

# Wayves

## Kibitz Turns 100!

### An Afternoon With Ralph Higgins

By Wayves Staff

So Ralph this is your Diamond Jubilee. With the March issue you have authored one hundred columns of Kibitz and Bitch under the pen name Crawford Hastie.

#### Wayves: Who is Crawford Hastie? Is he your alter ego?

Ralph Higgins: Crawford was born out of a desire to talk about the everyday life of a gay man without being restricted by the hard, cold facts of everyday life. Besides actual events and people in my real life, Crawford has the freedom to take from the experiences of friends and acquaintances or to indulge in that fantasy that we all have of thinking of the right thing to say AFTER the fact. Crawford contains elements of me but he is most assuredly not me—an alter ego, yes. He's a bit bolder, somewhat less concerned about other people's feelings and a bit harsher in his judgements but we generally agree on essential things. Crawford's favourite thing is to shout out that the emperor has no clothes: to call attention to bullshit, to the overrated and the underappreciated.

**W:** Tom has been reading about your thoughts and adventures eleven times a year without fail for almost ten years. How did you come up with the concept of writing letters to Tom as a column "modus operandi"?

RH: My friend, Tom, does exist and some of the things that Crawford has said about him are factual. Tom has read some of the columns and is amused, I think. I was already writing to Tom (as Ralph) when the idea of the column came along so it was an easy transition.

**W:** And what exactly is your relationship with Tom? Does he ever write back?

RH: Tom said on one occasion that he found Crawford a bit of a stereotype, but then said he knew lots of people whose opinions meshed with Crawford's. He's pleased with Crawford's longevity, I think. I have occasionally heard from him when he will say, "I see you are still writing to me in that column."

**W:** What made you decide to write under a pen name? Does it allow you greater freedom to write about

Crawford's queer life?

RH: An alter ego is liberating. Several friends have told me that they want to have their own alter egos, to say the things they are a bit afraid of saying or to explore what they would say if they didn't have to face any consequences. Like wearing a mask, acting a part on stage or being a ventriloquist and having a dummy speak for you. (Ouch! Crawford did not like the last comparison at all!)

**W:** You've been around the block a few times... when Crawford looks back, how have things changed?

RH: Crawford resents the tone of that remark! Around the block, indeed! However, it is true that things have changed quite a lot in the last ten years or so. Gay marriage, attitudes about adoption, "out" politicians. It is both exhilarating and frightening. Exciting to see how far we've come yet disheartening to see things like what is happening in Uganda. We queer Canadians have an opportunity to reach out to our rainbow family members around the globe. Comple-

Cont'd on Page 6

Photo by Randall Perry



## Norman Carter



Norman and Gerard at their wedding in Amherst Saturday, October 16, 2004. Norman and Gerard were together for thirty-five years. They were the first gay couple to be legally married in Atlantic Canada. It is difficult to think of one without the other, since you rarely saw one without the other. As Gerard moves forward in the days and months ahead, Norman will be with him in some way, in a whiff of cigarette smoke and a raucous laugh, and his presence will be felt for a long time to come - Eldon Hayes.

Monday, January 11, 2010 was a bright but wintry day in Amherst, Nova Scotia as people from all across the Maritimes and a good chunk of the rest of Canada converged on the funeral of Norman Carter, one half of the Maritimes' first married gay couple.

Vehicles were parked in the streets for blocks around Campbell's funeral home as my partner and I drove up, which was our first indication of the standing room only crowd we were about to experience inside the funeral home.

The main chapel and gallery were full as we entered and we were shown to another room that had been opened up for the overflow. On the way we stopped for a moment with Gerard, Norman's spouse, for a hug and some whispered condolences, took our seats and finally had a chance to look around.

It was a very eclectic crowd, to say the least. There were people from all ages and all walks of life, straight, queer, cross-dressed, transgendered, students, seniors, families, couples and individuals. All intermingled, sitting one beside the other for the most powerful demonstration perhaps I've yet seen of the inclusiveness engendered by Norman and Gerard. They have worked steadily for years

to increase gay/straight inclusiveness and it was satisfying indeed to see the fruits of their labours, despite the fact that it was such a sombre occasion.

Perhaps that last should be rephrased to "started as such a sombre occasion," because it soon became a celebration of Norman's life, which was anything but dull and sad. There were still tears—how could there not be?—but they were tempered with laughter and love. The standing room only crowd was regaled with amusing anecdotes from Norman's life by his family and closest friends. It was uplifting and every bit in the spirit with which Norman lived his life.

The reception afterward at the nearby Knights of Columbus hall went very well. Many more amusing and touching stories of Norman's life were heard and many old friends and acquaintances touched base for the first time in years.

I would be remiss if I did not pass

along a couple of the most wonderful comments that I became aware of, the first thanks to Dana O: "Norman's funeral was THE social event of the season... just as Norman would have wanted it! I've never laughed so hard at such a sad event—a testament to the unique shenanigans of an unforgettable character!" The second, from Elizabeth J, wraps it up in a way that I think Norman would have very much approved of: "There's nothing like a fabulous send-off for an old queen."

On our way out, we again visited Gerard and stopped for a few words. He looked up at us, eyes a little red and teary and asked, "Did you think it went well, guys?" I gave him a hug, squeezed his shoulder and told him, "It went perfectly, Gerard, absolutely perfectly. Norman would have been proud."

He looked up and bestowed upon us his wonderful grandfatherly smile and said simply, "Thanks, boys."

## Regular Columns

Ask Ian 10 • Chef's Corner 10 • Groups & Services 12-13  
• Kibitz and Bitch 6 • The Last Word 14 • Ramblings From  
the Sanctuary Garden 11 • Letters 14 • You Tell Us 14

April Deadline: Friday March 5 (first Friday of every month!)

# Events Around Atlantic Canada

## Dieppe Volleyball

Just a reminder to all those interested that volleyball is held every Thursday from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the École Carrefour de l'Acadie in Dieppe, NB.

## Pool Tournament

Halifax — Menz Bar, in conjunction with Moosehead, will hold a pool tournament every Tuesday and Thursday. Play starts at 8:00 p.m. Bartender Darryll Venoit is organizing the event and it will go for the next thirteen weeks. The cost to play is \$5.00 per week, which will go to the week thirteen jackpot.

The goal is eight people per team. Each night's winner will be awarded gift certificates and they qualify to advance to the week 13 finals. The lucky playoff winners will be awarded a cash prize jackpot.

If you want more information drop by Menz bar or call Darryll at (902) 466-6969.

## Aboriginal Youth HIV/AIDS Gathering

Atlantic Region Aboriginal Youth HIV/AIDS Gathering Labrador Inn, Goose Bay, Labrador January 18 and 19, 2010

"In every decision, you must consider the impact on the seventh generation" — Great Law of Peace of the Haudenosaunee

The Canadian AIDS Treatment Information Exchange (CATIE) along with The Native Youth Sexual Health Network, and Healing Our Nations are proud to host a recent Aboriginal youth HIV/AIDS gathering in Labrador.

HIV and AIDS are affecting our communities at sweeping rates, but what do youth have to do with it? How can our young people become directly involved in being educated about HIV, and then go out and educate others?

"Reawaken the Spirit" was a chance for 30 Aboriginal youth from across the Atlantic to gather in Labrador to talk about HIV/AIDS! This two day gathering was for Aboriginal youth ages 16 to 30 and took place in Happy Valley — Goose Bay on January 18 and 19. This was an opportunity for Aboriginal youth to share their perspective, speak their truth and get the knowledge they need to stop HIV for the next seven generations and beyond.

The participants were from all over the Atlantic region. One youth is from the Millbrook First Nations community in NS, one from the St. Mary's First Nation community in NB, and another from Eel River Bar First Nation in NB. There were 15 local youth from Happy Valley —

Goose Bay. Also participants came from Natuashish and Nunatsiavut in northern Labrador.

The very successful two day gathering consisted of a "youth-talking-to-youth" day when everyone became both a presenter and a participant, as well as an education day based on the identified knowledge information requests of Aboriginal youth across the Atlantic.

In the Spirit of Healing, Julie Thomas (Healing Our Nations) and Jessica Yee (The Native Youth Sexual Health Network)

## Yarmouth Pride Group

Southwest Nova Pride was conceived one afternoon at Tim Horton's on Stars Road in Yarmouth, when Jack, Danny and Dianne created the first announcement to be put in the local newspaper for our first meeting June 25, 2009.

The local Beacon United Church was kind enough to offer us their parlor to hold our meetings, even though our group has no religious affiliation. Seven people attended our first meeting and, considering our small community, this was very encouraging.

We are now thrilled to report that, a mere 8 months later, we have about 40 people in our group. We are from all walks of life, age groups and areas—including the Northeastern US and Ontario. We believe the gay community in the Yarmouth area is now ready, willing and able to "come out" and play.

Our meetings give us an opportunity to get to know each other, discuss and plan events and opportunities, as well as having fun at the same time. We often have events at our meetings, which have included games, live music and a pizza/movie night.

The group has recently started to have events outside of our meetings, such as our first annual potluck Christmas party and bowling. We have plans for much more in the upcoming months. Our goal is to have, at least, one social event each month all year round to ensure there is something for everyone.

The participation of our members is incredible. Our events have been increasingly well attended, which tells

us the time is right to make Southwest Nova Scotia a gay friendly place to live and work. Our agenda is not to be political, only to help all gay people feel at home in Southwest Nova Scotia.

We were extremely pleased to have been invited by the NSCC, Yarmouth, Human Resources class and the Dalhousie School of Nursing class at the Yarmouth (Hospital) Medical Centre, to speak to their students about living a gay lifestyle. Our group was represented by a single female and a married male couple. Each told their own personal stories and responded to a great many questions afterwards. This has been a positive experience for all involved.

We are pleased to have this opportunity with Wayves to let people know Southwest Nova Pride is here and beginning to be a positive part of living in Nova Scotia, especially in a small community.

We are a social and support group. Meetings are held on the second Friday of every month at 7:00 pm in the Beacon United Church. We can be reached by e-mail at jackanddan@eastlink.ca or diannefcc@yar.eatlink.ca, or by phone at (902) 645-2914.

## The Friday Club

Halifax — The idea of the Friday Club originated in conversation among a few friends, rehashing the familiar topic of their being relatively few venues for a friendly meeting, not late at night, where friends could count on seeing a few people they know, and some they don't, without making special plans. The group also has the "Mediterranean" habit of going for a drink/coffee after work, instead of heading home directly, of socializing in public spaces rather than in the homes of friends.

We quickly thought of the Company House on Gottingen as a welcoming, interesting, flexible space, where people can move around, rearrange

tables, and so on, unlike in most bars or restaurants. The owners were very receptive to the idea, and so it started. The first meeting was late November or early December, where at least twenty-five people turned up. We met every week up to Christmas, and then there was a lapse until January.

The event is informal, but we hope it will happen every week. We have an email list, and we encourage everyone to share the idea with friends. No one needs an invitation! The theory is that if two hundred people know about it, then it's likely there will be a good-sized group every week. At the moment it's pretty much all men, but the Company House is owned by women, and obviously a very comfortable place for women, so we just need to get the word out. Tell your friends about it.

Friday Club happens every week, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m., which just happens to coincide with Happy Hour. Light meals are available, or snacks to go along with a drink. What exactly the meeting consists of depends on what we make of it. So far, it's a lot of fun and a good place to end the work week and plan the weekend. For more information, contact Bruce Greenfield at Bruce.Greenfield@DAL.CA.

## Lesbian Book Club

Fredericton — Interested in meeting new friends to discuss great lesbian fiction/non-fiction and fabulous films? This new group will meet monthly, alternating books and films each month. Free to join and open to anybody.

For more info, please contact: lewfredericton@hotmail.com or visit lewfredericton.blogspot.com.

## New Day Job for Wayves Staffer

Halifax — Wayves Contributor Angus Campbell has accepted the position of Executive Director of the Halifax Sexual Health Centre (formerly Planned Parenthood.) Formerly at the Hepatitis Outreach Society, Angus says, "I realize I am still able to help the hepatitis cause as well as other causes that are important to me such as HIV/AIDS, sexual health, reproductive health, and issues facing Nova Scotia's youth."

Angus may be reached at angus@wayves.ca .

## Truro Rainbow Proud

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

## Moncton Magic Updates

by Nathaniel Adams, Creator of Moncton Magic Instant Messenger is now available! When you sign into Moncton Magic you are now able to chat with anyone who happens to be online at the same time.

Updates: Recent news - Red Party at Triangles! Calendar of events: What's happening?

Take a few minutes to review the LGBT Community forum and share your opinion on posted topics or feel free to create your own.

  
**NEXT ISSUE  
DEADLINE:  
First Friday  
of the Month**

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Lets all keep reaching out and moving forward. The web page is moncton-magic.webs.com.

## Rainbow Warriors

Antigonish — Rainbow Warriors: we're a youth-run youth group for LGBTQ youth and Allies in Antigonish, Nova Scotia. We meet everyone monday from 3:00-5:00pm in the Antigonish Women's Resource Centre, and we can be contacted via this email address (antigonishrainbowwarriors@gmail.com) or on our facebook group (Rainbow Warriors - AHAH!)

## Wanted: Condom Blitzers

Halifax — AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia is currently looking for gay and bisexual men 19 and over to do bar-based condom blitzes. The average commitment (per event) would be between 2 - 3 hours and you don't need to be a "sexpert" as any training needed is provided.

Interested individuals please contact me directly at gmhc@acns.ns.ca, or 425-4882 ext 222.

Come have some fun, meet some good people and make a difference in your community.

## Canadian Aids Aboriginal Network

Marni Amirault and Fred Andersen have recently been hired by the Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network (CAAN) as community-based research facilitators. Marni is the facilitator for the east; Fred is the facilitator for the west. Both are very excited to have the opportunity to work with the community in the coming months.

The Network publishes the Canadian Journal of Aboriginal Community-Based HIV/AIDS Research (CJACBR), an annual on-line and paper journal published as a service to its members and others with an interest in aboriginal community-based HIV/AIDS research. The call for papers for the 2010 issue of the Journal is available on the CAAN website, www.caan.ca. Deadline for submissions is March 15, 2010.

Marni would like to point out

### Our Cover:

HISM, Empress IV, Robin Sophia Derring, The Empress of De-Nile, Deny, Deny and Demand Proof - 80 Proof! aka Robin Derring of Hamilton, Ontario performs at ISCANS Coronation X. Photo by Gabe Saulnier. Cover Design Cam MacLeod. See page 9 for story.

that there are a number of funding opportunities which exist through the Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR). Visit www.cihr.ca for more information, or get in touch with Marni and she'll help steer you in the right direction.

Marni and Fred can be contacted via e-mail at marnia@caan.ca and freda@caan.ca, respectively. Marni can be reached at the CAAN office in Dartmouth at (902) 433-0900, by fax at (902) 433-3041 and by post at 301-154 Willowdale Drive, Dartmouth, NS, B2V 2W4.

## Men's Health Workshop

A workshop on Gay Men's Health and HIV Prevention will be presented in North Sydney by the AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia's Gay Men's Health coordinator Chris Aucoin on Tuesday, March 9, at the Northside General Hospital in North Sydney.

The workshop is for community-based organizations and healthcare workers who work with gay and bisexual men as part of their clientele. It is also for gay community members and advocates. Students in health-related programs are also welcome if space permits. Areas touched on in the workshop will include:

- Population Health and the Gay Men's Health movement;
- the "determinants of health" as they apply to gay men;
- HIV prevention through harm reduction approaches;
- health issues of particular concern for gay men; and
- building cultural capacity re working with gay men.

There is no charge for the workshop but space is limited and advance registration is required. Contact workshop presenter Chris Aucoin at 1 (800) 566-2437 ext. 222 or via email at gmhc@acns.ns.ca for more information.

## Abegweit Rainbow Collective

ARCPEI offers an urban night club experience in Charlottetown with fast and friendly hospitality, which adds to your night of enjoyment. We play nothing but the hottest dance music that you want to hear, combined with the most current dance tracks from across the planet. We encourage requests of your favorite dance music.

### Wayves On Line!

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

Our dance parties offer Prince Edward Island the only 100 gay-friendly/operated event to go out in a harassment-free environment, where you can party safely with your friends. To ensure this we have our very own professional security on site for your added protection.

After all that, we add our mix of professional club lighting with our crisp sound to ensure that your night will not disappoint. The party will unfold on Charlottetown's largest dance floor. Come party with us at the Studio located in the Confederation Center of the Arts, Charlottetown, P.E.I.

Our next dance party dates are as follows. March 13, April 3, April 17 and May 1. Any updates will be posted at www.warcoppei.com. For all the latest info, please log on and join our mailing list..

## Cumberland Bowling:

Amherst — Due to a booking error, the March bowling night has been changed from March 5th to March 4th. Here's the facts:

Cumberland Pride Family/Community Bowling Night, March 4th, King Pin Lanes, Amherst. The bowling is \$5.00 per person, and it's from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM. All friends and family welcome to come enjoy a night of bowling.

## Important WAYVES Dates!

### Issue Content Deadlines:

**Fridays:** Mar 5, Apr 2; May 7, Jun 4: that is, the first Friday of each month (skipping January.) You can send your news, ideas, comments, criticisms, columns, cartoons and more to submissions@wayves.ca any time!

### Production Meetings

**(Halifax): Mondays:** Mar 8, Apr 6, May 10, Jun 7: help decide what goes in the next issue, 7:30 PM, Blowers St Paper Chase, Halifax. All welcome, every meeting.

### Magazine Layout (Halifax):

Mar 14, Apr 11, May 16, Jun 13: help build the paper - no special skills required, just enthusiasm, and joining us even once, or for a few hours helps a LOT! 9:30 AM. Email us for location.

**We are on the stands, in the mail, and online on the fourth Friday of every month.**

# Wayves Calendar 2010

Readers's Month	Content Deadline	Editorial Meeting	Layout	On The Stands
<b>2010</b>				
March	Feb 5	Feb 8	Feb 14	Feb 26
April	Mar 5	Mar 8	Mar 14	Mar 26
May	Apr 2	Apr 6	Apr 11	Apr 23
June	May 7	May 10	May 16	May 28
July	Jun 4	Jun 7	Jun 13	Jun 25
August	Jul 2	Jul 5	Jul 11	Jul 23
September	Aug 6	Aug 9	Aug 15	Aug 27
October	Sep 3	Sep 7	Sep 12	Sep 24
November	Oct 1	Oct 4	Oct 10	Oct 22
December	Nov 5	Nov 8	Nov 14	Nov 27
<b>2011</b>				
Jan-Feb 2011	Dec 3	Dec 6	Dec 12	Dec 31

## Wayves

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

Wayves is an independent publication, published every month except February by a non-profit collective. Anyone who contributes to Wayves is automatically considered to be a member of the collective and is welcome to participate in all meetings and discussions. Wayves reserves the right to refuse material that might be reasonably considered heterosexism, racism, sexism or an attack on individuals or communities. Opinions expressed in Wayves are not necessarily those of the editorial collective. The article submission deadlines are posted in the *Important Wayves Dates* section of this page. Articles should be a maximum of 1,000 words and may be edited for length. Submissions should be emailed in plain text to the address below. Articles and letters may be published with pseudonyms or anonymously, but Wayves must have contact information for the author. The copyright for all submissions remains the property of the original author/creator.

Advertising: Jim Bain, Advertising Manager, email at ads@wayves.ca or call 902-889-2229. Responsibility for errors in advertisements is limited to the value of the space.

Circulation: use the email address below. Subscriptions, per year, are in Canadian dollars: \$20 13% HST = \$22.60 in Canada, \$30 in the United States, and \$35 elsewhere. Send cheque or money order to the postal address below.

### Wayves

P.O. Box 34090, Scotia Square  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
B3J 3S1  
submissions@wayves.ca  
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Chase for meeting  
space  
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Atlantic Canada and around the country. If there are none handy to your home, write to submissions@wayves.ca and tell us where we should be!

# NSRAP Report

by Matthew Numer, Chair

Welcome to a new monthly feature in Wayves, a regular report from the Nova Scotia Action Project (NSRAP). We appreciate Wayves giving us this space to speak with you directly. This year marks the fifteenth anniversary of NSRAP. Anniversaries of this kind provide NSRAP an excellent opportunity to evaluate our primary goal of "Equality for All!" In future columns we will examine some of our past history and take a look at the current "State of the LGBT Movement" but we wanted to take the opportunity of this first report to tell you what we are working on right now.

It has been a long cherished dream of many in our community, including NSRAP, to see an LGBT Community Centre in Halifax. In 2007, NSRAP received funding from Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) to study the idea. We partnered with other community organizations to host a Town Hall meeting where the subject of a community centre occupied the majority of the discussion. The ideas

that emerged from that conversation fed directly into the questions that made up the survey conducted by NSRAP at Halifax Pride's Community Fair last summer. Two hundred and thirty people responded to fifteen questions ranging from "Do you live in HRM?" to "What is the most important issue facing the LGBT Community in Nova Scotia today?"

In addition to tabulating data from all 230 surveys (each with more than 90 possible responses), NSRAP has been conducting interviews with staff at other LGBT Community Centres across Canada, exploring the programs they offer, the degree of community engagement, and their sources of funding. The final report is nearing completion and will be made public at the beginning of March, along with a series of recommendations on how to move the process forward. We will be very keen to hear what your ideas are, and how, as a community, we can build this project together.

In the meantime, we can tell you that 95% of those who took the survey (including straight allies) said

they wanted to see an LGBT Community Centre in HRM. Out of the 47 respondents who came from outside of HRM, 44 (94%) wanted to see the centre built in Halifax! Among other interesting information, the survey reveals the Youth Project is by far the most recognized and admired LGBT service provider in the province. This is a great testament to the hard work and dedication of the staff and volunteers of this pioneering organization!

We learned that our community cares deeply about health care, particularly issues related to trans people and LGBT seniors. NSRAP has been working with the transgender community and its allies to advocate on behalf of the community. NSRAP is also making LGBT seniors issues a priority.

According to those who took the survey, by far the most important issue facing LGBT Nova Scotians is acceptance by the broader community. Despite gaining our full legal rights, LGBT Nova Scotians strongly believe that we have yet to achieve so-

cial equality. There have been enough incidents in the last few years to know that belief is rooted in fact. Whether it was the mass spewing of hate in response to MP Scott Brison's Christmas card showing himself and his husband, the recent banning of the Rainbow Flag in Pictou County and other communities, or the anecdotal evidence that many of us could easily supply, we all know that homophobia and transphobia are still facts of life in Nova Scotia.

Last December in Montreal, Justice Minister Kathleen Weil unveiled the "Quebec Policy Against Homophobia: Moving Towards Social Equality." Earlier that month the Quebec government committed \$500,000 to LGBT seniors' issues. Previously, the Quebec Human Rights Commission, working with LGBT community groups, academics, and government agencies, undertook a large scale study of discrimination against sexual and gender identity minorities. These latest funding and policy announcements grew directly from that study. There is no reason

why such a study, and such a policy, should not be implemented here. NSRAP believes that more must be done to bring Nova Scotia's LGBT Community the full social equality that it deserves. We are committed to that struggle.

One of our goals is to be more readily accessible to you, our community. Thanks to the generosity of Doug Melanson and David Landry, we now have office space at Menz Bar, 2182 Gottingen Street. The office is staffed weekdays, Monday through Thursdays, from 3:30 - 6:30pm. Please feel free to drop by with your questions or concerns. You can also call us at (902) 444-3206 and our email address is nsrap@nsrap.ca. We look forward to hearing from you and to working with you as we move towards "Equality for All!"

Matthew Numer teaches at the School of Health and Human Performance at Dalhousie University. He has been on the board of NSRAP since 2007 and was elected Chair at the NSRAP Annual General Meeting in June, 2009.

## Northern AIDS Connection Society News

The Northern AIDS Connection Society (NACS) has many events and activities planned for 2010. On February 17 at the NS Community College Truro Campus, McCarthy Library, Dr. Jean Harrowing, Assistant Professor in the Baccalaureate Nursing Program at the University of Lethbridge Alberta, spoke on the contextual factors that influence health and health care in sub-Saharan Africa and our role as Canadians working within these communities and involving students in the process of global citizenship.

Plans are under way for the 2010 Art for AIDS Auction, to be held at the Best Western Glengarry Hotel in Truro on June 14, 2010. The auction will display many pieces of art created by some very talented local artist in the Northern Region of Nova Scotia. The evening will begin with a 6:00 p.m. viewing and at the auction will begin an hour later. Also during the evening you can put bids on silent auction items. There will be snacks/cash bar provided and the auction

will promise to be a fun filled night so come and enjoy. For more information call the office at (902) 895-0931.

The Canadian AIDS Treatment and Information Exchange hosted a workshop on February 24, 2010, at the Best Western Glengarry Hotel in Truro. NACS will have a presence at the 6th Annual Canadian Skills Building Symposium, to be held in Montreal on March 4-7. Karen Kitzilsen, Executive Director of NACS,

will deliver a poster presentation reporting on the Hepatitis C Awareness Project that was conducted in the Northern Region of Nova Scotia. NACS received funding through the Public Health agency of Canada for this project.

NACS also co-hosted a workshop with PASAN (Prisoners HIV/AIDS Support Action Network) in Truro on February 2nd at the Best Western Glengarry. Other AIDS Service

Organizations from around Atlantic Canada participated. Topics included the planning and delivery of HIV/AIDS programming at a community based level for people in prisons.

NACS is starting a condom co-op initiative. The idea has been in the works for some time and now through interest from community partners has become a reality. Many community organizations have requested condoms, we are responding to the need enabling our community

partners to purchase condoms for their organizations to distribute. An innovative way to cover the cost of the condoms is for community partners to put a team in the Scotiabank AIDS Walk for Life and receive half the money they raise. The purchase of condoms will assist in promotion of safer sex practices and to help reduce the spread of HIV and other Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI's). For more information please contact our office at (902) 895-0931.

### LOOSE ENDS



### HALIFAX CURLING

Pink Broom Fundraiser Dance in support of  
GLBT Co-ed Recreational Curling League

Tickets: \$10 - Available at Venus Envy

**Saturday, March 20, 2010**

For more event info: [www.looseends.ca](http://www.looseends.ca)

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# Gay Men's HIV Myths: Part 3

By Chris Aucoin

"A man too busy to take care of his health is like a mechanic too busy to take care of his tools." (Spanish proverb)

So guys, how well have you been looking after your tools? Last fall I wrote about four common myths that many gay men have about HIV. This month I want to talk about two additional HIV myths that we as gay and bi men need to shatter. (For more information about the below myths or other common HIV myths please go to [GayMensHIVMyths.pbworks.com](http://GayMensHIVMyths.pbworks.com).)

**HIV MYTH #5:** "I'm too young to have anything to worry about!"

HIV infection rates amongst gay men have been gradually increasing for much of the past decade. Recent research has shown that among gay and bisexual men those under 24 are the fastest growing group of new HIV infections. Gay men as a whole are 50 times more likely to get infected with HIV than the general population so while we are not talking about a "gay disease" we are talking about something that affects us as a community to a greater degree compared to the general population. That being the case we need to be realistic

about what that means if we're going to look after our bodies. That means learning how to protect ourselves and our partners. HIV/AIDS is not only an old(er) gay man's concern. Having sex with (just) young sexual partners is not a way for you to avoid risk either.

You can never truly know for certain what another person's HIV status is, regardless of age or appearance. It is what it is. A man may not know he's infected. And despite a common misconception you can't tell if someone else (or even yourself) is HIV positive just by how they look (Myth #1). To protect yourself from possible infection it's more effective to assume that every sexual partner may place you at risk for HIV or other STIs (sexually transmitted infections) and to take steps to reduce your risk. So, this is about the action and the risk attached and not about people and our assumptions about them. This might involve using condoms for fucking every time; that's still the "gold standard" in HIV prevention as almost ALL HIV infections resulting from sex between men were

contracted through unprotected anal sex. Even if you're fucking without a condom today there's also a range of what are called "harm reduction" approaches that can still reduce your risk of HIV. At the AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia (ACNS) we are always open to talk about ways to reduce risk of transmission, things you may not

*75% of all new HIV infections amongst gay and bisexual men are the result of unprotected sex with a partner who does not yet know he is HIV-positive*

even have thought of!

**HIV MYTH #6:** "An HIV positive test would ruin my life!"

Knowing that you are HIV positive can actually save your life... and the lives of all those you are intimate with. While there is no doubt that being diagnosed with a major and (still) non-curable illness is difficult news to hear, it is far better to know about an infection early in the game when you have more options. With today's treatments HIV does not need to mature to AIDS; but if ignored, it surely will! The sooner you know

if you've become infected the better your HIV treatment options will be, and the easier it will be to manage. The sooner you know the less likely you're going to pass on the virus to someone else. Research has shown that most gay men who know they're HIV-positive alter their behaviour in a variety of ways to reduce the risk of transmission to others.

When it's estimated that 75% of all new HIV infections amongst gay and bisexual men are the result of unprotected sex with a partner who does not yet know he is HIV-positive it's clear that we're not getting tested often enough, and it's clear we're not reducing our risk. Knowledge is indeed power. Get tested for HIV and other STIs on a regular basis: at least once a year. Many STIs (HIV included) can be present without any symptoms and all STIs are reason for concern. If either sexual partner has an STI the risk of a possible HIV infection is 4 times higher because of the other STI. While most STIs can be treated and cured with common antibiotics if left untreated even non-HIV STIs can lead to serious non-reversible health problems.

Regardless of what you found out in your last HIV test it's important to take measures to reduce your risk of getting, or giving, HIV and other STIs as much as you can. There are lots of things you can do to reduce your risk of contracting (or spreading) any sexually transmitted infection. It's not only a matter of what you do, but how you do it. Use condoms if at all possible. Learn more about harm reduction practices for preventing both HIV and other STIs. To learn more about both the "what" and the "how" contact ACNS or your local AIDS service organization (check out the listings in Wayves Groups & Services section). It's your sexual health and you deserve both good sex AND good health. Take pride in your health, remember... look after your tools!

Chris Aucoin is the Gay Men's Health Coordinator at the AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia. If you have questions or would like to talk, contact Chris (or any ACNS staff member). He can be reached at [gmhc@acns.ns.ca](mailto:gmhc@acns.ns.ca) or (902) 425-4882, ext. 222 or 1 (800) 566-2437, ext. 222 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

## Sex Now Survey Goes National!

### Guys knowing guys.

That's what the Sex Now Survey is all about. Vancouver's Community Based Research Centre has been researching gay men's sexuality, health and culture for more than a decade through their annual Sex Now Survey. Gay men's health is their agenda and research is showing how. How we do what we do. What we think about what we do. How we might want to change some of what we do, etc., etc. The AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia (ACNS) has spearheaded both a local and regional version of the Sex Now Survey of gay men (based on BC's)

in 2005 and 2006-07 respectively. The most recent local Sex Now report was published just a little over a year ago and led to the "Gay Men's HIV Myths" articles that have been published in Wayves (see the latest in this issue) and the new "Gay Men's HIV Myths" web-based campaign that is just being launched this spring (see [GayMensHIVMyths.pbworks.com](http://GayMensHIVMyths.pbworks.com)). Now the Community Based Research Centre in BC is extending the Sex Now

Survey across Canada and beyond.

"It's crucial that we keep doing research on gay men's health in Canada and especially in our own region," says Maria MacIntosh, Executive Director of ACNS. "Without that gathered information it's harder to get funding to do crucial things like HIV prevention work, and without that info it's harder to know what issues exactly need to be addressed, not only in HIV prevention work, but

also in addressing all kinds of other sexual health, and broader gay men's health issues."

In the past the survey has been done in our region using good ol' paper and pencils and clipboards. That approach takes a lot of time and effort: to organize volunteers to ask the questions, to compile data, and then analyze the results and explore the meanings of those results. The process often takes a year or more to get to

the point where information is ready to be released to the public. Now the national survey is being done online which will make collecting and sorting through the data so much faster and allow for the releasing of results much sooner with the initial results of the current survey planned for a release this summer.

The survey is almost all multiple choice questions and only takes about 20 minutes of your time. However it's time very well spent: investing in your own sexual health and that of the larger gay community right here and across the country! To check out the survey go to [www.sexnowsurvey.com](http://www.sexnowsurvey.com). Take the survey and help spread the word through email, Facebook or Twitter. Take the survey to help support gay men's health in Canada and especially in our own back yard.



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## Crawford Hastie's KIBITZ AND BITCH

Hey Tom,

Happy Anniversary! I just figured out that this is my one hundredth letter to you. Hmm. I checked on the web and the appropriate gift for a hundredth anniversary would be a diamond. A large diamond! But please don't feel any pressure. You still have plenty of time before my birthday.

I think it is important to celebrate these milestones even when they are an inevitable reflection of the aging process. Oh, speaking of aging, I was in a conversation at work the other day when one of the "older" men inadvertently revealed his age and it was exactly the same as mine! This was shocking because I always thought of him as much older. I mean much older. He even has old man elbows, you know, when the skin gets all loose and flabby like a turkey's wattle. My elbows are still youthfully firm... at least, I think they are... it's hard to get a proper look at them. I notice small changes in the bathroom mirror in the morning but I still recognize myself in the slightly blurry spots where I've wiped the steam off. This whole getting older business can sometimes be very discouraging. But then I think of old friends like you and I realize that no matter how old I get, I'll always be younger than you. What a great comfort you are, Tom.

Anyway, where was I? Oh yes. Celebrations. Fisherman's Freud, the Anthill and I did our annual commemoration of our time in New Zealand together. Remember? I told you about it—traces of hobbits, sexy Maori men, getting tattoos together and the joy of having summer weather in February. Every year we get together and have a nice dinner, sometimes look at old pics of our time down under, listen to Maori music and just generally smile at the happy memories. The smiles get a bit wonky later on in the evening due to the number of toasts that we drink to each other. Still, the whole thing is a very pleasant and I think it strengthens our friendship. They figure among the very select group who have been permitted to see me with "bed head" in the morning, you know that attractive pillow hair style that makes me look like a cross between Dagwood Bumstead and Art Garfunkel.

It's important to mark our comings and goings, birthdays and losses. There were a couple of sad deaths lately. First, Brendan Burke, the young man who made news history by coming out while still a member of a sports team and fully supported by his father, who is the general manager of the Maple Leafs. A short time ago 21-year-old Brendan was killed in a car accident.

Also recent, was the death of Alexander McQueen, the British fashion designer. I liked his feistiness, his style, his I-don't-give-a-damn approach. There was a musical tribute to him during the British music awards performed by my new favourite musical star in the world, Lady Gaga. I am deeply in love with the Gaga,

Tom. Proud to be one of her little monsters. She is an amazingly talented musician, has a lovely singing voice and to say that she has stage presence and a unique fashion sense would be an understatement. Best of all, her favourite fans are the geeks and oddballs and people that never fit in with the A crowd. Many of us get a vicarious sense of revenge through her success. Most important for many gay men is the fact that her songs are supremely danceable. Aw, she makes me happy!

I'm watching her videos on YouTube right now while I'm writing to you. Is that rude, Tom? Sorry. I love YouTube and I've lost hours and hours of my life there just endlessly checking out performances and interviews and events. Like the summer of 2008 free concert given by Céline Dion in Québec City. The duet with her and Ginette Reno—pure magic! Why is it more people in English Canada don't know about the fabulous things happening in la belle province, Tom? Is it lack of knowledge or lack of interest or both? And Garou! If you don't know him, Google him (is Google a verb?). A very hunky and a wonderful singer.

Ah my ladies. I was going to say that I'm a sucker for the ladies but to say that I'm a sucker for men is more appropriate—in both senses. But I adore my divas – Barbra, Judy, Liza, Gaga, Céline (when she sings in French, she has better taste in songs in French for some reason. None of that Las Vegas lightweight pop stuff.) the Divine Miss M, Whitney... oh the list goes on and on.

Anyway, as I was saying at the beginning of this missive, it is a pleasure not only to have a past to remember fondly together (between us we have blackmail material enough to keep us for the rest of our natural days.) but also to always have new things, new interests, new events to celebrate as well.

Okay, gotta run. Just found a new vid of Barbra and Judy I've never seen before.

Love ya!

*Crawford*

## An Afternoon With Crawford

Cont'd from Page 1

gency would be a mistake—especially with the current government.

**W: Do you have a most memorable column?**

RH: Writing about New Zealand was a joy, and Rome and Mexico, Montréal... the travels are always a pleasure! But I do have a most memorable response to a column. Crawford received a letter from a young man, who signed his letter (snail mail, no return address) only with an initial. The young man said, rather timidly, that he had been struggling with accepting his sexual orientation but that since Crawford seemed to be having a good time with his life as a gay man that maybe he, the letter writer, might be able to find that for himself too. To make a difference, even a small one is a huge experience. Crawford and I both felt very satisfied.

**W: What made you decide to write for Wayves? What has it meant to you?**

RH: It's a funny process really. Aside from letters like the one I just mentioned, I often have no idea what people's reactions are to the column or even if anyone is reading it at all. Crawford writes in a kind of blithe, light-hearted way and some months it is a big struggle to find that happy-go-lucky spirit. Not that Crawford has to always be upbeat—he does mention losses in his life—but part of Crawford's self-imposed mandate is to be amusing, to entertain and look at the light side or the ridiculous side of life... at least most of the time. Writing is a very solitary profession; you write alone for a public you don't see and often without getting any feedback. So why do I do it? It requires a leap of faith, really. You write with the hope that someone will be interested and that maybe Crawford's story is a reflection of other people's stories too. People enjoy Crawford, so I've been told, because he tells part of their story too.

**W: What has been your motivation**

**for your continued submissions of Crawford's column on a volunteer basis? What is so special about Wayves that you'd want to do that for the last almost ten years?**

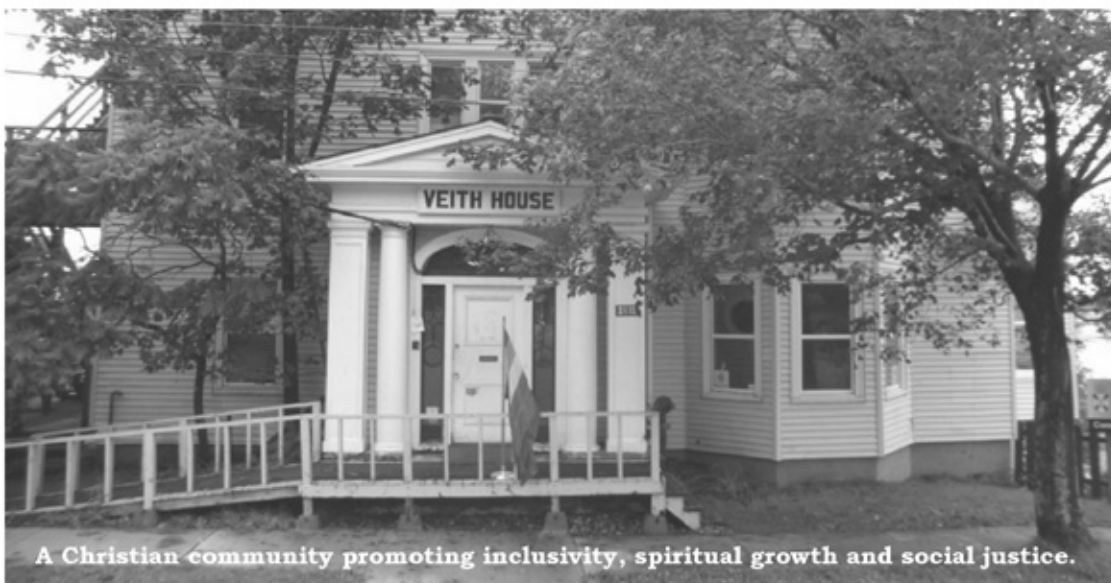
RH: To be frank I would love to be paid! Seriously, queer life is about community and Wayves is the voice of that community. I've always been impressed by the energy and commitment of the Wayves staff—almost all volunteer—to put out the magazine month after month. It is about being a part of a community, to be part of a family. My personal relationships with the other Wayves-ers has enriched my life and our mutual support and appreciation for each other has kept me going and determined when I might otherwise just have let it all go. I see it as part of a social justice commitment, as advocacy for my community. Wayves is an essential voice.

**W: Any other final comments (or Crawford) you'd like to share with Wayves readers?**

RH: I've always tried to make Crawford more than a joke. Even when he is being shallow or silly (and he is often both), he has a serious point to make or question to raise. He is a bit of a court jester. Friends who are mentioned in the column, also under pseudonyms, often complain if they haven't been mentioned lately and while I've poked fun at them sometimes, no one has every objected. I know that one of the Kibitz and Bitch columns was read aloud in a sociology class as social commentary. Another column was written as support for a late-blooming gay flower at his coming out party. I never thought of K&B as being a long lasting thing—just something I would try out for a bit. But Crawford is a bit like a genie who once released from the bottle is very difficult to put back in.

Speaking of bottles, Crawford is clamouring for a martini, so I'd better run. Cheers! And to Wayves public... thanks for reading!

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# Blast From The Past — PEI Pride

By Randall Perry

1995 marked the second year for P.E.I.'s proto-Pride/protest marches. Just as it had been the year before, a motley crew of activists and other everyday people gathered in the small park just off the Charlottetown Hotel to socialize, speak and ultimately march through the streets to recognize equality for all. It would still be a few years before official recognition would be achieved through amendments to the province's Human Rights Act, but this day, with onlookers lined up two and three deep around the park—presumably

to see who's gay—it was a grand day. I don't remember exactly how many showed up to march. It was a few dozen, for sure. There were lots of colourful signs and fabulous clothes. We had a police escort and a few protesters—I remember an old woman followed us, spitting on the ground for most of the way until she ran out of spit. Someone held out a crucifix as we passed and attempted to pray the gay away.

This would be the final march until 2000, when the first official Pride was marked in the province.



# Tie It On For AIDS NB



Fredericton, New Brunswick — The Red Tie Affair. A progressive culinary experience. AIDS New Brunswick would like to thank all those who attended our third annual Red Tie Affair which was held at the

Crowne Plaza Hotel in Fredericton on Saturday, October 31, 2009. This progressive culinary experience provided an exciting dining adventure which featured three of the best restaurants and finest chefs in Fredericton; the Crowne Plaza, Racine's and the blue door.

Kate Doyle of AIDS Moncton and Gordon MacKeracher of Fredericton provided many laughs as this year's gala co-emcees. The gala began at the Crowne Plaza Hotel with hors d'oeuvres and a glass of wine, compliments of Mark Ward



of Vincor Canada. Guests were then treated to a dinner entrée from exclusive menus specifically created for this event. Putting the final touches

on a fabulous evening, all guest met back at the Crowne Plaza to indulge in a wonderful array of desserts and to enjoy the sounds of the Cathy Hutch Band.

AIDS New Brunswick would like to thank Lisa Emerson and Holly Kennedy of Lotus Consulting for donating their time and effort to assist in making this year's event a great success. We would also like to thank all the volunteers who donated their time in the planning and implementation of the event, as well as all of our sponsors who are the backbone of

our fundraising efforts. Without the contributions of our guests, sponsors and volunteers, AIDS New Brunswick would not be able to provide the much needed support and education, through fall forums and skills building events, which this event has been able to provide in the past.

If you would like to have your name on a call list for next year's event, please call Jennifer Dion at AIDS NB at (506) 459-7518 or by e-mail at [aidsnbpsc@nb.aibn.com](mailto:aidsnbpsc@nb.aibn.com). We look forward to seeing you all at next year's Red Tie Affair!

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Nairne Holtz is a Montreal-based author whom The Globe and Mail identified as a "writer to watch." She'll be reading from her recently published second book, *This One's Going to Last Forever* (Insomniac, 2009).

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# ISCANS Coronation X

Photos by Gabe Saulnier, interview and page design by Daniel MacKay. On February 6, ISCANS held Coronation X and appointed Nate N! Bent and C. Leah Cruise as His and Her Most Imperial Sovereign Majesties. Wayves asked them a couple of questions:

**Wayves: What is your history with drag? How did you get into it, and when? What titles have you previously held?**

**C Leah:** I didn't really do drag until 2005. That was the year I started my job as a professor at St. FX and was appointed by the university to be advisor to LGBTQ students and their student society, X-Pride. At that time there were no real supports for LGBTQ students. No culture, no



Local talent Nina Diamonds and Rouge Fatale perform Amanda Marshall's Sunday Morning After



Richard and Nina Diamonds

venues, no services. So, a small group of us decided to hold a drag show in February 2005, which we called "Priscilla, Queen of the Highlands," and we invited the Court to perform. That year was one of the biggest blizzards I have seen, and it shut down everything in Antigonish, except our show, which was sold out. It was an incredible display of commitment by the Court. We have held this show every year since, with the Court, and it has just gotten bigger and better. The Court has played an amazing role in helping us to foster and grow a community here. I was so impressed that I decided to join the Court the next year in 2006.

**Nate:** My previous titles include King of Diamonds 7, Imperial Prince Royale and Imperial Crown Prince 9. When it comes to court life, there was a time where I was known as Juicy Fruit. It was there I first got my taste of court life. It's only in the last three

years have I really taken on the male role and gone full tilt with it.

**C Leah:** In 2008, I was "Her Imperial Highness Imperial Ambassador to Antigonish, Where the Kids Can't Get Enough of the Girls... Imperial Educator of Glamour and Fabulousness (and Maybe a Little Latin American History Too!), Princess to the 8th Imperial Reign." In 2009, I was "Her Most Imperial Sovereign Grace, a Cause, a Fight, a Foundation at Least in a Small Town Called Anti-go-nowhere That is, Is That a Vicky Bathing Suit? Imperial Grand Duchess IX."

**Wayves: What outfits were you wearing on the evening of the Coronation and what is their story?**

**C Leah:** For the Coronation, I wore a burgundy formal gown with black gloves, except for my performance number where I wore a Marilyn-style black dress with boa and gloves.



Halifax veteran Mame St. Clair was on spotlight for most of the evening.

I am partial to the jazz singers of the 50's and 60's.

**Nate:** The evening of coronation I was wearing a chicken costume for a couple of numbers. I was also in some leather as well and even a tux. The chicken outfit was to add some great fun to the numbers that it was part of, the leather was for my candidate number doing Adam Lambert, and the tux was for the regal part of everything.

**Wayves: How do you foresee that your ISCANS Oath of Office will translate into activities?**

**C Leah:** This will mean a few concrete things. First, some travel to support the fundraising and work of Courts elsewhere in North America, but most importantly to continue building the Court, to bring in new members and audiences, and to especially continue fundraising and community-building for the LGBTQ community in Halifax and the rest of Nova Scotia. This is a key thing for me because I continue to live in Antigonish and know that it is possible to have a proud, vibrant and inclusive community here and elsewhere. I think the Court can and should be an important part of that.

**Nate:** Well, really on the local scene in Halifax, this will really mean



Check the Facebook page of Halifax City Councillor Dawn Sloane for photos of this and many other LGBTQ community activities.



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From left to right, Emperor XII & Regent Emperor to Reign XIX of Buffalo Paul "Toy" Smith, Dusty Balfour from Toronto, Emperor X of Winnipeg, Cub Scout, Bruce Crooks from Halifax, Emperor XV of Buffalo, Luis Angel "El Puertorriqueno Blanco" Rodriguez

turning out at most of our fundraising efforts to help our local charities and more. In the bigger picture, it will mean representing the court of Halifax with great Pride and promoting Halifax as well.



HMIM Empress IX Boom Boom Lubalicious



# Mount Allison Queer Art Show & Readings

'Told Untold' is, at its heart, an art exhibition about stories. From 5 March to 18 April, I am thrilled to present the work of five Canadian artists all working with either storytelling or the sharing of personal experience in such a way as to shed light on often untold issues of Queer identity. This exhibition is my first foray into the world of curating, and is a major component of the internship program that I am currently completing at the Owens Art Gallery. Queer art shows in the Maritimes are very few and far between, and I am so pleased to have had the opportunity to make this happen.

Thirza Cuthand is an award-winning Saskatoon-based video artist, whose piece *Through the Looking Glass* examines the complexities

of her intersecting racial and sexual identities.

Travis McEwen is a painter currently living and working in Edmonton. His series *I Bet They Can Tell Just By Looking* examines the feelings of awkwardness and isolation experienced by Queer youth.

Shawna Dempsey and Lorri Millan have collaborated for the past two decades to produce performance pieces, video works, publications, and public art projects. Their video work *Calamity* deals with the place of the "other" in popular North American mythology and consciousness, by focussing on the story of Calamity Jane as a gender outlaw.

Larry Glawson is a Winnipeg-based photographer. His ongoing *Anonymous Gay and Lesbian Portrait*

Project presents his subjects as they choose to be seen, touching both on individual Queer stories and greater issues of artistic representation.

Ivan E. Coyote is a writer and storyteller working out of Vancouver; much of her work deals with identity and difference as they relate to her life.

All are welcome to attend the opening of 'Told Untold' at the Owens Art Gallery on Friday, 5 March at 7:30. A week later, we are very fortunate to have award-winning writer and storyteller Ivan E. Coyote at the Gallery to perform an evening of live storytelling in conjunction with 'Told Untold'; this event is on 12 March at 7:30, and is free and open to the public.

Told Untold Owens Art Gallery 5 March - 18 April Opening reception:



Fri. 5 March at 7:30PM An evening of live storytelling by Ivan E. Coyote: Fri. 12 March at 7:30

## High Tea with Cumberland Pride

By G. Veldhoven

A High English Tea was the main event for Valentine's Day presented by the Cumberland Pride Society in Amherst. This event turned out to be a fun effort and also gave the society an opportunity to invite Amherstonians to share the celebration this day

is intended to project. This is ample proof love is alive and well in the queer community and we share that with the community at large.

The food was prepared by members Brenda MacDonald, Chris Trenholm, Sue Reid and Lisa Hill-Power according to English recipes.

Committee Chair Debbie Currie had it all under control and the society has indicated they will repeat this at some future date.

A Valentine's Dance was held at the Old Warehouse café with the usual loads of fun and camaraderie.



## Greater Moncton Colour Parties

River of Pride – Rivière de fierté inc., in collaboration with Triangles, launched the 2010 Pride season with the perennially successful Colour parties. Since the first color is red, we attached the theme of "Red Olympic" and door prizes were awarded for the best red costume. We had a lot of fun and the Pride season is well begun. These parties are one of our most important fund raiser for the Pride week in the Moncton region, so we encourage all of you to attend. Let us start our new decade with a bang!

A reminder that our Colour parties are held at Triangles in Moncton on the first Saturday of the month. The next party will be the Orange party, to be held on March 6. We also want to take this opportunity to announce that the 2010 Pride Parade will be on

Sunday, August 22, so make sure to mark your calendar. This year promises once again to be a blast, as we have many activities planned for the week preceding the parade and we are committed to keep you posted. Remember to visit our website, which will be updated regularly, at [www.fiertemonctonpride.ca](http://www.fiertemonctonpride.ca).

We are also looking for volunteers to join the Parade Standing Committee. For more information regarding this, please see the website or e-mail us at [riverofpride@hotmail.com](mailto:riverofpride@hotmail.com).

River of Pride – Rivière de fierté inc. has also joined with Fierté Canada Pride and we are growing in



numbers and in visibility. Join us for some fun and we hope to see you at our Colour parties on the first Saturday of every month until Pride Week



## Chef's Corner



Well only another four months of winter to go... Just kidding, I hope! To remind us of summer, and to help ward off the scurvy, I offer this nutritious and truly delicious salad to wake your sleepy taste buds. The elements are readily available all year round. The vinaigrette is what we culinarians call a warm emulsification because of the oil being whisked into a hot emulsifier (flavoured mustard), but you may simply call it YUMMY!

Chef Darren is Chef/Co-owner of Chives Canadian Bistro 1537 Barrington St., Halifax, NS. Chives is a member of "La Chaine des Rotisseurs" world gastronomical association. Awarded 2 of 3 stars in "Where to Eat in Canada" since 2005 and recently chosen for having the "Best Cuisine" in N.S. by "Taste of Nova Scotia Awards 2009." Reservations call (902) 420-9626. [www.chives.ca](http://www.chives.ca).

### Baby Spinach Salad Warm Citrus Vinaigrette

#### Ingredients

Juice and zest of: -2 orange, 1 lemon,	2 Tbsp brown sugar	1 small clove garlic minced
2 limes (juice only)	2 Tbsp Dijon mustard	1 Tbsp Worcestershire sauce
2 fl. oz. bacon drippings (optional)	2 1/2 fl. oz. sherry vinegar (or red wine vinegar)	1 1/2 cups light olive oil
can use butter)		1 Tbsp chopped chives (optional)
4 fl. oz. honey	1 Tbsp minced shallots	Salt and pepper to taste

#### Method

Combine juice, zest, drippings, mustard, honey and sugar in a saucepan over med-high heat. When mixture is dissolved and bubbling, add shallots, garlic, vinegar and Worcestershire sauce. Continue whisking until the mixture begins to darken and thicken, then whisk in 1 fl. oz. of water. Continue whisking until the mixture darkens again. Remove from heat and whisk in the oil in a thin stream until completely incorporated. It should thicken just enough to cling to the back of a spoon (but not like mayo might). If it does get too thick, whisk in a very little amount of warm water until it is just right.

#### Serving

Serve warm on salad of the spinach greens, bacon bits, sliced white mushrooms, shaved red onion rings, orange, and or, ruby red grapefruit segments with just a little crumbled Dragon's Breath blue cheese. If blue doesn't do it for you, try your favorite aged cheese.

## MacIvor at Antigonish Great Blue Heron

By Bill McKinnon

Cape Breton born Daniel MacIvor will lead the playwriting workshop at Great Blue Heron (GBH) this year.

The 2010 GBH Writing Workshop (June 29 – July 4) invites mid-level writers to engage in small group sessions in one of four categories: fiction, memoir, playwriting, and poetry. Held on the campus of St. Francis Xavier University, in Antigonish, this intensive workshop offers a supportive atmosphere in which participants

benefit from individual sessions and small group workshops led by established writers.

Daniel MacIvor has written and directed numerous award winning plays including "See Bob Run," "Wild Abandon," "Never Swim Alone," "In On It" and "Marion Bridge." In 2006, Daniel received the Governor General's Literary Award for Drama for his collection of plays "I Still Love You." In 2007, Daniel directed his play, "How It Works." in a success-

ful production at Tarragon Theatre in Toronto. That year, his play, "His Greatness," was critically received in its premiere production in Vancouver.

In May of 2008 Daniel was the inaugural Senior Playwright in Residence at the Playwrights Colony at the Banff Centre. As a filmmaker, Daniel wrote and starred in the Genie award winning short film, "The Fairy Who Didn't Want to be a Fairy Anymore," co-wrote and starred in "House," and co-wrote and co-directed "Parade."

His first feature film, "Past Perfect," premiered at the 2002 Toronto International Film Festival, along with the screenplay adaptation of his play, "Marion Bridge," which won the CITY TV Best First Feature Award. This was followed by "Wilby Wonderful" which premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival in 2004.

Currently Daniel has a screenplay in development called "Remember Me." His new play, "Communion" (Mulgrave Road Theatre), completed a tour in Nova Scotia in fall 2009.

For more about Great Blue Heron, see [www.mystfx.ca/workshops/gbheron](http://www.mystfx.ca/workshops/gbheron) or phone (902) 867-4532.

## Halifax FrontRunners

Halifax — Are you a runner? Would you like to be? Halifax's LGBTQ running club, the Frontrunners, would like to welcome you into its fold. We are a small group who run throughout the city three times a week, on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6:00 p.m., and on Saturdays at 9:30 a.m. The group is comprised of beginners, who prefer shorter and slower runs, long distance runners who regularly run marathons and those who are somewhere in the middle. We aim to cater to all abilities.

If you're not a runner, but still feel like exploring the city, then our walking group meets at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday mornings. In addition to running, we enter races as a team—this year we have a team entered in Cape Breton's Cabot Trail relay race and there are spots still available—and we also host regular pot-luck dinners. After Saturday morning runs, we meet at the Daily Grind on Spring Garden road for coffee.

To encourage new members to join our group we are hosting a special

"welcome event" on Sunday, March 28 at 1:00 p.m. Meet at the gates to the Public Gardens to go for a gentle run, find out a bit more about the group, and then some relaxed lunch, beer or coffee. The run will be suitable for people of all abilities.

If you are interested in joining any of our thrice-weekly runs, meet us at the entrance to the Public Gardens on the corner of Spring Garden and South Park. For more information contact Ross Deas at (902) 449-9767, or by e-mail at [ross.deas@gmail.com](mailto:ross.deas@gmail.com).

## Ask Ian

Dear Ian,  
I've had a romantic relationship for a few months with a man I work with. He says he has little time to see me after work and we spend most of our time going for lunch or coffee breaks together or beers after work. Nothing is ever planned or set up in advance when we spend time together, it's always spur of the moment, even the rare time we'd spend a night together. His time he says is taken up with his kids because his ex-wife won't take her fair share of the responsibilities. Am I getting used? And if so, how do I gain distance from him? I find it's hard to say no since nothing's ever planned in advance. Signed, WM  
Dear WM,  
Look, his kids have to be his priority, and they will always be his primary priority. If you want to be a part of his life you have to understand and respect his relationship with his children. He should make it very clear to them that by spending time with you he is not taking away time from

them, that their bond will always be very special and separate the last thing you want to do is try to replace their mother—they have a mother and it will be traumatizing to them if you force yourself into that role. This means (if the relationship continues) he is the disciplinary figure, he is in charge of boundaries for the kids, and he is clear to them what place you have in their lives. If you stay, you need to think of yourself as a kind relative.

Okay, after stating that piece of

advice: YES you are being used. Set up a clear schedule, ask for defined dates. Is his divorce even finalized? Are you just being kept on the side because you are a secret? You need to take control. Set up a schedule and make him stick to it. Spontaneity should be a pleasant surprise, not the foundation of your relationship. If he can't do that, I'd say "goodbye and good luck."

You can get advice from Ian by emailing [ian@trrrash.com](mailto:ian@trrrash.com).

### prideHealth and a safe door to primary health

Anita Keeping is a clinical nurse specialist, a caring and compassionate health care provider – and most importantly a safe point of care for members of the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex communities.

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To learn more, or to set up an appointment with Anita, please call 220.0643 or e-mail: [anita.keeping@cdha.nshealth.ca](mailto:anita.keeping@cdha.nshealth.ca)



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# Ramblings From The Sanctuary Garden

By Bethana Sullivan

Sometimes the words flow, just as our lifeblood moves easily through the veins and arteries of our bodies. Sometimes they sit deep in the bowel, clogging up the refuse removal system. But why is this so, what is so powerful about words that to speak or write them feels like a life or death journey? Maybe because it is so: words evoke images, memories, feelings, ideas, thoughts and so much more. Words carry the meaning and intent of the writer which shifts and changes as they emerge into the consciousness of the reader, meanings never even considered by the writer. But maybe this is the richness of words and language. They catch us up in relationship, weaving a net of care, misunderstanding, delight, confusion, a myriad of felt sense meanings.

I fall into the pit of forgetfulness sometimes as I write, forgetting I am not alone when I write. All who I know all of my experiences and memories are imbedded in the stringing together of words into sentences, paragraphs and stories. The reader receives these words and creates meaning grounded in their life experience. It's a marvelous thing, rich, deep and sometimes dangerous!

I like words, the way they string together like a jewel of a necklace that I feel against my skin. More than that I love the way words form images, the way they flow up from deep within body and memory, transforming what is confusing, what sometimes hurts, what is sometimes soft and comforting, what seems senseless, with no meaning, what seems to be a lonely or an alone experience into fragrant possibilities of connection.

Most recently my eldest brother, Bart, died. His was a lonely death, especially as it occurred at a time of year when connecting with family is a much cherished ideal. His death

calls me to memory, to experience, to connection and disconnection with my remaining brothers and sisters as we struggle to come to terms with his death and its meaning. We desire to care for Bart in his death in a way that wasn't easy to do in his living. Deep in my heart I grieve for what I missed in this relationship yet history and silence make it difficult to find the words, to string them together in such a way that Bart is remembered in the fullness of his being without judgement or bitterness.

I cannot know the meaning of Bart's life from his perspective; however, the beauty of our interconnectedness means I can infer, and create meaning grounded in our shared experience with my remaining brothers and sisters. And if care is taken in the giving and receiving of memory words we may even come to a new and deeper narrative that speaks to Bart's life as well as our own as meaningful and significant.

This is a far different place from the "Hegelian construction of difference: in a Hegelian one-on-one

antagonistic relationship, either the other's understanding or mine must prevail and thus difference is capable of annihilating me..." (Philosophy in Multiple Voices, p.57) In a Hegelian world, words can be dangerous as they position us visibly and otherwise so as to be recognized as the other. But according to Sarah Lucia Hoag-

*the beauty of our interconnectedness means I can infer, and create meaning grounded in our shared experience*

land in her essay, "What Is Lesbian Philosophy" (ibid, p.57), we are "multiply mirrored in community (both oppressively and liberatorily), no one gaze annihilates us; we become refracted and complex and so develop critical skills, access and asses mirrors, gain vital information, considering what we will resist and what we will develop in relation with others." One of the insights I have gained through the death of my brother is about how different our assumptions of meaning are about our differences. Being lesbian, and living on the east coast, in the country are a couple of the major visible differences. It seems

each encounter is a reminder that I am "other than I think I am."

The differences have created a space in which not only our ideas about how the rite of death is journeyed but about who is in charge of them, jostle with each other. This is the place of our shared childhood, ruled by the Hegelian positioning one against the other, and today the remnants of that life cause us to pop up, run away and re-engage again in the fight to be visible. Then suddenly, it is as if a light goes off and, individually and together, we begin to reform into an interdependent, power-sharing unit. If you were to ask each of us how we account for this shift there would probably be seven different meanings offered up. Though we struggle with recognizing our differences, we coalesce with our love for each other and this calls us to re-meaning our differences as a rich and creative force. In the end we



arrive back to the beginning recognizing once again that a funeral is more about the living than the dead. It is their last gift to us.

Rest, Bart. And thank you.



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# WAYVES GROUPS AND SERVICES

## Atlantic Canada

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

AtlanticCanadianLesbians: Online Group For Lesbians from the Atlantic Provinces.

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

Egale Canada - Atlantic: (888) 204-7777 email: [egale.canada@egale.ca](mailto:egale.canada@egale.ca) web: [www.egale.ca](http://www.egale.ca)

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

Healing Our Nations: Healing Our Nations is an Aboriginal HIV/AIDS service organization that serves the Atlantic region. (902) 492-4255 email: [director@accesswave.ca](mailto:director@accesswave.ca) web: [www.hon93.ca](http://www.hon93.ca) (Healing Our Nations staff meet once on a weekly basis. Training offered on request at no charge for Aboriginal peoples and/or organizations.) at 15 Alderney Dr., Suite 3, Dartmouth, NS. B2Y2N2

Maritime Transgender Workplace Solutions Project: Transgender Issues Workshops and information resource. (902)568-2935 email: [denisesined@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:denisesined@ns.sympatico.ca) web: [www3.ns.sympatico.ca/winpapernews](http://www3.ns.sympatico.ca/winpapernews) (No meetings, Workshops by arrangements, Information source when requested. Newsletter Odds & Sods bi-weekly)

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

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

Narcotics Anonymous: a fellowship of recovering drug addicts who meet regularly to help each other stay clean. 1-800-205-8402 web: [centralnovaarea.ca](http://centralnovaarea.ca) at Call the phone number or visit the web page for meeting times and places.

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

Wayves Magazine: Atlantic Canada's queer news and lifestyle magazine! email: [submissions@wayves.ca](mailto:submissions@wayves.ca) web: [wayves.ca](http://wayves.ca) (Deadline: the first Friday of every month; Editorial meeting: the Monday following that; layout the Sunday following that. Email us to be put on our notification list!)

## New Brunswick (506)

### Fredericton

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

Fredericton Lesbians and Gays: Email listserv of events/news in the Fredericton for gblt men and women. email: [jamesw@stu.ca](mailto:jamesw@stu.ca) web: [www.geocities.com/westhollywood/3074](http://www.geocities.com/westhollywood/3074)

Integrity: Supports and encourages Gays and Lesbians in their spiritual lives. email: [integrityfredericton@live.ca](mailto:integrityfredericton@live.ca) web: [www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=46207976587](http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=46207976587), meets 3rd Sunday (4:00pm) at Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton at 874 York Street

PFLAG: Support & education on issues of sexual orientation & gender identity. (506) 455-7190 email: [pflagfredericton@yahoo.ca](mailto:pflagfredericton@yahoo.ca) web: [www.geocities.com/Pflagfredericton/](http://www.geocities.com/Pflagfredericton/), meets 4th Tuesday (7-9 pm (except December: 2nd Tuesday)) at Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton 874 York St. Fredericton NB E3B 3R8

Spectrum: social and support group for students, staff and faculty at UNB and STU. email: [spectrum@unb.ca](mailto:spectrum@unb.ca) web: [www.unbf.ca/clubs/spectrum](http://www.unbf.ca/clubs/spectrum) (Meets Fridays during

the school year. See webpage for location.)

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

### Moncton

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

Moncton Line Dancing: LINE DANCING for all levels from beginner to advanced. No partner required. No dress code. , meets every Wednesday (8:30pm sharp) at Triangles Bar, corner of St. George and Archibald.

OUT Bowling: info coming next issue!

PFLAG: Supporting all people with questions or concerns about sexual orientation and gender identity issues. (506) 869-8191 email: [monctonnb@pflagcanada.ca](mailto:monctonnb@pflagcanada.ca) web: [www.pflagcanada.ca/moncton.html](http://www.pflagcanada.ca/moncton.html), meets 3rd Monday (Occasionally on the 2nd Monday — please call) at 7:30-9:30pm, University of Moncton, Adrien-J.-Cormier Bldg., Room 302

Safe Spaces Moncton Region: Support Groups for GLBTQ Youth (14-25 years old). 506-854-3049

UN sur DIX - l'Association des étudiant.e.s GLB de l'Université de Moncton: Vise à éduquer, à sensibiliser et à offrir des ressources dans la langue française. email: [unsurdix@umoncton.ca](mailto:unsurdix@umoncton.ca) web: [www.umoncton.ca/unsurdix/](http://www.umoncton.ca/unsurdix/) (Visitez le site Web ou envoyez un courriel pour en apprendre davantage au sujet du travail que nous accomplissons. )

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

### Petit-Rocher (Bathurst area)

Gais.es Nor Gays Inc. (GNG): A bilingual volunteer association serving gay men, lesbians and bisexuals of northern New Brunswick. email: [info@gngnb.ca](mailto:info@gngnb.ca) web: [www.gngnb.ca](http://www.gngnb.ca) (Dances are held at GNG club every Saturday night. See [www.gngnb.ca](http://www.gngnb.ca) for a list of upcoming events.) at 702 rue Principale, Petit-Rocher NB. Look for rainbow flag and/or door with pink triangle at rear of parking lot.

### Sackville NB/ Amherst NS

PFLAG: Support and education for GLBT-T2IQQ persons, friends & family. 506-536-4245 email: [jhammock@mta.ca](mailto:jhammock@mta.ca), meets 2nd Monday (7:30 to 9:30pm No meeting in July and August.) at Meeting location alternates monthly between Sackville: United Church Parlours, 112 Main Street, and Amherst: Maggie's Place, 12 LaPlanche Street

Catalyst: Catalyst, Mt. A's Queer-Straight Alliance, provides support & information for all Mt. A students, staff, and faculty through meetings, seminars, and social events. Everyone is welcome. email: [catalyst@mta.ca](mailto:catalyst@mta.ca) web: [www.mta.ca/clubs/catalyst/](http://www.mta.ca/clubs/catalyst/) (Catalyst meets approximately every week from Sept-Dec and Jan-April. For meeting info contact the president at [catalyst@mta.ca](mailto:catalyst@mta.ca) or the Students' Administrative Council at [sac@mta.ca](mailto:sac@mta.ca).)

### Saint John

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

AIDS Saint John: improve quality of life for those infected & affected by HIV, reduce the spread through education 652-2437 email: [aidssj@nb.aibn.com](mailto:aidssj@nb.aibn.com) web: [www.aidsaintjohn.com](http://www.aidsaintjohn.com)

Gay Men's Supper Club: web: [www.portcityrainbowpride.com](http://www.portcityrainbowpride.com), meets 3rd Saturday

(See webpage for more information) at 220 Germain St

PFLAG: Provides support to anyone dealing with issues of sexual orientation and/or gender identity. (506)648-9700 or 648-9227 email: [saintjohnnb@pflagcanada.ca](mailto:saintjohnnb@pflagcanada.ca) web: [www.pflagcanada.ca/saintjohn](http://www.pflagcanada.ca/saintjohn), meets 1st Friday (1st Friday of each month September - June from 7:00- 9:00 p.m. No meeting in July & August. ) at 116 Coburg Street in Saint John, New Brunswick in the Community Health Centre next to St. Joseph's Hospital.

Port City Rainbow Pride: Pride Celebrations Committee. email: [events@portcityrainbowpride.com](mailto:events@portcityrainbowpride.com) web: [www.portcityrainbowpride.com](http://www.portcityrainbowpride.com)

Safe Spaces Fundy Region: Committed to ending discrimination around issues of sexual orientation in youth. email: [safespaces@gmail.com](mailto:safespaces@gmail.com) web: [www.safespacesfundy.com](http://www.safespacesfundy.com) (See our webpage for schedule of meetings and socials etc @ [www.safespacesfundy.com](http://www.safespacesfundy.com))

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

The UNBSJ Q-Collective: A social and support organisation for UNBSJ students, staff and faculty. 506-648-5737 email: [QCollect@UNBSJ.ca](mailto:QCollect@UNBSJ.ca) web: [www.unbsj.ca/clubs/qcollective](http://www.unbsj.ca/clubs/qcollective) (The UNBSJ Q-Collective is interested in hearing from other university LGBTQ organisations and would like to possibly meet or collaborate.) at Various locations: event particulars will be emailed to anyone who registers with the UNBSJ Q-Collective and/ or who gets the UNBSJ weekly "E News". Past events include the annual Rainbow Peace March, guest speakers, movie nights, participation in Maritime Pride Parades, Supporters of PFLAG Canada's "Communities Encourage Campaign" and "Champions Against Homophobia".

### Woodstock

Woodstock GLBT Youth Advocate and Family OutReach: Books, movies, advice, directions, contacts, and support etc. for the family. 328-4868 email: [richardb@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:richardb@nbnet.nb.ca)

## Newfoundland & Lab (709)

PFLAG Canada - St. John's: Information or referral to one of our parents. web: [www.pflag.ca](http://www.pflag.ca) (For support or information on chapter meetings regarding PFLAG Canada contact Gemma Schlamp-Hickey, Atlantic Director at [gammahickey@yahoo.ca](mailto:gammahickey@yahoo.ca) or Diana Deacon, St. John's chapter contact at [ddeacon@mun.ca](mailto:ddeacon@mun.ca))

### St. John's

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

Gay Urban Youth Zone Project: designed to increase HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis C, and STI knowledge and awareness 579-8656 (ext. 28) web: [www.acnl.net](http://www.acnl.net) at Tommy Sexton Centre 47 Janeway Place Pleasantville, across from the old Janeway Hospital AIDS Committee of Newfoundland and Labrador LBGT-MUN Resource Centre: LBGT-MUN is an information/resource, service, and peer support centre staffed by trained volunteers! 737-7619 email: [lbgt@munso.ca](mailto:lbgt@munso.ca) (Open Monday-Friday 9-4. Biweekly meetings for members and volunteers. ) at Smallwood/University Center, UC-6022. Building located on Prince Phillip Drive. Call us! Get involved! St. John's Pride: St. John's Official Pride Organization.

## Nova Scotia (902)

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

Hepatitis Outreach Society: Since 1999 the Hepatitis Outreach Society has been providing support, education and prevention information for those infected and affected by hepatitis in the province of Nova Scotia. 420-1767 in HRM or 1-800-521-0572 email: [info@HepatitisOutreach.com](mailto:info@HepatitisOutreach.com) web: [www.HepatitisOutreach.com](http://www.HepatitisOutreach.com) at Our office is located at 2973 Oxford Street, between

Liverpool and Cork streets. Please call to make an appointment or email [Program@HepatitisOutreach.com](mailto:Program@HepatitisOutreach.com).

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

The Rainbow - Atlantic Awareness Society: email: [tpineo@hotmail.com](mailto:tpineo@hotmail.com)

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

### Amherst

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

The Cumberland Pride Society: for: gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and transsexual individuals. 660-5004 email: [cumberlandpride@hotmail.com](mailto:cumberlandpride@hotmail.com) web: [cumberland-pride.sytes.net](http://cumberland-pride.sytes.net), meets 3rd Sunday (2-4pm)

### Antigonish

Rainbow Warriors: Rainbow Warriors is a youth-run support group for LGBTQ youth and allies in Antigonish. We hold social events such as picnics and game nights, have educational discussions around topics such as stereotypes/assumptions and transsexuality, and raise awareness in the surrounding community by participating in functions such as the Highland Games Parade and the Farmers' Market. While our group is youth-focused everyone is regardless of age, and gender identity or sexual orientation! Find our group on Facebook "Rainbow Warriors - AAHA!". email: [antigonishrainbowwarriors@gmail.com](mailto:antigonishrainbowwarriors@gmail.com), meets every Monday (3:00-5:00pm) at The Antigonish Women's Resource Centre, located in the Kirk Building at 219 Main Street, Suite 204 (above Tim Hortons).

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

### Bridgewater

Sexual Health Centre for Lunenburg County: Confidential info, education&support for everyone. Safer sex supplies, library, pamphlets, workshops. 527-2868 email: [LunCo@NSSexualHealth.ca](mailto:LunCo@NSSexualHealth.ca) web: [www.theShaC.org](http://www.theShaC.org) (Hours vary. Open by appointment or by chance. Please call ahead. ) at 4 Hillcrest Street Unit 8, Bridgewater. (On the corner of Dufferin and Hillcrest Streets). Closed during summers.

South Shore Pride Social Club: for 19 & older. 530-5986 email: [info@southshorepride.ca](mailto:info@southshorepride.ca) web: [www.southshorepride.ca](http://www.southshorepride.ca), meets 3rd Saturday (--- dances --- 9:00PM to 1:00AM) at Call or email for location.

### Halifax

Affirm United: GLBT & Friends support, action and worshipping community within the United Church. 461-4528 email: [alstew@eastlink.ca](mailto:alstew@eastlink.ca)

AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia: non-profit, community-based AIDS organization, provincially mandated. (902)425-4882 email: [acns@acns.ns.ca](mailto:acns@acns.ns.ca) web: [www.acns.ns.ca](http://www.acns.ns.ca)

Alcoholics Anonymous: Live & Let Live AA Group for GLBT community. (902) 425-8383/422-4972 email: [courage449@yahoo.com](mailto:courage449@yahoo.com), meets every Monday (at 8pm) at St Matthews United Church, 1479 Barrington St, Halifax (Use side door near Maritime Centre at bottom of stairs)

Anonymous HIV/AIDS Testing: 455-9656

Bedford United Church: An Affirming Ministry of the United Church of Canada - ALL welcome. 835-8497 email: [bedfordunited@eastlink.ca](mailto:bedfordunited@eastlink.ca) web: [www.bedfordunited.com](http://www.bedfordunited.com), meets every Sunday (9 am service - Casual and contemporary - with free coffee and muffins before church to take into this service. 11 am service - Quieter and more reverent in tone, coffee after service. Please call to confirm worship times as occasionally we have a 10 am combined service. ) at 1200 Bedford Hwy at Sullivan's Hill, near Atlantic Gardens

BLT-Womyn of Halifax: Bi Sexuels, Lesbian, Transgender Womyn's Discussion Group. Sue's #499-0335 email: [sueandrews1964@hotmail.com](mailto:sueandrews1964@hotmail.com) web: [ca.groups.yahoo.com/group/blt-womynofhalifax/](http://ca.groups.yahoo.com/group/blt-womynofhalifax/) (Every second Sunday evening 6pm - 7:30pm ) at Dalhousie Women's Centre 6286 South Street (Beside Dalplex Driveway) Hope to see you at the next meeting!

Bluenose Bears (BnB): BnB is a private men's membership based social group for Bears and their admirers. Membership Fees are \$5 for a year. Event Fees are \$1 for Members and \$2 for Guests. Email for more info!. email: [BluenoseBears2008@yahoo.ca](mailto:BluenoseBears2008@yahoo.ca) (Social Gatherings are generally held once a month, on a Tuesday evening. ) at Menz Bar (often) but venues vary. Sorry, no 'drop ins'. Members and their Guests only!!

DalOUT: LGBTQ Society at Dalhousie. 494-2190 email: [dalout@dal.ca](mailto:dalout@dal.ca) web: [societies.dsu.ca/dalout](http://societies.dsu.ca/dalout), meets every Thursday (During the academic year we meet at about 7pm each Thursday night.) at Dalhousie University, check OUT our website or contact us for details

Frontrunners Halifax: Running/walking club. 422-7579 email: [Bruce.Greenfield@dal.ca](mailto:Bruce.Greenfield@dal.ca) web: [www.frontrunners.org/clubs/index.php?club=Halifax](http://www.frontrunners.org/clubs/index.php?club=Halifax), meets every Saturday, and every Tuesday, and every Thursday (Sat: 9:30am, Tue: 6:00 pm, Thu: 6:00pm ) at Main gates of the Halifax Public Gardens, corner of Spring Garden Road and South Park Street.

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

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

Girl-ish Productions: Girl-ish puts on hot and heavy bi-monthly-ish dance parties for queer-ish folks and their friends. email: [girlishproductions@yahoo.ca](mailto:girlishproductions@yahoo.ca) web: [www.girlish.ca](http://www.girlish.ca)

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

Halifax Sexual Health Centre: Anonymous HIV testing, open and inclusive sexual health clinical services, education and workshops. 455-9656 web: [www.HalifaxSexualHealth.ca](http://www.HalifaxSexualHealth.ca)

Imperial and Sovereign Court of Atlantic Nova Society: Fundraising. 902-449-7612 web: [www.imperialcourtns.com](http://www.imperialcourtns.com), meets 1st Sunday, and 2nd Sunday (Executive Meetings Are Currently Held Every Second Sunday) at Meeting Locations Vary

Koinonia Ecumenical Church: Meaning 'community'. Call or email Pastor Elaine for more information. 876-8771 email: [koinonia@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:koinonia@ns.sympatico.ca) (bi-weekly at 12:30pm) at Halifax Feast, Maritime Centre

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

Mount Pride: GLBTQ group at Mount Saint Vincent University. email: [mountpride@yahoogroups.com](mailto:mountpride@yahoogroups.com), meets 1st Tuesday, and 3rd Tuesday (bi-weekly on Tuesdays at 12 noon) at The Diversity Center in Roseria on campus, and online (see email) 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.

Nova Scotia Rainbow Action Project: fostering change through networking, education, outreach & community education. 902-444-7887 email: [nsrap@nsrap.ca](mailto:nsrap@nsrap.ca) web: [www.nsrap.ca](http://www.nsrap.ca) at TBA

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

PFLAG: Support & education on issues of sexual orientation & gender identity. 431-8500 email: [halifaxns@pflagcanada.ca](mailto:halifaxns@pflagcanada.ca), meets 1st Thursday (902-431-8500) at Halifax Youth Project, 2281 Brunswick St

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

Pride Week: Producers of Atlantic Canada's largest LGBTQ cultural festival. 431-1194 email: info@halifaxpride.ca web: www.halifaxpride.ca (July 19 - 26, 2009)

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

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

Queer Play: A Queer performing arts group in Halifax NS. email: queerplay@gmail.com  
Safe Harbour Metropolitan Community Church: A Christian Church with an affirming ministry to the GLBT community. Everyone is welcome! 453-9249 email: safeharbour@eastlink.ca web: safeharbourmcc.com, meets every Sunday (11 am) at Veith House, 3115 Veith Street, Halifax

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

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

The Youth Project: Support, education and social activities for youth 25 and under across Nova Scotia. Weekly events, plus a youth food bank and STI testing on site. 429-5429 email: youthproject@youthproject.ns.ca web: www.youthproject.ns.ca, meets 1st Tuesday, and 3rd Tuesday (6-9pm) at 2281 Brunswick Street. 25 and under. Please refer to our website for details and schedule of upcoming events. 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,

Trans Family Nova Scotia: We are the Parents, Partners, Family, Friends & Allies of Trans-Identified Individuals. supporting one another. 902-431-8500 email: transfamily@eastlink.ca, meets 3rd Monday (6:30 to 8:30 pm) at The Youth Project (2281 Brunswick

St., Halifax)

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

## Kentville

Red Door, The: Youth health adolescent center counselling, for up to age 30, all ages STD testing. 679-1411 web: thereddoor.ca (Monday through Friday, 1pm to 5pm, Wednesday open to 6:00) at 150 Park Street

## Kingston

Valley Gay Men's Coffee House: socials for gay men; gay & lesbian dances 19+. 765-2821 email: menembracingmen@yahoo.ca web: 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

## Lunenburg

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

## Middleton

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

## New Glasgow

Pictou County Centre for Sexual Health: 695-3366 email: youth.access@ns.sympatico.ca  
Pride of Pictou County: All GLBT in Pictou County. web: www.PrideofPictouCounty.ca (see web page for meeting info)

## New Minas / Annapolis Valley

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

## Sackville NB/ Amherst NS

PFLAG: Support and education for GLBT-

T2IQQ persons, friends & family. 506-536-4245 email: sacknb-amns@pflagcanada.ca web: www.pflagcanada.ca/en/prov-list-e.asp?RegionNo=6&ProvAbbr=NB, meets 2nd Monday (Phone or e-mail for meeting location and details.) at Sackville:112 Main Street or Amherst: 12 La Planche Street

## Sydney

AIDS Coalition of Cape Breton: Support, advocacy, prevention/education for those infected or affected by HIV/AIDS. Free condoms!. (902) 567-1766 email: joannerolls@accb.ns.ca, christineporter@accb.ns.ca web: www.accb.ns.ca (Free Anonymous Testing 1-902-567-1123 Check our Website for events and updates. ) at 150 Bentinck St, Sydney, N.S. B1P 6H1

Cape Breton University Sexual Diversity Centre: We provide a welcoming environment for GLBTQ people and their Allies. 902-563-1481 email: sdc@cbusu.com (M-F 9-4pm. Call or drop by for event listings, Ally Training, and Anti-Heterosexism/Homophobia Workshops!) at the Students' Union Building, Cape Breton University.

Group Harrison Society: Dances, Socials & Support Group for Cape Bretoners. (902)371-8752 web: groupharrisonsociety-dancespi.piczo.com, meets every Saturday (of every month Admission \$6.50 -\$5.50 for members- Restricted 19 yrs and over) at 780 Upper Prince Street Horizon Achievement Centre (Kinsmen), Sydney

PFLAG: Support & education on issues of sexual orientation & gender identity. Karen 564-8728 email: sydney@pflagcanada.ca, meets last Sunday (of the month at 7:30pm. No meetings for July and August.) at Family Place Resource Centre 106 Townsend Street, Sydney NS

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

## Tatamagouche

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

## Truro

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

Northern AIDS Connection Society: HIV prevention education initiative serving counties Colchester, Pictou, Cumberland & East Hants. 895-0931 email: nacs@eastlink.

ca web: northernaidconnectionsociety.ca (Our Board of Directors meet bi-monthly on the third Thursday of the month. Annual General Meeting held regularly in June. See webpage for contact numbers in your area of northern Nova Scotia.) at 33 Pleasant Street, Truro, N.S.

PFLAG: Support & education on issues of sexual orientation & gender identity. 662.3774

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

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

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

## Wolfville

Acadia Pride: Acadia Student Union's LGB-T2IQ group. 585-2165 email: acadiapride@acadiau.ca web: euler.acadiu.ca/~apride/, meets every Monday (9:00pm(during academic year)) at Beverage Forum (old SUB)

Acadia Women's Centre: 585-2140 email: womens.centre@acadiau.ca (Acadia SUB

Second Level Balcony )

## Prince Edward Island (902)

AIDS PEI: AIDS PEI creates a supportive environment for PHA's to all residents of PEI. 902-566-2437 email: info@aidspei.com web: www.aidspei.com at 144 Prince Street Charlottetown, PE C1A 2R6

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

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

PFLAG Canada - PEI: Providing support, education and advocacy for GLBT persons, their families and friends in PEI. 902-887-3620 email: pflagpei@eastlink.ca web: www.pflagcanada.ca, meets 3rd Tuesday at Ferry Road Centre, 24 Ferry Road, Cornwall, PE or Stratford City Hall check with Mary or Bill Kendrick on this months location by calling 902-887-3620.

## Charlottetown

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

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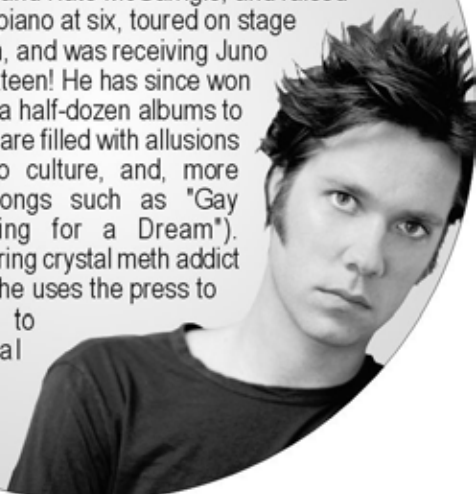
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## Queerly Canadian Rufus Wainwright

Although he strongly identifies with Canada, Rufus Wainwright was born in the United States, to folk singers Loudon Wainwright III and Kate McGarrigle, and raised in Montréal. He played piano at six, toured on stage with his family at thirteen, and was receiving Juno Award nominations at sixteen! He has since won two Junos, and released a half-dozen albums to critical acclaim. His lyrics are filled with allusions to opera, literature, pop culture, and, more recently, politics (in songs such as "Gay Messiah" and "Waiting for a Dream"). Wainwright is a recovering crystal meth addict and a rape survivor; he uses the press to bring awareness to these societal problems.



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Do missed issues drive you up the wall?

# The Last Word

## Faguar City

By Randall Perry

A couple of weeks ago I was at the bar, chatting with a friend. The early-evening crowd was sparse and the atmosphere subdued. I took a swig from my beer and watched as a young man and his girlfriend walked by. Now, for the record, I've never really been into younger guys. Even when I was a 20-something, I preferred the company of men a few years my senior. However, I found myself checking this young guy out. He was strikingly handsome and carried himself in that assured way guys who know they're hot do. I smiled; he smirked back dismissively, then the two took a seat near the back.

I turned to my friend. "Why is it," I asked, "that when 40- and 50-something women look at younger men, they're called cougars and it's hot and they get their own television show?"

"But when 40- and 50-something MEN look at younger men, they're called trolls and they're banished to under the bridge where nobody can see them?"

"Faguar," my friend responded. "You're a faguar. Not a troll."

I nearly spit out the beer I had just taken. "What? You're shitting me?"

"No, really," he said. "It's the gay male equivalent of a cougar."

Interesting word. It's not in the Oxford and Merriam-Webster hasn't picked it up, but it does show up in the online Urban Dictionary, defined as, "An older gay gentlemen who preys on younger men."

(I kind of shudder at the word "prey." It lends a kind of ominous bent to a fun, silly word. But hey, it's on the Internet, so it must be so.)

A secondary definition reads,

"A woman who seeks out gay men for sex." The last time I looked my three-piece set was still there, so that doesn't fit me.

And so, a paradox ensues. Where's MY television show, MY analogue to "Cougartown"?

Hence, I propose "Faguar City." Fade-in to a voiceover (sophisticated yet subtly bitchy, gay accent intact): "Welcome to Faguar City. Where men are men. And every ass is up for grabs." The main character is an aging, tired queen who's seen it all and done more than he should. We see him saunter into the bar, wearing his best 70's jeans—the kind that flare at the ankles and grab too much in the crotch (think of the womanizing Larry character from "Three's Company")—and sporting a spray-on tan and a desperate comb-over. All eyes turn to him. "Groovy," he says, as he turns to the camera and winks... then locks the door.

Voiceover: "Trapped... with a hungry, booze-powered faguar. Stay tuned to find out who falls victim to his seasoned masculine wiles and pun-sexual pick-up lines. Next time... on 'Faguar City!'"

My character would be played by George Clooney, or maybe Gerard Butler or some other impossibly hot actor, and with the magic of special effects he could be made to look as broken down as necessary. (I was thinking maybe Joe Flanigan of "Stargate: Atlantis," but I could never

sully his fiery, galaxy-hopping hotness with computer-generated wrinkles!)

Don't laugh. Something like that might actually fly in Hollywood, where fantasy is more real than reality! Actually, go ahead and laugh... I think a series on the (mis-)adventures of an urban faguar might be a hit. "Mary Tyler Moore" meets "The Golden Girls" meets "Queer as Folk" meets "The New Adventures of Old Christine." A mid-season replacement, placed opposite "American Idol" as a tonic for the atonal caterwauling and 16-year-old girls weeping that their lives are over when subjected to one of Simon Cowell's devastating quips. Not Golden Globe material or even Emmy-worthy, but what a ride it could be!

We live in a continually-accelerating culture that requires us to be young and tight, all day every day. Pass any newsstand and survey the myriad fashion and self-help magazines, most designed to make people feel shitty about themselves in order to push the products and devices advertised in their pages. Me, I know Botox won't make me any sexier. Perhaps some Oil of Oy-Vey to perk up the bags under my eyes, but other than that there's no wonder-drug or miraculous cure-all for my ills, real or perceived.

I only wish my teeth would self-whiten like my hair!

Getting older can be a bitch, so why not make fun of it? Faguar City. Season one. Bring it on.



**BILL MILLS ONCE AGAIN CAUGHT WITH HIS PANTS DOWN**

## Letter

Hey there.

We are doing something big, big Canada itself! We are biking across the country to raise money and awareness for the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Nova Scotia.

We are doing this for several reasons. On a personal level, I've been living with a minor heart issue for the past few years. For me healthy living a must, as heart problems run in my family. I think this idea is a great way to raise awareness for the Foundation while creating lifestyle changes of my own.

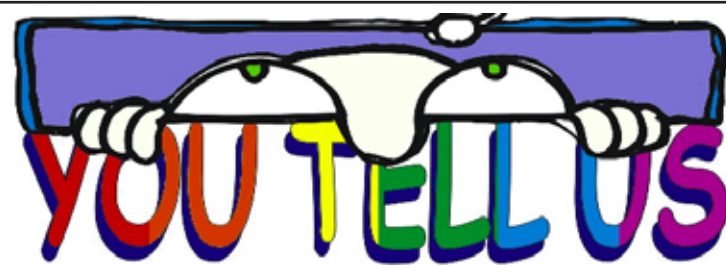
My roommate and friend, Jessica Johnston, is coming along. The ride was her idea and was inspired by recent tragic events in her family. Her father died last year due to heart problems, and her grandfather has battled heart issues all his life.

We believe it is important to remember that cardiovascular disease is the number one killer in Canada. Heart health is no joke.

We are looking for donations directly to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Nova Scotia at [www.kintera.org/faf/donorReg/donorPledge.asp?ievent=272879&supId=281681157](http://www.kintera.org/faf/donorReg/donorPledge.asp?ievent=272879&supId=281681157).

We have a Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/?ref=home#/group.php?gid=264594621926&ref=ts](http://www.facebook.com/?ref=home#/group.php?gid=264594621926&ref=ts).

Jonathan Graves



## Last Month

There were 16 responses to the January/February question, "In 2009, equal marriage lost in Maine — the most "Atlantic Canadian" of the United States. Uganda has introduced an anti-homosexuality law that includes a death penalty. Are we now going downhill on GLBT equality? What will we see for GLBT rights in 2010?"

A number of them dealt with major concerns in the United States such as gay marriage and the repeals of DADT (Don't Ask, Don't Tell) and DOMA (Defense of Marriage Act). The comments took an overall tone of positivity for the future while recognizing past and current accomplishments. A few advised caution while continuing the fight. One waded into the classic "good gays versus bad gays" argument. One response was simply, "I don't know." All responses had something to say. Many thanks to all who submitted.

A sampling:

We will see a major shift across our global hemisphere in a broadening shift of a more compromising inclusive and moral social justice that will define the gay lesbian bisexual community into the mainstream of America. For those who fail to recognize our civil liberties and human rights under our constitution will face harsh criticism and just penalties from a wide range of sources. We will no longer be the silent majority any longer, we will continue to advocate for ourselves and for those who can't in this sometimes unjust world. We have achieved a lot in the past decade or so but our struggles will never cease as we continue to fight for our place in this hybrid world.

Even though these events have happened let's look at the positive steps the world has taken recently. I think Portugal's inclusion of gay marriage is a great step forward considering the countries catholic orientation. There will always be a two steps forward and one step back process in our fight for equality but let's keep fighting the fight. Remember there was once a time where we ruled the world.

Unfortunately, we have come so far as a gay community that many of us are now resting on our accomplishments. Younger members of the gay community are coming out in a world that is far more complacent and are thus not motivated to take an initiative. I suspect that we will have to plummet to disturbing lows as a community at home and around the world before we are charged to take action again.

I believe the momentum has been lost since gay people have not shown an honest attempt to "clean up its act." Discussions about monogamy and other respectful pursuits have given way to acceptance of second class, anything goes, values. Until we clean up our act, we will see a slow and steady slip in our "equal rights." Since we do not strive for respectful lives, we will not be respected. Example, bathhouses are on the rise; how are we supposed to forge safe, secure and intimate relationships when we continue to choose chaos over love?

## This Month's Question

If an openly LGBT politician was the leader of a major party, and ran on a platform that was against your political views (possible examples: reducing immigration to zero, or reducing military funding to zero), would they possibly still get your vote? How would you decide?

## Lay Chaplaincy Services

Universalist Unitarian Church of Halifax  
5500 Inglis Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3H 1J8  
[uuchurch@eastlink.ca](mailto:uuchurch@eastlink.ca)  
902-429-5500

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

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Leonard Preyra  
MLA, Halifax Citadel-Sable Island



"What is a cynic? One who knows the price of everything and the value of nothing."

Oscar Wilde

Community Office  
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[preyra@eastlink.ca](mailto:preyra@eastlink.ca), [www.preyra.ca](http://www.preyra.ca)

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