

WAVES



(l-r) Burnaby-Douglas-BC MP Bill Siksay, NSRAP Chair Matt Numer, Saul Brown, Youth Project, Halifax MP Megan Leslie, Robin Metcalfe, Director/ Curator of the Saint Mary's University Art Gallery. Photo: Anita Martinez

BC MP Siksay Visits The Youth Project

When Svend Robinson retired in 2004, Bill Siksay ran as the NDP candidate for Burnaby-Douglas, making the first openly gay candidate to contest and win a federal seat in English Canada. He is the author of Bill C-389, often called the Transgender Rights Bill, which seeks to amend Canada's Human Rights Act and Criminal Code to ensure both gender identity and expression are protected. The bill recently passed second reading in the House of Commons and has been sent to the Justice Committee for further review. Shy,

soft-spoken, but with a subtly irreverent sense of humour: these were my first impressions of Bill Siksay.

Mr. Siksay was recently in Halifax attending a peace conference. Working with Anne Marie Foote and the Youth Project, Safe Harbour MCC and Transfamily Nova Scotia, during the afternoon of July 7 NSRAP hosted "Lemonade Social with Bill Siksay." More than 50 attendees turned out for the event. Mr. Siksay began by describing the bill and explaining where it was at in the

MP Siksay cont'd page 13

Fredericton Pride Week Starts Aug 8

Pride week in Fredericton kicks off on Sunday, August 8 with a walking parade and festival along the downtown walking trail beginning at 3:00 p.m. The festival in Officers Square will feature several local performers, many of whom are on the Pride 2010 compilation CD due to be released at the end of July. The festival will feature headliners of Theresa Malenfant and Katey Day. Craftspeople, artists and interest groups will have booths at the festival as well. Applications for participation in both are available by emailing info@frederictonpride.org.

The Pride week proclamation and flag raising ceremony at City Hall

is scheduled for Monday August 9. boom! nightclub will host a kink/fetish social night that evening.

Tuesday is Queer History day where informed and entertaining presenters take the stage and remind us where we've been and how far we've come. Afternoon and evening presentations will take place with the final

times and locations to be announced.

For those that need a relaxing Wednesday, we plan to chill with a beach party.

Thursday night is Karaoke night at boom! and at Travesty Café at Gallery Connexions, 440 York Street, Fredericton.

Currently on the calendar for Friday night is the drag show at boom!

On Saturday, the Pride parade in Saint John will take place, with a fashion show in the evening. Events wrap up on Sunday with our Amazing Pride Race, and the Naked Art Show. Gallery Connexions will feature the Explosion of Pride art exhibition in the gallery.

**Stay in touch
on Facebook:
"Fredericton Pride 2010"
or
www.frederictonpride.org**

Celebrate with Fierté Moncton Pride August 15-22

Celebrate Trans Célébrer

River of Pride – Rivière de fierté inc., in partnership with La Teraz (www.lateraz.com), has scheduled a Community Forum during Pride 2010 to be held Tuesday, August 17 at 1:00 p.m. The objective of this year's forum will be to come away with a better understanding of Trans issues and celebrate their personal accomplishments.

Moderators of the event will be our Media Coordinator, Sandy Harquail and special guest Maxime Lemay from Victoriaville, Quebec. Mr. Lemay is a proud, out transgender male who is very active in the Trans community involved in educating people on Trans issues. He was Chair of l'Association des Trans du Quebec from 2007 to 2008 and is currently Editor-in-Chief of Tranz magazine (www.tranzmag.com). Based on the

"Beyond Gay" Premieres in Moncton

In collaboration with Big Gay Movie, River of Pride is proud to add a movie night to its 2010 program, offering this year the award-winning documentary "Beyond Gay: The Politics of Pride." The screening will be held on Thursday, August 19.

"Beyond Gay" is a comprehensive

Trans cont'd page 13

Gay cont'd page 13

**Check out
Fierté Moncton
Pride's
Centre Section
Pullout! p 8-9**

Regular Columns

**Chef's Corner 7 • Groups & Services 12 • I Am What I Amherst 5 • ISCANs News 5 • Kibitz and Bitch 6 • Lesbian Soapbox Diaries 5 • Ramblings from the Sanctuary Garden 11 • The Last Word 14 • You Tell Us 14
Sept Deadline: Friday, Sept 3 (first Friday of every month!)**

Scotiabank AIDS Walk for Life in Atlantic Canada

The Scotiabank AIDS Walk for Life will take place across Canada from September 11 – 19, 2010. To support the Scotiabank AIDS Walk for Life in your community, please go online at www.aidswalkforlife.ca and click "Find Your

Walk" now. You can register as a walker (or runner, or skateboarder) for the site of your choice and get pledges online. Those of you involved with a community agency can walk as a team and receive 50% back for work around HIV and sexual health.

Northern AIDS Connection Society

will host four walks this year: Amherst, Elmsdale, New Glasgow and Truro. For details contact Mannfred at (902) 895-0931 or through e-mail at nacs@eastlink.ca.

AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia

will host their walk at the Halifax Commons on Sunday, September 26. Contact Chantelle McDonald at (902) 425-4882 ext 228 or e-mail walk@acns.ns.ca to register.

AIDS Saint John

will hold their walk on Sunday, September 19 at Rockwood Park.

Your support will help increase awareness about HIV/AIDS and provide essential services for people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS in your community.

Register! Donate! Register! Donate! Register! Donate! Register! Sponsor a walker in your area – all online! Visit www.aidswalkforlife.ca

Events Around Atlantic Canada

Réjean Roy at Moncton Pride



River of Pride – Rivière de fierté inc. is very happy to welcome a very special guest to our post Pride parade celebration event at Victoria Park on Sunday, August 22.

Réjean Roy, originally from Allardville, NB, now residing in Montreal, is coming to Moncton to celebrate with us, and at the same time showcase the books that he has been publishing under l'Arc-en-ciel Littéraire (arcenciellitteraire.voila.net). The books are sold locally at La Librairie acadienne bookstore at l'Université de Moncton, from which he graduated in 1990.

Réjean co-founded the literary house in May, 2008 to enable French LGBT writers to be known and published. The mission of the publishing house is to recognize the talent and to promote contemporary LGBT authors. Since 2009 the company has published five books: "Sortir de l'ombre" ("Coming Out of the Shadow"), a collection of coming out stories; "Pulsions poétiques" ("Poetic Urges"), a poetry collection; "Le retour" ("The Return"), poetry from Marcel F. Raymond; "Délice interdit" ("Forbidden Delight"), a collection of erotic stories; and "Les voisins d'à côté" ("Next Door Neighbors"), a collection of stories by various authors.

Réjean himself published over 400 articles in various newspapers across New Brunswick between 1985 and 1992. He continues to write romance, poetry, novels and children books.

"I'm happy to say that I'm part of the LGBT authors that was published by l'Arc-en-ciel Littéraire," says Sandy Harquail, River of Pride's media coordinator. "Nine of my poems were published in 'Pulsions poétiques' and it makes me very happy to see

Réjean come back to New Brunswick and celebrate with us. Who knows, I might just be available to sign some books!

If you are an artist and would like the opportunity to show your creations, please feel free to bring a table and set up at the park, River of Pride – Rivière de fierté inc. is not asking for any registration fees, however donations are accepted. It is our pleasure to support LGBT artists, we strongly encourage you to come out and shine!

PRIDE 10 At River of Pride



Lt. Dan Choi at 41st Annual NYC Gay Pride March in Midtown Manhattan, New York City, June 27, 2010.

Have you read PRIDE 10 magazine, the official magazine of InterPride, (www.interpride.org) yet? Complementary copies will once again be offered by our volunteers at events we plan to attend throughout the region. The cover story is about Lt. Dan Choi, America's new poster soldier for gay rights. River of Pride is very proud to be again this year listed among the six Canadian Prides in this internationally-distributed magazine.

One of the featured articles in the 2010 edition is entitled, "Organized Unions and LGBT." Unions have always been champions for human rights—which include LGBT rights—and have a long history of standing with the LGBT community. I was drawn to this article, being a strong lesbian unionist and a proud member of the Public Service Alliance of Canada holding a seat on its Atlantic Council representing LGBT members throughout the Atlantic region.

I appreciate the marvelous work of all our national unions as well as their regional, provincial and local counterparts, not only for their members but for their families and communities. You fight the good fight tirelessly, relentlessly, and often on behalf of people that don't even know that you are doing it. Bravo!

I am so proud to be an active participant of this big family who has helped with the advancement of our rights and working conditions, lobbied Parliament for changes in law, and education of its members. Thank you on behalf of my union brothers and sisters, on behalf of my LGBT Community, for being there for me.

Locally, River of Pride – Rivière de fierté inc, would like to offer a special thank you to the unions who have generously sponsored our events this year, notably the Canadian Labour Congress (CLC); Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC); Canadian Auto Workers (CAW); Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), New Brunswick Federation of Labour (NBFL) and the Moncton District Labour Council. Your continued support is helping us have a better Pride!

For more Halifax events:
gay.hfxns.org

Integrity NS/PEI

Holds its first Eucharist at the Cathedral Church of All Saints, Halifax on Sunday, August 22 at 4:00 pm. Integrity is an organization of GLBT Anglicans and their friends to encourage Christian GLBT's in their spiritual life; to support the Church in its commitment to seek and serve Christ in all people; and to reach out to the GLBT community in Christian love and service. (902) 425-8383, integritynspei@gmail.com, or www.integritycanada.org.

AA/AI-Anon Weekend

The 22nd Courage Round-Up, sponsored by gay men and lesbians in Alcoholic Anonymous will be held August 6 – 8, 2010 at the Universalist Unitarian Church, 5500 Inglis St., Halifax.

The weekend includes fellowship, speaker meetings and discussions

of recovery topics in a relaxed and peaceful setting. "Sobriety in Community" is this year's theme. Courage is a small, intimate Round-Up and is the only GLBT AA Round-Up in Atlantic Canada. It's the only one of its kind east of Montreal. Email Courage449@yahoo.com, phone John at (902) 425-8383, or visit www.halifaxgayaaroundup.org.

United Way Community Survey

Please take a few minutes to tell the United Way of Halifax what's important to you by completing their brief questionnaire. www.unitedwayhalifax.ca then click on "Community Survey" on the upper right hand side of the page.

Pride events go to:
Fredericton:
frederictonpride.org/
Moncton:
moncton-magic.webs.com

Wayves On Line!

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Going Rouge

By Jason Rose-Spurrell

It's a Sunday night and you're feeling the Monday blahs already. You've only got \$20 to your name. What are you going to do in Halifax on a Sunday night with that budget? Look no further: Menz Bar has you covered. Come join reigning Mz. Menz Bar, Rouge Fatale—the Grande Dame of Halifax's drag scene—and The Four Crowns, the newest drag troupe to hit Halifax, at our Sunday show, Rouge Fatale and Friends. With drink specials throughout the night and a cover charge of just \$5 for a two-hour show, Rouge's Fatale's show is the place to be Sunday nights.

"Don't expect just drag," says Fatale. "We have had belly-dancing in the past and hope to include more non-drag performances in the future."

"How can you go wrong? It starts at nine o'clock and ends at eleven, so you can be home in bed for a Monday morning. It can't get any better than that," says Fatale, chosen as The Coast's Best Drag Performer for the last two years running. Fatale has racked up an impressive list of achievements in a very short period of time, including commentating the Dykes vs. Divas Baseball Game and hosting the Pride Concert on the Commons pre-show for the last three years. She has also taken on a more active role as co-producer of the Pink Velvet Burlesque and has recently been involved with such local events as the Not So Serious Side of Sex Show for the Halifax Sexual Health Center, the Everything To Do With Sex Show, and the Fetish Ball. Fatale also currently holds the title of Imperial Crown Princess of Halifax for the Imperial Sovereign Court of Atlantic Nova Society (her third time holding the title). "I like to keep busy," she jokes.

Fatale is not the only accomplished performer bringing great experience to the show. Mz. Gay Halifax 2009/2010—and winner of The Swine—Kristi Davidson is well known for her theatrical and Broadway-inspired performances and has much experience hosting events at Reflections Cabaret. Joining her is Elle Noir, the current reigning Mz. Reflections (for the second consecutive year), who has many a title under her own belt and who brings a high energy to the stage during her phenomenal performances that Janet

Jackson would be proud of. "I put 110% into every performance I do, or else I don't go out on stage," says Noir. Last, but certainly not least, the Four Crowns' fourth troupe member—newest to the scene—is Bunni Lapin, who most recently held the title of Queen Of Hearts at Reflections Cabaret. This flirtatious little rabbit has a keen eye for fashion and is showing quite a presence on the drag scene here in Halifax after only a short period of time. From top 40 to classic drag to comedy—the diverse cast provides something for everyone.

Every week, Rouge Fatale invites a special guest to join her regular cast mates. Some special guests have included Calgary's Mary Poppers, our newest Queen of Hearts, Scarlett Fever and local drag legends Jenny Blake and Mz. Vicki, among others. "Don't expect just drag," says Fatale. "We have had belly-dancing in the past and hope to include more non-drag performances in the future."

Another interesting new development in the Halifax drag scene is the already successful The Bitches Back Bar, where the cast members of Rouge Fatale and Friends mix up mayhem on Saturday nights from 11:00 p.m. to close at the back bar at Menz. Shooter specials and great company are the name of the night and you never know who's going to get on the bar and do a little impromptu performance, Coyote Ugly-style. Fatale and the girls also act as shooter-servers throughout the bar on these nights. They will be happy to visit you on the dance scene when things heat up, and cool things down with your favourite shot.

However, it is her Sunday show that Fatale hopes will heat things up every week this summer with outrageous new performances and fun audience games. "Hope to see you there, kittens!" laughs Fatale.



The delicious and talented Rouge Fatale. Photo: Anita Martinez

Alternatives to Violence Workshop

By James LeBlanc

The Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP) is a collective of volunteers offering experiential workshops that help people to resolve conflict creatively and without violence. The project, founded in 1975, initially focused on prisons. The project's major effort was helping prisoners to reduce the level of

Workshops are designed to build self-esteem and self-confidence in a trusting, supportive and joyous atmosphere.

violence in the prison environment and to deal with the violence in their own lives. Soon, volunteers came to realize that the violence of prisons is merely a distilled version of the violence pervading the whole society. People not connected with prisons began to seek AVP training and it became clear that the program was needed as much in the outside community as it was in the prisons.

I have been volunteering at the Dorchester Penitentiary for over five years. I am a gay man who is a facilitator. Our workshop is offered at the Dorchester Penitentiary in Dorchester, New Brunswick, and for the community at the YMCA in Moncton, NB.

We offer a Level 1 (Basic) workshops as well as Levels 2 and 3. Both

pre-registration and CSC Security Clearance are required. To obtain clearance to attend workshops at Dorchester Penitentiary, your first step is to fill out a clearance form from Correctional Service Canada (CSC), called a CPIC form. You should forward this to the Chaplain, Greg Frazer, via fax at (506) 379-4208, several weeks prior to the workshop. You can obtain the CPIC from CSC and some of the AVP team. You cannot attend the workshop if you are on an inmate's visitor list.

Your participation in the workshops has to be on a volunteer-basis only. It cannot be claimed as work and you cannot bring your work with you. The reason for this is that we want the workshop to be relaxed and pleasant for the inmates and don't want them to feel they are going to be studied or interviewed during the weekend. You cannot participate in the workshops if you are CSC staff or work with inmates on a day-to-day basis (even outside the institution) because it would be considered a conflict of interest.

Workshops can be helpful not only to those who have themselves behaved violently in the past and those who have been victimized by

the violence of others, but also to any person who feels a responsibility to do something to make their world more peaceful and just.

Consisting of a variety of exercises, games and discussions, workshops are designed to build self-esteem and self-confidence in a trusting, supportive and joyous atmosphere. The four basic elements of non-violent action (affirmation, community-building, communication and conflict transformation) are incorporated in ways that participants can apply in their everyday lives. More info contact James LeBlanc (506) 382-7146, or james_avpc@msn.com.

Our Cover:

Fredericton Pride Board on the Pedway over Ste Anne's Point Drive overlooking the Saint John River: back l-r: Andrew King, L.A. Henry, Bruce Dionne, Jon Blanchard, Angela Stairs, Debi Skidmore, Barb MacMullin, Front l-r: Leah Belyea, Cynthia Ryder, Nate Miller, Sarah McAdam, Dale McKay Photo provided by Fredericton Pride. Cover Design Cam MacLeod.

Wayves

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

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

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Important WAYVES Dates!

Issue Content Deadlines:

Fridays: Aug 6, Sept 3, Oct 1 Nov 5: that is, the first Friday of each month (skipping January.) You can send your news, ideas, comments, criticisms, columns, cartoons and more to submissions@wayves.ca any time!

Production Meetings

(Halifax): Mondays: Aug 9, Sep 7, Oct 4, Nov 8: help decide what goes in the next issue, 7:30 PM, Blowers St Paper Chase, Halifax. All welcome, every meeting.

Magazine Layout (Halifax):

Aug 15, Sep 12, Oct 10 Nov 14: help build the paper – no special skills required, just enthusiasm, and joining us even once, or for a few hours helps a LOT! 9:30 AM. Email us for location.

We are on the stands, in the mail, and online on the fourth Friday of every month.

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Atlantic Canada and around the country. If there are none handy to your home, write to submissions@wayves.ca and tell us where we should be!

Fare Thee Well My Love

By Shannon Webb-Campbell

Here's a picture of the city where we live. Halifax. It's a crisp night with a fingernail sliver of a moon in plain sight. Imagine you are looking down from the church steeple, as a handful of people wander to and from their destinations. It's a small port city with a gigantic mouth for a harbour that widens into sea. The sparkle of street lights doesn't stretch far; a small province hanging on by a mere thread to the rest of the country. Pockets and pockets of lakes and endless trees canopy the capital city, the largest population east of Montreal. A massive fortress rises up from the earth in the midst of it all; a town clock marks the passing hour.

Historic buildings line the streets, most of them rebuilt after the great explosion—though a majority of the contemporary population has no collective memory of the event. Halifax is a transient city: a town comprised of students who take stock of the clichéd culture for four years or less and wander back home to their upper-Canadian living. They'll speak at parties later about life on the edge, and the way their lives felt so distant from the gridlock of Toronto. They know nothing of true isolation; life on the fringes.

Look down over the streets where we've shared our lives: Creighton, Windsor, Gottingen and Harris. As an artist and a writer, we were two lovers who complemented one another professionally; one sharp mind sparked the other. The interruption occurred on the night of Pride—small talk over booze and performance and celebration. The wrinkle in time caused a glitch on the radar, and offered up a moment of possibility: a question of what could be.

Gossip spreads like wildfire. Neighbours know what happened even before you do. Part of life in Halifax is crafting your boundaries,

who you let in and what you let them know. We're all living on top of one another. If you haven't shared a flat, a therapist, a class, slept together or made art, you must reside in the south end.

Queer Halifax is even smaller, more insular. With the impression and reality, things are even closer than they appear. A friend will fuck a friend will fuck a friend. On your bed, even. Some stick around, others skip town, their hurricane of history overwhelms and the suitcases are packed before dawn. Montreal or Toronto beckons, some scamper off to try Europe.

Part of life in Halifax is crafting your boundaries, who you let in and what you let them know. We're all living on top of one another. If you haven't shared a flat, a therapist, a class, slept together or made art, you must reside in the south end.

Much has happened in our 6 years together — lovers, relationships and those vague lines crossed in-between. All of us longing for a warm body and a bed; a harbour to call home. New loves bursting forth, old lovers revisited, flirtation and the possibility filling in the gaps in between. What a time, we'll all say as we look back in old age. We tore the town open like a package of Skittles.

Halifax, we've gone through many

stages together. There was the break up, the break down, the new beginning, the reunion and the retribution. But this time I'm leaving you for good. I signed the dotted line, a contract for my determined heart and decided mind. It's been quite the affair. You were never the first love, but damn you made a fine second serving. In some ways, Halifax, you may be the one that got away.

What can I say? We were never meant to be just friends. Our beginning was too passionate for it not to spark and fizzle out eventually. We were young lovers, it's time for us to let go and move on. New people will move here and you'll notice their sparkle. Let them in, let them lust after you like I did. Remember the lesson of longing. Slowly seduce them with your charms, artfully share your magic and bestow that sense of mystery and intrigue. I know it will be hard at first, the newness of it all. Soak it in. Love them fully, for all their flaws, cracks and youthfulness. Let them in and when the time goes, let them go.

Send them off with a big feast, a song or two and a memory because Halifax, they'll never have anyone else quite like you. A new life awaits me in St. John's, some old memories linger, too. I promise to write and tell you of my colourful tales, both black and white and all those in rainbow hues. And I promise never to lose the love you've shown me.

I'll love you Halifax, always. Be good.

Shannon Webb-Campbell is a freelance writer, journalist and photographer. Mid-August she's moving to the city of legends to spend time with her grandmother, write and rekindle the flame with her true love, St. John's, Newfoundland.

Patrick Daigle to Chair Youth Project

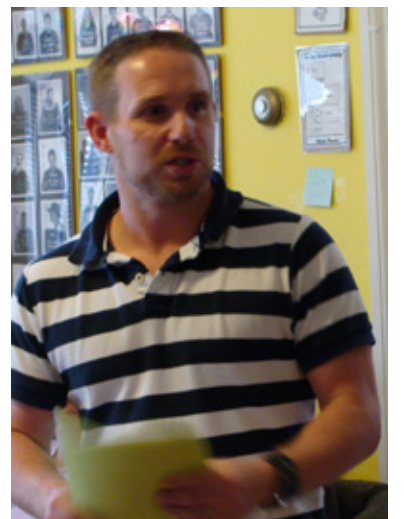
By Sheena J

The Youth Project concluded another successful fiscal year with its Annual General Meeting, which is also used as an opportunity to thank board members, friends, allies, and volunteers for all of their support. Special thanks goes to Mike Williams and Joanne Syms, very dedicated board members, leadership and hard work (especially during the annual auction), along with many other volunteers, made it a consistently successful event.

We say farewell to Mike as a board member with gratitude and appreciation for everything he's done. Joanne has stepped down from the board's chair position and we thank her for years of dedication and keeping us on track. As an educator, she has the innate ability to keep us in line! We welcome Patrick Daigle as our new chair.

We also say goodbye to our community education coordinator, Tracy Tidgwell. Tracy has been travelling around the province talking to classrooms about the effects of homophobia and transphobia in schools, and providing professional development training to those who work with youth. She has been a valuable asset to the Youth Project's work and we miss her already. We wish Tracy all the best as she heads back to school. The AGM is also an opportunity to recognize the great on-going work around the province. Our Youth Board accepts nominations for a set of annual Youth Project awards, celebrating others who are making Nova Scotia a safer, happier and healthier place for LGBT youth. This year's award recipients are:


The Ally Award: Lt/Const. De-




New Youth Project Chair Patrick Daigle, addresses the crowd. Photo provided by The Youth Project.

borah Carleton for her hard work and dedication to connecting the LGBT community with safe and supportive police services. The Youth Leadership Award: Kyle L., for his dedication to his school's Gay/Straight Alliance. The Nadine Babineau Memorial Award, awarded to a school who works to make their environment safer for LGBT youth: Musquodoboit Rural High School, for their Gay/Straight Alliance's Rainbow Shoelace Campaign. The Rainbow Apple Award, for a teacher who has made a difference in the lives of LGBT Youth: E. Barkhouse, for his dedication to the Gay/Straight Alliance at Auburn Drive High School. Volunteer(s) of the Year: Nancy Wright and Kathy Burgess, for their work organizing our Pride Week fundraiser.


Congratulations everyone and thank you!!




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Lesbian Soap Box Diaries

Relationships & Organs

By L. Connors

I once gave a lover of mine a kidney. That relationship was never meant to be. We caused each other a lot of pain and heartache, but the transplant was. I honestly believe we have two kidneys just in case someone else needs one. The transplant team was very supportive. They were very thorough in educating me regarding the risks associated with the surgery. They told me the only risk that is a 100% guarantee is pain, and they were true to their word. The decision to give up a kidney is one that I will never regret, but, there was a brief moment that I did. A moment when I woke up in excruciating pain and all I could think was "I want to go home! I want my kidney back and I WANT TO GO HOME!"

I didn't have a choice that day about turning back the clock and getting my kidney back, I had to live with the pain that my decision had caused me so that something wonderful could come of it.

One of my favourite books, "Feel the Fear and do it Anyway," tells me that I can't make a wrong decision in life as long as I stay off the fence post and give 100% to whatever decision I make. I didn't have a choice that day about turning back the clock and getting my kidney back, I had to live with the pain that my decision had caused me so that something wonderful could come of it. And like childbirth, something wonderful did come of

it—a healthy life. But in every major decision we make, most especially in matters of the heart, there is always that moment when we want to turn back the clock and run from our pain back, to return to our comfort zone.

We cannot avoid or hide from these moments in our lives if we want wonderful things to happen to us. As the poetic author of the Prophit tell us, "...your pain is the breaking of the shell that encloses your understanding." We are continually painfully reborn in our lives so long as we choose to grow emotionally and spiritually. The only thing we can do is to stay off the fence post, give 100% to the choices we make, and, accept the pain our decisions cause us in order to grow as individuals.

In every relationship we give up some part of ourselves. I gave a lover of mine a kidney once because I could not give her my heart. I only have one kidney left, so my heart is the only organ that I have left to give. The stakes are still the same. The only risk that is a 100% guarantee is pain. Today I choose to accept the pain my relationships have caused me so that tomorrow something wonderful can happen.



By Gerard Veldhoven

By the time this issue reaches Wayves readers, many Pride celebrations will have taken place across the Maritimes. I will have a full report on the activities held in Amherst in September's issue. We anticipate a successful Pride Week and are very confident we're putting a positive face on this important time of year. Due to the fact that the Cumberland Pride Society has a strong membership and a hard-working committee, yet another Pride summer should prove successful.

Amherst and area have been extremely fortunate, having received such strong support from Mayor Rob Small and the town council. One may recall the flag-slashing incident of last year, when vandals removed and defaced the Pride flag in front of our city hall. In a television interview, Mayor Small made it clear that the town of Amherst will not be swayed in its support of the GLBTQ community. We are indeed thankful, as a few jurisdictions remain where this support is sadly lacking. Cumberland County Council is a prime example. Two years ago, members of council there decided to change their flag policy; as a result, the Pride Flag wasn't able to fly. I questioned council about their intent and they replied that their policy change was not targeting the Pride flag. However, the timing indicated otherwise and I strongly objected. Council stuck with its decision. Hence, it's necessary to form committees that can contact councils across our provinces, in person, to ensure positive policies governing such issues remain in place or when lacking, are otherwise implemented.

The big news to report is the

I Am What I Amherst

Springhill Flies Flag For First Time

decision by Springhill Mayor Allen Dill and town council to raise a Pride flag for the first time this July. The decision to do so was unanimous. "We are a community of choice and I know Springhill welcomes all groups. We want to show that we can, internationally, accept different lifestyles and that we're open to new people coming to our community and that we're diversified in our activities," the Mayor said in an interview in the Springhill Record. Mayor Dill will be one of the speakers at the Amherst flag-raising (July 12 at noon). Truro Mayor Bill Mills will not be making an appearance!

I am off to Toronto in late July to see my kids and grandkids. I have been invited to speak to the GLBTQ seniors' group while there. This will

be the first time my son Chris and I will speak on a panel together about family, queer politics and our work and activism. Chris is the Queer Parenting Program Coordinator at the 519 Community Centre in Toronto.

That's it for now. More coverage to come, including pictures from Pride Week 2010 in Amherst.

The big news to report is the decision by Springhill Mayor Allen Dill and town council to raise a Pride flag for the first time this July. The decision to do so was unanimous.

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ISCANS News

By Ryan Stevens

Come out on weekends at Menz Bar, where representatives of ISCANS will be barbecuing up hot dogs and hamburgers, with proceeds going to Reign X charities. We will also be selling baseball cards featuring some of your favorite drag queens all summer. If you miss(ed) them at the Dykes vs.

Divas Baseball Game, get in touch with any ISCANS executive member to arrange to get your cards today.

If you are not yet a member of ISCANS and are interested in becoming one, check out our website at www.imperialcourtns.com, and contact any executive member—we will be happy to take your membership and answer any questions you may have.



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Crawford Hastie's KIBITZ AND BITEH

Hi Tom

Happy Pride! I know that Pride has already happened in Belgium but here Halifax Pride is about to get underway and will be done by the time you read this letter. Let's hope it doesn't rain on our parade! 2010 may be known as the summer that never was. Last week's steady rainfall was broken up by two days of sunshine! Sigh. My mood rises and falls with the barometer. Aren't you lucky that it is a sunny day as I write this!

I'm typing this in my living room which at the moment is a complete shambles, with furniture and books and assorted knick knacks piled in the middle of the room waiting for the painters to come to freshen up the place. It will be lovely once it's done but I have difficulty keeping organized in the midst of chaos.

I know, I know what you're thinking: Bitch, bitch, bitch. Well, I can't help it. I'm a bit stressed about the money/employment situation so things are affecting me more than they normally would. Your friend, Crawford, needs to find a job soon, Tommo, or I may have to mail myself C.O.D. to Belgium and camp out in your uncluttered living room.

Anyway, enough of that. There have been pleasant things happening as well. For only the second time in my life I attended the Nova Scotia Tattoo. Military displays are not normally my kind of thing—military men who like to display themselves in the privacy of my home is a different thing!—but I was invited to go with some friends and I must say I enjoyed it. Ah, the skirl of the bagpipes gets to me every time. Not that I listen to CDs of bagpipe music on the stereo but for big official displays like parades, tattoos and clambakes on the beach, there's nothing like it to stir my emotions. Speaking of emotions being stirred, not only was there an abundance of handsome men in uniform, in addition there were several acts of gymnasts and unicyclists, all of whom wore form-fitting clothes over forms that were wonderfully fit! Part of me was giving them a standing ovation while I was still in my seat.

As we were leaving the venue later, several of the participants were standing outside smoking in the cool night air. I was attempting to appear nonchalant, as if I saw physical hunks like these every day of my life, while in my mind I was picturing them and me performing acrobatic positions rather different from the ones we had just witnessed. I must have had a big smile on my face since one of the men—tall, blond, young and with long lean muscles—smiled back at me and gave a slight nod of his head. Well, he wasn't the handsomest man

I've ever met but his smile was electric, Tom; the kind of smouldering, big wattage grin that can melt a man's zipper at twenty paces. I, of course, ever suave and cool, grunted something incomprehensible and kept a fatuous smile frozen on my face. By the time I had recovered enough to think to say something sensible like, "I loved your performance" or "Great job" or "My, what big feet you have!" he had already turned back to his friends. Moment lost.

The next weekend I was invited to stay for a few days with Fisherman's Freud and the Anthill at their cottage by the Fundy shore. Several members of FF's family joined us. I've been kind of adopted by the family which makes me a kind of honorary Newfoundlander—even though I've never been to The Rock (the province, not the actor.) FF's Mum prepared Fish and Brewis (pronounced "bruise") a delicious meal of salt cod and hard tack (both soaked overnight) boiled up and then served with "scrunchins," small pieces of salt pork browned and fried and served over the fish and biscuit. I ate so much I waddled down to the shingle after supper to stick my feet in the salt water and watch the sunset blazing over the bay. Later we sat up past midnight on the deck watching the dance of stars and constellations in the night sky.

The next day we were off for a picnic to Annapolis Royal. I love picnics but hadn't been on one for ages. The Anthill, as always, had prepared a fabulous meal which we consumed, in a leisurely fashion, on the grounds of Fort Anne. FF's sister, Emily Dixon, decided after lunch it would be hilarious to roll down one of the many grassy hills. You know that phrase from the Bible: about putting away childish things? All of us agreed that acting like adults was vastly overrated so rolling down hills, skipping along the beach, laughing until it hurts are all activities we practice on a regular basis. Turning fifty doesn't mean you can't act like a twelve-year-old. Great fun until we had to go back and scour the hillside for the key that had fallen out of her pocket while she was gathering no moss.

Good times and good friends.

Love ya!



WWW.NSRAP.CA Launched

By Hugo Dann

It is with both pride and pleasure that I announce the launch of the Nova Scotia Rainbow Project's new website, www.nsrp.ca. NSRAP is extremely grateful to Wade Carroll of Wired & Lit Design (www.wiredandlitdesign.com) for his hard work and talent. In addition to being a superb graphic designer, Wade has always been a strong supporter of our community.

We hope that this site will be a new port of entry for LGBTQ Nova Scotians to learn more about our community, as well as for people visiting our province. We will use the

site to feature local artists as well as important community events, such as our province's many Pride events and the AIDS walks. Use the clicker to view all the slides on our homepage. We hope this site can be a place where all our communities are celebrated.

There are still a few more bits and pieces to be added: our Community Partners page is still very much a work in progress, so if you don't see your logo there, don't worry! We're working on it, and all our partners will soon be up. We are also still building a comprehensive links page to community organizations and resources.

Come by and check us out, and pass it on to your friends.

Northern AIDS Connection Society News

By Al McNutt

The Northern AIDS Connection Society (NACS) is a community-based organization working in northern Nova Scotia (Colchester, Pictou, Cumberland and East Hants counties). Its mission is to assist in reducing the spread of HIV, sexually-transmitted infections (STIs) and Hepatitis C through education, awareness and public engagement, and to promote the health and well-being of persons living with these conditions, and those most at risk of contracting them.

NACS, responding to enquiries for access to free condoms, has developed a Condom Co-op Program. By supporting this initiative, you would be creating a safer community for youth and would be promoting greater accessibility to condoms. Just as education and awareness are key components of the work conducted by the NACS, so are safe spaces, accessibility and affordability. It is crucial that a network be developed to enhance the capacity of community

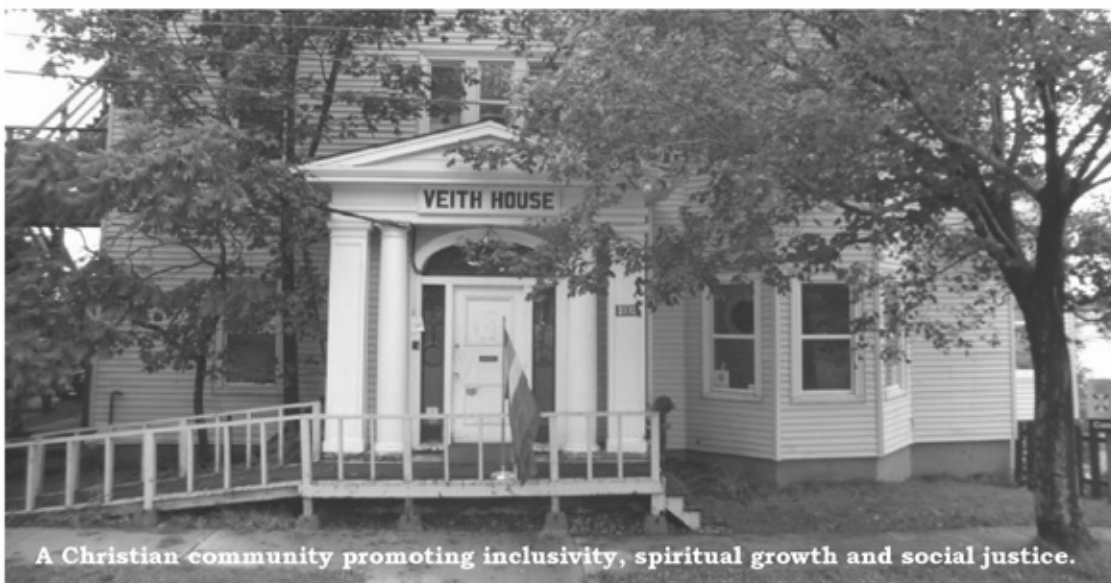
partners to better address this concern, hence a cooperative approach.

The Society would like to recognize the expense incurred through the purchase of condoms, and therefore offer an incentive program to better enable community partners to address this issue. Northern AIDS is offering a percentage cheque to all teams participating in the Scotiabank AIDS Walk for Life, one of the organization's key fundraising initiatives. For more details about this incentive program, please contact Executive Director Karen Kittilsen at (902) 895-0931 or by email at nacsed@eastlink.ca.

HIV is preventable. Healthy choices are an option, and using protection is one option. Presently, there are roughly 65,000 Canadians living with HIV, with young teenage females being the highest-rising group-at-risk. What does it take to make a difference? Be a part of the solution—make condoms more accessible.


Wrap that Gator: no regrets later!

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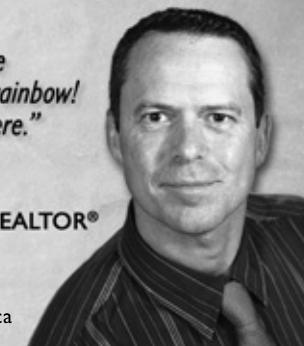
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Chef's Corner



Ah, summer in the Maritimes! Time to take advantage of the small window of opportunity to enjoy one of the summer's finest offerings: the subtle, earthy flavour of the golden chanterelle mushroom. There are many ways to prepare these little beauties, but one of my favourites is to serve them as the accompanying sauce to a fillet of fresh halibut.

The halibut is simply baked in a foil pouch on the grill. Marinate two 6-oz fillets in a little olive oil, juice and zest of a lemon, and a few sprigs of

fresh thyme for 15 minutes. Season with salt and pepper, then wrap the fish and its marinade in a sealed foil pouch, and bake in a med-high closed grill (or oven) for 10-12 minutes. Remove the pouch from the grill and let stand 5 minutes. Halibut is best when just cooked to medium in the centre, or it can be dry. Transfer the fillet to warm serving plates and ladle 2 oz of the chanterelles sauce over the top. Enjoy!

Chef Darren is Chef/Co-owner of Chives Canadian Bistro 1537 Barrington St., Halifax, NS. Chives is a member of "La Chaine des Rotisseurs" world gastronomical association. Awarded 2 of 3 stars in "Where to Eat in Canada" since 2005. Reservations call (902) 420-9626. www.chives.ca.

Baked Atlantic Halibut with Wild Chanterelles

Chanterelles Sauce

Ingredients

- 4 Tsp butter
- 1/2 cup white or sweet onion (minced)
- 1 clove garlic(minced)
- 2 Tsp flour
- 1/4 cup dry Vermouth
- 1 1/2 lb. well cleaned and thinly sliced chanterelles.
- 1 1/2 cups chicken broth + 1 cup clam juice
- OR 2 1/2 cups halibut stock
- 1 cup whipping cream
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/4 tsp ground white pepper
- 1/4 tsp white truffle oil

Method

1. Sweat the onions, garlic and 1/2 the mushrooms in the butter, over medium high heat. When the onions are translucent, stir in the flour, and cook for 3 minutes.
2. Stirring constantly with a wooden spoon, add the vermouth, and then the stock creating smooth sauce. Cook for 3-5 minutes until thickened.
3. Remove from heat and blend with a hand blender until most of the mushrooms and onions are blended smooth. Pass through a sieve. Return to heat and add the cream, and simmer.
4. Sweat the remaining mushrooms in a bit of oil or butter, add them and the truffle oil to the sauce and simmer for 20 minutes.

Serving suggestion: I like to serve this summer treat with roasted new baby red potatoes and steamed green beans.

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PRIDE 2010 FIERTE Salutes/Salue Egale Canada

Egale Canada is a national organization that advances equality and justice for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and trans-identified people and their families across Canada.



Égale Canada est résolue à promouvoir l'égalité et la justice pour les personnes lesbiennes, gaies, bissexuelles et trans-identifiées, ainsi que leur famille, à travers le Canada.



Helen Kennedy, Executive Director Egale Canada, **Guest Speaker/Conferenciere** - Luncheon/Dejeuner - August 16 août-Crowne Plaza Moncton

Helen is the first woman to hold the top position at Egale. A self-proclaimed activist and a lifelong feminist, her past experience has brought about positive results to the organisation since her appointment in 2007. As a relentless advocate for transpeople and bullying in schools she sees Egale as the 'go to' agency. "We're a national organization and we can't forget our membership who live in smaller towns who face different types of bigotry every day."



Benjie Nycum, Egale Canada Atlantic Director/Directeur Atlantique - **Parade Grand Marshall/Marechal** August 22 août

Benjie lives in Halifax, Nova Scotia. He co-founded Young Gay America, a project that involved traveling North America with two friends and interviewing more than 1,500 queer teens about their experiences of coming out and coping in high school. Out of that project, he published the book *Young Gay America: LGBT Youth and Their Allies* and a film, *Jim in Bold*, about a gay youth's suicide. Benjie is extremely knowledgeable about the challenges queer youth are currently facing in Canada.

August 15 août

- Spritual Service Spirituel
- Softball/Balle-molle

August 16 août

- Flag Raising/Levée du Drapeau
- Luncheon/Déjeuner
- Bowling/Quilles

August 17 août

- Community FORUM Communautaire

August 18 août

- Bingo

August 19 août

- CINEMA : *Beyond Gay: The Politics of Pride*

August 20 août

- Mardi Gras

August 21 août

- Swimming/Natation
- Kids Party Gamins
- PrideDanceFierte

August 22 août

- PARADE/DEFILE CELEBRATION**
- After/Après Party

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Anita's Pic



The Boys of Summer. Lawrenceton Beach, Nova Scotia, 2005

Saint John IDAH Peace March



Students from the gay-straight alliance groups at high schools in Saint John participated in the Rainbow Peace March along Harbour Passage on Monday, May 17. Photo by Jim Appleby, AIDS Saint John.

Organizer Mack MacKenzie was pleased with how many high school students showed up at this year's Uptown march. Students represented the gay-straight alliance groups at Saint John High School, Harbour View High School and St. Malachy's High School and arrived equipped with banners to show the community who they are and what they stand for.

"The Rainbow Peace March commemorates International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia and is attended by both members and supporters of the GLBT community," MacKenzie said. The march, followed by a Service of Prayer and Hope, was attended this year by about 75 people.

Over the years, representatives from Centenary-Queen Square United Church, the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Saint John, and Portland United Church have attended as well as a strong contingent from the Sisters of Charity.

MacKenzie says "The march helps show people that the gay community is just a part of the larger community, just like being gay is only a part of who a person is." He went on to say, "There is research indicating that the larger your gay community, the more likely you're going to have a more vibrant cultural sector." This was the fifth year of the Rainbow Peace March.

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Ramblings From the Sanctuary Garden

Death the One Sure Thing

By Bethana Sullivan

I missed the deadline for the last column and am close to missing this one. It's not new for me to be on the edge with deadlines; it seems I work best under pressure despite the dubious impact on my blood pressure. A monthly deadline has certainly brought this to the fore, contributing to my ongoing efforts to change habits that don't work anymore. To this end I recently made a big decision without waiting till it was absolutely necessary.

It has to do with my death and where I will be buried. As many of you probably know death is not something that we as a culture actively think about, evidence the many ways in which we seek to look and feel younger, seeking to cheat time. Like most I haven't wanted to think about it nor plan for it. Until I turned sixty it really wasn't necessary because mortality just didn't register for me. But suddenly a change in decade brought with it a real sense of what I call the "turning of the wheel" and while death is not impending, it is coming. Dealing with this reality caught me by surprise since my intellectual understanding of death was not something I found difficult to discuss.

Death is another great turn of the wheel of life, a necessary part of the birth-death-rebirth cycle. I would be pleased to be part of it (as if it was in my personal choice matrix). Such callowness! A year of turning sixty alerted me to the challenging and emotionally depressing aspects of the reality of death. Suddenly I was afraid. The great questions of mortality and what happens after death were no longer abstract concepts to be debated and/or ignored. Being the introvert I am the process of encountering and contemplating death went on silently and internally, the only external evidence of it being a reluctance to discuss anything personal. How can you talk about day-to-day living when deep inside is this drama? How do we live in the face of our own mortality?

So life went on. I finished writing a training manual, a piece of work that I think is reflective of the way in which I see life as an interplay of the personal and professional. I recognize it as a transitional piece as I move further away from separation and disconnection towards embodied living, towards reconnection with and re-visioning the ways in which I live my life and do my work. Contemplating death makes me think about how I live my life and the many ways in which compromise and negotiation

have led to mini deaths of the self. Necessary at times yet unnecessary when forced by habitual ways of thinking and being that are just too limiting in this time of great change.

But the resister in me, who doesn't want to change and is tired of working at change, says a loud resounding "No." I won't be different, at least not in the ways which worked in the past but aren't working now. It isn't about resistance to, bringing weight of argument and numbers to build the new, to replace the old; rather it is about bringing in, opening to. It all sounds rather mystical but does have a place in the great stories of human and spirit experience. While at one time I had the answers now I don't. I once understood the process,

now I am wandering, lost amid the certainties of those afraid to contemplate the ambiguities of our times.

Coming to this awareness has brought me the point of this whole story, to a time of decisive action—who would have thought. Is this what it means to have the universe unfolding as it ought to? I undertook a journey to Ontario to celebrate a nephew's marriage. He married an Indo-Canadian woman; while my family has embraced many new cultures from French-Canadian to Croatia-Canadian, from mono-sexuality to meta-sexuality and more, this marriage takes us even further into diversity. I attended the Dandiya Rassa, a traditional pre-wedding celebration for the couple and then went on to visit my mom at her burial spot. Filled with the spirit and energy which accompany new ventures and amidst the loveliness of the cemetery housing my family plot I came to a decision. My siblings asked me, at the time of my brother's death in January, if I wanted to have the last burial spot in this family plot. I said no, I would be cremated and blown to the wind in Nova Scotia. Yet here in this lovely spot that I have visited for years it came to me that I could share my burial. I spoke to the helpful office staff and discovered that my siblings had put my name down despite my refusal. And isn't that something about the whole being greater than its parts. It has come together. I will have some of my ashes buried in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, among generations of family, some of them blown in the winds of Petpeswick Inlet and some buried with my partner on our land under a tree which we will choose and plant one of these days.

I am not waiting for the deadline to approach. I have plan for my burial and now I can let go and get on with the rest of my life.

Gender, Sex and Health Research

By Wayves Staff

Active Halifax LGBT community member Matthew Numer has won a first paper prize for excellence in "Gender, Sex and Health Research" from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, for a paper published in the International Journal of Men's Health.

The paper, entitled "The Sexual Health of Gay Men in the Post-AIDS Era" discusses how feminist, post-structuralist and queer theories provide a framework which is critical to understanding the tensions between gay male sexual identity and safer sex practices as used within mainstream health promotion. It can be argued that this oppositional relationship is exemplified by any number of health disparities that gay men experience, but a particularly poignant example is the prevalence of "barebacking" which may indicate a sexual identity ("barebacker") who may or may not know the serostatus of the sexual partner. This sexual category raises important questions

which are left unanswered in much of the public health literature, including mainstream HIV prevention programming, health promotion research and practice. Why, after nearly three decades of research, policymaking, programming and education efforts aimed at the reduction of HIV transmission among gay men, are health promotion efforts are still often unable to effectively address some gay men's complex HIV prevention needs?

The 30-year-old Pittsburg, PA native holds a Lecturer faculty appointment in the School of Health and Human Performance in the Faculty of Health Professions at Dalhousie University. He is also a PhD candidate in the Interdisciplinary program

at Dalhousie and research interest include masculinities and gay men's sexual health with a specific emphasis on health promotion and policy development aimed at HIV prevention. He recently published a book chapter entitled "The Dilemma of Young Gay Men's Sexual Health Promotion and Homosexual Hegemonic Masculinity." This year Matt received the Institute of Gender and Health of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research Award for Excellence in Gender, Sex and Health Research and the Dalhousie Student Union Teaching Award. Other activities include volunteering as Chair of the Nova Scotia Rainbow Action Project (NSRAP) and as a board member of the Halifax Sexual Health Centre.

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makes me think about
how I live my life...*

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AtlanticCanadianLesbians: Online Group For Lesbians from the Atlantic Provinces.

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

Egale Canada - Atlantic: (888) 204-7777 email: egale.canada@egale.ca web: www.egale.ca

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

Healing Our Nations: Healing Our Nations is an Aboriginal HIV/AIDS service organization that serves the Atlantic region. 1.800.565.4255 email: director@access-wave.ca web: www.hon93.ca (Training offered on request at no charge for Aboriginal peoples and/or organizations.) at 15 Alderney Dr., Suite 3, Dartmouth, NS. B2Y2N2

Integrity: Integrity is an organization of GLBT Anglicans and their friends, to encourage Christian gay men and lesbians in their spiritual life; to support the Church in its commitment to seek and serve Christ in all people; and to reach out to the GLBT community in Christian love and service. (902) 425-8383 web: www.integritycanada.org

Maritime Transgender Workplace Solutions Project: Transgender Issues Workshops and information resource. email: denisesined@ns.sympatico.ca web: www3.ns.sympatico.ca/winpapernews (No meetings, Workshops by arrangements, Information source when requested. Newsletter Odds & Sods bi-weekly)

Mr Atlantic Canada Leather Society: 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

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

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

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

New Brunswick (506)

Fredericton

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

Fredericton Lesbians and Gays: Email listserv of events/news in the Fredericton for gblt men and women. email: jamesw@stu.ca

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

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

Spectrum: social and support group for students, staff and faculty at UNB and STU. email: spectrum@unb.ca web: www.unbf.ca/clubs/spectrum (Meets Fridays during the school year. See webpage for location.)

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

Moncton

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

Moncton Line Dancing: 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: 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

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

Safe Spaces Moncton Region: Support Groups for GLBTQ Youth (14-25 years old). 506-854-3049

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

Petit-Rocher (Bathurst area)

Gais.es Nor Gays Inc. (GNG): A bilingual volunteer association serving gay men, lesbians and bisexuals of northern New Brunswick. email: info@gngnb.ca 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.

Sackville NB/ Amherst NS

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

PFLAG: Support and education for GLBT-T2IQQ 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

Saint John

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

AIDS Saint John: To improve the quality of life for those infected & affected by HIV/AIDS, and to reduce the spread of HIV through education and a needle exchange

program. Call the office for details. 652-2437 email: aidssj@nb.aibn.com web: www.aids-saintjohn.com

Gay Men's Supper Club: web: www.portcityrainbowpride.com, meets 3rd Saturday (See webpage for more information) at 220 Germain St. Saint John New Brunswick

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

Port City Rainbow Pride: Pride Celebrations Committee. email: events@portcityrainbowpride.com web: www.portcityrainbowpride.com

Saint John LGBTQ Lending Library: 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.

The UNBSJ Q-Collective: 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 LGBTQ organisations and would like to possibly meet or collaborate.) at Various locations; event particulars will be emailed to anyone who registers with the UNBSJ Q-Collective and/or who gets the UNBSJ weekly "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".

Woodstock

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

Newfoundland & Lab (709)

St. John's

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

Gay Urban Youth Zone Project: designed to increase HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis C, and STI knowledge and awareness 579-8656 (ext. 28) 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: LBGT-MUN is an information/resource, service, and peer support centre staffed by trained volunteers!. 737-7619 email: lbgt@munsu.ca (Open Monday-Friday 9-4. Biweekly meetings for members and volunteers.) at Smallwood/University Center, UC-6022. Building located on Prince Phillip Drive. Call us! Get involved!

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

PFLAG Canada: 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 gemma-hickey@yahoo.ca or Diana Deacon, St. John's chapter contact at ddeacon@mun.ca)

St. John's Pride: St. John's Official Pride Organization. web: www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2497860774

Nova Scotia (902)

Hepatitis Outreach Society: Since 1999 the Hepatitis Outreach Society has been providing support, education and prevention information for those infected and affected by hepatitis in the province of Nova Scotia.

420-1767 in HRM or 1-800-521-0572 email: info@HepatitisOutreach.com web: www.HepatitisOutreach.com at Our office is located at 2973 Oxford Street, between Liverpool and Cork streets. Please call to make an appointment or email Program@HepatitisOutreach.com.

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.

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

The Rainbow - Atlantic Awareness Society: email: tpineo@hotmail.com

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

Amherst

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

The Cumberland Pride Society: for: gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and transsexual individuals. 660-5004 email: cumberlandpride@hotmail.com web: cumberland-pride.sytes.net, meets 3rd Sunday (2-4pm)

Antigonish

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

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

Bridgewater

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

South Shore Pride Social Club: for 19 & older. 530-5986 email: info@southshorepride.ca web: www.southshorepride.ca, meets 3rd Saturday (— dances — 9:00PM to 1:00AM) at Call or email for location.

Halifax

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

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

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

Anonymous HIV/AIDS Testing: 455-9656

Bedford United Church: An Affirming Ministry of the United Church of Canada - ALL welcome. 835-8497 email: bedfordunited@eastlink.ca 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. June 13 to around September 12 we have one 10 am service.) at 1200 Bedford Hwy at Sullivan's Hill, near Atlantic Gardens

BLT-Womyn of Halifax: Bi Sexauls, Lesbian, Transgender Womyn's Discussion Group. Sue's # 499-0335 email: sueandrews1964@hotmail.com web: ca.groups.yahoo.com/group/blt-womynofhalifax/ (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 (BnB): BnB is a private men's membership based social group for Bears and their admirers. Membership Fees are \$5 for a year. Event Fees are \$1 for Members and \$2 for Guests. Email for more info!. email: BluenoseBears2008@yahoo.ca (Social Gatherings are generally held once a month, on a Tuesday evening.) at Menz Bar (often) but venues vary. Sorry, no 'drop ins'. Members and their Guests only!!

DalOUT: 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

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

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

Get Out, 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: 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

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

Halifax Sexual Health Centre: Annonymous 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: 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

Koinonia Ecumenical Church: Meaning 'community'. Call or email Pastor Elaine for more information. 876-8771 email: koinonia@ns.sympatico.ca (bi-weekly at 12:30pm) at Halifax Feast, Maritime Centre

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

Mount Pride: GLBTQ group at Mount Saint Vincent University. email: mountpride@yahoogroups.com, meets 1st Tuesday, and 3rd Tuesday (bi-weekly on Tuesdays at 12 noon) at The Diversity Center in Roseria on campus, and online (see email) 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.

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

Outlaw: 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: Support & education on issues

of sexual orientation & gender identity. 431-8500 email: halifaxns@pflagcanada.ca, meets 1st Thursday (902-431-8500) at Halifax Youth Project, 2281 Brunswick St

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

Pride Week: Producers of Atlantic Canada's largest LGBTQ cultural festival. 431-1194 email: info@halifaxpride.ca web: www.halifaxpride.ca (July 19 - 26, 2009)

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

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

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

Safe Harbour Metropolitan Community Church: A Christian Church with an affirming ministry 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

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

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

The Youth Project: Support, education and social activities for youth 25 and under across Nova Scotia. Weekly events, plus a youth food bank and STI testing on site. 429-5429 email: youthproject@youthproject.ns.ca web: www.youthproject.ns.ca, meets 1st Tuesday, and 3rd Tuesday (6-9pm) at 2281 Brunswick Street. 25 and under. Please refer to our website for details and schedule of upcoming events. 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,

Trans Family Nova Scotia: We are the Parents, Partners, Family, Friends & Allies of Trans-Identified Individuals. supporting one another. 902-431-8500 email: transfamily@eastlink.ca, meets 3rd Monday (6:30 to 8:30 pm) at The Youth Project (2281 Brunswick St., Halifax)

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

Kentville

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

Kingston

Valley Gay Men's Coffee House: socials for gay men; gay & lesbian dances 19+. 825-3197, 363-2055 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

Lunenburg

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

Middleton

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

New Glasgow

Pictou County Centre for Sexual Health: 695-3366 email: youth.access@ns.sympatico.ca
Pride of Pictou County: All GLBT in Pictou County. web: www.PrideofPictouCounty.ca (see web page for meeting info)

New Minas / Annapolis Valley

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

Sackville NB/ Amherst NS

PFLAG: Support and education for GLBT-T2IQ persons, friends & family. 506-536-4245 email: sacknb-amns@pflagcanada.ca web: www.pflagcanada.ca/en/prov-list-e.asp?RegionNo=6&ProvAbbr=NB, meets 2nd monday (Phone or e-mail for meeting location and details.) at Sackville: 112 Main Street or Amherst: 12 La Planche Street

Sydney

AIDS Coalition of Cape Breton: 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

Cape Breton University Sexual Diversity Centre: We provide a welcoming environment for GLBTQ people and their Allies. 902-563-1481 email: sdc@cbusu.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.

Group Harrison Society: Dances, Socials & Support Group for Cape Bretoners. (902)371-8752 web: groupharrisonsociety-dancespi.piczo.com, meets every Saturday (of every month Admission \$6.50 - \$5.50 for members- Restricted 19 yrs and over) at 780 Upper Prince Street Horizon Achievement Centre (Kinsmen), Sydney

PFLAG: 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

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

Tatamagouche

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

Truro

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

Northern AIDS Connection Society: HIV prevention education initiative serving counties Colchester, Pictou, Cumberland & East Hants. 895-0931 email: nacs@eastlink.ca web: northernaidsconnectionsociety.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.

PFLAG: Support & education on issues of sexual orientation & gender identity. 662.3774

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

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

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

Wolfville

Acadia Pride: Acadia Student Union's LGB-T2IQ group. 585-2165 email: acadiapride@acadiau.ca web: euler.acadiu.ca/~apride/, meets every Monday (9:00pm(during academic year)) at Beverage Forum (old SUB)

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

Yarmouth

Southwest Nova Pride: Gays, lesbians and those interested of any age are invited. We meet as a social gathering and support group and we are not church affiliated. 645-2914 email: jackanddan@eastlink.ca, meets 2nd Friday (7:00pm) at Beacon United Church on Beacon Street

Prince Edward Island (902)

AIDS PEI: AIDS PEI creates a supportive environment for PHA's to all residents of PEI. 902-566-2437 email: info@aidspei.com web: www.aidspei.com at 144 Prince Street Charlottetown, PE C1A 2R6

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

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

PFLAG Canada - PEI: Providing support, education and advocacy for GLBT persons, their families and friends in PEI. 902-887-3620 email: 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.

Charlottetown

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

MP Siksay cont'd from page 1

legislative process. While the sense of humour was still evident, the shy, soft-spoken man seemed to disappear while an engaged, quietly charismatic intelligence emerged.

Mr. Siksay urged his audience to continued activism on Transgender and other issues, including the importance of writing to Nova Scotian MPs and senators in support of C-389 and other LGBT legislation. When speaking of his fellow MPs from other parties, including the ruling Conservatives, Mr. Siksay quietly emphasized opportunities for cooperation. Keenly intelligent, compassionate, and funny; when Parliament resumes in the fall, LGBT Canadians can be confident that in Bill Siksay we have a gentleman in the House.

Trans cont'd from page 1

diffusion of information in the area of politics and Trans advocacy, the magazine is axed on the creation of a network dedicated to the trans community as well as the advancement and demystification of the transsexual experience. We are pleased that local transpeople have accepted our invitation to join the panel of this roundtable discussion to share their own stories.

As we expect a great turn out for this event at La Teraz, 154 Church Street, Moncton NB, we would appreciate an RSVP for planning purposes via an email to riverofpride@hotmail.com or our Facebook group, "Moncton's River of Pride." Out of town guests who might want to attend and make it an overnighter are reminded that Crown Plaza Moncton hotel is offering a special Pride rate easily accessed online: https://resweb.passkey.com/go/riverofpride, or call 1 (888) 233-9527. The reference for this special rate is "River of Pride."

Gay cont'd from page 1

look at the political dynamics of Gay Pride celebrations. The documentary examines the current state of Pride around the world and contrasts that to the increasing tolerance and participation by "mainstream" society that characterizes the celebrations in Canada.

Director Bob Christie teams up with Aerlyn Weissman ("Forbidden Love") in this panoramic meditation on the

state of our queer nations. A refreshing and clearly "western" perspective on LGBT rights at home and abroad, it features generous footage of local Pride events, and tense yet poignant interviews around the world with an international roster of LGBT human rights heroes.

Vancouver Pride Parade Director, Dartmouth native Ken Coolen, is taken on a mission to impart relevance in Vancouver's parade. In order to accomplish his goal, Coolen must transcend all the bleating whistles, parties, costumes, and thumping dance music because there are as many different Pride experiences as there are countries, and even cities, around the globe. With that in mind, Coolen travels to Moscow, Sao Paulo, and New York to witness and document the vast differences in the Pride movement around the world. The rights and freedoms of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transsexual communities enjoyed in Vancouver is not the standard everywhere, which is why Coolen brings the reality of what other GLBT communities face to the forefront.

The documentary looks at the deepening contrast between the more socially-accepted celebrations in North and South America and the international protest marches in nations where state-sanctioned homophobia is the norm, and there is no support from the business community.

Coolen's goal is to open the eyes of our communities to the battles that brought about Pride. In many countries, GLBT people are fighting for the simple right to assemble, while in others they are facing the logistical challenge of accommodating millions of attendees.

The film demonstrates the vast spectrum of Pride... from Sao Paulo's government-sponsored celebration that has grown to three million people in just 10 years, to Moscow and Warsaw Pride, where Coolen is one of the few brave souls who dare to march among violent radicals and witness for himself their aggressive hatred. View the film's trailer online at big-gaymovie.com/films/beyond-gay/trailer.

Please note that location details are not available at press time. Please check www.fiertemonctonpride.ca or our Facebook group "Moncton's River of Pride" for details.

Lay Chaplaincy Services

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

Susan Stephen & Gwen Armshaw Lay Chaplains
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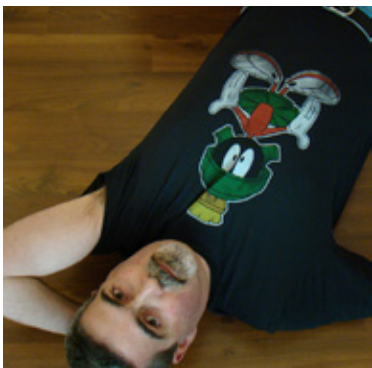
To learn more, or to set up an appointment with Anita, please call 220.0643 or e-mail: anita.keeping@cdhanshealth.ca



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The Last Word BullSh*t!

"Yes," I answered. "I've taken off about 20 pounds or so in the past few years."

"Wow," she said. Then she added, "You don't have AIDS, do you?"

Those of you know me know I'm seldom at a loss for words. I realized she was absolutely serious and I was gobsmacked. I couldn't believe someone living in Canada in 2010, gay or not, could say something so unbelievably daft.

"Oh, and isn't that parade of yours coming up?" she continued. "I don't get it. Everyone accepts you guys now and you have everything you want, so why do you still have to shove it down everyone's throat?"

I found my voice. "The majority never has to make itself known or fight for acceptance. If you really did accept 'us' then you wouldn't see my equality as something shoved down your throat."

End of discussion.

J—'s sentiment is nothing I've not heard before. It's typical heterosexual double-speak—"I don't have anything against gays, really, but would you please not mention your life in my presence?" How many times have you heard this: "Don't get me wrong,

I have gay friends, but... [insert whatever it is everyone else has but queers shouldn't]."

This is bullshit. Complete and utter bullshit. If said gay friends existed they've obviously exercised poor judgement in picking friends. The phrase "I have gay friends" in this context is nothing more than back-handed, half-apologetic pandering.

*If you really did accept
"us" then you wouldn't
see my equality as
something shoved
down your throat.*

I originally wrote a light, airy piece on the little mythologies we still find about ourselves. Something witty about the so-called "homosexual agenda," where taking over the world is slotted in between extracting a perfect espresso and dancing the night away. But the dismissive tone I detected in J—'s voice that evening is still bugging me, when it normally wouldn't. So I tossed the wit.

I fear I may have lost my sense of outrage. Many of us have. There's no fault to be pointed out, no blame to be laid. After years of working and fighting for equalities, we have in Canada what few other countries have been able to achieve. The big, public, riotous struggles—the bath-house raids in Toronto in 1981 and the Sex Garage raid in Montreal in 1990—those are done. The riots have been supplanted by parades and celebrations.

However, for every person who accepts us in public, there's another person who in private wishes us gone. Hate crimes against us are on the rise in Canada, and the laws of entire countries still demonize, imprison, maim and kill us. Religious intolerance is particularly pernicious—Pope Benedict himself decreed that gay marriage is one of "today's most insidious and dangerous threats to the common good." It's tantamount

to hate speech and we do ourselves no favours if we ignore it.

Heterosexism and casual homophobia are still rampant in society. From our straight-ally friends who sometimes forget how to introduce us as couples to their families to the out-and-out haters who, threatened by our very presence, lash out with punches and pontification. We fought for legal equalities, but they mean nothing if we don't back them up with an equally-fervent drive for social equality.

Our sensibilities are just as credible and worthy as anyone's. We need to continue educating our cherished allies and our detractors. We need to be more visible in our daily lives.

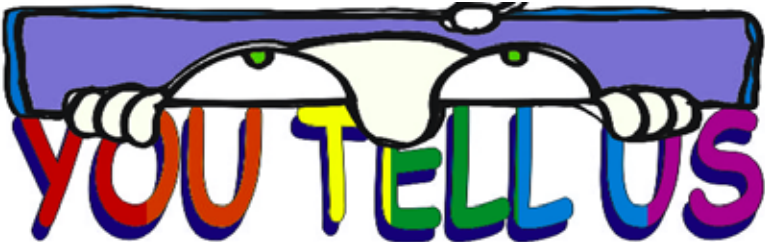
For me, instead of chalking up to ignorance the casual homophobia I encounter almost every day, I need to deal with it, be it verbally or in writing. I challenge everyone to pick up this gauntlet and run with it.

I have a way with words. It's time I started using them.

By Randall Perry

A couple of months ago a work colleague invited me to his house for the first barbecue of the season. He was eager to fire up the grill and get some people together from the neighbourhood. I would be the only person there from work, and since he and I don't travel the same social circles, I would also be the only single person and also the only queer. Since I'm always up for meeting new people, I accepted.

It started out well enough. The deck out back was full of couples, including one friend of my host (let's call her J—) I had met a few years back. I hadn't seen her since and she didn't notice I was there until I said hello, standing behind her in the line-up for burgers. After the usual chit-chat to catch up, she said, "You look different. I didn't notice you at first. You've lost some weight."



**Last month's question was,
"Summer's a great time to catch
up on all those books you've been
saving. What authors are you
planning to bring with you to the
cottage or beach this summer?
Mysteries? Romances? Thrillers?
And are you reading traditional
books or are you carting around an
e-book reader?"**

We figure a lot of you folks must be already at the cottage or beach, with no internet access, since we received only a few answers. At least people are reading!

Here are some summer paperback titles you sent us... Anne Carson's *Some "Nox,"* Clarissa Pinkola Estes' *"Women Who Run With the Wolves,"* Umberto Eco's *"The Infinity of Lists,"* Kate Beaton's *"Never Learn Anything From History,"* Lillian Necakov's *"The Sickbed of Dogs,"* a new translation of Simone de Beauvoir's *"The Second Sex,"* and *"2 or 3 Things I Don't Know About Her: Towards A Post-Feminist Manifesto."*

Someone's catching up on classics, using the Stanza reader on their iPhone. They've loaded it with Voltaire's *"Candide,"* *"Alice in Wonderland,"* *"Leaves of Grass,"* *"A Noiseless Patient Spider,"* *"Once a Cowboy,"* by Linda Warren, and *"Poems Every Child Should Know,"* and *"Poesies Completes,"* by Rimbaud.

And finally someone reading memoirs... *"City Boy,"* by Edmund White. *"Portrait of an Addict as a Young Man,"* by Bill Clegg. *"Born Round,"* by Frank Bruni. I'm also reading Joyce Carol Oates's new collection of essays and reviews, *"In Rough Country."* All in dead tree versions.

**This month's question: What do
you find most challenging about
getting a date? What's your best
experience? Your worst? You Tell Us
at wayves.ca**

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Happy Pride in Moncton Fredericton & Saint John!