

Grand River Rainbow Historical Project

www.grandriver-rainbowhistory.ca/

celebrating the lives and times of rainbow folk in Grand River country

Pride Pages

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Pride Pages

Serving the greater LGBTQ communities of Cambridge, Kitchener, Waterloo, and area.

January 2008

www.tri-pride.ca

info@tri-pride.ca

Welcome Back *tri-Pride!*

June 1, 2008 is the Pride Day Festival

“Love Makes A Family”

Photo-text exhibit about lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender people and their families comes to Waterloo Region

Upcoming Events

Cliterature 2008, Rainbow Reels, Yuk Yuk's Fundraiser...

Visit the new and improved website

www.tri-pride.ca

Meet the new Board of Directors

tri-Pride Community Association Inc.
105-67 King Street East, Kitchener N2G 2K4
www.tri-pride.ca

tri-Pride is the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) pride celebration in Cambridge, Kitchener, Waterloo and area. A day our community has fun and generates awareness with friends, family and allies.

The Roller Coaster that is *tri-Pride*

Michael Lisetto-Smith, Co-Chair

Ever since I was a kid, I have enjoyed visiting Canada's Wonderland and riding on the roller coasters. However, it wasn't just the ride that I looked forward to but the whole experience: the line-ups, the waiting, the ride, and the discussion that came afterwards. My parents and some friends have argued with me that the time spent in the line-ups for such rides does not make up for the two-minutes on the ride itself. But I disagree. What I enjoyed most about the line-ups was the socializing, the pondering, and the bonding with old and new friends alike. No subject was taboo in the roller coaster line: friendships, relationships, politics, religion, and what ride we were going to tackle next. When most people talk about "roller coaster" rides in their life they are referring to the ups and downs, side-to-side, and upside down motions that life offers us sometimes. The problem with this analogy is that a roller coaster ride always ends where it starts, and in life we hope that we will always move forward. It is for this reason that I always prefer the whole experience instead



The 2008 *tri-Pride* Board of Directors: Front: Dave Bell; First row, left to right: Russell Carson, Deb Gollnick, Michael Lisetto-Smith, Alex Chunaco; Back row, left to right: Susan Watt, Shelley Secrett, Steve Lill, Steve Dickson. Absent: Thom Ryan.

of focusing on just one small part of it. This is true of *tri-Pride* as well. The *tri-Pride* Community Association may have had its share of ups and downs, side-to-side, and upside down moments; however, it is now time to reflect on the rides that we have had and get to the next line-up and move forward.

In October 2007, *tri-Pride* elected a new slate of Board of Directors. In the past two months, the Board has reflected on the organization's past rides and is now in the next line-up as we discuss and plan for Pride Day 2008. There is little doubt that the ride that is Pride Day 2008 will have its own motions similar to a roller coaster ride. These motions are inevitable with any large

scale event. But with proper planning, a team of dedicated volunteers, a strong Board of Directors, and a safety-belt or two, I have no doubt that we will be able to deliver both a wonderful Pride Day and some exciting Pride fundraising events leading up to the big day.

If you would like to ride the roller coaster with us, please visit our web site and become a volunteer. After all, some of us may dislike the line-ups or be scared of the ride, but at the end of the experience most of us agree, "That was fun, let's do it again!" See you at Pride.

Want to volunteer with *tri-Pride*?
Visit www.tri-pride.ca for more information.

Rainbow Reels Queer Film Festival



The 8th annual Rainbow Reels Queer Film Festival is requesting short film submissions. The film festival, put on by the Waterloo Public Interest Research Group (WPIRG), is building on the success of previous years by opening up the festival to short film submissions from Canada's best film

schools.

The festival committee is looking for films that span a variety of media, styles, skills level, and subject matter. WPIRG looks to promote social justice and diversity within the community and short film submissions should aim to keep

these objectives in mind. The committee is looking for films with a length between 10 to 30 minutes.

All submissions are due on or before Feb. 1st, 2008 by e-mail or post. More information about short film submissions can be found at www.rainbowreels.org, and more information about WPIRG can be found at www.wpirg.org.

Additional questions may be addressed to info@wpirg.org.

Cliterature is Back!

Secrett Events Presents: Cliterature 2008

This event is a literary celebration of women's sexuality.

It is back by popular demand and will sell out again!
Reserve your tickets by emailing dkhector@yahoo.com
Tickets \$10.00

Do you want to be in the show?
Email to find out more.

February 2, 2008
The Registry Theatre
122 Frederick Street
Kitchener, ON
Showtime: 7:30 pm
Doors open at 7pm

Some proceeds from this event going to *tri-Pride*.

Trans Awareness Week at Wilfrid Laurier University

Shelley Secrett

In November each year, the Transgender Day of Remembrance is held in hundreds of cities around the world to honour those who were killed due to anti-transgender hatred or prejudice. Inspired by the international event, the Rainbow Centre at

WLU created an annual campaign called Transgender Awareness Week.

The campaign is intended to give a voice to trans individuals and act as an educational tool in the fight against transphobia.

This year's Trans Awareness Week was held November 19th – 23rd and included the following creative events:

- a speaker series followed by a memorial candlelight vigil
- an information booth with a gender aptitude test
- a gender identity discussion
- a gender bender wine and cheese party!

Resources

- WLU Rainbow Centre, rainbow@wlu.ca
- www.rememberingourdead.org
- Torchlight Gender Support, grsmedia@hotmail.com
- OK2BME Project www.OK2BME.ca

What Can You Do to Promote Transgender Equality?

1. Take a trans person to lunch
2. Ask your library to carry books which deal positively with trans people
3. Make a restroom more accessible to trans people
4. Ask your local film festival to show trans-themed films
5. Work to pass a non-discrimination policy at your workplace
6. Collect and share stories of discrimination
7. Engage media coverage of transgender issues
8. Make a New Year's resolution for transgender equality

Grand River Rainbow Community Centre Online

www.GrandRiverRainbow.ca

The Grand River Rainbow Community Centre is a non-profit, volunteer-based, online resource for the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender/ Transsexual and GLBT-friendly communities of Grand River, encompassing Cambridge, Guelph, Kitchener, Waterloo

and surrounding area.

The website is your source for GLBT local listings – local gatherings, events, community group listings, business listings and resources.

Are you listed? It's FREE! We invite your participation, critique and support in this

grass-roots project.

Special thanks to Diane Kilby and CCJ Clearline. They have been supporting our community for years.

For more info contact: info@GrandRiverRainbow.ca.

It's for you. It's for life!

Love Makes A Family

Touring Photo-text Exhibit Comes to Waterloo Region

Brooke Young, OK2BME Project

OK2BME, K-W Counselling Services, Family and Children's Services of the Waterloo Region and Wilfrid Laurier University bring **LOVE MAKES A FAMILY** to Waterloo Region March 3-31, 2008.

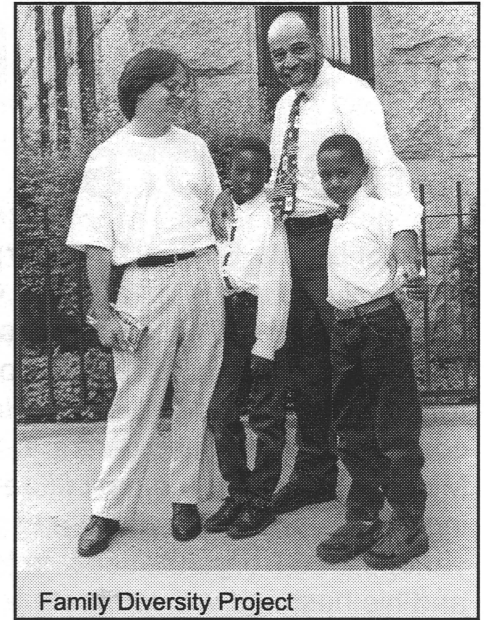


Family Diversity Project

We are at a time in history when LGBTQ people continue to fight for basic human rights

including: the right to be safe in school, the right to lead a Boy Scout troop, the right to have access to partner health benefits, and the right to be adoptive and foster parents. **LOVE MAKES A FAMILY** helps cut through all the political arguments to the heart of the issue by showing the love, caring, and connection that are so basic to all families. This exhibit contributes to dismantling the destructive power of prejudice and intolerance, thus making the world a safer place for all people.

An exhibition of **LOVE MAKES A FAMILY** is scheduled to be featured March 3-31, 2008 at various locations throughout Waterloo Region



Family Diversity Project

including community venues and public schools. By making the exhibit available to people of all ages, we hope that Waterloo Region will become a safer and more inclusive place for LGBTQ people.

For more information contact: Brooke 519-884-0000 x212 or brooke@kwcounselling.com www.OK2BME.ca

YUK YUK'S TRI-PRIDE FUNDRAISER SHOW

FEB 28, 8:00PM

1 King Street West, located in Walper Terrace Hotel Pub
(Corner of Queen and King in downtown Kitchener)
\$15 per ticket; visit www.tri-Pride.ca or email info@tri-Pride.ca for tickets

Meet Your New *tri*-Pride Board of Directors

Michael Lisetto-Smith (**Co-Chair**) was born in Montreal and raised in Oakville, ON. He received his BA (Political Studies) from the University of PEI and his MA (Political Science) from Wilfrid Laurier University. He currently coordinates a learning centre at Laurier. Michael has spent the past fifteen years educating people about gay rights and volunteering for various GLBT organizations. In 2008, Michael and his husband will celebrate ten years together. They currently call New Dundee home.

Shelley Secrett (**Co-Chair/Fundraising**), is a passionate Early Childhood Educator. She was born and raised in Kitchener but her adventurous spirit led her to build life experiences in downtown Vancouver and in a town near Munich, Germany. Shelley has been a supporter of *tri*-Pride for several years by creating and hosting popular events including: Lesbo Bingo, Cliterature, a butch/femme costume party, a family diversity portrait exhibit, Trans Day of Remembrance and drag king shows.

Steve Lill (**Secretary**) came to Waterloo in 1993 to attend UW Engineering and fell in love with the area. He spent a lot of time volunteering for the Food Bank and his Unitarian Church where he has been the board president for the last 3 years. He and his wife are avid RVers and plan to travel around North America visiting all those interesting places you read about in travel magazines.

Steve Dickson (**Treasurer**) has lived in Waterloo Region for approximately 10 years. He has been a previous volunteer for *tri*-Pride for the Pride Day event and has volunteered on a variety of work related and church commit-

tees. He has held a bookkeeping position in two previous retail jobs. While he doesn't have any experience on a BoD, he is looking forward to learning and helping to rebuild *tri*-Pride.

'Baden's most dangerous citizen', Thom Ryan (**Marketing/Website**) has a Double Honours BA (Political Science, Philosophy) from Wilfrid Laurier University and is currently working on an executive Masters of Business Administration. Thom works in marketing in the local tech community, and continues to divide time between hosting a web software development network venture and participating in various community volunteer gigs close to his heart.

David Bell (**Events**) is arranging the performances for this year's *tri*-Pride Festival on Sunday, June 1st. In addition, David will continue working with the *tri*-Pride committee on a variety of initiatives throughout the year in an effort to ensure that *tri*-Pride will grow in the years ahead. Previously, David spent the last fifteen years organizing events, managing several restaurants and most recently, co-owning and operating Muses Café in downtown Kitchener. Currently, David works with a local catering company and in the travel industry.

Born and raised in Cambridge, Ontario, Alex Chunaco (**Membership/Volunteer Services**) has been active in *tri*-Pride for a number of years. Alex has a wealth of experience in various community initiatives in social services and recreation. In 2006, Alex was awarded the TD Canada Trust /

(continued on page 7)

Board...continued from page 6
LGBT Youth Line Award for "Outstanding Overall Contribution to Community" in the province of Ontario. He is currently working on his degree at the University of Waterloo.

Susan Watt is new to *tri*-Pride this year and is looking forward to the challenges ahead in the role of **Publications Director**. Susan is a teacher with the WRDSB and is passionate about her work with gifted students of all ages at The Enrichment Centre in Kitchener. Beyond the classroom, she offers workshops and courses to teachers. Susan is also the union rep. for her staff and is currently chair of the union's Human Rights Committee. In her off-teaching hours, Susan fulfills her love of music in her role as co-conductor of the Grand Philharmonic

Children's Choir. Susan and her partner Trish have recently moved into a new home in Kitchener and are loving their life with each other, their kids(5!!), cats, family and friends!

Deb Gollnick (**Director at Large**) is a change management activist, leading organizations to promote equitable, inclusive workplaces, free from harassment, discrimination and systemic oppression. Previously, Deb spent over 10 years working with diverse individuals, families and communities as a counsellor, trainer, facilitator and child protection worker. She has a Master's Degree in Religion and Culture from WLU and is a certified Marriage and Family Therapist. Deb and her partner, Judith, live in KW and parent two young adults, two cats, two birds and a dog.

Local Events

Upcoming

The Rainbow Chorus: Songs for a Winter Night - 8:00pm

Saturday January 19, 2008
Harcourt United Church,
87 Dean Ave., Guelph
www.rainbowchorusww.com

Cliterature 2008 -7:30pm
Saturday, February 2, 2008
Registry Theatre,
122 Frederick St., Kitchener
For tickets email:
dkhector@yahoo.com

**Yuk Yuk's *tri*-Pride
Fundraiser -8:00pm**
Thursday, February 28, 2008
1 King St. W, Kitchener
www.tri-pride.ca

Ongoing

**GLBT Youth Group @
ACCKWA**
Tuesdays, 7:00-9:00pm. GLBT
youth only. Contact ACCKWA
for details and to attend.
www.acckwa.com

**OK2BME Drop-In Groups for
LGBTQ Youth 13-18**
Tues 6:00-7:30 pm Kitchener
Wed 5:30-7:00 pm Cambridge
www.ok2bme.ca/events.html

GLOW Discussion Group
Tuesdays, 7:15pm
Dyketopia Thursdays 8:00pm
www.glow.uwaterloo.ca

The Laurier Rainbow Centre
Contact the Centre for
time/date details.
www.mylaurier.ca/rainbow

Baker's Street
Saturday 9:00pm-2:00am
www.bakersstreet.ca

Club Renaissance
Wednesday to Sunday
9:00pm-3:00am
www.clubrenaissance.com

The Robin's Nest
Saturdays
www.geocities.com/robinsnest-club/

Friends of Dorothy Bowling
Sundays, 3:00pm
www.kwfriendedorothy.ca

**Notify us of upcoming
events. Email events to:
info@tri-pride.ca**

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community groups, gatherings, businesses,
news, & resources *for us*

Grand River
Rainbow Community Centre



www.GrandRiverRainbow.ca

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Toronto ON M4Y 2E2
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toll free 800-263-5747
fax 416-967-0224
outonthestreet@aol.com

ACCKWA
The AIDS Committee of Cambridge, Kitchener, Waterloo & Area

GLBTQ Youth Group
For ages 16-24
Meets every 2nd and last Wednesday, 7-8:30pm
Call for date and location 519-570-3687

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Fergus, Ontario

www.theweescottishshop.com

March 2008

8th Annual Queer Film Festival. Queer. Here.

www.rainbowreels.org

