

Wayves

Farewell To Ink

Dear Readers:

This is almost certainly news to you: even though the magazine is looking better than it ever has, Wayves has come to a crossroads in the last few months.

There's good news and there's bad news. The bad news first: Wayves, on paper, as you've been used to it for the past 25 years (and, five years sporadically before that) has to change. The December 2012 issue of Wayves will be the last one in print.

As I'm sure you have heard about other print media, it has become very difficult to sell print ads. Our long time back page advertiser, Cruiseline, will only be with us for a couple more issues, and that ad paid for half of the magazine's print and distribution costs.

In the words of our printer in Caraquet, NB, "The communication media has changed drastically in the last few years." In fact, if you're holding a paper in your hands, this is the last month that his print shop will be in operation.

So, let's get into the good news. There's a lot of it. And, there's a challenge to you.

Perhaps you're aware that Wayves has expanded to Wayves Online. We've been planning a move of the magazine to an all-web presence since early this year, and did a "soft launch" in late July – that is, we switched over to the new format without telling you. It's the same address as always, www.wayves.ca, but the website is all new and set up in "Web Magazine" format: individual articles, newest at the top. It's a whole new way for us to deliver your stories to your community.

We have a faithful and enthusiastic readership of over ten thousand people; we have a network of writers that extends around Atlantic Canada and beyond; we are one of the longest-lived magazines, queer or otherwise, in Atlantic

Canada and Canada itself; and last but not least, we have a rich history of quality, respected, trusted journalism in the queer community going back to the early '80s. And, we have a large base of advertisers who consider us vital partners for communicating with the queer community of Atlantic Canada.

With the electronic edition, we can deliver many more timely stories about events in the community. The deadline is always "right now" so that we no longer have to think months in advance to get a notice in the magazine. This is immediate gratification—write something tonight, people will be reading it tomorrow! And our "upcoming events" calendar, which has for several years been tangential to the paper edition, can once again be part of the news stream. We have essentially become a daily magazine with a need to present fresh stories, opinion, news, and humour, every morning.

In other news, after 10 years, our advertising manager, Jim Bain, is moving on. Chris Aucoin enthusiastically took over as ad manager on October 2. Chris and Jim have a long history together: they worked on the Maritime Pride Guide for a number of years, created many tourist maps, and published an impressive history magazine. Please welcome Chris to the team, and pass on any tips for potential advertisers to him via email, ads@wayves.ca. Do business—lots of business!—with our advertisers



who you see at wayves.ca, and tell them where you saw the ad.

And, perhaps the most exciting opportunity: with the vastly reduced printing and distribution costs, our long-time dream to pay our writers edges closer to reality.

Now on to our challenge, a challenge to you, a member of the Atlantic Canadian queer literati: we need a new team of people to pick up Wayves, finish re-inventing it, or possibly re-re-invent it. We need you and your voice more than ever.

You don't have to be located in Halifax, since the Wayves editorial team is already spread out geographically. You do have to be very comfortable working with a team electronically; we use email currently, often dozens of emails a day, but I can foresee that itself giving way to a new medium—something like Skype, either in chat, voice, or video, to continue to run the

magazine very successfully without a bricks and mortar office.

We need a half dozen or a dozen new people contributing a few hours a week, to run the magazine. We need writers, but we need people with other interests more: people to help make decisions, to encourage others to write, to check out articles as they come in, post articles to the web site, and promote the articles on Facebook, Twitter, and whatever media comes next.

So, if you have an interest in queer journalism and sharing our life stories in Atlantic Canada, please send a note to submissions@wayves.ca. We'll expand our team that way, and via a public meeting in November. If you're not currently on our mailing list, we'll add you and you'll be notified of that.

I'm looking forward to working with you in this challenging and exciting transition time.

Daniel MacKay, Publisher

A Major Step Backwards

On Oct. 5th the Supreme Court of Canada released its decision re two court cases regarding the criminalization of HIV status disclosure. The core of the decision is that the new standard re disclosure to potential sexual partners is that disclosure is not legally necessary so long as the HIV+ person has a low viral load AND a condom is used during sexual intercourse. HIV legal and prevention advocates argue that this new legal standard is massively over-reaching and ignores two decades of scientific knowledge re both treatment improvements and a much better and nuanced understanding of HIV transmission risk.

Below is the joint statement from:

- Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network,
- HIV/AIDS legal Clinic Ontario,
- Coalition des organismes communautaires québécois de lutte contre le sida,
- Positive Living BC,
- Canadian AIDS Society,
- Toronto People With AIDS Foundation,
- Black Coalition for AIDS Prevention,
- Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network.

"Unjust Supreme Court Ruling on Criminalization of HIV Major Step Backwards For Public Health and Human Rights"

As a coalition of interveners, we are shocked and dismayed at today's ruling by the Supreme Court of Canada that says that even the responsible use of a condom does not protect a person

living with HIV from rampant prosecution. The Court's judgments in R. v. Mabior and R. v. D.C., two cases relating to the criminalization

of HIV non-disclosure, are a cold endorsement of AIDS-phobia. They will stand as an impediment to public health and prevention, and add even more fuel to stigma, misinformation and fear. And they place Canada once again in shameful opposition to standards set out by international human rights bodies, UNADS and the Global Commission on HIV and the Law.

In its decisions, the Court purports to uphold its own 1998 decision standard that a "significant risk" of HIV transmission is required in order to trigger the legal duty to disclose. But this is an illusory limit to criminal law. It blatantly ignores solid science and opens the door to convictions for non-disclosure even where the risk of transmission is negligible, approaching zero. Even in 1998, when there was less science quantifying the small risks of HIV transmission than there is today and less effective

tive treatment for HIV, the Supreme court had ruled that condom-use might sufficiently reduce the risk below significantly" for the purpose of

"The Court's judgments ... are a cold endorsement of AIDS-phobia."

the criminal law. Yet now, 14 years later, despite advances in scientific knowledge, the Supreme Court decides condoms are not enough. In practice, today's ruling means that people risk being criminally prosecuted even in cases where

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HIV Court Case Background

Before this recent Supreme Court decision people living with HIV have had a legal duty to disclose their HIV status before engaging in behaviours that put another person at "significant risk" of transmitting HIV. However, what "significant risk" means legally has not ever been clearly defined. This legal duty came about as a result of a previous Supreme Court decision in 1998. The Supreme Court said at that time that not disclosing in such circumstances can legally amount to "fraud" that renders a partner's consent to sex legally invalid. That turns an otherwise consensual sex act into a sexual assault – even when no transmission of HIV takes place.

In practice, for the most part "significant

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Regular Columns



Groups & Services 9 • Kibitz & Bitch 4 • The New New Glaswegian 5 • NSRAP Report 3 • The 416er will return next issue



Deadline for December issue: Friday, November 2 (first Friday of every month!) submissions@wayves.ca • Online: www.wayves.ca • Join us on Facebook: Wayves Magazine Rocks! ... and on Twitter: @WayvesMagazine

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.

Advertising: Chris Aucoin, Advertising Manager, email at ads@wayves.ca or call 902-423-6999. Responsibility for errors in advertisements is limited to the value of the space.

Circulation: use the email address below. Subscriptions, per year, are in Canadian dollars: \$20 + 15% HST = \$23 in Canada, \$30 in the United States, and \$35 elsewhere. Send cheque or money order to the postal address below.

Wayves

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Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 3S1
submissions@wayves.ca
www.wayves.ca

Important WAYVES Dates!

Issue Content Deadlines: Friday November 2; that is, the first Friday of the month. You can send your news, ideas, comments, criticisms, columns, cartoons and more to submissions@wayves.ca any time!

Production Meetings (Halifax): Monday November 5; help decide what goes in the next issue, 6:30 PM, at a Place to be announced in Halifax. All welcome, every meeting.

Magazine Layout (Halifax): November 11; help build the paper—no special skills required, just enthusiasm, and joining us even once, or for a few hours, helps a lot! 9:30 AM. Email us for location.

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

Atlantic News

Rainbow Flag-Raising Ceremony in Sackville, NB



The Town of Sackville, the Sackville NB/Amherst NS Chapter of PFLAG Canada, and Catalyst, Mount Allison University's Queer/Straight Alliance invite you to join with them in celebration at the very first Rainbow Flag-Raising in the Town of Sackville, New Brunswick, on Thursday, October 18, 2012 at 12:00 noon in front of the new Sackville Town Hall, 31 Main Street.

The short ceremony will be a joyous celebration of diversity and pride. Everyone is welcome! Speeches by municipal and provincial dignitaries, politicians, and others, including Mayor Bob Berry, Eldon Hay, Janet Hammock (PFLAG), Kate Phillips (Catalyst) and Gerard Veldhoven, will be followed by the first performance of a new Pride Song written especially for this occasion by the outstanding Canadian composer Alasdair MacLean, and sung by Sackville baritone Lorne Altman. A Pride Cake and cold beverages will be served at the conclusion of the ceremony.

The tremendous significance of the Rainbow Flag-Raising ceremony to the GLBT community cannot be underestimated. For so many years, people who were gay were hidden from view, branded as criminals or as mentally ill. It has been a long, hard road up from this terrible state of affairs; because of the dedicated work of many people, both gay and straight, glbt citizens have achieved our rightful place as equals—in responsibilities and benefits—in society. The Rainbow flag-raising is a celebration of this victory—one which is shared by all members of our society, regardless of gender or sexuality. We celebrate together as human beings on this earth. What a joyous occasion it will be!

October HIV Prevention Workshops in Middleton.

Two HIV prevention workshops will be presented in Middleton on Oct. 24th. The sessions are for healthcare, social service, and community-based workers, as well as students in any of these disciplines. Women and gay men are also welcome to the respective sessions.

Our cover

this month is based on a photograph of dancer Leigh Alderson, by Miki Barlok

The first session on women's HIV prevention is titled "Safer Spaces" and is a harm reduction approach to HIV prevention among women. It will include a basic overview of what HIV is and how it is transmitted, and cover the biological, social & cultural factors that contribute to women's risk of infection. The second session, Gay Men's Health & HIV Prevention, covers the latest in HIV prevention approaches, other health issues of particular concern for gay men, as well as addressing best practices regarding how to best work with gay men as patients.

Presented by the AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia, these two free workshops will be held on Wednesday Oct. 24th at the Soldiers Memorial Hospital, Middleton. Contact Michelle Evans at pc@acns.ns.ca or 1-800-566-2437, ext 226 for more information.

PC Rainbow Community

by Nikki Braniff, Pictou County Centre for Sexual Health
I am so pleased and excited to announce the beginning of a new Pride organization for Pictou County. The county has been in need of such a community for a number of years now, and the Pictou County Centre for Sexual Health has stepped up to the plate. The organization is

called the PC Rainbow Community. It strives to live up to its name by providing members of the Pride community a chance to network in a safe, supportive group of friends and family. We wish to welcome all people, and of all ages, who want to be a part of building this group. People who are bisexual, lesbian, gay, gender variant and transgender, two spirited, queer, and every other identity that falls under the rainbow umbrella! This is also meant to be inclusive of our supporters, too—family, friends, significant others and allies. This group can extend into surrounding areas of Cumberland County and Antigonish County, where, (to my humble knowledge) there are not currently any active pride groups outside of a school setting.

In rural areas it is very difficult to meet other people in the Pride community. You have to "know someone" who is connected to other queer folk in order to meet new friends who share similar views. It's a bit of an underground, and it can leave out a lot of awesome people who are new to the area or just coming out. It certainly can exclude the families of queer folk who may be in need of support. The idea here is to bring people together either in person or via technology/telephone to unite in all the ways that can enrich our lives. As we go forward we will hear from each other what we need and want in terms of events and support—we're ready to bring together all sorts of different non-alcoholic family friendly events.

Along with the social "in-person" activities we are planning, we are also coming up with a way to create a network that people can use to connect for various non-group activities. We want to provide more than one avenue for people to find others for everything from carpools to volunteer programs. With this organization having a solid backing from the Pictou County Centre for Sexual Health, we can be confident in its continuity.

Our first event was a potluck dinner at the North End Recreation Centre, New Glasgow (534 High St) on Thursday, September 20th from 6:00pm to 8:00pm.

For more information about this and other events, or to share your input, you can contact us at pcrainbowcommunity@hotmail.com or by phone at 902-695-3366. You can find our Facebook page under PC Rainbow Community. We look forward to seeing you!

Queer Religion Class

Saint Mary's Queer Religions Class invites you to an evening to explore the question of what challenges and rewards come from being both a Queer and religious person. Our panel of guests will share their personal triumphs and pains they faced when choosing to stay or leave their religious denomination. The spectrum of voices will span the religious

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NSRAP
NOVA SCOTIA RAINBOW ACTION PROJECT
Equality for All

Presents

Spirited Activism

NSRAP Annual Fundraising Gala

Saturday, **October 20th** @ 6:00 pm
Marriott Harbourfront

Cocktails, Silent Auction, 3-Course Dinner, Live Entertainment and Dance

Tickets: \$125/person, \$1,250/table

The **Nova Scotia Rainbow Action Project** works across Nova Scotia as a social, legal and political advocate for LGBTQ communities.

Community Hero Award
Karen Finnigan

Keynote Speaker
The Honourable
Darrell Dexter, M.L.A.
Premier of Nova Scotia

Celebrity MC
Candy Palmater

Musical Entertainment
DJ Motlette

Musical Performance by **Stewart Legere**
Raymond Taavel Media Award: **Jesiah MacDonald**
Corporate Stewardship Award: **prideHealth** (program of CDHA & IWK)

Purchase tickets securely online at www.nsrp.ca/gala
For sponsorship and other information, contact NSRAP at 902.444.3206 or email gala@nsrap.ca



Gala Sponsors

We encourage you to demonstrate your activism by wearing purple in honour of **Spirit Day**, showing support for LGBTQ youth who face bullying.

www.nsrp.ca

Where to find Wayves

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

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

lots of back issues on line. Also get the complete list of our distributors in Atlantic Canada and around the country. If there are none handy to your home, write to submissions@

wayves.ca and tell us where we should be! If you'd like to be notified when the current issue is online, email us at submissions@wayves.ca!

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sphere and it is our hope that we will all grow in our understanding of how religion impacts us all.

November 8, 2012 at 7 PM, Atrium 101 at Saint Mary's University, 5940 Inglis St. Please RSVP via Facebook for more details:

<http://www.facebook.com/events/506100959419018/>

3rd Annual RBC Amazing Challenge

The 3rd Annual RBC Amazing Challenge for AIDS will take place on October 20th, 2012. Teams can still sign up to participate in this physically and mentally challenging race, the AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia announced today.

In October, teams of five will face off to win by participating in challenges located throughout Halifax. It is an Amazing team building opportunity for corporate groups, businesses and a fun way for friends to challenge one another. If you feel you don't know your team members, you will be by the end of the challenge event. Past events have included: roller-cycling at Cyclesmith; mixology at Seasons by Atlantica; acting at Neptune Theatre; yoga at Moksha Yoga and make-up application at the Remedy Spa, just to name a few. The event day includes 16-20 challenges where team members will need to strategize which team members are the best team members are best to complete tasks requiring skills from problem solving and athleticism to knowledge of hit songs and much more.

"It was only three years ago with support from RBC that the AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia (ACNS) launched the challenge and it has become one of our most popular events that provides financial support for the programs and services for people living with HIV/AIDS, and those most at risk across Nova Scotia. Without this event and the support from teams raising funds, ACNS would not be able to offer the wide variety of programs across Nova Scotia," explains Maria Mac Intosh, Executive Director of ACNS. "It's a fun event for everyone from the staff team and volunteers of ACNS to those participating in the event."

"HIV/AIDS continues to be a pressing medical issue in our communities. We recognize the important work the AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia does in providing programming and services to those impacted by this disease," says Glen Dormody, RBC Regional Vice President for Metro Halifax. "The RBC Amazing Challenge is a way to create dialogue about HIV/AIDS, raise funds and have fun at the same time."

Teams will have the "challenge" of raising \$3,000 in support of the programs and services of ACNS. Near forty percent of ACNS's annual budget comes from support received through events like this one which ensures our success in making a difference. In return, for the dedication and commitment from teams fundraising, teams will be awarded with the experience of a lifetime.

Please join Cyril Lunney and Heidi Petracek from CTV Morning Live, the Chester Cheetahs, the Core Cherry Bombs and the RBC Roaring

Lions for a fun-filled day. Initially scheduled for the month of May, we are allowing more time for teams to register for the event and to get prepared for the big day. By participating in the event your team will gain exposure through press releases, event launches and online recognition. The first place team will win a night out for dinner on us or the option of an ad in the coast to show off your team's triumph!

To register and for more information please visit our website, www.rbcamazingchallengehalifax.com.

AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia 1668 Barrington Street, Suite 401, Halifax, NS B3J 2A2 Tel. (902) 425-4882, ext. 224 Fax (902) 422-6200

ARCPEI Gears Up For Fall Season

After a successful Pride 2012, ARCPEI has planned a fall season full of fun activities and events for the Island's LGBTQ community.

The group will continue with their popular Saturday night dances at Mavor's, but with a bit of a twist. Each dance will be themed, centring around one of the colours of the pride flag. And the last Saturday in October will be their Halloween bash.

The group is also holding a community spaghetti dinner on October 14th at St. Paul's church in Charlottetown.

"Our community dinner has been very successful in the past," says Georgia Dawn Moase, secretary for ARCPEI. "It is a great way for LGBTQ community and their supporters to come together to share a meal and socialize in a relaxed environment."

The community dinner is a major fundraiser for the group, with funds raised going towards Pride 2013. Tickets are \$12 and can be purchased at the door. For more information on the dances or the community dinner, please email info@arcpei.

Events schedule

- "Red" party October 6 from 11 p.m. to 2 a.m.
- "Orange" party October 20 from 11 p.m. to 2 a.m.
- Halloween bash October 27 from 11 p.m. to 2 a.m.

Happy Halloqueen!

Rainbow Bridges hosts Happy Halloqueens Princes and Princesses Dance Night, a social and dance for all LGBTQ and friends, being held at the Rotary Center in the Hebron



Recreational Complex in Yarmouth, Saturday October 27th, at 8 p.m..

Free admission with complimentary snacks and Non-alcoholic beverages for purchase. Donations accepted at the door. Hope to see all you drama queens and dancing ghouls (not to forget all those draqueerlas and queerwolves out there) partying to the stroke of midnight. Should be quite a Gay-La!

NSRAP Report

Spirited Activism

by Kirk Furlotte

Two years ago, a high school student named Brittany McMillan recognized the bullying that LGBTQ youth face in high schools. To highlight the challenges these youth face, Brittany created Spirit Day; where all LGBTQ adults, youth and allies are encouraged to wear purple to shed light on the ongoing bullying faced by queer youth. It is in this spirit that NSRAP is proud to announce our 2012 Heroes.

Karen Finnigan is the recipient of the Rev. Darlene Young Community Hero Award. Karen is a social worker for the Cape Breton District Health Authority and was nominated for her work in creating safe spaces for LGBTQ Cape Bretoners. Karen has helped several GSAs in the area form and get off the ground. How did Karen react to the news of her win? "I cried. A lot. I told my partner, and she cried with me." Karen is modest about her win though – she considers herself one of many heroes in Cape Breton and around the province, "I am just one small piece of a much larger puzzle."

Our media award was re-named the Raymond Taavel Media Award this year and the first-ever recipient is Jesiah MacDonald. You probably know his name from his very public human rights complaint against MSI for transphobic discrimination. When Jesiah had a medically necessary hysterectomy, he was billed for it as part of his transition. Jesiah stepped forward and became a spokesman for trans rights in the province. While Jesiah never met Raymond Taavel, he knows of the importance of his legacy: "I hope that I can accomplish a quarter of the good that he did in his short lifetime."

prideHealth, a program of the Capital District Health Authority and the IWK, specializes in

providing services for LGBTIQ patients, as well as training for staff. When told that their small program was winning the Corporate Stewardship Award, Cybelle Rieber, pride-Health Coordinator, says she was surprised and honoured. Cybelle was particularly appreciative that members of the community are starting to recognize prideHealth as a valuable resource for the community. "It made me feel that the work we're doing is validated through the recognition."

We invite you to join us on Saturday, October 20th at the Halifax Marriott Harbourfront to recognize the valuable contributions each of these award recipients has made to Nova Scotia. The evening will begin at 6 p.m. with cocktails and a silent auction. Awards will be distributed throughout the evening's three-course meal with entertainment provided by Candy Palmater, host of the Candy Show, as mistress of ceremonies and Halifax performer Stewart Legere will grace attendees with his musical stylings. Delivering the keynote address will be Premier Darrell Dexter; his second time speaking at our gala, the first as premier. Following the meal, the dancing will begin! DJ Motlette (of Retro at the CoHo fame) will get you outta your seats and onto the dance floor.

To find out more or purchase tickets, please visit <http://nsrap.ca/gala>.

Kirk Furlotte is the chair of NSRAP's Communication & Membership Committee. To find out more about NSRAP, visit nsrap.ca, facebook.com/nsrap or twitter.com/nsrap.

Moncton River Of Pride

by Nathan Adams, Moncton Bureau Chief

River of Pride held the 13th annual Pride week celebration in Moncton in August, and despite the fact that most of the board of directors resigned shortly before the weeks events took place, it was a HUGE success. From a sold out pride dinner at Petit Cavalier, to hundreds of people partying it up at Triangles Night Club for the Pride dance, The remaining executive and the newly elected interim board did an amazing job putting events together and keeping everything running smoothly. The atmosphere was great, people of all ages came out to show their support and take part in the activities throughout the week.

Sebastien Bezeau, the River of Pride committee's interim media coordinator, stated in an interview with Times and Transcript, the parade yesterday, and the whole week of River of Pride events, went extremely well, with the greatest number of registered delegations ever." This means that we need to continue what we're doing; that there's obviously some good work that's being done and we're progressing on the issue."

Corey Richard Hunter, also known as Miss Roxi Dior, reflected back on the week by stating, "It was a pleasure to be involved with Moncton Pride for the first time this year. All week we were amazed by the number of people supporting and attending these events. It was such a great feeling! The community really pulled together to provide entertaining and

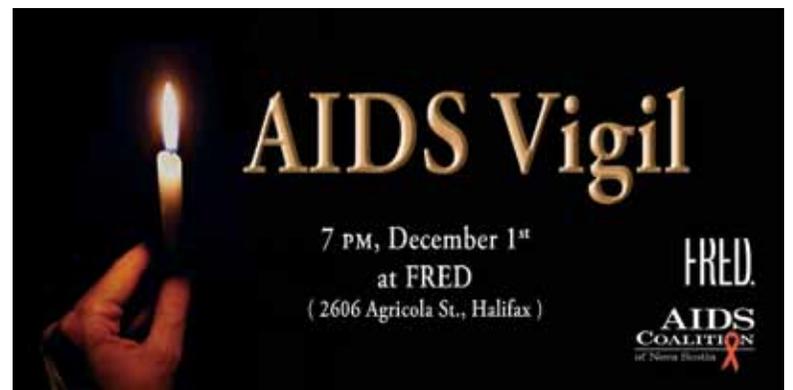
attractive events that brought in the crowds." Corey, who hosts Karaoke at Triangles, also performed at the celebration along with Trixy Slamback, Marc Eden from Sackville, NB and Miss Alexis Styles Davenport from Prince Edward Island. "A shout out to all the other performers and the whole community for their support in making it a great day."

Stella Fougere and Evie Lane of Triangles Night Club stated that they cannot say enough to River of Pride for the great job they did "Wayne Richard, Jon Chaisson and the crew should be very proud of the work they did, every event that they put on was a success. They worked extremely hard along with their volunteers and we are particularly grateful for all the help organizing and decorating for the events held at Triangles. A huge thank you to everyone involved in the festivities, including the participants

and all of our patrons."

I personally would like to thank everyone for coming out and taking part in all the events, The River of Pride Committee, past and present, it was nice to see faces of committee members spanning the last 13 years helping out and showing support. Eldon Hay, you never cease to amaze me, thanks for coming out. And thank you all for letting me represent the LGBT Community of Greater Moncton through the pages of Wayves! I've been saying this for many years, Acceptance equals progress, as long as we keep reaching out and moving forward, only amazing things will come!

So what is the plan for next year? River of Pride will shortly be announcing the date for the Annual general meeting, a look back at this years events and to elect the new board of directors.



Wayves is brought to you by

Randall Perry
Will Murray

Anita Martinez
Cam MacLeod

Daniel MacKay
Ralph Higgins

Kirk Furlotte
Michael Davies-Cole

Chris Aucoin
Nathan Adams

Crawford Hastie's Kibitz & Bitch

Hey Tom,

If someone sends me a gift – which is nice, right? – but the gift is a pair of underwear with the brand name Nasty Pig, should I still feel happy about it? I mean, I like the underwear; they snuggle nicely in all the right places. I'm just not sure about the intent of the giver.

Funny how I once thought that at a certain age everything would make sense and yet, as I get older, I find that fewer and fewer things are straightforward and clear. This past year has brought lots of changes: my mother passed away, and then dear Raymond had his flame snuffed out. Change is not a bad thing, Tommo, just difficult to adapt to sometimes.

I'm getting ready to pack up my things from my apartment, moving to a different part of the province, an action which I like to think of as a new adventure. Change is always risky I guess: coming out, first sexual experience, buying a car – and hoping you will be able to make the payments, going back to school all the while wondering if the brain will still function and whether or not you are an old fool for believing in possibilities.

I met up recently with a man who thought that sex with another man might be a "neat experience." He was fun and rather sexy in a naive can-you-believe-how-good-this-feels kind of way. He lay there afterwards, naked and nostalgic, and tells me about all the wrong turns he has taken in his life but how those wrong turns have brought him to the right road that he is on now. While I'm thinking, God, it is getting late and I have an early morning coming up, but of course I don't say that because that's not how I was raised, so instead I smile encouragingly, which he can't see because he is one of those "let's have the light dim" people, i.e. I'm not comfortable with my body and/or with what we are about to do together so if the light is low perhaps no one (like God) will notice.

These post-coital conversations sometimes take a surprising turn. Like the man who moments before was deep into the Please-Coach-don't-make-me-do-that role suddenly springs up and goes over to my stereo and begins gently stroking my speakers and moaning about how the paper in my bass woofers creates the best sound ever. I love people who are passionate about something but shouldn't there be a little bit of a transition period? I was still caught in the moment where he was making me create some of my best sounds ever.

Remember when CDs first came in and we were all told that vinyl was passé? Well, now, suddenly, according to my submissive audiophile friend, vinyl is now the hot commodity and you can actually buy turntables again. Interesting, isn't it, Tom? Everything old is new again, as the song goes, which gives great hope to you and me, eh, Tom?

Who was it who said that the only consistent thing in life is change? Wayves, the LGBT newspaper for Atlantic Canada, is now moving away from paper and ink into the virtual, cyber realm. I don't really understand how all this happens – I'm still struggling with the microwave bouncing around molecules to heat my leftovers – but apparently this is the newest thing and nobody reads anything anymore that doesn't appear on a computer screen in some fashion. I blame Facebook, Tom, but really what is one to do? Adapt and move on, is my motto.

Speaking of social media, I have an erstwhile friend who has, unaccountably, dropped me as a friend, Tom. I don't know why exactly or even when it happened – so perhaps we weren't really friends at all, but rather acquaintances – but at some point I noticed that while he continued to comment on other Facebook users statuses – trying a bit too hard to be clever and interesting, in my view – he totally ignored my witty entries, not even "liking" them or adding the occasional "LOL. He has not gone so far as to "unfriend" me, but one can read between the lines, even when the lines are produced electronically, Tom."

Some changes can be transformative. For example, I have discovered recently, from watching a DIY show that a ratty, old lamp that looks sad, brittle and yellow, can be turned into a brilliant, welcoming light display, just by replacing the lampshade. Who knew that those hunky men wielding power tools and displaying muscles in tee shirts, actually know something about home improvement that didn't involve them showing up and being visually, physically stunning?! Well, this has changed my life, Tom – the lamp idea, not the sexy handymen. Every corner and table of my apartment now has an aesthetically pleasing beacon of friendly warmth residing in or on it. All ready to be packed into a box and moved to my new place. Sigh.

What was I saying before? Oh, right: Adapt and move on.
Love ya!



A Proud History...

by Chris Aucoin

Recently I undertook doing some historical research on early GLBTQ organizing in Halifax. Community history has long been an interest of mine. With this past July being Halifax's 25th annual Pride festival, I decided that it was time to find a way to do more work in this area: to both celebrate how far we've come in just a few decades, and to show how very much has changed – especially for the benefit of those under 30 (GLBTQ or not).

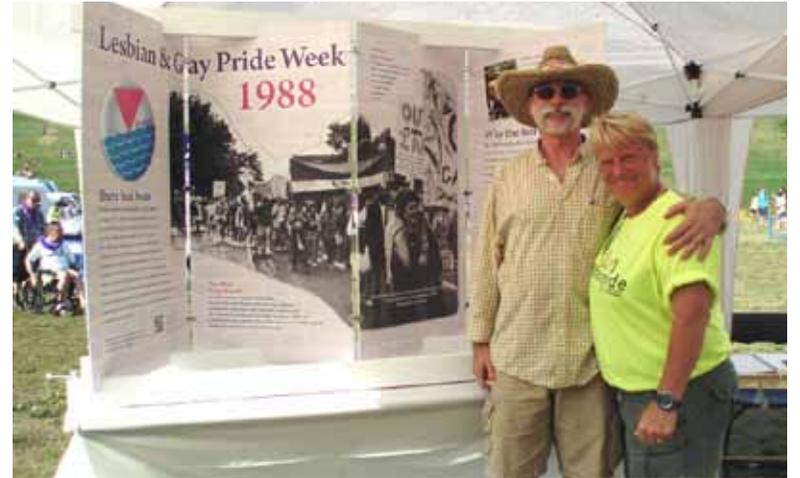


Exhibit writer / designer Chris Aucoin with Halifax Pride Chair Krista Snow in front of a portion of the Hfx.Pride 88 exhibit after the parade on Pride Day.

But it's not easy to do research on GLBTQ community history. Until very recently we worked hard to remain invisible as a way to avoid persecution. That's changed a lot (because of the great progress we've made) but while GLBTQ people are now more willing to talk about our lives, sometimes that's all we have to go on. Historical records about us are scant, and often incomplete, and frequently biased. And whether you're doing archival research (going through records) or oral histories (interviewing people in person) it's a lot of work to document history, but it's important that we do so.

Fortunately a couple things made it possible for me to take this project on. One was working with the Nova Scotia Rainbow Action Project to ac-

cess financial support from the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage to do historical research. Another was to have Halifax Pride accept my proposal to do a small history exhibit on Hfx.Pride 88 (that first, of our now annual, Pride festival in Halifax), and especially to showcase how much the legal and social climate has changed since then. If you missed the Hfx.Pride 88 exhibit look for it this fall as I'm hoping to find other opportunities to have it on display.

The research continues so if you were a pre-1990 community activist or organizer, and/or you've got memories, records, artefacts or photos of key people or events please get in touch. I can be reached at CAucoin@eastlink.ca

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Battles Past, Battles Ahead

by Bob Frederickson

I went to see Gen Silent last night—a powerful film. As one who is 64 years old and optimistically consider myself on the “cusp” of aging, it stirred many feelings. None of us feel our age, so it was hard to look at those “seniors” and realize they were all of my generation—probably all have been stoned at some time, maybe even took acid, some probably lived in communes, some marched in Selma or Stonewall or both—and if it’s hard for me to look at them and realize that we probably got stoned together sometime, it must be nigh impossible for someone who is only 25 or 30 to see us in that light at all.

Our generation has journeyed a long way, and each us has our own private scars from that journey. I personally have been beaten and shot at for being in the right (wrong?) place at the wrong time in this town. There was hardly a Monday morning in my office that I didn’t see one or two people who had been beaten over the weekend in cruising areas, but who were too afraid to go to emergency for fear of “being found out.” I have accompanied police to the morgue to identify bodies of my patients who have been murdered in cruising areas. While this has changed drastically for the better over the past 35 years, it has not disappeared. It is still difficult to be LGBT—the majority of adolescent male suicides and attempts have a degree of homosexual panic associated with them—a fact still too often overlooked in emergency rooms.

But it is easier than it was—and mostly because of what our generation has done—not because we were altruistic, but because we couldn’t exist with things the way they were. From Stonewall to gay Pride, to Act Up, to Proposition 8 in California, we have been battling since 1969, and many from even before. We have evolved to gay marriage, gay elected officials and welcoming congregations. I remember Jane Kansas writing several years ago about the phenomenon of being “over the rainbow”—that was a combination of

recognizing how far we’d come along with the exhaustion of the battle. It was a sense of needing to sit back and take a rest for a while.

Our generation has had a blanket of dysphoria with which to contend—partially from the self loathing that was inculcated in each of us by a society that bred us to know we were God’s mistake, and also from the horrendous loss and grief that HIV wreaked on us—to the point where many of us lost most of our people—our confidantes, friends, and lovers. We find ourselves tired at a time when some of our biggest battles loom ahead—aging in a heretofore unwelcoming population, aloneness, and the possibility of needing care in facilities that are scared and ignorant of what LGBT needs are. Yet, we are tired and don’t have the “fight” we once had—many of us are limited by physical or medical issues, and we will need help.

For you who are younger and think this scene is too far away from you to be of real concern, I remember when I was 21 with a swimmers’ body cruising the baths of San Francisco and 64 year old men would come by, I usually would tell them “thank you anyway” thinking, “Wow! I can’t imagine being that old.” Maybe it’s a good thing that fixed incomes don’t allow for too many entrance fees to the baths, and it is hellishly hard to convince the guy at the front window that you deserve the student rate—but I can tell you that you become that 64 year old guy faster than you’d ever think (and hopefully, you’ve thrown away the Speedos).

We need youthful energy to help us with these battles, and I’ll be haughty enough to say I think we’ve earned it. Not that we intend to sit back passively (even given whatever limitations we may have, that is *not* nor has it ever been my generation’s wont), but we are all in this together, and we have all come such a long way—let us further along as family. As Abe Lincoln said, “it is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.”

A Major Step Backwards

...continued from page 1

they exercised responsibility and took precautions, such as using condoms – which are 100% effective when used properly.

Adding to continued injustice, the Court’s actions will seriously undermine public health efforts. Criminalizing HIV non-disclosure in this way creates another disincentive to getting an HIV test and imposes a chill on what people can disclose to health professionals and support workers. People living with HIV need more health and social supports; they don’t need the constant threat of criminal accusation and possible imprisonment hanging over their heads. Similarly, people not living with HIV need to be empowered to accept responsibility for their own health, and not proceed under a false sense of security that the criminal law will protect them from infection. In short, the Court’s actions will have deleterious effects not only on the lives and health of people living with HIV, but on all of us, through fostering a climate of fear and recrimination.

While we welcome the Court’s acquittal of D.C. – an acknowledgement of at least one miscarriage of justice – the onus must now fall to those protecting the health and defending the dignity of people living

with HIV. We also call on Crown prosecutors to use their discretion and refuse to be complicit in injustice just because the Court gave them the power to do so. It is not in the public interest to prosecute people living with HIV where condoms have been used or where a person has low or undetectable viral load. Prosecution in such cases will only perpetuate misinformation, pander to prejudice and undermine efforts at HIV prevention and treatment.



The New New Glaswegian

by Gerard Veldhoven

Queer Global News

The Scottish Government has plans to legalize same-sex marriage. Two thirds of all people who responded to a consultation on the issue said they are against the change. As predicted, the Church of Scotland and the Catholic Church oppose the move. Nicola Sturgeon, the Deputy First Minister said, “We believe that in a country that aspires to be an equal and tolerant society, as we do in Scotland, then this is the right thing to do.” This statement reminds us of Prime Minister Paul Martin who acknowledged he did not personally approve of the change in the law, but said, “it is the right thing to do.” New polls in Scotland indicate that 65% are in favour and 35% against the change. Legislation will be formally introduced to Parliament early next year and will go into effect January first, 2015. There seems to be agreement in parliament to not hold up new legislation. Churches will be allowed to conduct queer marriages if they wish. This would be done on an opt-out basis rather than opt-in basis. A spokesman for the Catholic Church in Scotland said, “The Scottish Government is embarking on a dangerous social experiment on a massive scale.”

After legalizing homosexuality in India, the new law has minimal effect on discrimination and homophobia. The country is struggling with the issue as basic rights remain difficult to obtain. However, India’s queer friendly businesses are competing for customers. Travel agencies are promoting travel in India with single beds not as the only option. Bars are opening their doors to accommodate queer customers. India has a long way to go, but realizes the lucrative market from the queer community. Pressure from businesses may have some influence in the community at large, thus raising awareness.

The Chilean government passed an anti-discrimination bill. The president signed it into law in July. Chile is one of the most conservative countries in Latin America. Some protestant churches opposed the legislation, saying it would be a step toward gay marriage. The Roman Catholic Church, which is a powerful influence over Chilean society, also expressed grave concerns about the law, but gay and human rights activists are hailing it as a step toward equality. President Pinera is proposing a law that would grant inheritance and other rights to queer couples. The changes are largely due to a murder of

a gay man who had swastikas carved into his body.

In Turkey, a man shot his son five times because he was gay. The 2008 shooting remains in the news as the father is still a fugitive. The murder is considered to be Turkey’s first gay “honour killing.” The murdered man’s lover, Ibrahim Can who is forty seven, lives in Germany and continues his activism. The LGBT movement in Turkey celebrated its 20th anniversary July 15th. In 1992, twenty-five people were brave enough to march through the streets of Istanbul. In July of this year an astonishing twenty thousand people took part. Turkey ranks as one of the worst countries in Europe for LGBT rights, along with Ukraine, Moldova and Armenia.

Here at home, the Roman Catholic bishops in Ontario are joining forces to strongly object to a change in the Education Act that would include an amendment to deal with bullying against the LGBT community. They also object to gay/straight alliance groups in schools. Toronto’s archbishop, Cardinal Tomas Collins, also added his voice to object to the proposed changes. The group insists that LGBT students that are bullied should not be a separate issue. Studies in the US have found that queer youths are bullied two to three times more than straight youths. A study done by Egale Canada has concluded that 20.8 per cent of LGBT students are physically abused due to their sexual orientation compared to 7.9 per cent of straight students. Word is that even though the bishops object, the changes are in the works and will be implemented, as they should.

South Korea’s LGBT population is facing many obstacles in spite of the Korean Human Rights Committee Law that states, “no individual is to be discriminated against on the basis of his or her sexual orientation.” Even though sexual activity among queer people is legal in South Korea, equal rights issues remain in limbo. Awareness remained low until recently, but is on the upswing due to debates, entertainment, media coverage and celebrities coming out in public. Sex reassignment surgeries are allowed after age twenty and gender information changes are officially noted in documents. This country has made gigantic leaps in terms of acceptance of transgender people, more so than any other Asian nation.

Background

...continued from page 1

risk” has been understood by the legal system to mean (1) unprotected sexual intercourse (anal or vaginal); or (2) sharing injecting equipment (needles and syringes) that contains HIV-infected blood. Both of those examples are considered “high risk” behaviours for HIV transmission by those who work in HIV care and/or prevention.

However the lack of clear guidelines has left lots of room for interpretation - which has sometimes

meant vastly different standards in different court cases. It hasn’t been entirely clear whether or not people living with HIV have had a legal duty to disclose their HIV status to sexual partners before engaging in activities that pose low or only theoretical risk of HIV transmission (e.g., oral sex without a condom or intercourse with a condom).

Both the legal issues and the health issues around this are complicated. While all parties with an interest in this want to prevent new HIV infections, there are many and complex things to consider in how best to do

that within a legal framework. People can’t disclose that they are HIV+ if they don’t know, and those who work in prevention at the grass roots level believe that criminalizing the non-disclosure of HIV status significantly contributes to HIV/AIDS stigma, which, in turn, discourages people from getting tested in the first place. Research has increasingly suggested that it’s those who are infected, but who are not tested and under treatment, that pose the biggest risk (individually and collectively) for passing on the virus.

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Out, Proud, and



photo by sasha onyschenko

Leigh Alderson is an award-winning ballet dancer from Portadown, Northern Ireland. He currently makes Moncton's Atlantic Ballet Theatre of Canada home, and his new album *Curly Disco* was released on iTunes in October. Nathaniel Adams, *Wayves'* Moncton Bureau Chief, recently met with Leigh to talk about his career, coming out as a gay man, discussed stereotypes about homosexuality in dance, his upcoming album, and much more.

What inspired you to become a dancer?

Where I'm from in Northern Ireland, art [and] ballet is very under-developed with little opportunity to see it, and I just wanted to do it. I asked my mother to enrol me in a six-week course and she thought it would just cool my gills and that would be the end of it, but then I really loved it and wanted to do it full time. My mother rolled her eyes and said "fine," and placed me in a school. I just wanted to do it without even having a real concept of what it was.

What work have you done as a dancer that has meant the most to you?

Rudi Van Danzig was a choreographer who came to watch a ballet class when I was in London and took me and a girl to Toronto to do a piece titled "Four Last Songs." It was so beautiful; the music was stunning. It was very influential, and when I look back, the feeling I got when I was performing it at 19 is why I do this, and why I totally love dance.

What would you consider to be your dream role?

Romeo, from *Romeo and Juliet*. The music is stunning, and it's this boyish, in love, kinda foolish guy—it would be a fun character to play.

I do welcome any challenge of any type of role. I enjoy acting and think this would be an ideal role for me to play.

Where do you see yourself in 5-10 years?

A dancer's career is so short, most people are retiring from the age of 28-34. You pretty much spend the same amount of time training as you do having a career, and that's it. A lot of people tend to get out of dance completely and do something totally different. For me I can't imagine doing anything that didn't involve the theatre or ballet. I would love to eventually be the director of my own company. I love choreographing things, so definitely would have to be something creative; I couldn't do anything 9 to 5ish, I feel as if my soul would die.

What made you decide to move to Moncton?

It wasn't really a conscious decision to move to Moncton—the ballet company was here. I guess you can say I moved for work. There are a lot of good aspects to Moncton, but I'm more of a city boy... I do love the beach though; it's amazing. I don't think I will be in Moncton a whole lot longer, I feel I've done what I needed to achieve here. The best part of this job is you get to travel the world, there are so many companies in different parts of the world... For that reason I would want to keep travelling and see what the world has to offer.

Do you think there is a stereotype that dancers are gay?

Totally there is! A lot of people think that ballet is full of gay people - not at all! The percentage of straight dancers to gay is probably very even actually, if not more straight dancers. You would be surprised how many dancers in a company are married, coupled up or have kids.

Do you encounter any homophobia in your line of work?

Not anymore. There was a homophobic attitude when I was growing up, but you can pretty much pin that down to kids being kids, being ignorant, thoughtless and not understanding.

Is being a gay man an important part of your identity?

First and foremost, I'm Leigh. I have different aspects, different tastes, different opinions. Fundamentally, I'm Leigh, who happens to be a gay man. That's not to say I'm not proud to be gay, or love the fact that I'm gay—I think it's amazing, I think that being gay is an incredible thing, but I don't introduce myself as "Hello, I'm a gay man, my name is Leigh." I find some people introduce themselves first as being gay. I enjoy the lifestyle but there are so many more aspects to me than just being labelled as gay.

How was your coming-out?

"My coming-out was very recent. From the age of about 19 I was out to friends and work



colleagues. I got engaged earlier this year, and sadly my fiancé is no longer with us. That was the moment I had to come out and speak to my mother and finally say it. I was expecting it to be so bad. I'm 25, I left it along time compared to most people. I feel like a bit of a coward for that, but it just wasn't the right time for me just yet. After a little annoyance on her behalf, she accepted it, was happy for me and wished I didn't take so long to say it. It happened at the time it was supposed to happen and I have no regrets.

What are your thoughts about Gay Pride in Moncton?

I think people need to think outside of the box and try to inspire something that has somewhat plateaued and isn't going to progress. If you're on a committee, it's your job, if you're overseeing something, to inspire people, and if you don't feel passionate enough about it, don't do it. If someone criticizes and raises a concern, people are so quick to wag a finger, but honestly, they must be thinking the same thing themselves. At least I'm saying something. I do think we need to get some more ideas out there to inspire a younger generation of



Dancing In Moncton



monochrome photos by Bertil Nilsson

people to get involved. Do something that is completely unique to Moncton and I totally believe this can be done. I enjoyed the events at Triangles but do believe there are so many bars that are gay friendly in Moncton and events should take place at other venues as well and not just Triangles.

“A lot of people think that ballet is full of gay people—not at all! The percentage of straight dancers to gay is probably very even actually...”

On your time off, what are your interests?

I would love to say they include eating healthy and going to the gym, but they do not. I usually sit and watch television and chill with a glass of wine. Besides that I do play around with music. I guess any dancer has a love for music. It's a creative thing and I am very creative as a person. My

new album is titled *Curly Disco*. People seem to like it, it has a disco vibe to it, it's fun and has a good feel to it and great for the summer. I enjoyed making it and it's a good stress reliever. It will be available on i-tunes October 1st.

How do you take the success that you have achieved? Do you let it encourage you?

No matter how much success I've accumulated, it doesn't give me a sense of arrogance, but I feel success is a hindrance, which is a good thing. It pushes you and gives you an added fear and the feeling that you need to do better.

Have you ever used your talents for the good of the community?

I once did this huge gala with a lot of talented people for the Haiti disaster. Since then I raise money. However, I don't have an active hands on approach with doing events, but I do try to sponsor things. I wish I had more time to sponsor and raise money for causes that are important to me.

Throughout your career, what has been the most valuable lesson you have learned?

Don't piss anyone off because you will be dancing with them next week. Also, if you're not happy any more, you shouldn't be doing it. I think that's the most soul destroying thing, when you are forcing yourself to do something when your

Atlantic Ballet Theatre of Canada will be presenting *Amadeus* and *Ghosts of Violence* (in which Leigh Alderson will have principal roles) as part of their 2012-2013 touring season. Upcoming Atlantic dates include:

- *Amadeus* Oct. 5, 2012 – Capitol Theatre, Moncton NB
- *Intense II Gala* Oct. 23, 2012 – Dalhousie Arts Centre, Halifax NS
- *Ghosts of Violence* Oct. 29, 2012 – Arts and Culture Centre, St. John's NL
- *Amadeus* Oct. 25, 2012 – The Playhouse, Fredericton NB
- *Ghosts of Violence* Nov. 1, 2012 – Arts and Culture Centre, Gander NL
- *Ghosts of Violence* Nov. 5, 2012 – Arts and Culture Centre, Grand Falls NL
- *Ghosts of Violence* Nov. 7, 2012 – Arts and Culture Centre, Corner Brook NL
- *Ghosts of Violence* Nov. 9, 2012 – Arts and Culture Centre, Stephenville NL
- *Soirée Grant Thornton Velvet Gala* Nov. 29, 2012 – Delta Beauséjour Hotel, Moncton NB
- *Romeo and Juliet* Jan. 31, 2013 – Capitol Theatre, Moncton NB
- *Romeo and Juliet* Feb. 2, 2013 – The Playhouse, Fredericton NB
- *Romeo and Juliet* Feb. 5, 2013 – Dalhousie Arts Centre, Halifax NS

heart is not in it anymore. You have to live ballet, and if you end up hating it or not enjoying it you will destroy yourself. It's something you should only do if you completely love it.

What is your message for future dancers?

Don't be consumed with dance but certainly love it and respect it, and respect your body. A lot of people are pushing their bodies way past the limit and destroying themselves. Eat healthy, sleep well and try hard but don't become obsessed.

What is your message for your fans?

[Laughs] Buy my album! I try to lead a good life and inspire people. I hope I get people to think about something I said and open up a dialogue, that I represent dancers as well as the gay community in a good way. And I want to thank everyone for being supportive and enjoying my work.

You can find out more about Leigh Alderson at his official website: www.leighalderson.com or via his Facebook group: www.facebook.com/leighaldersonballet.

colour photos by Miki Barlok



Transgender Day of Remembrance

by Sara Mukherji

As a transgendered individual, the Transgender Day of Remembrance or TDOR for short means a day where I attend a vigil where we read the names of our trans sisters and trans brothers who have passed away around the world either through homicide or suicide.

It is a day of mourning as well as a day when I acknowledge as a transwoman that many other transpeople around are deceased.

It is quite unfortunate that an average murder or rape victim gets media coverage but the passing of a transgendered woman or man who was murdered or committed suicide gets no media attention at all. Sadly only LGBT publications report the passing of transgendered individuals in their publications or periodicals.

A few days ago, two young gentlemen from the Jesus Christ Day of Latter Day Saints came to my door and asked if I was religious or an atheist. I said that I was religious and asked them a very important question – what would you do if a transgendered woman or man was interested in joining your congregation. Both men said that they would accept this particular individual into their congregation but would not support their gender identity. They said that God frowns upon such behavior. If you are born a man, then you will always be a man. If you are a woman, then you will always be a woman. If you deviate from God's will on this, then God will still love you and will frown upon your identity and see it like breaking a curfew or stealing.

I had pointed out to these two gentlemen that this is pure bigotry and discrimination. They said that there is nothing they could do – this was God's Will from the beginning of mankind and this will cannot ever be changed. The original message will

always be the same.

As far as the relevance of this discussion with these two gentlemen to the number of transgendered women and men who are slaughtered, I am not willing to accept that we transgendered folks are lesser human beings than anybody else. We are people just like everybody else and that is something society must acknowledge and accept in the year 2012. The Bible and Scriptures are used to denote us as freaks. So the slayings of thousands of transgendered people is as much the fault of society in general as it is of the people who are actually pulling the trigger on our sisters and brothers.

The only way to decrease the number of transgendered individuals who are killed each year is through proper community education and I also strongly feel that elementary school teachers should have to take a sensitivity training course where they learn about transgendered individuals and also learn to appreciate them as human beings and not as "deviants." They must teach their students to love everyone equally regardless of their background or identity. If we start teaching our children to treat transgendered people as equals, then by the time these children become adults, they can actually treat transgendered women and men as one of them and not as the other.

Also transgendered individuals themselves will have to form a committee with various churches and parishes and look at delivering messages of tolerance to their attendees. At one time the message in various religious scriptures were used to justify the Jim Crow laws which promoted segregation of individuals based on race and skin color. Through various protests, government lobbying, public education, we as a world have learned to view people of differ-

ent races and ethnic backgrounds as people of equal worth. We must look to the same approach that was used to eliminate racial discrimination to end transphobia as well. Through acceptance, knowledge and understanding, we can eliminate transphobia among the masses which lead to such hate based killings of transgendered individuals in the first place.

November 11th

by Denise Holliday

Every Year on Nov. 11th. I remember a man who took my place in Northern Ireland and died while doing so, leaving a spouse with two new-born children. I place a poppy while others watch in disapproval of my presence and actions. Some of these people, unlike myself, never served in the forces, police or even local fire departments. They felt superior simply because they are and I am not.

On Nov. 20th I again remember the dead and this time those folks are not even aware of this day of remembrance, but again I make a point of remembering because I am and they are not.

I remember the friend of a friend who died at her own hand after 3 failed attempts simply because the idea of being tarred and feathered again by her Canadian Community members was unbearable.

I remember a man who sat quietly in his car as the fumes from the engine snuffed out the last vestige of a life he could not identify with and a disgrace to his family that would now not happen.

I remember the ten year-old boy who rather than continue being harassed and scorned daily at school, chose to hang himself from his bedroom window with a belt. They no longer make fun of him now.

I remember the 14 year-old boy who took a gun to school and blasted a 15 year-old gay classmate in the head. So many to remember. How many more never ever said why they died. I also remember Gwen Mathew, Brandon, Marsh, Amanda and Roman, only a few of the names people will not remember on Nov. 20th, and many more whose names we will never know.

I am a trans woman and all these people suffered because of other peoples' social trans-phobia. A disease that is not recorded anywhere because people do not recognize what they themselves commit or at the least refuse to recognize in society. It is not listed in the DSM yet the people suffering from it drive people like me to commit suicide at a ratio 6 times greater than the average. 85% of transsexuals think about committing suicide, 51% actually attempt it and it is estimated that 9 to 15% actually succeed. People treat us as mentally ill from as early as two years of age and deny us the right of passage needed to lead a fulfilling life and feed our families. Yes, we do have families....

Yet, despite all that we do live, love and succeed in life and even find the strength and time to help others of our kind. We serve in the armed forces, police and fire departments as well as government and social organizations. In Canada we have many, including Barbera Amesbury (formerly William), musician; Erica Rutherford (deceased), actor, artist, film maker, farmer and teacher, became a much valued member of the art scene in PEI; Sara Davis Beuchner (BC), world-renowned classical pianist teaches at UBC; Kristen Worley and Michelle Dumaresq are professional Canadian cyclists; Nina Arsenault is the self proclaimed most famous Canadian Transsexual (actor

and ex-sex worker); Enza Anderson, Canadian supermodel; Dana Baitz, Musician; Mern Cadell, Singer; Jamie Lee Hamilton, activist and educator; Michelle Yosef, Canadian musician; Sonya Elen Kisa, Canadian linguist; Craig Russell (deceased), Canadian female impersonator; Ruth Bramham, construction industry; and Lucas Silvera, Canadian born singer.

Because we are Trans men and Trans women, we will remember those that have died, either by their own or someone else's hand in the name of social transphobia.

I invite you to remember on Nov 20th, International Transgender Remembrance Day and help reduce social transphobia.

Denise Holliday denisesined@ns.sympatico.ca

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Consultant

(902) 457-3050

krista.snow@investorsgroup.com



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Consultation

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WAYVES GROUPS AND SERVICES

Atlantic Canada

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

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

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

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

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

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

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: www.wayves.ca (Deadline: the first Friday of every month; Editorial meeting: the Monday following that; layout the Sunday following that. Email us to be put on our notification list!)

New Brunswick (506)

Fredericton

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

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

Fredericton Pride: Community-based, volunteer organization that oversees and executes Fredericton Pride Week. email: info@frederictonpride.org web: www.frederictonpride.org

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

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

Moncton

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

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

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

Transgendered Peer Support Group: Open to all M2F, F2M, Andro and trans-supporters from across Atlantic Canada. email: be_tgmoncton@live.com

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

Petit-Rocher (Bathurst area)

Gais.es Nor Gays Inc. (GNG): A bilingual volunteer association serving gay men, lesbians and bisexuals of northern New Brunswick. email: info@gngnb.ca 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 GLBTQ2IQ persons, friends & family 536-4245 email: sacknb@pflagcanada.ca, meets 4th Monday (7:30 to 9:30pm, no meeting in July and August) at St Anthony's Presbyterian Church, 36 Bridge St.

Saint John

Affirming United Church - Centenary - Queen Square United Church: invites you to worship! 506-634-8288 email: cqsunited@nb.aibn.com 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: aidsj@nb.aibn.com web: www.aidsaintjohn.com

Gay Men, Às 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

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 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, ÀÈ News, ÀÈ. 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)

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

St. John's

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

LBGT-MUN Resource Centre: LBGT-MUN is an information/resource, service, and peer support centre staffed by trained volunteers! 737-7619 email: lbgt@munsu.ca (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 - St. John's NL Chapter: Monthly Chapter meetings, support and information for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, transsexual, two-spirit, intersex, queer and questioning persons and their parents, families and friends. 699-0509 email: stjohnsnl@pflagcanada.ca web: www.pflagcanada.ca (We will aim to hold Chapter Meetings on the third Thursday of each month. Please check www.pflagcanada.ca for schedule and any changes.) at Community Connections, 9 Cathedral Street, St. John's NL.

St. John's Pride Inc: The officially-registered non-profit Pride company for St. John's email: stjohnspride@yahoo.ca web: www.stjohnspride.org

Nova Scotia (902)

Hepatitis Outreach Society: Since 1999 the Hepatitis Outreach Society has been providing support, education and prevention information for those infected and affected by hepatitis in the province of Nova Scotia. 420-1767 in HRM or 1-800-521-0572 email: info@HepatitisOutreach.com 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.

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

lies@hotmail.com web: www.facebook.com/groups/122754554526294/

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

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

Amherst

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

Annapolis Valley

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

Antigonish

Rainbow Warriors: Rainbow Warriors is a youth-run support group for LGBTQ youth and allies in Antigonish. We hold social events such as picnics and game nights, have educational discussions around topics such as stereotypes/assumptions and transsexuality, and raise awareness in the surrounding community by participating in functions such as the Highland Games Parade and the Farmers' Market. While our group is youth-focused everyone is regardless of age, and gender identity or sexual orientation! Find our group on Facebook "Rainbow Warriors - AHAH!" email: antigonishrainbowwarriors@gmail.com, 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.

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. Provides direct service and support for people living with HIV/AIDS and also offers various prevention programs across NS. You can reach us locally to HRM at 425-4882 or across the province at 1-800-566-2437. (902)425-4882 email: acns@acns.ns.ca web: www.acns.ns.ca

Alcoholics Anonymous: Live & Let Live AA Group for LGBT 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 muff=ns before church to take into this service. 11 am service: Quieter and more reverent in tone, coffee after service. During the summer months, we have one 10 am service but occasionally during the year we change our service times for special occasions, so please call to confirm service times) at 1200 Bedford Hwy at Sullivan's Hill, near Atlantic Gardens

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

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

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

Frontrunners Halifax: Running/walking club 422-7579 email: Bruce.Greenfield@dal.ca 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 Men's Prostate Cancer Support Group: Prostate Cancer Canada Network is launching a support group for gay men and their families. Our meetings are informal and provide a forum for personal discussion with prostate cancer survivors, those newly diagnosed and their caregivers. For more information or to become a member contact Peter Mallette at 902-420-9449 or peter.mallette@prostatecancer.ca 902-420-9449 email: peter.mallette@prostatecancer.ca or prostatecancer.caat Prostate Cancer Canada Atlantic 5121 Sackville Street Suite 101 Halifax B3J 1K1

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

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

Girl-ish Productions: Girl-ish puts on hot and heavy bi-monthly-ish dance parties for queer-ish folks and their friends. web: www.girl-ish.ca

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Groups & Services continued

gmail.com web: momsquared.weebly.com

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Kentville

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

Lunenburg

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

Middleton

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

New Glasgow

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

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

New Minas / Annapolis Valley

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

Sydney

AIDS Coalition of Cape Breton: Support, advocacy, prevention/education for those infected or affected by HIV/AIDS. Free condoms! Queer Advocacy and Educa-

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

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

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

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

Tatamagouche

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

Truro

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

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

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

Northern AIDS Connection Society: HIV prevention education initiative serving Colchester, Cumberland, East Hants & Pictou counties. We are located

at 33 Pleasant Street, Truro, NS. Phone 895-0931 email: nacs@eastlink.ca web: northernaidconnectionsociety.ca (Our Board of Directors meet bi-monthly. Annual General Meeting held regularly in June. See webpage for contact information and upcoming events.)

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

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

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

Wolfville

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

Yarmouth

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

Prince Edward Island (902)

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

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

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

Charlottetown

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

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

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

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New Glasgow in the Fast Lane?

by Gerard Veldhoven

At this point in time I do not believe this is the case. However, on Thursday, July 19th a Pride Party was held at the Baked Café here in this decidedly conservative town. The event was organized by the café and completely supported by the owners. I decided to go and experience a New Glasgow pride evening. As I turned the corner I could hear a band loudly

filling the air in the downtown core. Once inside, it became evident that everyone was enjoying this no doubt first ever rock evening organized by two charming young queer women in Pictou County. These girls are delightful and oh so eager to bring the town's queer folk together.

Once inside I discovered that the place was packed with young people. Never mind. I searched for some "old-

er" fellow queers and luckily noticed three individuals I had the pleasure of meeting previously. In all, there were four "older" folks that dared attend this open and noisy affair. Of course, one must take into account that the area's gays and lesbians tend to keep to themselves and this event would definitely be a place where they could have been "exposed." I say this, as it became clear that many of those in

attendance were there for a good time, no matter the orientation. It was quite wonderful to experience this in a café that is known for its delicious cuisine. I had hoped for more "older" (sorry) queer residents of Pictou County. However, a future event may bring out people in droves! Do I dare hope this will happen? Yes I do, but as a newcomer to New Glasgow I am in a predicament. Do I continue my activism here, or is it a case of folks staying in the closet at any cost? I am willing to give it a shot. I am certain whatever turn it takes it will be a daunting task. Recent comments from a few people have brought me to believe that this area has the deepest closets in Nova Scotia.

I have had the pleasure to meet many people in this area and they gave me the impression that they are very aware of the diversity of the residents of Pictou County. I am confident that given a chance our queer brothers and sisters here will be pleasantly surprised and will be accepted by the community at large. Remember, we are all the same somehow, so let's get to work.

New Glasgow in the fast lane? Perhaps in time we will see some movement in a town where the queer community is in hiding. I have a distinct feeling it has something to do with a negative reaction from the straight community. Windows may be broken, someone may be attacked, or hear slurs from some people driv-

ing by in a car. I believe people find it easier to lead a quiet life and be inconspicuous. So far, I have observed no activity whatsoever within the queer community in New Glasgow. Occasionally there may be a phone call from someone willing to meet for coffee. Presently, the future does not look too bright, but I am ready and willing to get involved in bringing this part of the province into the twenty-first century for the queer community and be accepted as part of the tapestry that makes up our LGBT community, and, indeed, the community at large. Please feel free to contact me: gerardveldhoven@gmail.com

As a community we can make a difference and take pride in who you are as a guide to a brighter and more peaceful future where hiding is not even an issue because as the song from Le Cage Aux Folles indicates, "I Am What I Am." Pride Week 2012 in Halifax is an excellent example of a whole city coming together to celebrate diversity and acceptance. The parade brought almost 100,000 folks from all walks of life together. This is a great indication of the reality that individuals and organizations are able to bring out the best in people. As for the Baked Café in New Glasgow? I salute the owner and staff for taking the initiative to recognize the need to bring together the queer community in New Glasgow. Perhaps in time we will be able to say, yes, New Glasgow is in the fast lane.

Letter

Worth More Than A Smoke

To the Editor:

It is outrageous that the bureaucratic legacy to the brutal beating murder of the much loved Raymond Taavel is going to be a "Raymond Taavel memorial smoking room" at the forensic hospital. The mumbo-jumbo in the report seems choreographed to minimize any culpability of the hospital or the health care system in his death. All hospitals and prisons in this province and in general throughout the country have been able to deal with a non smoking policy that doesn't include smoking rooms. The nicotine addiction of forensic patients is *no* different from that of others.

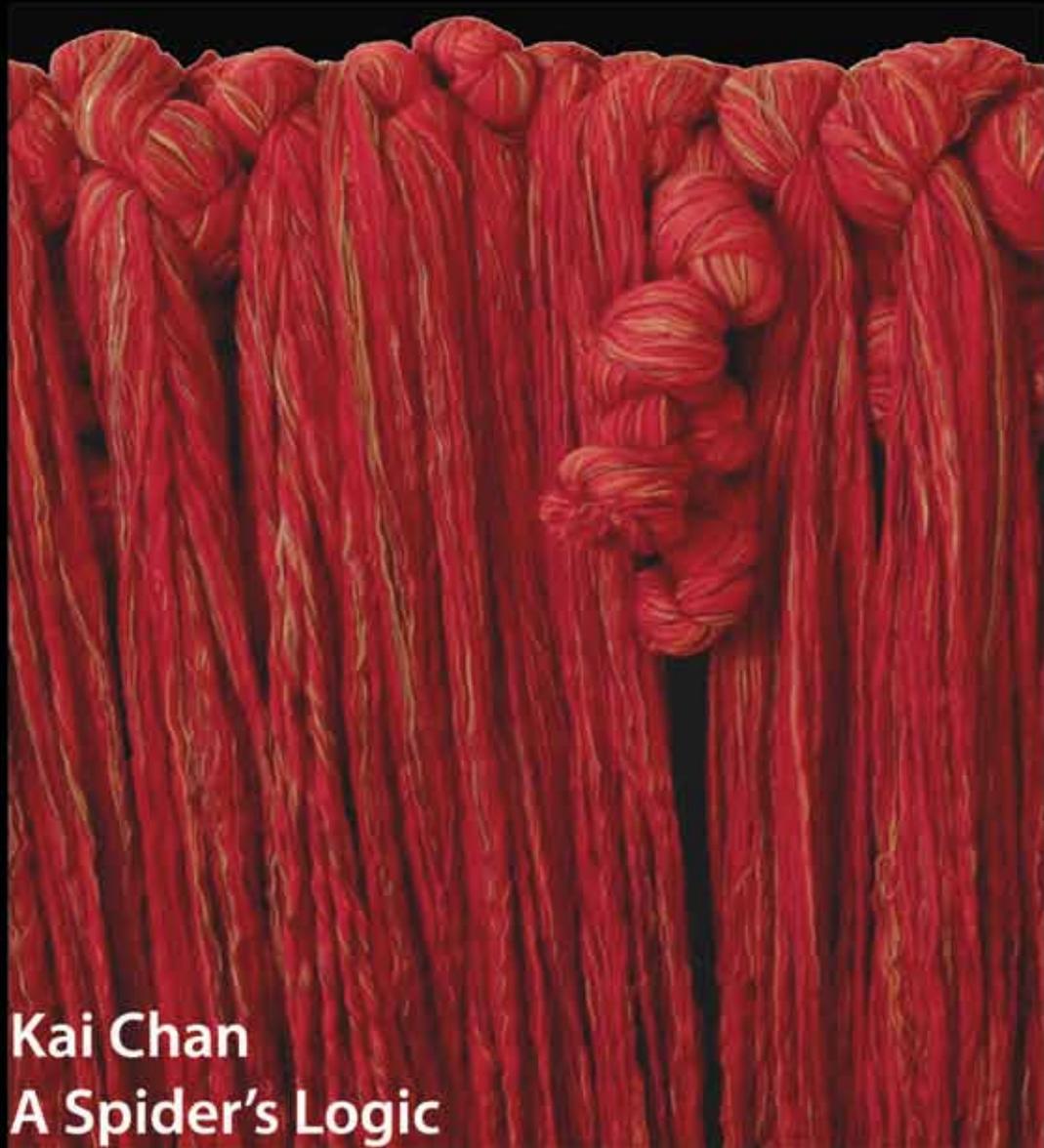
One must realize that unlike other hospitals, there has been a societal cost (be it to property or persons)

associated with every virtually every patient admitted to a forensic hospital. Regardless of how a court might decide on the negligence of allowing unescorted patients access to a bus stop that can take them anywhere in the community, it would seem prudent that a hospital with the highest AWL rate in the country might have considered that a factor. As a physician and past psychiatric resident, I know it is impossible to precisely predict the behavior of a patient on an unescorted pass. I would bet the majority of psychiatrists at some point in their career have had a patient on a pass they authorized harm himself or someone else—it's devastating, but it happens—it's part of the subjectivity in the science.

But in a science that has as its main motto, "above all, do no harm" and in an era when it is technically possible, the idea of a patient, especially one with a past history of physical violence, being sent to a bus stop without a means of monitoring where he goes, seems to be inviting the very possibility of harm. Yes, I understand the abstraction that monitoring may impart to the patient that we don't trust him; but this population already has a history of causing harm. If such a patient can't understand the need for such monitoring, then perhaps he or she isn't well enough for an unescorted pass.

Raymond was a patient and friend. His life and his death were worth much more than a cigarette in a hospital.

Sincerely,
Robert E. Fredrickson MD



Kai Chan
A Spider's Logic

Aurora (detail), 1975, cotton & nylon thread, wood, 102x305x25cm

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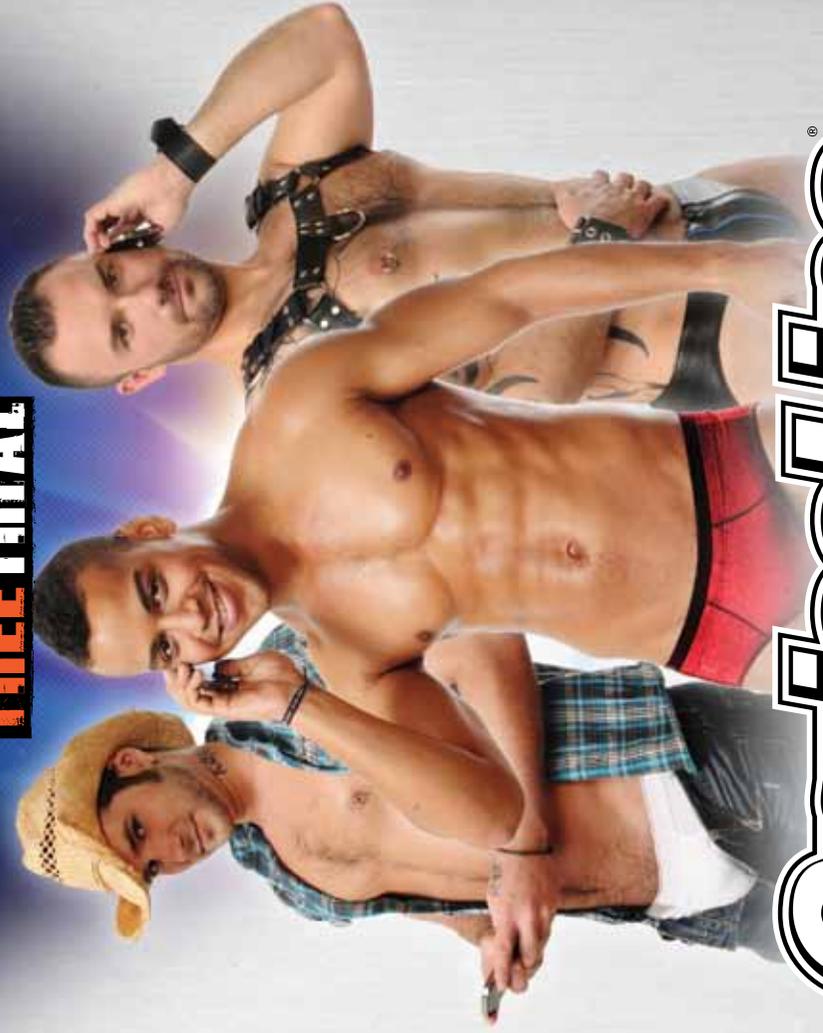
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