-orders are already coming in and locations to have the flowers sold are being arranged.

Our “Art for AIDS Auction” is scheduled for June 2, 2008 at the Best Western Glengarry Hotel/Convention Centre. Donations of fantastic pieces of art are already coming in. We will also have a silent auction on the same evening. Anyone interested in making a donation or attending this evening to remember, please contact our office.

The Society takes great pride in the work being done in northern Nova Scotia. We are always involved in conducting educational presentations and providing individual support and resource material through our resource library. We have recently acquired the volunteer services of several individuals who fall within the specific groups we target. We have a Katimavik student who is working very hard at translating some of our printed material into French.

Another volunteer has been working on our “Survival on the Street Guide,” a printed resource, funded by GlaxoSmith Kline, for inmates released from custody. Other volunteers are working on our resource library by cataloguing our printed resources. We have a new pocket brochure targeting the transgender community that

has been designed by one of our volunteers.

Our volunteers are the core of all community-based work and we appreciate and commend these people for all their hard work and dedication.

Our HIV Family Support Group, funded by the Truro &



Area Community Health Board, has been a bit late in wrapping up due to weather and road conditions. This group has opened doors for individuals who otherwise felt

isolated and alone. This program was a great success, providing an opportunity for family members to come together and look at self-care issues and support. We hope to continue this program, however due to stigma, discrimination and a lack of comfort talking about grief and the loss of loved ones, we may look at a home visitation program for families in 2008.

The Society has also been very much involved with a Diversity Week Long Celebration, scheduled for this June. This event is the result of the “flag flap” in Truro with the Rainbow and AIDS Awareness Flags. Our organization continues to work with the GLBT communities and provide support whenever possible.

Our agency has been involved in dialogue with the Halifax Sexual Health Centre in regard to providing anonymous HIV testing, as well as testing for other STI’s. We hope to have Nancy MacDonald in Truro once a month at our office to conduct the testing. If you are interested in being tested, please call our office and make an appointment. The testing will be done by appointment only and will be strictly confidential.

The Society has applied for funding to host a series of work shops in Atlantic Canada on HIV/transgender issues. If funding is secured, these workshops will be conducted by Denise Holliday.

Our office is open Monday to Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and can be contacted by phone at (902) 895-0931 or by email at nacs@eastlink.ca.

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samesexstudy@uwindsor.ca 519-253-3000 ext. 2256

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Thank you,

Melissa St. Pierre - Graduate Student - Department of Psychology - University of Windsor

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Transgender Diaries



By Denise Holliday

Several things in 2007 have affected my life and future activities in 2008. Some are good but others are fantastic.

The best of course was the birth of my second grandchild; that now makes 2 grand-daughters and a very proud "grammy" and "gran."

In early December I was approached by Cherie MacLeod, Executive Director of PFLAG Canada, who explained they wanted to provide a dedicated toll-free national phone number for people with questions on gender identity. She asked if I would be interested in taking responsibility for answering the line in my new volunteer capacity as "Gender Identity Support Coordinator." While I am always nervous about titles, I was excited

at the prospect of a national toll free number

dedicated to gender identity questions. In January, plans were completed and the phone number is now in place and people can and do reach me toll free from anywhere in Canada at (888) 822-9494. I hope this step of faith by those at PFLAG Canada who made this possible proves to be successful for those in need of answers.

My new year started with a four-hour program of "Over the Rainbow" on CKDU 88.1 FM. I had a great time. I'm looking forward to the regular show starting at midnight on Sunday, January 27, and again every fourth Sunday after that. Listen in, phone in and write in—your input is desired.

After pressing the transgender

workshops since January, 2004, the past year was the most positive and productive and 2008 is already showing great promise in several venues of outreach.

While I have followed the ENDA issues pretty close with our American cousins their overall infighting has exposed the rift that exists in most GLBT communities. Adding "T" to the GLB does not include anything unless it is backed by support from all sides. I am very proud of the GLBT people I meet because they work hard to understand each others issues and be supportive. The Wayves team provides an outlet for all GLBT people and while I feel it is too heavy on gay male issues, it is the lack of input from other sectors such as lesbians, transgenders and others that cause the imbalance. I hope that more lesbians and transgendered people and organizations will get involved. I would like to see someone take position of reporting on world issues such as the six men in Cameroon who were held six months in prison before being sentenced to

six months hard labour for being accused of being gay. A recent national radio

show discussed the subject of modern rap music in Jamaica and whether it is freedom of artistic expression or a musical form of hate promotion. What do you think? Email me at denisesined@ns.smpatico.ca or call me on the show to discuss this or any other issue.

Women's rights versus religious rights, laws and traditions caused me some major upset when I read that two men and nine women are waiting to be stoned to death for committing adultery in Iran. While it's legal to throw stones and kill someone it is illegal to throw stones that are too big or too small as they must be big enough to hurt but small enough that one or two hits

will not kill them outright. Men are buried to the waist in a pit and women to the breasts. I am not sure if this is how they sentence gay people but the thought that this is still going on in countries considered to be advanced leaves me realizing how lucky we are here in Canada despite the difficulties.

For me, 2008 will be a year of promising opportunities for us all and while I cannot change the whole world, I personally intend to change as much of it as I can. I invite you to email me and tell me what you plan or desire for the upcoming year. I will read the emails on the air with your first

name, but only if you permit me to do so.

Thanks to all of those that have allowed me to grow and been

patient with me as I travel my learning curves.



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GAYSTRONOMIE 08

On January 27, Wayves hosted Gaystronomie 08, a food, drink and chocolate festival featuring a selection of our advertisers. It was held at the Dresden Row Market (formerly known as the Atlantic City Centre).

Award winning chef and co-owner of Chives Canadian Bistro Darren Lewis used the cooking finery of Cucina Moderna to rustle up a tasty Coq Au Vin during the afternoon complemented by wine pairings courtesy of Premier Wines.

Host Chuck Hsuen entertained the onlookers all afternoon and kept the food performers on their toes, and a team of volunteers set up the event and ran sound and video. Thanks volunteers!

The free event was enjoyed by about seventy people.

Chef Darren has done a special Wayves version of the Coq au Vin



Bev Hubley sketches - see far right for the result!



Rosemary of Rosemary's Chocolates serves a guest



Dawson Wambolt of Premier Wines serves samples of Grey Monk Pinot Noir



Hello from Chef Darren!



Volunteers Wolf Fillmore and Mike Teal set up the audio/visual.



Chuck Hsuen interviews Premier Wines' Karen Foster

Photos courtesy of Daniel MacKay and Scott Blackburn.

recipe which you can find on page 10. One attending lesbian said, "I've never had such tasty Coq!"

Jane Morrigan Cont'd from p. 2

setting rules specifying amount of time ahead of the proposed date of raising the flag and taking it down, and include other issues such as which government flags will be flown at half mast under what circumstances, etc. This option would give Council a flag policy that makes the rules clear to the public, but at the same time sends a positive message to the community as a whole.

The value of raising a flag

The rainbow flag is a symbol of the diversity and collective beauty of the entire spectrum of the human family. Its display of colour evokes the feeling of inclusion, contrast and splendour, and when it flies freely and high above our heads and in plain view, it symbolizes a pride in the magnificence of perseverance and the power of love. Every single lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans-identified person in this room, in this county, in this country and in this world can be proud of who they are and can dare to dream of the day when the gender of our partner or the way in which we identify ourselves is no longer an issue in society. Closeted folks especially need a sense of place and belonging if they are ever to feel safe enough to come out. May I remind you that the youth of Canada are already unravelling the traditional homophobic behaviour of their parents' and grandparents' generations? Recently, a boy in a Nova Scotia high school wore a pink shirt to school. Predictably, school bullies taunted this youngster and called him "faggot," and his friends (and there were many) responded by wearing pink shirts to school the next day! So remember these children are the future, and we have an obligation to them, to make well-informed, fair and just decisions that affect community life.

In conclusion

The LGBT community and fair-minded people in PC and

beyond do not want a flag policy that is motivated or perceived to be motivated by homophobia. The proposed policy is regressive and offensive to the LGBT community in particular, but it would harm all of us. You can do better!

A policy made "on the fly" without proper process can only result in poor decision-making, and I strongly urge Council to consider one of three alternative options I have suggested here tonight. If passed in its current form, I predict that it will result in scorn and disrepute for the entire county, and make the lives of LGBT residents of the county less safe. I urge you. Please do not make this mistake. A more reasoned approach is required, and surely this is not asking

too much in light of the outcry that has occurred and that Council is now hopefully more aware of.

I wish to thank Councillor Parker, who brought the agenda item to my attention last week and who stood up publicly to denounce homophobia and discrimination in all its forms. I wish to thank those folks who came from Halifax and Truro and other parts of the province to be here tonight, and all those friends and allies of the LGBT community for your solidarity and support in working towards the elimination of homophobia. I dedicate this presentation in honour of the courage of lesbian and gay Canadians who have persisted in the quest of ending discrimination and making Canada

a more open society.

Thank you, Council for your attention and for giving me the opportunity to speak to you tonight. I now put my faith in your hands, to do the right thing in this matter.

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Samesex Adoption, Part II

Relative Adoptions: When one person in a same-sex couple is the biological parent of the child

by Lara Morris

Adoption falls within the jurisdiction of the provinces. This means our provincial governments get to decide the laws regarding the adoption process. Throughout Atlantic Canada, same-sex couples have the right to adopt children in various ways. For information about adopting a child that is not biologically related to one person in a same-sex couple or as a single person, see the "Agency Adoptions" article in this issue.

This article is focused on circumstances when one of the people in a same sex couple is a biological parent of the child.

Newborn child to a lesbian couple

Increasingly, lesbian women are deciding to give birth to children. When a lesbian couple has a child together, the legal status of the non-biological mom varies from province to province. In order to give that woman status as a legal parent, various steps must be taken, depending on the province in which you live.

Nova Scotia – Both women are named as legal parents on the birth registration

Same-sex couples gained the right to adopt children as a result of a court case decided in the spring of 2001. Until recently, this meant that when one woman in a lesbian couple gave birth to a child, the other woman could adopt the child and both women would be recognized as the child's legal parents. The applicable legislation was the Children and Family Services Act.

In the late summer of 2007 a lesbian couple, Jamie and Emily O'Neill, launched a human rights complaint challenging the requirement for an adoption process and arguing that by virtue of their status as a married couple, both parents should be named as legal parents at the time of the child's birth. At least one other lesbian couple was also in the process of challenging the adoption laws through a legal action.

On September 20, 2007, the Nova Scotia government introduced changes to the regulations to the Vital Statistics Act. As a result, it is no longer necessary to use the adoption process. Whether married or in a common law relationship, both women can be named as parents on the birth registration. Since this is such a recent change, details are still be worked out by the Department of Community Services. For couples who have already registered the birth of their child without naming the non-biological mom as a parent on the form, but not yet concluded an adoption proceeding, you may now be able to re-register your child's birth without the need of an adoption proceeding. Contact your lawyer or Vital Statistics for more information.

Newfoundland – The non-bio-

logical mom can adopt the child six months after birth

In 2003 the Adoption Act became effective in Newfoundland and Labrador. As a result of changes to the adoption process, now if

Throughout Atlantic Canada, same-sex couples have the right to adopt children in various ways.

one woman in a lesbian relationship gives birth to a child, the other woman can adopt the child so both women can be legal parents.

New Brunswick – Both women are named as legal parents on the birth registration

Like in Nova Scotia, if one woman gives birth, both partners can be registered as parents.

Prince Edward Island – The non-biological mom can apply to adopt the child three months after birth

Same-sex couples can adoption children in Prince Edward Island as long as the couple is married. Prior to the legalization of marriage in 2005, only a single gay or lesbian person could adopt a child, not a couple.

Step-parent situation

A gay male or lesbian couple where one parent is a biological parent of the child (and the couple forms after the birth of the child)

Nova Scotia – The decision of the Supreme Court (Family Division) in the spring of 2001 made it legal for same-sex couples to adopt children together, regardless of whether or not they are married. If one of the people in the same-sex

couple is a biological parent of a child born prior to the same-sex relationship being established, it may be a situation appropriate for a step-parent adoption. Adoption applications are made pursuant to the Children and Family Services Act.

Examples can include:

- A lesbian woman who had a child with a man and the biological father has no contact with the child or he consents to the woman's female partner becoming a legal parent to the child. As it stands now, the biological father's legal parental rights would be terminated as a result of the adoption.

- A gay man who had a child with a woman and the biological mother has no contact with the child or she consents to the man's male partner becoming a legal parent to the child. As it stands now, the biological mother's legal parental rights would be terminated as a result of the adoption.

New Brunswick – In New Brunswick, step-parent adoptions for same-sex couples are possible so long as the couple is legally married. The New Brunswick government is in the process of changing its law so unmarried couples can also do such adoptions.

Newfoundland and Labrador – Since the implementation of the Adoption Act in 2003, step-parent adoptions are available to same-sex couples living in Newfoundland. Like Nova Scotia, same-sex couples can adopt children together, regardless of whether or not they are married.

Prince Edward Island – As a re-

sult of the legalization of marriage, gay or lesbian couples who are married can now do step-parent adoptions. Because the Adoption Act requires adoption to be by a single person or a married couple, gay and

lesbian couples became eligible to adopt when they became eligible to marry! It is hoped the government will review the legislation so common law same-sex couples can also adopt children together.

Contact Information

Nova Scotia

Birth Registration
Vital Statistics website: <http://www.gov.ns.ca/snsmr/vstat/>
Service Nova Scotia: 902.424.5200 (or 800.670.4357 toll free within Nova Scotia)

Adoption
Adoption information: 866.259.7780

Department of Community Services website: <http://www.gov.ns.ca/coms/families/adoption.html>

New Brunswick

Birth Registration
Service New Brunswick 888.832.2762

Adoption
Adoption information: 866.236.7801

Adoption information website: <http://app.infoaa.7700.gnb.ca/gnb/pub/EServices/ListServices-Dept.asp?DeptID1=76>

Newfoundland and Labrador

Adoption Consultant, Ethel Dempsey: 709.729.5134
email healthinfo@gov.nl.ca

Prince Edward Island

Adoption Services: 902.368.6511

Adoption Services website: <http://www.gov.pe.ca/infopei/index.php3?number=18536&lang=E>

It is recommended that you seek legal advice regarding the particulars of your case.

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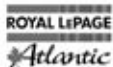


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Chef's Corner



This is the recipe I demonstrated during the Gaystronomie 2008 Food and Wine Show held at The Dresden Row Market Sunday January 27th.

Following my cooking demonstration, many people asked for the recipe card, but there were none left. So I decided this would be the perfect way to reach all of my adoring fans (smile) with what I think to be a great winter dinner party meal.

Thanks again to everyone who attended the first ever Gaystronomie, thanks to Wayves, all the volunteers and participating businesses, Cucina Moderna, Rosemary's Chocolates and

Premier Wines and Spirits for making the afternoon a great success. Don't forget to check out our new "Ciboulette Cafe & Catering" at 1541 Barrington St, right next door to Chives in the old "Mud Room" space. (7:30 am to 5:00 pm Mon - Fri)

Chef Darren is Chef and Co-owner of Chives Canadian Bistro, Halifax's newest two star restaurant, 1537 Barrington Street, Halifax, N.S. For reservation call (902) 420-9626, www.chives.ca.

Classic Coq au Vin

Ingredients

1 whole chicken cut into 6-8 pieces (approx 3 lb)
6 slices smokey bacon (diced)
2 tbsp canola oil
1/2 cup all purpose flour + 2 tsp salt & 1 tsp pepper (for coating)
6-8 cloves fresh garlic

2 tbsp minced shallots
3 cups crimini mushrooms (brushed clean)
2 cups pearl onions (peeled)
2 tbsp tomato paste
1/4 cup cognac or brandy
1 (750 ml) bottle red wine
1 cup demi-glace (store bought is fine)
6 sprigs fresh thyme
4-6 bay leaves

Method

1. On med heat, fry bacon until crisp. During this time dredge chicken in flour mix, set aside.
2. Remove bacon to paper towel, add canola oil to bacon drippings and fry chicken to golden brown on all sides. Remove the seared chicken to a resting platter.
3. Add the onions, garlic and mushrooms to pot and saute until they take colour and soften.
4. Off of heat, add cognac, light fumes with BBQ starter and flambe. Alcohol will burn off in a few seconds. Return to heat, add tomato paste and cook out 2-3 min.
5. Add demi-glace and wine and stir until well combined. Return chicken to pot, add herbs, bring to a boil, cover and place in 325F oven for 1 hour.
6. Remove cover, turn temp up up 375F and let the sauce reduce for 15 min.

Serving suggestions:

Place chicken pieces on a warm serving platter, pour sauce over the chicken, surround the platter with roasted baby potatoes, carrots and Brussels sprouts. Serve with a nice glass of well paired red wine and crusty french bread.

OUT! Alive Promotes Butting Out With "The Last Drag"



For several months, a group of concerned individuals have been meeting to talk about the realities of addictions in Halifax's Rainbow Community. Those discussions led to us coming together as a committee, adopting the name, OUT! Alive, and developing a Vision, Mission and Values Statement. Now we're swinging into action with a one-hour smoking cessation workshop—The Last Drag—on March 19. This first meeting (7:00

p.m. at Venus Envy, admission free!) includes information about the chemicals in cigarettes, how the industry engineers cigarettes to deliver nicotine to your body, and the physical effects of nicotine. It explores the psychological, emotional, and behavioural aspects of tobacco use. Anyone interested in taking the next step towards that "last drag" can participate in the four week follow-up program. Participants will be provided with

Nicotine patches and gum (NRT). An additional 4-week supply will be provided during the last session for a total of 8 weeks of patches and gum. Each weekly session will focus on a particular topic (NRT information, physical withdrawal, emotional withdrawal, keeping on track, etc.) and attendees will support each other by sharing their stories about reducing their tobacco use. A workbook is also used to guide attendees through

the process of change. Sessions and materials are absolutely free.

Now you may be asking yourself, "Just who are these folks at OUT! Alive and why are they doing this?" Addiction Services, supported by Pride Health, put out the initial call to the AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia and the Youth Project and got the ball rolling. Since then a number of other individuals have come on board, including researchers and community activists. Our mission statement defines OUT! Alive as "an alliance of citizens who are concerned about drug, alcohol, tobacco, and gambling issues within the Rainbow Community... open to all Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Two Spirited, Queer and Questioning, as well as friends and allies of our communities." Our mission is "to increase knowledge of addiction issues (alcohol, drugs, tobacco, and gambling)... promoting Outreach and Understanding, as well as raising awareness about the Treatment and support options available to our community."

We're committed to advocacy

on our community's behalf, to ensuring that such options "are able to meet, respect and respond to the needs and experiences of those within the Rainbow Community." OUT! Alive is guided by the principles of harm reduction. We believe that knowledge empowers individuals; that with new learning comes freedom and healthier choices. OUT! Alive will meet people where they are, without judgment: practicing respect; encouraging diversity; offering and welcoming learning; supporting individual choice; and promoting our community's health and well being."

If you're interested in learning more about OUT! Alive, perhaps lending your ideas and support, you can contact, Michelle Sperry, Volunteer Coordinator with Addiction Prevention and Treatment Services, (902) 424-4976.

The Last Drag – A smoking cessation workshop will take place at Venus Envy Bookshop, 1598 Barrington St., Halifax NS on Wednesday, March 19, at 7:00 p.m.

Queerly Canadian Rufus Wainwright

Although he strongly identifies with Canada, Rufus Wainwright was born in the United States, to folk singers Loudon Wainwright III and Kate McGarrigle, and raised in Montreal. He played piano at six, toured on stage with his family at thirteen, and was receiving Juno Award nominations at sixteen! He has since won two Junos, and released a half-dozen albums to critical acclaim. His lyrics are filled with allusions to opera, literature, pop culture, and, more recently, politics (in songs such as "Gay Messiah" and "Waiting for a Dream"). Wainwright is a recovering crystal meth addict and a rape survivor; he uses the press to bring awareness to these societal problems.



FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT
www.portcityrainbowpride.com

Does God really condemn loving homosexual relationships?

Is the chasm separating Christianity from gays and lesbians too wide to cross? Is the Bible an excuse to hate? These questions and more are answered in this award-winning documentary, which brilliantly reconciles homosexuality and Biblical scripture - and reveals that religious anti-gay bias is based almost solely upon a misinterpretation of the Bible.

Through the experiences of five very normal, Christian, American families - including those of former House Majority Leader Richard Gephardt and Episcopal Bishop Gene Robinson - we discover how people of faith handle the realization of having a gay child or family member.

SEE THE AWARD WINNING FILM ...

For the Bible tells me so

SHOWING ON: MARCH 6 | MARCH 13, 2008;
MARY OLAND THEATRE NEW BRUNSWICK MUSEUM
SAINT JOHN, NB | 7:00PM | TICKETS \$7 EACH

A fascinating, must-see film. Daniel Karslake has created a moving yet personal inspirational portrait of this great divide around fundamentalist religious teachings that has impacted so many people so dramatically.
- Seattle Gay News

Confronts, with whimsy and hellfire, the clash between religion and homosexuality. - Bilge Ebiri, New York Magazine



WAYVES GROUPS AND SERVICES

Atlantic Canada

AtlanticCanadianLesbians: Online Group For Lesbians from the Atlantic Provinces. email: AtlanticCanadianLesbians@groups.msn.com web: groups.msn.com/AtlanticCanadianLesbians

AtlanticPoz: A new discussion group is for individuals living with HIV in Atlantic Canada. web: health.groups.yahoo.com/group/atlanticpoz/

Egale Canada - Atlantic: web: www.egale.ca

Gay Men's Gathering: at PO Box 36054, Halifax., B3J 3S9

GaySpaces: Free postings of GLBT-friendly places to live in Atlantic Canada. email: info@gayspaces.org web: www.gayspaces.org

Gender Expressions Atlantic: Support for transgendered individuals ranging from Crossdressers to Transexuals. email: gender_expressions@hotmail.com web: www.geocities.com/gender_expressions/ (No scheduled meeting. Occasional social events, by invitation only.)

Halifax Transguys: support group for transmen at any point in transition, locally and in Atlantic Canada. at Please write for further information on our upcoming meetings and social events.

Healing Our Nations, Dartmouth: Healing Our Nations is an Aboriginal HIV/AIDS service organization that serves the Atlantic region. (902) 492-4255 email: director@accesswave.ca web: www.hon93.ca (Healing Our Nations staff meet once on a weekly basis. Training offered on request at no charge for Aboriginal peoples and/or organizations.) at 15 Alderney Dr., Suite 3, Dartmouth, NS. B2Y2N2

Maritime Transgender Workplace Solutions Project, Upper Musquodoboit: Transgender Issues Workshops and information resource. (902)568-2935 email: denisesined@ns.sympatico.ca web: www.3.ns.sympatico.ca/winpapernews (No meetings, Workshops by arrangements, Information source when requested. Newsletter Odds & Sods bi-weekly)

Mr Atlantic Canada Leather Society, assorted cities: Dedicated to developing gay leather communities in the Atlantic region. email: waydo7@hotmail.com

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

Project E: Presentation for youth, on gender expression, myth busters, proper terminology and other facts. web: www.freewebs.com/xprojece/ at available via web page

Propitation, Toronto: A fellowship of gay and lesbian Anglicans and their friends. 416-977-4359 email: propitation@hotmail.com, meets every Sunday (We meet in members homes on a Saturday or Sunday Evening once every other month for Evening Prayer Discussion, refreshments and fellowship.) at -contact for meeting location. We prefer our heritage, worship, and Spirituality of the Book of Common Prayer. We are troubled by such right wing organizations as the prayer book society and Essentials.

Wayves Magazine: Atlantic Canada's queer news and lifestyle magazine!. email: submissions@wayves.ca web: wayves.ca (Editorial meeting one Monday night a month; layout one Sunday a month; email us to be notified of meetings & deadlines!)

New Brunswick (506)

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

AIDS New Brunswick / SIDA Nouveau-Brunswick, Fredericton: committed to facilitating community-based responses to the issues of HIV/AIDS. 459-7518 email: sidaids@nbnet.nb.ca web: www.aidsnb.com (Office Hours: Monday to Friday, 8:30AM to 12:30PM and 1:30PM to 4:30PM)

AIDS Saint John, Saint John: improve quality of life for those infected & affected by HIV, reduce the spread through education 652-2437 email: aidssj@nb.aibn.com web: www.aidsaintjohn.com

East Coast Bears, Fredericton: adult men who are, or like, masculine, hairy men. 506-455-2856 email: info@eastcoastbears.com web: www.eastcoastbears.com (See webpage for schedule.)

Fredericton Lesbians and Gays, Fredericton: Email listserv of events/news in the Fredericton for gblt men and women. email: jamesw@stju.ca web: www.geocities.com/westhollywood/3074

Gais.es Nor Gays Inc. (GNG), Petit-Rocher

(Bathurst area): A bilingual volunteer association serving gay men, lesbians and bisexuals of northern New Brunswick. email: info@gngnb.ca web: www.gngnb.ca (Dances are held at GNG club every Saturday night. See 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.

Integrity, Fredericton: Supports and encourages Gays and Lesbians in their spiritual lives. web: www.anglicanbeads.com/Integrity/ (Watch our website for details of 2007 planned events, (coming soon). Membership in Integrity is not indicative of sexual orientation.) at St John's Anglican Church, 59 Broad Road, Oromocto, New Brunswick.

Moncton Line Dancing, Moncton: LINE DANCING for all levels from beginner to advanced. No partner required. No dress code. , meets every Wednesday (8:30pm sharp) at Triangles Bar, corner of St. George and Archibald.

PFLAG Canada, Moncton: Supporting all people with questions or concerns about sexual orientation and gender identity issues. (506) 869-8191 email: monctonnb@pflagcanada.ca web: www.pflagcanada.ca/moncton.html, meets 3rd Monday (Occasionally on the 2nd Monday — please call) at 7:30-9:30pm, University of Moncton, Adrien-J.-Cormier Bldg., Room 302

PFLAG Canada - Fredericton, Fredericton: all welcome. email: pflagfredericton@yahoo.ca web: www.geocities.com/Pflagfredericton/, meets 4th Wednesday (7-9 pm (except December: 2nd Wednesday)) at Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton 874 York St. Fredericton NB E3B 3R8

PFLAG Canada - Sackville/Amherst, Sackville NB/Amherst NS: Support and education for GLBTT2IQQ persons, friends & family. 506-536-4245 email: jhammock@mta.ca, meets 2nd Monday (7:30 to 9:30pm No meeting in July and August.) at Meeting location alternates monthly between Sackville: United Church Parlours, 112 Main Street, and Amherst: Maggie's Place, 12 LaPlanche Street

PFLAG Canada - Saint John NB, Saint John: Provides support to anyone dealing with issues of sexual orientation and/or gender identity. 648-9700 email: wandr@nbnet.nb.ca web: www.pflag.ca/saintjohn.htm (1st Friday of each month September - June at 7pm. 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, Saint John: Pride Celebrations Committee. email: events@portcityrainbowpride.com web: www.portcityrainbowpride.com

River Of Pride, Moncton: Organizes, promotes and produces Moncton's Pride events!. email: monctonpride2007@gmail.com web: www.fiertemonctonpride.ca, meets 1st Tuesday, and last Tuesday (contact ilaisha@nbnet.nb.ca for further meeting and event dates) at Triangles bar 234 St.George St. Moncton NB

Safe Spaces Fundy Region, Saint John: Committed to ending discrimination around issues of sexual orientation in youth. email: safespaces@gmail.com web: www.safespacesfundy.com (See our webpage for schedule of meetings and socials etc @ www.safespacesfundy.com)

Safe Spaces Moncton, Moncton: Safe Spaces offers support & counselling to GLBTQ Youth between 14-25. 869-6224 email: safespaces@nb.aibn.com web: www.safespaces.ca

Safe Spaces Moncton Region, Moncton: Support Groups for GLBTQ Youth (14-25 years old). 506-854-3049 email: info@safespaces.ca web: www.safespaces.ca

Saint John LGBTQ Lending Library, Saint John: over 300 fiction and non-fiction titles. 634-8288 email: 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.

SIDA AIDS Moncton, Moncton: offers support to people living with HIV and their families and friends, education and awareness. 859-9616 email: sidaidsm@nbnet.nb.ca web: www.sida-aidsmoncton.com at 165A Gordon St., Moncton, NB, E1C 1N1

Spectrum, Fredericton: social and support group for students, staff and faculty at UNB and STU. email: spectrum@unb.ca web: www.unbf.ca/clubs/spectrum, meets every Tuesday (7 pm) at SUB 203

The UNBSJ Q-Collective, Saint John: A social and support organisation for UNBSJ students, staff and faculty. 506-648-5737 email: QCollect@UNBSJ.ca web: www.unbsj.ca/clubs/qcollective (The UNBSJ Q-Collective is interested in hearing from other university LG-BTQ 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 "E News". 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".

UN sur DIX - l'Association des étudiant.e.s GLB de l'Université de Moncton, Moncton: Vise à éduquer, à sensibiliser et à offrir des ressources dans la langue française. email: unsurdix@umoncton.ca web: www.umoncton.ca/unsurdix/ (Visitez le site Web ou envoyez un courriel pour en apprendre davantage au sujet du travail que nous accomplissons.)

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

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

Newfoundland & Lab (709)

AIDS Committee of Newfoundland & Labrador, St. John's: HIV/AIDS education and support for male/female/transgendered, all ages, Newfoundland and Labrador 579-8656 email: info@acnl.net web: www.acnl.net

Gay Urban Youth Zone Project, St John's: designed to increase HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis C, and STI knowledge and awareness 579-8656 (ext. 28) email: chris@acnl.net web: www.acnl.net at Tommy Sexton Centre 47 Janeway Place Pleasantville, across from the old Janeway Hospital AIDS Committee of Newfoundland and Labrador

LBGT-MUN Resource Centre, St John's: LBGT-MUN is an information/resource, service, and peer support centre staffed by trained volunteers!. 737-7619 email: lbgtmun@mun.ca web: www.mun.ca/lbgt/ (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! LBGT-MUN: "A Positive Place, for Positive People!"

PFLAG Canada - St. John's: Information or referral to one of our parents. web: www.pflag.ca (For support or information on chapter meetings regarding PFLAG Canada contact Gemma Schlamp-Hickey, Atlantic Director at gemmahickey@yahoo.ca or Diana Deacon, St. John's chapter contact at ddeacon@mun.ca)

St. John's Pride, St. John's: St. John's Official Pride Organization. 709-746-6564 email: info@stjohnspride.net web: www.stjohnspride.net

Nova Scotia (902)

Acadia Pride, Wolfville: Acadia's GLBT group. 585-2165 email: acadiapride@acadiau.ca web: euler.acadiau.ca/~apride/, meets every Monday (7:30pm (during academic year)) at Beverage Forum (old SUB)

Acadia Women's Centre, Wolfville: 585-2140 email: 057996c@acadiau.ca web: axe.acadiau.ca/womencentre (Acadia SUB Second Level Balcony)

Affirm United, Halifax Metro: GLBT & Friends support, action and worshipping community within the United Church. 461-4528 email: alstew@eastlink.ca

AIDS Coalition of Cape Breton, Sydney: Support, advocacy, prevention/education for those infected or affected by HIV/AIDS. Free condoms!. (902) 567-1766 email: joannerolls@accb.ns.ca ;christineporter@accb.ns.ca web: www.accb.ns.ca (Free Anonymous Testing 1-902-567-1123 Check our Website for events and updates.) at 150 Bentinck St, Sydney, N.S. B1P 6H1

AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia, Halifax: non-profit, community-based AIDS organization, provincially mandated. (902)425-4882 email: acns@acns.ns.ca web: www.acns.ns.ca

Alcoholics Anonymous, Halifax: Live & Let Live AA Group for GLBT community- (902) 425-8383/422-4972 email: courage449@yahoo.com web: www.rationalallunacy.com/cout, 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, Halifax: 455-9656

Bedford United Church, HRM/ Bedford: An Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Canada - ALL welcome. 835-8497 email: bedfordunited@eastlink.ca web: www.bedfordunited.com, meets every Sunday (9 am service - Casual and contemporary - with free coffee and muffins before church to take into this service. 11 am service - Quieter and more reverent in tone, coffee after service. Call to

confirm worship times as occasionally we have a 10 am combined service.) at 1200 Bedford Hwy at Sullivan's Hill, near Atlantic Gardens

BLT-Womyn of Halifax, Halifax: Bi Sex-auls, Lesbian, Transgender Womyn's Discussion Group. Sue's # 499-0335 email: sueandrews1964@hotmail.com web: ca.groups.yahoo.com/group/blt-womynof-halifax/ (Every second Sunday evening 6pm - 7:30pm) at Dalhousie Women's Centre 6286 South Street (Beside Dalplex Driveway) Hope to see you at the next meeting!

Bluenose Bears, Halifax: Club for bears and those who like them. 463-4312 email: bluenosebears@accesswave.ca, meets 3rd Wednesday

Cape Breton University Sexual Diversity Centre, Sydney: We provide a welcoming environment for GLBTQ people and their Allies. 902-563-1481 email: sdc@cbsu.com (M-F 9-4pm. Call or drop by for event listings, Ally Training, and Anti-Heterosexism/Homophobia Workshops!) at the Students' Union Building, Cape Breton University.

Colchester Sexual Assault Centre, Truro: Provides support and information to anyone (GBLTQ included) affected by sexual assault and abuse. 902-897-4366 email: trurosexualessault@hotmail.com (80 Glenwood Drive, Truro, N.S., B2N 1P3 Mon-Fri 9:30-4:30)

Cumberland Pride, Amherst & Area: for: gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and transsexual individuals. 660-5004 email: cumberlandpride@hotmail.com, meets 3rd Thursday (7:30 PM)

DalOUT, Halifax: LGBTQ Society at Dalhousie. 494-2190 email: dalout@dal.ca web: societies.dsu.ca/dalout, meets every Thursday (During the academic year we meet at about 7pm each Thursday night.) at Dalhousie University, check OUT our website or contact us for details

Family Pride Camping Association (Rainbow Spirit), Halifax: FPCCA plans events for GLBT families with kids of all ages. From Camping weekends to bowling events. email: info@fpca.ca web: www.fpca.ca (Contact us if you are interested in helping out or would like to be contacted when we have events.)

Frontrunners Halifax, Halifax: Running/walking club. 422-7579 email: Bruce.Greenfield@dal.ca web: www.frontrunners.org/clubs/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, LESBIAN & BISEXUAL YOUTH GROUP AT Q.E.H.: Jeanie Buffet, Counsellor, at 421-6797

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

Girl-ish Productions, Halifax: Girl-ish puts on hot and heavy bi-monthly-ish dance parties for queer-ish folks and their friends. email: girlishproductions@yahoo.ca web: www.girlish.ca

GLB CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE (SUNS): 494-6654 at c/o the Students' Union of NS

Group Harrison Society, Cape Breton: Dances, Socials & Support Group for Cape Bretoners. (902)270-6969 email: groupharrisonociety@yahoo.ca web: www.geocities.com/groupharrisonociety, meets last Saturday (of every month Admission \$6.50 -\$5.50 for members- Best light and sound show around! Restricted 19 yrs and over) at Steel Workers Hall, Sydney

HalGal Mailing List, Halifax: events and information for queer/lesbian/bi/trans women and their allies in Halifax. email: halgal@yahooogroups.com web: groups.yahoo.com/group/hal-gal/

Halifax Sexual Health Centre, Halifax: Anonymous HIV testing, open and inclusive sexual health clinical services, education and workshops. 455-9656 web: www.HalifaxSexualHealth.ca

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

Intensity Dance, Halifax: non-profit dance collective and presenting organization. email: intensitydance@yahoo.com web: intensity-dance.tripod.com

LGB Youth Support Group Lunenburg County, Bridgewater: fun social/support group for under 25 through the Sexual Health Ctr & LGBYouth Project. 527-2868 email: LunCo@NSSSexualHealth.ca (Postponed until further notice: Volunteer facilitators needed!

(over age 25))

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

Northern AIDS Connection Society, Truro: HIV prevention education initiative serving counties Colchester, Pictou, Cumberland & East Hants. 895-0931 email: nacs@eastlink.ca web: northernaidconnectionsociety.ca (Our Board of Directors meet bi-monthly on the third Thursday of the month. Annual General Meeting held regularly in June. See webpage for contact numbers in your area of northern Nova Scotia.) at 33 Pleasant Street, Truro, N.S.

Nova Scotia Rainbow Action Project, Halifax: fostering change through networking, education, outreach & community education. 902-444-7887 email: nsrap@nsrap.ca web: www.nsrap.ca at TBA

Outlaw, Halifax: GLBTQ & Allies Law Students Association at Dalhousie Law School. email: chad.skinner@dal.ca 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 Canada - Amherst/Sackville: Support and education for GLBTT2IQQ persons, friends & family. 506-536-4245 email: jhammock@mta.ca, meets 2nd monday (Contact us for meeting details,) at Sackville: 165 Main Street. Amherst: 12 La Planche Street

PFLAG Canada - Halifax, Halifax: support and education for parents, family and friends. (902) 443-3747 (September-March: 2nd Sunday of the month, 2-4 PM April-June: 2nd Wednesday of the month, 7-9 PM) at individual homes

PFLAG Canada - Middleton, Middleton: 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)

PFLAG Canada - Sydney, Sydney: PFLAG Sydney provides support & education on issues of sexual orientation & gender identity. Karen 564-8728 email: sydneyns@pflagcanada.ca, meets last Sunday (of the month at 7:30pm. No meetings for July and August.) at Family Place Resource Centre 106 Townsend Street, Sydney NS

PFLAG Truro: 662.3774

Positive Connections: Teleconferenced support groups for people living with AIDS. email: connections@acns.ns.ca, meets every Monday (evening 7:00pm - 8:00pm) at by phone. No long distance charges. For more info call 425-4882 ext 228 or 1-800-566-2437 ext 228 or e-mail.

Pride Cape Breton Society, Sydney: 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.

Pride Guide Publishing: publisher of community focused maps, directories, event programs and more. 902-423-6999 email: prideguide@eastlink.ca

Pride of Pictou County, New Glasgow: All GBLT in Pictou County. 695-5222 web: www.PrideofPictouCounty.ca (see web page for meeting info)

Quakers, Halifax: 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, Halifax: A Queer performing arts group in Halifax NS. email: queerplay@gmail.com

Rainbow Playtime, Halifax: Food & social meetings for same sex families with tots or couples considering parenthood. 461-9414

Red Door, The, Kentville: Youth health adolescent center counselling, for up to age 30, all ages STD testing. 679-1411 (Monday through Friday, 1pm to 5pm, Wednesday open to 6:00) at 28 Webster Court

RESPECT, Truro: Students Making Healthy Decisions. 902-893-6300 email: respect@nsac.ca (P.O. Box 550, Nova Scotia Agricultural College, Truro, N.S. B2N 5E3)

SAAFE (Supporting An Alternative Friendly Environment), Truro: Social/support group at the NS Agricultural College. 902-893-6300 email: lyoung@nsac.ns.ca (Meeting are as requested. Membership changes each academic year.)

Safe Harbour Metropolitan Community Church, Halifax: A Christian Church with an affirming min-

Events >>

Amherst

Second Monday

PFLAG Amherst/Sackville - in Amherst one month, Sackville the next. 506-536-4245 email: jhammock@mta.ca, Sackville: 165 Main Street. Amherst: 12 La Planche Street.

First and Third Wednesdays

Amherst and Area, Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Youth Group Meeting, 7-9pm. Anyone who is GLBT or questioning their sexuality in the Amherst, Oxford, Springhill, Pugwash and Parrsboro areas is welcome, this is a safe space where anyone can come and feel safe in talking about their sexuality and just being themselves without fear of ridicule or harassment. lgby_pamherst@hotmail.com, all emails confidential.

Third Thursday of each month

Cumberland Pride Support Group: Social and support group for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and transsexual individuals in Amherst, Nova Scotia. Meets the third Thursday of each month. Contact information: Gerard Veldhoven at 902-660-5004 or E-mail: gaylords_1975@hotmail.com

Annapolis Valley

Every Thursday

The Annapolis Valley Gay Mens Coffee House meets every Thursday Evening from 7-9pm. Also on the first Saturday of each month host an over 19 gay/lesbian Dance from 9pm-1am. October 6th and October 27th are the next two dances and there is NO dance in November. The 6th is the Thanks giving dance and 27th is the Halloween Costume Dance. Further info contact menembracingmen@hotmail.com or 902-765-2821.

Every Sunday

Valley Girls is a social group for lesbians in the Annapolis Valley. Coffee Group on Sundays. For more information e-mail the grou at Valley_Girls@yahoogroups.com.

Bridgewater

Third Saturday of each month

Wileville Dance. Smoke free. For more details call 685-3297 or email info@southshorepride.ca or www.southshorepride.ca

Cape Breton

Every 2nd Saturday

Pride Cape Breton Society hosts community dances at the Southend Community Centre in Sydney; admission just \$5., and open to those 19 yrs. of age and older.

Charlottetown

...see Prince Edward Island

Fredericton

Every Tuesday

Spectrum, UNB and STU's social and support group for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, queer, questioning, etc. students. As a group, our aim is to create a safe and supportive space for those who are questioning or discovering their sexuality, as well as providing a social outlet for members of the campus LGBTQ community. While our membership is primarily composed of UNB and STU students, everyone is welcome to attend our meetings. 7 pm, Top floor of SUB 203 (in the Sexuality Centre, across from the Ballroom) Everyone is welcome! For more information please contact us at spectrum@unb.ca

Every Wednesday

UNB/STU Women's Collective, at the University Women's Centre in the SUB, 5pm. Contact Lyndsey Gallant at gvnkr@stu.ca or call 450-3870.

Third Sunday of each month

GLB ANGLICANS AND FRIENDS Integrity is a non profit organization of Gay and Lesbian Anglicans and Friends. Membership in Integrity is not indicative of sexual orientation. Integrity Fredericton was formed in October 2004 and supports and encourages Gay Men and Lesbians in their spiritual lives. A Eucharist followed by a coffee hour discussion is held at 4:00 PM on the third Sunday of each month at St. John's, 58 Broad Road, Oromocto. For more details check out website: www.anglicanbeads.com/Integrity

Fourth Wednesday of each month

PFLAG Fredericton meets at 7 PM at the Unitarian Fellowship, 874 York Street. Everyone welcome. Discussion, guest speakers, support and special events. For more information email

pflagfredericton@yahoo.ca. Confidentiality assured.

Fredericton Bar & Business Calendar

BOOM! NIGHTCLUB

Fredericton NB, 474 Queen St. 463-boom (2666) www.boomnightclub.ca
Thursdays: Three sum Thursday's 8-cl
Music: 3 Recent, 3 Retro, 3 Requests
Specials: \$3 Shooters, \$3 Beer, \$3 Energy Drinks, \$7 Triples
Cover: None
Fridays: House Heaven 8-cl
Music: Mainstream club tracks and videos to start your weekend off right.
Cover: \$3 after 11, \$4 after 12.
Saturdays: POWER 8-cl
Music: The only genuine big-city club scene in the city.
Cover: \$4 after 11, \$4.50 after 12.
Sunday's double header: Sunday Social 4-7
Music: Laid back inviting social atmosphere
Cover: None
Sunday Open Turntables 10-cl
Music: Live DJ's spinning at crowd level
Specials: \$ 2.25 Select Beer 10-11, \$3 Select Beer, \$3 Shooters, \$5.25 Doubles
Cover: \$2

Halifax

Every Sunday

Safe Harbour Metropolitan Community Church, Halifax: a Christian Church with an affirming ministry to the GLBT community. Everyone is welcome! 453-9249 email: safeharbour@eastlink.ca web: safeharbourmcc.com, meets at 11 am at Veith House, 3115 Veith Street, Halifax

Every Sunday

Bedford United Church. 1200 Bedford Highway, Bedford. We are an Affirming Congregation and welcome everyone. Services at 9 am (Casual & Contemporary) and 11 am (Quieter & More Reverent in tone) Starting June 24-Sept. 9, one 10 am service. For more info, call 835-8497.

Second Sunday of each month

Play Group for Queer Families! 3-5pm 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. For info, call 422-8780 or email lynnmacdonald@hfx.eastlink.ca

First and Third Tuesdays

Formerly known as the Queer/Straight Alliance, Mount Pride in the GLBTQ group at Mount Saint Vincent University. We are an active and online group that meets bi-weekly on tuesdays at 12 noon in the diversity center in Roseria on campus, and online at mountpride@yahoogroups.com. Possible events that are being planned for the winter semester include sexuality awareness week, movies nights, potlucks, guest speakers, and many more. There are always spontaneous meals and events that are always fun. This group is open to anyone who would like to join.

First and Third Tuesdays

LGB Youth Project Social Drop-in Nights. This is an unstructured event. It's a chance to hang out with old friends, make some new ones, and just talk about whatever, 6-9pm, 25 and under, 2281 Brunswick Street. Contact 429-5429, youthprojec t@youthproject.ns.ca, www.youthproject.ns.ca

Second and Fourth Tuesdays

LGB Youth Project 18 and under Support meetings. This is a structured environment, with facilitators present to keep discussions on track, while at the same time helping to lead the discussion in the directions that the youth wish to go, as well as making sure the group guidelines are enforced. The discussions focus on the youth present having a say, rather than the facilitators lecturing about whatever topic is being discussed, 6-8pm, 2281 Brunswick Street. Contact 429-5429, youthproject@youthproject.ns.ca, www.youthproject.ns.ca

First and Third Sundays

BLT-WOMYN OF HALIFAX DISCUSSION GROUP! This is a Bi-sexual, Lesbian, Transgendered womyn's Only! -Free Group, NO Dues, NO Fee's- MEETINGS are every second SUNDAY. @6pm - 7:30pm(Please remember when appling to this group, send full name and a contact number or call sue at 499-0335, everthing is kept PRIVATE!) LOCATION: DALHOUSIE WOMEN'S CENTRE 6286 South Street (Beside Dalplex Driveway) HOW TO JOIN THIS GROUP: Come to a discussion night or send us your e-mail address or call a moderator (Sue @

499-0335). If you have any questions. A discussion group for Bi-sexual, Lesbian, Transgendered women, who will meet to have open discussions, in a positive environment.To discuss topics concerning ourselves and our community. This is a bi-weekly meeting on Sundays. http://ca.groups.yahoo.com/group/blt-womynofhalifax/ or sueandrews1964@hotmail.com

First and Third Wednesdays

LGB Youth Project Movie Night, 25 and under, starting at 7pm. 2281 Brunswick Street. Contact 429-5429, youthproject@youthproject.ns.ca, www.youthproject.ns.ca

Second and Fourth Wednesdays

LGB Youth Project ages 18-25 Support meetings. This is a structured environment, with facilitators present to keep discussions on track, while at the same time helping to lead the discussion in the directions that the youth wish to go, as well as making sure the group guidelines are enforced. The discussions focus on the youth present having a say, rather than the facilitators lecturing about whatever topic is being discussed, 7-9pm, 2281 Brunswick Street. Contact 429-5429, youthprojec t@youthproject.ns.ca, www.youthproject.ns.ca

Second Wednesday of each month

Spirituality for Lesbians, 7:30-9PM. 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. For info about the place of the next meeting call 459-2649 and leave name and number. Personal mailbox: confidentiality assured.

Mar 13, 27, Apr 10, 24, May 8, 22

Anonymous HIV Testing, AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia 1657 Barrington St, Suite 321, 5-8pm. 425-4882 for an appointment.

Mar 2, 16, 30, Apr 13, 27, May 11, 25

Koinonia Ecumenical Church – Meaning 'community'. Services bi-weekly at 12:30pm at Halifax Feast downtown. Pastor Elaine, 876-8771 or koinonia@ns.sympatico.ca

Halifax Youth Project Calendar

Youth Project events operate in a 4-week schedule. To find out what week we're operating in, please see our website or contact us! www.youthproject.ns.ca, youthproject@youthproject.ns.ca, 429-5429

Week 1

Monday - Transgender Discussion Group: A structured environment with facilitators present to keep discussion on track, while at the same time helping to lead discussion in the direction that the youth wish to go. The discussions focus on what trans youth have to say, rather than the facilitators lecturing about whatever topic is being discussed. A place to talk about trans issues and make new friends! 7-9 pm, 2281 Brunswick St.
Tuesday - Discussion Group (ages 18 and under) A structured environment with facilitators present to keep discussion on track, while at the same time helping to lead discussion in the direction that the youth wish to go. The discussions focus on what the youth present have to say, rather than the facilitators lecturing about whatever topic is being discussed. 6-8 pm, 2281 Brunswick St.
Wednesday - Discussion Group (ages 18-25) A structured environment with facilitators present to keep discussion on track, while at the same time helping to lead discussion in the direction that the youth wish to go. The discussions focus on what the youth present have to say, rather than the facilitators lecturing about whatever topic is being discussed. 7-9 pm, 2281 Brunswick St

Week 2

Tuesday - Social Drop-in Nights (ages 25 and under) This is a facilitated but less structured event. It's a chance to hang out with old friends, make some new ones, and just talk about whatever. 6-8 pm, 2281 Brunswick street
Wednesday - LBG Youth Project Movie Night (ages 25 & under) come out for a movie & popcorn! 7 pm, 2281 Brunswick St

Week 3

Tuesday - Guest Speaker & Discussion night (ages 25 & under) A new speaker every week to educate & spark discussion. This is a structured environment. 7-9pm, 2281 Brunswick street
Wednesday - Activity night (ages 25 & under) A chance to have fun and perhaps learn something new. Activities will be on this night lasting two and a half months. First activity class IMPROV classes. 6-8pm, 2281 Brunswick St

Week 4

Tuesday - Social Drop-in Themed Nights (ages 25 and under) This is a facilitated but less structured event with a fun & exciting theme. It's a chance

to hang out with old friends, make some new ones, and just talk about whatever. 6-8 pm, 2281 Brunswick street
Wednesday - LBG Youth Project Movie Night (ages 25 & under) come out for a movie & popcorn! 7 pm, 2281 Brunswick St

Halifax Bar & Business Calendar

BLUE MOON BISTRO/BACK BAR

2099B Gottingen St., Halifax, (902) 446-3644
5 pm-2 am, 7 days a week
Mondays - Poor Student Night--Cheap drinks abd Halifax Has Talent! Come join Mz. Vicki and Friends. You could win a fabulous prize from Blue Moon or Mz. Vicki. \$3.00 cover
Tuesdays - Karaoke w/ Troy Cheap drinks and Cash prizes for the Karaoke winners! 10pm.
Wednesdays - Swing Out! Hot happenin' students of Dal, SMU, and MSVU swing dance til the wee hours. Come watch or learn how to swing dance to the great tunes of Big Band Mary you DJ Hostess! NO COVER.
Thursdays - Karaoke w/ DJ Specialtee. Cheap drinks and cash prizes for the karaoke winners. 10pm.
Fridays - DJ Specialtee. Spinning the latest tunes and the hottest remixes. No cover. Cheap drinks all night long! 10pm.
Saturdays - DJ Troy or Special house DJ's imported for your dancing pleasure. Hot bartenders and even hotter drink specials. 10pm No cover.
Sundays - ISCANS presents...ReignVII's chosen charities benift 100% from an inexpensive cover or silver collection. 10pm Visit us for more details @ Friends of BlueMoon on Facebook or www.imperialcourtns.com

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WED-FRI 11am till 11pm
FRI: 11am till 11pm *BAR till 2am
SAT 9am-11pm - Sun 9am-10pm
"WEEKLY SPECIALZ"
SAT-SUN BRUNCH MENU Starting from \$2.96
MON- FRI *NOON Specials from \$4.96
MON- BURGERZ & BEER Sponsored by MOOSEHEAD!
TUE- 2-4-1 Pasta Sponsored by JOST Vineyards! Ask for detail...
WED- WINGS Sponsored by Propeller Breweries! See Bartender for details...
THU- All U Can Eat Mussel & CFL! You could win a NEW MOUNTAIN BIKE! Ask for detail...
FRI- 2 Pces of MOLLYZ Fish & Chips AND a COKE for only \$9.96!

REFLECTIONS

5184 Sackville Street
(902) 422-2957, toll free (877)422-2957
Fax (902) 422-2970
mail@reflections cabaret.com
www.reflections cabaret.com
Open 7 days a week, Mon-Sat 1pm to 4am, Sun 4pm to 4am, Manager: Stephen Filek

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In the HEART of Halifax's Gay Village
Mondays - Student Night, FREE Lockers with Valid Student I.D.
Tuesdays - TOONIE NIGHT - \$2 Bucks OFF Lockers, Drink Specials till Close!
Wednesdays - HUMP NIGHT - 1/2 price pass for your next visit
Thursdays - It's NAKED Night! Towels Optional

Fridays - Black Out in "The HOLE"
SAT. & SUN. - Early Bird Special 6am till Noon, Rooms \$15 & Lockers \$7.50 & Drink Specials till 6PM!
Sundayz - FREE 30 Minute Cruiseline Pass from 6pm till Close

Moncton

Every Thursday

LGBT AND FRIENDS VOLLEY BALL! École carrefour de l'acadie gym. No experience required. Info : Rodge 383-1410 or Oscar 855-1328. \$5.00 / player includes refreshments.

Tous les jeudis

VOLLEY BALL POUR LGBT et AMI-E-S. École carrefour de l'acadie. Aucune experience requise. Infos : Rodge 383-1410 ou Oscar 855-1328. \$5.00 / joueur (rafraichissements inclus)

Third Monday of each month

PFLAG Moncton has monthly support meeting from 7:30-9:30 in room 302 of the Adrien-J.-Cormier bldg at U de M campus. Everyone is welcome at our meetings.

Second and Fourth Mondays

SAFE SPACES MEETING, 7pm. Support group for GLB youth, 14-25. For more info, 869-6224 or safespaces@nb.aibn.com

Last Saturday

Moncton Leather Chapter Leather Nights at Triangles! With the interest and number of people that have started wearing Leather in Moncton, it only seems natural to have a monthly Leather Night so that any man or woman can wear their Leather and know that they will not be alone in doing so when they go to Triangles.

Moncton Bar & Business Calendar

TRIANGLES

234 St. George St, open Tues-Sun 8pm-2am
Tuesday & Wednesday: Free Pool, Beer / Bar Shots / Shooters \$3 all night
Wednesday: Learn to Line Dance – no charge!
Thursday: Karaoke Mystery Song - \$25 added each week until the correct song is picked! Beer / Bar Shots \$3 until midnight , Shooters \$2.75 all night
Friday & Saturday: Dance Music with DJ daBoss, Summer Special Beer with Shooter \$4 11pm-midnight
Sunday: Request all your favourite songs with DJ daBoss, Beer / Bar Shots / Shooters \$3 all night
Check out our monthly events page at www.trianglesbar.com, and send comments & suggestions to thegirls@nb.sympatico.ca
Our colour parties are back – watch for the blue party, coming up June 2. Check our website for upcoming Colour Party dates.

Sackville

Second Monday

PFLAG Sackville / Amherst - in Sackville one month, Amherst the next. 506-536-4245 email: jhammock@mta.ca, Sackville: 165 Main Street. Amherst: 12 La Planche Street.

Saint John

Third Saturday

Gay Men's Supper Club, 220 Germain St. http://www.portcityrainbowpride.com/ for more information.

Saint John Bar & Business Calendar

CLUB MONTREAL

Wednesdays: No cover, free pool
Thursdays: No cover, karaoke with prizes
Fridays: No cover, open turntables
Saturdays: \$5 cover after 10 PM
Sundays: No cover, free pool
Your birthday: no cover, one free drink, just show your ID!

St. John's – LGBT-MUN

Every Friday

Coffee House: Every Friday, 12-2 (LBGT Office, 6th Floor UC, 6002) Every Friday we invite anyone and everyone to come to LBGT and enjoy a cup of Coffee or Tea (regular or herbal) with us (members, non-members, etc). It's a great chance to vent, meet some new people, etc. Our office is located in UC-6022.

Every Second Friday

General Meeting every second week. They take place at UC-6022 at 11:00am.

How Can I Get Involved With Wayves?

by Cameron MacLeod

Wayves Magazine is owned and run by what we call the Wayves Collective. This is a group of contributors and friends who are involved in many different aspects of putting together the magazine each month, and we try to make all decisions for Wayves through consensus. We have writers, readers, artists, advertisers, and many others involved and making decisions in the Collective.

Joining the Collective

By being involved in Wayves in any way you're automatically considered to be a member of the Collective. For example, if you write a news article about an event in your area, you're immediately a member, and you're welcome to get involved in our meetings and decision-making process any time.

If you've never written anything that's okay; just showing up at a meeting and joining in our discussions makes you part of the Collective too!

Being in the Collective doesn't have any ongoing requirements—some members are very involved with Wayves every month, and others are only involved once in a while. Some write articles or contribute to the paper but don't make any other decisions at all, so it's easy to find the level of involvement that works best for you.

Making Decisions

We have to make little decisions about what Wayves does regularly. For example, should we run this story about something happening in Toronto? Is this potential column going to interest our readers? Should we put a celebrity on the cover, or a local personality?

These decisions are made by the team to make Wayves better, but if we don't have lots of input it can feel like a small number of people are steering a big ship sometimes. Wayves is not a big ship, but it is Atlantic Canada's only GLBT-focused newspaper, and has over 4,500 copies each issue and reaches over 10,000 people each month! Everything you see in each issue comes from just a dozen or so volunteers.

Staying Connected

Being in the Collective means that, if you want, you can receive copies of everything submitted to Wayves, and participate in any on-line or live meetings about content, future issues, advertising plans, Pride coverage, and more.

But you don't have to receive all

that email. You can also just join our contributors list. Just email submissions@wayves.ca and ask to be added to the contributors list. This will get you a notification each month as to what's going on with Wayves, and we promise: no spam!

Join Us!

Wayves has been around, under a couple different names, for nearly twenty years. But each year, some of our volunteers move on to new jobs and new challenges, and we need to meet some new faces and get some new ideas into the paper. Come join us and bring your en-

ergy and fun our way!

Come to a meeting: if you live in or near Halifax, we meet every month! Check out the "Wayves Dates" near the front of the paper for locations and times.

Join us electronically: if you want to stick to email, send a note to submissions@wayves.ca to say hello! Let us know what sort of stuff you might like to do... writing? Editing? Arranging stuff on the page? Interviewing people? It's okay if you're not sure. We'll help and give you a couple different things to try out.



Groups & Services Continued

istry to the GLBT community. Everyone is welcome! 453-9249 email: safeharbour@eastlink.ca web: safeharbourmcc.com, meets every Sunday (11 am) at Veith House, 3115 Veith Street, Halifax

Saint Mary's Campus Outreach Society:

Second Story Women's Centre, Lunenburg: 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.

Sexual Health Centre for Cumberland County, Amherst: Anonymous HIV testing, open and inclusive sexual health clinical services, education and workshops. 667-7500 email: shccc@ns.aliantzinc.ca web: cumberland-county.cfsh.info (9 - 5 drop-in or appt) at 12 LaPlanche St. Confidential, hassle-free. Free condoms.

Sexual Health Centre Lunenburg County, Bridgewater: Confidential information, support & services for all ages & genders. Free condoms & info pamphlets. 527-2868 email: LunCo@NSSexualHealth.ca web: www.LunCo.cfsh.info (Open by chance or by appointment) at 4 Hillcrest Street Unit 8, Bridgewater. (On the corner of Dufferin and Hillcrest Streets). Closed during summers.

South Shore Pride Social Club, Bridgewater: for 19 & older. 685-3297 email: info@southshorepride.ca web: www.southshorepride.ca (No meetings at this time.) at We hold dances on the third Saturday of each month from 9:00PM to 1:00AM. No dance in July. Door prizes and 50/50 draw and a major prize draw at June dance. Cash Bar. Call or email for location.

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

Team Halifax, 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 Rainbow - Atlantic Awareness Society, (Cape Breton/Halifax/Annapolis Valley) email: tpineo@hotmail.com web: To be released

The Youth Project, Halifax: support, education and social activities for youth 25 and under from across Nova Scotia. 429-5429 email: youthproject@youthproject.ns.ca web: www.youthproject.ns.ca (support and connection across, Week one: Monday - Transgender Discussion group 7-9 pm; Tuesday - 18 & under Discussion group 6-8 pm; Week two: Tues. Drop-in - 6-8 pm; Wed. - Movie Night 7-9 pm. Week three: Mon. Transgender Discussion group - 7-9 pm; Wed. Activity Night. Week four: Tues. Theme Drop-in - 6-9 pm; Wed. Movie Night - 7-9 pm. A youth food bank and STI

testing on site. Please refer to website for times and details.) at 2281 Brunswick Street.

Tightrope, Halifax: leather & denim brotherhood. See our monthly events listing at <http://gay.hfxns.org/LocalEvents>. 455-0623, ask for Don, meets 3rd Saturday

Truro Pride, Truro: A group supporting GLBT individuals in the Colchester County. 902-895-0931 email: truropride@hotmail.com, meets every Wednesday (6:30 p.m.) at Coffee and conversation every Wednesday evening at the FairTrade Cafe on Prince Street, between Commercial and Dominion Streets. The group is open to all and the cafe is a gay friendly environment. For information call the Northern AIDS Connection Society at 902-895-0931 or email truropride@hotmail.com The Truro Pride also hosts dances and other activities, ask for details.

Universalist Unitarian Church, Halifax: an inclusive liberal religious community 429-5500 email: chebucto.ca/religion/UUCH, meets every Sunday (10:30) at 5500 Inglis St

Valley Gay Men's Coffee House, Kingston: socials for gay men; gay & lesbian dances 19+. 902-765-2821 email: menembracingmen@yahoo.ca web: faceitwithpride.tripod.com (Coffee every Thursday 7-9pm, Dances on the first Saturday of the month, for the exception of in November. There is two dances held in October, On the First Saturday and the Last Saturday of that Month and NO Dance in November.) at email or call for locations or special events or themes

Venus Envy Bursary Society: An annual award open to all women studying in NS. web: www.venusenvy.ca/halifax

WomynZone, Halifax: Social activities for womyn who love womyn in the Halifax region. email: womynzone@eastlink.ca web: www.geocities.com/womynzone

X-Pride, Antigonish: social & support group at X. 867- 5007 web: www.stfx.ca/people/xpride

Prince Edward Island (902)

Abegweit Rainbow Collective, Charlottetown: Serving GLBT Islanders, their friends and families. 894-5776 email: info@arcpei.ca web: www.arcpei.ca, meets 2nd Tuesday (7:30 PM) at 144 Prince Street

AIDS PEI, Charlottetown: 566-2437 email: info@aidspei.com web: www.aidspei.com at 144 Prince Street

Gay PEI Mailing List, province-wide: 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/ (It's an electronic list, there aren't meetings. You can join and start posting at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/gay-pe/> at any time. All first posts are moderated to stop spambots, otherwise, it's an open list.)

GLBT Youth group, Charlottetown: Safe

Space Drop-Ins. 367-3408 or toll free 1 877 380 5776 email: youth@arcpei.ca web: youth.arcpei.ca (E-mail us for further details.) at 144 Prince St.

Narcotics Anonymous, Charlottetown: a fellowship of recovering drug addicts who meet regularly to help each other stay clean. 566-9733 or 1-800-205-8402 (Mondays & Fridays 8:00pm) at 178 Fitzroy St

PEI Pride, Charlottetown: Organizing The Island Pride Festival July 7th -14th, 2007. (902) 388-0969 email: pridepei@isn.net web: www.peipride.com (See webpage for meetings www.peipride.com) at 286 Fitzroy Street, Charlottetown, PE or phone (902) 388-0969

PFLAG Canada - PEI, Island wide: Providing support, education and advocacy for GLBT persons, their families and friends in PEI. 902-887-3620 email: pflagpei@eastlink.ca web: www.pflagcanada.ca, meets 3rd Tuesday at Ferry Road Centre, 24 Ferry Road, Cornwall, PE or Stratford City Hall check with Mary or Bill Kendrick on this months location by calling 902-887-3620.

PRIZMS, Charlottetown: PEI's first all dance party! Catering to the gay and lesbian community. email: PRIZMS@canada.com (please email for upcoming events and location information) at PRIZMS expose yourself to the high energy- highly social atmosphere. "PRIZMS - Dance in the Light" Email for upcoming events dates and places

UPEI Rainbow Alliance, Charlottetown: Fellowship, information, social events, awareness-raising. All welcome. web: upei.ca/index.php at see UPEI Women's Centre for more info

<< Events

St. John's Bar & Business Calendar

Zone 216

216 Water St, 754-2492
<http://www.hello.to/zone216>
Winter Hours
Open Fri&Sat Nights 10pm-late
No cover before 12 Friday
No Cover before 11 Saturday

Sydney

...see Cape Breton

Truro

Every Wednesday

Truro Pride: GLBT support group in Colchester County, Nova Scotia. (Coffee hour at the Fair Trade Café on 535 Prince Street in Truro, every Wednesday evening at 6:00pm. For information call Northern AIDS Connection Society at 902-895-0931 or email truropride@hotmail.com

WAYVES DATES!

Check out the front of the magazine for Wayves deadlines and meeting dates -- all are welcome!

Wileville

...see Bridgewater

Wolfville

Every Second Tuesday

Kings County Prostate Cancer Support Group, 7-9 pm in the East Kings Memorial Public Health Centre on Earncliffe Ave in Wolfville. You can ask questions you forgot to ask the doctor or nurse and you can think aloud to help you make your decisions. There is growing evidence that your participation in a group of people who have gone through the processes you are now facing is mentally beneficial and may well contribute to your recovery from prostate cancer interventions. We are an easy-going informal group of 12 men, some of whom bring their spouses/partners to our monthly meetings. Know that you are truly welcome to join us and if you need more information please get in touch with me by email dickgroot2003@yahoo.ca or by phone 542 6125. Our correspondence address is the same as my home address: 210 Main Street, Wolfville NS B4P 1C4.

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Same Sex CPP Survivor's Pensions

**NOTICE OF INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPATION REQUIRED
COURT ORDERED DEADLINE**

ALL INDIVIDUALS WHOSE SAME SEX PARTNER CONTRIBUTED TO THE CANADA PENSION PLAN AND DIED AFTER APRIL 17, 1985 AND BEFORE JANUARY 1, 1998, ARE NOW ELIGIBLE TO MAKE A CLAIM FOR A CPP SURVIVOR'S PENSION PURSUANT TO THE SUPREME COURT OF CANADA'S RULING IN *HISLOP et al. v. CANADA*. THE INDIVIDUALS WHO BENEFIT FROM THIS RULING ARE DESCRIBED IN THIS NOTICE AS CLASS MEMBERS.

FAILURE ON THE PART OF ANY CLASS MEMBER TO TAKE STEPS TO CLAIM THEIR SURVIVOR'S PENSION BY SEPTEMBER 30, 2008, WILL RESULT IN THE CLASS MEMBER NOT BEING ELIGIBLE FOR THE FULL AMOUNT OF ARREARS ALLOWED UNDER THE SUPREME COURT OF CANADA'S JUDGMENT WITHOUT LEAVE OF THE COURT.

IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT EACH CLASS MEMBER ENSURE THAT THEY HAVE MADE AN APPLICATION FOR THEIR SURVIVOR'S PENSION.

The common issues in the class proceeding *Hislop et al. v Canada* have been finally determined. Class members had been barred by statutory restrictions from claiming a survivor's pension because they were in same sex relationships. The Court's ruling struck down those restrictions under the Charter of Rights. As a result, class members are now entitled to claim a CPP survivor's pension on the same basis as survivors of opposite sex relationships.

What This Means to Class Members

Subject to the general eligibility criteria under the CPP, all Class Members are entitled to claim their Survivors' Pension retrospectively, at least to December 21, 2000, and prospectively through ongoing monthly payments.

How To Make A Claim

Each Class Member must file an application for their Survivor's Pension with the department of Human Resources and Social Development Canada ("HRSDC"). All applications are confidential. To obtain an application from HRSDC directly they can be reached at 1-800-311-3820 (In Canada); 1-613-990-2244 (Outside Canada); 1-800-255-4786 (T.T.Y./Teletypewriter Users Only) or visit their website at www.servicecanada.gc.ca.

What if I Already Applied or Made Multiple Applications

If you have already applied and are receiving your pension you do not need to reapply. If you have recently applied for a survivor's pension and your application has been acknowledged but is still incomplete, you do not need to reapply. You need to provide the missing documents /information HRSDC requested.

If you are experiencing any difficulties with the processing of your application, you may contact class counsel as set out below for assistance.

If you have or had an appeal pending before the CPP Review Tribunal or the Pensions Appeal Board respecting your claim, you should advise HRSDC of the appeal. If you subsequently experience any difficulties with your pension claim, you may consult any lawyer who is representing you in connection with any such appeal or one of the class counsel listed below for assistance.

Am I Entitled to Arrears? (Back Payments)

All Class Members who are qualified for a survivor's pension are entitled to arrears back to December 21, 2000, regardless of whether they have made an application to date. However, if you did make an application for your Pension at any time prior to November 21, 2001, you may be entitled to additional payments back beyond December 21, 2000, but no earlier than August 1999.

It is important to note that regardless of the date of your application, once approved you will be entitled to your pension for the rest of your life.

I Am The Executor of a Same Sex Survivor Who Died Without Collecting A Survivor's Pension. Are the Estates of Same Sex Survivors Entitled to a Survivors Pension?

In the past, Survivors Pensions were not being paid to the surviving partner in same sex relationships. Some survivors died prior to the Supreme Court of Canada ruling without receiving their pension.

An Individual same sex survivor who was alive on October 2, 2003, but who subsequently died may still have their claim made by their executor.

There are some class members who survived their same sex partners but died prior to October 2, 2003. The Supreme Court has ruled that such class members are not entitled to have a claim made by their executor.

Normal CPP Rules Apply

Not all Canadians are entitled to a Survivor's Pension. There are rules that apply equally to opposite sex and same sex relationships that must be followed in order to obtain a Survivor's Pension. Some of the important rules are as follows:

- (1) the survivor, at the time of their partners death, must have been the legal spouse or common law partner of the deceased contributor;
- (2) the deceased contributor must have contributed for the minimum contributory period; and
- (3) the survivor must have been over the age of thirty five at the time of their partners death or disabled.

Legal Fees

The amount of fees payable to Class Counsel by any individual class member will not exceed the amount of money payable to such individual.

There will be no deduction from your current monthly pension for legal fees. Class Counsel will only be looking to arrears (back payments) for the payment for their fees. You may use your monthly Pension payments to meet your needs as you see fit without any concern about legal fees.

The legal fees will be paid from three sources subject to court approval. First, the government was required to pay a contribution to the costs in respect of the trial and the appeal in this proceeding. This amount has been paid. However, the amount paid was not enough to pay the full legal fees owing by the class to class counsel as approved by the Court. Second, the Supreme Court confirmed that interest is payable on the amounts awarded in this proceeding. Once the interest rate is fixed by the court, the amount available will be used to reduce the amount of money owed by class members to class counsel. It currently appears that the amount that may be paid as interest will not be sufficient to fully reduce the fees owing to Class Counsel. The third potential source is the back payments or arrears. The Court will be asked to rule on the question of whether the balance of legal fees owed to class counsel can be deducted from up to 50 per cent of the arrears payable to class members under the ruling, as requested by class counsel. This payment from the arrears will not be made unless ordered by the Court. Once the court rules on this issue Class Members will be notified of the amount of arrears that they will be receiving and how their share of arrears will be paid. In no case will the legal fees payable by any class member exceed the amount they will receive for arrears or back payments.

Future legal fees will also be subject to court approval.

If you have any questions about this proceeding please contact Class Counsel in your area:

In Ontario, Quebec, Northwest Territories, Yukon or Nunavut: Roy Elliott Kim O'Connor LLP Attn: Sean M. Grayson 200 Front Street West P.O. Box #45 Toronto, ON M5V 3K2 T. (416) 362-1989 F. (416) 362-6204 Toll Free: 1(866) 877-0109 e-mail: cpp@reko.ca website www.reko.ca	In Saskatchewan and Alberta: Selnes, Kapoor & Klimm Attn: Bill Selnes 417 Main Street Box 2200 Melfort, SK S0E 1A0 T. (306) 752-5777 F. (306) 752-2712
In Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland & Labrador and New Brunswick McInnis Cooper Attn: Jennifer Biernaskie George Street Office 1600-5151 George Street P.O. Box 730 Halifax, NS B3J 2V1 T. (902) 425-6500 F. (902) 425-6350	In Manitoba: Chapman Goddard Kagan Attn: Michael Law 1864 Portage Avenue Winnipeg, MB R3J 0H2 T. (204) 831-3106 F. (204) 832-3461
	In British Columbia: Camp Fiorante Matthews Attn: Sharon Matthews 4th Floor, Randall Building 555 West Georgia Street, Vancouver, BC V6B 1Z6 T. (604) 689-7555 F. (604) 689-7554

Please DO NOT CALL the registrar of the court or Justice Ellen M. Macdonald. They will not be able to answer your questions about the lawsuit.

Opinion

Open Letter to Pictou County Council

Dear Council Members,
I am writing to request that you support the privilege of groups to fly their flag.

I ask for your support as a person who is daily persecuted and marginalized, and in just the last four years have been verbally threatened with violence by total strangers, just because of what they perceive I am. You see, I am spouse, parent, grandparent, ex-service-man, business person, writer and volunteer radio host, and prior to 1997 I had been unemployment only two weeks in my life.

Today, people know I am also a male-to-female post-op transsexual and that means I have become a target of anyone whose cause is to "clean up" the world and make it a better place by removing what they see is the "inhuman trash."

I attended college and obtained a business degree with an 87.76% average, but now since my "secret" is known, I am virtually unemployed in anything but the most menial of jobs, as are over 60% of people like me who spend their lives in poverty living on less than \$10,000 a year.

I actually do not identify as gay or lesbian and, as of February, 2008, I have been with the mother of my children for 38 years. For me, the Rainbow Pride flag stands for the more than 10% of the population considered GLBT. We represent every culture, race and religion in Canada, whether or not people wish to recognize that fact. There is no reason why we should be ashamed of who we are and no reason why we should be shunned by government. You are who we look to for support and expect you to represent all Canadians. We have suffered in the past. There is no

need or justification to continue to make us suffer today.

Please vote to allow us and our families to stand with personal pride as the flag indicates the Rainbow community; the colours represent everyone world-wide—people of all genders, gender identities, sexual orientation, races and religions. It represents the strength of personal spirit in adversity. Anyone in the GLBT community will tell you that they know what fear and adversity is like. Fifty-one percent of post-op transsexuals admit they have attempted suicide at least once; 13% have attempted it more than once. Our death by suicide is the highest in the western world and estimated to be as high as six times the national average in North America. Twenty percent of the young people living on the streets have been found to self-identify as transgender. Many are thrown out by parents who have been taught by our society that it is shameful to be born who we are.

This is more than about a flag or a culture. It is about what it was always about—the right to live, earn a wage, and have the same self-respect everyone else is accorded as human beings.

Please add your support to our right to live and our right and need to recognize the untold number of people who have died in the past by suicide, murder, and extreme marginalization. In this way we help to ensure that our communities grow and all children are respected. Please allow us to fly the Rainbow flag during Pride.

Thank you for this opportunity to speak.

Denise Holliday
denisesined@ns.sympatico.ca

Flag Flying Flap: Not in the CBRM

by Peter Steele

Over the past several months, I've been tossing around ideas in my head, hoping to come up with that perfect theme for this year's Pride Week celebrations here in the Cape Breton Regional Municipality. Something catchy, yet pertinent. Last year's theme, "Out with Friends," spoke well of the mood within our community. This year I wanted a theme that reflected our own unique community as it fits within the great place where we live. It had to be a theme that would present a positive outlook to the island community and beyond, showing just who we are, and how lucky we are to be living here in the CBRM. Then, while watching television one evening, a new commercial for Smarties aired. It had a great, yet simple message, and it came across using one of my favourite old songs from the past: "Everyday People," by Sly and the Family Stone.

What better a way to describe who we are, and how the general public here in the CBRM views its gay community? How timely, too, when Daniel MacKay phoned me the next day with concerns about the growing number of Nova Scotia communities changing public policy to deny the flying of future Pride flags. Would Sydney be the next community to ban the flying of the Pride flag?

I doubt not. For years I've repeatedly stated how fortunate we are to live in a place with a small town community atmosphere which demonstrates such progressive attitudes towards the gay community. We definitely get the support of the CBRM! Since our first request for a Pride Week proclamation, the LGBT community has been treated with the utmost of respect and consideration. We have had unanimous support from our Mayor and all area councillors. The municipality has contributed financially to our festival and our recreation department pulls no stops to accommodate our festival needs. Today, Cape Breton is home to more than fifty different ethno-cultures. We learned along time ago, "... we got to live together," and we do so with the greatest of respect for each other.

Our Pride Parade takes place on the final day of Action Week, Sydney's annual summer festival, certainly one of the regions busiest tourism periods. This year we'll be listed in the Action Week program, increasing the range of our promotional exposure. Including the radio and television news segments over the years on issues including equal marriage, people here have come to know we're just everyday people.

When Daniel asked me to address this issue in an article, I felt it important that our Mayor, the Honourable John Morgan, be given the opportunity to relay the municipality's feelings towards its gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community. What is our municipal government's stand on flag flying? The CBRM deserved an opportunity to address the issue officially to our community, and

the many other communities throughout the Atlantic region.

When I phoned the Mayor was out of town, however he quickly dictated a response to my questions in less than twenty-four hours. To my question regarding the municipality's possible decision to fly only government related flags in the CBRM, his answer was a definite NO. John Morgan then went on to say, "In my view, the municipal government has an obligation to respect, honour, and protect all of our citizens; and, where groups have been subjected to discrimination in the past, to take every step available to ensure future discrimination is discouraged. The exercise of flag raisings provides an opportunity to encourage fair treatment of all of our citizens. The CBRM Municipal Council has always unanimously voted to recognize Pride Week and has always unanimously supported the flying of the Pride Week flag."

This year's Pride Week festival, "Everyday People," will be held August 9 to 16. Groups and individuals are welcome to stroll in our parade on August 10. Many of last year's events will continue, and more activities are in the plan-

ning. Keep abreast of our Pride Week events, along with dance and special event dates at our website, www.pridecapebreton.com. We're always looking for volunteers for Pride Week, and you can always email us about anything at info@pridecapebreton.com. I take this opportunity to invite you to visit us for Pride Week in Cape Breton this summer. Come enjoy the warm, friendly hospitality of the Cape Breton Regional Municipality; a community of communities. Come and experience for yourself, why I'm proud to call this my home! Come and enjoy for yourself, the great hospitality of some wonderful everyday people!



Pride Cape Breton Treasurer, Darrin McKinnon and CBRM Mayor, John Morgan



Last month's question:

In the last Wayves we asked, "Do you still feel the effects of homophobia?"

We had nine people say "no" including, "I don't because I am a female that does not fit into any such category of butch or femme. I always have people think I look like a professor. That lets me squeak by, which can be annoying and unfair for my fellow brothers and sisters."

Eighteen people said "yes" with comments like, "[I feel it] whenever heterosexual couples gather with my partner and I. They are alright as long as we act like them and never mention our lifestyle. Maybe it is just my stuff to deal with but it is like our concerns and needs and outlook mean nothing. That we mean nothing because of who we are. We living in a very Catholic community and in part of Nova Scotia that is behind in most things," and another said: "My girlfriend of over three years reminds me often that 'we are freaks,' Women loving women."

This month's question: "Do you go out of your way to read queer, authors? Whom did you last read?" Six randomly chosen respondents will receive copies of Donald Noyes' "Natural Inheritance" (reviewed on page five.)

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OPEN LETTER TO PICTOU COUNTY COUNCIL



PLUS:

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