

# WAYNES

Free!

August 2011



**Fashion Legend John Walke  
Launches New Line in Moncton**

# Wayves

## The Slayer hits shelves

by Randall Perry

**B**egin with a murder: a young woman is found floating in a city pond. No visible signs of trauma, save for the letter S carved on her face. The case baffles investigators. After a year and a half it grows cold.

Enter Const. Danielle Renaud: an ambitious, lesbian RCMP officer, who's become bored as a general investigator and would like to make her move into special investigations. She's assigned the cold case: perhaps it's tokenism, maybe a long shot, but she's eager to prove herself. What follows will test her limits.

Halifax author Nadine LaPierre's first novel, *The Slayer* is being released this summer from Frisson Books. The title is not a reference to the villain of the novel, nor is it an indicator of the ubiquitous vampire/werewolf/zombie angst-ridden genre of novel dominating bestseller lists.

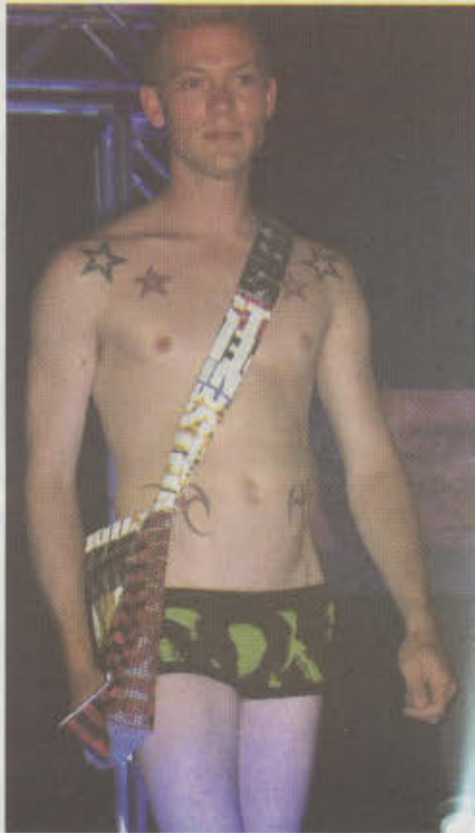
"[The title] refers to the history of the murder victim... a slayer of hearts," LaPierre explains. "I was hesitant at first to reveal that, but it's not a spoiler."

LaPierre infuses the smart, sexy mystery novel with humour and romance, introducing us to a range of compelling characters. There's Renaud, who, in the course of the investigation is drawn romantically to her best friend, Crown prosecutor Lilly Marsh, who is Mi'kmaq and herself a lesbian. Along the way their professional and personal lives intersect, and not always in a good way. Two other main characters round out the cast—Nathalie Boudreau, a lyricist and composer friend of Lilly; and Melissa Lambert, a senior DNA technician at the RCMP crime lab.

LaPierre describes her inspiration for the novel as a "cinematic" experience: "It was a picture of a park in fall, with some fog rolling in, and I wrote my very first scene... it was like opening a tap! About seven months later I had the first draft of the novel."

LaPierre is no stranger to writing. "I had always kept a journal... and in my late 20s and early 30s I started writing dinner theatre-style murder mystery plays," she says. "I started putting them on for the lesbian community and they just got bigger and more popular."

*continued on page 11*



## SUPERSTEIN Launches New Collection in Hometown

See story on page 6



The SUPERSTEIN fashion show was part of City Pride Celebration by Modern Vision, an event that celebrates people taking pride in their unique attributes and their individual rights to be celebrated for these attributes. For more event listings and ticket information check out [www.citypridecelebration.com](http://www.citypridecelebration.com).

## Moncton Pride turns Black & Blue

**I**n what is sure to be a rainbow of fun this August in Moncton, comes something that will absolutely flip this town upside down! August 19, 2011, Moncton welcomes Atlantic Canada's first official Black&Blue® Party. This is added to the already fabulous line-up of events scheduled for the first annual City Pride Celebration.

The celebration has a non-stop plethora of

events happening from August 17 – 21. Everything from quaint cocktail parties and elegant receptions, to circuit parties meant for hardcore dancers and partygoers. Fourteen of the world's best DJs are set to rock-your-world at various venues around the city including Casino New Brunswick, iRock, Oxygen Night Club, Rouge, Triangles and Vie Tapas & Lounge. Your access depends on your choice of three weekend passes (Platinum, Gold or Silver). Some of the excitement includes:

Friday Black&Blue® Party, Casino New Brunswick – With DJs Paskal & Vessilnov, DJ Patrick Guay and other surprise guests. Moncton welcomes Atlantic Canada's first official Black&Blue® Party. Featuring leading circuit DJs this event brings upwards of 100,000 people to Montreal annually. The best DJs, hottest lights, sounds and intense energy, mean non-stop body-rocking and fist-pumping while your DJs are dropping the newest circuit beats.

Saturday City Pride Celebration Drag Show, Oxygen Complex – Hosted by Shangela, as featured on RuPaul's Drag Race. Sashay! Shante! You better work it, girl! Premier Maritime Drag Queens unite to hail a queen straight from the Kingdom of Fierce. This Debutantess of the Deep South, Shangela, is a professional drag performer and hostess, and has won awards and accolades for performing hit sensations as

Beyoncé and Nicki Minaj. Be entertained by Shangela, as our local performers compete to become Queen of City Pride Celebration, 2011.

Superbia Party, Casino New Brunswick – With DJ Tony Moran (Madonna, Beyoncé, Rihanna, Jennifer Lopez), DJ Pierre Fitch (famous adult model and DJ) and DJ Joe Gauthreaux (Black Party New York). Flashing lights, ultimate sounds and go-go dancers partying it up like rockstars. This shindig is no kitchen party, Mary! Be electrified, energized and rock out to these world-renown DJs.

After Hours Party, iRock – With DJ Dave & Gerardo (D&G) (Carnival in Rio de Janeiro, Gloria Estefan, Missy Elliot). Why would we want to stop the party? The party is just starting at 3:30am! After all, you only live once, right?

Sunday City Pride Celebration Closing Party, iRock – DJ Billy Lace and DJ Hector Fonseca (Beyoncé, Lady Gaga, Rihanna). Want more? So do we! Sunday night becomes the final night of weekend madness as we close down the party with a party!

Moncton's in for a party Atlantic Canada won't soon forget! Be part of the action and buy your weekend pass today! Tickets, DJ Bios, Event Listings and more are available by visiting [www.citypridecelebration.com](http://www.citypridecelebration.com). Share our news and excitement live at it happens with City Pride Celebration on Facebook and Twitter.

### Erratum

In our July issue, a photo of CFB Shearwater personnel was printed in an unrelated article. The correct placement can be viewed in the online edition of Wayves at [wayves.ca](http://wayves.ca). Wayves regrets the error.

## Pride Schedules

**Fredericton:** August 7-14  
[www.frederictonpride.org](http://www.frederictonpride.org)

**Moncton:** Aug 17-21  
Parade Day Aug 21

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

**Saint John:** Aug 7-14.

[www.portcityrainbowpride.com](http://www.portcityrainbowpride.com)

**PEI Pride:** July 2-9

Parade: July 9 1-2pm

[www.arcopei.com](http://www.arcopei.com)

**Corner Brook:** July 15-17.

July 16: Pride Flag Raising,

Pride Park Festival and

Pride Masquerade Party!!

[www.cornerbrookpride.com](http://www.cornerbrookpride.com)

**St. John's:** July 18-24.

Flag raising July 18;

Parade: July 24.

**Antigonish:** July 10/11/16 (so far!). [rainbow-rising2011@hotmail.com](mailto:rainbow-rising2011@hotmail.com)

**Halifax:** July 17-24, Parade Day July 23, [halifaxpride.com/](http://halifaxpride.com/)

**Sydney:** Aug 5-14. Pride Parade Aug 6, [pridecapebreton.com](http://pridecapebreton.com)

## Regular Columns



**Chef's Corner 14 • Groups & Services 12 • Honest to God 3 • I Am What I Amherst 5 • Kibitz and Bitch 6 • Letters from Cambodia 11 • Looking Both Ways 7 • NSRAP Report 10**



**Deadline for September issue: Friday, August 5 (first Friday of every month!) [submissions@wayves.ca](mailto:submissions@wayves.ca) • Online: [www.wayves.ca](http://www.wayves.ca) • Join us on Facebook: **Wayves Magazine Rocks!** ... and on Twitter: **@WayvesMagazine****

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NOVA SOCIETY RESEARCH ACTION PROJECT  
Equality for All  
presents

## NSRAP Annual Fundraising Gala

# TAKIN' IT TO THE STREETS

Sat Oct 22nd, 6pm @ The Marriott Harbourfront  
Cocktails, Silent Auction, 3 Course Dinner  
Tickets \$125/person, \$1,250/table



Community Hero Award  
Nominate someone before August 22  
Details at [nsrap.ca/gala](http://nsrap.ca/gala)



Guest Speaker  
**Matt Alber** \*



Celebrity MC  
**Candy Palmater**

### Gala Sponsors

**Marriott.**  
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The Rev. Darlene Young  
Award Presentation

Purchase tickets securely online at [www.nsrp.ca/gala](http://www.nsrp.ca/gala)  
For Sponsorship and other information contact  
NSRAP at 902.444.3206 or email [gala@nsrap.ca](mailto:gala@nsrap.ca)

Also see Matt Alber in concert  
Sun Oct 23 @ The Company House  
Doors open at 7:30pm \*  
Purchase Tix at the bar \*  
\$10 adv, or \$12 door

# Atlantic Canada News

## River of Pride – Rivière de Fierté

is ready to roll out the rainbow carpet for locals and visiting guests in the Greater Moncton area from August 17 through 21.

Pride Days begin with the traditional flag raising scheduled at noon on Wednesday, August 17 at the Moncton City Hall Plaza. The Pride flag will also fly in Riverview and Dieppe during the same period. An evening of bowling is also scheduled on August 17 at the Bowlarama in Dieppe from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. On Saturday, August 20, a softball game will be held at the Université de Moncton from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

The 12th annual Pride Parade will begin at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, August

21, at the Highfield Square parking lot. The parade will proceed along Main St., turning onto Assumption Blvd. towards Riverfront Park where a celebration is planned from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. Parade line-up starts at 1:00 p.m. and everyone interested in entering the parade is encouraged to register in advance via the form on our website ([www.fiertemoncton-pride.ca](http://www.fiertemoncton-pride.ca)) or e-mailing [riverofpride@hotmail.com](mailto:riverofpride@hotmail.com).

Chantal Thanh Laplante will be this year's Pride parade marshal. A recipient of the Moncton YWCA 2011 Young Woman of Distinction Award, which recognizes women who through their own initiative, ability and effort, have made an exemplary contribution to the community and

to their own field of interest, Chantal has volunteered tirelessly for the LGBT Community. As President of Un Sur Dix, the Université de Moncton student LGBT association, from 2009 – 2011 she has been very instrumental in the increased visibility of the organization and spearheaded the group's outreach program throughout New Brunswick to set up GSAs in the francophone school districts.

All events this year are being offered free, thanks to sponsors as well as members of the community who have supported monthly colour party fundraisers.

## AIDS Walk

It's that time of year already... the Scotiabank AIDS Walk for Life will

be held on Sunday, September 25, 2011. The summer is a great opportunity to get started with fundraising. To register for the Scotiabank AIDS Walk for Life online visit [www.aidswalkforlifefalifax.ca](http://www.aidswalkforlifefalifax.ca). You can also e-mail Laura at [walk@acns.ns.ca](mailto:walk@acns.ns.ca) or call (902) 425-4882, extension 228. Looking forward to seeing you all at the Scotiabank AIDS Walk for Life!

## Spry Bay Campground

Spry Bay Campground, Spry Bay, on Nova Scotia's Eastern Shore invites the community to come one come all to their second annual Labour Day Weekend Bash September 2nd thru the 5th.

Partners Avelene Osmond and

Danielle Langevin have planned a two-night Retro Dance with DJ Wolf on September 3 and 4. There will be prizes for best retro outfit plus campers will get free admission with their three-day stay. Admission for non-campers will be \$5.00 at the gate. Come see the fun and hear the music. Dress up for the occasion... it'll be fun!

Check our website at [www.sprybaycampground.com](http://www.sprybaycampground.com) for more information and updates on the weekend events. Follow us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=160116870728923](http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=160116870728923).

Spry Bay Campground is located at 19867 Highway #7, near Tangiers, NS. Call the campground at (902) 772-2554.

## Honest to God

# United Memorial

by Daniel MacKay

*In this series of articles, one per month over the next year or so, I'll be telling you about my experiences shopping for a church.*

*About my credentials: as a child, my Mom shopped us around to a variety of churches. I didn't have any concept of "belonging" to one, and I came to see many distinct facets of the churchgoing experience: on the grander side, there is a spiritual connection with a higher power, there's guidance to that, there's a moral compass, community, music, singing, and the grandeur of the worship space; on the more mundane side there is belonging to a community or what many of us would now call a chosen family, enjoyment of music and singing, social time, refreshments after the service, activities outside church time, and home visits from your pastor.*

*I'm writing as a theological layman, a possible future member. As any reviewer does, I'll keep in mind that it is impossible to experience something both as a full participant and as a reviewer.*

*For each worship, Gabe and I went "as a couple"—not holding hands but obviously together.*

\*\*\*

On May 22 we visited United Memorial Church, in Halifax's North End. It's a five-minute walk from my house, so I've attended many Christmas services there but never a regular one.

The rest of the United Church congregations we'll be visiting are "Affirming"—that is, the congregation has made a decision to consciously and actively welcome LGBT folk, and perform weddings. United Memorial

is not officially so, but the first words in the bulletin state that it is an inclusive community.

The worship space is beautiful; there are detailed stained glass windows, the pews and balcony curve to face the sanctuary. A massive stand of organ pipes dominates the apse—the front of the space. Some time ago the ceiling was re-done with 12" acoustic tile which doesn't really fit the formality and austere beauty of the rest of the decor. A Maple Leaf flag and Union Jack hung at the left and right of the chancel.

Thirty-eight members and visitors were there; over coffee and cookies later, regulars said that is about half of the usual number. Gabe and I were two of ten people under fifty years old; there were no people of colour; all of the older members were in their "Sunday best" so I was underdressed in a sweater, jeans, and sandals. After the first couple of readings, about a half-dozen children went off to Sunday School.

We were recognized as visitors and greeted at the door, again when we sat down in a pew, and again at the beginning of the social time after.

**OUR COVER** this month is a collection of shots of the SUPERSTEIN fashion show. Front and centre is John Walke, with Modern Vision's Alex Roberts and Mario Richard to either side. Pictures of the models all around were artfully assembled and arranged by Cam MacLeod.

The organist was away for the weekend and one of the members was playing piano instead.

The regular minister was away on study break, and on this day, student minister Michelle Armstrong was presiding. Her eloquent and eclectic sermon tied in with the first reading (John 14:2, "In my Father's house there are many rooms") began with a quote from a song, "It ain't cool to be Christian" and explored the decline of Christianity over the last fifty years, the role of the members in "post Christian-dom" where there is a vast plurality of types of worship and many people who don't worship at all. She touched on themes of learning to ride a bicycle, moving away from home, and Christians being depicted in popular culture—from

the Simpsons to Big Bang Theory—as oddballs or simple-minded, and explored the idea of us being building materials (stones) which are selected and shaped by a mason, and that the oddest shaped stone often becomes the keystone for an opening.

Most of the attendees moved back to the equally beautiful hall after the service for coffee, sandwiches and sweets, and several people including

the secretary of the church, and an elder who in 1955, built the house in which I live, introduced themselves, made conversation, and invited us back.

It's possible that John 14:2 refers to people of all faith traditions being welcomed by a loving god. I'm looking forward to taking you to more of these rooms over the next few months.

## 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: Jim Bain, Advertising Manager, email at [ads@wayves.ca](mailto:ads@wayves.ca) or call 902-889-2229. 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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[www.wayves.ca](http://www.wayves.ca)

## Important WAYVES Dates!

**Issue Content Deadlines:** Fridays: Aug 5, Sep 2, Oct 7: that is, the first Friday of each month (skipping January.) You can send your news, ideas, comments, criticisms, columns, cartoons and more to [submissions@wayves.ca](mailto:submissions@wayves.ca) any time!

**Production Meetings (Halifax):** Mondays: Aug 8, Sep 5, Oct 10: help decide what goes in the next issue, 7:30 PM, Blowers St Paper Chase, Halifax. All welcome, every meeting.

**Magazine Layout (Halifax):** Aug 14, Sep 11, Oct 16: help build the paper – no special skills required, just enthusiasm, and joining us even once, or for a few hours helps a LOT! 9:30 AM. Email us for location.

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

## Wayves On Line!

Did you miss the last issue of Wayves? Or did your favourite distribution point run out of copies? Don't fret! Now you can visit [www.wayves.ca](http://www.wayves.ca), and download the current issue, and the archives too! We have lots of back issues on line too. If you'd like to be notified when the current issue is online- email us at [submissions@wayves.ca](mailto:submissions@wayves.ca)!

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

NSRAP Report

# Save the Date: Update on This Year's Gala

by Kevin Kindred

Preparations are underway for this year's annual NSRAP gala, to be held on October 22 at 6:30 p.m. This year's event, hosted by Candy Palmeter, star of The Candy Show, will be held at the Marriott Harbourfront Hotel in Halifax, NS, and will feature a performance from Grammy Award-winning performer Matt Alber.

Every year, the gala serves as a celebration of the LGBT community and the accomplishments of the Nova Scotia Rainbow Action Project. The event also raises funds to ensure our continued success. The theme of this year's gala is "Takin' it to the Streets," which exemplifies the need for street-level advocacy and awareness of

LGBT issues. In keeping with this theme, keynote speaker Matt Alber will speak of his work with LGBT homeless youth.

Traditionally, NSRAP has awarded the Rev. Darlene Young Community Hero Award to a member of the LGBT community who has made a significant contribution to our society. This year we will be introducing additional awards to recognize other community members. These awards include a new Allies Award that recognizes the contributions of an ally to the LGBT cause and a Media Award to be presented to an individual or organization that has brought awareness to community issues through

traditional or social media. We will also be introducing a Corporate Stewardship Award to recognize a corporation that embraces and values its LGBT employees.

We will be accepting nominations for these awards through August 22. Details and application information can be found on our Web site at [www.nsrp.ca/gala](http://www.nsrp.ca/gala).

The night promises to be a gay affair for all—please join us for an evening of entertainment to celebrate and support the work of NSRAP in our vibrant community!

\*\*\*

NSRAP held its Annual General Meeting on June 18 at the Company

House. Chair Matt Numer led a review of the accomplishments over the past year including highlights such as our work with other groups to host the International Day Against Homophobia. Other notable successes include the outreach work of the Elders Project (including creating the elder LGBT community groups, the Elderberries) and the successful campaign to encourage Q104 to change its homophobic station identifier in December 2010.

NSRAP has set a new fundraising goal for 2011-2012 for \$75,000; these funds will ensure stability for the organization and ensure long-term success. Outgoing treasurer, Sean Foreman, reported that NSRAP is in stable financial condition.

Our goal of establishing a community centre in Halifax has taken a major step forward. NSRAP has put forward an offer to take over Safe Harbour's community events and programs (e.g., Transgender Day of Remembrance). As well, an anonymous donor has offered to pay for a year's rent at Veith House for NSRAP, taking over the existing Safe Harbour space. Veith House is able to

provide additional community space, office facilities and support staff that will hopefully become a connecting point for a variety of organizations. The hope is that this coalition will one day become its own organization.

The new 2011-2012 Board of Directors was also elected: Matthew Numer, Sean Foreman, Curtis Cartmill, Doug Bungay, Margaret Denike, Lucas Thorne-Humphrey, Scott Comber, Lynn Murphy, Kevin Kindred, Adam Sterling, Rosemarie Porter, Nathaniel Smith, Brenda Merritt and Anne Carswell. Immediately following the AGM, the board members present met briefly to elect their new executive.

Newly elected Vice-Chair Curtis Cartmill led a community roundtable on issues on which NSRAP should focus in the upcoming year. Highlights included: reaching out to various communities in Nova Scotia, identifying new ways to reach those communities, clarifying benefits of membership.

The full minutes of NSRAP's AGM, community roundtable and annual activity report will be posted online no later than August 1.

## Transsexual Health Care in Newfoundland

# Negotiating Red Tape and Old Stereotypes

In June 2007, Jefferson McCreath, a male who knew she was actually a woman born transsexual, moved to Newfoundland to take a job with the provincial government. Shortly after establishing herself into her new house, new job and new town, she took immediate steps to start her transition.

Although transsexualism was traditionally considered a mental illness the global medical community has almost unanimously recognized it as a physiological condition that can only be rectified through physical intervention: hormone replacement therapy (HRT) and sex reassignment surgery (SRS).

The Harry Benjamin Standards of Care, 6th Edition, (SOC) are globally recognized as the best-practice for transsexual health care. McCreath was saddened to learn that this protocol was not recognized in Newfoundland. Even worse, she found an old out-of-date government policy that required patients to travel to Toronto to complete a program at the infamous Gender Identity Clinic at the Centre for Addictions and Mental Health (CAMH), before the province would fund SRS. She also found that most

other procedures were not covered, no matter what.

McCreath had already become familiar with the many horror stories that had been told by CAMH patients about the negative treatment and strange research experiments they were apparently forced to undergo before being considered for funding; and how a reported 90% of patients

"going full time" before ever taking a hormone pill. Finally, in early 2008, Jennifer had put together a suitable medical team that would provide hormones, and eventually, a recommendation for surgery.

Before starting HRT, Jennifer knew that she would have to store sperm if she had ever hoped to become a biological parent. While the Newfoundland Health care system often provides this service to testicular cancer patients, she was advised that this would not likely be covered for her. So Jennifer opened the wallet and traveled to a private clinic to have sperm stored.

The HRT first started with estrogen and a testosterone blocker. Quickly, it became evident that the blocker had adverse side effects. So rather than wait for her to complete her one year Real Life Experience test (RLE) to prove her readiness for SRS, her doctors supported the idea that she should immediately seek to have her testes removed. Well, once again, Jennifer dug deep into the wallet and found herself traveling to a private clinic, in the USA.


*continued on next page*

*"Gender Identity and Gender Expression are not included explicitly in the Human Rights Code of Newfoundland."*

were rejected. The SOC make it clear that any team of doctors can oversee the application of the protocol. The idea that a special mental illness gender clinic would be required seemed absurd, so she decided not to attend there.

Even through private care, McCreath knew that she would not be able to get HRT or SRS unless she was able to procure the services of doctors who would act as gatekeepers to allow access to the product. So the search was on.


Meanwhile, McCreath couldn't wait to get her transition under way. So she took the primitive step of



**DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY**  
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Faculty of Health Professions

**Seeking lesbian headed step-families to participate in nursing research study.**

Are you part of a lesbian headed step-family or know anyone who is? I am looking for women who are raising children in a step-parenting situation. I am a doctoral student with the School of Nursing at Dalhousie University and would like to speak to you and your family about the process of becoming a lesbian headed step-family. I will travel to speak with women in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. This study has been granted REB approval #: 2011-2390. Please email for more information or to set a date to meet at [research.lesbian.2011@gmail.com](mailto:research.lesbian.2011@gmail.com)



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# WEEKLY LINEUP

MON: 2 Drinks for \$7  
Pool Tournament @ 8 PM\*

TUE: So You Think You Got Talent @ 10 PM  
Drinks - BOGO\*\* (Buy One for \$5.25 & Get One) for \$3\*

WED: KARAOKE - Win up to \$500 w DJ Bear\*

THU: Thirsty Thursdayz - No Cover w Elle & DJ Legacy\*  
60oz Pitchers - \$14.25

FRI: BOGO\*\* (Buy One for \$5.25 & Get One) for \$3 (till midnight)\*

FRI & SAT: Dance w DJs ...  
... Nick Nonsense, BEAR 777 or Sonny D

SUN: Happy Hour 3-9 PM, Drag Show 9-11 PM\*

\* Check the events calendar on our web site for details \*\* Happy Hour included



Open 3 pm - 2 am  
2182 Gottingen Street (Level 2), Halifax  
902-446-6969 • [www.MenzBar.ca](http://www.MenzBar.ca)

I Am What I Amherst**Amherst raises pride flag ...and that's all**

by Gerard Veldhoven

So far the summer has been a great disappointment, with rain and cool temperatures. Pride celebrations will not be hampered by nature and we hear rumblings of great plans throughout Atlantic Canada. The queer community is ready and anxious to get activities underway. Here in Cumberland County the celebrations this year are downgraded to just one activity: the flag-raising in Amherst on July 11. In previous years Pride Week was initiated by Cumberland Pride, but due to the collapse of the society activities will not take place, at least not for this year. Some members of the former organization

have indicated a willingness to begin a new group in the fall. So far, it is only speculation, but Wayves readers will be kept abreast as more information becomes available.

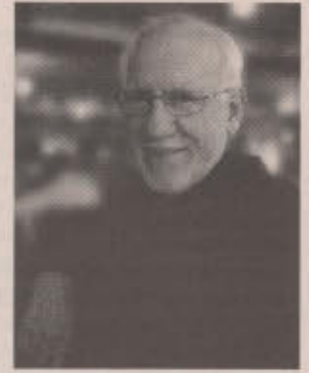
I approached the Town of Amherst requesting the town once again to host the flag raising ceremony. The fact a certain organization no longer exists does not indicate that the queer community here is a non-entity. As a matter of fact, I asked the town to consider the fact that the LGBT community is alive and well and is a definite part of the fabric of the Town of Amherst and area. Town CAO Greg Herrett agreed and so the flag

raising ceremony took place at noon on Monday, July 11, in front of about 50 people. Mayor Rob Small again proclaimed Pride Week from July 11 to 17. The keynote speaker at this event was Eldon Hay. Other guests included MLA Brian Skabar, MP Scott Armstrong and Cumberland County Warden Keith Hunter.

In another development, funds from the former Cumberland Pride Society were donated to PFLAG Canada to assist in developing educational and supportive programs for members of the queer community, their families and friends. The hand-over of the cheque took place

in Sackville NB, on June 27 at the monthly meeting of the Sackville/Amherst Chapter of PFLAG Canada. At a get-together of a few former members of Cumberland Pride it was decided PFLAG would be a perfect choice and I presented the funds asking the money be used to further support and in any other way assist our brothers and sisters.

The state of New York has passed a new marriage law allowing same-sex couples to be legally married in one of the most populated areas in the United States. This news is of great interest to other states in the union and perhaps an indication of further



equal marriage rights in a country that lags so far behind Canada and other western nations in equal rights and treatment.

American Author Ernest Gaines said, "Why is it that as a culture, we are more comfortable seeing two men holding guns than holding hands?"

**Transsexual Health Care**

...continued from previous page

2009 started with shock and disappointment. After initially feeling accepted at work, she noticed job duties being taken away and given to other new people in the organization. Then shortly thereafter, what was supposedly a safe and secure job became a layoff. While she had speculations that her transition may have been a factor, she did not have the resources or the energy to fight it. So Jennifer set out to do the impossible, find another job.

By this time, Jennifer had filed a Human Rights Complaint with the Human Rights Commission of Newfoundland and Labrador (HRC). The complaint was against the Newfoundland Medical Care Plan (MCP) for what she stated was discriminatory treatment, as she was denied care, and funding for care, as a transsexual, that would ordinarily be provided to others. She also complained that it was discriminatory for her to require a recommendation from CAMH, for procedures otherwise obtainable and fundable upon the recommendation of a Newfoundland doctor for others. Furthermore, she complained that MCP's policy to refuse to fund SRS at private clinics in Canada was inappropriate given the lack of such a service being available in Canada by any public institution.

Unfortunately, Gender Identity and Gender Expression are not included explicitly in the Human Rights Code of Newfoundland. So

Jennifer's complaint was based on "sex." Two years later there has been no decision rendered by the HRC.

Jennifer specifically wanted to have her SRS performed by Dr. Pierre Brassard in Montreal, given that he was the only SRS surgeon in Canada, and given that he is considered one of the best in the world. A year later, and 40 job interviews later, Jennifer finally landed work (as a file clerk, of all things). While this job would only pay half of what she was previously earning, this would at least allow Jennifer to have a financial foundation and allow her to further build upon her credit rating. On January 24, Jennifer had SRS with Dr. Brassard.

One other issue that remained was that with almost three years of estrogen, Jennifer was not seeing mature breast development. After conducting extensive research, it became evident that adding the natural female hormone, progesterone, would be the only way for this to happen. Unfortunately for Jennifer, her doctor was reluctant to provide this hormone as the Canadian trans health network did not recommend it. Determined, Jennifer made yet another trip to the USA to a private medical clinic, where she was able to secure progesterone.

It may seem that Jennifer's transition is over, but that is far from reality. Although she has had nine laser sessions on her face, there is still an extensive amount of facial hair that

will need to be eliminated through electrolysis. Additionally, Jennifer has been combating male pattern baldness, which is irreversible, by wearing wigs. This is far from an ideal solution; however, hair transplants are also expensive. Jennifer also needs to work on finding her female voice. Meanwhile, Jennifer continues to battle underemployment, and more recently, depression.

So, what's up next for Jennifer? She'll keep fighting for her rights and others, through educational and advocacy work. Jennifer's vision is for transsexuals, and any other non-cisgender-conforming individual, to have timely and funded care, upon recommendations from their local doctors.

Jennifer recently joined Canadian Professional Association of Transgender Health (CPATH) as a non-voting member, to become part of a policy development committee, where she took a leadership role in penning a membership expansion policy that would allow CPATH to grow. Jennifer hopes CPATH will become an internationally-recognized body of knowledge for trans health, so that they can combat the old myths of the American Psychiatric Association's DSM-V Gender Identity Committee, that transsexualism is a mental illness under the classification of "paraphilic fetish" (a label deemed suitable for sexual predators).

In addition to trans health policy

work, Jennifer has also entered preliminary discussions with trans advocates from across the country to launch the first federal-government-registered trans advocacy non-profit company. Jennifer also continues to play a key role in community peer support and education. She frequently speaks publicly about trans issues, provides informal trans consulting advice on her blog, YouTube, and in person. Ultimately, Jennifer is concerned that she has essentially taken on the role of "unofficial spokesperson" for trans issues in Newfoundland, and even more concerned that it is she, not the Department of Health, who many people are turning to on a regular basis for help and advice.

Finally, Jennifer is also the newest member of the Wayves team, as she will be writing a monthly column, and has taken on the role of Newfoundland regional representative.

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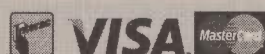
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## Crawford Hastie's KIBITZ AND BITEH

Hi Tom

In the much parodied musical, *Oklahoma*, (Oklahoma comes to mind, for example), Curly sings of the summer time beauty of the state when the "corn is as high as an elephant's eye." Aside from being somewhat unrealistic given the scarcity of pachyderms in the Sooner state, it does capture that rather exhilarating feeling of the height of the sunny season. I have a similar sensation now that Pride celebrations are happening all over the place when the rainbow flags are snapping and waving at the top of flag poles, floats are being built, drag queens are practicing their lip synching and lesbians are putting in extra practice, honing their softball skills. Okay, okay, lots of stereotypes, I know but you get what I mean. There are many aspects of queer pride.

The other day I was having a conversation with a friend who has come out fairly recently and we were discussing the nature of Pride. What does it mean to be proud? What is pride, he asked. I admit I was a bit stuck for an answer at first. I checked several dictionaries and found things like: "the quality or state of being proud; inordinate self-esteem, conceit, a reasonable or justifiable self-respect; delight or elation arising from some act, possession, or relationship." These all made sense but somehow didn't really connect with what Pride means to me. I think initially Pride celebrations were a kind of defiance, a refusal to be swallowed up in shame, an antidote to a prevailing social attitude that said that LGBT people were at worst, an abomination in Biblical terms, and at best, rather amusing as party accessories but never, ever real people. The first Pride celebrations presented the absurd notion that we were people and deserving of basic human dignity and respect. Most of us didn't believe it even as we marched and danced and smile and waved, but it was a first step on the journey. I think of it as a kind of sliding scale that moves gradually from tolerance to acceptance to pride. My friend is sliding up and down that scale while I have a—mostly—firm grasp on pride. But what is it? How is where I am different from where he is?

I remember a question that used to come up in conversations. If you could take a pill and be straight, would you take it? Now, when I was a young man (I can hear you saying, That wasn't yesterday!) and was first dealing with the feelings and sensations and peculiar thought patterns—or so they seemed at the time—I would absolutely have swallowed that pill, believing it would solve all my insurmountable problems. Now, I have not the slightest hesitation in saying, Absolutely not! In fact, the very idea makes my blood run cold. It would seem like taking away the very essence of who I am, removing an essential part of my personality and soul.

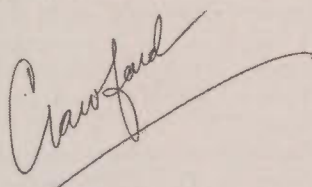
But am I proud to be gay? The word "proud" to me always seems like a sense of satisfaction at accomplishing something. Is being gay an accomplishment? Surviving as a gay person is certainly an accomplishment, and one that many people all over the world never succeed in achieving, but I'm not talking about survival.

These thoughts were with me the other night as I was ironing and watching a rerun of *Golden Girls*. The irrepressible Blanche was discussing with her niece the difference between being a slut and enjoying the company of gentlemen. A slut, she pointed out, was available to anyone without thought about her own desires and wants, she accepts others opinion of herself. Blanche, by contrast, had self-respect and took into consideration her feelings and needs when entering into a mutually satisfying relationship with a man. Of course, she also rated her lovers like Olympic gymnasts, including degree of difficulty of the attempted sexual act and whether they landed on their feet during the dismount. But her main point was valid.

Being proud for me, as a gay man, means examining for myself who I am as a human being and not relying, slut-like, for approval or disapproval from everyone else and accepting someone else's idea of who I should be. When I was moving along the scale from tolerance to acceptance, I was measuring myself against a pattern or idea given to me by the larger society at the time. I took a big step towards Pride when I turned that measuring eye back on the larger society and questioned the basis and value of that pattern and came up with my own values, standards and principles that I would use to guide my life. I wouldn't take the pill and blend in (horrible idea for anyone), instead I embrace my uniqueness and choose which people, places and situations will fit into my life and honour who I am. That's how I define Pride... at least, today.

Oh, look at the time. I've got friends coming over for a feed of lobster so there is water to boil and drinks to chill. Happy Pride, Tom.

Love ya!



## SUPERSTEIN ...from page 1

Hailed as an iconic Canadian fashion legend, John Walke launched his new SUPERSTEIN collection in his hometown of Moncton at the Oxygen night club on July 14. SUPERSTEIN's lines include trendy styles of handmade silk-screened underwear, hoodies, shirts, tanks, v's and more.

Walke got his start in the world of fashion in 1987 while living in New York City. His brand has been featured in *Vogue*, *Paper*, *Flare*, *Fashion Television*, *MTV*, *Much Music* and many others.

John Walke stated that he had an amazing time: "It was really one of my best shows ever. I thought Alex and Mario did a great job, and I was

thrilled to see some of the River of Pride crew at the event.

"I hope the whole city and community come together and make Pride Moncton as good as it can be. To have people at odds over one group or another for Pride isn't progressive. As a gay community maybe try a little harder to evolve and grow, work together and accept change, support something new and give the Pride a chance to grow and evolve."

John says that he looks forward to returning and doing another show, for the community, for Moncton, for everyone, and wishes to thank Oxygen and all the models that walked the show, it really was a fantastic time.

## LGBTQ Refugees: Coming to Canada

by Hugo Dann

This spring, queers across Canada wrote letters to Immigration Minister Jason Kenney, they started Facebook groups and held rallies, all in support of one young, gay man. On May 13, Alvaro Orozco was picked up by Toronto Police while waiting at a bus stop and whisked away to a detention centre, pending deportation back to Nicaragua. Mr. Orozco, now 25, had fled his home when he was only twelve years old, after repeated beatings from his homophobic father. He made his way slowly across the United States, living illegally. In 2005, he arrived in Toronto and claimed refugee status on the basis of his sexual orientation. His case attracted a lot of international media attention, and in Nicaragua the threats against his life, should he return, mounted. At his hearing in 2006, a member of the Immigration and Refugee Board declared that she didn't believe he was "really gay." Claim denied. He appealed, and the case dragged on for years. Meanwhile, he built a new life in Toronto, even winning an award from the city for his work with at-risk youth, always with the threat of imminent arrest and deportation hanging over him. This story has a happy ending. The rallies, letters and the Facebook pages all helped: Alvaro Orozco was allowed to stay in Canada on humanitarian and compassionate grounds.

Alvaro Orozco's story serves as a timely reminder of how fortunate we are to live in Canada, a country that respects human rights and freedoms—to the extent that we are a beacon to those facing injustice and violence in their home countries. It also reminded our community how perilous life can be for LGBTQ people in most of the rest of the world. Even the mainstream media has picked up on the infamous anti-gay legislation in Uganda. We saw the Ugandan newspaper featuring the

names and photos of LGBT rights activists under the headline, "Hang Them!" We read about the brutal murder of David Kato. Straight media has been less diligent in reporting homophobic killings in Jamaica and the proliferation of murder music, or the fate of young gay men in Iran, coerced into sex reassignment surgeries, or the death squads targeting queers in post-invasion Iraq. Even in South Africa, where LGBT rights are written into the constitution, lesbians have been subjected to the vicious practice of corrective rape. The problem seems so vast that just thinking about trying to help can be overwhelming. Yet there are things we can do. Certainly, we can help by writing to our elected officials and urging them to speak up for LGBTQ people in countries that do business with or seek aid from Canada.

We can also help on the smaller, more personal scale by getting involved with LGBTQ refugees here at home. If it had not been for the enthusiasm, the generosity of time and spirit of LGBTQ Canadians from coast to coast to coast, Alvaro Orozco would most certainly have been deported; sent back to Nicaragua, quite possibly to his death. There are even ways we can support queer refugees right here in Atlantic Canada. We will consider these in the second part of this article. Meanwhile let me leave you with a link to the North Star Triangle Project, an initiative of LGBTQ activist, David Pepper: [northstartriangle.blogspot.com](http://northstartriangle.blogspot.com). (For more on this queer refugee project, see also the July issue of *Wayves*.)

...to be continued.

Hugo Dann is the former Executive Director of the Nova Scotia Rainbow Action Project, three time past Chair of Halifax Pride, former Gay Men's Health Coordinator of the AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia, and past towel-boy at Sea Dogs Sauna & Spa.

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# Coming Out as Bisexual

by Sara Montgomery  
If you are curious about this topic, Google the title of this article and you will be able to read hours worth of stuff on it.

I scanned for twenty minutes and decided to exit and explain my version of whether or not you should come out as bisexual.

First, it is usually a process with developments in both positive and negative senses. Maybe it's like a keg of wine in the cellar, fermenting with time, by chance going sour due to air getting in, or unexpected temperature

changes. You've got to get it to the point that tastes best for your palate.

About three years ago I started my study of bisexuality and began telling certain friends and family members about how I have a thing for women as well as men.

I was very careful when it came to choosing to whom I bared my soul. Consequently, I had good fortune (well, not with every individual, chiefly a gay woman who was interested in dating me) with stepping out of that famous closet and putting a toe in a fresh puddle of water.

Caution with who I am is forefront for many reasons. On one hand I don't like "hiding" and "holding back" because it is against my nature.

But on the other hand, I have to protect myself.

People judge bisexuality way more than homosexuality. I think it was the character Charlotte on Sex and the City who cried out, "They should pick a side! You can't have both!" (I'm paraphrasing, but she was exclaiming.)

What's with that saying, "You can't have your cake and eat it too"? What's

the use of the cake if you can't eat it?

No, seriously, there is heavier biphobia than homophobia. Say you want to tell a same-sex friend you are bi: then you have to worry that they are worried that you're going to be interested in them. How frustrating! Again and again, silence rears its ugly head.

Ah, but the luxury of opening up to a friend who is bisexual as well. Or even gay or straight but one who honestly understands your plight. It's really nice.

I will say very forwardly that I believe if you fall in love with a same-sex friend (and suppose that there's an opposite-sex potential lover lingering), you should still go with your heart and take the risk of being considered gay, more often than not and maybe endlessly.

That could be the point where two individuals could enjoy the most wonderful wine with dinner and needless to say, the most exquisite company with it too.

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**Wednesday, August 17**

Flag Raising at Moncton City Hall Noon

Karaoke at Triangles Bar 9:00pm - 2:00am

Join us to belt out your favorite tunes! Meet new friends, enjoy drink specials, and win prizes! Admission is free.

**Thursday, August 18**

Launch party at the Oxygen Night Club 10:00pm - 2:00am

Monctons hottest destination and biggest dance floor will be hoppin' with the hottest party with homegrown DJ Sonny D and Californian DJ Phil B.

**Friday, August 19**

Black&Blue Pre-party at Casino New Brunswick  
10:00pm - 3:00am

City Pride Celebration welcomes famed Montréal circuit party, Black&Blue® to Atlantic Canada for the first time! Featuring leading circuit DJs this event brings upwards of 100,000 people to Montréal annually. Right here in your own Maritime backyard comes a legendary party with even more legendary beats. Epic Montreal DJs Paskal & Vesselinov drop the newest and most electrified house and trance beats. Just when you thought it couldn't get any better, Patrick Guay from Montréal will really step-up the night for the closing act. The best DJs, hottest lights, sounds and intense energy, mean non-stop body-rocking and fist-pumping 'till the wee hours of the morning. Hosted by a special guest! Oh, the excitement!

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**Saturday, August 20**

Drag Show at the Oxygen Night Club  
12:30pm - 3:00pm

Feathers, sequins and satin... Oh my! A big city show in Greater Moncton featuring local Drag Queens and celebrity Drag Queen Shangela will perform in front of a panel of judges and the winner will be crowned the Queen of the City Pride Celebration and will be in the Pride Parade the following day. Tickets available on-line for \$25 or \$30 at the door.



*Shangela*

**Saturday, August 20 (continued)**

Superbia party at Casino New Brunswick 8:00pm - 3:00am

This one of a kind event will be hosted by a special guest. A dance like you have never seen before here in Moncton, featuring internationally renowned DJ Pierre Fitch, DJ Joe Gauthreaux and DJ Tony Moran, supported by a laser show, oxygen, fireworks, and state-of-the-art sound and lighting. VIPs will have their own lounge with full bar services and complimentary champagne, along with security and a private red carpet entrance.

After hours party at iRock 3:30am - 6:00am

Why should the good times end? DJ Dave & Gerardo, known to many as D&G, will keep your feet groovin' until the sun comes up!

**Sunday, August 21**

Pride Parade 2:00pm

This family friendly afternoon Annual Pride Parade will showcase many well designed floats, walking representatives, and lots of cheering! Thanks to many Greater Moncton businesses, organizations, and committees this Parade is said to be bigger and better than ever! Make sure to look for our amazing float!

Celebration Party  
3:00pm

Following the parade join us outdoors at the Riverfront Park, downtown Moncton, for a family friendly celebration! DJ Mike Savoie, DJ Tizi, special musical acts, and several celebrity guests will entertain and booths will be set-up to browse. OUT TV will be there with chances to win fabulous prizes, food and beverages available and be sure to stop by our booth for meet n' greets with our guests. This event is rain or shine.

Closing party at the iRock  
10:00pm - 2:00am

As our thank-you to you, for helping make this festival one to remember, DJ Billy Lace and DJ Hector Fonseca (Best International DJ of 2009 by Edge Magazine) will help us end this festival in style!

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## Sir Isaac Brock: Was he a "Man's man?"

by Christian Corbet

He was called "The Hero of Upper Canada," a Major General in the War of 1812 who was assigned to Canada as a British Army Officer and administrator. His ultimate duty was to defend Upper Canada against the invasion of the Americans.

Sir Isaac Brock was born on the remote island of Guernsey, one of the Channel Islands just off the coast of France. Brock was brought up in a family known for military duty. He was tall, standing at an estimated 6'2", with fine features and possessing warm auburn hair and grey blue eyes. By all accounts he was a handsome man, said to have been gentle, kind and thoughtful.

But was Brock a "man's man?"

Brock wrote very little about his private life to family, friends or colleagues, and he mentioned even less about women, relationships with them or the like. Period historians who found the need to dispel gossip about Brock being gay (or bisexual) stated emphatically that he enjoyed

the company of women. One Canadian woman even claimed to have been his fiancée at the time of his death on the battlefield. The latter was never proved true or false. Some contemporary historians have raised the query about his sexuality and even tour guides in Guernsey will publicly volunteer the possibility of Brock being homosexual, but again there is no actual proof.

A lot of the speculation is based on simple expectations of the day. Most men in Guernsey were married by the time they were in their mid 20's, the same statistics for British men of that period. But Brock never married. Was it because he had dedicated his life to the military? Or did he not wish to commit himself knowing that he was lined up for battle one day and could be killed, leaving behind a widow and children? That of course is debatable, given the fact that many men in the military did marry and have children. Brock never married and did not have any issue.

On the cusp of all the bicentenary celebrations slated for 2012 within Canada, the United Kingdom and elsewhere, a few historians are raising the question again, "Was Sir Isaac Brock gay or potentially bisexual?" The short and most succinct answer is simply, "We will never know." And does it matter? Of course for the LG-BTQA community it would matter

because it would be yet another great member of our community for us to be proud of! However, what matters the most is the historical fact that the "Hero of Upper Canada" was a true "bona fide" hero: gay, straight or otherwise. He led us to the freedom we enjoy today and that, in and of itself, is something to commemorate. Sir Isaac Brock KB was born on

October 6, 1769 in Guernsey, Channel Islands and died on October 13 1812 during the Battle of Queenston Heights. His efforts in the quick victories at Fort Mackinac and Detroit crippled American invasion efforts and earned him the Order of the Bath, a knighthood that he would never learn of, with the news arriving a day after his death.

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## Letters From Cambodia

## Cambodian lesbians turning to technology

by Kenny Ingram

Concerned about the well-being of his 18-year-old friend who recently came out to her parents as a lesbian, Srun Srun posted a message on Facebook to let people know she was being held against her will.

"She has been confined to her bedroom and her parents are demanding that she marry a man," explains Srun, 30, who has not been able to contact his friend directly for the past two months because she is forbidden to leave home and her phone was taken.

"She met her girlfriend two years ago in grade 10," he recalls effortlessly. "The parents did not know [they were dating] until the mother saw the girls kissing and hugging in the house," he continues, adding that an arranged marriage with a man was put into planning soon after.

"The mother asked her to get married but the daughter [making an excuse] said she wanted to go to school first. Her Mom disagreed and they got into a big argument."

Srun's alert about the situation gained a lot of attention from his friends on Facebook (in excess of 1,200 people). As an outspoken LGBT rights activist and lobbyist for the past 10 years, he is all too familiar with similar stories among

lesbians in Phnom Penh, the capital of Cambodia, in addition to those living in rural areas. Srun was recently sponsored by the UN to visit New York City in June where he spoke about LGBT issues in Cambodia. Upon his return he ran a workshop with 11 lesbians to encourage social-networking and group discussions about their experiences.

"Most of them complained about discrimination [and] harassment," he recalls. "One also said she was almost raped," says Srun, who describes how some Cambodians believe they can "make lesbians turn into women" by raping them.

"Lesbians are targets for sexual violence because some men think they are more fresh. They believe all lesbians are virgins and have no risk of [sexually transmitted] disease."

Among his other concerns is the disparity in funding for lesbians compared to gay men. Non-government organizations (NGOs) in Cambodia amount to the second highest in the world (per capita), trailing behind Rwanda with an estimated 3,000 international and local agencies.

Despite this relative abundance of research and funding programs Srun says that health statistics and support services for lesbians are scarce.

"We have over 30 NGOs that focus on gay [men] because of HIV programs," he says, adding that only two of the organizations offer specific services for women who identify as lesbian.

He emphasizes that in rural areas, where 80 per cent of the population

are roughly equal in representation up until grade 3 in Cambodia, though the amount of women can drop to lower than 10 per cent in university classrooms.

The quality of education in Cambodia also presents barriers according to Srun, as basic reproductive health remains a work in progress for the National Curriculum. Preventing unwanted pregnancies and reducing the spread of sexually transmitted diseases have become more common topics in classrooms because of NGO support; however, discussions about sexual intercourse remain highly taboo and information about sexuality is rare, especially those written in the local language, Khmer.

To overcome some of these barriers, Srun says that lesbians, in addition to others in the LGBT community, are using the internet and their mobile phones as a more comfortable—and perhaps safer—means of education and communication.

"Telephones [mobile] are very cheap in Cambodia and let people stay in touch. When two guys or two girls meet they can stay in touch and share ideas," he says, adding that text

messaging can be quick and discreet, while also allowing LGBT youth to overcome geographic distances.

He notes that social-networking sites on the internet are also becoming popular among the youth. For example, Facebook users in Cambodia continue to skyrocket, jumping almost 70 per cent in the past six months according to Socialbakers, a website that compiles Facebook statistics. Srun frequently posts words of encouragement and messages that concern LGBT rights. Recognizing the potential of this site as an information source and exchange hub of ideas, he posts upwards of 80 comments a day.

The glaring problem remains, however, that technology is providing the younger generations with capacity while older LGBT are being left out.

"The older [Cambodians] are not familiar with this technology and fewer of their friends use Facebook or cell phones," explains Srun. "Many [grew up] in the belief that they could say nothing [about sexuality] because they have been taught that being a lesbian is wrong and unnatural, but the younger are keen for change and I think that is where the potential [for Cambodia] is."

*"...technology is providing the younger generations with capacity while older LGBT are being left out."*

as a whole resides, lesbians can face far greater challenges compared to those in urban centers.

"Girls can make more money in cities. They have more capacity and more opportunities to make decisions for themselves, including choosing who they want to marry."

"But in the countryside girls are less likely to finish high school and very few go to university because they are expected to stay at home to help with [traditional domestic] work or raise children," Srun explains. He notes a trend whereby boys and girl

## Nadine LaPierre

...continued from page 1

People kept saying, 'You should write a novel.'

With expressive, off-beat titles like *Fraught with the Sin*, *DRAG! Hotkatz vs. Boykers* and *Shootin' at the Fritz* LaPierre's plays give away the author's knack for capturing her audience's attention from the outset. "I've always been creative," she says. "I paint, I've written music, and for awhile when I was in my teens and early 20s I enjoyed sculpting. When I moved onto writing murder mystery plays it was just a natural progression of that creativity."

"What I discovered from writing my plays was how to bring humour and human drama into the entertainment. Even though it's an intelligent mystery, people still want to enjoy a good story. I wanted to bring the balance between intelligent and entertaining."

LaPierre has a day job and writing every day is sometimes out of the question; she devotes her weekends and days off to honing her craft. "I take Saturday evenings off, though, because balance is very important."

Research is also important. No CSI effect here: thanks to excellent and thorough sources, the novel's science is grounded in reality. "I wanted the police officers, the medical examiners, the lawyers... anyone who worked in those fields in Nova Scotia to read and nod in agreement. I was able to get excellent sources from the RCMP, medical examiners and the public prosecution service," she says.

Another Const. Reneau book, *Verity and the Virgin Queen*, is scheduled for release in 2012. LaPierre has projected three books, but there might well be more. "We'll cross that bridge when we get to it," she laughs.

Visit the author's website at [www.nadinelapierre.com](http://www.nadinelapierre.com) for more information, including excerpts from the novel.

**Wanna get lucky?**

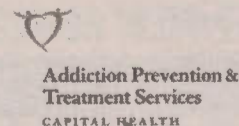
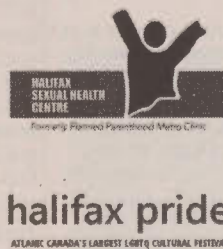
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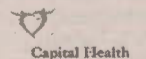
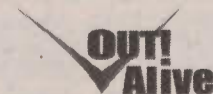
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Out!Alive is composed of citizens concerned about drug, alcohol, tobacco, and gambling issues within the Rainbow Community



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@gmail.com](mailto:ilovemy2moms@gmail.com) web: [momsquared.weebly.com](http://momsquared.weebly.com)

Mount Pride: LGBTQ group at Mount Saint Vincent University. email: [mountpride@mountstudents.ca](mailto:mountpride@mountstudents.ca), meets 1st Tuesday, and 3rd Tuesday (bi-weekly on Tuesdays at 245) at Meetings in the Diversity Center in Rose-ria. Possible events that are being planned for the year include sexuality awareness, movies nights, social events, guest speakers, and many more. There are always LG-BTQ community events to be involved with and events that are always fun. This group is open to anyone who would like to join.

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, out-reach, and political action. 444.3206 email: [nsrap@nsrap.ca](mailto:nsrap@nsrap.ca) web: [www.nsrp.ca](http://www.nsrp.ca) at TBA

Outlaw: GLBTQ & Allies Law Students Association at Dalhousie Law School. email: [chad.skinner@dal.ca](mailto:chad.skinner@dal.ca) web: [www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2416842853](http://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 Mal-ette by phone or email. Hope you'll join us! 431-8500 email: [halifaxns@pflagcanada.ca](mailto: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](mailto:info@halifaxpride.ca) web: [www.halifaxpride.ca](http://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. pride-Health- improving safe access to health care. 220.0643

Quakers: Quakerism emphasizes that we all manifest the Divine. 429-2904 web: [halifax.quaker.ca](http://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](mailto:queerplay@gmail.com)

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 denomi-nation 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](http://www.teamhalifax.com) (No fixed schedule at this time, look on website for further details.)

The Masculine Spectrum: is a new support group for all transgender, transsexual, & trans men, FtMs, female assigned at birth genderqueers, two-spirited, intersexed, & questioning people 18 years of age or older, of all sexual orientations. No significant others, friends, family, or allies please. web: [ca.groups.yahoo.com/group/genderspectrum/](http://ca.groups.yahoo.com/group/genderspectrum/), meets 2nd Sunday at Just Us Cafe, 5896 Spring Garden Road

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](mailto:youthproject@youthproject.ns.ca) web: [www.youthproject.ns.ca](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:secstory@eastlink.ca) web: [www.secstory.com](http://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: [middletonn@pflag-canada.ca](mailto:middletonn@pflag-canada.ca) web: [www.pflagcanada.ca/middleton.html](http://www.pflagcanada.ca/middleton.html) (Check online for meeting times and locations- or phone 825-0548)

**New Glasgow**

Pictou County Centre for Sexual Health: 695-3366 email: [pcsexualhealth@hotmail.com](mailto:pcsexualhealth@hotmail.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](mailto:pcwc@womenscentre.ca)

**New Minas / Annapolis Valley**

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

at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Valley-Youth-Project/22418494995>

**Sydney**

AIDS Coalition of Cape Breton: Support, advocacy, prevention/education for those infected or affected by HIV/AIDS. Free condoms! Queer Advocacy and Education, Needle Distribution, Food Bank, Coffee, Safe Space for those infected or affected. (902) 567-1766 Toll Free 1-877-597-9255 email: [christineporter@accb.ns.ca](mailto:christineporter@accb.ns.ca) web: [www.accb.ns.ca](http://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: [sd@cbusu.ns.ca](mailto:sd@cbusu.ns.ca) (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: [sydneys@pflagcanada.ca](mailto:sydneys@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 106 Townsend Street, Sydney NS

Pride Cape Breton Society: Dances and Social Events. Monthly dances are Adults Only! Check website community events. (902) 539-4627 email: [info@pridecapebreton.com](mailto:info@pridecapebreton.com) web: [www.pridecapebreton.com](http://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: [tatacenter@tatacentre.ca](mailto:tatacenter@tatacentre.ca) web: [www.tatacentre.ca](http://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](mailto:cnwrc@eastlink.ca) 535 Prince Street, Truro, NS B2N 1E8 (902) 895-4295. web: [cnwrc.weebly.com](http://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](mailto:trurosexualassault@hotmail.com) (Centre Hours Mon-Thurs 9:30-4:30) at 80 Glenwood Drive, Truro Nova Scotia

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

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](mailto:rainbowproud@hotmail.com) web: [rainbowproudnovascotia.ca](http://rainbowproudnovascotia.ca) (See webpage for schedule.)

RESPECT: Students Making Healthy Decisions. 893-6300 email: [respect@nsac.ca](mailto: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](mailto:lyoung@nsac.ns.ca) (Meetings as requested. Membership changes each academic year.)

**Wolfville**

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

**Yarmouth**

South West Nova Pride: GLBT of any age are invited, we meet as a social gathering and peer support group on the 2nd last Wednesday of each month at 7:00PM in the Beacon United Church parlour 25 Beacon St. Yarmouth. We are not church affiliated. 645-2914 email: [jackanddan@eastlink.ca](mailto:jackanddan@eastlink.ca) web: [SWNovaPride.com](http://SWNovaPride.com)

**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](mailto:gay-pe-owner@yahoo.com) web: [groups.yahoo.com/group/gay-pe/](http://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](mailto:pei@pflagcanada.ca) web: [www.pflagcanada.ca](http://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.

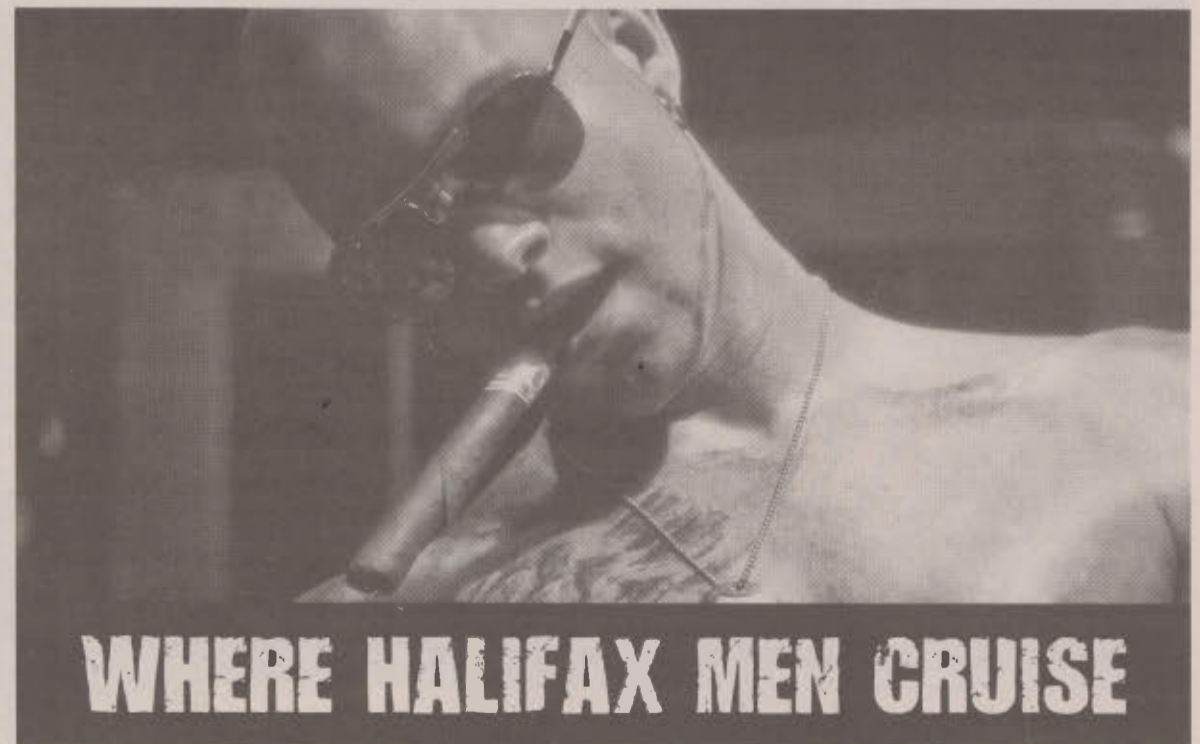
**Charlottetown**

AIDS PEI: AIDS PEI offers HIV prevention and support services to all residents of PEI. 902-566-2437 email: [info@aidspei.com](mailto:info@aidspei.com) web: [www.aidspei.com](http://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](mailto:info@arcofpei.com) web: [www.arcofpei.com](http://www.arcofpei.com), meets 1st Monday (6:00pm at 375 University Ave Suite # 2 Charlottetown, PE)



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[uuchurch@eastlink.ca](mailto:uuchurch@eastlink.ca)  
 902-429-5500

Susan Stephen & Gwen Armshaw Lay Chaplains  
[sstephen57@gmail.com](mailto:sstephen57@gmail.com) & [armshaw@hfx.eastlink.ca](mailto:armshaw@hfx.eastlink.ca)

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# Chef's Corner



This is the most delicate of the wild mushroom flavours, in my opinion, and they are only available fresh for a short period of time each year, usually from some point in August to end of September. This depends on many factors, from how much or little rain, sun and shade, etc. These distinctive golden yellow gems are still hand-picked from the forest floor and, as far as I know, are not being cultivated as many other formerly wild species are today. They are available at most farmers' market in the region, and if you are so inclined you can go out for a walk in the forest to see what you can find.

Chef Darren is Chef de Cuisine and Co-owner of Chives Canadian Bistro, Halifax, N.S. Top 100 restaurants – "Where to Eat in Canada" Best Fine Dining – "The Coast" Member of "La Chaine des Rotisseurs" world gastronomic society. For reservation call (902) 420-9626, or online at [www.chives.ca](http://www.chives.ca).

## Golden Chanterelle Mushroom Soup

### Ingredients

2 lb fresh cleaned chanterelles (thinly sliced)  
1 leek (white only) thinly sliced well cleaned of all the sand  
2 cloves garlic (minced)  
1/4 cup unsalted butter

2 bay leaves  
1/4 cup Vermouth or white cooking wine  
4 1/2 cups chicken or vegetable stock  
1/2 cup heavy cream (optional)  
1 Tbsp picked fresh thyme leaves (stir

in at end)  
1/2 cup grated Swiss cheese (for garnish)  
several drops of white truffle oil on each portion (as garnish)

### Method

1. In a medium size sauce pan (4 qt) over medium heat, sweat the leeks, garlic, bay leaves and mushroom in the melted butter, until soft and starting to take on some colour (approx 10 min). 2. Add the Vermouth and reduce by half. 3. Add the stock, cover and bring to a boil. Turn down to a simmer and cook for 1/2 hour. 4. Remove 1/3 of the mix to a blender or food processor and blend smooth. 5. Return the blended soup to the pot, stir in the cream (optional) and thyme and heat through. 6. Adjust seasoning (salt and pepper) and ladle into hot serving bowls. 7. Top with some grated cheese, a couple of drops truffle oil and enjoy.



Jacqueline, Nik, Ellen, and Rory all painting together.

Heather and Jen setting up food for the Queers and Nationalism Picnic.



Photos courtesy of Shay E



Queer and Rebel Days collaborative mural, with unicorns and dinosaurs!



Jacqueline and Heather steadfastly painting the Queer and Rebel Days banner.

Shay, Rory, and A.M. cuddling after a long challenging discussion about "Are You Queer Enough?"



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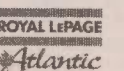
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# Better Together

**SATURDAY JULY 23**

HALIFAX PRIDE PRESENTS JEFFERY STRAKER WITH KID AKIMBO, SHE KING & HALIFAX'S OWN PERPETUAL DETOUR.

A highly energetic musical stage awaits everyone, four continuous hours of entertainment from 4-8pm will include local, national and international musicians. In addition to live musical performances, Halifax's Queens take to the stage in true Boylesque form while Casino Nova Scotia's Urban Circus provide intermezzo performances.

## MAIN STAGE FEATURE LINE-UP

4:50PM



PERPETUAL DETOUR

5:30PM



KID AKIMBO

6:15PM



SHE KING

7:00PM



JEFFERY STRAKER

The Board of Directors of Halifax Pride wishes to Thank our Volunteers, the Community, our Sponsors and everyone involved in making the 2011 Halifax Pride Festival 'Better Together'.





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