



## Vital Statistics Act Discriminates Against Lesbian Mothers

by Kevin Kindred, NSRAP

Giving birth should be a cause for celebration, not discrimination. But as Jamie and Emily O'Neill discovered last month, for lesbian couples it can turn out to be both.

When Emily gave birth to their daughter on August 7, the couple expected to go through what all parents go through—a lot of love, a lot of learning, and some legal paperwork to ensure their family was recognized as law.

If Jamie had been Emily's husband, that's exactly what would have happened. But Jamie is Emily's wife, and because of that, the Vital Statistics Act prevents them from getting equal treatment.

On August 28, NSRAP wrote

to the appropriate Ministers on the O'Neills' behalf. The government's response was to recognize the problem, and to say they've—very recently—started looking for a solution.

The issue is, in a lot of ways, pretty simple. When an opposite-sex married couple has a baby, the husband has the right to be named a parent on the birth certificate. He doesn't have to prove he's the father; the law gives husbands the right to be named as father (unless the mother actually goes through the effort to establish that he's not the father).

But the legislation says specifically that: "husband" and "father." There's no equivalent right if the married couple are both female.

Before same-sex marriage, maybe that made sense. But since 2004, that's no longer the case, and the Legislature has done nothing so far to fix the problem.

Being named the parent on the birth certificate is important to a parent. It gives that person real rights in regard to the child's future, and is a legal and social statement recognizing the validity of the family unit. Same-sex couples like the O'Neills deserve this treatment, too.

In other provinces with similar legislation, couples have had to go to court and tribunals to fight for their equality. And they've won, every time—judges and adjudicators have looked at this exact issue in BC, New Brunswick and Ontario, and found discrimination every

time. And those cases started in 2001—plenty of time for Nova Scotia to recognize the problem and look for solutions.

So, to make sure the government solves the problem, NSRAP is supporting the O'Neills in a human rights complaint. We know it's a problem that will take some effort for the government to solve—equality isn't always easy. But NSRAP thinks this human rights complaint is the right way to keep the pressure on the government and to get justice for the O'Neills. This brave couple has been willing to go through public scrutiny to achieve equality. We wish that wasn't necessary, but we're glad that the rainbow community in

Nova Scotia continues to stand up and fight for equality.



## Community Centre "Depends" On Your Support



Sue Andrews, Denise Holliday, Inset: Shawn Adams, Dave Sheppard

On Saturday, September 8, 2007, members of the Nova Scotia Rainbow Pride Community Centre Society gathered on the front lawn of the Spring Garden Public Library from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., launching their new campaign: **DEPENDS** on YOU.

The purpose of the event was to raise awareness for the Nova Scotia Rainbow Pride Community Centre, an organization formed in August of this year to create a community centre in the province that will provide support to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) people. The services the centre plans to provide range from GLBT educa-

tion, employment support services, addiction counseling, a help/crisis line, child care, and GLBT senior services/resources.

The six-hour long event included refreshments and entertainment, a petition for the public to show their support for the centre, and provided an opportunity for members of the community to present suggestions for the types of services they would like to see realised by the community centre.

"The Rainbow Pride Community Centre and the programs and services offered are crucial for the well being of the community; to support people of any sexual orientation, and the diversity found within society," said Shawn Adams, spokesperson for the Centre of Hope. "We look forward to being a safe, welcoming space for all people in the community, and we are moving this dream one step closer to reality."

The acceptance of this initiative and support from the community has been tremendous. The IWK/Pride Health, Nova Scotia Rainbow Action Project (NSRAP) and BLT Womyn of Halifax have been consulting with the founders to ensure this initiative gets the assistance it requires.

More information about the event and the organization can be found online at [www.nsrainbowpridecommunitycenter.org](http://www.nsrainbowpridecommunitycenter.org).

In addition to the awareness campaign, Sharon Farrell, organizer of "Raise the Pride Flag" in Truro was at the Centre

of Hope's spiritual gathering on Sunday, September 9 to receive a Community Impact Award, a quarterly award designed to honour a member of the GLBT community. The service took place from 3 - 5 pm at the Dalhousie Women's Centre in Halifax.

## Amherst Says "Yes"

By Gerard Veldhoven, Chair, Cumberland Pride

Amherst says "yes" to Pride Week and the raising of the Pride Flag next year. Town CEO, Greg Herrett, who is in charge of such requests, told the Amherst Daily News that he will approve it as soon as Cumberland Pride formally hands in a request. In an interview I was asked about making such a request to the town after the unfortunate Truro incident. Of course, the time is right and I have been to the town office to pick up the papers indicating the proper procedures.

Cumberland Pride will be involved with other Pride groups for celebrations in their respective areas. Amherst has not been involved with such celebrations, and now we are in the position to organize the activities associated with Pride Week. This means everyone has to band together to make certain this will be a resounding success.

Amherst and indeed Cumberland County will see a change in how the public will view the advancements of the Queer community. This will be an exciting initiation of yearly events marking equality in our community. Stay tuned for future announcements.

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# Atlantic News

## Home Runs For The Community

by Gerrit Volkmann

The East Coast Rainbow Softball Association ended their successful first season with a two-day tournament, a party and their first Annual General Meeting in late August and early September.

The idea for the ECRSA started out of Curtis Cartmill's involvement with Vancouver's queer softball league, the West End Slo-Pitch Association (WESA). "It was an incredibly positive experi-

ence" and "the social benefits and friendships I made with the folks on my team were very rewarding," Cartmill commemorates.

The response from the community to engage in a summer sport activity was overwhelming, and with 55 regular season players and 10 spares, enough people had signed up for an entire league consisting

cont ECRSA p 10



Upper photo: C-Vision, Lower photo: Blue Moon



Upper photo: Mollyz, Lower photo: Pirates



## Fierte Moncton Pride 2007



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# PFLAG Family Cookbook

by Cherie MacLeod

The first PFLAG Canada Family Recipe cookbook, a collection of fabulous family recipes from all over Canada, is being assembled as a fund-raiser in support of PFLAG Canada. Wayne Harrison, former Executive Director and co-founder of the Saint John, New Brunswick Chapter is spearheading the project and he needs your recipes!

PFLAG Canada is a national volunteer organization that supports all people with questions or concerns about sexual orientation and/or gender identity. What started as a parent-based group has evolved into a national network where parents, allies, and GLBT persons alike are focused on promoting understanding and acceptance.

Wayne is not new to cookbooks. He and his husband previously published a collection of recipes from Saint John to support the res-

toration of a local theatre.

When asked what inspired the idea, he states, "Everyone has favourite foods, so we'll be tapping into that passion, and the GLBT community is known for its great cooks, so I am confident this will be a simply fabulous cookbook!"

Send all your favourite recipes to him at 55 Clinton Drive, Willow Grove, NB E2S 3G8 or at saintjohnnb@pflagcanada.ca.

Spread the word!



Cherie MacLeod  
PFLAG Canada  
President. Photo:  
Raymond Taavel

# Thanksgiving Dinner At The Blue Moon

On Sunday, October 7, there will be a Thanksgiving dinner at the Blue Moon Bistro at 2099b Göttingen St. in Halifax. The dinner will begin at 6:00 p.m. and a show will follow. The event will be hosted by BoomBoom Lubalicious.

If you are craving Thanksgiving turkey, here's your chance. Come

out and enjoy a delicious turkey dinner with all the "fixins." Home cooked food just the way mom (or your drag mom) used to make.

Admission is free; however, donations will gladly be accepted on behalf of ISCANS charities.

# Int'l Chef's AIDS Gala

by Jo Lang

AIDS New Brunswick is pleased to announce an exciting dining adventure featuring some of the best restaurants and finest chefs in Fredericton. The Red Tie Affair is a progressive culinary experience and will be held on Saturday October 20, 2007. In conjunction with local restaurants Brewbakers, Crowne Plaza, Racines and The Blue Door, we are celebrating International Chef's Day, with proceeds from the event going to support the work of AIDS NB. The cost is \$100 per person with a tax receipt for \$40.

This progressive dining experience will begin at the Crowne Plaza Hotel with hors d'oeuvres and cocktails. Dinner will follow at one of the aforementioned venues, where diners will select an entrée

from exclusive menus specifically created for this event. To put the final touch on a fabulous evening, all will meet back at the Crowne Plaza to indulge in a wonderful array of desserts and to enjoy the sounds of the George Street Blues Project. The evening promises to be a gala event, with a little something for everyone. As there is a limited number of tickets available, and it is first-come first-choice, they will sell quickly. So don your red tie and join us for an evening of fun and great dining pleasure!

HIV/AIDS prevention, education and support have been the cornerstones of AIDS NB's work for the past 15 years. As a provincial organization, AIDS NB provides services to people living with HIV and AIDS in all

# The Rocky Horror Picture Show

Calling all Unconventional Conventionalists! On Thursday, October 25, 2007 at 8 p.m. DalOUT will be hosting an interactive screening of The Rocky Horror Picture Show at the Bus Stop Theatre (2203 Göttingen St.) in Halifax.

Everyone is strongly encouraged to dress for the occasion. We will be awarding prizes for the best costumes! Suggested props for audience participation include, a flashlight, a small water pistol, rubber gloves, and a noisemaker.

Party hats and newspapers will be provided.

Entrance is free with a suggested donation of \$5. So come up to the lab and see what's on the slab. We'll all do the Time Warp again!!

DalOUT, the LGBTQ society at Dalhousie University, is open to all members of the community. Everyone is always welcome. For more information, visit <http://societies.dsu.ca/dalout> or e-mail [dalout@dal.ca](mailto:dalout@dal.ca).

## Important WAYVES Dates!

### Issue Content Deadlines:

Oct 5, Nov 2, Dec 7 (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):

Tuesday Oct 9, Nov 5, Dec 10

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

### Layout Parties (Halifax):

Oct 14, Nov 11, Dec 16

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:

Oct 26, Nov 23, Dec 21

## Our Cover

Jamie and Emily O'Neill with their baby

Cover art, as always, by Cam MacLeod

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areas of the province. The funds raised will allow AIDS NB to host the Annual Fall Forum, a retreat weekend for those living positive in New Brunswick.

Tickets will be available from AIDS NB starting September 4, 2007. Call 459-7518.

Come out and support a great cause and celebrate International Chefs Day by enjoying some of Fredericton's finest restaurant offerings. Visit our website for further information: [www.aidsnb.com/redtieaffair](http://www.aidsnb.com/redtieaffair).

## wayves

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

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

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### How to reach us...

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*Your Name Here!*

Following the logic that if you have the paper in your hand, you don't need to know where to get it, we're dropping the full text of the *Where To Get Wayves* column.

We're replacing it with changes to our distribution network. If you'd like to tell your friends from away where to get Wayves, see <http://www.wayves.ca>.

## Dawn's Early Light

Dear Dawn,  
My partner and I have been together for 19 years; we have a beautiful 16 year old son, and we own a home together—we have basically created a wonderful life together. Three summers ago we even tied the knot.

For the first 17 years of our relationship, we had a wonderfully open, loving, committed, monogamous relationship. However, last month I discovered that my partner and a very close family friend had been having an affair for more than two years. The affair ended last May, but neither of them felt the need to share this with me and they continued to remain friends. This 'friend' lives close by, works with my partner, has gone on vacations with us—he basically became a part of our family. All the while they were sneaking around behind my back. I am devastated by my partner's betrayal. I feel like a fool for not having realized what was going on. I feel physically and emotionally beaten up. This man is no longer in our lives. My partner left his job and is very remorseful. We remained together but I can't

even look at him anymore. I don't know if I can ever forgive him. I don't want to rip my family apart, but don't know if I can stay with a man who could do this to someone he loves. I don't know what to do.

Sincerely, Broken Hearted

Dear Broken Hearted,  
Take a deep breath, my friend—this is not an easy journey. Infidelity is a very difficult issue to work through. To add to this, you are trying to mend a broken relationship while managing a family. It really does become too much to face all at once, doesn't it? My advice to you is to turn your focus inward before you make any life-changing decisions. I hear that you are concerned about your family and that you are undecided about the future of your relationship. However, until you work through your own pain, any decision you make about the relationship will be blurred by that pain. In fact, if you do not deal with your heartache and perhaps decide to end the relationship, you will

carry this baggage with you into your next relationship.

You have entered a grieving process that can, in some cases,

*....last month I discovered that my partner and a very close family friend had been having an affair for more than two years.*

last years. You must allow yourself the space to grieve the loss of your relationship as you once knew it. There are many stages to grief, including anger, sadness, guilt, and denial among others, that you'll find yourself experiencing whether or not you realize it. By not taking an active role in your recovery, you will get stuck in one of these stages, which will perpetuate the pain you are experiencing. It will also prevent you from ever finding a way to forgive your partner. You can't make a clear-headed decision about this relationship until you deal with your heartache first. Find support, talk to a professional, find your way of working through this

pain.

Then and only then can you begin to rebuild your relationship.

At the same time, your partner

obviously needs to do some internal work as well. It's important for him to really become aware of the reasons why this happened and to begin to work through the pain he has caused himself and

his family. Your son is also a part of this and will also experience the pain you are feeling. He also needs support to help him deal with his feelings around this issue.

### Come To The Light!

Dawn wants to hear from you. Let Dawn shed some light on your personal problems. Contact her at dawn@wayves.ca.

Infidelity is a difficult thing to experience and even more difficult to recover from, but it can be done. It can take a long time—even years—to recover, but it is worth it. If each of you works through your pain individually and then as a family, you can eventually rebuild your relationship into one even stronger and healthier than before.

All the best to you, Dawn

## The Zone Gets A Facelift; St. John's Rejoices

by Joey D'amato-Basha

On Labour Day weekend, four Newfoundlanders proved that Kelly Clarkson isn't the only person willing to put on a wig and bare her talents before a panel of edgy judges.

Happy clubbers poured in for the fifth annual Drag Idol in St. John's, DJ Fabian's pet project and city-startling gala. Despite recent controversies, it went off without a hitch. And although the event had been pushed ahead beyond Pride weekend, the postponements proved to work out in everyone's favour.

The Zone, the island's premier gay bar, was forced into temporary closure this summer after an unresolved dispute between the city and the building's owner. "It was out of our hands," explains Fabian, "but finally we stepped in and things are happening."

The month-long hiatus was bittersweet: although the bar scene suffered tremendously in its absence, the spot on 216 Water Street came back with a blockbuster weekend, including renovations and new website additions. They're even going by the moniker Re-Zoned.

Fabian was dismissive, saying that Drag Idol was harmless fun, but it felt more like a christening

of the revamped building. "We had many opportunities to have it," said Fabian of rescheduling the much anticipated show, "but we had to bring it home."

The contest itself played like an elimination game. And while, in grand Idol tradition, a panel of judges (including me) got to give their snide input, the winner was ultimately chosen by votes from the audience.

Two supposed drag "virgins" managed to cut their teeth, but it was a two-time loser, Lola, who managed to steal the night. Her victory dance—a tango with a fake rose in hand—was the definite highlight of the evening.

The crowd was more than enthusiastic; I suspect that there might have been some straight guys present who didn't know any better.

"I would just as soon stay home," said a devout Zoner about her interrupted clubbing. Some provisional venues were taken up and left almost instantly in the interim; few seemed satisfied with them and the hazy future of the peoples' choice in St. John's scared everyone. "I've been coming here for ten years. This place is like a second home."

## Shedogs Website

The Shedogs Committee is proud to announce their new website. It provides tips and information for new visitors, as well as the skinny on upcoming events such as the Pussy Playhouse.

Seadogs Sauna & Spa (Gottingen

Street, Halifax) has been expanded to two floors, and the Shedogs team is excited to see what kind of trouble they can get up to on multiple levels... So check out their website at [www.shedogs.ca](http://www.shedogs.ca)!

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### WARNING: POLICE OPERATIONS IN SEAVIEW PARK HFX

Wayves has recently learned that HRM Police are now conducting an intensive sting operation to eliminate all sexual activity, day or night, in north-end Halifax's Seaview Park. Both gay men cruising and those actively involved are being aggressively dealt with. Reports indicate that those cruising are interrogated pointedly and told to go elsewhere. Those caught in the act are being arrested and charged, and threatened with exposure in the newspapers. Police officers, in both plain clothes and uniform, patrol frequently. Officers tell those involved that they are being observed by MacKay bridge workmen with binoculars reporting by cell phone to the police below.

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# The Nature Of Queer VI: Straight Brain Drain

by Gerrit Volkmann

The human brain - control centre of our life, our thoughts, decisions and perceptions. Everyone of us sees, feels, hears, tastes and smells—in one way or the other—and all this creates a picture of the environment, towards which we have either a positive, negative or indifferent attitude.

The desire to unravel how our brain perceives is as old as humanity, but not until the technological revolution in the 20th century was the study of the perception of environmental stimuli adequately possible. And one perception that brain researchers were particularly interested in was sexual object preference.

In the early days, EEGs (electroencephalogram) were used to see how the brain computed sexual stimuli. An EEG is recorded by attaching electrodes to the scalp,

which are sensitive enough to detect brain activity due to tiny changes in electric potentials. In a study from 1972, photographs of nude males and females as well as neutral figures were shown to straight test subjects. As expected straight men showed higher brain activity when they looked at female nudes, and straight women exhibited higher brain activity when looking at male nudes; neutral figures were perceived similarly.

A related study in 1994 investigated the perception of sexual objects by gays and lesbians, with the results that lesbians preferred photographs of female nudes and gays preferred male nudes. These findings were not really exciting as they met the expectations of the researchers, but a very intriguing insight seemed to emerge: a difference in brain anatomy between gay and straight men.

Straight men showed higher brain activity towards pictures of nude females in both brain hemispheres. But interestingly, gay men only had a higher brain activity in their right brain hemispheres. This highly suggested differences in cerebral laterality and confirmed the results of another research group.

These findings, however, could only be regarded as gross and very vague notions of anatomical brain differences. In the following years, scientists were able to build a more comprehensive picture of the "gay brain" using both postmortem brain autopsy and all sorts of new real-time image analyses of brain activity.

Thus far, at least three brain areas have been identified, which show anatomic differences in the brains of gay and straight men. The importance of one of these areas (called preoptic area or POA) for

sexual orientation is supported by studies on animal brains: rats, mice and ferrets can be converted from straight to gay simply by damaging the POA (Note: Don't try this at home with your straight friend!).

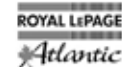
While the discovery of brain differences between straight and gay men reveals yet another proof for a biological component of the manifestation of sexual orientation, more practical considerations can be inferred. If these brain areas play a part in the metabolism of prescription drugs, gay men may respond differently to certain compounds than do straight men. More in-depth studies of this phenomenon could therefore be beneficial for the treatment of psychological conditions such as depression in gay men.



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## ISCANS Community Awards Year 7

By Empress 7 Natassha N!

On behalf of HMISM Emperor VII Of Halifax and myself, I would like to extend our congratulations to all winners at this year's 7th Annual Studio X LeNoir Community Achievement Awards this August at Blue Moon. We thank all of those who came out to perform and support this amazing fundraising event for our four local chosen charities of Reign VII.

Winners included • Eureka Love (Best New Drag Queen) • Jenny Blake (Best Wardrobe, Flirt Award, Lifetime Achievement Award) • Deva Station (Best Make-Up, Ego Award) • Rouge Fatale (Best Comedy Number, Best Lip Sync, Female Entertainer of the Year) • Debbie Duke Diamond (Female Entertainer of the Year) • Cousin Cletus (Lifetime Achievement Award) • Lee Bent (Male Entertainer of the Year) • Boom Boom Lubalicious (Big Hair Award, Glitz Award, Citizen of

the Year) • Lulu LaRude (Community Spirit Award) • The Best Little Whorehouse In Texas (Best Duet Or Group Number) • Elle Noir (Woody Award, What's Up Your Ass Award) • Fiona Jefferies (What's Up Your Ass Award) • Heidi Walsh (Best Bartender) • Shelby (Drunk And Stumble Award) • Ron Gardner (Leather Award) and many more. Sorry to anyone I may have missed—my recounting of the winners is from memory!

Awards were sponsored by Blue Moon, Menz Bar, Mollyz Diner,

Seadogs Sauna & Spa and Reflections Cabaret, our community businesses who helped us to raise over \$320 on the door, which will go into our growing pot of charity cash which is now over the \$8000 mark. Thank you so much for your support!

Finally, I would like to personally thank Darryl Carver on the door and Stephen Filek, Coco Chanel, Ford Occasion and the rest of our presenters for volunteering their time at this important community event. Please visit our events calendar at www.imperial-

courtns.com for a listing of our weekly fundraising events!



Boyne Clarke is pleased to announce that  
**CATHERINE MEADE** has joined us as  
an associate in the practice of law.

Catherine D.A. Watson, Chair of the Boyne Clarke Estates Team, welcomes Catherine Meade to the firm.

**CATHERINE** received her LL.B. *cum laude*, from the University of Ottawa in 2002. She also received her Bachelor of Physical Education from McMaster University in 1988 and Master of Arts in Sport Administration and Management from the University of Alberta in 1993. She was admitted to the Ontario Bar in 2003 and the Nova Scotia Bar in 2004. Catherine joins our Wills, Estates and Residential Real Estate Teams where she will practise in the areas of Estate Administration, Estate Litigation, Wills & Trusts, and Real Estate Law.

Catherine is actively involved in the Canadian Bar Association – Nova Scotia Branch. She is both politically active and on the Boards of several community organizations including the Board of the Nova Scotia Rainbow Action Project and the Program Development

Committee of the Women's Legal Education and Action Fund (L.E.A.F.). Catherine is also Co-President and Founding Board Member of the Gay and Lesbian International Sport Association and is an active member of the Black Educators Association.

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## Crawford Hastie's KIBITZ AND BITEH

Hey Tom

Guess what! I've become an innkeeper. Okay, only part time and temporarily but even so, I'm feeling very Basil Fawlty as I write this letter at the front desk between the reservation book and the post card display rack. The inn is owned by friends of mine, who needed some extra help, and I needed some extra cash, so here I am. My first day here I found a CD of Judy Garland hits sung by a Broadway star, so obviously I am not their first homo hotelier. There is a computer at the check-in counter too, so in between taking reservations, I can catch up on all the Will & Grace bloopers on Youtube.

Unfortunately it isn't all fun things like misspelling people's names and giving out erroneous travel directions. There is actual work involved, making beds and cleaning rooms, for instance. Lots of rooms. Good to know that my years of education and work experience have prepared me for a job as a maid! You know those TV commercials that say, "Let our world famous academy help prepare you for an exciting career in the hospitality industry." Well, when I'm scrubbing a toilet bowl or washing the DNA out of strangers' bed sheets, it's a little difficult to see the glamour. And not a single tip!

There are compensations however. The inn is right by the water, and during quiet times in the afternoon I go and sprawl in a chair on the dock, watch the boats passing, and let sun, sea and the keening cry of gulls soothe my spirit. Until the buzzer on the dryer startles me back to reality.

Because I'm away so often now I try and make a point of socializing when I come home. Last weekend I attended a barbecue at the Anthill and Fisherman's Freud's place and got to reconnect with lots of old friends, but I may have overdone the chardonnay just the teensiest bit. After everyone else had gone home, The Anthill and I were standing arms around each other singing along with albums from our younger days, getting most of the words but few of the notes right, all of it punctuated by snores from FF on the sofa. A happy and emotional scene - sort of like Bette Midler in Beaches.

Speaking of social occasions, I'm still miffed at not being invited to Scott Brison and Maxime St. Pierre's wedding. I thought Scott and I were close. Did I not support him every time he ran for office? I even voted for him when he was a PC candidate - a first for me! Does that kind of relationship mean nothing? Paul Martin and Joe Clark were there and they're not even Prime Ministers anymore!

Not that I'm the sort of person who measures his self worth by claiming friendship with people merely because they are celebrities. Okay, I did

once say that Jeff Stryer was my cousin, hoping the guy I was trying to pick up would believe there was a strong genetic link. A wasted effort as it turned out, since he didn't know anything about gay porn but did get very excited watching reruns of Three's Company. I should have claimed a family connection with Mrs. Roper or told him I had purchased Suzanne Somer's thigh master.

I harbour a secret hope that someone famous will come to stay here at the inn. Like Christian Bale or Hugh Jackman shooting a movie in the area. Or someone stunning and male and gay! And maybe lonely and needing support with his coming out. October eleventh is International Coming Out Day, I could help him come out. And I'd proudly stand beside him while he made the public announcement to the media. I'd come out too.... Although I hardly think it would be news at this point, do you?

Okay, I guess I'm as impressed with the rich and famous as the next guy, and I'll concede that I would have enjoyed hobnobbing with the celebrity crowd at the Brison/St.Pierre wedding. Still, I can't stay mad at Scott and Max. They look so happy and handsome together. I've always been a sucker for attractive gay men.

Interesting to note that during the same weekend that Scott and Max were tying the knot (and maybe planning some other bondage activities), two other men were spending quality time together - those strange political bedfellows, Bush and Harper in Montebello.

You couldn't have a sharper contrast between the two events. If intelligence were measured in wattage, the assembled guests at the Brison/St.Pierre wedding could illuminate a night time football game, while Bush and Harper would be bumping heads in the dark reaching for the matches they dropped trying to light a single candle.

Okay, got to get back to work Tom. Two men are here to check in, and I'm pretty sure they are "family." No rainbow flags or pink triangles so I can't be certain, it's not like there's a secret handshake or anything. Although maybe I should ask Senator Craig for telltale signs.

Love ya!



## Truro Bans Flags.

by Charles Thompson

Six weeks after we first received the letter from Town Council saying that they would not fly our pride flag, the town of Truro and the GLBT community that lives here are still dealing with the fall out of it all.

Truro Pride has moved forward by filing a complaint with the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission (NSHRC). The complaint cites the town councils decision not to fly the Pride Flag when they willingly fly flags for other groups and the statements made by the Mayor and other town councilors as a violation of our human rights under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and the Nova Scotia Human Rights Act.

It will most likely be mid to late October before the NSHRC has a chance to review the complaint. What might start afterwards will then be a long process of investigating, trying to mediate a resolution and, if it comes to it, setting up a hearing. Some human rights complaints take years to complete, so this is something that could keep going for a long time.

In the mean time, Truro Town Council has decided, as a way to stop this from happening again,

to implement a new policy in the town regarding flying flags. The council voted unanimously to not allow any groups to fly flags on town owned flag poles. Their rational being that by saying no to everyone they are treating all groups equally.

After voting on the new policy regarding flags the Deputy Mayor, Charles Cox, read a statement of apology to people who were hurt by the events surrounding the Pride Flag.

While some appreciated the apology, to many it rang hollow. The Deputy Mayor apologized for the Mayor's comments even though the Mayor has made it clear he is not sorry and stands behind them. Also, nowhere in the apology did the Council explain why they refused to fly the Pride Flag in the first place, or make any effort to show the GLBT community in Truro that the Town Council does support them.

The new flag policy and apology does not change anything with the Human Rights Complaint. It will continue to move forward, and Truro Pride is optimistic that it will come out in our favor.

Beyond the Human Rights Complaint Truro Pride is moving forward with a number of events and activities. Truro Pride is working with the Nova Scotia Rainbow Action Project to host a Town Hall event to discuss Equality Rights, Religious Freedoms and the issues surrounding the Flag. We also have a couple social events such as our dance this month, and we will be walking as a group behind the Truro Pride banner during the AIDS Walk later this month.

Truro Pride has also joined forces with our sister Pride Groups from Pictou and Cumberland Counties to work together to hold a week long Pride Event next year in central Nova Scotia. The events will include a large celebration and a parade in Truro.

So like the phoenix out of the ashes, Truro Pride has emerged stronger and more determined than ever before. In the end this is of more benefit to the GLBT community of Truro and Colchester County than flying the flag would have ever been.




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# Pirates de la Chaleur Celebrate MacLeather IX



After a late Saturday night of whatever at Camp Ectus, campers crawled out of tents/campers/bunkhalls into a bright sunny Sunday. Much to everyone's surprise a ship had ran aground overnight, and pirates had already invaded the campsite. The tempo was set for a memorable day.

As more contestants/guests arrived, the judges (Lucy Chamberlin-Bathurst, Irl Washburn-St. John, Cecile Ouellette-Moncton, Boyd Gauvin-Halifax), headed by Paul LeBlanc had a briefing prior to interviewing the eight contestants. While this was happening, a Bingo kept campers busy, hilariously entertained by Miss Fernand and Eric with prizes donated from Auberge au Bois Dormant Inn, Rainbow Lodge, and the Cow & Mermaid Campground.

Following a late afternoon meal, everyone donned their best of leather and headed down to the Hollywood Bowl at Camp Ectus. The show began with a procession of flags including Ms/Mr MAC Leather 2007, judges, contestants, and "La Perle Rose" plus crew towards the "Pirates of the /du Chaleur" stage, mastered by artist Eric Richard and produced by Wayne Richard.

Keeping with tradition, contestants Art Vautour (Moncton), Marcel Aube (GNG), Grant Lively (Amherst), Debbie Boomer (St. John), Diane LeBlanc (Moncton), Troy Morehouse (St. John), Maisie Walker (Miramachi) and Rick Arseneault (Miramachi) took over the stage in casual, minimal and full leather attire for the judging. Audience response was also scored before the judges retired for tabulation of scores. In between sets MC Laurent Legacy, MAC President, an-

Leather VIII, offered their thoughts and thanks for the wonderful year which was about to end.

Asking for the envelope, MC Laurent announced Ms/Mr Friendship 2008, Diane LeBlanc and Troy Morehouse, respectively, and to great applause and fireworks Maisie Walker and Rick Arseneault as Ms/Mr MAC Leather 2008. The crowd dispersed in a celebratory fashion and the party continued late under the stars around the campfires and dancing in the dance hall.

MAC Leather would like to thank Wayves, My Diversity Shop, Triangles, Impulse and Menz Bar for their continued



support over the last year, as well as GNG, Rodds Parkhouse Inn (Moncton), Mahogany Manor (St. John), Triangles, River Edge Campground (Durham Bridge), Halfway Creations, Boot's Adam, Sears,

Zellers, Lawton's Drugs, and Tony Campbell-Jeweller for providing prizes/gifts for the event.

Au revoir! See you all in Halifax for MAC Leather X, a special 10th anniversary reunion, planned for the fall of 2008.

nounced results of silent auction items, and the audience was entertained by Gilbert and friends, Celine, Miss Fernand, Marcy Walton and Rob Myers. Prior to giving up their sash, Marcy Walton and Rob Myers, outgoing Ms/Mr MAC

Photo Credits: Wayne Toole-Vautour



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# Coronation Events

October 28th, 2007 - November 4th, 2007

**Sunday, October 28th, 2007**

**Mz. Skag Drag Pageant**  
Menz Bar, Gottingen Street, Halifax  
\$3.00 Cover

Hosted by Imperial Grand Duke and Duchess VII

**Tuesday, October 30th 2007**

**"The Last Suppa of Reign VII"**

Blue Moon, 2099 Gottingen Street  
Silver Collection at the Door for Reign VIII Selected Charities  
Hosted by Emperor and Empress VII  
Cousin Cletus and Natassha N!  
9p.m. - Caesars on Special 9 p.m. - 11 p.m. - Karaoke to Follow

**Wednesday, October 31st, 2007**

**State Dinner**

The Casino Buffet, Casino Nova Scotia  
Tickets \$25.00 in Advance ONLY  
7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

**Thursday, November 1st, 2007**

**In Town Show**

Reflections Cabaret, 5184 Sackville Street, Halifax  
\$5.00 Cover  
9 p.m. - 12 a.m.

**Friday, November 2nd, 2007**

**Hospitality Suite at Host Hotel**

12 p.m. - 3p.m. Protocol Accepted

**Out of Town Show**

Blue Moon, 2099 Gottingen Street, Halifax  
\$5.00 Cover  
9 p.m. - 12 a.m.

**Saturday, November 3rd, 2007**

Hospitality Suite at Host Hotel 12 p.m. - 3 p.m.

**Coronation 2007**

Holiday Inn Select 1980 Robie Street, Halifax  
Tickets \$50.00 (available at door)  
Cocktails - 6:00 p.m. Dinner 7:00 p.m.

**Sunday, November 4th, 2007**

**Victory Brunch**

Season's Restaurant (Inside Host Hotel)  
11:00 a.m.

Order from the Menu

**Tough Drag**

Blue Moon, Gottingen Street, Halifax  
\$5.00 Cover - 10:00 p.m. - Hosted by Emperor VIII of Halifax

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Empress III of Halifax

Shayda Black

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*Emperor VII Cousin Cletus*

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# *Debauchery*

*Rhett and Scarlet*

*Go Beyond The Red Door*

# *Coronation 2007*



## Chef's Corner



Can you believe it? Harvest season is upon us already. I could swear that it was just yesterday I was telling you about the late start to the spring and the lack of any produce to speak of. Well, I don't know where the summer went, but here we are full on in bountiful harvest season, and I have decided to offer you a recipe for butternut squash, toasted pine nut, fresh sage and parmesan cheese risotto. This dish is great with pan seared sea scallops, roast salmon, chicken, duck, or venison. Try a glass of un-oaked Chardonnay with this one, and let me know what you think. Enjoy!!!

Last month recipe correction: Poaching temperature for garlic is of course 80F, not 180F. OOPS!!!

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

### Roasted Butternut Squash, Pine Nut, and Sage Risotto

#### Ingredients

1 cup carnolli or arborio rice  
1 tbsp olive oil & 1 tbsp butter  
3 1/2 cups chicken stock  
1/2 cup Chardonnay wine  
1 shallot (minced)  
2 large cloves of garlic (minced)  
1 cup (cooked) of roasted butternut squash (peeled, seeded, small dice, toss in 1 tsp olive

oil roast 350F until tender and brown)  
1/2 butternut squash puree (use remainder of squash, boil in salted water until tender. Puree in blender or food processor)  
1/4 cup toasted pine nuts  
1/4 cup grated fresh parmesan cheese  
1 heaped tbsp fresh chopped sage  
fleur de sel and fresh cracked pink peppercorns to taste

#### Method

1. Bring stock to boil, reduce to just a simmer.
2. Over med-high heat in a thick bottomed sauce pan melt the butter and oil together and sweat the shallot and garlic until translucent.
3. Add the rice to the pot and stir to coat the rice kernels in the fat until they are translucent. At this point (stirring continuously) add the wine and reduce until 2/3 gone. Start adding warm stock 1/2 cup at a time while continuing to gently stir until all the stock is absorbed in to the rice. (note: different rices will react differently and liquid volumes may vary) Look for a tender rice kernel in a creamy sauce consistency. If you need more stock to attain proper texture add a little more or vis-versa.
4. Stir in the squash puree, roasted squash, sage and cheese, season and serve immediately.



HALIFAX PRIDE AGM: (l to r) Ramona Westgate, Shannon Coombs, Kimberley Fowlow, Tamara Matheson, Liz McQuaid, Mike Davies-Cole, Trent Slaunwhite, Billy McDuff-Gillis, Hugo Dann, Patrick Daigle, Raymond Taavel, Dan MacKay, Gerrit Volkmann, Andy Hewlett (in Victoria)

ing and season duration, but also to move things forward and make the ECRSA a formal organization. People had the opportunity to volunteer for several positions and take on responsibility. To this point, the elected positions include President (Curtis Cartmill), Treasurer (Allison Bolton), Secretary (Rachelle Gionet), Scheduling Coordinator (Devin Deveau) and Operations Coordinator (Christina Matheson); the Communications/promotions Coordinator position is still available.

Several supporters of this year's season were acknowledged during the AGM, including Dave Houghton from Softball Nova Scotia, Melody Campbell from HRM Recreation, and Pat White and all the Umpires from the Halifax Umpires Association, who always showed huge support, encouragement and a great sense of humour during the games.

The AGM also bared a few delightful surprises. One was that the West-End Slo-Pitch Association based in Vancouver offered to be ECRSA's "sister league." This thoughtful gesture was welcomed by everyone, and WESA and ECRSA are now sisters leagues, Woo-hoo!



Curtis Cartmill presents the 2007 Spirit Award to Ashley Barron (Pirates) right, and Gerrit Volkmann (Blue Moon) left. Missing from photo are the two other winners MaryAnn Daye (Mollyz) and Allison Bolton (C-Vision).

Another surprise came from WESA as well: they provided a Spirit Award plaque, so that ECRSA can recognize individuals who showed tremendous spirit during

the season. This year, one player from each of the four teams was chosen for the award, all for different but meaningful reasons and unforgettable moments.

Though the season is just over, ECRSA President Curtis Cartmill already plans ahead several exciting things for the future. Inspired by the Mollyz team, who went to London, UK, for a tournament this summer, he started networking with other GLBT softball leagues across Canada to host a tournament in Halifax next summer, to which players from these leagues will be invited, as well as the folks from London. A trip to the WESA tournament during Labour Day Weekend 2008 is also in the planning. So don't miss out next year to play softball with the ECRSA!

#### ECRSA p 2

of four teams. "We were a pretty diverse group [of] guys and gals and also age ranges," says Cartmill. Local businesses were approached to sponsor the teams, reflected in the team names: C-Vision, Blue Moon, Mollyz (who already played together as an all-women team), and the Pirates, for which a sponsor has yet to be found.

The teams got together almost every Sunday for recreational games, usually at the St. Francis field in Halifax. "It was a great way to meet people outside of the bars

or Internet chat rooms", and with the weather being mostly on their side, players as well as spectators shared wonderful afternoons of sports and fun. Socializing afterwards for dinner or drinks made it even better.

The 1st season tournament started on Sunday August 26, delayed due to bad weather conditions. Afterwards, the first AGM was held at Blue Moon, with delicious snacks provided by Mollyz Diner.

The purpose of the AGM was to get general feedback from the players on issues such as schedul-

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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. lgby\_pamherst@hotmail.com, all emails confidential.

### Third Thursday of each month

Cumberland Pride Support Group: Social and support group for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and transsexual individuals in Amherst, Nova Scotia. Meets the third Thursday of each month. Contact information: Gerard Veldhoven at 902-660-5004 or E-mail: gaylords\_1975@hotmail.com

## Annapolis Valley

### Every Thursday

The Annapolis Valley Gay Mens Coffee House meets every Thursday Evening from 7-9pm. Also on the first Saturday of each month host an over 19 gay/lesbian Dance from 9pm-1am. October 6th and October 27th are the next two dances and there is NO dance in November. The 6th is the Thanks giving dance and 27th is the Halloween Costume Dance. Further info contact menembracingmen@hotmail.com or 902-765-2821.

### 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 Saturday of each month

Wileville Dance. Smoke free. For more details call 685-3297 or email info@southshorepride.ca or www.southshorepride.ca

## Cape Breton

### Every 2nd Saturday

Pride Cape Breton Society hosts community dances at the Southend Community Centre in Sydney; admission just \$5., and open to those 19 yrs. of age and older.

## Charlottetown

...see Prince Edward Island

## 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

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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 & More Reverent in tone) Starting June 24-Sept. 9, one 10

am service. For more info, call 835-8497.

### Last Friday of each month

Bedford United Church \*\*New group for members of the Rainbow Community\*\* You are invited to try out a group for fellowship and support of spiritually inclined members of the Rainbow Community! The group will gather on the last Friday of each month beginning September 28, 2007 from 7:30 - 9:00 pm in the church parlour (closest door off Sullivan's Hill). Bedford United is an Affirming Congregation and located at 1200 Bedford Hwy in Bedford. Meetings will be of a casual, informal nature with the group determining the agenda that they'd like the meetings to follow. Please call the church at 835-8497, e-mail affirmingcongregation@bedfordunited.com or visit http://bedfordunited.com/affirm.php for more information.

### 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 DISCUSSION GROUP! This is a Bi-sexual, Lesbian, Transgendered womyn's Only! -Free Group, NO Dues, NO Fee's- MEETINGS are every second SUNDAY. @6pm - 7:30pm(Please remember when applying to this group, send full name and a contact number or call sue at 499-0335, everthing is kept PRIVATE!) LOCATION: DALHOUSIE WOMEN'S CENTRE 6286 South Street (Beside Dalplex Driveway) HOW TO JOIN THIS GROUP: Come to a discussion night or send us your e-mail address or call a moderator (Sue @ 499-0335). If you have any questions. A discussion group for Bi-sexual, Lesbian, Transgendered 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 Sundays. http://ca.groups.yahoo.com/group/blt-womynofhalifax/ or [sueandrews1964@hotmail.com](mailto:sueandrews1964@hotmail.com)

### First and Third Wednesdays

LGB Youth Project Movie Night, 25 and under,

Send events to [submissions@wayves.ca](mailto:submissions@wayves.ca) now -- Event listings are free!  
Make sure you include contact info!

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# 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.

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## spiritual

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

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 at the front of the paper! (hint: always the first Friday of the month!)

## Groups & Services

Cont'd from p. 11

[fax.quaker.ca](mailto:fax.quaker.ca), meets every Sunday at Library at Atlantic School of Theology, Franklyn St. All very welcome.

Queer Play, Halifax: A Queer performing arts group in Halifax NS. email: [queerplay@gmail.com](mailto:queerplay@gmail.com)

Rainbow Playtime, Halifax: Food & social meet-

ings for same sex families with tots or couples considering parenthood. 461-9414

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

RESPECT, Truro: Students Making Healthy Decisions. 902-893-6300 email: [respect@nsac.ca](mailto:respect@nsac.ca) (P.O. Box 550, Nova Scotia Agricultural College, Truro, N.S. B2N 5E3)

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

Safe Harbour Metropolitan Community Church, Halifax: A Christian Church with an affirming ministry to the GBLT community. Everyone is welcome! 453-9249 email: [safeharbour@eastlink.ca](mailto:safeharbour@eastlink.ca) web: [safeharbour-mcc.com](http://safeharbour-mcc.com), meets every Sunday (11 am) at 2786 Agricola St. Bloomfield Centre, Suite #108

Saint Mary's Campus Outreach Society:

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

Sexual Health Centre for Cumberland County, Cumberland County: We provide sexuality information and education in an environment that respects and supports choice. 667-7500 email: [shccc@ns.aliantzinc.ca](mailto:shccc@ns.aliantzinc.ca) web: [cumberland-county.cfsi.info](http://cumberland-county.cfsi.info) at 12 LaPlanche St., Amherst Monday - Thursday, 9 - 5 (by chance or appt.) Confidential, hassle-free. Free condoms

Sexual Health Centre Lunenburg County, Bridgewater: Confidential information, support & services for all ages & genders. Free condoms & info pamphlets. 527-2868 email: [LunCo@NSSexualHealth.ca](mailto:LunCo@NSSexualHealth.ca) web: [www.LunCo.cfsi.info](http://www.LunCo.cfsi.info) (Open by chance or by appointment) at 4 Hillcrest Street Unit 8, Bridgewater. (On the corner of Dufferin and Hillcrest Streets). Closed during summers.

South Shore Pride Social Club, Bridgewater: for 19 & older. 685-3297 email: [info@southshorepride.ca](mailto:info@southshorepride.ca) web: [www.southshorepride.ca](http://www.southshorepride.ca) (No meetings at this time.) at We hold dances on the third Saturday of each month from 9:00PM to 1:00AM. No dance in July. Door prizes and 50/50 draw and a major prize draw at June dance. Cash Bar. Call or email for location.

Tatamagouche Centre, Tatamagouche: We are

an affirming centre, welcoming all gay, lesbian, and transgendered people. 1.800.218.2220 email: [tatacent@tatacentre.ca](mailto:tatacent@tatacentre.ca) web: [www.tatacentre.ca](http://www.tatacentre.ca)

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

The Rainbow - Atlantic Awareness Society, (Cape Breton/Halifax/Annapolis Valley): email: [tpineo@hotmail.com](mailto:tpineo@hotmail.com) web: To be released

Tightrope, Halifax: leather & denim brotherhood. See our monthly events listing at <http://gay.hfxns.org/LocalEvents>. 455-0623, ask for Don, meets 3rd Saturday

Truro Pride, Truro: A group supporting GLBT individuals in the Colchester County. 902-895-0931 email: [truropride@hotmail.com](mailto:truropride@hotmail.com), meets every Wednesday (6:30 p.m.) at Coffee and conversation every Wednesday evening at the FairTrade Cafe on Prince Street, between Commercial and Dominion Streets. The group is open to all and the cafe is a gay friendly environment. For information call the Northern AIDS Connection Society at 902-895-0931 or email [truropride@hotmail.com](mailto:truropride@hotmail.com) The Truro Pride also hosts dances and other activities, ask for details.

Universalist Unitarian Church, Halifax: an inclusive liberal religious community 429-5500, meets every Sunday (10:30) at 5500 Inglis St

Valley Gay Men's Coffee House, Kingston: socials for gay men; gay & lesbian dances 19+. 902-765-2821 email: [menembracingmen@yahoo.ca](mailto:menembracingmen@yahoo.ca) web: [faceitwithpride.tripod.com](http://faceitwithpride.tripod.com) (Coffee every Thursday 7-9pm, Dances on the first Saturday of the month, for the exception of in November. There is two dances held in October, On the First Saturday and the Last Saturday of that Month and NO Dance in November.) at email or call for locations or special events or themes

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

X-Pride, Antigonish: social & support group at X. 867- 5007 web: [www.stfx.ca/people/xpride](http://www.stfx.ca/people/xpride)

## Prince Edward Island (902)

Abeqweit Rainbow Collective, Charlottetown: Serving GLBTQQ Islanders, their friends and families. 894-5776 email: [info@arcpei.ca](mailto:info@arcpei.ca) web: [www.arcpei.ca](http://www.arcpei.ca), meets 2nd Tuesday (of each month) at ARC Offices at 144 Prince Street, 3rd floor

AIDS PEI, Charlottetown: 566-2437 email: [info@aidspei.com](mailto:info@aidspei.com) web: [www.aidspei.com](http://www.aidspei.com) at 144 Prince Street

Gay PEI Mailing List, province-wide: Electronic mailing list for all GLBT, questioning and friendly, focus is on PEI. email: [gay-pe-owner@yahoogroups.com](mailto:gay-pe-owner@yahoogroups.com) web: [groups.yahoo.com/group/gay-pe/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/gay-pe/) (It's an electronic list, there aren't meetings. You can join and start posting at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/gay-pe/> at any time. All first posts are moderated to stop spambots, otherwise, it's an open list.)

GLBT Youth group, Charlottetown: Safe Space Drop-Ins. 367-3408 or toll free 1 877 380 5776 email: [youth@arcpei.ca](mailto:youth@arcpei.ca) web: [youth.arcpei.ca](http://youth.arcpei.ca) at 144 Prince St. We have a lending library, books, movies, magazines and a place to hang out and chat. Special events planned throughout the year.

Narcotics Anonymous, Charlottetown: a fellowship of recovering drug addicts who meet regularly to help each other stay clean. 566-9733 or 1-800-205-8402 (Mondays & Fridays 8:00pm) at 178 Fitzroy St

PEI Pride, Charlottetown: Organizing The Island Pride Festival July 7th -14th, 2007. (902) 388-0969 email: [pridepei@sn.net](mailto:pridepei@sn.net) web: [www.peipride.com](http://www.peipride.com) (See webpage for meetings [www.peipride.com](http://www.peipride.com)) at 286 Fitzroy Street, Charlottetown, PE or phone (902) 388-0969

PFLAG Canada - PEI, Island wide: Providing support, education and advocacy for GLBT persons, their families and friends in PEI. 902-887-3620 email: [pflagpei@eastlink.ca](mailto:pflagpei@eastlink.ca) web: [www.pflagcanada.ca](http://www.pflagcanada.ca), meets 3rd Tuesday at Ferry Road Centre, 24 Ferry Road, Cornwall, PE

PRIZMS, Charlottetown: PEI's first all dance party! Catering to the gay and lesbian community. email: [PRIZMS@canada.com](mailto:PRIZMS@canada.com) (please email for upcoming events and location information) at PRIZMS expose yourself to the high energy- highly social atmosphere. "PRIZMS - Dance in the Light" Email for upcoming events dates and places

UPEI Rainbow Alliance, Charlottetown: Fellowship, information, social events, awareness-raising. All welcome. email: [rainbow@upe.ca](mailto:rainbow@upe.ca) web: [upeira.ca/index.php](http://upeira.ca/index.php) at see UPEI Women's Centre for more info

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## NSRAP—Thoughts from the Chair

I'm pleased to be able to report a flurry of recent activities for NSRAP. You won't be surprised to hear about the recent and continuing "Pride Flag Flap" in Truro, Nova Scotia. NSRAP was asked to make some public comments on the issue—but the bulk of the attention fell to Truro Pride. I was happy to offer some support to Charles Thompson of Truro Pride, but mostly, I continue to learn a lot from Charles and others about what advocacy looks like outside my own home of Halifax.

On a related issue, NSRAP was also asked to comment on some recent ads that were published in the Chronicle Herald and the Daily News. The ads were published by Pastor Perry Rockwood's "People's Gospel Hour" mission, and pointed to Bible passages which—on the Pastor's interpretation—condemn homosexuality. These ads were a direct response to the Truro issue.

Of course the ads are disappointing to those of us who care about equality, as they remind us how many people still condemn our "lifestyle." I encouraged people to disagree with Rockwood's interpretation, which they did in letters to the editor and elsewhere. I firmly believe that most Nova Scotians and most Christians disagree with Pastor Rockwood, and I said so.

What I didn't say was the magic words, "hate speech." Instead, I recognized that the opponents of equality have a right to state their views, so long as they refrain from extreme filth and violence. The Bible, as much as I disagree with some of it (or the way it is interpreted), isn't hate speech in my view. The right response is to

point out our disagreement with that kind of speech, but not to try to shut it down by calling it "hate speech."

It was a tough call, but I think it turned out to be the right call. Pastor Rockwood was picking a fight, as he's known to do. His attitude has always been "just try to stop me." The Rainbow Community didn't try to stop him, we just respectfully and loudly disagreed. As a result, he didn't get the fight he was looking for, and the People's Gospel Hour faded back into obscurity until the next time they come looking for a fight. I think that's a good day for equality.

Truro, though, was a different issue. There, the mayor wasn't just expressing a religious opinion—that's his right as a citizen. Instead, he was turning his own religious views into public policy. That's crossing a line and it's harmful to equality, and I'm glad that Truro Pride is following up with a human rights complaint. When your religious views impede on my rights, that's when the rainbow community needs to take action.

I'm honoured that NSRAP will have the opportunity to contemplate these issues further when, working with Truro Pride, we participate in a public forum in Truro on September 23. It promises to be an interesting and dynamic discussion, and I'm glad we can contribute to it.

And, that's what NSRAP's been up to lately. Looking forward to an active fall! As always, if you have any ideas or issues to bring to our attention, please contact us at [nsrap@nsrap.ca](mailto:nsrap@nsrap.ca).

## Letters

Dear Wayves:

I write this letter as I sit in my "spying room" within my castle, surrounded by my potions and enchanted objects designed to see the future or the past depending on my mood. Today, my mood is black; it mirrors the news I must, and feel is my duty to relate. Most recently, during a night of fun and frivolity, Her Majesty Natassha N! was winding down yet another fundraising event at the Blue Moon on Gottingen St. She was enjoying a well deserved break on the patio surrounded by several fellow courtiers. There were several interesting would-be consorts for her Majesty to delight herself with, but I digress.

As a flat toned melody wafted through the air and rested on the delicate ears of Natassha, her interest piqued. Being the consummate flirt, she proceeded to the patio's rear door (haha... rear door) to allow entry to who she thought may have been a customer locked outside. Although her intentions were completely innocent, the result of her innocent action was nothing but. Lords and Ladies, hold on to your codpieces - Her Majesty Natassha N! was violently

attacked. Nay, not accosted but attacked. These (and I use the term loosely) people thought that it would be fun to throw rocks at "anyone" I can only assume. Unfortunately, Her Majesty was the recipient of this obvious hate crime. For these individuals, for there was more than one, to make a conscious decision to hurl objects of hate and violence on another is disgusting. Her Majesty's blood was spilled! A severed capillary in the collarbone and her pride were the lone injuries in the incident. The assailants disappeared before any other members or staff could act. I, unfortunately, was performing Protocol duties inside the bar at the time and was oblivious to the incident and this was definitely a lucky stroke for these marauders. Her Majesty was attended by HMISH Imperial Crown Princess VII Coco Chanel, HISH King Of Diamonds V Jase N! and HMISH Imperial Grand Czarina (In Exile) Jenny Blake. A quick recovery of her composure after a two week period that also saw Natassha bury a close relative and Natassha emerged triumphant.

To those involved and whose

quick actions saved our Empress from undue embarrassment and questions, thank you. To those who chose hate over friendship or brotherly love, I only have this for you:

"Ocean Blue And Sky Of Grey, Spirits Of Old Hear What I Say, My Need To Know Of Where And When, The Place To Bare Its Life Has End, Wall Of Heartache, Wail Of Plea, The Guilt Of Sin Is Upon Thee! So It Is Written, So It Is Read, Upon Your Lips And So It Is Said."

To Her Majesty, Empress VII Of Halifax And All Of Nova Scotia Natassha N!, my heart filled apologies for not being by your side. I offer up for your this:

"Heathens Reign And Giffling Dance, Souls Imprisoned Upon First Glance, Imps Incisor, Madmans Siege, Swords And Shields Protect My Liege." Salve Rex Et Regina,

Signed, Her Most Imperial Sovereign Highness Imperial High Priestess (In Exile) Minister Of Protocol, Reign VII Cerina Romanoff Blake

Dear Wayves,

Thank you very much for the very timely article on Michael Glatze in the August 2007 issue of your newspaper.

I want you and your readers to know that Mike is not dazed and confused as you suggest. He is one of many thousands of men and women who are coming from a world of sexual misunderstanding and darkness into a life that is full of surprise and mystery. There may often be a sense of betrayal but this is due to a lack of communication and dialogue with evangelical Christians on these matters. Genu-

ine healing takes place as we open our hearts and lives to each other. I am not advocating fundamentalism but I believe heterosexuality is God's design.

Exodus International is an organization for those in confusion and conflict over same sex attractions. About 80 of their 125 North American locations offer help to teenagers. Do you realize more than 1,000 youths have visited the website called [livehope.org](http://livehope.org)? They can get referrals from 45 countries from schools, friends as well as churches and parents.

The Christian church does not have

a great history in its treatment of the sexually wounded and broken who dare to open its doors. But this is changing as evangelical churches are waking up to the need in their own parking lot. Some of your readers will remember Pat (Allen) Lawrence, one of the key leaders in Exodus International when she visited Halifax a few years ago. I am not affiliated in any way with Exodus but I would like to dialog with any of your readers and if you are in Toronto or come for a visit, my door is open to you.

Thank you  
(signed)

Al Stewart, Toronto

Dear Wayves:

Municipalities not refusing to fly the flag is old news. Whining is not the route I would take. I would buy a flag pole, a Gay flag and fly it. And encourage others to do the same. Yes, these things cost money and your neighbours might squirm. But surely a hundred Gay flags flying from homes and businesses would be more inspiring than one grudgingly flown at City Hall. Only in a few communities do politician court the GLBT vote. Obviously Truro is not one of them. In this case the community next door has an enlightened mayor. Other municipalities are not so lucky.

The story about boycotting Truro because of the mayor's attitude is puzzling. Do these people also boycott the many other places that elect bigots to public office? If so, they should start by refusing to travel to the USA, especially Florida. But I doubt that many gay men would pass up a chance to fornicate in the Pines on Fire Island or many lesbians refuse to attend

the Dinah Shore Golf Classic in Palms Springs because many U.S. politicians (probably most) oppose same gender marriage.

Sincerely,  
Douglas G. Warnock  
Ottawa, Ontario



### Last month's question:

In the last Wayves issue we asked you dear readers "Should an elected official (such as the Mayor of Truro) be allowed to selectively govern, based on his own conviction?" We received 15 responses, unanimously stating "No!"

One reader commented their response by saying that officials should "be more open to today's lifestyles and allow individuals to make their own choices without stigmatism."

Another one put the question and the response in a broader perspective. "This has already been decided in cases such as Hill v. Woodside (1998) in New Brunswick, and Hudler v. London (1997) in Ontario. Officials are elected to do a job, their jobs involve certain tasks, and they are required to perform these tasks under the terms of the Human Rights Act, i.e. without discrimination. My only question on this matter is, why Truro is a decade behind of the rest of the country?"

One more drastic response states that "the mayor should be thrown out for discrimination and the spread of intolerance based on his own personal religious beliefs. This is the type of behavior which is exhibited by such groups as the Taliban!"

### This month's question:

This time around, we would like to ask "Are you planning to observe the Transgender Remembrance Day? And if so, how?" You Tell Us at [wayves.ca](http://wayves.ca)!

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# WAYS

October 2007



Photo by EG Photo  
Cover design by Cameron MacLeod

**Vital Statistics asks: "Who's your daddy?"**  
**Plus: Rainbow Community Centre Ideas Studied**  
**St. John's gets "Re-Zoned"**