

# WAYNES

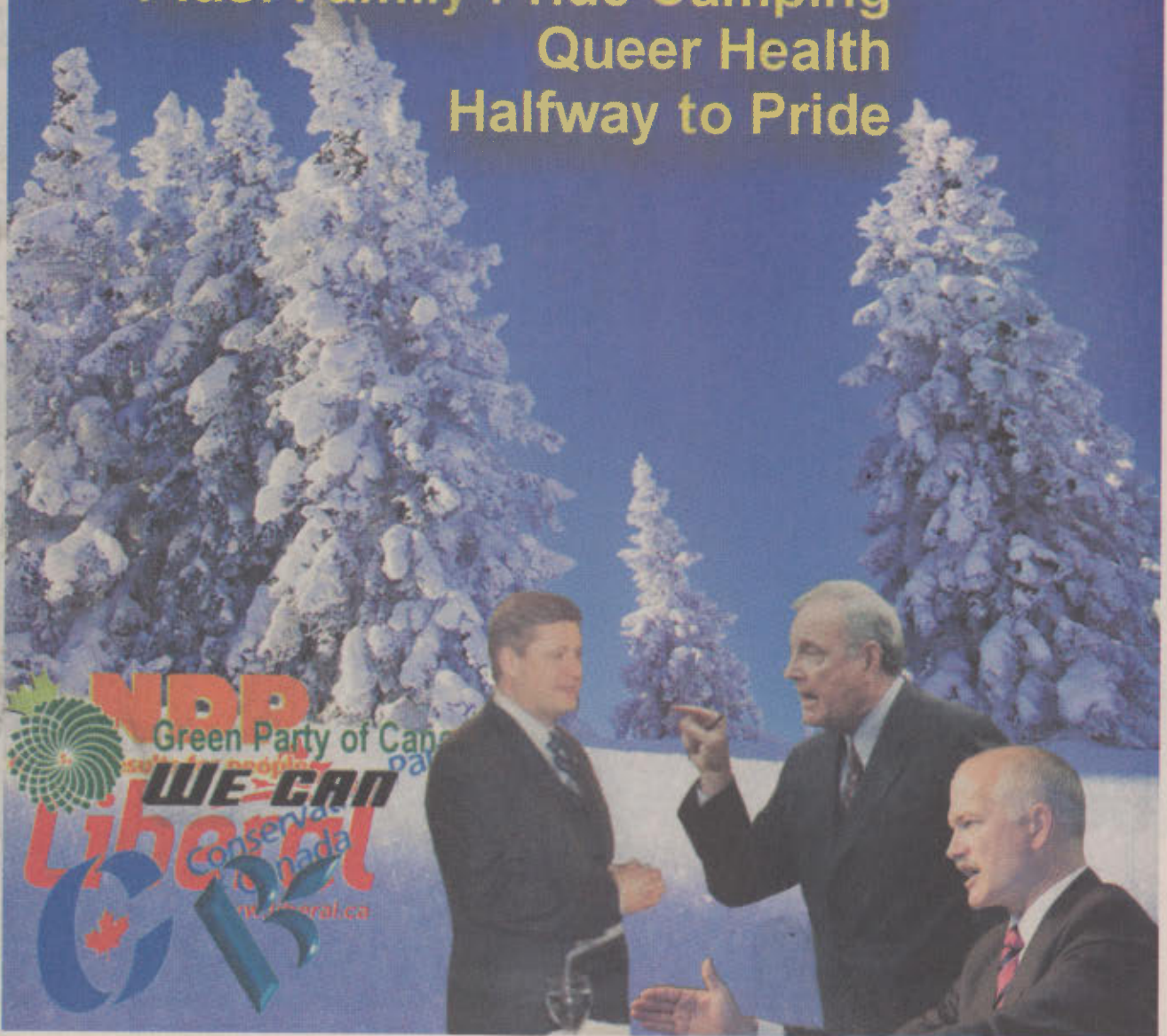
January / February 2006 *for atlantic canadians*

"I waited a full five hours after parliament dissolved before I started in on the queers."

- Comedian Rick Mercer  
as Stephen Harper

## The Election Issue

Plus: Family Pride Camping  
Queer Health  
Halfway to Pride



### Where You Can Find wayves

#### New Brunswick...

Bathurst: Gais.es Nor Gays

Fredericton: AIDS New Brunswick; Boldon's Bookmart; Campus "Smoke" Shoppe, UNB; Molly's Coffee House / Cargo Bay; Student Resource Centre, St. Thomas University; UNB/STU Spectrum; Westminster Books, King Street; X-Citement Video, Queen Street

Moncton: Reid's Newstand; SIDA/AIDS Moncton; Triangles; United Book Exchange, Mountain Road; X-Citement Video

Sackville: Bridge Street Café; Mount Allison; Tidewater Books

Saint John: AIDS Saint John; Club Montreal; Feel Good Store; Hair Station; Mahogany Manor

#### Newfoundland...

Corner Brook: Corner Brook Status of Women

Gander: Gander Public Library

St. John's: AIDS - Newfoundland and Labrador; Bennington Gate; LBGT

M.U.N.; Our Pleasures; Shopper's Drug Mart, Le Marchant Road; St. John's Public Library; Word Play; Zone 216

#### Nova Scotia...

Amherst: Carvel Upholstery and Draperies; Cumberland County Family Planning

Annapolis Royal: The King George Inn

Antigonish: Antigonish Women's Centre; Student Union Resource Centre; Webb's Superstore

Bedford: Bedford Library

Bridgewater: Second Story Women's Centre

Canning: Canning Library

Dartmouth: Adult Cash & Carry; Alderney Gate Library; CD Heaven; Dartmouth North Library; Healing Our Nations; Jake's Video & Variety; Nova Scotia Government Employees Union; Wolfgang Leathers; Woodlawn Library; X-Citement Video, Main Street

Halifax: AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia; Altered Café; Atlantic News Stand; Blowers Street Paperchase; Bookmark; Buy the Book and More; CD Plus; CKDU Radio; Club NRG2; Counseling and Community Support Services; DALOUT; Dal-Tech; Daily Grind; Diamond; FRED; Fresh Salon & Spa; Fresh Start B&B; Grad House (Dal); HMV; Hairdressers' Market; Halifax Backpackers Hostel; Junk & Foibles; Khyber Club; Libraries; Captain William Spry, Halifax North; Keshen Goodman, Killiam, Spring Garden Road, Weldon Law; Menz Bar; Mount St. Vincent University - Rosaria & Sexton; Night Magic Fashions; Nooks and Crannies; NSCAD - supply store; N.S. Advisory Council - Status of Women; One World Café; Outside The Lines; Planned Parenthood Clinic; Random Play; Read All About It; Reflections; Robyn's Grocery; Room2Move Fitness; Seadogs Spa; Second Cup - Spring Garden; Shoe Shop; SUB, Dal and St. Mary's; Venus Envy; Video Difference; X-Citement Video, Quinpool Road; Youth Project

Kentville: Annapolis Valley Regional Library - Kentville Division; The Red Door

Lower Sackville: Halifax Public Library; Sackville Library; X-Citement Video

Lunenburg: Elizabeth's Books

Middleton: Mark Rutherford; 92 Balcom Crescent, Nictaux

New Glasgow: Pictou County Women's Centre

Pictou: Pictou Library

Port Williams: Port Williams Public Library

Sydney: AIDS Coalition; Harrison Society; Sexual Diversity Centre, CBU

Tantallon: Tantallon Library

Truro: Central Nova Women's Resource Centre; Colchester Sexual Assault Centre; MacQuarries Pharmasave - The Esplanade; NSCC Truro Campus; Northern Aids Connection

Wolfville: Acadia Pride; The Atheneum, Acadia; The Coffee Merchant; The Odd Book; Wolfville Public Library

Yarmouth: TOOTS; Tri-County Women's Centre; Western Counties Regional Library

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## Letter

### My, That Sky is Manly!

In reference to November's blurb, "Messy Makeover" concerning the psychology of the colour pink having calming effects, I think law professor Jill Gaulling may be jumping the gun with her assertions of stereotyping, and in fact, going out of her way to find a pink locker room offensive to women and/or homosexuals.

It's a given that certain colours have various effects on you. Just try sitting still, cool, calm and collected for an extended period of time in a room painted vibrantly red. Now, I'm not much of a football fan, but I am a fan of psychology. When a psychology major who understands the principle behind this, and has a vested interest in winning ball games employs this technique, why look at it as anything more than it is? His intentions, obviously, were to mentally sedate the other team, presumably while exciting and riling up his team, who will come out energized and ready to go.

I can all but guarantee his intentions weren't "ohh, the opposing team is a bunch of sissy girls, lets paint their locker room in pretty girly colours." (My that sky is manly!)

Essentially, that's where my problem with Jill Gaulling's assertions comes from. A colour is nothing more, nothing less than a shade of various pigments. That is exactly and entirely what it is, and not at all representative of a particular gender or orientation. I feel that it is in HER actions and objections that are the real cause of sexism here, for it is her who is implying that pink is anything more than a calming colour. Who's perpetuating these offensive stereotypes towards women?

C'mon toots... may I suggest you go sit in a nice, soothing, pinkly painted room and chill out for a while, perhaps spending your time thinking about more important things than the decor in some dusty ol' dressing room.

Rich, Fredericton, NB

### Important WAYVES Dates!

#### Issue Content Deadlines:

Feb 3, March 3, April 7, May 5

(the first Friday of each month)

Send your ideas, comments, criticisms, columns, cartoons and more to [submissions@wayves.ca](mailto:submissions@wayves.ca) any time!

#### Production Meetings (Halifax)

Feb 6, March 6, April 10, May 8

Help decide what goes in the next issue, 7:30 PM, CEF, 5443 Rainnie (above Century Computers), all welcome!

#### Layout Parties (Halifax)

Feb 12, March 12, April 16, May 14

Help build the paper - no special skills required, just enthusiasm, and helping even once or for a few hours helps a LOT! 9:30 AM, CEF, 5443 Rainnie (above Century Computers), all welcome!

#### On The Stands and In The Mail:

Feb 25, March 25, April 29, May 27

## Atlantic News

### Rainbow Weekend Retreats in Tatamagouche

Rev. Robert Johnson of St Andrews, NB is pleased to share his personal appreciation for the generous response to his personal appeal for the "Chris Glaser" event at Tatamagouche Centre next March. Due to the generous response of many of Bob's friends and colleagues the goal of One Thousand Dollars will be reached - and probably exceeded.

In November the 2nd Annual Rainbow Retreat Weekend at Tatamagouche had 14 participants on hand and 19 actually registered. Once again, members of the GLBT community from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick expressed deep appreciation for this offering of nurture for their spirits. With this encouragement, dates have already been set in October 2006 for the 3rd Annual Retreat. All of this to say how important it is for some in the GLBT community to have their spiritually journey affirmed and supported.



### Tatamagouche Centre Calendar

Tatamagouche Centre's 2006 Calendar "Of Interest to the Rainbow Community":

Mar 17-19 We're Here - We're Queer! GLBT Youth and Allies in Community

Mar 24-26 Chris Glaser - A Spirituality of Inclusion

Oct 25-27 Educating allies: Breaking the Cycle of Oppression

Oct 27-29 A Maritime Rainbow Weekend

### Menz Bar supports Youth Project Food Bank

The youth, staff and volunteers of the Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Youth Project thank Menz Bar for their continued support. Doug Melanson, owner of Menz Bar, has placed a shopping cart in the bar to collect non-perishable food items for the Youth Project's food bank. Due to the large number of youth accessing this service, it is difficult to keep food on the shelves. The food cart will be a year round project at Menz bar and has already been a great success, filling up in less than five days with much needed items such as canned goods, cereals, pasta and snack foods.



### ACNS Spring Fundraiser

Once again this spring the AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia (ACNS) will be a local partner in the annual Spring For Life campaign. Spearheaded by the Canadian Foundation for AIDS Research (CAN-FAR), the campaign raises money to support community based services and prevention work as well as HIV/AIDS research. Spring For Life was created to address "the stunning lack of awareness" around HIV/AIDS in Canada and to provide a national platform for information to reach Canadians. It is a partnership among leading AIDS agencies in Canada, including the AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia. For the first time in 2006, SIDA-AIDS Moncton will also be taking part in the Canada-wide programme. Across the country last year, hundreds of businesses—retail, restaurants, and spas—donated a portion of their sales for a day of their choice in late April to support the Spring For Life campaign. Kicking off the campaign in Nova Scotia again this year will be Flowers for Life, with ACNS, the AIDS Coalition of Cape Breton, and the Northern AIDS Connection all involved. On March 25th, Gerbera daisies will be sold as a fundraiser in Metro. Last year flowers were available at both Mic Mac Mall and the Halifax Shopping Centre, with ACNS volunteers staffing the flower stands. The proceeds help support the whole range of ACNS's programmes, from the Health Fund, to the complementary and alternative therapies provided for individuals living with HIV/AIDS, and health promotion programmes.

### 2005 Rainbow Health Conference - Huge Success

By Dawn Archambault  
On November 3 to 5, the Canadian Rainbow Health Coalition (CRHC) hosted its, very successful, Rainbow Health 2005 conference at MSVU. The CRHC welcomed over 200 delegates from across Canada and around the world and offered exceptional opportunities to participate in various workshops and networking activities. Some of the workshops included topics such as: *Moving Beyond Trans-Sensitivity: Developing Clinical Competence in Transgender Care*; *Spirited People of the 1st Nation: A Model of Care*, and *Public Health and Primary Care Practitioners - Evaluate Your Services for LGBT Sensitivity and Inclusivity* as well as many other outstanding workshops with presentations from the 8 CRHC funded projects including our local Halifax Rainbow Health Project. For more information about the HRHP visit [www.nsrp.ca](http://www.nsrp.ca).

Some presenters have made their workshop material available on their site. [www.rainbowhealth.ca](http://www.rainbowhealth.ca)

The Canadian Rainbow Health Coalition is a national organization whose objective is to address the various health and wellness

issues that people who have sexual and emotional relationships with people of the same gender, or a gender identity that does not conform to the identity assigned to them at birth, encounter.

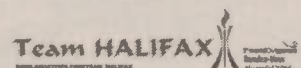
The CRHC was formed after the 175 delegates at 2001: A Health Odyssey - Building Healthy Communities conference in Saskatoon called for the formation of a national organization that would provide a means for people working in the gay, lesbian bisexual and transgender (GLBT) health and wellness field to network and advocate together. To find out more about the CRHC, visit them at [www.rainbowhealth.ca](http://www.rainbowhealth.ca). Many thanks go out to the dozens of volunteers and NSRAP for helping to organize and run the conference. A job well done!

### MenzBar Supports Pride & Gay Athletes

On December 3rd Menz Bar, on Gottingen Street in Halifax's 'Gaybourhood', launched a new winter coat check as a fundraising initiative for both Halifax Pride '06 and Team Halifax. Every Friday and Saturday night from now until Spring, visitors to Menz Bar can check their coats for only \$2.00 and know that

50% of the take (plus their tips) is helping fund Halifax's Pride Week festivities, and also supporting Team Halifax athletes competing at the Out Games in Montreal, (Jul 29 - Aug 6, 2006.)

Volunteers from both groups will be checking coats, with Team Halifax members in the booth on Friday nights, and 'Priders' from the Pride Committee taking over on Saturdays. Menz Bar co-owner Doug Melanson said, "Both of these organizations have a major impact on our community here in Halifax. This ties in directly with our mission statement: 'to be Halifax's Number One Gay Neighbourhood bar by providing a safe and positive environment to socialize, and support to the LG-BTQ community.'"



Halifax Pride board members Hugo Dann and Dan MacKay kicked things off on December 3rd, pooling their tips on behalf of Pride '06. "The owners here, Dave [Landry] and Doug, have always been so supportive of the community", said Hugo, "and for Pride, we're so grateful, not just for the chance to raise some funds, but to be out there with people, spreading the word about this year's Pride! I'm sure Team Halifax feels the same."

### "Giving Women Power" Exhibit

To coincide with National Women's Week, the Aids Coalition of Nova Scotia will be the Halifax sponsor for *Giving Women Power Over AIDS* March. This exhibit has been organized by the Canadian AIDS Society and the Microbicides Advocacy Group Network. It tells the story of Ruth, a 24 year old mother in sub-Saharan Africa dying of AIDS, and of her young daughter Martha, one of 11 million orphans in the area who is growing up in a country where 50% of today's teenagers are expected to die someday of AIDS. Their story is told in a photo-essay *In Her Mother's Shoes* that resulted from the 2003 visit to Zimbabwe of Seattle Times reporter Paula Bock and photographer Betty Udesen.



*Giving Women Power* focuses on "what it means to be a woman in a world of AIDS—a world where many women have no way to protect themselves against HIV and lit-

tle say about relationships, sex, or condoms." In Kenya and Zambia, for example, young married women aged 15 to 19 have higher infection rates than do their unmarried, but sexually active, peers. In Thailand, 76% of women who are HIV positive have had only one partner: their husbands.

Anna Forbes, one of the organizers of the exhibit who is with the Global Campaign for Microbicides, says that "women bear the burden of this epidemic globally, and we desperately need to address women's specific prevention needs." Microbicides are a class of drugs currently under development that women and their partners could apply topically to prevent transmission of HIV and other STI infections. Long talked about, research on such drugs has been starved for development funds, despite its obvious global potential benefits for women's health.

For further information, visit [www.acns.ns.ca](http://www.acns.ns.ca).

## Pink Blood Covers the Maritimes

By D. S. Mack MacKenzie  
In November, Douglas Victor Janoff, author and criminologist, spread Pink Blood throughout New Brunswick and Nova Scotia in November. Pink blood doesn't stain but the blood he refers to in his book has stained this country red from Kelowna to Kejimikujik, from Tofino to Torbay, and sadly even here in Saint John, New Brunswick. Janoff's book *Pink Blood, Homophobic Violence in Canada* was swept off the shelves at the UNBSJ bookstore in Saint John following his November 21st engagement which drew a crowd of forty people to a rainbow coloured biology lecture room.

His shocking and heartfelt stories about assault and murder victims across Canada left the audience dazed when he recounted some of the weapons used to kill LGBT citizens from coast to coast. The list included an X-Acto knife, combat boots, a hammer, a fish club and even a skateboard. More than 120 (reported cases) LGBT victims have died in this country as a direct result of homophobic or transphobic violence in one decade, and Janoff cites over 350 reported cases of 'hate-motivated violence' toward both female and male victims.

Everyone in the audience was grateful for Douglas Janoff's presentation and moved by how serious the matter of hatred is. The discourse which ensued as a result of the presentation expressed disbelief by some and included recommen-



photo credit: Don Tabor

dations by others to support LGBT groups such as PFLAG Canada, EGALE Canada and local LGBT youth groups and LGBT-supportive churches.

The book, available in both hardcover and paperback, is a necrology of the names of 120 women and men who have died between 1990 and 2004 as a result of homophobic and transphobic violence in Canada. There are also chapters titled "Theories of Homophobia," "Community Resistance to Homophobic Violence" and "Methodology and the Media, reading between the lines". Mr. Janoff's whirlwind Maritime tour included stops at St. Thomas University, UNBF, UNBSJ, Mount Allison University, Université de Moncton, St. Francis Xavier University, Cape Breton University, Acadia University and Mount St. Vincent University.

### wayves

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

**wayves** is an independent publication, published every month - except January - by a non-profit collective. Anyone who contributes to **wayves** is automatically considered to be a member of the collective and is welcome to participate in all meetings and discussions. **wayves** reserves the right to refuse material that might be reasonably considered heterosexism, racism, sexism or an attack on individuals or communities. Opinions expressed in **wayves** are not necessarily those of the editorial collective. The article submission deadlines are posted in the calendar of the Community Events page. Articles should be a maximum of 1,000 words and might be edited for length. Submissions should be e-mailed - in plain text - to the address noted below. The copyright for all submissions remains the property of the original author/creator.

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How to reach us...

### wayves

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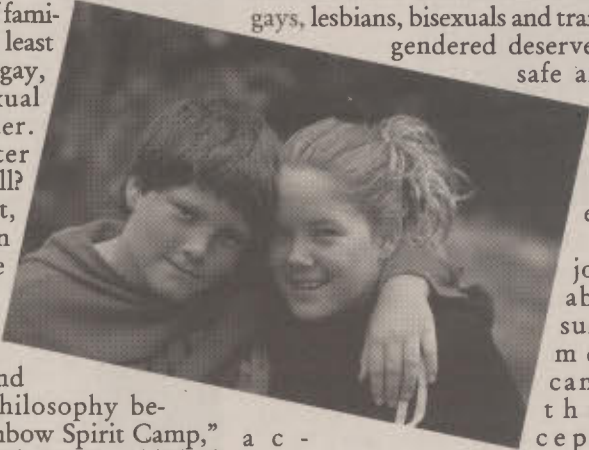
# Family Pride Camping — A Special Place

By Dorianne Mullin

Imagine a warm summer's day, groups of children are engaged in typical summer time activities. Now look a little closer and imagine that all of these children are members of families in which at least one parent is gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender. Does this alter the picture at all? Of course not, for all children deserve a place to play, feel safe and have their families celebrated, and such is the philosophy behind the "Rainbow Spirit Camp," (RSC) an annual camp established five years ago by a group of GLBT parents.

The RSC is organized under the

auspices of the Family Pride Camping Association (FPCA), a non-profit organization with a board of directors consisting of parents and others in the community who share the belief that the children of gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered deserve a safe and



enjoyable summer camp that accepts

and celebrates their families. When it was initially established, the first camp of its kind in Canada. There are

now several such camps across the country.

The objectives of the FPCA include providing opportunities for the children of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered parents to be immersed in an environment in which their families are affirmed and validated, to allow the children to get together in an environment in which they are not concerned about social stigma, to give these children an opportunity to see that their families do not exist in isolation and to allow the children to be openly proud of their families. As one FPCA founder aptly stated, "the camp will have been deemed a success if there is no longer a need for the camp." In other words, children who are strong and proud of themselves and their families contribute to creating an inclusive society that accepts and celebrates the diversity of all families.

The inaugural RSC was held in September of 2000 and had seventeen attendees. The camp has since grown to upwards of forty-five participants, and while children from across Canada are welcome, the majority of participants are from Nova Scotia. The camp organizes children by age and develops age-appropriate activities for the various groups. Certain activities provide campers with opportunities to develop leadership skills, such as the programs for "junior leaders" and "councillors in training." Junior leaders range in age from fourteen to sixteen and councillors-in-training are generally seventeen and eighteen years old. Along with regular camp activities, junior leaders and councillors in training have specific duties and responsibilities designed to enhance their leader-

ship skills, including the supervision and mentoring of younger campers. In 2005, twenty-three children attended the Rainbow Spirit Camp - twelve campers, ten junior leaders and one councillor in training.

In addition to traditional camp activities the Rainbow Spirit Camp also invites individuals from the community to lead workshops for the campers. This past year the camp had a dance workshop, a 'zine making workshop and a photography lesson. These workshops expose campers to activities they might not otherwise have an opportunity to experience and allow the children to learn new skills and develop new interests and abilities.



The camp operates with both paid and volunteer staff including a director, councillors, cooks, and camp physician. Although the camp does charge fees for the children to attend, these fees are inadequate to cover all of the costs associated with

running a successful camp. The FPCA relies on donations, grants and fundraising to meet its annual target. The primary fundraising event is in early May, 2006. The remainder of the budget is covered by grants and donations.

The RSC would not exist were it not for the many volunteers and sponsors who have given time and money over the years. Therefore, the FPCA would like to extend a sincere thank you to the following organizations that have provided funding in recent years: HRM Community Grants Program,

Nova Scotia Health Promotion, Minister of Health Promotion, Mr. Rodney MacDonald, HRDC Summer Placement Program, HRM Kids, Imperial Sovereign Court of Atlantic Nova Society. The FPCA also wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Pro Bono Students Canada for assistance applying for charitable status and thanks all of those sponsors who provided items, space and assistance in making the annual auction a success. Thanks to all of those who have volunteered their time in organizing and working at the auction and camp.

Parents have noted on post-camp evaluations the positive effect of the camp on their children, stating that their children are more comfortable with their parent's identity and some children have disclosed their parent's sexual orientation to friends for the first time. The success of the camp, however, is best summed up "out of the mouths



babes" so to speak; when asked what she liked best about her experience at the Rainbow Spirit Camp, one enthusiastic young camper responded "Everything!!"

If you would like more information or wish to become involved with the Rainbow Spirit Camp or the auction, contact the FPCA at 1-888-344-FPCA, via e-mail at [info@fpca.ca](mailto:info@fpca.ca), or visit the website at [www.fpca.ca](http://www.fpca.ca).

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## World AIDS Day In Truro



By Lynn Curwin, The Weekly Press

The first World AIDS Day vigil was held in the Colchester-East Hants area this year. A section of the Memorial AIDS Quilt was also on display on World AIDS Day (December 1).

A group of about 20 very concerned people took part in the event, which was held on the grounds of the Nova Scotia Community College, in Truro

Al McNutt, of the Northern AIDS Connection Society (NACS), reminded people that there is no cure for AIDS, although many young people believe there is. He said medications can prolong life but they have side effects, and people often die from multi-organ failure because of the medication.

One of the people who attended the vigil was Stewiacke resident Bonnie Joldersma.

"I'm here in memory of my friend Bruce Pye," she said. "I'm here with his family - his mother, sister and nieces. His sister was my best friend, and it was very hard when he died. I miss him and this is a way to remember him."

"His family made a connection with Al when they needed outside

help, and he was great. Bruce's mother [Lottie] knits socks which are sent around the world to people with AIDS. It's great that a little pair of socks knit in Stewiacke can go around the world to help someone."

The idea for the Colchester-East Hants vigil came about when Sharon Farrell met with Larry Baxter, of the Nova Scotia Advisory Commission on AIDS, about another subject.

"They were holding a meeting about the Halifax vigil, and mentioned having one in Truro," said Farrell. "I mentioned to the (NACS) board about holding one and they jumped on it."

A section of the Memorial AIDS Quilt was hanging inside the community college for World AIDS Day. Each organization is usually only provided with one section of the quilt, but the NACS was given a section to hang in each area where they were holding a vigil- Truro, New Glasgow and Amherst.

"It's a magnificent quilt," added Farrell. "It's beautiful, but sad that it has to be so big, because each section represents someone who died."

## ... and north

By Al McNutt

The Northern AIDS Connection Society is very pleased to report that during AIDS Awareness Week 2005 that several events took place throughout Colchester, Pictou, Cumberland and East Hants area.

On cember 1st, 2005, the 1st Annual Aids Candle Light Vigil was held by each of the three parts of our group to celebrate World Aids Day. We also had the honour of being loaned three panels from the Canadian Quilt, so as to be able to display one at each location.

The location for Truro was at the Nova Scotia Community College where about 200 people walked through to see the quilt. Truro's Vigil was led by Al McNutt with over twenty people who held candles that struggled in the wind as though trying to remind the people of the struggle for life that the people being remembered suffered. The candles being lit time and again in the wind reflected the

fight to educate a world that refuses to listen. One moment when all the candles flickered together signified a moment of victory for all.

In New Glasgow the quilt was on display at North Nova High School with a concert being hosted as a fund raiser for Northern AIDS Connection and Canadian Cancer Foundation. The Amherst event was held in a local church with the quilt and the candle light vigil being combined.

In Truro Mayor Bill Mills kindly agreed to fly the AIDS Awareness flag for the duration of AIDS Awareness Week. Several presentations took place throughout the northern region in all locations. Truro Home Video had all HIV related films easily accessible with a display for the week. The students of Cobequid Educational Centre kindly made red ribbons for the Truro event and the concert in New Glasgow was organized by students of North Nova High and

Patti Martin. At all three locations there were board members on hand to answer any inquiries.

An announcement was also made on the Nova Scotia implementation of the HIV/AIDS Provincial Strategy. It highlighted areas of the strategy, the provincial government's financial contribution and prevention initiatives. Special thanks to Larry Baxter for quickly making the quilt available and also for his assistance.

The Northern AIDS Connection Society would like to express our sincere appreciation to the Board of Directors, volunteers, community members and all who attended these events. They were a great beginning and we intend to have these events on an annual basis. Hats off to the organizers for their great work and for reminding us that we must all work hard to change the world.

Remember...HIV/AIDS truly does affect us all !!

## What's Queer Friendly in Sydney?

By Karen Finnigan

What's queer-friendly in Sydne? Lots! In October of 2005 Sydney officially welcomed a Chapter of PFLAG.

This is a support group for the parents, family, and friends of lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, two-spirit, intersex, queer, and questioning loved ones. They meet once a month in the Community Room of the Atlantic Superstore, 1225 Kings Road. They meet from 7:30-9:30pm. Meeting dates vary from month to month, contact the Celeste at 902-563-1389, or the Sexual Diversity Centre at 902-563-1481, or email [sydneys@pflagcanada.ca](mailto:sydneys@pflagcanada.ca) for more information

A new AA Meeting recently started in Sydney. It is a specialty AA meeting, for gay, lesbian, bisexual, trans, two-spirited, in-

tersexed, queer and questioning people who have a desire to stop drinking. They meet once at week at 40 Bentinck Street, Sydney. Call 564-8728 for more information.

The Sexual Diversity Centre of Cape Breton University's Students Union is up and running for the 3rd consecutive year. They are thrilled to announce Dr Julie Darke, Human Rights Officer in Sexual and Gender Diversity, from Queens University will be presenting to Social Workers and other Professionals on Wednesday, January 18th, she will present to the faculty and staff on Thursday, January 19th, and will present to the general public on Friday January 20th. Contact the Sexual Diversity Centre for more information. Call us @ 902-563-1481 or email us @

[sdc@cbusu.com](mailto:sdc@cbusu.com)

Following Dr Dark's visit to Cape Breton University, the Sexual Diversity Society will kick off their Annual Cape Breton University Pride Week January 23rd-27. This years theme is "Celebrating our Spirits", contact the Sexual Diversity Centre for more information about this weeks events 902-563-1481

Pride Committee is refreshed and ready to Pride Up 2006. Their first event of the new year is their annual Midnight Bowling. This is taking place on Saturday, February 25th. Checkout their website for more information [www.capebretonpride.org](http://www.capebretonpride.org) or call 862-2594.

And finally, the Harrison Group holds monthly dances at the Steel Workers' Hall in Sydney. For more info call 902-564-6939.

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## Crawford Hastie's KIBITZ AND BITCH

Hey Tommy

Happy New Year! Time for that most hallowed of traditions: the making and breaking of resolutions.

Is it just coincidence, do you suppose, that an election campaign should be underway during the very time when everyone is making promises they fully expect not to be able to keep? I hope the fact that Chinese New Year will usher in the Year of the Dog is not a political omen.

Or a forecast for my dating prospects either!

Resolutions: January can be like the holiday hangover, where we look back and see all the things we wish we hadn't done. Like food - many of us overindulged and now feel the need - but not the urge - to hit the treadmill or bicycle at the gym. It can be a difficult time of year, the shortened daylight hours combined with the unwelcome arrival of credit card bills all encourage us to cocoon... and eat. The old biological drive to create an insulating layer now becomes emotional craving to hide from chilly reality.

My friend, the Anthill, has been talking to me about the slow food movement with its emphasis on leisurely, sensual enjoyment of food rather than the rapid stuff-it-into-your-face-and-get-back-to-work philosophy many of us follow. Of course, given the amount of wine I've sometimes consumed at her champagne lunches, slow is the only speed I was capable of. And no one appreciates proper presentation of food like gay men; brunch is, after all, our art form.

I've noticed that most of the resolutions that we make are phrased in very negative ways. We want to quit bad habits, stop overspending, and refrain from correcting our partners in public. All things we want to NOT do. What if, instead, we were to focus on a gentler approach? January is the perfect time to look back over the previous year and list our accomplishments - the achievements rather than the faults. The fact that we find this difficult to do is a clear indication that it needs doing.

What would happen Tom, if we took credit for the difficulties we've endured and the lessons learned during the past twelve months?

For example, I've learned: Never use one of those sound activated light switches in

the bedroom. The clapper can respond to sounds other than two palms smacking together. Once while a friend and I were enjoying an especially vigorous exercise of flesh on flesh (my favourite contact sport). I nearly went blind when the bedside lamp suddenly became a strobe light.

Accepting painful truths is another achievement. Like finally acknowledging that no matter how many Kevin Costner films you watch, he is never going to get any better. Or that the straight bartender with the blue eyes and killer ass is never going to come home with you even if you give good... tip.

It is easier to be kind to others if you start with yourself. Pamper yourself on a regular basis. Think of a hot bath as a necessary luxury not just a remedy for sore muscles or an experiment to see which body parts will float.

I'm going to make a habit of having a date with myself. Stop sniggering, Tom. What I mean is I am going to set aside time on a regular basis just for me; my "date" can be as simple as star gazing, or taking myself out for frozen yoghurt or going to the movies or just having an ice cold martini at the end of the work week. The key thing is to treat myself as nicely as I would a friend.

Try it, Tom. It's not as easy as it sounds.

But I'm not forgetting the needs of others. In an effort to be more caring and take actions that will make a difference in the world I have decided to set up a home for orphaned boy dolls - those abandoned Kens dolls and wayward action figures which litter attics and musty toy boxes. I'm establishing a gay support group for these lonely diminutive creatures. Imagine Tom! Many of them are forced to suffer the ignominy of wearing clothing styles from the 80's! Makes you shudder, doesn't it? And then consider the fact that not one of them has a penis, thus, *ipso facto*, making them all bottoms, which must surely be a source of great frustration for group interactions. I'll have to check at Venus Envy to see if anyone makes a Barbie strap-on.

Love ya!  
Crawford

# Views

## Gerard Veldhoven

Here we are again at the start of another election campaign. We were jubilant when same-gender marriage became reality in Canada. Now we hear from Stephen Harper's own mouth that he plans to re-visit this issue as one of his first priorities. Legal experts warn he would have to use the notwithstanding clause in order to overturn the law. I wonder if this man would actually consider such a drastic move. During the last election Harper was accused of having a hidden agenda. Well guess what folks. Today he made it clear he will bring his bag of goodies to the people of Canada.

We must be vigilant in our thinking and make certain a dangerous man such as Stephen Harper does not occupy the Prime Minister's office. If he is successful, this country will go back to a time when tolerance and equal rights were not in existence. All we have fought for would be in vain. It has been a long and a very difficult struggle and now we are drawn into a repeat of trying to at least

retain our accomplishments. The Conservative party and its redneck members of Parliament are set to take away our right to same-gender marriage and in turn will have a detrimental affect on all our rights and opportunities. We must do everything in our power to stop Stephen Harper from becoming Prime Minister. More of us must be vocal in our opposition to try to put an end to this potentially disastrous situation. This will only happen through determination by all of us in our community, as well as, people who are sympathetic to our cause. We cannot let this country go back into the past.

The Conservative party cannot be trusted and today we learned Harper was serious with his threat in an attempt to rid Canada of same-gender marriage. On January 23<sup>rd</sup> we shall find out the will of the people and I call upon everyone to be vocal and vigilant, so that we are assured our rightful place in Canadian society. Anything less is not acceptable and as we ponder about our future, we best not let our guard down.

## Christopher Vaughan

If the Conservatives win the upcoming federal election, party leader Stephen Harper says his government would reconsider legislation permitting same-sex marriage.

Harper re-ignited the issue on his first day of the federal election campaign by saying his government would put the matter to a vote in the House of Commons.

"It will be a genuine free vote when I'm prime minister," said Harper in a news conference kicking off his campaign. "I will not whip our cabinet; cabinet can vote as they want."

In last summer's vote on Bill C-38, Prime Minister Paul Martin required his cabinet ministers and parliamentary secretaries to support the legislation that legalized same-sex marriage.

Harper said if the House doesn't support introducing new legislation to restore the 'traditional' definition of marriage, he would consider the matter closed.

Regardless of what the House decides, he said that his government would respect the 3000 same-sex marriages already performed, but didn't say how they would do this if the new legislation is

passed.

Harper has said he believes same-sex couples should be recognized through civil unions only.

In order to bring back the 'one man - one woman' definition of marriage, Harper would have to ignore the various provincial supreme court decisions that ruled this definition violated the rights of same-sex couples to equality under the law.

It is also believed that he would have to invoke the Canadian Constitution's not-withstanding clause to override the Charter of Rights and Freedoms to restore the 'traditional' definition of marriage. No prime minister has ever used this clause.

During his address of Bill C-38, Prime Minister Paul Martin said that for a Canadian leader to use the not-withstanding clause against same-sex marriage would be wrong.

"For a prime minister to use the powers of his office to explicitly deny rather than affirm a right enshrined under the Charter would serve as a signal to all minorities that no longer can they look to the nation's leader and to the nation's Constitution for protection, for security, for the guarantee of their freedoms," said Martin.

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# Of Election 2006 By...

## Gilles Marchildon, Egale Canada

On the first day of the federal election, Conservative leader Stephen Harper announced that he wanted to re-open the same-sex marriage issue... six months after it,s been dealt with

Brilliant tactical move or propensity for shooting himself in the political foot?

During his first press conference of the campaign, Harper seemed eager to respond to a question on same-sex marriage. Thrown in by a journalist as the press conference was wrapping up, Harper could have ignored it because his handlers had already started leading him away. Instead, he jumped at the chance to reply.

Harper said that the Conservative Party platform was clear and that he was committed to bringing forward a motion that would exclude same-sex couples from civil marriage. He added: „It will be a genuinely free vote when I am prime minister. He also explained that he would not annul the marriages of the thousands of same-sex couples who've gotten legally married in the last 2 years.

His proposal is ludicrous, likely illegal and demonstrates that he,s out of touch with Canadians.

First, Harper's plan is ludicrous because it would result in a patch-work. One month, same-sex marriage is legal, the next, it isn,t. Canadians have a right to expect more logic and consistency from their government.

Also, you would think that those who share his opposition to same-sex marriages should be outraged. Harper doesn't seem to want to do a full job of turning the clocks back. He would tolerate the existence of current same-sex marriages but not any new ones happening. This shows a lack of ideological commitment.

Secondly, his proposal is likely illegal. Let's say that enough Con-

servatives get elected and a majority of MPs in the House of Commons pass a motion that marriage should be between a man and woman. It would create chaos and confusion.

What would provinces like Nova Scotia do? Surely they would continue to register same-sex marriages because 8 of them have been told by their own court that it's unconstitutional not to do this. As pointed out by Constitutional experts across the country, the only legitimate way to effectively halt same-sex marriages would be to use the Charter,s notwithstanding clause.

Harper is out of touch. An Envisonics poll released by CBC stated that 66 per cent of Canadians say the issue of same-sex marriage is settled and should not be re-visited. Even those who aren,t completely comfortable with it agree that we should move on. Why does Harper refuse to let go?

Some pundits suggest that the Conservative leader dumped this into the campaign early on, so that voters would forget by the time they cast their ballot on Jan. 23. Others are saying it,s an indication of his true colours. Despite trying to wear a mainstream jacket, the leopard can,t hide ^ or change ^ his right-wing ideological spots.

In either case, it,s clear for Canadians who support equality or who don,t believe in rehashing old issues: Harper is not fit to be Prime Minister.

*Gilles Marchildon is Executive Director of Egale Canada, a non-profit organization that advances equality and justice for lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans-identified people, and their families, across Canada. [www.egale.ca](http://www.egale.ca)*



## And You!

Some opinions from a host of contributions submitted to the online question, *What do you plan to do if Stephen Harper gets elected Prime Minister?*

Edited by Bill McKinnon

If Stephen Harper gets elected Prime Minister I think as a gay man I'd have to move some place more tolerant of homosexuals, like Inner Mongolia.

Get married and move out of the country.

Well as much as I hate George Bush, I might as well move to the USA, at least I know they are going to make some progress forward.

Slit my throat, or move to Maine. I'm not sure which would be worse.

Become an American citizen so I can vote for Hilary Clinton when she runs for President.

Move to the USA and become a Bushite

One's immediate reaction would almost certainly take the form of vivid dreams of emigrating... anywhere except, of course, the US. After the election, despair for the political acumen of the Canadian electorate would no doubt take over. Sharing a good single malt with equally appalled friends would help briefly. But how to get through the next four years? More of the scotch? Join the Tory party with the intention of participating in the next leadership review? Cancel one Globe and Mail Subscription and turn off CBC? Hibernate for four years? Wonder whether there is any chance that there might be power in prayer? And returning to one's first solution, sign up for Swedish lessons!

Drop dead; move to Holland; seek revenge; pray to whatever gods there are in hopes this is all a big nightmare; smoke a HUGE joint; have a bottle (no glass) of wine; scream, cry, protest; beat Jack Layton for assisting the Angel of Death (Harper); NEVER vote NDP again (and I'm not going to

in this election - after 25 years of voting NDP); others, as well...

I certainly will not be leaving the country. I will be more vigilant

Ha ha, just pray every night from now till Jan 23 that it doesn't happen.

Develop a taste for badly dressed conservative men, because they are suddenly going to be everywhere!

Nothing. He can't change equal marriage regardless of what he says to his base. And a Harper government would not look much different than a Martin Liberal government. The only reason Martin did anything progressive was because the NDP was holding his balls. Martin is just as right wing as Harper. Look at the Liberal record from 1993 to 2004. It made Brian

Cont'd on p. 19

**More on Marriage & the Constitution on Page 19**



Family matters. And so do your assets.

Alanna Robinson

Brian MacLellan, Q.C.

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Deborah H. Garson

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Elizabeth M. MacLennan

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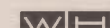
Sean Foreman

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We will be hosting a series of breakfast seminars in January and February focusing on issues of interest to the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered community. For more information please contact (pictured from left to right above) Janine Kerr, Janet Stevenson or Kenzie MacKinnon.



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# Is Gay AA Necessary?

By Bill M (last name is anonymous to satisfy AA Traditions)

Some people ask why it is necessary for there to be special meetings for gays and lesbians in Alcoholics Anonymous. Of course one might also ask why we need gay bars, clubs, churches, newspapers, and parades, etc. Many gay alcoholics do not attend gay meetings; they find the recovery they want in mainstream AA. Others need GLBT AA because they feel more comfortable sharing their experience strength and hope among people who understand them better. There are also those who prefer GLBT meetings since they might face homophobia in some mainstream AA meetings.

How many people attend gay AA meetings? I do not know; I have not located any statistics but here is what I know. According to the International Advisory Council for gay and lesbian members of AA (IAC), there are 1,085 gay and lesbian AA groups in 21 countries around the world. Of these 942 are in the US; 60 in Canada, 32 in the United Kingdom, 14 in Germany, 11 in Australia, 3 in South Africa, 3 in Mexico and 3 in Japan. The other meetings are all over the place,

including in Iceland, Thailand and even Russia. Some groups are very small while others in cities such as New York, San Francisco and Toronto are huge. Perhaps there would be an average of say 20-30 people who regularly attend these meetings; so the total count around the world would be 20-30,000. In my opinion there would likely be

*anyone with a desire to stop drinking is welcome*

but not to gay AA meetings. The only gay AA group in Atlantic Canada meets at St Mary's Basilica on Spring Garden Road in Halifax every Monday at 8 pm.

In addition to gay AA meetings, there are at least 24 weekend gay AA roundups in the US and five in Canada every year. A roundup is a conference which usually includes speakers, workshops, a banquet, a dance and a lot of fellowship. Some of these such as the ones in Florida, California and New York City are attended by as many as a thousand

or more people. I have been at over 40 gay AA roundups over the years and at one in Boston, there were more than 2,000 people.. Others such as the annual Courage Roundup in Halifax (1st weekend after Natal Day) are small. Typical gay AA roundups have a few hundred people.

The Live & Let Live AA group and the annual Courage Roundup were formed to meet the needs of gay and lesbian alcoholics but anyone with a desire to stop drinking is welcome. Courage has been held annually for 17 years and Live & Let Live has been going for 23 years. Although Live & Let Live group is a gay and lesbian group, some of the people who attend are heterosexual and some nights the straights outnumber the gays. Of course, the point of the meetings is about recovery from alcoholism and sexual orientation is not an issue.

For information on gay and lesbian meetings and roundups around the world, check out the IAC website at [www.iac-aa.org](http://www.iac-aa.org) and for information on GLBT AA in Halifax email [courage449@yahoo.com](mailto:courage449@yahoo.com) or phone 902 441-7505.

# Ass And You Shall Receive

An A to Z Guide For the Gay Male" by Terry Richard

When I told a friend that I wanted to do an article on gay anal sex he thought I was nuts. "Do pieces on gay marriage and adoption, don't talk about filth", he exclaimed. I personally don't believe that discussing gay anal sex is filth and since no one has done an article on something this controversial, I thought what the hell. After all I do have a bit of experience on the topic and if I can help one guy out in obtaining a good sex life so much the better. And more importantly if I can help save a guy's life, I am doing my job.

Anal intercourse can be one of the most joyful and intimate sexual acts between 2 men. Not only is it the most intimate, but it can be the most pleasurable for both partners. For someone who is the "top", the one actually inserting the penis into the rectum, anal penetration can simply feel good and exciting. For the "bottom", the one actually being penetrated, anal sex can be the most intense as the prostate gland inside the rectum, when properly penetrated, can give a guy a heightened sexual feeling that he can't achieve any other way; when this happens he experiences what is known as the A-Spot orgasm which is similar to the G-Spot for women.

The first time I had anal intercourse I thought a Mack truck was tearing through me. Like most guys the first time I had seen anal sex depicted was on a porn film. So like the male actor getting penetrated I rammed my partner's penis in me. I soon discovered this was the wrong way in getting laid properly. The pain was excruciating and I turned against anal intercourse for months. It wasn't until I had sex with the same partner and through trial and error that I became aware of how to engage in this most intimate sexual act. What many don't know is that most adult movies are edited and the scenes are spliced together. What they don't show is the time it takes for the actor to open his rectum.

If a guy wants to "bottom" he must first experiment with small dildos or vibrators. Trust me your rectum will thank you if you get it used to these sex toys before taking on an entire penis. Using lube on

these items also helps and don't be surprised if the first couple of times you experience pain. You're trying to get your body used to a foreign object so go slow and be patient. Ignore using any huge

dildos or vibrators; anything over 5 inches is too big and don't stick anything sharp up your rectum. Remember your dealing with your anus, a very delicate body part in which you don't want to cause any damage. Be careful of one's finger's too; if the nail is long you could cut the rectum. Remember that the mucous membrane which makes up the rectum is only 1 cell thick. It is paper thin so be careful of making cuts and abrasions. Proper anal etiquette can keep a guy in good anal condition.

Douching is very important too when one wants to "play" with his rectum. There's nothing worse when a guy is getting plowed then all of a sudden there's a mess. This is embarrassing for the "bottom" and the "top" will not be too happy. As the old saying goes there's nothing like a clean hole. There

are some safe ways to make sure a guy is clean down there. Using the end of a long shower head is a no-no as the pressure of the water hitting the inside of the rectum can be too much. I also wouldn't advise the use of enemas on a daily basis either. I'm sure using enemas is alright if one uses them every few weeks, but constant use can lead to "lazy bowel syndrome" in which one's bowels become used to having enemas. Using old fashioned water is the best way to evacuate and clean the bowel. I find using an old enema bottle and filling it up with luke warm water from a store, not a tap, is great. Sometimes doing this procedure 2 or 3 times over is the best way to cleanse the bowel of feces and to prepare oneself for a night of hot passion.


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# PFLAG Middleton

During the spring-of 2005 Doug Bennett, who at the time was affiliated with the Thursday night Gay Men's Coffee House and their dance in Nictaux, came up with the idea that there was a need for some type of group open to all people. Doug started reaching out and talking with people in the community about forming such a group. Doug met up with Josh Parker and they identified a need for education and support in the community for parents, students and others.

Through the early spring Doug and Josh talked with many people including Heather Nicholson, David Sanford, David Skidmore, and Mark Rutherford, and others. By the 4th of June, Doug spoke with Mark Rutherford who offered up his home to hold the first meeting of the "Valley Rainbow Club". The idea at the time was to get things going and see if we could get people in the gay & straight community together for social, educational and support purposes.

There were 17 people at the first meeting that was well representative of the community. Heather had contacted the Social Justice Committee at Holy Trinity Anglican Church who were excited about the possibility of a group being formed and four people from that committee were in attendance. By the end of the meeting it had been decided that we would try to have meetings every second Thursday and Kim Grimard offered the church hall at Holy Trinity as a meeting location.

For the next few meetings from 15 to 28 people attended the meetings at the Church hall. However, people were floundering for focus and direction. By the end of July, people were beginning to get disgruntled and the meetings seemed about to fail.

The PFLAG idea was resurrected. Then on Wednesday 27 July David Skidmore, Mark Rutherford, Emma Tigerheart and Brenda Cline discussed the possibility of forming a PFLAG Chapter. By Thursday 28, July Emma was again talking to Mark and David showing great enthusiasm for the concept of creating a PFLAG chapter here in Middleton.

That afternoon Emma Tigerheart, David Skidmore and Mark Rutherford took the initiative and began calling people about creating a chapter. The following people came to the first informal meeting (at Mark and David's) and began to work: Emma Tigerheart, Brenda Cline, Homer Noble, David Sanford, Doug Bennett, David Skidmore and Mark Rutherford.

A proposed executive / board of Directors was named the Leadership Committee and formed with the following members: Co-Chairs: Emma Tigerheart & Mark Rutherford, Secretary: David Sanford Treasurer: David Skidmore Social: Brenda Cline Communications: Doug Bennett and Josh Parker.

The first leadership committee meeting was held on August 3rd with a potluck spaghetti supper at David & Mark's place. The meeting went very well; logistics, terms

and proposals were discussed. At the first Leadership meeting were: Emma Tigerheart, Brenda Cline, Homer Noble, David Sanford, Doug Bennett, David Skidmore, Mark Rutherford, Norman Moulton, Tara Rutherford.

It was decided that the Chapter meeting would be held the last Friday of each month. It was agreed that a phone number was needed to

get a web page from national and there was a need for more women on the leadership committee. By August 4th the information from National arrived with pamphlets, T-Shirts and pins. We also received our chapter email address; middletonns@pflagcanada.ca

Front Row: Mark Rutherford and Emma Tigerheart (Co-Chairs); Second Row: Brenda Cline (Fundraising) David Sanford (Secretary) Fiona Ross (Activities/Social); Back Row: Doug Bennett (Communications); Absent are: Terri Vernon (Parents/Family/Friends Chair), David S (Treasurer), Josh Parker (Co-Communications)



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*Capital Health's GLBTI Initiative is funded by Health Canada's Primary Health Care Transition Fund. L'initiative GLBTI de Capital Health est financée par le Fonds pour l'adaptation des soins de santé primaires de Santé Canada.*

*Healthy People, Healthy Communities*

# It Pays To Increase Your Queer Word Power

## Queen: Compound Words

By Gary Brooks

If variety of use is a valid gage of the value of a word, *queen* must be the key word in the gay lexicon. More than any other, queen is combined with another word to form a compound (e.g., KY Queen). At least twenty-five compounds including queen as one element have, for example, been coined to announce a given individual's preference for a specific type of sexual activity: a *Butterfly Queen* is someone who likes mutual fellatio, a *Main Queen* the passive partner in anal sex, and—not surprisingly—a *Watch Queen* a voyeur.

Another common type of queen-compound relates to the preferred sexual partner of a gay man. Such distinctions can be based on anything from age to race. While ephebophile may be the technically correct term, most of us will understand more clearly what is being said if someone is described instead as a *Chicken Queen*. *Rice Queen* and the even less politically correct *Dinge Queen*, on the other hand, refer to someone who likes oriental or black partners (although as late as the 1960s the terms were used as names for oriental or black homosexuals rather than to those who preferred them as sexual partners). In contrast, a *Potato Queen* is an oriental who seeks occidental men and a *Snow Queen* a non-white who prefers fair, blond men. Then there is *Bean Queen*, a non-Latino who likes Latino—and particularly Mexican—men (from the promi-

nent role rice and beans play in Hispanic cuisine). A *Cha-Cha Queen*, however, is an effeminate Latin gay, *Salt-and-Pepper Queens* a black and white gay couple, and a *Rainbow Queen* seeks a variety of interracial gay encounters and relationships.

Other phrases reveal other aspects of the nature of a particular gay man. *Queen of Scotch* refers to the drinking habits of the alcoholic gay, *Closet Queen* rather obviously to a preference for keeping one's homosexuality a secret, and *Queen for a Day* to a married man who occasionally has gay sex. One of my own favourites is *Lean Cuisine Queen*, a gay who is always dieting.

## Pop Quiz

For each term below, select the definition that most closely approximates the true meaning.

- Opera Queen*: a. his love life resembles the typical libretto; b. knows the role in which Lillian Nordica made her New York debut in 1883; c. loves any excuse to don his tux; d. of the same build as the lady who sings just before its over.
- Cherry Queen*: a. red is his favourite colour; b. likes to bed virgins; c. uses whipped cream and cherries as an accompaniment to sex; d. prefers the active role in anal sex.
- Shrimp Queen*: a. a synonym for a Chicken Queen; b. attracted

to small men; c. antonym for a size queen; d. likes to suck toes.

4. *Virgin Queen*: a. no one is quite good enough to take to bed; b. new in town; c. Greek sex comes later; d. collector of royal memorabilia.

5. *Vanilla Queen*: a. white gay male; b. eschews kinky sex; c. spends more time cooking than at the bars; d. syn. for snow queen: non-white who likes white partners.

6. *Dangle Queen*: a. a cell phone always hangs from his belt; b. seems to promise sex but never quite delivers; c. a wearer of boxer shorts; d. well-endowed.

7. *Hand Queen*: a. Luddite; b. gay musician obsessed about protecting his hands; c. prefers masturbation; d. physically abusive lover.

8. *Sniff Queen*: a. known for use of poppers; b. nothing is ever quite good enough; c. turned on by odours; d. addicted to cocaine.

9. *Size Queen*: a. a regular buyer of "Inches"; b. syn. for chubby chaser; c. always interested in size of potential partner's bank account; d. primarily interested in well-endowed men.

10. *Mean Queen*: a. somehow, never gets to pay the restaurant bill; b. sado-masochistic (with an emphasis on the former); c. loves to repeat gossip; d. advertising parlance for the mythical average gay.

11. *Fish Queen*: a. a Pisces; b.

seeks partners at the beach; c. star of the swim team; d. heterosexual male.

12. *Lace Queen*: a. decoration of his house reveals he has inherited too many antimacassars from his great aunt; b. prefers uncircumcised partners; c. dressed to kill; d. old-maidish.

13. *Mitten Queen*: a. adamant about safe sex; b. addicted to self-abuse; c. looks for partners at the ski hill and the hockey rink; d. likes to masturbate partner.

14. *Bone Queen*: a. in a constant state of excitement; b. fellator; c. collector of fine china; d. has a perennial chip on his shoulder.

15. *Dairy Queen*: a. likes to use cream cheese as a lubricant; b. gay farmer; c. effeminate youth with a "Mac job"; d. with a particular interest in nipples.

16. *Swish Queen*: a. loves to give elaborate dinner parties; b. not entirely macho; c. transsexual; d. overly fastidious housekeeper.

17. *Fire Queen*: a. of choleric temperament; b. homosexual fireman; c. gay activist; d. gets his



jollies by burning others.

18. *Road Queen*: a. gay hitchhiker; b. short for railroad queen; c. someone who pressures unwilling partners into having sex with him; c. never stays with anyone too long; d. gay travelling salesman.

19. *Queen Mary*: a. social climber; b. obese gay man; c. waiter on a cruise ship; d. highly successful at cruising.

20. *Peeled Queen*: a. has declared personal bankruptcy; b. known to frequent nude beaches; c. circumcised; d. a put down of someone who has only too obviously returned from a southern winter vacation.

Answers: p. 18

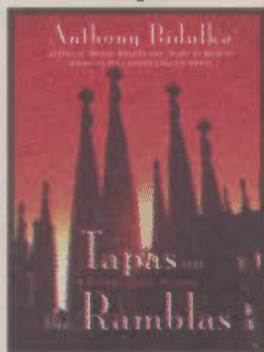
## Review

### Tapas On The Ramblas

By Anthony Bidulka

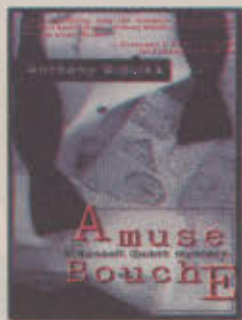
www.insomniacpress.com  
review by Ralph Higgins  
There are lots of reasons why people read murder mysteries. For many of us it is the puzzle that engages our curiosity and keeps us turning pages rather than the violence of the murder. Since the victim is generally either dead at the beginning of the book or someone eminently disagreeable and therefore a suitable target for the rapier, poisoned coffee cup or abrupt defenestration, none of our finer feelings of compassion and mercy are involved. Safe in our comfortable easy chair, we can give full vent to atavistic desires for vengeance and clear-cut justice. The world of the mystery novel has much more certainty than the one we live in. We expect

a trail of clues - some of them false, we expect the killer to be caught and the puzzle solved.



Successful novelists will take those somewhat restrictive parameters and create within them a real world with believable characters and make the reader care what happens to them. A truly outstanding writer will do so with style, wit and humour. Such a writer is Anthony Bidulka, who has just added a third book to his award winning mystery series with gay sleuth, Russell Quant. *Tapas on the Ramblas* follows on

the success of *Amuse Bouche* and *Flight of Aquavit*, and like its predecessors carries the reader along on an exuberant joy ride of action with sporadic pit stops for mayhem, menace and occasional romance.



the success of *Amuse Bouche* and *Flight of Aquavit*, and like its predecessors carries the reader along on an exuberant joy ride of action with sporadic pit stops for mayhem, menace and occasional romance.

The story concerns wealthy matriarch, Charity Wisler, who has for several years taken pleasure in making her relatives dance attendance upon her by arranging family get-togethers. However, these are not genteel family picnics; previous events have included prolonged stays at nude beaches



Author, Bidulka

and military boot camp. Her family willingly submit to the humiliation and provocation because of the promise of inheriting some of Charity's millions. This year Charity has invited all her family on a luxury cruise of the Mediterranean. What Charity has not told her family is that they will be travelling aboard a gay cruise ship called the *Dorothy* and that she has good reason to believe that one of her near and dear family is attempting to murder her.

Russell Quant has been hired to discover the would be assassin and prevent him or her from achieving Charity's demise. Quant's job



is complicated by his prairie boy unease at being at sea and the distraction provided by the welcome attentions of one of the ship's uniformed employees. He finds unexpected assistance from a trio of drag queens named Mary, Rhoda and Phyllis.

In *Tapas on the Ramblas*, Bidulka has really hit his stride. He shows himself to be a writer firmly in control of his story and able to give full rein to his considerable wit and wry observations. A very modern story, yet with elements of the fun of the old *Thin Man* movie series, *Tapas on the Ramblas* is full of delicious humour. Wonderfully queer in tone and attitude *Tapas on the Ramblas* creates a mood of high camp on the high seas.

Murder, sex and laughter - an irresistible combination!

# Human Rights Commission Hearing To Examine Complaint Based on Perceived Sexual Orientation

An independent human rights board of inquiry will consider the complaint of a Hammonds Plains woman that she was improperly accused of inappropriate behaviour with a female student while working as a physical education teacher at Halifax West High School in September 2000.

Lindsay Jane Willow complained to the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission in August 2001, that her colleagues believed

*her colleagues believed she was a lesbian*

she was a lesbian and made the accusation as a result. Ms. Willow alleged that, even though the Halifax Regional Police Service found no basis to proceed with an investigation of the allegation, her career prospects were damaged and she continued to be harassed by colleagues.

Fellow teachers John Orlando and Rick Kitley approached vice-principal Don Clarke after they observed Ms. Willow and a female student leaving a locker room together. Mr. Orlando alleged that he had noticed Ms. Willow in a bathroom inside the empty

locker room before she and the female student came out into the corridor. Based on Mr. Orlando's comments, school administration contacted the police who separately interviewed Ms. Willow and the female student before concluding there was nothing further to investigate.

The independent hearing will be chaired by J. Walter Thompson. The board will begin sitting on Monday, Dec. 12, at 9:30 a.m. in Room 303 of the Dalhousie University Student Union Building, 6136 University Ave., Halifax. The hearing will continue on Wednesday, Dec. 14, Friday, Dec. 16 and Monday, Dec. 19.

A complaint is referred to an independent board of inquiry when the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission believes a prima facie case of discrimination is made after an investigation by a human rights officer. The chief judge of the Provincial Court selects a board chair from a roster and the commissioners ratify the nomination. The decision on the

complaint is then in the hands of the independent board.

Evidence collected during investigation of a complaint is presented at the hearing by the commission's

legal counsel. The complainant and respondent can make submissions and question witnesses. The board chair then decides whether discrimination has occurred.

All parties have a right to appeal

decisions of boards of inquiry to the Nova Scotia Court of Appeal.

Readers are asked to attend the hearings, as they can and in support of Ms. Willow.

## Peeing In Peace

November 29, 2005 - San Francisco, CA - The Transgender Law Center (TLC) makes history today by releasing *Peeing In Peace: A Resource Guide For Transgendered Activists and Allies* that will help transgender community members and allies confront gender-based discrimination and harassment in public bathrooms. Transgender people, including people whose gender expression isn't stereotypical, are regularly alienated from employment, education, social services, and consumer environments simply because they are prevented from using the correct bathroom or because they are harassed while doing so.

"Bathrooms are a common place where transgender people are assaulted or ridiculed simply because someone does not like the way they

look or act," said Bryan Burgess, TLC's former Safe Bathroom Access Campaign Coordinator and co-author of the guide. "We created *Peeing In Peace* so that individual community members could protect themselves individually and work together to change the way in which society thinks about bathroom safety."

*Peeing In Peace* (PiP) provides information about legal rights and advocacy tools for anyone who faces this kind of discrimination. PiP also offers community activists and allies basic tools that they can use when advocating with employers, school administrators, government officials, and business owners to create safe bathroom access policies. PiP provides the common sense solutions that many decision makers have told us they need in

order to create non-discriminatory environments. Grassroots activists will also be able to use PiP to help create a bathroom safety campaign

"Public bathrooms are the place in society in which we are most regularly segregated by gender," said Christopher Daley, TLC Director and PiP co-author. "When activists work on issues of bathroom safety, they address the immediate problem of discrimination and harassment and the larger problems created by strict gender stereotypes."

Electronic copies of PiP can be downloaded free at [transgenderlawcenter.org/do/publications.html](http://transgenderlawcenter.org/do/publications.html) or printed copies can be ordered for \$9.99 at [www.lulu.com](http://www.lulu.com)

MR. BENDY, ADMIRAL WINKY, OLD ONE EYE, STUBBY MAGEE, PEPITO, THE TICKLE PICKLE, THE SPERMINATOR, FIREMAN FRED, THE BIG BAGUETTE, PROFESSOR PEEPERS, THE BALD AVENGER, SLIM JIM AND THE TWINS, CAPTAIN HOWDY, MISTER HOO HOO ESQUIRE, CYCLOPS, PURPLE HELMET WARRIOR, COLOSSUS, HANDY ANDY, EXCALIBUR, DING-A-LING, JOJO THE CIRCUS CLOWN, TALLY-WACKER, BUTT PIRATE, BUBBA, PJAWGEN, TUBE STEAK, MIGHTY ANNACONDA, ASS MASTER, THE STAINMAKER 2000, JIMMER JAMMER, MARY MAKER, CHICKEN BASTER, JACKHAMMER, BAGPIPE, BALONEY PONY, BOI TOI, SUPER SOAKER, BLUENOSE 8, RECTUM ROOTER, CRUISING MISSILE, ROUGH STUFF,



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# The new Karaoke Experience at Club NRG is a Blast!

A review by Bill McKinnon, aka Billy

The best thing about karaoke at Club NRG is Justin, the DJ/host. He sings really well himself, looks great, is always cheery and is so supportive of all the people who sing or at least try to. Justin is everything a good karaoke host should be, and more.

Club NRG recently relocated their Tuesdays and Thursdays "Classic Karaoke and Wings with Justin" at 10 p.m. from the intimate, downstairs Blue Moon Bistro that looks out onto Gottingen Street to the new, spacious upstairs Evolution Cabaret. They have constructed a huge stage facing the picture-window panorama of Halifax Harbour and the distant

lights of Dartmouth.

The lighting system is warm and sophisticated with lots of mirror ball and other special effects. Things I particularly like about the lighting are that it is warm and makes old queens like myself look okay, and though the lights are not

hard on the performer's eyes, he/she cannot see the audience and so feels less self-conscious. I don't know how they've accomplished all this, but they have.

I was surprised at the quality of the sound system. In such a large space I expected the volume levels

would be too loud and therefore oppressive for the singer and the audience. There is no problem at all. The sound system works well for both. It is a pleasure to sing there.

*Justin is everything a good karaoke host should be, and more.*

Other positive features of karaoke at Evolution Cabaret include great food prepared by a Red Seal chef at reason-

able cost, specials on drink prices, a warm welcoming staff, cash prizes to be won every night and a relaxed comfortable atmosphere. Another positive part of NRG karaoke experience is the quality of singers it attracts. It is great to hear so many talented performers

including legendary karaoke diva Mama Juggs, Dave B, and many, many more.

What could be improved in the karaoke experience at NRG? There are a few things. The bar and the stage are far apart and since many customers like to sit at the bar, the singer might sometimes find himself facing an empty space, even though there are many people at the bar and in the smoking room. There is a good selection of songs to choose from but it should be enlarged so singers have more choices; they perhaps don't need the 20,000 songs that Dave Smith has at the Oasis, but gradually increasing the size of the collection would be good. Dancing can be fun at karaoke bars so customers should

be encouraged to get up and jump around like they do at other clubs. Management is doing alright but they might wish to borrow some ideas from some other karaoke bars in HRM, such as the Oasis, Bearlys, Cheers and Big Leagues in Cole Harbour. Nevertheless "Classic Karaoke and Wings with Justin" is already a good place for people to sing, listen and enjoy themselves with old friends and new acquaintances.

I wish this new karaoke adventure every success and look forward to coming back again and again. For more information about Club NRG and Evolution Cabaret, check out [www.clubnrghalifax.com](http://www.clubnrghalifax.com)

## St. John's Cabaret Performer Set to Conquer Canada

By Tomasz Mrozewski

Glenn Nuotio has been a prominent performer in the thriving downtown St. John's art scene for a few years now. He has been regaling audiences as a pianist, singer, actor and host with a wide range of gigs, and is now in the process of making demo recordings for a hopeful CD debut in 2006.

Over the last year, Glenn has mostly been playing original music with a three-piece band, rounded out by George Robertson on guitar and Alex Pierson on drums. Although the band officially has no name, they were once called "Glenn Nuotio's Sloppy Seconds", but Glenn kyboshed the name for

being too goofy.

However, Glenn's music is not without its cheeky surprises. His lyrics provide witty commentaries on St. John's arty society, pop culture, long-distance relationships (his long-time boyfriend, Niall O'Dea, just finished four years studying in Oxford) and owing people money. He is a gifted performer, and his wry improv banter keeps the audience coming back to see him night after night.

His music is engaging as well. Glenn is a pianist who was training to become a classical musician when he started to discover other music and decided to pursue cabaret.

He draws his inspiration from the likes of Nina Simone, Tom Waits and Rufus Wainright, but he also writes songs in styles as diverse as punk rock and doo-wop. Glenn is a big believer in breaking down the performer-audience boundary by inviting audience members to sing back-up, pick up some percussion, or bring over their own instruments.

Living and performing in St. John's has allowed Glenn to work with a broad range of artists in all media. He has developed close ties with members of the city's Wonderbolt Circus, one of whom opened for one of his shows last fall

with a series of magic tricks. He has hosted and performed skits for several installments of the Neighbourhood Dance Works

Burlesque Cabaret, and danced in a few ensemble dance performances around town. Recently, he has also been working as an extra for film and TV productions in the city, including a gig in drag as a Marilyn Monroe impersonator in Mary Walsh's CBC series Hatching, Matching and Dispatching.

Over the years, he has performed with just about every musician and artist in St. John's with an interest in cabaret and experimental music. Increasingly, though, he has been hanging out and collaborating with visual artists, actors and clowns. He says this has allowed him to get new perspectives on artistic creativity and performance.

The new year will herald a new period in Glenn's life. Niall, a conservation biologist, was recently hired by the federal government in Ottawa. Glenn will be splitting his time between St. John's and Ottawa as a result. Though he has a band, a network of collaborators and a devoted audience in St. John's, spend-

*Over the years, he has performed with just about every musician and artist in St. John's with an interest in cabaret and experimental music.*

ing time in Ottawa will allow to work on a career and recognition outside of Newfoundland. He says that only time

will tell whether Ottawa becomes home for him or not.



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## New novel, jackytar

Jesperson Publishing is pleased to announce the release of *jackytar*, a gay/lesbian Maritime novel by Douglas Gosse.

*jackytar* takes a unique spin on tales of sexuality & mystery with an Atlantic Province's twist.

Based on award-winning research conducted by Gosse, *jackytar* is a novel of self-development and social critique. The term "jackytar" denotes a Newfoundlander of mixed Native/White ancestry who speaks French and is often

associated with laziness & moral decrepitude.

Told through the eyes of Alexandre Murphy, *jackytar* delves into twisting family secrets, the nature of language and identity, the influence of heritage, and four generations' sexual interface with the world. From Toronto to Bond Cove, Newfoundland, the story unfolds over nine days with shifting points of view, time and space. Self-reflex-

ive insights and heart wrenching revelations spiral to their extreme limit. *jackytar* is an innovative gay/lesbian novel with a broad readership, boldly breaking new ground in Canadian letters.

This book is available at local Chapters/Coles bookstores in all Atlantic Provinces and across Canada, including: Newfoundland and Labrador - Coles in the Avalon Mall, Coles in the Village Mall, Coles in Corner Brook and Chapters in St. John's, Prince Edward Island - Charlottetown - Indigo, Nova Scotia - Chapters in Mic Mac Mall, Chapters in Halifax, Bayer's Lake; New Brunswick -

Moncton - Chapters, Fredericton - Chapters

Douglas is donating a portion of his proceeds to charities.

### About The Author

Dr. Douglas Gosse teaches in the pre-service teacher education program at Nipissing University, North Bay, ON, specializing in Junior/Intermediate and intermediate/Senior Curriculum Methods. Douglas' research topics investigate questions of identity construction, hidden curriculum, queer theory, gay & lesbian studies, arts-informed educational research,

fiction writing, storytelling, and the creative research process of writer-researchers.

Douglas serves on the Junior Advisory Board for the Handbook of the Arts in Qualitative Research: Perspectives, Methodologies, Examples, and Issues and has been involved for several years with the Teachers' Institute for Teachers of Canadian History as well as Canadian Heritage Fairs.

## Team Halifax is off to the races!

By Alana Patterson

We're off to the races - literally. And if you're not part of the action yet, you'll want to read on.

The Outgames are presented in partnership with the Gay & Lesbian International Sport Association (GLISA) [www.glisa.org](http://www.glisa.org). GLISA's Co-President, Catherine Meade, happens to be a Haligonian and is a member of Team Halifax.



Back row, L-R: Catherine Meade, Alana Patterson, Susan Brushett. Front row, L-R: Noreen Guptill, Mary Ann Daye, Janelle Visser, Mark Tewksbury, Heather Beaver, Connie Hong. Missing: Melanie Petrunia, Janine Thibodeau.

We have members who will be participating in cycling, track & field, dragon boat, softball, swimming... and the list goes on! Members of TEAM HALIFAX come primarily from the gay, lesbian and transgender community, but membership is open

to all.

We had a fantastic TEAM HALIFAX Kick-Off party on November 11th at Club NRG. Over 120 people packed into the Club to hear from Mark Tewksbury, Canadian Olympic gold medalist and Co-President of the 2006 Montreal Outgames. Mark talked about the Outgames and the critical role to be played by the Games in advancing the cause of human rights and eliminating barriers in sport and beyond. Candy Palmater, Halifax's own "recovered lawyer" turned comedian, kept the room in stitches as MC for the evening.

And what a great turnout from our political representatives! Councillors like Krista Snow, who brought greetings on behalf of the City, Sheila Fougere, Dawn Sloane, Sue Uteck and Pat Murphy were all there to show their support. Mike Savage, Member of Parliament for Dartmouth-Cole Harbour also shared words of support. Big thanks to them for "coming out" and supporting us. We also owe a big thanks to Club NRG for letting us use their space and to Candy Palmater for entertaining us for the evening!

So, if you're not already part of

the action... what are you waiting for?!

If we do say so ourselves, we throw a great party! By the time you read this article, we will have thrown not only our great Kick-Off party on November 11th at Club NRG, but also our Grinch Party on December 17th and our New Year's Womyn's Dance!

And we have more plans in the works, at MenzBar and beyond. Keep an eye on the TEAM HALIFAX website: [geocities.com/team\\_halifax](http://geocities.com/team_halifax) to stay current on our coming events.

## Gay White Trash — All But The Trash

By Bill McKinnon

I saw Michael Best's new play, "Gay White Trash" at The Crib on November 23rd. and was impressed with this Fat Morgan Theatre production but not with the title. I liked everything else: the plot, script, acting, direction and humour etc. Mind you I suppose the title is needed; it's a grabber. The term "gay white trash" is not nice because it is a put down of a social "other", working class people. It is much the same as putting down gay people by calling them queers, perverts and fags.

In spite of the title this play helps to set the record straight about gays. It discredits gay stereotypes. Gay's are not all effeminate, anal retentive, pseudo-sophisticated, limp-wrist effetes, legitimate as they are; they also don't necessarily spend their time eating quiche, drinking Sangria and watching Lauren Bacall movies while clad in piss-elegant designer apparel on antique furniture in their posh apartments. It is good to let the world know that most gays are not the gay people portrayed in television sitcoms. For the most part they are rather ordinary folk whose only common denominator is their sexual orientation. This play is about ordinary people, two gay guys from the country who are poor, uneducated and lacking in sophistication, but not gay white trash.

The playwright is correct in part of his title; the main charac-

ters, Terry and Gary are gay and white, but not trash. We do see white trash in the play but it's not these guys. They are basically decent people.

What is white trash? Some of the characteristics noted by the Wikipedia are: poor hygiene, unkempt property, ignorance and general lack of education, laziness and lack of ambition, sexual promiscuity, poverty and poor diet. Sure, some of these apply to Terry and Gary but not many. Terry is disabled and can't work much, but he plays the organ in church and works at crafts. Gary works as a pet groomer. They have only been in the city for a short while and are poor and unsophisticated but are trying to get ahead. They have both had some sexual adventures but they have been together for years and are able to put their indiscretions behind them and continue a meaningful, caring relationship. Gary and Terry's poverty has left them disadvantaged in meeting the right people. Of the people they have met, the gay guy, Kendal, is promiscuous and a thief and Joyce, the woman next door is an unfit mother, promiscuous, uncouth and an abuser of the welfare system. Their new-found acquaintances are the ones who might be called white trash. (The actors who played the roles of Kendal and Joyce were of course super). Hopefully Terry and Gary will eventually meet better people and rise above their current circumstances.

Even though I quibble about the play's title, it's the "Best" gay play of the year and the best one I've seen in a long time. I hope the play continues to run



in Halifax and gets performed in other cities where there is sure to be a receptive audience. Everyone I know who has seen it enjoyed the play.

GWT sold out the hall's 37 seats every night. The Company was gratefully surprised at how well the play was received in Halifax.

Fat Morgan hopes to do additional productions in Canada - possibly in Toronto and might even play in Sydney, Australia but so far there is nothing definite. Future productions are all about money and having the right contacts.

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# Pride Updates Halifax

On a chilly evening in December, the Board of Halifax Pride '06 got together in the cozy living room of the Youth Project under the gavel of our new Chair, Patrick Daigle.

With winter outside, we warmed ourselves up with thoughts of summer and got down to the task of planning another fabulous Pride event for the LGBTQ community in HRM. Alongside the usual business items and some welcome pizza, we heard a challenging presentation from Member at Large Roger Bouthilier about 'Vision and Values' for the 2006 team. Roger talked about producing a mission statement and a commitment to put on a Pride Week that is "community centered and accessible and fun."

Roseanne Dornan, a new member from the Annapolis Valley, delivered an impressive pitch, complete with music and a whole series of design ideas for a possible theme: "We Are Everyday People." Roseanne's passionate delivery led to an enthusiastic discussion about what the 'Pride Theme' really means, and what we want it to do.

No doubt inspired by Roger's presentation, we agreed that before we make a decision, we want

to hear from *you*. After all, Pride is your Festival. What does Pride mean to you: as an image; an idea; a song even? Some other ideas that have been tossed into the ring are "Rainbow City" and "Step into the Day! Step into the Light!" If you've got a concept for a Theme or a design for a Logo, we want to know. Send us a note at [info@halifaxpride.org](mailto:info@halifaxpride.org). The Theme and Logo will be launched at the Half Way to Pride Party at Reflections Cabaret on Saturday, January 28th, 2006. Your idea could be the one!

At the same time we also want to reach out to all the diverse communities in Halifax. People of Colour: Two-Spirited! Black! Asian! South Asian! Hispanic! Womyn! Men! Trans-gendered! Young and Old! We need to hear from you! Let us know how Pride can celebrate your culture within our broad community. The Rainbow Flag is big and bright and beautiful and there's room for all of us to gather around it in celebration. Check out the website for ways to share your experiences and your hopes for Pride '06. Let us share your ideas and creativity in creating a Theme and a Logo for 2006 that can carry that feeling of Pride forward into another year.

# Truro

Truro Pride is moving to 515 Prince Street for its regular meetings. The location is still named the Calico Restaurant but it is at 515 Prince. We are having a meeting in the form of a coffee house the third Wednesday of each month commencing on December 21, 2005. The time will be at 6:30 pm. If you wish to have coffee and treats there will be a charge payable to the restaurant owner.

We are also trying to acquire funding to have a phone line set up where individuals can leave a message or listen to our events line for upcoming activities. We also still have our email address at [truropride@hotmail.com](mailto:truropride@hotmail.com). We are hoping to acquire the skills of a student attending the Nova Scotia Community College Truro Campus to set up our website again and get it going.

We have had some difficulty with attendance for our dances and we would like to create a form of dialogue with other groups about dates and conflicts. Hopefully we can all have a fairly good turnout at our events. Our next dance will be Spring Fling on Saturday April 29, 2006 at the Lions Club on East Prince St...the same location as before.

If you or your organization want to be on our email list... just let us know and we would be very happy to add you.

Hope all had a great Holiday Season and all the best in 2006.

# Sydney

By Karen Finnigan

What a whirlwind for Sydney's Queer Community since the summer, we had a fantabulous Pride Week; our 5th Annual was a huge success. The Sexual Diversity Centre of Cape Breton University added a few items to the Pride Week events, inviting representatives from the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Youth Project in Halifax and a few PFLAG representatives from St John's New Brunswick to share their experiences with PFLAG and Gay Straight Alliances. Thanks so much Friends, your continued support is a true blessing!

Pride Week was kicked off with the annual-ever-so-amusing ball game, and CommUNITY Dance. The Parade was followed by Family Fun Games and Activities including potato-sack races, face painting, parachute fun and much more) at Louisa Field. PFLAG Seminar, Gay Straight Alliance Social, Flag Raising, Gay Straight Alliance Seminar, a community Open Forum, there was a Hiking trip to Lighthouse Point in Louisburg, a camping trip, a hilarious evening of Gay Bingo, a Wrap Up Dance, and Sydney Pride Week concluded in the spirit it started, with Family Fun on Haywire Hill, there were horse rides and lots of food and prizes! It was a memorable, family orientated week with tons of fun, laughter, friendships, and celebration of diversity.

The Pride Committee concluded the Pride Week Celebrations with

their regular committee meeting, and there were many changes to the committee. Some of our committed pioneer volunteers respectfully resigned, thus making way for a Pride Committee makeover, so to speak. We will miss the valuable contributions of our former members, and welcome the enthusiasm and creativity of our new members. Check out our new website [www.capebretonpride.org](http://www.capebretonpride.org) for what else is new!

Since Pride Week, Cape Breton Pride Committee has hosted a number of community dances including Women's Dance, a number of Mixed Dances and rang the New Year in with Pride, with a Mixed CommUNITY Dance. And we are continuing to donate books to enhance the GLBT2IQ selection in Sydney's Library. Our latest contribution is PINK BLOOD: Homophobic Violence in Canada by author Douglas Janoff.

We are very pleased with our growth and changes in 2005 and eagerly anticipate our 2006 events. Midnight Bowling is set and ready to role, Saturday, February 25th. Tickets are going quickly; who doesn't love a night filled with laughter, bowling, pizza and prizes? Call 862-2594 for more info.

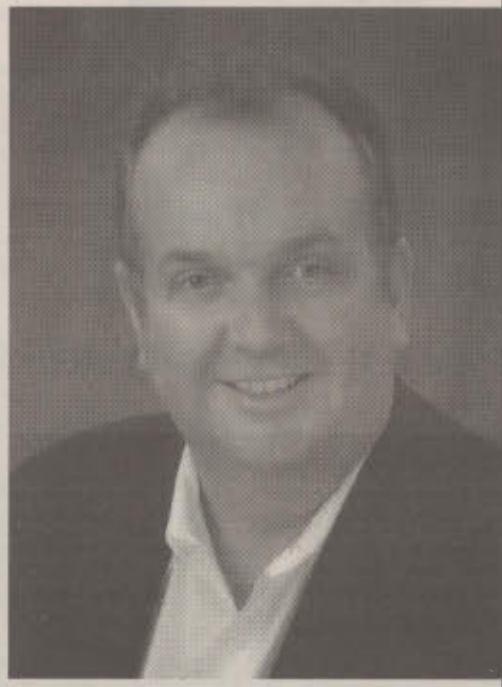
We'd like to say a big thank you to our dedicated committee member and our courageous supporters in the Cape Breton community! Thank you and we'll see you in the New Year!

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## Classifieds

### accomodations

"The Blue Door Guest House" in heritage St. John's, Newfoundland, is located in the heart of the city across from the Fairmont Hotel. Walking distance to gay bars, restaurants and George Street. If your visiting the city for business or pleasure, come and enjoy a relaxing stay and curl up to a crackling fire. Be Yourself! in Old St. John's. For reservations contact: 1-888-312-2244, Fax: 709722-3743, via e-mail at [thebluedoorgh@rogers.com](mailto:thebluedoorgh@rogers.com)

### groups

MARITIME GAY WOMEN starting group in Moncton to make friends. Hope to meet people who ski, play cards, like nature, Maritime travel, golf, whatever you're interested in. If you're alone, or would like to meet new people, email [makefriends@mail.com](mailto:makefriends@mail.com)

Men's Reading Group meets regularly in Halifax. Come meet interesting people and discuss gay literature. Check our webpage at [www.menread.50megs.com](http://www.menread.50megs.com). Email [menread@gay.com](mailto:menread@gay.com) or contact 454-9111 for more information.

### support

GAY FATHERS OF HALIFAX Is a peer support group for gay and bisexual men. We meet the 1st Wednesday of each month. We also get together for a monthly Pot Luck social. For more info contact Gorden @ 446-7793 or Gilles at 448-3565 or Email [GayFathersHalifax@hotmail.com](mailto:GayFathersHalifax@hotmail.com) or visit our website at <http://groups.msn.com/GayFathersOfHalifax>

HALIFAX RAINBOW SPEAKERS: Project Proud Lesbian, bisexual, gay, transgendered,

two-spirited and queer volunteers wanted to participate in public education workshops. No special knowledge or experience necessary—training, practice and support provided. Let your rainbow shine! Ramona 902-494-6662, [nspirg@is2.dal.ca](mailto:nspirg@is2.dal.ca)

HALIFAX TRANSGUYS is a support group for transmen at any point in transition, locally and in Atlantic Canada. Please write: [halifaxtransguys@yahoo.groups.ca](mailto:halifaxtransguys@yahoo.groups.ca) for further info on our upcoming meetings and social events.

### spiritual

CALLING ALL ANGLICANS An Integrity chapter has been formed in Nova Scotia. Call George 902-757-1706. For Propitiation (traditionalist Anglicans) call Peter 416-487-7406 (evenings).

LESBIANS, GAY MEN, BISEXUALS will find themselves welcome by Quakers, who recognize that there is "that of God in every person." Call (902) 429-2904 for more info.

### HOW TO PLACE ADS

CLASSIFIEDS: 25 words for \$9, 25 more for \$6, 10% off if you run the ad 3+ issues.

EVENTS CALENDAR, GROUPS & SERVICES: free.

All paying ads must be pre-paid. Send to [submissions@wayves.ca](mailto:submissions@wayves.ca) or Wayves, P.O. Box 34090 Scotia Square, Halifax, NS, B3J 3S1. See [www.wayves.ca](http://www.wayves.ca) for insertion deadlines and graphical advertisement rates.

Deadlines: page 2! (hint: always the first Friday of the month!)

# Transgender Diaries

By Denise Holliday

In the last 4 years I have cried, smiled, leapt for joy and sank into pits of despair and yet, not once have I regretted my decision to allow me to become known. The joy of changing to the correct name made me cry. A few months later my British Female Passport arrived and I leapt for joy and complained over the quality of the picture, causing my spouse and youngest daughter to be greatly amused, commenting on my stereotypical reaction to my picture. Next, my driving license followed by MSI card. I applied for Canadian citizenship as a female; this would be a two year project being fulfilled in Sept 2003. Meanwhile I also obtained my GED with a 91.4 percentile and applied for work for the first time in my life as Denise.

After several turn downs I was hired by ABC cleaners in Halifax International Airport. Due to insufficient funds I ended up wearing three different second hand wigs in the first three weeks of work, I survived. It had been two years since my father died and I planned to go back and visit my mother for the first time. This had been cleared with the company at my point of being hired. The stress of preparing for heading home was having quite a toll on me, the degree of which would not be known till an incident that took place in the airport. Due to an issue instigated by the Airport manager over washrooms followed shortly after by my own manager threatening me, I was emotionally wiped out and left the job. Three days later I was rested and left for England. This was to be a stormy month regardless of weather. Mom was having a hard time with Denise and Denise was having a hard time with mom. Things blew up then settled down, My Brother refused to see me but my sisters all made some effort. Mom and I spent most of our time after the blow up, discussing Dad and family matters. My Dad having died two years earlier and only weeks after I had visited and returned to Canada. Little did I know, but this was to be the same with Mom; it was almost like she had waited to see me one more time before joining my Father. It was a time of healing for which I was later very grateful.

Just as we became friends I had to leave. Upon my return I got a job I loved and settled in working

at a call centre. That lasted five months, ending in a distasteful display of lying by senior management that I wish to never experience again in my lifetime and a note from an unnamed worker referring to me twice in the male gender. Unfortunately this attack on my character destroyed me emotionally, taking over three months to get back on track.

I spent the next ten months looking for a job. I was apparently very qualified obtaining two to three interviews a week, but for some allusive reason, unsuitable. This was regardless of whether I was applying for management, labour or service positions. The Corp of commissionaires was a terrible application experience with their Key man being blunt and ignorant, calling me after hearing I called the desk, he let me know in no uncertain terms that I was not getting a job there. I did complain in writing and their head sent a nice letter apologizing for the misunderstanding. And stated the person concerned had acknowledged being a little out of line. I knew there was a name for that. One person at a Sobeys store at the start of the interview was full of praise for my qualifications and the company's opportunities, then for some strange reason became visibly uncomfortable and started finding reasons I may not like to work there. Bad as it was, I deliberately said I would accept the two hours a week, since I would otherwise get in trouble and lose my unemployment. No problem she said, offering to take my application out of the pile so I would not get in trouble with manpower. I will hold it in a private folder for three months and no one but you and I will know you were here.

Approaching Manpower I requested an interview to see if they could assist me in anyway to find a job. This led to me going to college to upgrade my computer skills. Manpower assured me this would be a place to feel safe, upgrade my skills and experience life as Denise. Hence, Sept 2003 found me on the doors of Ak-erley Community College.

Next month, learning to learn


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# WAYVES GROUPS AND SERVICES

## Atlantic Canada

**AtlanticCanadianLesbians:** For Lesbians from the Atlantic Provinces. web: [groups.msn.com/AtlanticCanadianLesbians](http://groups.msn.com/AtlanticCanadianLesbians)

**Canadian Transsexuals Fight for Rights:** One-stop site for needs, accommodations, doctors, therapists, legal etc. web: [www.ctffr.org](http://www.ctffr.org)

**Egale President & Atlantic Director,** St. John's, NL: (709) 690-5244 email: [gemma@egale.ca](mailto:gemma@egale.ca) web: [www.egale.ca](http://www.egale.ca) **Gay Men's Gathering:** at PO Box 36054, Halifax, B3J 3S9

**GaySpaces:** Free postings of GLBT-friendly places to live in Atlantic Canada. email: [info@gayspaces.org](mailto:info@gayspaces.org) web: [www.gayspaces.org](http://www.gayspaces.org)

**Gender Expressions Atlantic:** Support for transgendered individuals ranging from Crossdressers to Transsexuals. email: [genderexpressions@hotmail.com](mailto:genderexpressions@hotmail.com) web: [www.geocities.com/genderexpressions/](http://www.geocities.com/genderexpressions/) (No scheduled meeting. Occasional social events, by invitation only.)

**Halifax Transguys:** support group for transmen at any point in transition, locally and in Atlantic Canada. email: [halifaxtransguys@yahoo.com](mailto:halifaxtransguys@yahoo.com) at Please write for further information on our upcoming meetings and social events.

**Healing Our Nations,** Dartmouth: HIV/AIDS prevention in a manner respectful of our native way of life. 1-800-565-4255 email: [hon@accesswave.ca](mailto:hon@accesswave.ca) web: [www.healingournations.ca](http://www.healingournations.ca) (Healing Our Nations staff meet once on a weekly basis. Training offered on request at no charge for Aboriginal people and/or organizations.) at 45 Alderney Dr., Ste. 607, Dartmouth, NS.

**Mr Atlantic Canada Leather Society,** assorted cities: Dedicated to developing gay men's leather communities in the Atlantic region. email: [info@maclather.net](mailto:info@maclather.net) web: [www.maclather.net](http://www.maclather.net), meets 1st Saturday (See webpage for event schedule, location, and other details.)

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

**Pride Guide Publishing:** publisher of community focused maps, directories, event programs and more. 902-423-6999 email: [prideguide@hfx.eastlink.ca](mailto:prideguide@hfx.eastlink.ca)

**Project E:** Presentation for youth, on gender expression, myth busters, proper terminology, and other facts. email: [projectex3@hotmail.com](mailto:projectex3@hotmail.com) web: [www.freewebs.com/xproject/](http://www.freewebs.com/xproject/) at available via web page

**Wayves Magazine:** Atlantic Canada's queer news and lifestyle magazine. email: [submissions@wayves.ca](mailto:submissions@wayves.ca) web: [www.wayves.ca](http://www.wayves.ca) (Editorial meeting one Monday night a month; layout one Sunday a month; see the Calendar on our web page) at downtown Halifax - email us for details

## New Brunswick (506)

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

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

**AIDS Saint John,** Saint John: improve quality of life, reduce the spread. 652-2437 email: [aidssj@nb.aibn.com](mailto:aidssj@nb.aibn.com) web: [www.geocities.com/aidssj](http://www.geocities.com/aidssj)

**Atlantiques Swim Team,** Moncton: Swimming for fitness or participating in Masters swimming competitions. email: [info@atlantiques.org](mailto:info@atlantiques.org) web: [atlantiques.org](http://atlantiques.org) (Contact us by email for swim times and social events. LGBT Swimmers from elsewhere in Atlantic Canada are welcome to join the team and go to meets with us.) at the CEPS pool at the Université de Moncton.

**Boom Nightclub,** Fredericton: Gay Bar. (506) 463-2666 email: [info@boomnightclub.ca](mailto:info@boomnightclub.ca) (Hours: Mon & Tues - Closed, Wed 4-12, Thurs 4-1, Fri & Sat 4-2 and Sun 1-dance 4-8)

**Catalyst,** Mount Allison U, Sackville: support & information for Mount A students, occasional social activities. 506-364-2357 email: [ktrotter@mta.ca](mailto:ktrotter@mta.ca) (Catalyst meets approximately every week from Sept-Dec and Jan-April. For meeting info, contact Kris Trotter at 364-2255 or the Students' Administrative Council at 364-2231. Catalyst is not active during the summer.) at Fax: 506/364-2216

**Closet Chat,** Saint John: Discussion space & guest speakers. 506-333-3711 email: [clstcht@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:clstcht@nbnet.nb.ca), meets every Tuesday (8:00 PM) at Centenary-Queen Square United Church 215 Wentworth Street

**East Coast Bears,** Fredericton: adult men who are, or like, masculine, hairy men. 506-455-2856 email: [info@eastcoastbears.com](mailto:info@eastcoastbears.com) web: [www.eastcoastbears.com](http://www.eastcoastbears.com), meets 4th Sunday (See webpage for schedule.)

**Fredericton Lesbians and Gays,** Fredericton: library & occasional social events. email: [jwhitehe@unb.ca](mailto:jwhitehe@unb.ca) web: [www.geocities.com/westhollywood/3074](http://www.geocities.com/westhollywood/3074)

**Gais.es Nor Gays Inc. (GNG),** Petit-Rocher (Bathurst area): A bilingual volunteer association serving gay men, lesbians and bisexuals of northern New Brunswick. email: [info@gngnb.ca](mailto:info@gngnb.ca) web: [www.gngnb.ca](http://www.gngnb.ca) (Dances are held at GNG club every Saturday night. See

[www.gngnb.ca](http://www.gngnb.ca) for a list of upcoming events.) at 702 Rue Principale, Petit-Rocher NB. Look for rainbow flag and/or door with pink triangle at rear of parking lot.

**Moncton Gay Pride,** Moncton: The Moncton GLBT group that organizes events and promotes as well as puts on Moncton's Pride events!., meets 1st Sunday

**Moncton Transgender Support Group,** Moncton: Transgenders, their allies, families and friends. 536-0599 email: [eldonhay@nb.sympatico.ca](mailto:eldonhay@nb.sympatico.ca), meets 3rd Sunday (except December - 2nd Sunday) at U de M. Room 302, Adrien-J.-Cormier building.

**PFLAG Fredericton,** Fredericton: all welcome. Francis @ 454-8349 email: [pflagfredericton@yahoo.ca](mailto:pflagfredericton@yahoo.ca)

**PFLAG Moncton:** Parents, families and friends of GLBTQ&Q persons. 536-0599 email: [eldonhay@nb.sympatico.ca](mailto:eldonhay@nb.sympatico.ca) web: [www.pflagcanada.ca/moncton.html](http://www.pflagcanada.ca/moncton.html), meets 3rd Monday (every 3rd Monday at 7:30 pm at U de M. (except December - 2nd Monday)) at Room 302, Adrien-J.-Cormier building.

**PFLAG Sackville/Amherst:** Parents, families & friends-of, and, GLBT persons. 506-536-4245 email: [jhammock@mta.ca](mailto:jhammock@mta.ca) web: [www.maritimelesbians.com/](http://www.maritimelesbians.com/), meets 2nd Monday (Please see calendar on our web page.) at Sackville: 165 Main Street. Amherst: 12 La Planche Street

**PFLAG Saint John,** Saint John: 652-3995 email: [wanddr@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:wanddr@nbnet.nb.ca), [tiggerj@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:tiggerj@nbnet.nb.ca) web: [www.pflag.ca/saintjohn.htm](http://www.pflag.ca/saintjohn.htm) (1st Friday of each month September - June at 7pm. No meeting in July & August.) at 116 Coburg Street in Saint John, New Brunswick in the Community Health Centre next to St. Joseph's Hospital.

**Port City Rainbow Pride,** Saint John: Pride Celebrations Committee. 693-1145 email: [dannyj@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:dannyj@nbnet.nb.ca) web: [www.portcityrainbowpride.com](http://www.portcityrainbowpride.com)

**Q-Collective,** Saint John: a UNBSJ-based group of lesbians, gays, bisexuals, transgendered persons, and their friends. email: [glbtq\\_unbsj@hotmail.com](mailto:glbtq_unbsj@hotmail.com) web: [groups.msn.com/GLBTFriends/](http://groups.msn.com/GLBTFriends/) (Post an email to the MSN group at [GLBTFriends@groups.msn.com](mailto:GLBTFriends@groups.msn.com). Your message will be visible to all subscribers. (In order to join the group, a person must use a hotmail account.) The Q-Collective also has a mailing list: to subscribe, email [glbtq\\_unbsj@hotmail.com](mailto:glbtq_unbsj@hotmail.com).)

**Safe Spaces Fundy Region,** Saint John: Committed to ending discrimination around issues of sexual orientation in youth. email: [safespaces@gmail.com](mailto:safespaces@gmail.com) web: [www.safespacesfundy.ca](http://www.safespacesfundy.ca) (See Webpage for schedule.) at Community Health Centre, 116 Coburg Street, Saint John, NB

**Safe Spaces Moncton,** Moncton: Safe Spaces offers support to GLBTQ Youth between 14-25. 869-8224 email: [safespaces@nb.aibn.com](mailto:safespaces@nb.aibn.com) web: [www.safespaces.org](http://www.safespaces.org) (Safe Spaces offers support to GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDERED or QUESTIONING Youth between the ages of 14-25. We offer individual counselling (via phone, e-mail or in person) and we also offer support groups. Awareness activities are offered in the community.)

**Saint John Lesbian / Bi Women's Support Network,** Saint John: for women-loving women. 642-1284 email: [sjlesbi@email.com](mailto:sjlesbi@email.com) web: [www.geocities.com/sjlesbi/](http://www.geocities.com/sjlesbi/), meets 3rd Friday

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

**SIDA AIDS Moncton,** Moncton: offers support to people living with HIV and their families and friends, education and awareness. 859-9616 email: [sidaidsm@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:sidaidsm@nbnet.nb.ca) web: [www.sida-aids-moncton.com](http://www.sida-aids-moncton.com) at 165A Gordon St., Moncton, NB, E1C 1N1

**Spectrum,** Fredericton: social and support group for students, staff and faculty at UNB and STU. email: [spectrum@unb.ca](mailto:spectrum@unb.ca) web: [www.unb.ca/clubs/spectrum](http://www.unb.ca/clubs/spectrum), meets every Wednesday (7 pm) at Tiley 28 (downstairs Arts Common Room)

**UN sur DIX,** Moncton: liAssociation des Étudiant(e)s gays, lesbiennes et bisexuel(le)s de l'Université de Moncton. email: [unsurdix@umoncton.ca](mailto:unsurdix@umoncton.ca) web: [www.umoncton.ca/unsurdix/](http://www.umoncton.ca/unsurdix/)

**UNB/STU Women's Collective,** Fredericton: Women of all ages and orientations. email: [unbustuwomenscollective@yahoo.ca](mailto:unbustuwomenscollective@yahoo.ca), meets every Monday at 5pm at the University Women's Centre at the SUB

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

## Newfoundland & Lab (709)

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

**Gay on the Rock:** Gay Life in St. John's and Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada. email: [gayontherock@yahoo.com](mailto:gayontherock@yahoo.com) web: [www.geocities.com/gayontherock](http://www.geocities.com/gayontherock)

**LGBT-MUN Resource Centre,** St. John's: LGBT-MUN is an information/resource, service, and support centre staffed by trained volunteers! 737-7619 email: [lbgtmun@mun.ca](mailto:lbgtmun@mun.ca) web: [www.mun.ca/lbg/](http://www.mun.ca/lbg/) (Open Weekdays 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM; two-three meetings each month; Coffee-House Fridays from 12-2pm; movie nights and other social events occur

at least three times per month!) at Smallwood/University Center, UC-6022. Building located on Prince Phillip Drive. Call us! Get involved! LBGT-MUN: "A Positive Place, for Positive People!"

**NGALE (Newfoundland Gays And Lesbians for Equality),** St. John's: We offer support to LGBT people and education on LGBT issues to the general public. (709) 579-8656 email: [info@ngale.ca](mailto:info@ngale.ca) web: [www.ngale.ca](http://www.ngale.ca) (NGALE Inc. (Newfoundland Gays And Lesbians for Equality) offer support and education to LGBT persons, their families and friends, as well as the general public. (709) 576-8656 at Aids Committee of Newfoundland and Labrador, 50 Harbour Drive, St. John's NL.) at Aids Committee of Newfoundland and Labrador, 50 Harbour Drive, St. John's NL.

**NGALE LIST-SERV,** St. John's: Email discussions & events for Newfoundland. email: [subscribe@ngale.cjb.net](mailto:subscribe@ngale.cjb.net), meets 1st Wednesday at 50 Harbour Drive: ACNL Office

**PFLAG - SJ,** St. John's: Information or referral to one of our parents. (709) 579-8656 email: [gemma@egale.ca](mailto:gemma@egale.ca) web: [www.pflag.ca](http://www.pflag.ca) (PFLAG St. John's NL: Information or referral to one of our parents. (709) 579-8656 email: [gemma@egale.ca](mailto:gemma@egale.ca) web: [www.pflag.ca](http://www.pflag.ca) at Aids Committee Newfoundland and Labrador, 50 Harbour Drive, St. John's NL.) at Aids Committee Newfoundland and Labrador, 50 Harbour Drive, St. John's NL.

## Nova Scotia (902)

**Acadia Pride,** Wolfville: community at Acadia. 585-2165 email: [acadiapride@acadiau.ca](mailto:acadiapride@acadiau.ca) web: [euler.acadiiau.ca/~apride/](http://euler.acadiiau.ca/~apride/), meets every Monday (7:30pm (during academic year)) at Beverage Forum (oldSUB)

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

**Affirm United,** Halifax: support, action and worshiping community within the United Church. email: [stew-aral@gov.ns.ca](mailto:stew-aral@gov.ns.ca) at Box 33067, Halifax, NS B3L 4T6

**AIDS Coalition of Cape Breton - ACCB,** Sydney: 567-1766 web: [www.accb.ns.ca](http://www.accb.ns.ca) at 150 Bentinck St., Sydney, NS B1P 1G6

**AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia,** Halifax: non-profit, community-based AIDS organization, provincially mandated. (902)429-7922 email: [acns@acns.ns.ca](mailto:acns@acns.ns.ca) web: [www.acns.ns.ca](http://www.acns.ns.ca)

**Alcoholics Anonymous,** Halifax: for the glbt communities. (902) 441-7505 email: [courage449@yahoo.com](mailto:courage449@yahoo.com) web: [www.rationalunacy.com/cout](http://www.rationalunacy.com/cout), meets every Monday (at 8pm) at St. Mary's Basilica, basement - side entrance

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

**Bluenose Bears,** Halifax: Club for bears and those who like them. 463-4312 email: [bluenosebears@accesswave.ca](mailto:bluenosebears@accesswave.ca) web: [www.geocities.com/bluenosebears](http://www.geocities.com/bluenosebears), meets 3rd Friday

**Cape Breton Pride:** dedicated to promoting well being & unity of our gay, lesbian, bisexual & transgendered community. email: [capebretonpride@yahoo.ca](mailto:capebretonpride@yahoo.ca) web: [www.geocities.com/capebretonpride](http://www.geocities.com/capebretonpride) (Monthly women's, men's and/or glbt dances and social events. For up to date info and official Pride Week details, check the webpage or write c/o 41 Broadway, Sydney, N.S. B1N 2Y3)

**Cape Breton University Sexual Diversity Centre,** Sydney: We provide a welcoming environment for GLBTQ people and their Allies. Call or drop by open M-F 9-4pm. 902-563-1481 email: [sdcc@cbusu.com](mailto:sdcc@cbusu.com) (Call or drop by for event listings, Ally Training, and Heterosexism/Homophobia Workshops!)

**DaOUT,** Halifax: LGBTQ Society at Dalhousie. 494-2190 email: [dalout@dal.ca](mailto:dalout@dal.ca) web: [is2.dal.ca/~dalout](http://is2.dal.ca/~dalout), meets every Thursday (7pm) at SUB Room 321

**Family Pride Camping Association (Rainbow Spirit),** Halifax: Rainbow Spirit, Canada's only week-long summer camp for children of LGBT parents. 455-0186 email: [info@fpca.ca](mailto:info@fpca.ca) web: [www.fpca.ca](http://www.fpca.ca), meets 2nd Monday (Contact us if you are interested in helping out, or have a child who would benefit from attending Rainbow Spirit, our annual week-long camp.)

**Fundy Fruit,** Valley: Social group for valley folk: hiking, movies, snowshoeing, board games, parties. email: [fundfruit@yahoo.ca](mailto:fundfruit@yahoo.ca) (Times & locations sent out by email.)

**Gay Camping Club,** Halifax: The outdoorsy kind of camping (not just for RVs!). email: [gaycampingclub@hotmail.com](mailto:gaycampingclub@hotmail.com) web: [www.gaycampingclubhalifax.ca](http://www.gaycampingclubhalifax.ca)

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

**GayFathersHalifax,** HRM: Is a peer support group for gay and bisexual fathers. Contact Gilles @ 448-3565 or Gordon @ 446-7793 email: [GayFathersHalifax@hotmail.com](mailto:GayFathersHalifax@hotmail.com) web: [groups.msn.com/GayFathersOfHalifax](http://groups.msn.com/GayFathersOfHalifax), meets 1st Wednesday (7-9 p.m.) at Dalhousie Legal Services, 2209 Gottingen Street (corner of Gottingen & Cunard) press the buzzer.

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

**Group Harrison Society,** Cape Breton: Dances, Socials & Support Group for Cape Bretoners. 564-6939, meets last Saturday (Admission \$6.50- Best light and sound show around!) at Steel Workers Hall, Sydney

**Hal-Gal,** Halifax: low-traffic Yahoo group that provides events and information for queer women in the Halifax area. email: [hal-gal@yahoo.com](mailto:hal-gal@yahoo.com)

**Halifax Front Runners,** Halifax: Running/walking club. 422-7579 email: [Bruce.Greenfield@dal.ca](mailto:Bruce.Greenfield@dal.ca)

**www.frontrunners.org/clubs/halifax/**, meets every Saturday, and every Tuesday, and every Thursday (Sat: 9:30am, Tue: 5:30 pm, Thu: 5:30pm) at Main gates of the Halifax Public Gardens, corner of Spring Garden Road and South Park Street.

**Halifax Rainbow Speakers,** Halifax: Speakers available, contact us if you are interested in joining also. 494-6662 email: [nsprig@dal.ca](mailto:nsprig@dal.ca) web: [www.thenovascotiapublicinterestresearchgroup.dal.ca](http://www.thenovascotiapublicinterestresearchgroup.dal.ca) (Call for times & locations)

**Imperial and Sovereign Court of Atlantic Nova Society,** Halifax: Fundraising. 476-4225 email: [info@imperialcourts.com](mailto:info@imperialcourts.com) web: [www.imperialcourts.com](http://www.imperialcourts.com) (Meeting times vary)

**Intensity Dance,** Halifax: non-profit dance collective and presenting organization. email: [intensitydance@yahoo.com](mailto:intensitydance@yahoo.com) web: [intensitydance.tripod.com](http://intensitydance.tripod.com)

**Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Youth Project,** Halifax: support and connection across Nova Scotia. 429-5429 email: [youthproject@youthproject.ns.ca](mailto:youthproject@youthproject.ns.ca) web: [www.youthproject.ns.ca](http://www.youthproject.ns.ca) (Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Youth Project, Halifax: support and connection across Nova Scotia. 429-5429 email: [youthproject@youthproject.ns.ca](mailto:youthproject@youthproject.ns.ca) web: [www.youthproject.ns.ca](http://www.youthproject.ns.ca) 1.) 1st and 3rd Tuesday - Social Drop-in 6-9pm, 25 & under 2.) 2nd & 4th Tuesday - 18 & under Support meeting 6-8pm 3.) 2nd & 4th Wednesday - 18-25 Support meeting 7-9pm. 4.) 2nd & 4th Monday 25 & Under Transgendered Support meeting 7-9pm. 5.) 1st & 3rd Wednesday Movie night, 25 and under, 7pm. A foodbank is also on site for those youth who may need it's use, and STI testing on site. Please refer to website to times and details. ) at 2281 Brunswick Street.

**LGB Youth Support Group Lunenburg County,** Bridgewater: fun social/support group for 25 and under. 543-1315 email: [pplc@auracom.com](mailto:pplc@auracom.com) web: [www.youthproject.ns.ca](http://www.youthproject.ns.ca) (Postponed until further notice: Volunteer facilitators needed!)

**Manna For Health,** Halifax: A special needs food bank for those living with illness. 429-7870

**Mount Pride,** Halifax: Social group, open to anyone. email: [mountpride@yahoo.com](mailto:mountpride@yahoo.com), meets 1st Tuesday, and 3rd Tuesday (Meets biweekly, 12 noon) at Diversity Center in Rosana

**Northern AIDS Connection Society,** Truro: HIV prevention education initiative serving counties Colc., Pictou, Cumb. & E.Hants. 895-0931 email: [t\\_o\\_p2000@hotmail.com](mailto:t_o_p2000@hotmail.com) (Our Board of Directors meet regularly on the third Monday of each month.) at Futureworx 80 Glenwood Rd., Truro, N.S.

**Nova Scotia Rainbow Action Project,** Halifax: fostering change through networking, education, outreach & community education. 902-444-7887 email: [nsrap@nsrap.ca](mailto:nsrap@nsrap.ca) web: [www.nsrap.ca](http://www.nsrap.ca) (See Web Page) at 100 - 2786 Agricola St. Halifax NS B3K 4E1

**Outlaw,** Halifax: Queer Law Students Association at Dalhousie Law School. email: [dal\\_outlaw@yahoo.ca](mailto:dal_outlaw@yahoo.ca) (Meetings vary. Please email if interested.) at Dalhousie Law School. 6061 University Avenue. Halifax, Nova Scotia.

**Over 30's Club:** Socials, usually potluck dinners. 464-8925 email: [atlanticovertwentythree@hotmail.com](mailto:atlanticovertwentythree@hotmail.com) (one Saturday evening a month) at members' homes, mostly Halifax but occasionally out of town.

**PFLAG Halifax:** support and education to parents, family and friends. 443-3747 email: [ab274@chebucto.ns.ca](mailto:ab274@chebucto.ns.ca), meets 3rd Sunday (2:00 pm) at individual homes

**PFLAG Middleton,** Middleton: Parents & friends. 902-825-0548 email: [middletonps@pflagcanada.ca](mailto:middletonps@pflagcanada.ca) web: [www.pflagcanada.ca/middleton.html](http://www.pflagcanada.ca/middleton.html), meets last Friday (7-9pm) at the Wilmot Community Centre civic address 13972 Highway #1 Wilmot. Wilmot is located just between Kingston and Middleton. The hall depending on direction that your coming from. Left if your coming from the East side and Right if your coming from the West direction.

**PFLAG Sackville/Amherst:** Parents, families & friends-of, and, GLBT persons. 506-536-4245 email: [jhammock@mta.ca](mailto:jhammock@mta.ca) web: [www.maritimelesbians.com/](http://www.maritimelesbians.com/), meets 2nd Monday (Please see calendar on our web page.) at Sackville: 165 Main Street. Amherst: 12 La Planche Street

**PFLAG Sydney,** Sydney: PFLAG Sydney provides support & education on issues of sexual orientation & gender identity. Sexual Diversity Centre 563-1481, Celeste 563-1389 or Brenda Durdle - 563-1443 email: [sydneys@pflagcanada.ca](mailto:sydneys@pflagcanada.ca), meets 3rd Thursday (7:30-9:30 pm. December's meeting will be on a Wednesday instead of a Thursday - December 14, 2005 same time same place.) at Sydney River Superstore, 1225 Kings Road, Sydney

**PFLAG Truro:** 662-3774 email: [s.r.burns@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:s.r.burns@ns.sympatico.ca)

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

**Pride of Pictou County:** email: [pride\\_pictou\\_county@yahoo.ca](mailto:pride_pictou_county@yahoo.ca)

**Quakers,** Halifax: 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, Franklin St. All very welcome.

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

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

**SAAFE (Supporting An Alternative Friendly Environment),** Truro: Social/support group at the NS Agricultural College. 902-893-6300 email: [lyoung@nsac.ns.ca](mailto:lyoung@nsac.ns.ca) (Meeting are as requested.)

**Safe Harbour Metropolitan Community Church,** Halifax: A Christian Church with a positive affirming ministry to the GBLT community. Everyone is welcome! 453-9249 email: [safeharbour@eastlink.ca](mailto:safeharbour@eastlink.ca) web: [safeharbourmcc.com](http://safeharbourmcc.com), meets every Sunday (7:00pm) at 2786 Agricola St. Bloomfield Center, Suite #108

**Saint Mary's Campus Outreach Society:** South Shore Pride Social Club, Bridgewater; for 18 & older. 685-3297 email: [info@southshorepride.ca](mailto:info@southshorepride.ca) web:



# Events Calendar >>

## Amherst

### First and Third Wednesdays

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

### Third Thursday of each month

PFLAG Meeting 7:30-9:30pm at Maggie's Place, La Planche St, Amherst. Parents, friends, family & allies of GLBT community.

## Annapolis Valley

### Every Thursday

Valley Gay Mens Coffee House Meets every Thursday evening from 7-9 pm and also on the first Saturday of every month hosts a Gay/Lesbian dance from 9pm-1am. We are having two dances in May, on the 7th and 28th and no June dance. The 28th dance will be a special Apple Blossom event.\* If you need more information please contact 1-902-825-3197 or menembracingmen@yahoo.ca

### Every Sunday

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

## Bridgewater

### Every Monday

South Shore Pride Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Club holds meetings in Bridgewater every Monday from 7-9pm. Call 685-3297 or email thoron\_ca@yahoo.ca for details. www.geocities.com/Westhollywood/village/2384

### Third Saturday of each month

Wileville Dance 9PM to 1AM. Smoke free. For more details call 685-3297 or email info@southshorepride.ca or www.southshorepride.ca

## Cape Breton

What's up in Cape Breton? Email submissions@wayves.ca and tell us! Event listings are free after all.

## Fredericton

### Every Wednesday

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

### Third Sunday of each month

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

### Fourth Wednesday of each month

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

### Jan 5, 19, Feb 2, 16, March 2, 16, 30

PRIDE CHAT.... an informal and informative gathering where gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, questioning and friends of the glbtq community can meet and discuss issues relating to our community, while being in a safe and comfortable environment. Pride Chat will have Guest Speakers on a regular bi-weekly basis to speak to the issues you want to discuss or learn about. Pride Chat meetings are at Wilmot United Church at Carleton Street entrance, beginning at 7:30 pm.

## Fredericton Bar & Business Calendar

### BOOM! NIGHTCLUB

www.boomnightclub.ca

474 Queen Street

Thursdays - Retro night - 70s, 80s, 90s...

All dance mixes from a different decade each week. Open 4-1.

Fridays and Saturdays - Happy hour 4-9, All-extended-mix mainstream club music 9-2.

Sundays - New Brunswick's one and only T-dance! All-anthem dance music 4-7

## Halifax

### Every Sunday

Safe Harbour Metropolitan Community Church, 7:00 pm, Bloomfield Centre, 2786 Agricola Street, Suite 108

### Second Sunday of each month

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

### First and Third Tuesdays

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

### First and Third Tuesdays

LGB Youth Project Social Drop-in Nights. This is an unstructured event. It's a chance to hang out with old friends, make some new ones, and just talk about whatever, 6-9pm, 25 and under, 2281 Brunswick Street. Contact 429-5429, youthproject@youthproject.ns.ca, www.youthproject.ns.ca

### Second and Fourth Tuesdays

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

### Every Wednesday

An all gay men's bowling league is starting up in the new year and I am looking for any men who are interested in joining. 7pm to 9pm at The Bowlarama at Bayers Road Shopping Centre. If you are interested in joining contact Richard at 440-6729 after 4pm.

### First and Third Wednesdays

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

### Second and Fourth Wednesdays

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

### First Wednesday of each month

GAY FATHERS OF HALIFAX is a peer support group for gay and bisexual men. We meet on the 1st Wednesday of each month. We also get together for a monthly Pot Luck social. For more info contact Bruce @ 469 5490 or Gilles @ 448-3565 or email GayFathersHalifax@hotmail.com or visit our website at http://groups.msn.com/GayFathersOfHalifax If you are interested in facilitating meetings, organizing activities or simply meeting a great group of men, then send us an email.

### Second Wednesday of each month

Spirituality for Lesbians, 7:30-9PM. We seek to deepen our relationship with God, knowing that God loves us and calls us into life just as he has created us. Persons of every or no denomination are welcome. For info about the place of the next meeting call 459-2649 and leave name and number. Personal mailbox: confidentiality assured.

### Jan 5, 19, Feb 2, 16, March 2, 16, 30

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

### Jan 8, 22, Feb 5, 19, March 5, 19

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

### January 28

HALF WAY TO PRIDE 2006 - COME OUT and show you're true pride colors, meet this year's Pride Committee & be the first to see this year's logo and theme for Pride 2006. Check out www.reflectionscabaret.com or www.halifaxpride.com for more details.

## Halifax Bar & Business Calendar

### MENZ BAR

2104 Gottingen St, Halifax's Gay Village 902-446-6969 www.MENZBAR.ca

FREE INTERNET 7 DAYS A WEEK - with purchase of a drink

Sundays - Breakfast Brunch from Noon-3pm

Mondays - KARAOKE & Wings with KARAOKE - Mystery Jack Song, Win up to \$300

Toonies Tuesdays - \$2 OFF @ SeaDog's and More...

Wednesdays - KARAOKE & Wings with BEAR777 - Mystery Jack Song, win up to \$300

Friday Retro Party with DJ WOODY!

The PARTZ Dept & Pool Table on Level III Sat Jan 7th Leather Night - Boots to Balls with Mr. Menz Bar/ MAC Leather 2006 Boyd Gauvin

Fri Jan 14th Welcome Back DaOUT with DJ Woody

Sat Jan 14th I'm "Not" Going South Party Fri Jan 20th CowBoy Night, Dress Up & Win! see bartender for details

Sat Jan 21st Blue Collar Night, Dress Up & Win! see bartender for details

Fri Jan 27th Team Halifax Meet & Greet + Fundraiser

Sat Jan 28th MENZ BAR 1ST BIRTHDAY PARTY!!!!

Sat Feb 4th Leather Night - Bachelor Auction in support of MAC Leather Travel fund for IML

Fri Feb 10th Student Night with DJ Woody

Sat Feb 11th Valentine's Party

Fri Feb 17th CowBoy Night, Dress Up & Win! see bartender for details

Sat Feb 18th Blue Collar Night, Dress Up & Win! see bartender for details

FEB 24th to 26th WINTER CARNIVAL WEEK END

Fri Feb 24th The Real Canadian White Party I

Sat Feb 25th The Real Canadian White Party II

Sun Feb 26th TEAM HALIFAX Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser

FREE Meeting Room Available, call now to

reserve. 446-6969

## NRG2

www.clubnrgHalifax.com

Sundays- Big Show in the Main Room check: www.clubnrgHalifax.com for details

Monday Queer as Folk in Showtunes 11pm. Band/Jazz Night in Main Room check: www.clubnrgHalifax.com for details

Tuesday Classic Karaoke and Wings with Justin 10pm \$100 Cash Prize

Wednesday - Halifax Idol with Anita Mann and Annie Cockadoo 10pm \$100 Cash Prize

Thursday - Classic Karaoke and Wings with Justin 10pm \$100 Cash Prize

Friday DJ Laptop Spins 10pm

Saturday - DJ Laptop Spins 10pm

## REFLECTIONS

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

Monday \$Rockin for Dollar\$-open mic contest. We supply the gear, you supply the band. Compete for a chance to win lot's of cash, possibly up to \$1000! This runs from 10-2 with a \$2 cover followed by great dance music till 3:45 with DJ HedFones

Tuesday Karaoke with Troy Ward. \$100 Cash Prize every Tuesday. DJ HedFones follows with great dance music till 3:45 am no cover

Wednesday - Great live bands on stage till 1am followed by Retro night with DJ Electro and DJ Sapho till 3:45am

Thursday - LuLu LaRude hosts 5 Minutes of Fame - The anything goes Talent Show where we give away \$200 cash every Thursday. 10pm \$3. DJ HedFones till 3:45am.

Friday BUMP Fridays with Halifax's Premiere House DJ Sonny D. We continue to define the underground with the best house, techno, and breaks around! \$5 10pm to 3:45am

Saturday - Squir Saturdaye with DJ HedFones. The Ultimate dance night in the City of Halifax with Dance, Top 40, Pop, Retro, R & B, and more! 10pm to 3:45am \$5

Sunday - We feature either great dance music or drag shows, special events, etc... 10pm start. Cover varies.

## SEADOG'S SAUNA & SPA

2199 Gottingen Street, in the HEART of Halifax's Gay Village, Open Mon-Thu 4pm - 8am & 24hrs on Weekends, We accept VISA, M/C & Interac, 902-444-3647

www.SeaDogs.ca, Hours: Mon-Thu 4pm-1am & 24 Hour Week Ends Mondays - Student Night, free locker with valid I.D.

Tuesdays - LOCKERAMA, all lockers \$11 Wednesdays - Hump Night, 1/2 price pass with purchase of a room or locker

Thursdays - Naked Night, Towels optional! Early Bird Special - Sat and Sun 6am till Noon, Rooms are \$12 & Lockers are \$6

## Moncton

### Third Monday of each month

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

### Second and Fourth Mondays

# EVOLUTION CABARET

**Tuesdays**  
CLASSIC KARAOKE AND WINGS WITH JUSTIN  
\$100 CASH PRIZE 10PM

**Wednesdays**  
HALIFAX IDOL WITH ANNIE  
\$100 CASH PRIZE 10PM

**Thursdays**  
CLASSIC KARAOKE AND WINGS WITH JUSTIN  
\$100 CASH PRIZE 10PM

**Friday**  
KARAOKE WITH TASHA  
\$100 CASH PRIZE 10PM

**Fridays**  
TOMMY KNUCKLES SPINS  
\$5 COVER

**Saturdays**  
KARAOKE WITH KARLA  
\$100 CASH PRIZE 10PM

**Saturdays**  
a SELECTION OF THE FINEST GUEST DJS  
LOCALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY 10PM

**Sundays**  
BIG SUNDAY NIGHT SHOW  
10PM

**Sundays**  
BIG SUNDAY NIGHT SHOW  
10PM

For Reservations Call  
446-3644

Come in and check out our menu  
with delicious entrees and entertainment  
@ Blue Moon Bistro

Special Late Night Menu and Delivery  
Open Till 4am from Thursday - Saturday

2215 Gottingen Street  
Halifax, NS  
902-420-1323

**CLUB NRG**

For more details log on to  
www.clubnrgHalifax.com

The Sound.  
The Experience.  
The Difference.

WANT TO LIST AN EVENT FOR OUR READERS? SEND YOUR EVENTS DETAILS TO SUBMISSIONS@WAYVES.CA NOW! EVENT LISTINGS ARE FREE! MAKE SURE YOU INCLUDE CONTACT INFO!

# Events Calendar

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

**Last Saturday**

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

**Montréal**

**July 9 - August 5, 2006**

A group of Acadiens/Acadiennes from everywhere are planning to participate at the first Outgames Rendez Vous Montreal between July 29 until August 5, 2006. There will be dozens of gays and lesbians from all around the world who will participate at that cultural and sporting event. If you do your inscription before the end of 2004 you will have a reduction of your inscription fees. If you want to join our acadien team please contact [vworhobon@hotmail.com](mailto:vworhobon@hotmail.com)

**Saint John**

**Third Saturday**

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

**Saint John Bar & Business Calendar**

**BABYLON EAST**

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

The newest sociable gay bar in New Brunswick, on South Market Street.

**CLUB MONTREAL**

Wednesdays: No cover, free pool

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**St. John's - LGBT-MUN**

**Every Friday**

Coffee House: Every Friday, 12-2 (LGBT Office, 6th Floor UC, 6002) Every Friday we invite anyone and everyone to come to LGBT and enjoy a cup of Coffee or Tea (regular or herbal) with us

(members, non-members, etc). It's a great chance to vent, meet some new people, etc. Our office is located in UC-6022.

**Every Third Wednesday**

Amiba's Night! Amiba's is a bar in the same building as Quintana's De La Plaza, in Churchill Square. We get together and attend this venue on a regular basis, due to its closeness to MUN and the fact that these are "Student Saver Nights" (drinks are cheaper and there are free nachos with every drink!). Before going to the venue, people are asked to meet at LBGT-MUN at 4:30pm to head over (and to grab seats before everyone else - teehee). Make sure to wear some Pride stuff so we can tell that you're there to meet us! (Note: this venue is 19 years and older)

**St. John's Bar & Business Calendar**

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Mar 17-19

We're Here - We're Queer! GLBT Youth and Allies in Community

Mar 24-26

Chris Glaser - A Spirituality of Inclusion

Oct 25-27

Educating allies: Breaking the Cycle of Oppression

Oct 27-29

A Maritime "Rainbow Weekend"

**WAYVES DATES!**

Check out page two for Wayves deadlines

**Wileville**

see Bridgewater

**Wolfville**

**Every Second Tuesday**

Kings County Prostate Cancer Support Group, 7-9 pm in the East Kings Memorial Public Health Centre on Eamscliffe Ave in Wolfville. You can

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



# Word Power Answers

Answers to Quiz on p. 10

1. Opera Queen: (an easy one to start) b. an opera devotee.
2. Cherry Queen: b. to initiate a virgin into the mysteries of gay sex is the ultimate turn-on.
3. Shrimp Queen: d. enjoys sucking toes. Said to derive from the fact that a shrimp and a toe are similar in shape. The related verb is *shrimping*: to suck on toes.
4. Virgin Queen: c. gay who refuses anal intercourse until the relationship is firmly established. The result, as probably was the case with the original Queen Elizabeth, may well be life-long celibacy.
5. Vanilla Queen: b. a preference for vanilla sex (i.e., bland and unspiced only).
6. Dangle Queen: c. under his overly tight pants he wears boxer (or no) shorts.
7. Hand Queen: c. a gay whose preferred sexual release is masturbation.
8. Sniff Queen: a. regularly uses amyl nitrate during sex.
9. Size Queen: a. and d; its not really what you do with it that counts.
10. Mean Queen: b. into S & M.
11. Fish Queen: heterosexual male. In the 1960s Fish Queen was slang for a straight man who went into a bar frequented by lesbians hoping to find someone on whom he could perform cunnilingus.
12. Lace Queen: b. seeks males with foreskins (from *lace curtains*:

- uncircumcised foreskin).
13. Mitten Queen: d. likes to masturbate others; distinguish from Hand Queen.
  14. Bone Queen: b. fellator; the active partner in oral sex. Bone has long been a standard colloquialism for the penis, whether erect or not.
  15. Dairy Queen: d. syn. for *Unweaned Queen*; still in the oral stage (if necessary, brush up on your Freud).
  16. Swish Queen: b. an ultra-feminine gay who occasionally is to be seen in full drag.
  17. Fire Queen: c. or d. The term has two meanings: (1) a militant gay activist and (2) someone who burns other men for his sexual pleasure.
  18. Road Queen: a. gay hitchhiker; also called a *hitchpussy*.
  19. Queen Mary: b. large or obese gay. The allusion is presumably to the liner of the same name, at one time the largest ship afloat.
  20. Peeled Queen: c. circumcised; antonym of *Lace Queen*.

**Your Score**

- 17-20: put down the slang dictionaries and live a little
- 12-16: have the makings of another insufferable language queen
- 9-11: lots to learn, but well above average
- 4-8: join the majority
- 0-3: are you sure you're not straight?


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# AFA vs Ford vs Queers

NEW YORK (CNNMoney.com) - Ford Motor Co. faced sharp criticism from gay and lesbian advocacy groups for agreeing to stop advertising in gay-themed publications in the face of a boycott by the conservative American Family Association, according to a report Tuesday.

The AFA launched a boycott of Ford in May to protest marketing aimed at gay and lesbian consumers, the Detroit News said. The automaker responded by promising that most of its brands, with the exception of Sweden-based Volvo, will no longer target gay consumers through advertising.

After Ford's concession, gay and lesbian organizations argued that the automaker caved in to pressure from the religious right,

the paper said.

"We are deeply dismayed that Ford has entered into a confidential agreement with the extremist American Family Association that requires Ford to stop advertising in lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender media," a group of 17 gay and lesbian organizations said in a joint statement, according to the paper.

"If there is an agreement with AFA, we expect Ford to disavow it. We expect Ford to publicly reaffirm its historic support for our community. And, we expect



Ford to meet with LGBT representatives this week to resolve these concerns."

Ford said that it could market its products in a manner that was just as effective without offending consumers, according to the report.

"We reserve the right to advertise our brands and products wherever we think it makes business sense," Ojakli and Leitch wrote in a letter Monday to Suzanne Wait, head of Ford's gay and lesbian employee group, according to the paper.

Ford said its nondiscrimination policies covering employees, regardless of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation and cultural and physical differences, will not change.

# Re-opening Marriage Issue Risks Legal Quagmire

Constitutional experts reiterate that for Parliament to follow Stephen Harper's plan to eliminate the right of same sex couples to marry would require the use the Charter's notwithstanding clause.

"The Charter requires that marriage be equally available to couples without discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation", says University of Toronto law professor Brenda Cossman. "Rolling back the clock and re-defining marriage as the union of a man and a woman is unconstitutional."

Stephen Harper publicly opposes allowing same sex couples to marry. He also stubbornly maintains that it would not be legally necessary to use the notwithstanding clause to override the Charter's equality rights and protect a statutory definition of marriage that excludes same sex couples.

In January 2005, 134 law professors from across Canada released an open letter to Stephen Harper in which they challenged Mr. Har-

per's legal position. These professors stated unequivocally that excluding gays and lesbians from civil marriage would violate the Charter's equality rights guarantee, and require the notwithstanding clause.

The letter noted that courts in British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Newfoundland, Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia and the Yukon were unanimously of the view that a definition of marriage that excludes same-sex couples is unconstitutional. Since then, a New Brunswick decision brings the total to nine provinces and territories.

Parliament changed the definition of marriage to comply with the Charter by adopting the Civil Marriage Act, which received Royal Assent on July 20, 2005.

Yesterday, Mr. Harper indicated his support for new legislation which would restore the unconstitutional definition of marriage without the use of the notwithstanding clause.

"Right now we have a law that works well and is fully consistent with the Charter," says UQAM law professor Hugo Cyr. "Stephen Harper's proposed legislation would drag us into a legal quagmire that would take us through the courts again and wind up in one of two places - equal marriage or the notwithstanding clause. Do we really want to open this up again?"

"We have released our letter again so that Canadians understand the law and understand that Stephen Harper is disregarding the Constitution and disrespecting clear court decisions on this issue when he says he doesn't have to resort to the notwithstanding clause," says University of Ottawa law professor Martha Jackman. "Overriding people's Charter rights by using the notwithstanding clause is a chilling prospect. Legally, it is the nuclear option, one that thankfully Parliament has never before used."

Cont'd from Election, p. 7

Mulroney look like a socialist. We continue to need a strong progressive NDP voice to keep the Martin-Harper agenda on a leash.

Nothing if it is a minority win I would be upset...but what could I do? You vote with the person you want in mind. Others might not feel the same way. I just hope Canada is not blinded by his false promises.

If Stephen Harper is elected PM I will give thanks for a Liberal majority in the Senate. They can hold his feet to the fire, especially if he feels the need to dance around the marriage question again.

If by chance Stephen Harper is elected January 23rd, my plan is to keep up the pressure and be actively involved, as in the past, to make certain our rights are in place. This dangerous, right wing politician shall realize our strengths and our determination to fight for equal rights and opportunities. We can start by not voting in his favour. The battle will continue under his leadership. I shudder at the thought of having this intolerant, arrogant and homophobic individual as Prime Minister of Canada. Once in office, he may attempt to belittle us even further. One cannot trust such a person to have our interests at heart. Especially his heart.

Besides fear for our lives and safety? If the coldest, most hateful person running actually gets elected we will get our Minister to privately marry us the very next day and have our public wedding the day it is set for, February 10th.

Don't tell my boyfriend - but I may propose while I still have the chance!

The same as I do now, follow issues, make statements, email everyone and support as much as I can all those who can and are willing to assist me.

Myself probably nothing, I am still me and that's not going to change no matter who says I can or can't do certain things.

I truly don't think that is something that'll happen. Support for his Tory agenda won't get enough support to bring him a win.

I plan to do everything in my power to get him out of office by any method I can. I also plan to hold him accountable for the recent positive moves around gay marriage, gay rights, Canada Pension benefits for same sex couples and anything else pertaining to gay rights and those for people living with HIV.

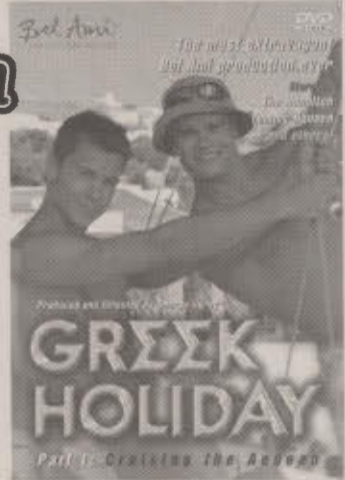
Well being a Newfoundlander I guess we would look at the Newfoundland republic of the PINK WHITE AND GREEN Quebec surely would want to leave and I guess we wouldn't be far behind. Maybe all the 4 Atlantic Provinces could join together as one republic with 4 states.

First cry. Then, organize

It might be a good thing to have a Conservative government in power, with a fascist at its helm. Much of the queer community in Canada has grown complacent and many people think that with the passage of same-sex marriage laws there is nothing left to strive for. It might take a Conservative win to motivate socially- and politically disinterested queers back to work. As for me, I don't plan to do anything different. I still speak my mind and sit at the front of the bus, no matter who's driving it.

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## Reflections from a Same-Gender Wedding

By Rev. Eldon Hay  
Same gender weddings aren't new anymore. And are likely to become even more commonplace, despite Stephen Harper's statements.

Still, a few reflections on one such Nova Scotia wedding, in which I participated recently. Actually, I'd planned to officiate at this event,

but United Church congregational politics rudely interfered. A minor

glitch, for Alan Stewart, a Justice of the Peace from Halifax, stepped into the officiant's role; I was happy to assist. Alan did the heavy lifting, there were a few matters around the edges where I contributed.

A couple of these contributions came from the wedding duo; contributions talking about dust... and a broom.

Dust, in the scripture readings. The two to-be-wed wanted the well known reading from I Corinthians 13 about love - very appropriate, and not surprising. In addition, a selection from Mark 6,

unusual. This selection deals with the words of Jesus to his disciples, when he sent them out to teach and heal, door to door. Apparently, Jesus knew that not all doors would be open and welcoming: "... if any place will not receive you and they refuse to hear you, when you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet..." This selection was particularly meaningful for me, the minor officiant. Barred by religious office-holders from participating, the negativity was shaken off and, thanks

to Bill C-38 and Alan Stewart, the wedding went forward. What the church denies legalistically, the state can render, gracefully.

A broom. Actually, jumping the broom. At the conclusion of the formal ceremony - vows said, rings exchanged - the newly weds jumped the broom, with pride. This ritual is African-based, utilized particularly during slavery. During slavery, marriage vows between blacks were not legally sanctioned. During slavery, blacks sought the legitimacy of marriage by jumping over the broom. This

act, beneath the radar screen of legality, linked the couple with their African past. It also joined the families of the individuals becoming a couple, showing respect and homage to those who came before, paving the way. Here again, until very recently, it was not possible for gays to be wed. Beneath the radar screen of respectability - illegal.

No more. The act reminded the participants of the new situation - what had once been the preserve of heterosexual couples was now open to homosexual duos, as well. Jumping the broom, with pride.

Same gender weddings are not unusual anymore; but they can be bearers of new meanings, fresh insights.



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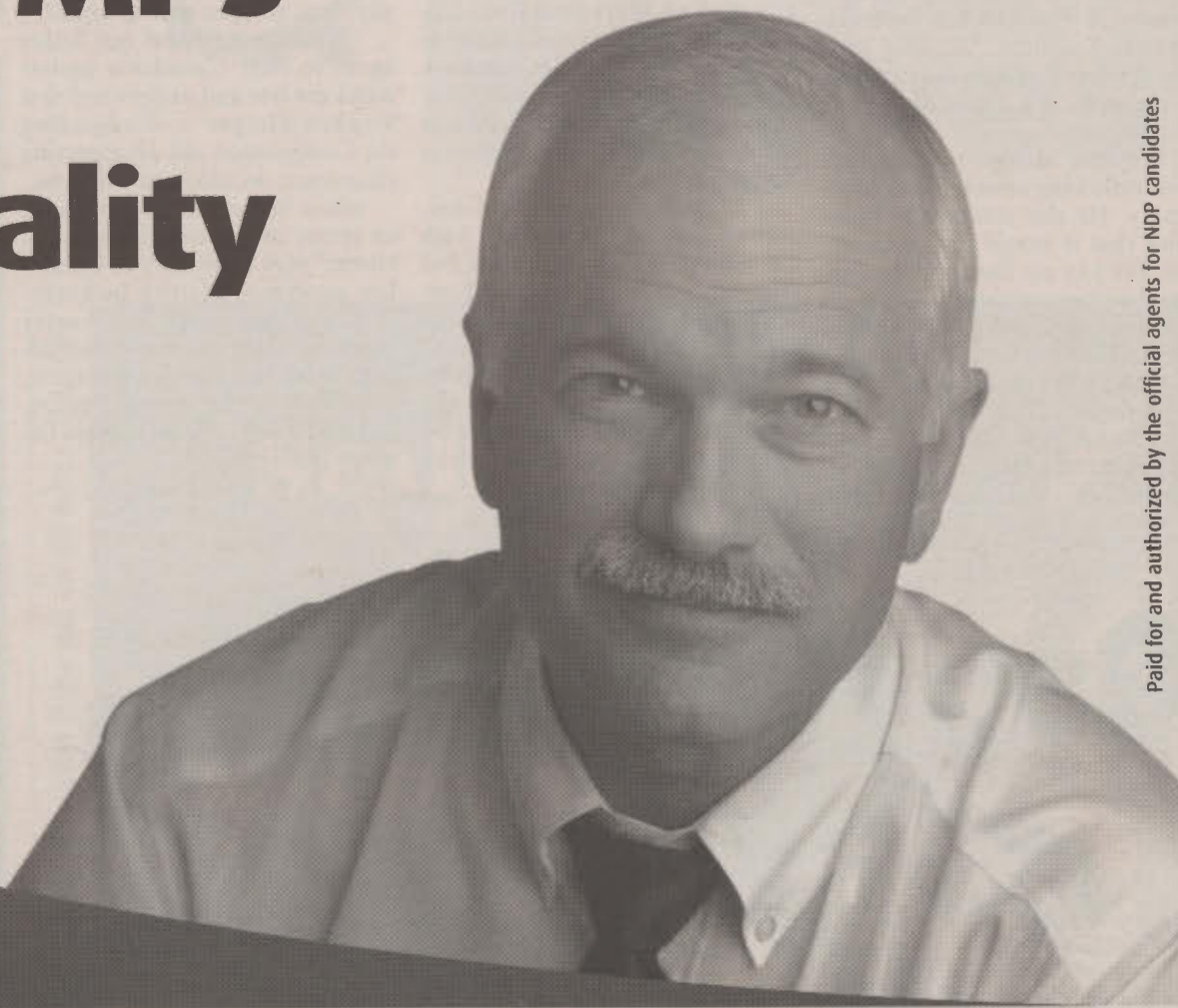
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