

# Grand River Rainbow Historical Project

[www.grandriver-rainbowhistory.ca/](http://www.grandriver-rainbowhistory.ca/)

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

## *Pride Pages*

**Publishing History:** Issued by **Waterloo Wellington Regional Pride Committee** from January 2002 to Fall 2002 and then by **tri-Pride Community Association Inc.** from Fall 2002 to 2008.

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**tri-Pride**

Cambridge • Kitchener • Waterloo

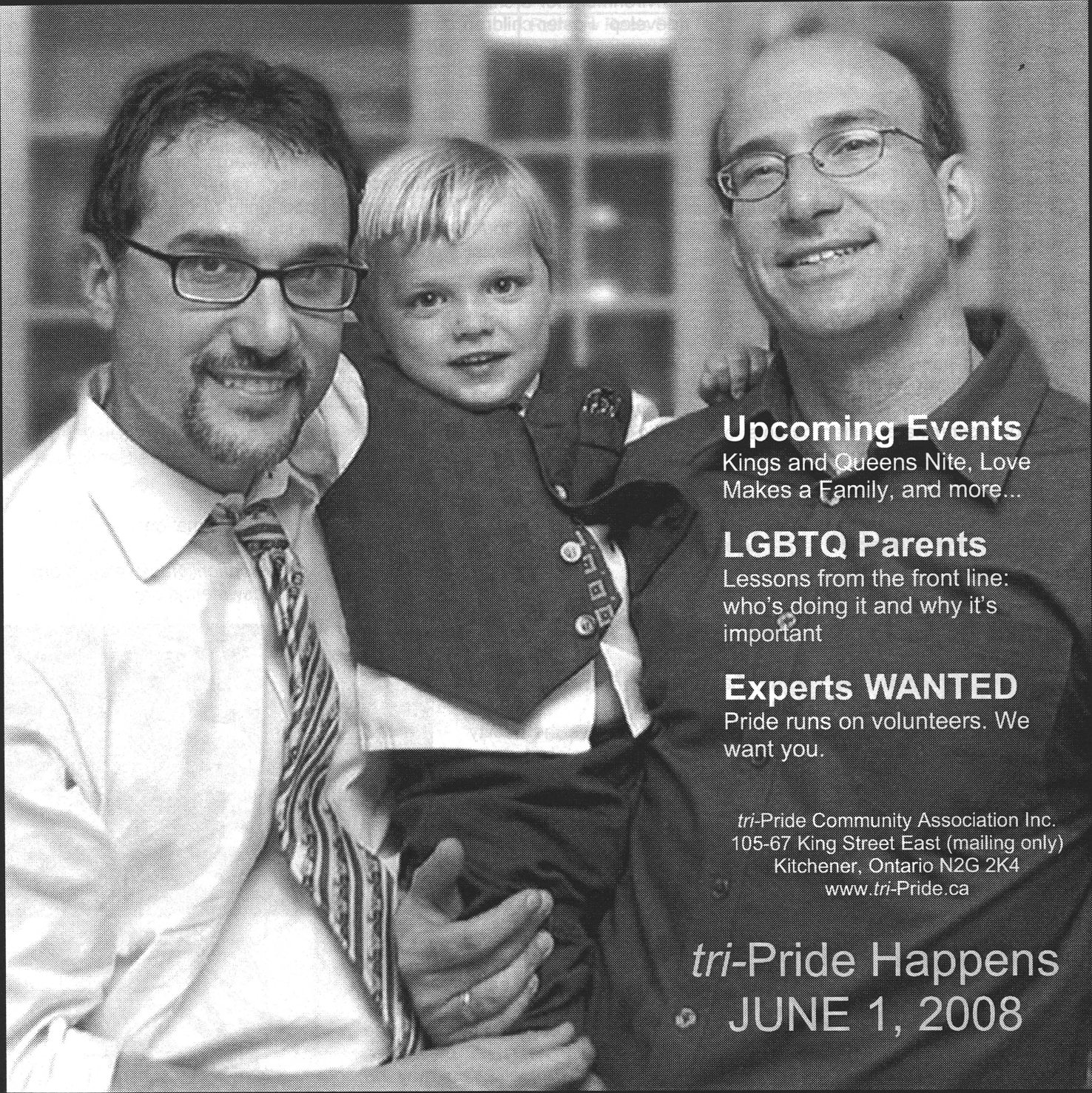
# Pride Pages

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

March 2008

[info@tri-Pride.ca](mailto:info@tri-Pride.ca)

[www.tri-Pride.ca](http://www.tri-Pride.ca)



## Upcoming Events

Kings and Queens Nite, Love Makes a Family, and more...

## LGBTQ Parents

Lessons from the front line: who's doing it and why it's important

## Experts WANTED

Pride runs on volunteers. We want you.

tri-Pride Community Association Inc.  
105-67 King Street East (mailing only)  
Kitchener, Ontario N2G 2K4  
[www.tri-Pride.ca](http://www.tri-Pride.ca)

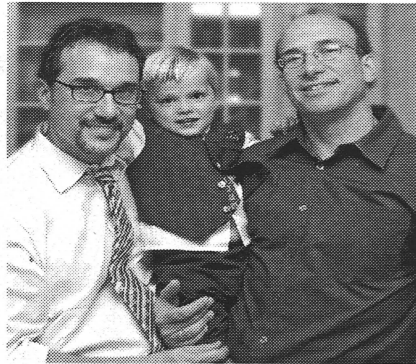
*tri-Pride Happens*

• JUNE 1, 2008

tri-Pride is the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) pride celebration in Cambridge, Kitchener, Waterloo and area in Ontario, Canada



## Fostering Families: Foster Care an Option for LGBTQ



Foster parents come in all shapes and sizes. Some are single parents, some are married or living with a common-law spouse. Some don't have children or are older and their children have moved away. You don't have to be a parent, but it helps to have had some experience with children. We subscribe to the Ontario Human Rights Code and do not discriminate foster parents on basis of age (though over 18 is a must), gender, sexual orientation or marital status.

In addition to affection, supervision and guidance, foster parents take on the responsibility to provide stability, structure and consistency for their foster children. Patience, compassion, optimism, humour, and understanding are all assets that contribute to a loving, nurturing environment for a child. The desire to help a child, an understanding of the needs of children and a demonstrated willingness to learn are all essential in building a relationship with a foster child.

A child may be separated from their

own parents for various reasons and require temporary or long-term care. Foster parents provide a nurturing, healthy and safe environment for a child to grow and develop. Foster children come from a variety of ethnic and racial backgrounds and range in age from infancy to 16 years. Foster care is intended to be temporary. This means that we work in specified periods of time towards the goal of helping the child and their family to get back together. It is a team approach, working together with the child, family and social workers to obtain this goal.

To provide a safe home for a child is to make some big inroads in their life. A foster parent might be the largest influence in the child's life. Foster parents may be helping the child to break the destructive patterns which may include physical abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse, or neglect. Foster families provide the full spectrum of vital support for children faced with social, behavioral, spiritual and emotional deficits.

Why foster a child?

- to enhance personal skills
- to improve the quality of life for a child
- to work as part of a multi-disciplinary team with the goal of returning a child to their family
- to meet new people with similar interests

Perhaps you know a family who provides foster care and are interested in providing the same service. Maybe you know someone that was a foster child, or were a foster child yourself. You may be

aware of the need for foster families and want to help.

Challenges and Rewards

Children placed in care often have emotional and behavioral challenges. In addition, the foster families often find it difficult to let go when a child returns home.

The rewards are plentiful! As a foster family, you have the opportunity to make a difference in the life of a child and provide a very necessary service to the community. You will enhance your knowledge of child development, child care needs and how to respond to them through work with a multi-disciplinary team of professionals.

Peter Ringrose, Executive Director, Family and Children's Services of Waterloo Region

For more information:  
(519) 576-0540  
[foster.adoption@facswaterloo.org](mailto:foster.adoption@facswaterloo.org)  
[www.facswaterloo.org](http://www.facswaterloo.org)



[info@tri-Pride.ca](mailto:info@tri-Pride.ca)

[www.tri-Pride.ca](http://www.tri-Pride.ca)

## Loves Makes A Family tour venues in March

The touring photo-text exhibit is here!

This moving photo-text exhibit cuts through all the political arguments right to the heart of the issue by showing the love, caring, and connection that are so basic to all families. By allowing viewers of all ages to come face-to-face with LGBTQ people, Love Makes a Family visually presents the love and caring in these families.

Be sure you get the chance to visit one of the venues listed here. The tour is truly something to be seen.

March 3, 2008	Sunnyside Public School	9:30am-3:00pm
March 4, 2008	Kitchener Collegiate Institute	9:30am-3:00pm
March 5, 2008	Waterloo Collegiate Institute	9:30am-3:00pm
March 6, 2008	The Enrichment Centre	9:30am-2:30pm
March 6, 2008	Rainbow Reels Film Festival Gala	7:00pm
March 7, 2008	University of Waterloo SLC	10:00am-4:00pm
March 7-9, 2008	Rainbow Reels Film Festival	Various
March 10-11, 2008	K-W YMCA Ontario Early Years Centre	Various
March 12-13, 2008	Our Place Ontario Early Years Centre	Various
March 17, 2008	Forest Heights Collegiate Institute	9:30am-3:00pm
March 18, 2008	Eastwood Collegiate Institute	9:30am-3:00pm
March 19, 2008	Waterloo Oxford District Secondary School	9:30am-3:00pm
March 20, 2008	Sir John A Macdonald Secondary School	9:30am-3:00pm
March 25, 2008	Cameron Heights Collegiate Institute	9:30am-3:00pm
March 26, 2008	Glenview Park Secondary School	9:30am-3:00pm
March 27, 2008	Jacob Hespeler Secondary School	9:30am-3:00pm
March 28, 2008	Wilfrid Laurier University	Various
March 29-30, 2008	Parkminster United Church	Various
March 31, 2008	OK2BME Open House	3pm-6pm

Learn more about the Loves Makes a Family tour at [www.OK2BMe.ca](http://www.OK2BMe.ca)

NO COVER  
FUN. SKILL TESTING  
GAMES & PRIZES

tri-Pride happens June 1, 2008





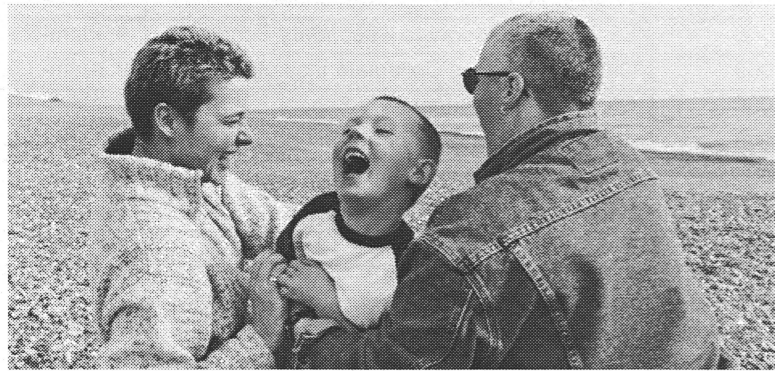
### Advertise Your Business or Group

Advertising with *tri-Pride* gets your message out and supports your *tri-Pride*. Whether you're private or non-profit, *tri-Pride* offers options for you to get in front of our LGBTQ community!

- Ads in Pride Pages (\$25)
- Ads in Pride Guide (from \$30 to \$125)
- Ads in LGBTQ Directory (from \$30 to \$125)
- Vendor (\$100) or Info (\$50) Table on June 1 in the Vendor Market
- Website banner (\$60)

Visit [www.tri-Pride.ca](http://www.tri-Pride.ca) for details

## Proud to be family-friendly! Celebrating rainbow families



By Shelley Secrett

Recently in my preschool classroom I read a book, "All Families are Special," by Norma Simon. One page paints a picture of a happy family with two moms and two children all spending time together washing their pet dog. I was about to turn to the next page when a child put up her hand.

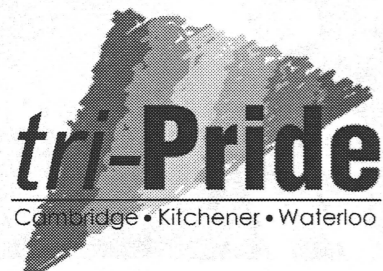
I thought perhaps she would question why the family has two moms but instead she simply said, "That dog is so cute!" I smiled and continued with the story. How

wonderful it is to create acceptance of family diversity through literature. Promoting visibility of rainbow families is important to make it known that these families exist and flourish in our community and deserve to be celebrated. The question is, are there enough resources in the Region of Waterloo to connect these families with one another?

Several mothers I have met recently have expressed they simply don't know how to go about finding families similar to their own. They would like their children to know they are not alone.

Imagine a community where children can talk about their rainbow families with honesty and pride.

If you have ideas or resources to share, or would like to find out how to connect with other families, please email [info@tri-pride.ca](mailto:info@tri-pride.ca).



### Resources in Waterloo Region

#### Gay Bisexual Fathers Peer Support Group of Waterloo-Wellington

[www.gaybifathers.outontheshelf.ca](http://www.gaybifathers.outontheshelf.ca)  
Provides peer support to gay and bisexual fathers and their male partners in a safe and confidential environment.

#### Lesbian Moms and Tots

519-571-  
Early Years Learning Centre, St. Francis School, 154 Gatewood Rd (Corner of Westmount and Queen St) Kitchener Ontario  
Meets every second Saturday of each month at 9:30-11:30a.m.

#### Online

Free family diversity posters:  
[www.colage.org/ylap/familyposter.pdf](http://www.colage.org/ylap/familyposter.pdf)

[www.fsatoronto.com/programs/lgbt/familytree.html](http://www.fsatoronto.com/programs/lgbt/familytree.html)

Children of Gays and Lesbians Everywhere - [www.colage.org](http://www.colage.org)  
Kids of Trans -

[www.colage.org/programs/trans/](http://www.colage.org/programs/trans/)

Watch for details of the *tri-Pride* children's area on June 1<sup>st</sup> in the park.

## Man, I feel like a woman

By Marshall Ward, Feb 27, 2008. Excerpted from the Waterloo Chronicle

In the life drawing classes I teach, students often ask me if they'll be drawing a male or female model. And usually, it's an easy question to answer -- with the exception of one model, Douglas Morton, who is transgender.

Interested in learning about transgender issues, I spent some time speaking with Morton after our life drawing session this past week at the Waterloo Community Arts Centre.

"Transgender is an umbrella term for anyone who identifies or presents in a way that crosses the gender line," said Morton. "(People in the transgender community) are way too different from each other to be understood as being one identity. I identify as a woman who is male. I dress in ways that feel right, which is generally in women's clothes, and I ask to be referred to as 'she' and 'her' and generally to be treated as a female."

Morton explained she doesn't have

any plans to change anything about herself with regards to her body, her perspective or her name.

"(Douglas) is the name I was given by my parents, and it has significance for me," said Morton. "It means 'dark water,' which is very feminine symbolism and it is also quite fitting -- I tend to be deep. My last name means 'living on or near a marsh,' so my name literally means 'dark water near a marsh' -- how could I change that? I have also discovered that (Douglas) was a girl's name until the 17th century.

"The only reason I can think of for changing my name to a feminine name is to fit into culture. And really, with the way I identify, I'm never going to fit in anyway."

Morton said it was in October 2006, at the age of 31, when she figured out she was a transgender woman.

"A year before, I had suffered severe depression to the point of being suicidal and requiring hospitalization before I did anything drastic," said Morton. "I took that as a sign that I should figure out what was wrong, and so I did some soul



searching, and looked into gender and other areas that seemed to be the source of the discomfort."

And once she came to the realization she could be a woman, while remaining biologically male, she began telling people. "It was the most terrifying experience in my life," said Morton. "But every time I told someone, I felt immense relief and joy."

"It is important to recognize if someone informs you they are transgender, they are taking a significant risk, and showing a great amount of trust in you," said Morton. "Also realize they are the same person, and simply expressing a new part of themselves. I believe we all need to support each other in expressing our true selves."

Morton added that people often assume that being transgender is a choice. "Let me tell you, no one would choose this," said Morton. "We only have the choice to accept what we are, or live in misery hiding ourselves."

More information on transgender issues can be found at [www.pflagcanada.ca](http://www.pflagcanada.ca).

Visit [www.tri-Pride.ca](http://www.tri-Pride.ca) and click on volunteer

"We're working together -- we volunteer because it's fun, we meet new people and it makes a difference. It's easy, once you decide your time is now."

"I contribute because I care about the community I live in. I have valuable skills I can offer."

I want this to be a better place to live for all of us, so I'm starting now."



LOCAL EVENTS

UPCOMING/CURRENT

**Love Makes a Family Text-Photo Exhibit Tour**  
 March 3-31  
 Touring photo/text exhibit  
 Locations across Waterloo Region  
[www.OK2BMe.ca](http://www.OK2BMe.ca)

**Rainbow Reels Festival**  
 Thursday March 5th-9th  
 Various locations  
[www.rainbowreels.org](http://www.rainbowreels.org)

**Kings and Queens Drag Nite A tri-Pride fundraiser**  
 Thursday March 27  
 Club Renaissance  
[www.tri-Pride.ca](http://www.tri-Pride.ca)

**Shamrock'in St. Paddy's Day Bash**  
 Saturday March 15  
 Club Renaissance  
[www.clubrenaissance.com](http://www.clubrenaissance.com)

ONGOING

**The Rainbow Youth Group**  
 Tuesdays, 7:00-9:00pm  
**Anonymous HIV Testing Drop-in Clinic**  
 Thursdays, 4:00-7:00pm  
[www.acckwa.com](http://www.acckwa.com)

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

**GLOW Discussion Group**  
 Tuesdays, 7:15pm  
**Dyketopia**  
 Thursdays 8:00pm  
[www.glow.uwaterloo.ca](http://www.glow.uwaterloo.ca)

**The Laurier Rainbow Centre**  
 Contact for time/date/details.  
[www.mylaurier.ca/rainbow](http://www.mylaurier.ca/rainbow)

**Lesbian Moms and Tots**  
 Meets every second Saturday of at  
 9:30-11:30a.m. (519) 571-████

**Baker's Street**  
 Saturday 9:00pm-2:00am  
[www.bakersstreet.ca](http://www.bakersstreet.ca)

**Club Renaissance**  
 Wednesday to Sunday  
 9:00pm-3:00am  
[www.clubrenaissance.com](http://www.clubrenaissance.com)

**The Robin's Nest**  
 Saturdays 9:00pm-2:00am  
[www.geocities.com/robinsnestclub](http://www.geocities.com/robinsnestclub)

**KW Friends of Dorothy Bowling**  
 Sundays, 3:00pm-5:00pm  
[www.kwfriendsofdorothy.ca](http://www.kwfriendsofdorothy.ca)

Notify us of your upcoming events: [info@tri-pride.ca](mailto:info@tri-pride.ca)



**Pastor Credited With Canadian Gay Marriage Win Receives Highest National Honour**

Longtime Canadian LGBT civil rights activist Rev. Brent Hawkes will be invested Feb 22 into the Order of Canada by the Queen's representative. The Order of Canada is the country's highest civilian honor.

Hawkes has been on the front line of gay activism in Canada for decades. For more than 30 years he has been the senior pastor of the Metropolitan Community Church of Toronto.

In 2001 under considerable publicity he conducted a double wedding for two same-sex couples at the church and then went to court when the

province of Ontario refused to register the marriages.

He performed the wedding ceremony for Kevin Bourassa & Joe Varnell and Elaine & Anne Vautour, wearing a bulletproof vest on the advice of police and following a series of threats from socially conservative activists.

To conduct the ceremony without marriage licenses - something that had been denied gay couples - Hawkes found a loophole in the law. It allowed the ancient Christian practice of Publishing Bannes.

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Sally liked tri-Pride so much, she jumped on the world wide electronic network and told a friend!



[info@tri-Pride.ca](mailto:info@tri-Pride.ca)

[www.tri-Pride.ca](http://www.tri-Pride.ca)

Community Groups

**AIDS Committee of Cambridge, Kitchener, Waterloo & Area**  
[www.acckwa.com](http://www.acckwa.com)

**CLGRO Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights in Ontario**  
[www.web.ca/clgro](http://www.web.ca/clgro)

**Conestoga College GLBT**  
[www.conestogac.on.ca/stserv/stmsgboard/gbltintro.html](http://www.conestogac.on.ca/stserv/stmsgboard/gbltintro.html)

**e-LIPSE Electronic Lesbian Information Postings and Social Events** [www.e-lipse.com](http://www.e-lipse.com)

**First Unitarian Congregation of Waterloo**  
[www.waterloo.unitarians.ca](http://www.waterloo.unitarians.ca)

**The Gay Bisexual Fathers Peer Support Group of Waterloo-Wellington**  
[www.outontheshelf.ca/gaybifathers](http://www.outontheshelf.ca/gaybifathers)

**WLU Rainbow Centre**  
[www.mylaurier.ca/rainbow](http://www.mylaurier.ca/rainbow)

**GLOW The Queer and Questioning Community Centre**  
[www.glow.uwaterloo.ca](http://www.glow.uwaterloo.ca)

**GRRCC Grand River Rainbow Community Centre**  
[www.grandriverrainbow.ca](http://www.grandriverrainbow.ca)

**HOWL Hanging Out With Lesbians**  
[howlgroup@hotmail.com](mailto:howlgroup@hotmail.com)

**KW Sexual Assault Support Centre**  
[www.kwsasc.org](http://www.kwsasc.org)

**KW Friends of Dorothy Bowling**  
[www.kwfriendsofdorothy.ca](http://www.kwfriendsofdorothy.ca)

**KW Rainbow Women's Soccer**  
[www.rainbowwomenssoccer.org](http://www.rainbowwomenssoccer.org)

**Lesbian Moms and Tots**  
 519-571-████

**LGBT Parenting Network**  
[www.fsatoronto.com/programs/lgbtparenting.html](http://www.fsatoronto.com/programs/lgbtparenting.html)

**OGLCOC Ontario Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce**  
[www.oglcoc.ca](http://www.oglcoc.ca)

**OK2BMe**  
[www.kwcounselling.com/lgbtq](http://www.kwcounselling.com/lgbtq)

**OOTS Out On The Shelf Resource Centre**  
[www.outontheshelf.ca](http://www.outontheshelf.ca)

**PFLAG Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays**  
[www.pflag.ca](http://www.pflag.ca)

**Rainbow Chorus of Waterloo-Wellington County**  
[www.rainbowchorusww.com](http://www.rainbowchorusww.com)

**The Rainbow List**  
[www qlife.on.ca/RainbowLists](http://www qlife.on.ca/RainbowLists)

**The Rainbow Youth Group**  
[www.acckwa.com/youthgroup.htm](http://www.acckwa.com/youthgroup.htm)

**SOGLAD Southern Ontario Gay and Lesbian Association of Doctors**  
[www.soglad.ca](http://www.soglad.ca)

**SQY Supporting Queer Youth**  
[sqy-changenow@bellnet.ca](mailto:sqy-changenow@bellnet.ca)

**Torchlight Gender Support**  
[home.golden.net/~kcr/tgs](http://home.golden.net/~kcr/tgs)

**tri-Pride (Cambridge, Kitchener and Waterloo)**  
[www.tri-pride.ca](http://www.tri-pride.ca)

**Women's Crisis Services of Waterloo Region/Haven House**  
[www.wcswr.org](http://www.wcswr.org)

**WPIRG The Waterloo Public Interest Research Group**  
[www.wpirg.org](http://www.wpirg.org)



Not listed here? Quit griping! If you're a non-profit or charitable group serving the LGBTQ community we want to hear from you! Email us at [info@tri-Pride.ca](mailto:info@tri-Pride.ca)

About tri-Pride

tri-Pride Board of Directors

Michael Lisetto-Smith, Co-Chair  
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tri-Pride is the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) pride celebration in Cambridge, Kitchener, Waterloo and area in Ontario, Canada.

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 Susan Watt, Publications  
 Alex Chunaco, Volunteers  
 Thom Ryan, Marketing  
 Deb Gollnick, Director-at-Large

**tri-Pride Community Association Inc.**  
 105-67 King Street East (mailing only)  
 Kitchener, Ontario N2G 2K4  
[info@tri-Pride.ca](mailto:info@tri-Pride.ca) email  
[www.tri-Pride.ca](http://www.tri-Pride.ca) web

tri-Pride happens June 1, 2008



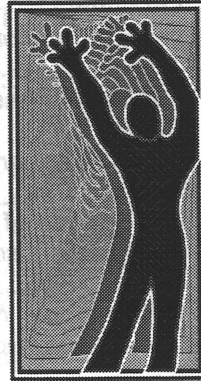
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A very special thanks to the following local businesses and groups for advertising with and supporting our Pride Pages. Please show your appreciation by supporting them. Contact us if you, your business or group would like to appear here in 2008.

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

**Grand River**  
Rainbow Community Centre

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



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Queer. Here.

[www.rainbowreels.org](http://www.rainbowreels.org)

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OK2BME is a set of support services for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning youth ages 5-18 and their families.

All services are free and confidential.

P: 519-884-0000 x212  
E: [ok2bme@kwcounselling.com](mailto:ok2bme@kwcounselling.com)

**KW Counselling** PROFESSIONALS



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