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# WAWES

January/February 2007 for atlantic canadians



**Plus:**

- Warm Winter Reading
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- punoqun returns!

## AIDS VIGILS

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# Brought to you by...

- Bill McKinnon  
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## punoqun 2007 Call For Submissions

It's been on hiatus for a few years, but it's back. *punoqun* is reborn and unbound, Atlantic Canada's literary annual, written by Atlantic Canadians and published by Wayves.

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 Original, unpublished work from all four Atlantic provinces is encouraged.

Fiction and creative non-fiction submissions should be no longer than 1,500 words; 500 word maximum for poetry. Manuscripts can be e-mailed to [punoqun@wayves.ca](mailto:punoqun@wayves.ca) as attachments or text directly within the e-mail. If submitting by postal mail, manuscripts must be typed double-spaced on 8 1/2 x 11 paper. If you wish to use a pseudonym on your work, please provide your real name, which will not be used, in addition to the pseudonym.

Winners of the competition will be announced during a gala fête on September 28th, 2007.

Deadline for submissions is Thursday, July 27th, 2007. If submitting by postal mail, please postmark by this date to Wayves, P.O. Box 34090, Scotia Square, Halifax, NS, B3J 3S1.

### Important WAYVES Dates!

#### Issue Content Deadlines:

Feb 2 (for March), Mar 2, Apr 6,

May 4, Jun 1, Jul 6

(the first Friday of each month)

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

#### Production Meetings (Halifax)

Dec 4, Feb 5, Mar 5, Apr 9, May 7, Jun 4

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

#### Layout Parties (Halifax)

Feb 11, Mar 11, Apr 15, May 13, Jun 10,

Jul 15

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:

Dec 23, Feb 24, Mar 24, Apr 28, May 26,

Jun 23, Jul 27

### wayves

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

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

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

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#### How to reach us...

#### wayves

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Halifax, Nova Scotia

B3J 3S1

[submissions@wayves.ca](mailto:submissions@wayves.ca)

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

## Where You Can Find wayves

### New Brunswick...

Bathurst: Gais.es Nor Gays

Durham Bridge: Rivers Edge Campground

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: Curwin News; Joe Moka Café; Reid's Newstand; SIDA/AIDS Moncton; Timothy's World Coffee; Triangles; United Book Exchange, Mountain Road; X-Citement Video Riverview: Reid's - Riverview

Sackville: Mount Allison; Tidewater Books

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

### 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; 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: Sexual Health Centre - Lunenburg County

Canning: Canning Library

Dartmouth: Adult Cash & Carry; Café Tryst; CD Heaven; Healing

Our Nations; Jake's Video & Variety; Libraries - Alderney Gate,

Cole Harbour, Dartmouth, Woodlawn; Nova Scotia Government

Employees Union; Novel Tease; X-Citement Video, Main Street

Halifax: AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia; Accent Gallery; Alteregos

Café; Atlantic News Stand; Blowers Street Paperchase; Blue Moon

Bistro; Bookmark; Buy the Book and More; CD Plus; CKDU Radio;

Counseling and Community Support Services; DALOUT; Dal-Tech;

Daily Grind; Diamond; FRED; 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; Reflections; Room2Move Fitness; Seadogs

Spa; Second Cup - Spring Garden; Shoe Shop; SUB, Dal and St. Mary's;

Sweet Jane's; Teletech; The Donut Machine; Venus Envy; Video Dif-

ference; 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-Cite-

ment Video

Lunenburg: Elizabeth's Books; Second Story Women's Centre

Middleton: Mark Rutherford; 92 Balcom Crescent, Nictaux

Musquodoboit Harbour: wayves Advertising, 1030 Ostrea Lake

Road

New Glasgow: Pictou County Women's Centre Pictou: Pictou Li-

brary

Port Williams: Port Williams Public Library

Sydney: AIDS Coalition; Cape Breton Pride Committee; Family

Service of Eastern Nova Scotia; 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

Windsor: Readers Haven

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

### Prince Edward Island...

Charlottetown: AIDS PEI; Afternoon Delight; Reading Well Bookstore; That's Entertainment!

### Elsewhere

Edmonton: Buddy's / Woody's / Steamworks

Prince George, BC: GALA-North Society

Vancouver: Little Sisters

Winnipeg: Rainbow Resource Centre

Guelph: Out on the Shelf

Ottawa: After Stonewall; One-in-Ten

Toronto: Glad Day Bookshop; Out on the Street

Regina: LGBT2A Centre, University of Regina

## \$5,800 Raised at Youth Project Auction

By Bill McKinnon

It was a classy event. The wonderful thing about the LGB Youth Project auction on Nov 26 is that there are so many wonderful things to say about it. It's about the extraordinary variety and quality of auction items donated by so many generous members of the Community, the great bargains the buyers enjoyed even after a lively succession of bids, the chance to buy superb Christmas gifts for little money, the intimate ambiance of Menz Bar on a Sunday afternoon among a crowd of friendly LGBTs anxious to support LGB youth, the fun of it all, the hard-working vol-

unteers, and last but-not-least the charm, humour and skill of Doug Melanson as auctioneer and host.

Others to whom the auction chair Mike Williams extended thanks include Edie Hancock, Blaine Johnson, Craig Walkington, Nancy Wright, Lawrence Roche and Marion Brown.

There were so many quality goods and services for sale: appliances, artwork, clothing, food, furniture, gift baskets, glassware, paintings, personal and professional services, restaurant meals, sporting goods, stays in hotels/inns/resorts, tickets for entertainment, utensils and much more, too

numerous to list.

The auction raised a total of about \$5,800 including \$1,050 from the silent auction; the total proceeds exceeded last year's by about \$1,500.

If you missed this year's auction, put it in your calendar for next year and you will be glad you did.

The Youth Project's mission is "to make Nova Scotia a safer, healthier and happier place for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered youth through support, education, resource expansion and community development". The auction helps.

## New Exec for Hfx Pride...

By Co-Chairs Tamara Matheson and Michael Davies-Cole

It is our pleasure to introduce the new Pride executive for Halifax Pride 2007.

This year's Pride Committee is a good mix of seasoned veterans and dedicated rookies, all of whom are eager to make Pride 2007 a success.

As always, Halifax Pride wants to hear from you. What is Pride to you? What do you want out of Pride 2007? The more ideas, energy and help we get from you,

the bigger and better Pride will be. The Pride executive is here as a guide, looking to draw a vision of Pride from the larger community. We then work very hard with our many partners to make that vision a reality. The muscle that moves Pride forward every year comes from our great volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering with Pride, please e-mail Trent Slaunwhite or visit the "Volunteer" page at [www.halifaxpride.com](http://www.halifaxpride.com). We are also looking for your input on

a theme for Halifax Pride 2007. If you have any ideas for a theme, please check out the newly updated "Contact Us" page on our website and send us your ideas. The submission deadline is Dec 15th.

In closing, we would like to thank everyone who has helped out in the past year for a great Halifax Pride 2006. We look forward to continuing to build upon the great foundations of past Prides and making Halifax Pride 2007 even better.

## ... and ISCANS

Their Most Imperial and Sovereign Majesties Emperor & Empress VII Cousin Cletus and Natassha N! of The 7th Imperial House Of "Wooden Slats and Jerri Hats - Raising Money One Dollar At A Time (I Do Believe We Are Gettin' The Vapours)" are honoured to announce their new executive elected at Menz Bar, Sunday December 3 during their Annual General Meeting.

Prime Minister: Jerry Lutz  
Premier: Gary Turner  
Minister of Communications: Jason Keddy (Jase Ni)  
Minister of Finance: Brandon Handley  
Minister of Elections: Lee Bent  
Minister of Events: Clarence Butler  
Minister of Coronation: Ed Savage (Boom Boom)  
Minister of Protocol: Sheldon Myete (Romanoff Blake)  
Vol-

unteer Coordinator: Bruce Hayre (Mz Vicki)

Natassha N! says this group represents a wealth of energy and signals a significant change in the administration of ISCANS. Fundraising and festivities have already begun with the 3rd Annual Christmas Diva Balls Auction raising over \$400 for Reign VII chosen charities with more to come in the near future.

## ... and M.A.C. Leather

Since taking on the challenge of rebuilding the Society three months ago, the new executive has been busy working on its master plan for the next year as well as taking steps for a review of the bylaws, membership criteria, and regional committees. The executive will be hosted by at-large representatives in all major cities of the region during which a meeting will take place along with an event/fundraiser.

Plans include St. John and Charlottetown in January and Moncton in February. All event dates will be posted on our website as well as appear in our Wayves monthly updates. Other cities to be included on the roadshow itinerary will be Halifax, Bathurst/Petit-Rocher, Fredericton and hopefully Sydney. The Society will be participating all Pride celebrations as well.

We appreciate the support of

GNG and the opportunity to hold our next competition "9" on September 2 at Camp Ectus in Petit Rocher during their annual Pride Celebrations.

The Society will also be updating its membership lists from previous lists and encourages all new inquiries to Society Secretary Paul LeBlanc, [chinman52@hotmail.com](mailto:chinman52@hotmail.com).



**Wayves Magazine exists to inform Atlantic Canadian LGBTTIQ people, its friends and supporters of activities in their communities, to promote those activities and support their aims and objectives. How are we doing? What can we do to make Wayves a better community magazine? You Tell Us at [www.wayves.ca](http://www.wayves.ca)**

## Half Way To Pride

Reflections Cabaret will be holding the 4th Half Way to Pride Saturday January 20th. \$1 of cover going to Pride Committee's 2007 celebration plans. Other Half Way to

Pride weekend events include DJ Sultan and Sam Keating spinning on Friday night and Sunday drag show hosted by Lulu LaRude and Rouge Fatale Mz. Gay Halifax.

## New Exec Director for AIDS Coalition of NS

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA - The AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia (ACNS) has a new Executive Director. With 10 years of experience in community-based AIDS work, Maria MacIntosh assumed her new responsibilities as Executive Director on October 25th, 2006.

Ms. MacIntosh brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to the position. More than 10 years ago, she began her journey in community-based AIDS work with the AIDS Coalition of Cape Breton. Her roles with ACCB included: Board Chair, staff member, and Coordinator of the Cape Breton Walk for Life. Shortly after completing her undergraduate degree, she worked for a number of years with the Cape Breton Health Care Complex in the area of health promotion. Prior to being selected as the new Executive Director for ACNS, Ms. MacIntosh served as the Program Coordinator at ACNS since 2002.

Ms. MacIntosh is excited to be in

the position of Executive Director and eager to provide the leadership and vision the position requires. She hopes to further the growth of the organization in new and innovative ways. She values and takes a community-based approach to her work. Says MacIntosh, "I am looking forward to working with our membership and community partners in the years to come to further enhance and expand the range of services that we offer to our membership."

Both the staff and board of ACNS are pleased with Ms. MacIntosh's decision to accept the Executive Director position. "We hired the best person possible for the job," says Mike Sangster, Board Chair for ACNS. "We have always been pleased with her performance and that she has proven time and again that she can do the job." Maria MacIntosh replaces Robert Allan, who was involved in community-based AIDS work for more than 17 years.

## Truro AIDS Vigil

The Northern AIDS Connection Society (NACS) works hard to fight against the discrimination and stigma that is still attached to HIV/AIDS. The NACS promotes the health and well-being of persons living with and those affected by HIV/AIDS and assists in reducing the spread of HIV through education, support and advocacy within northern Nova Scotia.

We have been busy with AIDS Awareness Week, giving presentations to schools and organizations within northern Nova Scotia.

The NACS proudly displayed a section of the AIDS Quilt on Friday December 1 from 10 am to 3 pm at the Truro Community College, Frasier Building. There were also sections of the Quilt exhibited in Cumberland and Pictou Counties.

The Society has had an incredibly busy month. We are very excited about the partnership we have formed with NSAC which has helped to secure a new Operations Coordinator.

We welcome Heather Patriarche to our organization. Heather is the first paid staff position we have had, so we can now offer full-time office hours for anyone who wants to reach us.

We would like to thank everyone who came out to walk and support our Walk for Life Campaign. Northern AIDS Connection Society raised \$15,000, including in-kind donations. Way to Go Northern Nova Scotia!

The NACS has recently received funding from the Truro & Area Community Health Board. This money will go to hosting a family support group for people in the Truro area dealing with grief relating to HIV/AIDS. Please contact us for information on this project.

Our new office hours are from 10 am to 4 pm. If you are interested in volunteering with the NACS, then please contact: Heather Patriarche 902-895-0931, email [nacs.coordinator@ns.aliantzinc.ca](mailto:nacs.coordinator@ns.aliantzinc.ca) or visit our web site at <http://nacsns.tripod.com>

# Response To Empty Tables

Last month Wayves ran the following letter with accompanying photo. Below we publish a response on behalf of all the Atlantic Canadian regional AIDS groups.

*The attached photo was sent to me by a young woman who attended the Toronto conference. As you can see, Atlantic Canada is not well-represented by an empty table with garbage on it.*

*This photo was taken on the first day of the conference. On the second day, a Newfoundland group did have a display in place, but no other groups were represented. I can't help but wonder: which groups signed-up to participate, how much did this cost?*

*I was at the conference myself, and found the Global Village to be a hub of activity - totally amazing. I found it embarrassing that Atlantic Canada should be so represented.*

## Atlantic Community AIDS Groups Respond

While this picture does not truthfully reflect the cooperative spirit of Atlantic Canada's community-based AIDS organizations (CBAO's), it does provide an opportunity to talk about the work we're engaged in and the particular challenges we face. While Atlantic CBAOs have always supported efforts to fight AIDS internation-

ally, our primary focus is on trying to meet the needs of people living with HIV/AIDS here at home. The chief benefit for us in attending a conference such as Toronto's is to obtain knowledge and skills to enhance our programs; we have

*While Atlantic CBAOs have always supported efforts to fight AIDS internationally, our primary focus is on trying to meet the needs of people living with HIV/AIDS here at home.*

little enough opportunity for such capacity building in the region. Although we communicate often with one other, the enormous distances we face, even within our own jurisdictions, make collaborations and face-to-face meetings an expensive luxury.

Acting on behalf of all Atlantic CBAOs, the AIDS Committee of Newfoundland & Labrador (ACNL) took the lead in staffing the booth. SIDA/AIDS Moncton (SAM) & AIDS Saint John also participated. Unfortunately, none of us arrived in Toronto with time to set up before the Global Village opened. As soon as possible, we

made sure that posters, brochures, and manuals were all available at the booth. The packed schedule of workshops and meetings meant staff were not always free; when no one could remain with the booth, the materials (those that remained)

were left on display. Supplying the huge volumes of materials needed at such a conference was an enormous challenge, both logistical and financial. SAM brought

hundreds of key chain/condom holders that were gone within the first hour. We received 300 requests for copies of one particular manual, which, at \$30 per manual to produce, would have cost us \$9000! Whether the ACNL, SAM, AIDS Saint John, the AIDS Coalitions of Nova Scotia, of Cape Breton, Healing Our Nations, AIDS New Brunswick, AIDS PEI, — Atlantic CBAOs just don't have those kind of funds.

Because of the expense of flights, hotels and meals, for an Atlantic CBAO to send even one delegate to Toronto cost between \$1,800 and \$2,000. For that person to take

15,000 copies of a \$5 brochure would cost an additional \$75,000! Some of the expenses associated with attending the conference were covered by scholarships and grants; the cost of producing and shipping support material we bore ourselves.

As this article goes to press, World AIDS Day and AIDS Awareness Week will have just passed. Such commemorations are important, but our work goes on all year. Atlantic Canadian CBAOs provide workshops on prevention and treatment, working hard to reach a linguistically and culturally diverse population, often in remote, rural communities. We develop and produce social marketing campaigns to combat HIV stigma, promote safer sex and reach out to at-risk communities. Most importantly, we provide support for Atlantic Canadians living with HIV/AIDS, ranging from health funds and complementary alternative therapies to counseling services, breakfast programs and peer support groups and drop-ins. All of these services come with costs. Already we seem to spend half our working days on fund-raising



to provide those services that we wish we could be providing 100% of the time.

We might wish to have heard directly from whomever took this picture (we all like to believe our doors are always open); still, we're grateful for this chance to respond. Perhaps this response can serve as an open invitation to folks from outside of our organizations with an interest in HIV/AIDS to come and see us. Drop in and learn more about your local CBAO. Your input and support are always very, very welcome. Can we use your help? You bet we can!

The Aids Committee of Newfoundland & Labrador; Aids Committee of Western Newfoundland; Aids Coalition of Cape Breton; Northern AIDS Connection Society of Nova Scotia; Healing Our Nations; AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia; AIDS PEI; SIDA AIDS Moncton; AIDS Saint John, and AIDS New Brunswick.

# More Thoughts on "AIDS: A Gay Disease?"

If the Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Centre wanted only to provoke debate, their campaign, featuring the slogan "AIDS is a gay disease. Own it. End it.", would have to be deemed a remarkable success. It certainly generated lots of talk north of the 49th Parallel. Last month, most respondents to Wayves' "You Tell Us" question firmly rejected the notion. Atlantic Community Based AIDS Organizations (CBAOs) decided to work together to provide a response to this campaign, with the hope of provoking further discussion.

Those working in the field of HIV/AIDS might feel that while the LA campaign was not "without merit," it would not work in Canada until there was a change of political will. As one source noted, "Already the government wants little to do with anything gay, and with the reopening of the marriage debate, the problems with Insite [Vancouver's safe injection site for injecting drug users, or IDUs] and the non-support for Harm Reduction Philosophies, we can fully see where the federal government is situated."

Atlantic Canada's CBAOs have also been wrestling with the issue. With their federal counterparts, they share concerns about the impact which this style of campaign would have on women, youth, Aboriginal peoples, and other groups at risk. "What becomes of them," asked one, "if we adopt an exclusive 'gay' membership to HIV/AIDS?" Of particular con-

cern for Atlantic CBAOs are challenges associated with the delivery of prevention messages to largely rural populations of considerable linguistic and cultural diversity. In rural areas, separating AIDS from culturally-ingrained stigmas against homosexuality, and increasing the understanding of HIV/AIDS as a disease of the immune system, have been seen as a matter of necessity. "We have been preaching that the virus doesn't care who you are, where you live, the colour of your skin or who you choose as a partner...HIV/AIDS truly does affect us all."

In the 1980's, gay activists knew that to grab the attention of the rich and powerful (and straight), they had to stress that AIDS was not just a gay men's disease. Additionally, it was important to say that "AIDS is not a gay disease" as part of campaigning to get other groups, like young women and heterosexual men, to recognize their risk of HIV transmission. Yet 25 years into the epidemic, statistics continue to show that HIV/AIDS in North America is overwhelmingly a disease affecting gay men, and other men who have sex with men (msm): 75% of reported cases across Canada; 75% of the reported cases in Nova Scotia and PEI, 60% of cases in New Brunswick and Newfoundland & Labrador. And after a few years of a decline in numbers, infections among gay men and msm have begun rising again, slowly but surely.

In an article in Xtra! West,

Phillip Banks of AIDS Vancouver writes: "At the International Conference on AIDS in Toronto while significant attention was finally given to the impact of HIV on women and girls, in Africa and in other populations. ... so little was paid to gay men that a separate conference had to be organized to ensure gay men's HIV-related issues would be addressed. Is the only way to include other communities in the HIV agenda to bump us off of it?"

"In Canada, research institutions like the BC Centre for Excellence in HIV have virtually abandoned gay men in their research agenda. In countries where HIV is assumed to be exclusively a heterosexual disease, men who have sex with men are not getting access to information. They're not getting access to [treatment]. And they are certainly not telling [health officials] that they're having sex with men ... not if it means they won't get any health care. Not if it means they might end up in jail. And definitely not if it means they could end up dead at the hands of the state or other community members.

"It's one thing to say that HIV is not just a gay disease. It's another thing to say HIV is not a gay disease. If we don't act in our own

interests I'm not sure we can expect anyone else to."

Perhaps the LA campaign allows us a chance to step back and re-examine how the social marketing of the AIDS epidemic over the last 25 years has affected gay men. Has the implicit message that AIDS is not a gay disease changed how gay men feel about it? Has it been a factor in 'AIDS fatigue' in the gay community? Has it affected how gay men perceive their own risk? One local AIDS worker asks: "When did we stop fighting the reality behind our fear of debating

unite with other affected populations? Aren't we all fighting to dismantle barriers of homophobia, stigma, racism, ageism and heterosexism in our own communities and around the world? If gay men do not rise again to make our voices heard, don't we risk others coming forward to speak for us? 25 years into the epidemic, is it not still true that silence = death?"

It seems only proper to allow the final thoughts to come from the LA campaign. Here are excerpts from their website's "What You Can Do" section: "Break the silence on HIV by talking with your friends about the disease · Openly discuss drug use, including crystal meth, and how it contributes to HIV infection · Support your friends in their safer sex behaviour · Support the health and well being of HIV positive gay and bisexual men · Fight the stigma that forces many HIV positive men to hide their disease · Get involved politically to let your elected representative know that HIV continues to affect our community disproportionately and that funding for effective prevention programs is badly needed"

A majority of community based AIDS organisations in Atlantic Canada contributed to writing this article. We apologize to any groups we could not reach before it went to press.

*When did we stop fighting ... the homophobia and heterosexism which loom behind the stigma and discrimination faced by people living with HIV/AIDS?*

this issue--the fear that, because of a lack of resources, we haven't been able to do enough [about] the homophobia and heterosexism which loom behind the stigma and discrimination faced by people living with HIV/AIDS?"

If gay men own at least their share of the disease, as the LA campaign exhorts, does that deny ownership to women, Aboriginal peoples and other at risk groups? If we re-invest in the fight against HIV, doesn't that empower us to

# Iranian Fugitive Speaks At UNBSJ

By Donald Breen

Throughout the world, gays and lesbians are still fighting for equal rights, to prove to society that they are no more different than straights are. In some countries such as Iran, being gay or lesbian can result in execution.

On Sunday, November 26, at the University of New Brunswick, Saint John, a nearly full lecture theatre remained coldly silent, as Arsham Parsi, Secretary General of the Iranian Queer Organization (IRQO), formerly the Persian Gay and Lesbian Organisation (PGLO), spoke to a mixed crowd of both straights and gays, discussing the death warrant on his head, as well as on the heads of contemporaries who are either LGBTQ or accused of being LGBTQ.

Mr. Parsi was the guest of the UNBSJ's Q-Collective, an LGBTQ support and social organization on the Tucker Park campus, in the city's north end.

Because of the sensitive topic, and to allay the concerns of students who are not yet "out", the Q-Collective did not promote this event widely, only by email and word of mouth. Even so, people drove from as far away as the Hub City, Moncton, to show their support and to learn of the atrocities taking place.

Organisers asked those attending the lecture to pre-register by phone or email. Mack MacKenzie, spokesperson and an executive member of Q-Collective explained, "I had no plans to refuse entry to anyone. I do however want to protect our constituents here at the university, and members of the LGBTQ community at UNBSJ." MacKenzie added that he was "grateful for the tremendous support from the university's Administration, Security, and the Saint

John's LGBTQ community."

The event went smoothly, except for the overwhelming sense of horror many felt when graphic images of young men and women who were hanged were projected on the screen in larger than life form. Swollen and blackened eyes, and multiple lash marks on the backs of tortured LGBTQ prisoners were just some of the images Parsi showed his stunned audience. Parsi's presentation, titled: "Don't Abandon Iranian Queers" moved most to tears, but he cautioned that we should not judge Muslims world-wide, only the Islamic regime in the country he obviously still cares very deeply for.

One Iranian student reminded the mostly domestic audience that his beautiful country has 25 centuries of history, and though things are bad today for his lesbian and gay brothers and sisters, it was his country which gave human rights to the world in the days of Persia. Hossein Moghtaderi, a first year science student from Shiraz, Iran, was so moved by the event that he announced his support of the UNBSJ Q-Collective and offered to join to help other international students who are dealing with sexual orientation and/or gender identity issues. He proudly proclaimed that "I am afraid of nothing now that I am in Canada except my beautiful God."

Moghtaderi agreed with his fellow countryman and added that the western world must know what goes on in Iran. Parsi told the room that "we must stop deporting Iranian gays and lesbians, especially the Dutch and British governments, who seem to be doing it the most."

Canada seems to display more and more support for "freedom." Parsi said, "If we didn't have Canada, I don't know what we would do."

His organisation is neither a political group nor a religious sect, rather it is one which promotes human rights for all, regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, colour, religion or gender identity.

Some in crowd shed tears in disbelief, as he went on. He stated that his organisation opposes any military action in Iran. According to Parsi, there is homophobia in Iran but "violence does not bring freedom."

He went on to tell the audience how hard it is for gays not being accepted, and not just by the government and their political policies, but by many families who reject their LGBT children.

In a question and answer session following the presentation, many in the audience as well as Parsi, acknowledged that Canadians must not become complacent about the rejection which still exists in this country, some of which is sanctioned by the current government.

Currently the Iranian government has blocked the IRQO website so Parsi is hoping IRQO

can upgrade their internet radio site to provide information to his homeland.

After a death warrant was issued for Parsi he fled Iran making his way to Turkey and eventually to Canada. He freely admits that his current freedom comes with a price, a sort of "tax" which he says he must pay by giving of his time and resources to help others in Iran. "Living in a free country and having freedom has its price too".

Parsi cares about his home country of Iran and hopes one day he can return to it; meanwhile, he hopes to continue his work,

Cont'd to p. 14



With the Iranian flag as a backdrop, UNBSJ Q-Collective Executive Chair Mack MacKenzie introduces guest speaker Mr. Arsham Parsi, Secretary General of the PGLO in an Oland Hall Lecture theatre on the Saint John campus of UNB.

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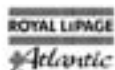
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## Crawford Hastie's KIBITZ AND BITEH

Happy New Year Tom!

Well, we made it through another year, my friend. That, by itself, deserves some applause, don't you think? The god Janus who gives his name to the first month of the year, was pictured as two-faced - not because he spread gossip behind the backs of his friends but because he looked both back at the past and forward to the future and so it seems a kind of natural result to become a bit reflective, to assess where we are, where we want to be at this time of year.

(It's also the time to discreetly get rid of unwanted Christmas gifts. Know anybody who would want a sequined pocket protector? Beware of geeks bearing gifts.)

The other day when I was out shopping for Porcelana for Dr. M's birthday, I was reminded of the changes that have shown up in recent years. Take Dr. M, for example, who admits to spending most of his younger years tom catting around, blithely following the penis imperative, but who is now happily coupled with Horatio. They even have a shared e-mail address - not as committed, perhaps, as a joint bank account, but still much nicer than matching bowling jackets. And lots of other happy couples (I try so hard not to sound bitter, Tom!) like B. and Milosh. Or Nicola and the Heartful Dodger - who married with rhinestones on their Birkenstocks; now, that's style! Same-sex marriage seemed like a pipe dream only short years ago. My inner Mame always encourages me to remain hopeful. This stance would be significantly more difficult to maintain if one were American; their president seems to have adopted a Nero-like pose of fiddling with popularity polls, oblivious to the Bush fires raging around him. You can see him visibly longing for the days when terrorism was his best political ally. Nostalgia can so easily become addiction.

In Canada, we finally have a leader of the Liberal party, so who knows what changes may now come. Our own MP, Scott Brison, recently posed in the buff for a charity calendar - with only an open fridge door to maintain the privacy act. Can one get frostbite from standing too close to the meat keeper? It's important to take risks, Tom.

At the age of 50-something, one begins to contemplate 60, a milestone which seems impossible to apply to one's self. Fortunately one has time to become acclimatized to this cold reality. But, while aging is inevitable, growing up is optional and I quite simply refuse to do it. I don't mean pretending that time isn't passing. I don't want to be a Joan Rivers with her ostrich head stuck in the sand - or her face under a plastic surgeon's scalpel. I'm talking about attitude, Tom, about

moving forward into life with arms wide open. I aspire to be the 90-year-old who begins learning Polish, or takes up juggling or water skiing (as soon as I learn to swim!) There is a foolish idea that with age comes wisdom whereas I find life just as puzzling and unpredictable as I did at the age of 6. Those who expect me to start acting "sensibly" any time soon are doomed to disappointment.

It is traditional to make New Year's resolutions but the only one I make each year is to try and be kinder, gentler with myself. To remind myself of how far I've come rather than measuring my journey on someone else's map. It's not always easy to struggle against the prevailing notions of success and beauty, to keep a sense of self-worth in an Entertainment Tonight world, but the attempt is what counts.

Planning ahead is half the battle. I keep champagne in the fridge in case of unexpected celebrations, and vodka in the freezer for everyday emergencies. I sit down for dinner, even when I'm alone and often use the "good" dishes. I don't wait for company to buy flowers or burn scented candles. I make new friends but never let go of the old ones - having someone who remembers who you were as well as knowing who you are can be a comfort and a steadying influence. Since most regrets are about what we didn't do, my motto is: if in doubt, DO IT!

I celebrate every occasion and enjoy creating new reasons to rejoice and revel - there aren't enough of them.

Okay, enough of the Grandpa Walton routine dispensing sage advice from the porch. (By the way, did you know Will Geer was a member of the rainbow tribe, Tom?) Time to go spend a little quality time in the shower with my new loofah - I've named it Sven since I like to imagine it is a Swedish carpenter with work-roughened hands who is helping me exfoliate. If only it could be followed up by an après sauna beating with birch twigs or a naked chase through the snow. You may call it unrealistic fantasy; I prefer the term "creative visualization". Remember, a dirty mind is a terrible thing to waste.

Love ya!

*Crawford*

## Transgender Diaries XII



By Denise Holliday

Looking in the mirror over the years I grew up, I only ever related to my eyes. Everything else was male and like foreign territory to me--a little bit like driving a company car: you have all the responsibility of maintenance yet no say in anything else. So you get in everyday and drive as safely as you can, all the time aware that it is not yours. The gears, engine and even fuel are against everything you believe is right for you. While in the past I had put on female clothing, I always felt I looked so masculine that I had to take it back off, then just sit, sick to my stomach and often in tears. I did not want to live as a man but I also had no desire to live as a man dressed as a woman. Passing was a concept I had never heard of but fully understood. Seeing my face in the mirror with a wig and make-up gave me my first small look at what I could accomplish. It was a shock and left me more than a little perturbed. A few weeks later I was invited to a gathering that was strictly social. It was to be the first time I had actually gone out completely Denise. I, as usual, dressed at the print shop and left. Upon arriving I walked in and turned to remove my coat. On the wall was a large mirror that I am sure was beautiful, but all I saw was a Lady in her fifties, dressed really nicely and with what I thought was a beautiful smile. Unfortunately as our eyes met and the truth sank deeper into my brain, she started to cry.

Keeping my face turned away from folks, I dashed to the bathroom to recover, only to be met by her again there in the bathroom mirror. Never in my wildest dreams had I ever imagined this. Warts and all, I thought she was beautiful anyway. That was my reaction to ME. After a great evening of coffee and cakes I left and arrived home to be met by my spouse. She looked over at me and dashed into the kitchen. Later she was to share that although she had seen Him dressed at home (not with wigs or make-up) this was the first time she had come eye to eye with Denise. It was a shock for her and it took her several days to get over it. Sometimes we forget that others are as affected by our change as we are.

While I steadily moved toward complete transition I found out so much about myself that I never knew. I actually found a therapist who was helpful and he in turn

referred me to a shrink so I could be certified sane enough to decide if I wanted to do the craziest thing of all--change official genders.

Next I approached my family doctor, who I had been seeing for many years. I explained that I was a transsexual and her response shocked me. First she exclaimed "that's it!" and while I just sat and listened she went on to tell me that often, after I'd left, she'd sat and felt she had missed something about me, but never in her wildest dreams had transsexuality occurred to her. Some of us hide it better than others. Suddenly she stopped and in a serious tone told me she had to ask me one question. I was a little uncertain but told her to ask away. I was unprepared for the question. "Have you ever touched children?" It was one of three assumptions I was to learn quickly were common among medical people, shrinks and religious leaders. My doctor admitted she knew next to nothing about the issue and so we started sharing information. Over those three months, I felt a major learning curve for both of us. I should note that several months later when I expressed concern about going public in the community (rural Nova Scotia) she asked me why. I mentioned how people tend to think we are one or more of the following: child molesters, gay, or sexual deviants. "Oh no," she said. "Why would they think that?" I reminded her of her first question to me, and after a while she remembered and apologized. The reason for her change of outlook regarding transgendered/transsexual people was simple: education. She was possibly the first but will by no means be the last one I try to educate.

Next month: Just what is in a name?

Transgendered Diaries is written by Denise Holliday who is a freelance writer and public speaker with Maritime Transgendered Workplace Solutions Project.



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# Know How To Get Your "Rocks" Off! Make A Club!

By Curtis Cartmill

You hear it often. Everyone says that the only way to meet people around here is to go to the clubs or bars? Don't get me wrong, it is a great way to meet people, or even go online, but sometimes its great to get out and do something. There's only so far that alcohol, dancing with blaring music, or typing frantically on a keyboard can take you.

Recently I decided to make a career change and with it came the opportunity to move from the West Coast back home to Nova Scotia. One thing that is great about the GLBT community in Vancouver is that there are many well-established gay sporting leagues and clubs which cover everything from soccer, softball, volleyball, beach volleyball, triathlons, running, hockey, skiing/snowboarding, swimming, golfing, bowling, badminton, and yes... even curling. Actually the GLBT curling league in Vancouver - the Pacific Rim Curling League ([www.prcl.ca](http://www.prcl.ca)) is the largest curling league in British Columbia - gay or straight with 40 teams playing annually.

Curling is definitely one of the gayest sports in Canada - well...

what I mean is that it is very popular with the Canadian gay community! Check out <http://www.gaycurl.ca/> - Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton, Winnipeg, Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal all have gay curling leagues and host an annual bonspiel event... you could almost consider there to be a gay curling "circuit" across Canada! A bonspiel is a tournament derived from the French word 'bon' for good, and the German word 'spiel' for game.

*There's only so far that alcohol, dancing with blaring music, or typing frantically on a keyboard can take you.*

It usually spans a weekend, and includes several curling games, drinks and a ton of fun with friends from everywhere!

There are many reasons to get out and participate in any gay sporting team, but curling especially is an alternative way to getting out and meeting people - gay or straight, and to make new friends, get some exercise and keep in shape.

There is a great degree of sweeping of granite stones in curling, and this can be a great workout! And who doesn't want an excuse to scream "HURRY! HARD! YES! HURRY HARD!" outside of the bedroom? Also, We all lead stressful lives, so we need to inject some FUN any chance we can get, mix up life and try something new. The majority of GLBT sporting community groups are established to focus on participation, and not competition. There does have to be a bal-

ance - no one likes to lose all the time, but let's face it - It's great to get some of our "family" out of the bars and the chat rooms for a little friendly game.

Curling is a very under-rated sport. It can be a lot of fun and social, and you don't have to be an athlete at the peak of your prime to do well. But how did a couple teams of gay curlers get together in Halifax.

Well believe it or not, most of the legwork was done before I even moved back to Halifax. I did my research on the curling clubs and asked some local friends and family. In the end I thought it might be easiest to try to get people to join a recreation league at the

Mayflower Curling Club. Hey even international curling champion Colleen Jones is a member at the Mayflower, that's good enough for me!

Now to get players I had to do a little grassroots geurilla marketing and went online to the Internet. I went onto the gay.com chat rooms for a couple of weeks and changed my tagline to invite guys to consider joining a gay curling team. "CapnDan" (one of the great guys responsible for the publication of Wayves month-to-month) messaged me one morning and recommended that I send the word out onto the yahoo HAL-GAL lesbian mailing list. There was definitely plenty of interest and after people



considered their schedules and balanced the cost of curling, the effort resulted in 7 interested curlers, who committed to come together and form two GLBT curling teams.

The two teams play in the Mayflower's Friday night recreation league. Kelly and I have curled several years, and are the respective skips' for the two teams. Mark, Shane and Chantelle curl with Kelly, and Becky and Randi curl with me - and none of them had any prior curling experience. The mood at the Mayflower is very social, and although the drink of choice amongst most curlers is beer, many of the team members have taken the opportunity to put a gay twist, and have gotten together on occasion off the ice to share and sample their favorite martini recipes! For the record, some of the favorites include a clear chocolate martini with shaved dark chocolate, a creamy butterscotch, a vanilla/pineapple martini with

real pineapple chunks and vanilla yogurt, and an grenadine/blue orange/whip cream martini that reminds everyone of the red/blue/white rocket popsicles we all had as kids.

If you are interested in getting in touch with the group to find out more information, watch a game, or consider joining us for some fun next year - please drop us a line at [halifax.gibt.curling@gmail.com](mailto:halifax.gibt.curling@gmail.com)



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# AIDS Awareness Week In Ha

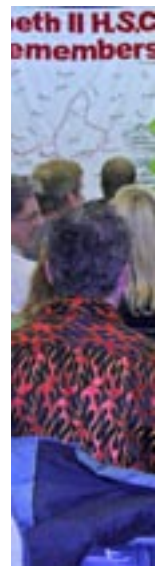
## Eric Ross, ACNS Boardmember

On December 1st, 2006, over 100 people attended the Halifax "World AIDS Day" Vigil at the Bloomfield Center. Darlene Young from Safe Harbour Metropolitan Community Church lead the ceremony which included a sweet grass ceremony, vigil candle lighting, and reading of the names of those we have lost to AIDS. Mike Sangster, Chair of the Board of the AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia reminded us of the prevalence of HIV infection rates and the urgency for increased funding. Larry Baxter gave a short presentation on the

Canadian AIDS Memorial Quilt. Several sections of the Quilt were on display during the Vigil. At the conclusion of the Vigil, Cybelle Rieber, Support Services Coordinator at ACNS and coordinator for the event, revealed she was very pleased with the turnout and looked forward to finding a larger space that would accommodate the event next year. The event was co-sponsored by the AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia and Safe Harbour Metropolitan Community Church.



Theresa Morris remembers her son Frederick



Halifax AIDS

## Commentary: Bill McKinnon

Events to commemorate World AIDS Day took place both locally and across the province. I attended the flag-raising and the candlelight vigil in Halifax. Other vigils, fundraisers presentations, etc also took place in universities across the province and at community venues in New Glasgow, Truro, Antigonish and Sydney.

Nova Scotia's Strategy on HIV/AIDS has made progress in the last 3 years. At a red-ribbon flag-raising ceremony on December 1 at Province House, an update on the Strategy was presented to the Hon. Barry Barnett, Minister of Health Promotion and Protection, by Larry Baxter, Chairman of the Nova Scotia Advisory Commission on HIV/AIDS. Minister Barnett commemorated HIV/AIDS Awareness Week and World AIDS Day by the reading of a proclamation.

Progress is being made on the Strategy's 19 recommended actions, but much work still remains to be done. If you would like to learn more, the Strategy is available on-line at [www.gov.ns.ca/health/reports.html](http://www.gov.ns.ca/health/reports.html). HIV/AIDS Strategy, or you may contact the AIDS Commission at (902) 424-5730. Whether you are happy or unhappy with the Strategy and/or are pleased or

displeased with the progress being made, let the Commission know and let Wayves know too. Hey, we all have the responsibility to stop AIDS!

The main details about the Halifax AIDS Vigil have been ably reported in by another writer. I will not duplicate his work but here are a few personal observations.

This was a ceremony held as a time to celebrate, remember, grieve

*we must hold our political leaders accountable for the help they have promised but failed to deliver"*

and heal. The hosts, other organizations and the volunteers "helped to make this year's Vigil so special", and it was a very special event.

Theresa Morris' purification ceremony was so right for the occasion. Theresa, who is from Indian Brook, is a member of the Mik'Maq community and a native communicator and health educator. Theresa led a sweetgrass smudging ritual and her granddaughter Adrienne read a poem

during the ceremony. Members of the audience came forth for purification which involved burning a mixture of sage, sweetgrass, tobacco and cedar.

We learned from Larry Baxter that the AIDS Memorial Quilt is made up of 3 by 6 foot panels dedicated to the memory of individuals who have died of AIDS. The NAMES Project - Canada manages the Canadian AIDS Memorial Quilt. To learn more, help or donate, check out [www.quilt.ca](http://www.quilt.ca)

There are many AIDS issues. One is a determination that we must hold our political leaders accountable for the help they have promised but failed to deliver. Current AIDS statistics are alarming, yet many do not realize how serious the problem is.

Some avoid facing up to the disease or getting tested because they fear the stigma and discrimination attached to HIV/AIDS; so it continues to spread. There is still not enough education about the dangers of unsafe sex and too much unsafe sex. Many who died in the past didn't know what it was all

about for at one time none of us knew. Now we know.

"Challenging our own attitudes about people living with HIV/AIDS can put an end to the HIV/AIDS-related stigma and discrimination that allow HIV to spread unchecked and that diminish the quality of life in our communities."

The lighting of the candles and reading of the names of so many

who have died was a poignant reminder of our great loss of those we knew and cared about. So many young lives have been destroyed. May we never forget them.

May we also keep in mind that every 8 seconds some-

one in the world is infected with HIV and every 11 seconds someone dies of AIDS. A "box" that chimes the tragic reality of AIDS was built by Don VanBuskirk and Frank Lively, an artist and a preparator at the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia; they wanted to do something to demonstrate the importance of World AIDS Day in Nova Scotia.



AIDS Quilt Panels

## Leading AIDS Doctor Visits the Maritimes

On a sunny November afternoon, Dr. Michael V. O'Shaughnessy, one of this country's leading AIDS physicians and a co-founder of Insite (North America's first legal safe injection site for injecting drug users) addressed a small crowd of health professionals and AIDS workers. The day before he met with a similar group in St. John, N.B. His topic was "The Ethics of Harm Reduction", but his focus was on Insite, its history, its success and its struggle to stay open. Located in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, home to an estimated 6,000 addicts, Insite opened its doors in 2003. Nurses, social workers and peer support counsellors staff the facility. Insite provides its

users with access to detox programs and addiction treatment; it offers medical help, counselling, and help in finding affordable housing.

An avuncular gentleman with a trace of the Bronx in his speech, Dr. O'Shaughnessy leavened his use of charts and slides with dry humour while describing the Insite's progress. Research papers on Insite have been published in such prestigious peer-reviewed medical journals as the New England Journal of Medicine and The Lancet. These studies show Insite is leading to increased uptake into detoxification programs and addiction treatment (New England Journal of Medicine); that the number of people injecting in public has decreased,

along with needles and other drug related litter (Canadian Medical Association Journal). There has been no increase in drug-related crime since Insite opened; in fact rates of vehicle break-ins/theft declined significantly. Dr. O'Shaughnessy noted that the initial hostility of the Chinese community who share the neighbourhood has undergone a complete about face. "They can see the improvement in where they live," he said.

One of the major targets set by the government was for Insite to demonstrate a reduction in infections of HIV/AIDS and hepatitis C among those using the facility. However, as Dr. O'Shaughnessy pointed out, Insite attracts the

hard-core addicts and most of them are already infected. "It would take another ten years of being open to show a real decrease in infections". However, those who use Insite don't share needles, a major mode of transmission for viruses such as hepatitis and HIV. "It has pretty much eliminated (the) second-on-the-needle phenomenon."

Dr. O'Shaughnessy stressed that drug addiction is a complex social problem, requiring a multi-faceted response. "Many addicts won't use methadone", he said. He added that neither are addiction services and detox programs alone going to work.

Insite does not supply people with drugs, the users bring their

own and overdoses are not uncommon. Since it opened, there have been more than 500 drug overdoses at Insite. With nursing and health care professionals right on hand, not one of these has resulted in fatality. Most have been able to be treated on the spot, without requiring ambulance or hospital emergency services. Prior to Insite's opening, many of these cases would have resulted in hospitalization, but more often ended in death.

This past September, federal Health Minister Tony Clement agreed to allow Insite to remain in operation for one more year, for purposes of further study. At the same time, he refused to allocate any funds for additional research.



## Manna for Health's 10th Anniversary

By Bill McKinnon

Manna for Health celebrated its 10th Anniversary on Sept 19 at the Safe Harbour MCC Sunday service, led by Rev. Darlene Young. The anniversary was well-attended. Guests included Dianne Swinemar, who spoke to the congregation, Federal NDP Leader Jack Layton, and Halifax MP Alexa McDonough. The event included the regular service of Christian worship, presentation of certificates of appreciation to Manna for Health volunteers, Dianne's talk, and a potluck luncheon.

It is interesting to note the presence of prominent members of the NDP at this event, for while all LGBTs do not support the NDP, the NDP always seems to be there for the LGBT Community.

Dianne Swinemar, Executive Director of Feed Nova Scotia (FNS), took over leadership of what was then called the Metro Food Bank in 1994 with a mandate of shutting down the then 10-year-old organization which was thought to have outlived its usefulness. Today, FNS looks after the needy in HRM and also provides food to 160 Food Banks and other agencies all over

every month (40% are children, 55% are in HRM), handles \$18 million in food every year and has an operating budget of \$3.2 million, a staff of 26, and 600 active volunteers who worked 39,000 hours last year. Manna for Health, a special needs food program which helps persons living with AIDS and other life-threatening illnesses, is one of the organizations that receives food from FNS.

FNS tries to provide healthy food, 62% of which is fresh/perishable—not just Kraft Dinner. It provides help to those in need and also considers the root causes of the problem. Accordingly, FNS educates the public and advocates that the government eliminate hunger and poverty. People face great financial struggles in Nova Scotia—even people who are working—because of huge power and heating bills and high rents. FNS received 18,000 calls last year as people needed advice and emotional support as well as food.

Dianne has two children and is celebrating 40 years of marriage. After working as a church volunteer in Lower Sackville, she failed to shut down Metro Food Bank but continues to help children who would otherwise go without and feed both the deserving and the undeserving with dignity, respect and love. By the year 2009,



One of Manna's founders and fundraisers, Miss Vicki

FNS's 25th anniversary, Dianne hopes to be feeding fewer than 2,000 people per month, and looks forward to the time when everyone receives a living wage and society no longer needs food banks.

Manna for Health gets about \$70,000 in food from FNS annually and in addition raises funds to satisfy the special nutritional needs of the clients it serves. Manna's clients also need special consideration because their health conditions sometimes make it difficult to stand in line at mainstream food banks where they may also be subject to discrimination by other food bank clients. The additional funds Manna needs come from Safe Harbour's congregation, from special fundraising initiatives and from outside donations.

Anyone who would like to help Manna for Health may make a tax-deductible donation to support this work or may donate food-related items. Manna for Health also needs volunteers to ensure that its services continue to be offered to the community. To help, contact the office at (902) 429-7670 or e-mail [safeharbour@eastlink.ca](mailto:safeharbour@eastlink.ca). Hopefully the holiday season will move people to contribute.



Vigil



Larry Baxter and the red-ribbon flag-raising at Province House



Bob Fougere chats with NDP Leader Jack Layton

Nova Scotia. FNS has eight trucks on the road, helps 42,000 people



Hon. Barry Barnett, NS Minister of Health Promotion and Protection at Province House

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- Health Fund
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- Hospital TV/Telephone Services
- Drop-Ins
- Referrals
- Treatment Information



902.425.4882

[support@acns.ns.ca](mailto:support@acns.ns.ca)

1657 Barrington Street, Halifax

## Chef's Corner



Face it, in the dulls of winter sometimes we need to make occasions for entertaining friends to keep from slipping into hibernation during the long, long winter. Regardless of whether you read this before or after New Year's Eve, the following recipe is great for stylish entertaining the entire holiday season. So I'm offering you an old classic for seafood lovers. It can be prepared the day before your party and all you have to do is pop it in the oven than serve.

Chef Darren is Chef and Co-owner of Chives Canadian Bistro, 1537 Barrington Street, Halifax, N.S. For reservation call (902) 420-9626, [www.chives.ca](http://www.chives.ca)

## Pink Dollar Marketing!

Gays and lesbians in Atlantic Canada will soon have a way to have their dollars stay in their community.

The Atlantic Rainbow Business Association (ARBA) is a group dedicated to letting people in the gay and lesbian community around the world know which businesses are owned and operated by other gays and lesbians in the Atlantic Canadian region.

It is important for gays and lesbians to know where they can find meals, accommodations and other services in the Atlantic Region and will be accepted and treated with respect.

The members forming the non-profit organization through Industry Canada, met this month to finalize details and will soon have a website up and running. The website will serve as a "portal" for enquiring visitors to check out GLBTTQ businesses in the region.

The web site is [arba.ca](http://arba.ca). On this site you will find listings and profile pages for all sorts of goods and services in the four Atlantic Provinces. You will be able to access the site

and apply for membership. An introductory offer for January-March 2007 will allow interested businesses to join ARBA free-of-charge for 90 days, after which they can purchase a 12-month membership for \$75.

Some of the benefits of membership include collective advertising, buying power, sharing information, mentoring new businesses and generally supporting others in the GLBTTQ business community.

GLBTTQ service groups in the Atlantic Provinces such as PFLAG are welcome to have a listing on our website without cost.

The group is looking to broaden

### Coquilles St-Jacques Parisienne

(prep time 3/4 hour, cooking time 1/2 hour)

#### Ingredients

(make 4 large or 6 small ramekin servings)

1 lb. scallops	3 Tbsp flour
1/4 cup butter	1/2 cup dry vermouth
2 Tbsp minced shallots	1 cup seafood or chicken broth (low sodium store bought is fine)
1/2 cup thinly sliced celery	2 Tbsp small dice pimentos (blot dried)
1 cup thinly sliced mushrooms	1/2 cup gruyere or Swiss cheese (grated)
1 tsp salt	2 cups Duchesse potatoes (see method below)
1/4 tsp pepper	
3 Tbsp butter	

#### Method

1. Rinse scallops under cold water, remove the tendons from their sides and poach them in boiling water for 2 min, drain and lay out to cool.
2. Sauté shallots, celery and mushrooms in 1/4 cup butter on med-high heat until the celery and shallots are translucent, remove from heat and set aside.
3. With the remaining 3 Tbsp of butter and 3 Tbsp of flour create a roux. this is done by meting the butter over med-high heat adding the flour and whisking them together. Cook the roux until the mixture bubbles up.
4. Slowly whisk in the Vermouth and chicken broth and keep whisking until you have a smooth sauce, reduce heat to med and stir in the grated cheese. Your sauce is done.
5. Away from the heat fold all other ingredients (except for the potatoes) into the sauce.
6. Divide the mixture evenly in to your individual baking dishes.
7. Duchesse potatoes are created by creaming 2 cups boiled and smashed potatoes with 1 Tbsp butter and 2 egg yolks 1/4 tsp ground nutmeg, salt and pepper to taste.
8. Place the Duchesse potatoes in to a pastry bag with a star tip and pipe a decorative edge all the way around each dish. Bake at 350 F for 1/2 hour or until they are hot in the centre and serve immediately.

#### Serving suggestions

I like to serve this dish with steamed asparagus, baby carrots with a chilled glass of your favourite Sauvignon Blanc. This dish works just as well with lobster or shrimp, or a combination of all three. Give it a try and drop me a line. Enjoy!!!

support to the gay community by providing links to all types of services, i.e. doctors, lawyers, construction services, accountants and other service providers interested in attracting a gay and lesbian clientele.

Visit [arba.ca](http://arba.ca) for more information or simply to join. The website will become Atlantic Canada's GLBT access guide to good rainbow services.



**Kim Cole**  
Behaviour Therapist & Trainer

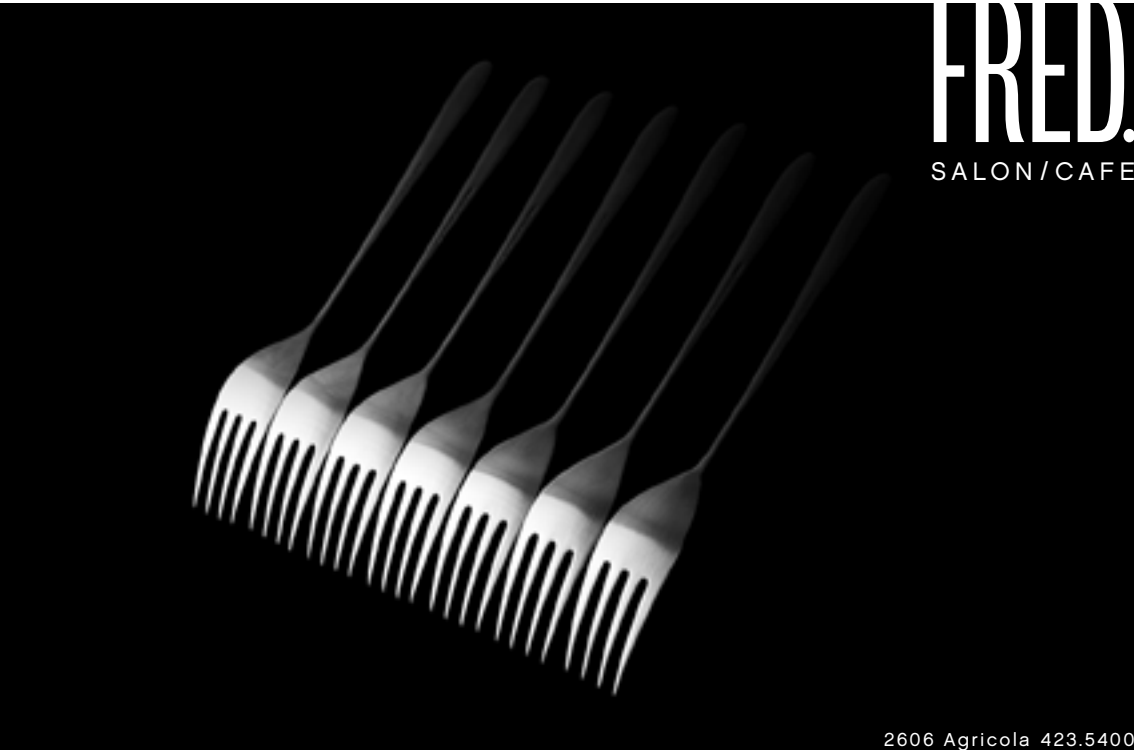
1-866-418-4584  
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Website: [www.barkbusters.ca](http://www.barkbusters.ca)

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# Events >>

## Amherst

### Second Monday

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

### First and Third Wednesdays

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

### Third Thursday of each month

Cumberland Pride Support Group: Opportunities for the GLBT community members who seek support and friendship in an open and friendly environment. Meetings are held the third Thursday of each month in Amherst. Place: Trinity St. Stephen United Church, Hertz Hall, 1 Ratchford St., Amherst, N.S. Need to talk? Need to meet others in your particular situation? Need to make friends? Need to simply socialize? Contact us. Call 902-660-5004 or 902-660-9507. E-mail: gaylorlords\_1975@hotmail.com

## Annapolis Valley

### Every Thursday

Valley Gay Men's Coffee House Meets every Thursday evening from 7-9pm and also on the first Saturday of every month hosts a Gay/Lesbian dance for ages 19 and up from 9pm-1am. If you need more information concerning themes or other events that may take place call 902-765-2821 or email 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

### Third and Fourth Mondays

### Third Saturday of each month

(except June 24)

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

## Cape Breton

Jan 28, Feb 25, Mar 25, Apr 29, May 27, June 24

Meetings will be in the same place (Family Place Resource Centre), same day (Sundays) and same time (7:30 - 9:30 pm). All are welcome. If you know of anyone who would benefit from our meetings - they can contact us at sydneyneyns@pflagcanada.ca, sexual diversity centre 563-1481, Celeste 563-1389 or B. Durdle 563-1443.

## Charlottetown

### January 21-27

Our first Winter Pride Carnaval. There will be a lot of things going on during that week. - see www.peipride.com for more information.

### February 14-16

A show called 'CatTails and CockTails'. This will be filled with monologues on sexuality. If you would like to take part in this please contact us. If you have a monologue, but not someone to say it, let us know about that as well. - see www.peipride.com for more information.

## Fredericton

### Every Tuesday

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

### Every Wednesday

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

### Third Sunday of each month

GLB ANGLICANS AND FRIENDS Integrity is a non profit organization of Gay and Lesbian

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

### Fourth Wednesday of each month

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

## Fredericton Bar & Business Calendar

### BOOM! NIGHTCLUB

www.boomnightclub.ca, 463-Boom! (2666) 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

Bedford United Church. 1200 Bedford Highway, Bedford. We are an Affirming Congregation and welcome everyone. Services at 9 am (Casual & Contemporary) and 11 am (Quieter & Traditional). June 25-Sept. 10, 10 am service. For more info, call 835-8497.

### Every Sunday

Safe Harbour Metropolitan Community Church, Services are Sunday 7:00pm, except the last Sunday of the month at 11:00am, 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

### First and Third Sundays

BLT-WOMYN OF HALIFAX. This is a Bi-sexual, Lesbian, Transgender Womyn's GROUP! 6pm - 7pm, at DALHOUSIE WOMEN'S CENTRE, 6286 South Street (Beside Dalplex Driveway) Come to a discussion night or send us your e-mail address or call a moderator (Sue @ 499-0335). If you have any questions or concerns. A discussion group for Bi-sexual, Lesbian, Transgender women, who will meet to have open discussions, in a positive environment. To discuss topics concerning ourselves and our community. This is a bi-weekly meeting on Sunday evening at 6pm - 7pm (1st and the 3rd. week of every month) and an online discussion/chat group (every 2nd and 4th week at 6pm - 7pm on line). We are working on, an Online Chat at this time. http://ca.groups.yahoo.com/group/blt-womynofhalifax/ or blt-womynofhalifax-subscribe@yahoo.com

### First and Third Wednesdays

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

### Second and Fourth Wednesdays

LGB Youth Project ages 18-25 Support meetings. This is a structured environment, with facilitators present to keep discussions on track, while at the same time helping to lead the discussion in the directions that the youth wish to go, as well as making sure the group guidelines are enforced. The discussions focus on the youth present having a say, rather than the facilitators lecturing about whatever topic is being discussed, 7-9pm, 2281 Brunswick Street. Contact 429-5429, 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 4, 18, Feb 1, 15, Mar 1, 15, 29

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

### Jan 7, 21, Feb 4, 18, Mar 4, 18

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

## Halifax Youth Project Calendar

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

### Week 1

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

Tuesday - Discussion Group (ages 18 and under) A structured environment with facilitators present to keep discussion on track, while at the same time helping to lead discussion in the direction that the youth wish to go. The discussions focus on what the youth present have to say, rather than the facilitators lecturing about whatever topic is being discussed. 6-8 pm, 2281 Brunswick St.

Wednesday - Discussion Group (ages 18-25) A structured environment with facilitators present to keep discussion on track, while at the same time helping to lead discussion in the direction that the youth wish to go. The discussions focus on what the youth present have to say, rather than the facilitators lecturing about whatever topic is being discussed. 7-9 pm, 2281 Brunswick St

### Week 2

Tuesday - Social Drop-in Nights (ages 25 and under) This is a facilitated but less structured event. It's a chance to hang out with old friends, make some new ones, and just talk about whatever. 6-8 pm, 2281 Brunswick street

Wednesday - LGB Youth Project Movie Night (ages 25 & under) come out for a movie & popcorn! 7 pm, 2281 Brunswick St

### Week 3

Tuesday - Guest Speaker & Discussion night (ages 25 & under) A new speaker every week to educate & spark discussion. This is a structured environment. 7-9pm, 2281 Brunswick street

Wednesday - Activity night (ages 25 & under) A chance to have fun and perhaps learn something new. Activities will be on this night lasting two and a half months. First activity class IMPROV classes. 6-8pm, 2281 Brunswick St

### Week 4

Tuesday - Social Drop-in Themed Nights (ages 25 and under) This is a facilitated but less structured event with a fun & exciting theme. It's a chance to hang out with old friends, make some new

Send your events to submissions@wayves.ca now! Event listings are free!



David & Doug  
wish to  
**THANK YOU**

Come Celebrate **MENZ 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary**  
Saturday, Jan. 27<sup>th</sup>  
Starting @ 10 pm  
(Special gift for the FIRST 100 guests)

**MENZ BAR**

Coming Soon...  
February 17<sup>th</sup> it's  
**MARDI GRAS**

2104 Gottingen Street, Halifax • 446-6969 • www.MenzBar.ca • info@MenzBar.ca



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SAUNA & SPA

Mon - Thu: 4pm - 1am  
Fri: 4pm - Mon: 1am (24hr weekend)

2199 Gottingen St., Halifax / www.SeaDogs.ca  
1-888-837-1388 / 902-444-DOGS

# ←← Events

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

## Halifax Bar & Business Calendar

### BLUE MOON BISTRO/BACK BAR

2215 Gottingen St, Halifax. (902) 446-3644  
 Weekly Events.  
 Sundays - A variety of entertainment from theme night drag shows to dancing the night away fundraisers.  
 Mondays - 5-10pm Tarot Readings w/ Shadow, 9pm-close Stay tuned for some new and exciting concepts.  
 Tuesdays - Karoke w/Justin, cash prizes and nightly draws  
 Wednesdays - 7pm-11pm Swing dancing "All Welcome", 11pm-2am "Act it Out" w/Boom Boom; Can you act?? Bring it OUT!!!  
 Thursdays - "Karoke and Wings" w/Justin, cash prizes, draws and wing specials  
 Fridays and Saturdays - Dance the night away to the sounds of New Brunswick's favorite DJ, "DJ Geo"

### MENZ BAR

2104 Gottingen St, Halifax's Gay Village  
 902-446-6969, www.MENZBAR.ca  
 FREE INTERNET & WI-FI 7 DAYS A WEEK  
 CHECK OUT OUR MUCHIEZ MENU!  
 The PARTZ Dept with Pool Table & Moose Deck on Level III  
 January & February LINE UPs  
 FRIDAYZ: 5:30PM-8:30PM Galz & Guyz MARTINI TIME with Songmaster BO aka Jennifer L. McNail & from 10pm-2am Dance Party with DJ Electro  
 FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH: Leather Night with DJ NEEDLES!  
 SUNDAYZ 3PM-7PM Caesar Sundayz & TEA Dance  
 MONDAYZ KARAOKE with TREVOR - Mystery Jack Song, Win up to \$300  
 WEDNESDAYZ KARAOKE with BEAR777 - Mystery Jack Song, win up to \$300  
 SATURDAYZ Party with DJ NEEDLES!  
 Saturday Jan.27th OUR BIG THANK YOU ANNIVERSARY PARTY!  
 Saturday Feb 17th Early MARDI GRAS Mascarade PARTY!  
 Saturday Feb 20th MARDI GRAS Pancake Breakfast in support of Halifax Pride 07!  
 Check out our website at www.MenzBar.ca for our monthly calendar of events.

### Mollyz DINER & Bar

Check out our New MENU ITEMS for 2007!  
 2104 Gottingen St, LEVEL I  
 In the Heart of Halifax's Gay Village  
 Licensed Catering Available!  
 BOOK YOUR PRIVATE PARTY NOW!  
 902-405-3376  
 FREE WIFI 7 DAYS A WEEK  
 Hours:SUN - THUR: 7am till 9pm  
 FRI - SAT: 7am till Midnight - BAR till 2am  
 Check Out our New Daily Specials January ONLY!  
 January Special SUNDAY BRUNCH FOR 2 ONLY \$20.07 HST included!  
 Wed. Jan. 17th @ 8pm Come celebrate

## MACLeather Society Road Show

January 13th

Saint John  
 Club Montreal

506.696.1900

Coming soon -  
 Halifax...  
 Bathurst...  
 Charlottetown...  
 Your town???

M.A.C. LEATHER for more information  
 phleb@nbnet.nb.ca

the New Year with The Halifax Poetry Society - Featured Poet: Ken Munro  
 Wed. February 14th, @ 8:30 pm - A night of Love and Romance with the Halifax Poetry Society  
 Featured Poet: Pat Brennan  
 LAST THURSDAY of every month:  
 Live performance by The DaPoPo Theatre starting @ 8:30pm

### REFLECTIONS

5184 Sackville Street  
 (902) 422-2957, toll free (877)422-2957  
 Fax (902) 422-2970  
 mail@reflectionscairet.com  
 www.reflectionscairet.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 - Squirt Saturdaze 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

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 902-444-3647 - www.SeaDogs.ca  
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 Mondays - Student Night, \$2 Buck Lockers with Valid Student I.D.  
 Tuesdays - TOONIE NIGHT - \$2 Bucks OFF Lockers, All TOYS & Selected Beverages!!!  
 Wednesdays - HUMP NIGHT - 1/2 price pass for your next visit with purchase of a Room or Locker  
 Thursdays - It's NAKED Night! DROP your Towel  
 SAT. & SUN. - Early Bird Special 6am till Noon, Rooms are \$15 & Lockers are \$7.50 & Beverage Specials till 6PM!

### Moncton

**Second Friday of each month**  
 Women's Meet & Greet at Triangles Bar. Free Pool, Happy Hour from 5 to 9. Doors open at 5PM. 234 St. George St.  
**Third Monday of each month**  
 PFLAG Moncton has monthly support meeting from 7:30-9:30 in room 302 of the Adrien-J.-Cormier bldg at U de M campus. Everyone is welcome at our meetings.  
**Second and Fourth Mondays**  
 SAFE SPACES MEETING, 7pm. Support group for GLB youth, 14-25. For more info, 869-6224 or safespaces@nb.aibn.com  
**Last Saturday**  
 Moncton Leather Chapter Leather Nights at Triangles! With the interest and number of people that have started wearing Leather in Moncton, it only seems natural to have a monthly Leather Night so that any man or woman can wear their Leather and know that they will not be alone in doing so when they go to Triangles.  
 Wacky Wednesday - \$2.00 Beer & Barshots

10 til close  
 Thursday - Girls Night Out! - no cover for girlz with 2.4.1. drinks til midnight  
 Friday - After Work BBQ - 4pm on with DJ Roo  
 Saturday - Moncton Leather Chapter Charity BBQ - 4pm on  
 Sunday - T-Dance and BBQ 4-7 pm

### TRIANGLES

234 St. George St, open Tues-Sun 8pm-2am  
 Tuesday & Wednesday: Free Pool, Beer / Bar Shots / Shooters \$3 all night  
 Thursday: Karaoke Night, Beer / Bar Shots \$3 until midnight, Shooters \$2.75 all night  
 Friday & Saturday: Dance Music with DJ daBoss, Summer Special Beer with Shooter \$4 11pm-midnight  
 Sunday: Request all your favourite songs with DJ daBoss, Beer / Bar Shots / Shooters \$3 all night  
 Check out our monthly events page at www.trianglesbar.com, and send comments & suggestions to thegirls@nb.sympatico.ca  
 New Year's Eve Dance! Tickets \$20.00 at the door. No advance tickets will be sold.  
 Second Friday of each month: Women's Meet & Greet every 2nd Friday of the month. Free Pool, Happy Hour from 5 to 9. Doors open at 5PM.

### Sackville

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

### Saint John

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

### Saint John Bar & Business Calendar

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

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

**Every Friday**  
 Coffee House: Every Friday, 12-2 (LBGT Office, 6th Floor UC, 6002) Every Friday we invite anyone and everyone to come to LBGT and enjoy a cup of Coffee or Tea (regular or herbal) with us (members, non-members, etc). It's a great chance to vent, meet some new people, etc. Our office is located in UC-6022.  
**Every Second Friday**  
 General Meeting every second week. They take place at UC-6022 at 11:00am.

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

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

### Sydney

...see Cape Breton  
**WAYVES DATES!**  
 Check out the front of the magazine for Wayves deadlines and meeting dates -- all are welcome!

### Wileville


...see Bridgewater

### Wolfville

**Every Second Tuesday**  
 Kings County Prostate Cancer Support Group, 7-9 pm in the East Kings Memorial Public Health Centre on Earncliffe Ave in Wolfville. You can ask questions you forgot to ask the doctor or nurse and you can think aloud to help you make

your decisions. There is growing evidence that your participation in a group of people who have gone through the processes you are now facing is mentally beneficial and may well contribute to your recovery from prostate cancer interventions. We are an easy-going informal group of 12 men, some of whom bring their spouses/partners

to our monthly meetings. Know that you are truly welcome to join us and if you need more information please get in touch with me by e mail dickroot2003@yahoo.ca or by phone 542 6125. Our correspondence address is the same as my home address: 210 Main Street, Wolfville NS B4P 1C4.



**Join Us for Worship**  
 11am every Sunday  
 and 7pm the second Sunday  
 of each month  
 At  
 2786 Agricola St.  
 Suite 108  
 Bloomfield Center  
 Phone:453-9249  
 Email:safeharbour@eastlink.ca  
 www.safeharbourmcc.com  
**ALL are WELCOME!**



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*United Church*

215 WENTWORTH STREET  
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 (506) 634-8288  
 CQSUNITED@NB.AIBN.COM  
 WWW.CQSUNITED.CA

**SERVICE EVERY SUNDAY  
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# Reviews

## George Stamos Dance

Dunn Theatre, 14 October  
Review by Daniel MacKay

Earlier in the day, I had twisted my ankle while wearing my Dawgs in the greasy, wet, Canadian Tire parking lot. So I was feeling particularly self-conscious as I limped up the stairs to the part of the Dal Arts Centre that passes for a Dunn theatre lobby. I completely forgot both my ankle and the buzz of a thousand Bruce Cockburn fans milling about downstairs when a hunky boy emerged from the theatre, balanced on one bare foot in a yoga position and played a tiny accordion.

The performance has begun long before the Dunn fills; the dancers are wandering around in red tighies & blue muscle shirts and the accordion boy is now behind the soundboard with a slip-disk, headphones, mixing



board and a Macintosh. On stage, a floppy fabric double bass case later reveals just an electric guitar. On a giant projection screen, a handsome aphasic man is entirely failing to communicate with us with cheerful facial gestures. In a retelling of the Frankenstein story, two dancers attempt to animate a sullen armless body; for contrast we giggle as a woman slides into the double bass case and brings it, cartoon-like, to life.

Stamos' dialog of opposites is particularly enjoyable; we laugh hysterically as we're led through

figure and ground, music and noise, clothing and nudity, dance and nandance.

Six inch plexiglass pumps become percussion instruments - "I know some drag queens who would have loved the pumps" said a gay friend. When two of the performers lose one shoe each they lurch around the stage - just like I came in. For a moment, I felt like I had company. This is dance at its best - making you laugh and think. If you love modern dance, you must see Stamos next time he's here, or when you're where he is.

Visions- Contemporary Male Photography shows the very finest photographic work being done today. Many of the names are familiar: Tom Bianchi, Bruce LaBruce, Jeff Palmer but among this international gathering of artists dedicated to the homoerotic are newer contributors whose style and range of mood will surprise and intrigue you. This book abounds in images that disturb, arouse and delight.

I admit that when I first saw the publicity for Stripped - the Illustrated Male, I expected

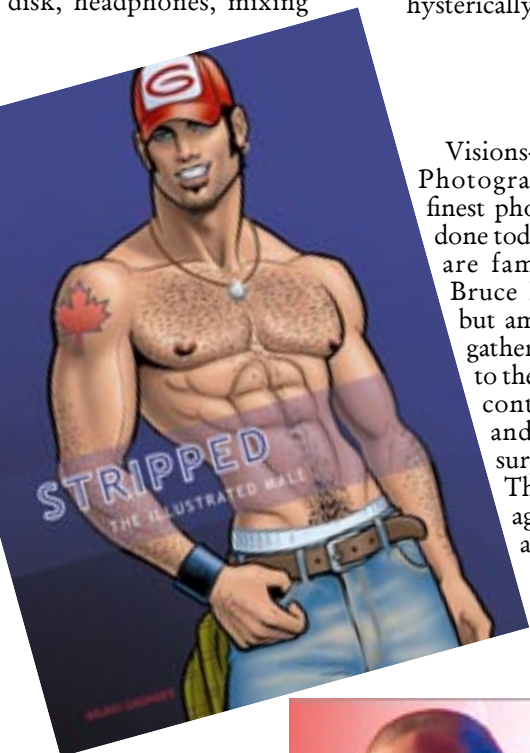
mention are Ross Watson of Australia, American E. Gibbons and the luminous works of Canada's Steve Walker.

Both these offerings from Bruno Gmuender will serve as objects for solitary contemplation or stimulating conversation starters; a way to keep your body temperature up during the cool winter days and nights.

### Cont'd from p. 5

informing people of what is taking place in Iran and garnering support from countries which enjoy a freedom which isn't available in the country formerly known as Persia.

IRQO has a website [www.pglo.net](http://www.pglo.net) where one can visit for further information. Donations are happily and gratefully accepted.



VISIONS -Contemporary Male Photography and STRIPPED -The Illustrated Male Published Bruno Gmuender [www.brunogmuender.com](http://www.brunogmuender.com)

Review by Ralph Higgins

Bruno Gmuender Verlag started publishing books with gay male themes in 1981. Most of what was available at that time was very basic in theme and crudely executed and Gmuender felt there was an audience for higher quality material. Now, twenty-five years later, Bruno Gmuender is a benchmark for top quality coffee table books and calendars celebrating the gay male in all his many moods and types - from down and dirty, raw sexuality to the sublimely sensual.

To mark the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary, Bruno Gmuender has issued two anthologies.



a collection of comic strips - rather coarse and immature in approach. I could not have been more wrong. While there are indeed examples of this popular art form depicting contemporary gay life, Stripped also contains the work of painters and illustrators whose canvases and drawings grace art gallery walls.

Among the many worthy of

## Classifieds

### 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.

### research

**Study: Sexuality and Canadian Forces.** Were you DISCHARGED for homosexuality, or his/her partner? Are/Were you, or partner of, a GLBT CF soldier? Confidentiality guaranteed! [GLBT\\_CF\\_study@yahoo.ca](mailto:GLBT_CF_study@yahoo.ca) (506)458-7800 <http://tinyurl.com/hu3d4>. Êtes-/Êtiez- vous un(e) LGBT militaire ou son/sa conjoint(e)? Avez-vous, ou votre conjoint(e), été CONGÉDIÉ(E) des forces dû à votre homosexualité?

### 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.

### 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.

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

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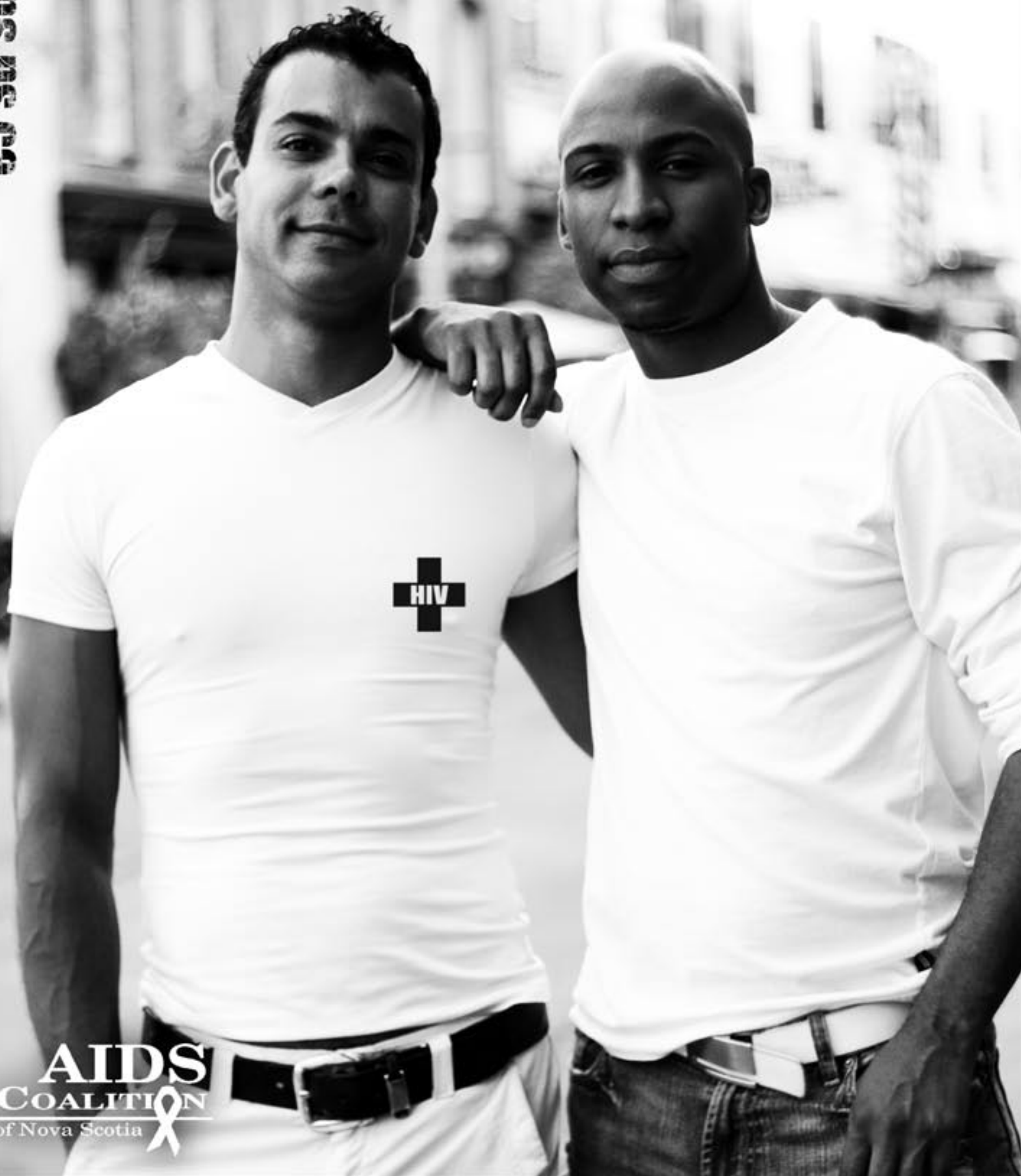
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# Thanks - From Lulu, With Love

This is an open letter to my community. As many of you are aware, I was diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor in August of this past summer. Since that time I have been witness and recipient to an amazing and overwhelming wave of love and community support that extended far beyond anything I ever expected. Everyone from close friends to complete strangers rallied to my support, and in turn, took an incredibly horrible situation and made it not only bearable, but turned it into what could possibly be the most poignant time of my life, and for that some thanks are overdue.

Right from the very beginning, people rushed to do everything they could to help. Priscilla Love and Tim Humphrey organized a fundraiser and with the help of everyone at Reflections and the most talented performers in town raised an outstanding \$4500. I am not sure if the people involved actually realize how much difference is made when you can eliminate financial stress during times of illness, but let me tell you first hand. I never could have dedicated myself to getting well without that money. It not only covered the everyday costs of getting by, but also covered the extraordinary expenses of living with a grave illness. I can't begin to thank you all enough.

To the people that made the show possible, to begin with, Priscilla and Tim, Stephen and everyone at Reflections and of course the performers: Lina Coke, Kym Butler, Mark, Lucy Lovescock, Farrah Moan, Ben Dover, Deva Station, Amanda Benzova, Troy, Lickety Split, Rouge Fatale, Jenny Blake, Katya Wackinoff, Elle Noir, April Showers, Dyna Mite and Bo... thank you, thank you, thank you, from the bottom of my heart. I hope your generosity of spirit and love is returned to you ten fold in the years to come.

I would also like to thank the many businesses that contributed to the event. From what I have been told, people were more than happy to help out. I hope I don't forget anyone and strongly encourage Wayves' readers to support these businesses as their support of our community is obvious. Much love and thanks to everyone at Casino Nova Scotia, Splurge, Venus Envy, Chives Canadian Bistro, M.Home, Maritime Beauty, Prince George Hotel, Little Mysteries, Backyard and Veranda, Room To Move, Salon Marrakesh, Totally Yours, Wade Swinimar Photogra-

phy, Sweet Janes, and Scanway.

The community support did not stop there. Blaine Linden organized a fun afternoon of great entertainment at Menz Bar that raised many more hundreds of dollars. Ryan McGrath and his band played, as did Bo and Yvette Boudreau. Making a special appearance was Iris, the very first drag performer I had ever seen, way back in the old Turret Days. What a great surprise!

It was my exposure to her and her sister Sarah Lee that inspired me to become a drag queen so I hold him in quite high regard. Jenny Blake was the hostess and did a great job. Thanks to all of you! Again, I am at a loss as to how to respond to such an outpouring of support. It really has been overwhelming.

In some cases support came from unexpected sources, and I am truly amazed. The Valley Gay Men's Coffee group sent a donation as did many community members I have never even met. I can't begin to tell you how that feels. When total strangers reach out to you in times of crisis, it really re-affirms one's love and faith in humankind.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank everyone in my family, both biological and extended, for the incredible love and support you have shown me. You have all stayed so close to my side throughout this ordeal. For so many of you to have made the effort to come, in some cases quite a distance, to spend time and lend support was of immense importance to me and an integral part of my getting well.

To all my immediate family, your being here with me during the rough spots was not only appreciated but I really don't know what Billy and I would have done without you. I always knew I had the best bunch of siblings one could imagine, and as far as parents go, your 50 year marriage and strength in this time of crisis really showed us all what true family is all about. I love you all so much.

To the members of my extended family, who in some cases traveled thousands of miles to see me, Darrin Hagen, Trudy Parsons and Ivan

Seymour. Thanks for being here with Billy and I. Not only did you provide a much-needed and pleasant distraction; it was a wonderful opportunity for you all to meet the important people in my life at this end of the country. Your time spent here with us provided many long-lasting memories we will cherish.

On the home front I received much love and support from sources

much closer to home. Priscilla and Timmy: I don't know what I would do without you. Your unrelenting sup-

port and dedication have made this all that much easier. Bo and Sparky: your experience and knowledge of coping with catastrophic illness was and is so important to me. Even with your own health issues to cope with, you went way beyond the call of duty. Thank you so much. Jay Wells: you have been my friend for so long, and to have you in my corner means a lot. You really went way beyond the call of duty with your generosity. Thanks so much, my friend.

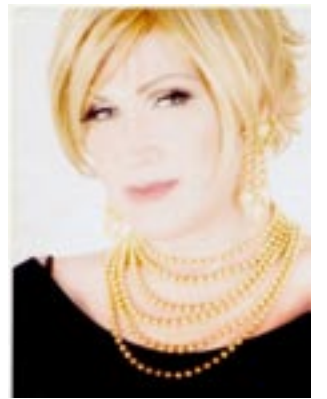
To Billy's Mom, Barb and his Aunts, Jo and Marion: thanks not only for being so supportive but for sharing with me your own experiences dealing with cancer. It was most helpful to know what to expect. Thanks also for welcom-

ing me with such open arms. I am proud to be a part of your family.

An incredibly important outlet during this time has been my website which would not be possible without Woody Lidstone. In a stroke of incredible timing [www.lulularude.com](http://www.lulularude.com) was re-launched just before everything went down with my health. To have the blog and the galleries to communicate so quickly with everyone is truly a blessing. Not only was I able to keep everyone abreast of the situation; I was also able to express my own feelings on the journey. Thanks so much: Woody. I know you are so very busy with everything else you have going on professionally and yet you still find the time for this. I am glad I have this opportunity to tell you how much that has and continues to mean to me.

One last group of people I would like to thank are the incredible men and women that work throughout the cancer care system in Nova Scotia. I don't know if I was just lucky but I truly was blessed with amazing health care professionals that guided me throughout the entire process. It has been simply the best care one could hope for. Right from the girls in the clinics, to those amazing nurses fighting the war on 8A, every single day. You have my deepest respect for what you do and my undying gratitude for everything you did for me and Billy personally. You really prove that angels exist.

This thank you would not be complete without a few words to my husband, Billy. Who would have thought a year ago we would



be where we are now. What a journey! I could not imagine how I would have made it thru this without you. You have been more than a rock, you have been my everything and I don't know how I was so lucky to have found you at this, what is most likely the most important time of my life. I look forward to the days ahead when this is all but a distant memory and we are settled into our married life. We have so much to look forward to.

Thank you in advance to the powers that be at Wayves for printing this thank you letter. It's wonderful that so many can be reached. To all the volunteers that have kept Wayves going all these years: thanks so much. You are an integral part of our community and I, for one, appreciate all you do.

Anyway that's it; I think.

I invite you all to check out my blog at [www.lulularude.com](http://www.lulularude.com). I am constantly updating pics etc. There is a space there to leave messages and comments, and I love receiving them; so I hope you will all take the time to have a peek and leave a message. Until then once again, Halifax: thank you from the bottom of my heart. I know with your continued support I can beat this.

With much love: Charles McDuff Gillis, aka Lulu LaRude



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