

OVERVIEW

DTE'S HIV/IDU
CONSUMERS'
BOARD

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DTES HIV/IDU CONSUMERS' BOARD OVERVIEW

CONSUMERS' BOARD

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DTES HIV/IDU Consumers' Board

Overview

HISTORY

When the DTES HIV/IDU Action Plan was being prepared for implementation in the spring and summer of 1997, we lobbied for greater consumer voice, input and involvement. The Consumers' Board was formally established in 1998, as a response to that lobbying, to provide a voice for health care consumers, PWA's, IDU's and those at risk in CHC # 2.

The Consumers' Board operates under the auspices of the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority and is so funded.

Our geographical mandate is primarily the DTES, however our involvements and partnerships include many Lower Mainland "consumers" and organizations. We have also established links to various organizations throughout the province and North America including PAN, BCANDS (Victoria), SOLID (Victoria), the B.C. Recycling Committee, CAS, CATIE, the Sechelt Harm Reduction Society and others. One of the primary objectives of the Consumers' Board was to establish working partnerships with diverse groups within the HIV/AIDS and IDU communities. This objective arose from the need to foster harmony and cooperation for everyone infected with HIV/AIDS in the Vancouver area. During the 1990's there was considerable friction between gay men and IDU's infected with AIDS. This friction and division (drug addicts vs gay men, Eastend vs Westend mentalities) was exacerbated by geographical funding restrictions and agency turf wars when the Action Plan was implemented. We believe that our Board has played a major role in resolving those differences through bridge-building and community partnership. The attached World AIDS Day brochure demonstrates one venue for the promotion of partnership and cooperation.

In January, 1999, the Consumers' Board secured an office in the Washington Hotel. Our needle exchange opened in October, 1999. Service provision (needle exchange, B.C. Benefits advocacy, Disability II advocacy training, Carnegie AIDS Support Group, etc.) was an outgrowth of our original mandate to provide community feedback to the regional health board as an advisory group.

STRUCTURE

Our Board is a non-profit, grassroots, peer-driven intervention organization. All members of the Consumers' Board are unpaid volunteers; we have no paid staff and are not unionized.

The Consumers' Board is not a registered society. Its finances are administered by Lookout Emergency Services Society.

Our Board has no hierarchy. It consists of 24 directors who sit in equal capacity. There are 12 chairs, representing at-risk subgroups, with various interests or "realms", with 12 alternates (see attached list). This structure was designed to reflect the now defunct VRHB's population health model.

Meetings are held bi-weekly to discuss community issues, organize and attend a continuum of community events and oversee our needle exchange.

Our organization represents the collective community feedback from the client bases of DTES health care agencies and service providers concerned with the AIDS, hepatitis, and IDU epidemics plus the at-risk populations.

"We are the street level voice of the AIDS, hepatitis, and IDU epidemics. We are multiply-diagnosed healthcare consumers of service provisioning in Vancouver's inner city, the DTES. We are 'those that get from those that got'."

"Unk" Sandquist

Consumer input is an essential ingredient and part of the solution to reducing the harm to persons living in the DTES.

MANDATE/OBJECTIVES

In practical terms our mandate includes:

- 1) The operation of a 18 hour, 365 days per year secondary needle exchange (NEP), to directly reduce the spread of HIV, hepatitis, and blood borne diseases and prevent overdoses. We now exchange approximately 60,000 needles annually.**
- 2) The distribution of male/female condoms to reduce the spread of HIV, hepatitis, and STD's.**
- 3) Provision of referrals to other agencies and services (especially methadone, recovery and detoxification programmes).**
- 4) Dissemination of appropriate educational literature, materials on AIDS, hepatitis and harm reduction (awareness).**
- 5) Working directly as peers with consumers to provide non-judgmental counseling, information, coffee and water. Provision of a user-friendly outreach "environment" and a "safe haven".**
- 6) Advocacy training, specifically disability applications; also Schedule "C", criminal and housing problems.**
- 7) Lobbying for 'social justice' on behalf of our peers concerning legal, ethical and human rights issues that discriminate against users/consumers by moral condemnation based on class and lifestyle considerations.**
- 8) Self-empowerment of Board members through direct involvement and operation of our office and needle exchange. All needle exchange volunteers receive training in basic computer skills.**

- 9) Provision of direct advisory feedback to the regional health board from the street-level community and those at-risk—their needs and concerns.
- 10) Harm reduction, health promotion, education, awareness; AIDS and hepatitis prevention; harm reduction interventions associated with drug abuse; - through community events, forums and workshops with numerous community partners.
- 11) Liaison and networking through Board delegate attendance at various public conferences, local and otherwise.
- 12) Community capacity building - through partnership liaison and participation (“AIDS infrastructure”).
- 13) For those in the hospital we provide transportation, ongoing visits and, if needed, supplies and financial support. We also provide cigarettes weekly for PWAs in St. Paul’s.
- 14) Financial and board support for the Carnegie Community Centre AIDS Support Group.

Please see attachments, “Objectives” and “Mission Statement”.

PROGRAMS/SERVICES

1) Needle Exchange/ Harm Reduction Office

The Consumers’ Board has operated a secondary needle exchange and health/ harm reduction office in the Washington Hotel since October, 1999.

Our needle exchange is open 18 hours per day, 365 days per year. It is staffed by disabled volunteers from our board (PWA’s, persons with hepatitis, practicing and recovered IDU’s) who are paid expenses(\$13 for meals and transportation). We have three 6 hour shifts per day – 2 persons, 11am to 5pm; 1 person, 5pm to 11pm; 1 person, 11pm

to 5am. All needle exchange volunteers receive basic training in operating our harm reduction office and basic computer skills. To our knowledge, our needle exchange office is the only one in Canada that is entirely peer-driven.

Summary - Needle Exchange Apr. 1/02 to Mar.31/03:

- No. of needles distributed	78,800
- No. of needle exchanges	18,000
- No. of visits	58,000
- Recovery Rate	95%

Summary – Needle Exchange Apr.1/03 to Mar.31/04:

- No. of needles distributed	53,200
- No. of needle exchanges	14,773
- No. of visits	57,163
- Recovery Rate	98%

Approximately 40% of visits are for needle exchange; the other 60% of client visits are for ‘bottled’ water, coffee, condoms, health and other referrals, telephone and computer use.

The needle exchange is informal, user-friendly, non-judgmental and peer-driven.

Our office is ‘gifted’ by the Portland Hotel Society; it is furnished entirely with donated/throwaway furniture from the VRHB.

2) Events/Community Outreach

The Consumers’ Board sponsors, co-sponsors and attends a seemingly neverending continuum of events, conferences and forums related to AIDS, Hepatitis and injection drug use. Please see attachment, “ List of events “.

Major annual events include :

World AIDS Day

The Carnegie Community Centre initiated the first DTES AIDS Day event in 1987; in 1994 the Carnegie AIDS Support Group assumed responsibility for this event; in 2001 the Consumers' Board became the primary sponsor and organizer of this event (our annual funding includes \$2000 earmarked for WAD). This is the largest World AIDS Day event in the province with 2,500 to 3,000 attendees(see brochure).

AIDS Candlelight Memorial and Vigil

The Carnegie AIDS Support Group became involved with this event in 1995, to ensure the recognition of those who have died from AIDS in the DTES. Initially this event was sponsored by 3 westend agencies (AIDS Vancouver, BCPWA, PWN). Our support group and the Consumers' Board have played a major role in expanding the number of sponsors for the Memorial from 3 to 24, with over half of the sponsors from the DTES. For many years the Carnegie AIDS Support Group and the Consumers' Board have arranged bus service and provided bag lunches for attendees and volunteers for the Memorial.

Health Fairs, Oppenheimer Park

Since 2000 the Consumers' Board has set up information booths at the health fairs and has provided food and volunteers. This event was discontinued in 2004 due to lack of funding.

AIDS Walk

Since 1999 the Consumers' Board has set up an information booth at the AIDS Walk has provided food and juice for attendees.

Various Speakers/ Presentations/Forums

Our Consumers' Board has, on a continuing basis, sponsored and co-sponsored various AIDS related presentations in the DTES (in partnership with many other agencies including the

Carnegie, BCPWA, AIDS Vancouver, St. James Anglican Church, First United Church, the Heart of Richmond AIDS Society and others). Examples of such events are annual AIDS treatment updates presented by Drs. Montaner and Conway, the first annual Hepatitis Day in Canada (over 3000 attendees), the Dr. David Roy presentation on “ Ethics and IV Drug Use “, movie nights on AIDS and IV drug use at the Carnegie theatre, BCPWA treatment information updates and a pre-election talk on IDU issues by Mayor Campbell.

Pacific AIDS Network

Both the Consumers’ Board and the Carnegie AIDS Support Group are PAN agency members. Delegates are sent regularly to the bi-annual conferences.

Gathering, AIDS Support Groups

Once or twice per year our board organizes and funds a dinner and collective gathering of the various AIDS support groups in the lower mainland (Carnegie AIDS Support Group, PWN’s Women’s Group, St. Paul’s Group, BCPWA’s Body Positive, Native Health Support Group, Lower Mainland Purpose Society’s Group and others).

Workshops/Overhead Presentations

The Consumers’ Board has given the following overhead presentations at various venues:

“Methadone – An Overview from the Street Level”

“How To Set Up & Operate A Peer-driven Needle Exchange”

“Mortality, AIDS & IDU’s, DTES”

3) Other/Miscellaneous

Weekly visits and cigarette distribution, PWA’s, St. Paul’s Hospital.

Provision, socks and underwear, St. Paul’s Hospital
(Christmas)

Transportation and escort to and from doctors, clinics and hospitals.

“Health and welfare” – emergency funds for persons while in hospital or in medical or drug rehabilitation programs.

Incidentals – clothing, moving, laundry expenses, travel, etc.

4) Carnegie Community Centre AIDS Support Group

The Carnegie Support Group was established and remains as a Carnegie Community Centre Program. As the first support group in the DTES, it was formed to provide support, treatment information, health referrals and coffee and food for HIV+ persons.

Since its inception in 1994 the support group has had over 2,000 attendees. Regular core attendance consists of 10-20 persons weekly.

The support group functions as an unstructured, informal, weekly drop-in (every Thursday, 6pm – 8pm or later). The group is open to everyone.

It was initially established in 1994 to deal with the burgeoning HIV, Hepatitis and IDU epidemics. During 1995-1996 we were getting 1 to 3 newly diagnosed persons per meeting; now we are dealing with a predominance of persons who have progressed to full-blown AIDS and the many problems associated with this diagnosis including wasting syndrome, AIDS-related dementia, recurrent PCP, etc. We also function to some degree as a Hepatitis support group, providing treatment information, referrals and support. Our mandate extends beyond a stand-alone support group and includes:

Provision of volunteers for and involvement in the AIDS Walk, Candlelight Vigil, annual World AIDS Day event, 1st National Hepatitis Day, dietary studies on AIDS, movie nights (AIDS & IDU's), quilt-making workshops, etc.

Provision of information booths at many venues (Sechelt, Richmond Mall in conjunction with ASIA, Britannia School, AIDS Walk, Steveston Salmon Festival, Richmond General Hospital, the now defunct annual Provincial AIDS Conferences, St. Paul's Hospital and innumerable others.

Emergency transportation to hospitals, clinics and doctors.

Shipment of AIDS information packages to various locations including Egypt and North Korea.

Support group attendance has included nursing and medical students (also entire classes), AIDS activists both local and overseas, persons seeking support group member participation in various surveys and studies on AIDS, IV drug use, AIDS funding, etc.

Operation of a weekly 'mini-foodbank' for PWA's since 2000 (food provided by Richmond Food Bank).

Annual Christmas Dinner

Monthly dinners for support group (previously funded by Merck Frosst Canada; now funded by the Consumers' Board).

Transportation of support group members to various AIDS presentations, forums and dinners.

Participation in Crossroad Production's movie " HIV Positive"

Annual involvement in Gay Men's Health Forum (volunteers and focus groups).

PAN membership; conference delegates; PAN working group involvement.

UNIQUENESS

- 1) No staff, paid professionals or union; peer-driven needle exchange; a “working” board with no hierarchy.
- 2) Not a registered society; administered by Lookout Emergency Services Society.
- 3) “Direct empowerment through involvement”; volunteers are disabled persons, PWA’s, practicing or recovered IDU’s.
- 4) “Holistic approach”; we represent and work with the entire DTES community; bridge building and community partnership; “moderate”- we embrace the whole spectrum of harm reduction interventions from abstinence to provision of heroin.
- 5) Not a “9 to 5” approach; operate 365 days per year.
- 6) Do not endorse “empire building”; “take only the funding required to get the job done” philosophy.

Note: Since the Consumers’ Board’s inception approximately 60 practicing IDU’s have been actively involved in our board and needle exchange. We have had only 3 sero-conversions to HIV (with the average DTES rate of 40% you would expect over 20 sero-conversions). This demonstrates an indirect benefit from peer-driven intervention.

DTES HIV/IDU CONSUMERS' BOARD

Current Sitting Members (Jan.19,2005)

	CHAIR	ALTERNATE
HIV/AIDS	John Cameron	Gary Horvath
Hepatitis	Robert Nickerson	Jamie Mills
IDU	Andrew Parker	Vacant
Aboriginal	Sue Duggan	Vacant
Women	Vacant	Vacant
Youth	Vacant	Vacant
Seniors	Maura Ahmad	Dale Dingman
Multicultural	Charles Carty	Gordy Nakata
L.G.B.T.	Vacant	Vacant
Methadone	Kirk Hosie	Wayne Moore
Mental Health	Don Allen	Unk Sandquist
Social/Spiritual	James Pau	Vacant

D.T.E.S. HIV/IDU



CONSUMERS' BOARD

**A PLACE TO SLEEP, SOMETHING TO EAT
AND SOMEONE WHO GIVES A DAMN !!!**

The Consumers' board was created by the Vancouver /Richmond Health Board as a response to the current HIV, Intravenous Drug use and Hepatitis C epidemics in the Down town Eastside.

Our Consumers' Board acts as an advisory and action coalition for those in the community directly affected by the epidemics.

**THE CONSUMERS' BOARD IS A
COMMUNITY ORIGINATED
INITIATIVE FOR OUR UNIQUE
NEIGHBOURHOOD .**

Our goal is to reduce the rate of infection by empowering you to help us heal ourselves through education, public forums, and having a "voice" through representatives for each of the following interest groups:

- **HIV+/AIDS**
- **Hepatitis**
- **Intravenous Drug Users**
- **Aboriginal**
- **Women**
- **Youth**
- **Seniors**
- **Multicultural**
- **L.G.B.T.**
- **Methadone**
- **Mental Health**
- **Social Spiritual**

Call our office and contact your representative. You can find us at:

CONSUMERS' BOARD
#105-177 East Hastings St.
Vancouver, B.C. V6A-1N5

ph: (604) 688-6241
Fax: (604) 688-6294
Email: cnsbd@direct.ca

CONSUMERS' BOARD

Objectives

DTES HIV/IDU Action Plan

- ◆ Ensure consumers have an ongoing voice, and play an active role in all aspects of the DTES Action Plan, especially decision making
- ◆ Ensure that the various agencies, the Vancouver/Richmond Health Board, and all consumers work together co-operatively in a united front to effectively carry out the mandate provisions of the Action Plan
- ◆ Promote a sense of community in the DTES, and encourage involvement of all DTES residents, and all Community Agencies in dealing with the HIV/AIDS epidemic, amongst injection drug users
- ◆ Establish an effective ongoing communication network between all consumer committees, and all consumers in the DTES
- ◆ Improve understanding of HIV/AIDS, and intravenous drug use, in the general populace through public education and raising awareness. Recognize that positive support by the community as a whole, is a necessary prerequisite for the Action Plan to be effective
- ◆ Ensure that the mandate of the Action Plan is flexible, (dynamic not static), and can change, as the epidemic changes
- ◆ Promote the establishment of services, and facilities in the DTES for consumers, recognizing that many resources, are presently in the West End
- ◆ Play an active participatory role in funding allocations to various agencies involved. Ensure there is accountability for funds spent, promote cost effectiveness, open the door for funding to other agencies
- ◆ Recognize that the epidemic is not confined to the DTES, promote communication, and joint action with outlying communities
- ◆ Endorse all aspects of the Harm Reduction approach to IDU, and ensure the implementation of this approach
- ◆ Promote favorable media coverage for the Action Plan and its implementation
- ◆ Advocate that all new jobs resultant from the Action Plan are made available to qualified consumers for example HIV/HCV persons, IV drug users, and persons' in medical maintenance (Methadone). Ensure that consumers are aware of all new jobs through posting it in appropriate places, explore the possibility of payment through enabling funds
- ◆ Endorse the establishment of a twenty-four hour street-level store-front including a hot-line for consumers to provide information and referral
- ◆ Promote improved effective AIDS and IV drug education for all schools in the Province to curb the epidemic

- ◆ Endorse a doctrine of consumer empowerment through participation and involvement
- ◆ Ensure that the Action Plan recognizes that: A substantial number of IV drug users do not intend to, or are not capable of “cleaning up”
- ◆ Many consumers in the DTES do not follow the dictates of so-called normal society
- ◆ Recognize that such persons are part of the epidemic and must be considered under the Action Plan
- ◆ Ensure that all consumers are to be treated without judgment, and blame, and with dignity and respect

**Thank You to our
Sponsors & Contributors**

A Loving Spoonful
Agouron
AIDS Candlelight and Vigil Committee
AIDS Vancouver
Army & Navy Department Stores
BC Persons with AIDS Society
Block Buster Video
Bristol-Myers Squibb
Canada Safeway
Creek House Gallery
Dr. Brian Conway
Dr. David Marsh
Dr. David Tu
Dr. Ian Martin
Dr. J. Montaner
East End Food Co-op
Fountainhead Pub
Gilead Sciences
GlaxoSmithKline and Shire BioChem
Greater Vancouver Foodbank
Hamburger Mary's
HEU Burnaby Local
Hoffmann-LaRoche Ltd.
Howe Street Pharmacy
insite
James the Florist
Keg Restaurants
Little Sisters Books and Art Emporium
Loreli Hawkins
Max's Donuts
Merck Frosst Canada
Neil Squire Foundation
Old Dutch Foods Ltd.
Old Spaghetti Factory
Pat Miller
Pfizer Canada
Purdy's Chocolates
Positive Women's Network
Quizno's Classic Subs (1009 Davie Street)
Richmond Food Bank
Schering Canada Inc
Spaghetti Factory
Starbucks Coffee Company
Street Nurses AIDS Prevention Services
Super-Valu
Tim Hortons
Union Gospel Mission
Uprising Breads Bakery
Vancouver AIDS Memorial
VCHA
VHACCC
World Vision-UBC

Extra Special Thanks to:

A Loving Spoonful, sandwiches
AIDS Vancouver, food, brochure printing
BCPWA, hosting events, dinner, media
DTES HIV/IDU Consumers' Board, postering, volunteers
James the Florist, flowers
Starbucks Coffee Company, coffee, volunteers
The Gathering Place Community Centre, lunch,
event hosting, and a great community partner
Union Gospel Mission, providing food



Special Pre-Events:

Tuesday, November 30, 2004

AIDS Memorial Dedication

**11:00 am Sunset Beach Park
(the seawall at Nicola and Broughton)
Everyone Welcome**

**World AIDS Day 2004
Service of Celebration**

**7:00 pm All are welcome
refreshments and social to follow service
St. Paul's Anglican Church
1130 Jervis Street, Vancouver, BC
presented by:**

Central Presbyterian Church
Christ Alive Community Church
Rainbow Community Church
Renaissance Christian Church
St. John's United Church
St. Paul's Anglican Church

**World
AIDS
Day**

**Wednesday
December 1, 2004**

10:00am - 9:30pm

at
**The Gathering Place
609 Helmcken Street. Vancouver, B**

and
**BCPWA
1107 Seymour Street, Vancouver, B**

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

sponsored by:



D.T.E.S. HIV/IDU Consumers' Board



The Gathering Place

World AIDS Day Schedule:

The Gathering Place (609 Helmcken St.)		
am	9:00	Setup
	9:30	COFFEE/MUFFINS
	10:00	<i>insite</i> - update
	10:30	Greater Vancouver Food Bank - service overview
	11:00	Crystal Meth - HIV/AIDS, Dr. Ian Martin
	12:00	Chris Tyrell, Exec Dir AV, Paul Lewand, Chair, BCPWA
	12:15	HIV treatment update, Dr. J. Montaner
	1:00	LUNCH
	1:30	Vancouver AIDS Memorial, Ed Lee
	2:00	Doctors Without Borders, Dr. David Tu
	3:00	CPP Income Security Programs, CPP Disability, Pat Miller
	4:30	HIV treatment update, Dr. Brian Conway
	5:30	DINNER
	6:00	NAOMI trials, Dr. David Marsh
	6:45	close

BCPWA (1107 Seymour St.)		
am	9:00	Setup
	9:45	COFFEE/MUFFINS
	10:15	In Women's Hands, Video - (PWN) discussion to follow
	11:00	Mental health and HIV, Video - BCPWA (TIP)
	12:00	Side effects and HIV, Video - BCPWA (TIP)
	1:30	CWGHR forum on HIV & rehabilitation 02/04- Video - discussion to follow
	2:15	Women and HIV, interactive cd presentation and launch, (TIP)
	3:00	Newly diagnosed HIV workshop, launch of the Positive Living Manual
	4:15	<i>Draw \$50 Safeway gift certificates</i>
	4:30	Neil Squire Foundation - rehab services, Brian Oulton
	7:00	PWA support groups gathering

Information Booths:

AIDS Vancouver
 ASIA
 BC Cancer Foundation
 BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS
 BC Coalition of People with Disabilities
 BC Compassion Club
 BCANDS
 BC Persons with AIDS Society
 Canadian Diabetes Association
 Canadian HIV Trials Network
 Canadian Liver Foundation
 Carnegie AIDS Support Group
 Co-op Radio
 CPP (Income Security Programs)
 DAMS
 DERA
 DEYAS
 Downtown Community Health Centre
 Dr. Peter Centre
 DTES HIV/IDU Consumers' Board
 DTES Women's Resource Centre
 End Legislated Poverty
 Friends For Life Society
 From Grief to Action
 gayway
 Healing Our Spirit
 Howe Street Pharmacy
 Hummingbird Kids Society
insite
 Lower Mainland Purpose Society
 McLaren Housing Society
 National Congress of Black Women
 Neighbours First
 Neil Squires Foundation
 Oak Tree Clinic
 PACE
 Pigeon Park Savings
 Portland Hotel Society
 Positive Women's Network
 Red Road HIV/AIDS Network
 Sheway Project
 SOS
 Street Nurses AIDS Prevention Services
 Surrey HIV/AIDS Support Network
 The Centre
 The MAT/DOT Program
 United Native Nations
 Urban Native Youth Society
 Van City Credit Union
 Vancouver Native Health Society
 VANDU
 WATARI
 Western Aboriginal Harm Reduction Society
 Wings Housing Society
 WISH
 YouthCO

Pharmaceutical Info Booths

Agouron
 Bristol-Myers Squibb
 GlaxoSmithKline and Shire BioChem
 Hoffmann-LaRoche Ltd.
 Merck Frosst Canada
 Pfizer Canada
 Schering Canada Inc
 Gilead Sciences

Special Guests and Speakers

Colin Hansen, BC Health Minister
 Hedy Fry, Liberal MP
 Lorne Mayencourt, Liberal MLA
 Joy McPhail, NDP MLA
 Jenny Kwan, NDP MLA
 Carole James, NDP

Mayor Larry Campbell
 Tim Stephenson, Councillor, City of Vancouver
 Ellen Woodsworth, Councillor, City of Vancouver
 Anne Roberts, Councillor, City of Vancouver

Chris Tyrell, Executive Director, AIDS Vancouver
 Paul Lewand, Chair, BCPWA
 Ross Harvey, Executive Director, BCPWA

- ✓ Over 50 information booths
- ✓ BCPWA Positive Living Manual 3rd Edition launch
- ✓ Women and HIV cd rom launch
- ✓ Video presentations and discussio
- ✓ Join in the activities
- ✓ Draws and prizes throughout the c
- ✓ Food and refreshments



DTES HIV/IDU CONSUMERS' BOARD

MAJOR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

The following is a comprehensive list of agencies and organizations with whom the Consumers' Board has directly partnered with to provide various events (events include presentations, forums, studies, workshops, community dinners, movies, AIDS information sessions and other).

This list does not include individual persons or pharmaceuticals.

ACAP

AIDS Candlelight Memorial & Vigil Committee

AIDS Quilt Project

AIDS Theatre Group

AIDS Vancouver

AIDS Vancouver Library

All My Transgendered Relations (defunct)

BCANDS

BC Centre for Disease Control

BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS

BC Civil Liberties Association

BC Coalition for People with Disabilities

BC Compassion Club

BCPWA

BCPWA, Body Positive Support Group

BCPWA, Treatment Information Program

BCPWA, "The Gathering" Conference Committee

BC Recycling Committee

Britannia School

Canadian Auto Workers Union

Canadian Diabetes Foundation

Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network

Canadian Liver Foundation

Carnegie AIDS Support Group

Carnegie Street Program

Carnegie Community Centre

Circle of Hope Coalition (defunct)
CITR Radio
Community Directions
Crossroads Productions
Co-op Radio
DEYAS (Needle Exchange)
Dr. Peter Centre
DTES HIV Action Plan, Steering & Working Committees (defunct)
DTES HIV Action Plan, Funding Allocation Committee (defunct)
End Legislated Poverty
First United Church
Four Pillars Coalition
Friends for Life
From Grief to Action
Gay Men's Chorus
Gathering Place Community Centre
Harm Reduction Action Society
Healing Our Spirit
Hospital Employees' Union, Burnaby Local
Heart of Richmond AIDS Society
HepHive (defunct)
High Risk Society (defunct)
Hummingbird Kids Society
Insight
Langara Community College, Nursing
Lookout Emergency Services Society
Lulu Island AIDS/Hepatitis Network
Mat/Dot Clinic
Mayor's Coalition
Minister's Committee on HIV/AIDS (defunct)
Methadone Patients Association
National Congress of Black Women (UMOJA)
North American Harm Reduction Association
Oppenheimer Park Committee
Pacific AIDS Network
Portland Hotel Society
Positive Women's Network
Ray-Cam Community Centre
Richmond General Hospital

Richmond General Hospital, Board
Richmond General Hospital, AIDS Clinic
Richmond General Hospital, Harm Reduction Committee
Richmond General Hospital, HIV/AIDS Committee
Richmond General Hospital, Palliative Care Committee
Roundhouse Community Centre
St. James Anglican Church
St. Johns United Church
St. Paul's Hospital
St. Paul's Hospital, Alcoholics Anonymous Group
St. Paul's Hospital, Board
St. Paul's Hospital, Community Relations Board
St. Paul's Hospital, AIDS Support Group
St. Paul's Hospital, Social Workers
St. Paul's Hospital, IDC
St. Pauls United Church
Sechelt Harm Reduction Society
Sheway
Street Nurses AIDS Prevention & Counseling Services
SOLID (Victoria)
United Native Nations
Urban Native Youth
Vancouver AIDS Memorial Society
VANDU
Vancouver Native Health Society
Vancouver Native Health Society, AIDS Support Group
Vancouver General Hospital, Nursing
Vanguard Study
VHACCC
VIDUS Study
VRHB, Various PHAC's (defunct)
WISH
YOUTHCO

DTES Consumers' Board Events/Activities Report

January, February, March 2004

- Jan. 9/04 - Candlelight Committee Mtg., 1 Csb.**
- Jan.22/04 - Phizer/Agouron Workshop Presentation, 1 Csb.**
- Jan. 28/04 - DEYAS Mtg., 2 Csb.**
- Jan. 30/04 - PACE & WISH Mtg., 2 Csb.**
- Jan. 31/04 - VCHA AIDS Agency Mtg., 1 Csb.**
- Feb. 6/04 - PIVOT Mtg., 2 Csb.**
- Feb. 6/04 - Candlelight Committee Mtg., 1 Csb.**
- Feb. 18-24/04 - PAN Conference, 5 Csb.**
- Feb. 24-27/04 - Shuswap Outreach, 1 Csb.**
- Feb. 25/04 - CATIE Rep. B. Huskens tour of DTES, 2 Csb.**
- Feb. 27/04 - VCHA AIDS Agency Mtg., 1 Csb.**
- Mar. 1/04 - Media Release of PIVOT book, 2 Csb.**
- Mar. 1/04 - Mtg. With Paul Martin re: HIV/AIDS, 1 Csb.**
- Mar. 5/04 - Candlelight Committee Mtg., 1 Csb.**
- Mar. 7-9/04 - Whistler Outreach on HIV/AIDS, 1 Csb.**
- Mar. 9/04 - WISH Radio Program on Streetworker Violence, 1 Csb.**
- Mar. 9/04 - Opening of new North American Buddhist Society Accupuncture/ TCM, 1 Csb.**
- Mar. 24/04 - Youthco Crystal Meth. Treatment Mtg., 1 Csb.**
- Mar. 25/04 - St. Paul's Advisory Committee Mtg., 1 Csb.**
- Mar. 26/04 - VCHA AIDS Agency Mtg., 1 Csb.**
- Mar. 27/04 - HepC Conference, 6 Csb.**
- Ongoing - Gay Men's Health Fair Mtg's, 2 Csb.**
- Ongoing - St. Paul's Outreach, 1 Csb.**
- Ongoing - DTES/Westend Street Workers' Outreach, 2 Csb.**
- Ongoing - HIV Womens' Mtg's, 1 Csb.**
- Ongoing - Carnegie AIDS Support Group Mtg's, 1 Csb.**

DTES Consumers' Board Events/Activities Report

April, May, June 2004

- April 1/04** Government Cuts Rally at Victory Square, 1 Csb.
- April 2/04** Ray-Cam Mtg. On Prostitution Law, 2 Csb.
- April 14/04** BCPWA Mtg. Re: Co-Sponsoring World AIDS Day, 2 Csb.
- April 15/04** PIVOT Mtg., 1 Csb.
- April 19/04** Carnegie Mtg. Re: Womens' Centre, 1 Csb.
- April 19/04** Gay Mens Health Fair Planning Mtg., 2 Csb.
- April 20/04** Healing Our Spirit Presentation on Methadone, 4 Csb.
- April 24/04** Womens' Centre Protest, 1 Csb.
- April 24/04** Larry Fall's Lecture at the Gathering Place, 5 Csb.
- April 30/04** Vancouver City Seniors Advisory Council, 1 Csb.
- May 1/04** Urban Promise Fun Run, 1 Csb.
- May 4/04** Shooting Stars Mtg., 1 Csb.
- May 7-8/04** PowWow at Trout Lake, Mother's Day Event, 1 Csb.
- May 12/04** Vancouver City Shared Decision Making Mtg., 1 Csb.
- May 14/04** Vancouver City Advisory Committee Mtg., 1 Csb.
- May 18/04** Posters for Aboriginal Youth Mtg., 1 Csb.
- May 19/04** St. Pauls Board Mtg., 1 Csb.
- May 20/04** Aboriginal Homelessness Strategy Mtg., 1 Csb.
- May 21-24/04** BCPWA Workshop on 'Spiritual Dimensions of HIV/AIDS, 1 Csb.
- May 22/04** Elders Social, 1 Csb.
- May 27/04** Carnegie 'Market & Social Housing' Mtg., 1 Csb.
- May 28/04** School for the Deaf Presentation 'The Life Cycle of HIV', 1 Csb.
- May 29/04** PIVOT AGM, 2 Csb.
- May 30/04** Candlelight Vigil, 8 Csb.
- June 1/04** Four Pillars Workshop 'Addiction Treatment', 1 Csb.
- June 3/04** Aboriginal Womens' Collective Forum, 1 Csb.
- June 4/04** Friends for Life 'Pathfinders of HIV/AIDS, 1 Csb.
- June 10-11/04** Gay Mens Health Fair, 1 Csb.
- June 12/04** PIVOT Board Mtg., 1 Csb.
- June 15/04** Providence Society AGM, 1 Csb.
- June 16/04** Vancouver City Council Mtg., 1 Csb.
- June 17/04** WISH AGM, 2 Csb.
- June 18/04** 'Euphoria' Meet & Greet at Vancouver Art Gallery, 1 Csb.
- June 19-23/04** CAS,CATIE AGM, Ottawa, 1Csb.
- June 21/04** National Aboriginal Day Event, Trout Lake, 1 Csb.
- June 25/04** Vancouver City Seniors Housing Mtg., 1 Csb.
- June 26-27/04** AIDS Community Mtg. Courtney/Comox, 1 Csb.
- June 30/04** Vancouver Native Health AGM, 1 Csb.
- Ongoing** St. Paul's Outreach, 1 Csb
- Ongoing** DTES/WestEnd Street Workers' Outreach, 2 Csb.
- Ongoing** HIV Womens Mtg's, 1 Csb.**Ongoing** Carnegie AIDS Support Group Mtg's, 1 Csb.

DTES Consumers' Board Activities/Events
July, August, September 2004

- July 6/04** Vancouver Crime & Safety Forum - 1 Csb.
- July 15/04** New AIDS Drugs Forum, St. Paul's - 1 Csb.
- July 15/04** BCPWA Treatment Issues Wkshp. - 1 Csb.
- July 17/04** Womens' Centre AGM - 1 Csb.
- July 21/04** HepC Coinfection Provincial Working Group - 2 Csb.
- Aug.1/04** Gay Pride Parade - 6 Csb.
- Aug.5/04** Carnegie Board Mtg. - 1 Csb.
- Aug. 6-8/04** Suicide Prevention Workshop - 1 Csb.
- Aug.12/04** BCPWA Treatment Dinner Workshop - 14 Csb. * Special Event
- Aug. 20/04** Healing Our Spirit Picnic - 3 Csb.
- Aug. 20/04** Endless Summer Event - 4 Csb.
- Aug. 20/04** Medicine Wheel Perspectives, Ray-Cam - 1 Csb.
- Aug. 21/04** BCPWA AGM - 5 Csb.
- Aug. 23-25/04** SWEET, Lifeskills Centre - 1 Csb.
- Aug. 30/04** Keeping The Door Open Conf. - 1 Csb.
- Sept. 6/04** Victory Square Block Party - 1 Csb.
- Sept. 15/04** Vancouver Seniors Health Committee - 1 Csb.
- Sept. 20-21/04** Moving Forward Forum - 1 Csb.
- Sept. 21/04** PIVOT Mtg. - 1 Csb.
- Sept. 23/04** Dr. Montaner Dinner Forum - 3 Csb. * Special Event
- Sept. 24/04** Vancouver Aboriginal Restorative Justice - 1 Csb.
- Sept. 26/04** BCPWA AIDS Walk - 6 Csb.
- Ongoing** St. Paul's Outreach, 2 Csb.
- Ongoing** WestEnd Street Workers' Outreach, 1 Csb.
- Ongoing** HIV Women's Mtg., 1 Csb.
- Ongoing** Carnegie AIDS Support Group Mtg.'s, 1 Csb.

**DTES Consumers' Board Events/Activities Report
October, November, December 2004**

- Oct. 6/04** W.A.D. Planning Mtg., St. John's United Church, 1 Csb.
- Oct. 7/04** Triumph E-mail Course, 1 Csb.
- Oct. 7/04** Asian/Aboriginal Connection, 1 Csb.
- Oct. 8/04** W.A.D. Planning Mtg., Loving Spoonful, 1 Csb.
- Oct. 11/04** Carnegie Cultural Sharing Mtg., 1 Csb.
- Oct. 12/04** Providence Elder Care Mtg., 1 Csb.
- Oct. 19/04** DTES Changes Workshop, 1 Csb.
- Oct. 20/04** Vancouver City Seniors Committee Mtg., 1 Csb.
- Oct. 21/04** Crime and Safety Mtg., 1 Csb.
- Oct. 22-24/04** PAN Conference, 5 Csb.
- Oct. 29/04** Vancouver City Seniors Committee Mtg., 1 Csb.
- Nov. 4-6/04** Harm Reduction Conference, 1 Csb.
- Nov. 6&7/04** Seniors Summit, Burnaby, 1 Csb.
- Nov. 12/04** Aboriginal Friendship Centre AGM, 1 Csb.
- Nov. 15-17/04** WISH Surveys, 1 Csb.
- Nov. 18/04** Aboriginal Homelessness Committee Mtg., 1 Csb.
- Nov. 19/04** Translink Board Mtg., 1 Csb.
- Nov. 17-21/04** Treatment Information Network Mtg., Ontario AIDS Annual Mtg.,
CATIE AGM, all in Ontario.
- Nov. 24/04** Langley Harm Reduction Mtg. and Peer Support Workshop, 1 Csb.
- Nov. 30/04** AIDS Memorial Unveiling, AIDS Memorial Church Service, 5 Csb.
- Dec. 1/04** World AIDS Day Events, Gathering Place & PARC, 11 Csb.
- Dec. 9/04** Basics of AIDS Mtg., Surrey, 1 Csb.
- Dec. 13/04** Healing Our Spirit Christmas Event, 1 Csb.
- Ongoing** St. Paul's Outreach, 2 Csb.
- Ongoing** HIV Women's Mtg., 1 Csb.
- Ongoing** Carnegie AIDS Support Group Mtg.'s, 1 Csb.

CONSUMERS' BOARD
DTES HIV/IDU Action Plan

Synopsis of Activities and Accomplishments: 1998.

List of Conferences, Workshops, Forums, attended by the Consumer's Board members during the course of the year by being involved, and by providing the unified front for all those affected by the DTES HIV/IDU Epidemic.

- ◆ All Vancouver/Richmond Regional Health Board Meetings and Public Health Information Sessions.
- ◆ All DTES HIV/IDU Action Plan Community Co-ordination Committee Meetings.
- ◆ Action in Health-Italian Community Centre.
- ◆ HIV/AIDS Care Rounds and Nursing Updates-St. Paul's Hospital
- ◆ Public Education Seminars initiated and supported by Libby Davies, MP, Vancouver East, held in various locations.
- ◆ Vancouver's Coalition - International Symposium on Drug Treatment and Crime Prevention.
- ◆ 'Out of Harm's Way International Conference on Harm Reduction.
- ◆ BCPWA Treatment Information Forums.
- ◆ Supported DTES involvement- AIDS Vancouver Candlelight Vigil.
- ◆ Hosted Town Meeting on Emergency Care Facilities for HIV/IDU in local hospitals.
- ◆ World Aids Day Carnegie Community Centre- Information Booth.
- ◆ Dual Diagnosis Conference- Mental Health (UBC).
- ◆ Supported and/or co-sponsored Vancouver Area Network of Drug Users (Vandu) Demonstrations, and Public Forums, and Discussion Groups.
- ◆ Promoted Drug Awareness Week in the DTES.
- ◆ Endorsed Community Action Program "Walls of Change".
- ◆ Attended 11th Annual BC HIV/AIDS CONFERENCE (Workshops on Multiple Diagnosis)
- ◆ Endorsed in principle the Model of Harm Reduction, such as Needle Exchange, Detox Expansion, Medical Maintenance, (Methadone, Prescription Heroin, Clinical trials for Addiction Treatment, 24 Hr. Resource Centre, Safe Injection Sites, Sobering Centre).
- ◆ Empowerment of consumers through involvement at meeting twice monthly (Total 40 Meetings), and sub-committee tasks and research.
- ◆ Attended A.G.M of the Vancouver Area Network of Drug Users (VANDU) Several Consumers' Board representatives were nominated and elected to positions

CONSUMERS' BOARD
DTES HIV/IDU Action Plan

Synopsis of Events and Accomplishments: 1999

List of Conferences, Workshops, Forums, and Events attended by Board Members during the course of the year 1999.

Our involvement provides a unified front for all at risk population affected by the DTES HIV/IDU Epidemic.

Jan/99

- ◆ Opened Consumers' Board Peer-driven health promotion office- Washington Hotel.
- ◆ Networking with (Wolfe-Gordon)-Evaluators of the Action Plan.
- ◆ Board Members graduated from User Peer Support training held at Vandu. Press coverage was favorable.

Feb/99

- ◆ Attended 'Strathcona Mental Health Forum'
- ◆ Co-Sponsored forum with Vandu- Rice Wine Issue
- ◆ Supported Users at 'OD Demonstration" (Vandu - sponsored)
- ◆ Supported 'Women's' March' - consumers Reps.attend to show solidarity
- ◆ Attended Meeting of STRATHCONA COALITION RE: CHIF Funding for High Risk Society
- ◆ Joined P.A.N. (Pacific Aids Network) ASO Network
- ◆ Attended BCPWA and AIDS Vancouver BOARD of DIRECTORS-Envoy DTES Consumers' Perspectives and Issues. (Goodwill Visits)

Mar/99

- ◆ V/RHB Update: Principals attended our Consumers' Board Meeting - Network Director , (Heather Hay), Practice Leader (Sharon Ritmiller)
- ◆ Attended all Regular V/RHB MEETINGS
- ◆ Held MULTI-CULTURAL Forum - Focus- 'BLACK HISTORY MONTH'
- ◆ Supported Premiere Showing of Film 'Positive Living' shot on location in the D.T.E.S. by Crossroads Productions. Several Board Members featured in film on the IDU Community
- ◆ Two Consumers' Board delegates attended the Spring PAN HIV Forum and General Assembly (three day Conference and workshops)
- ◆ Supported IDU Chairperson to attend Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network Symposium in Montreal

Apr/99

- ◆ Attended Seminar and Lecture on HIV/AIDS EPIDEMIC (Dr. Horowitz)
- ◆ Attended "YOUTH" Conference (IT'S A CRIME) sponsored by V/RHB

May/99

- ◆ Attended Forum Hosted by BLACK WOMEN'S Congress on HARM REDUCTION
- ◆ Attended community call for DTES STRATHCONA "Voice" to answer Government moves to "Clean Up and Revitalize" the neighborhood (of late called 'Community Directions')
- ◆ Attended BCPWA Conference in Vancouver of PASAN (Prisoner's Action Support Network)
- ◆ Co-Sponsored Annual International 'CANDLELIGHT CEREMONY' Organized and Promoted the DTES (Postering, busing, Guest Speaker)
- ◆ Responded to BC Government TRADE and CONVENTION Centre Survey
- ◆ Sponsored "UPDATE on the status of the HIV Epidemic (DTES) (held at 1st United Church in partnership with CHC #2 & VANDU
- ◆ Supported the DTES 'Hope Coalition March' about epidemic Overdoses

June/99

- ◆ Supported International Year of Older Persons (IYOP) hosted by Carnegie Community Centre (Information booth and donation)
- ◆ Hosted visiting Health Canada Representatives from Ottawa- 'HIV/AIDS and Sexual Violence Against Women'. Tour of DTES Women's AGENCIES and participated in a 'Walk About' in the DTES with International Panel of Harm Reduction Specialists and Epidemiologists
- ◆ Supported IDU/CHC #2 Welfare Week Alley Patrol

July/99

- ◆ Consumer's Board Representatives attended Canada Day Celebrations at Grandview Park
- ◆ Consumer's Board Representatives attended showing of 'Positive Living' at the Gathering Place
- ◆ Attended Rally in Victoria in support for IDU Overdose Death rate.

Aug./99

- ◆ Continued Consumer's Board attendance and participation in the Community Directions Organization, mobilizing and asset gathering process
- ◆ Joined FAPG (Federated Anti-Poverty Group of BC)
- ◆ Consumer's Board Representatives attended "604 CONNECT" - Computer Skill Building Seminar
- ◆ Network with V/RHB RE: Service Policy Delivery for CHA#2, and our Research and Planning concerns about developing our 3 to 5 year Plan

Sept/99

- ◆ Co-Sponsored 'HIV/AIDS Women's Workshop with Carnegie Community Centre, and AIDS Vancouver
- ◆ Consumer's Board Representatives attended AIDS WALK 99 Stanley Park. We had an information booth set up at this event and handed out brochures (Excellent networking with all AIDS Service organizations that attended this event)
- ◆ Signed on as participant with Community Directions response to the Vancouver Agreement's plan to 'revitalize' the DTES

Oct/99

- ◆ Initiated Consumer's Board Advocacy Training Program (BC Benefits, Schedule C Benefits and Disability Benefits I, & II) This program was funded through co-sponsorship with the Carnegie Seniors
- ◆ Attended A.G.M at AIDS VANCOUVER Society
- ◆ Initiated Needle Exchange Program from our Washington Hotel Harm Reduction Health promotion office in joint partnership with DEYAS
- ◆ Consumers' Board Delegates attend Fall PAN HIV Forum and General Assembly (three day Conference and Skills Building Workshops
- ◆ Delegates attended the Vancouver Coalition Crime Prevention and Drug Treatment
- ◆ Representatives attended the Poor Peoples Conference (Surrey)
- ◆ Sponsor a Women's Workshop on HIV/AIDS (co-sponsors Aids Vancouver and Carnegie Community Centre)
- ◆ Attended the A.G.M. of BC Persons with AIDS Society

Nov/99

- ◆ Attended HIV/AIDS Skills Building Conference in Winnipeg, Man.(CAS)
- ◆ Promoted Drug Awareness Week in the DTES.
- ◆ Attended public Information Seminar on "MAT/DOT Program concerning the opening of a new DTES Pharmacy for HIV/AIDS medications
- ◆ Officially backed in principle the new Resource Centre initiative
- ◆ Consumer volunteers to facilitate DTES Immunization Blitz (Hepatitis, Influenza and Pneumonia)
- ◆ Attend A.G.M of Healing Our Spirit Society`

Dec/99

- ◆ Co-Sponsored World Aids Day '99 with Aids Vancouver and Carnegie Community Centre.
- ◆ Send consumer representatives to the Inter-Regional Working Group on Communicable Diseases (all five Lower Mainland Health Regions)
- ◆ Attended the A.G.M of Vancouver Area Network of Drug Users(VANDU)
- ◆ Attend in support, Open House new Powell Street RESOURCE CENTRE

CONSUMERS' BOARD
DTES HIV/IDU Action plan

Synopsis of Events and Accomplishments: Year 2000

List of Workshops, Forums, and Events attended by Board Members during the course of the first half of the year 2000.

Our involvement provides a unified front for all at risk affected by the DTES HIV/IDU Epidemic.

January / 2000

- ◆ Heroin Over-dose Conference in Seattle - four delegates sent to the Harm Reduction Coalition event

February / 2000

- ◆ Womens March

March / 2000

- ◆ FAPG Conference
- ◆ Pacific AIDS Network (PAN) Spring Conference
- ◆ Aboriginal Youth Conference
- ◆ Attend "Keeping the Door Open" - A Health, Addictions & Social Justice Symposium (St. Paul's Hospital)
- ◆ Sponsor first annual Hepatitis Day held at Carnegie Community Centre
- ◆ networking seminar Canadian Working Group HIV Rehabilitation
- ◆ delegates to Ottawa lobby for SENIOR'S Housing Initiative
- ◆ Attend a lunch-time Conference: "Comprehensive Solutions to Drugs; Crime & Addiction in the Inner City" presented by Carnegie Community Action Program (Four Pillars Model)

April / 2000

- Attend in support inaugural meet, Lulu Island AIDS / Hepatitis Network (Richmond, BC)
- Ongoing Community Directions meetings - delegate on Alcohol & Drug Working Group
- Attend Resource Centre public meeting for the Chinese community residents at Strathcona Community Centre (hosted by the V/RHB)

May / 2000

- ◆ co-sponsor 17th Annual International AIDS Candlelight Memorial & Vigil
- ◆ Circle of Hope Vigil
- ◆ Hepatitis C Candlelight National Healing Ceremony

June / 2000

- * Support VISION QUEST Aboriginal Fast (held at Victory Square)
- * Provide feedback at an AIDS Service Organization Advisory Panel Meeting
 - Attend Open House SUNRISE Hotel
 - Methadone Support Meeting (Japanese Learning Centre)
 - Attend public meeting Resource Centre

July / 2000

- Support and attend 2000 Crosses Memorial (Killing Fields)
(Man a harm reduction & health promotion Information booth)
- Ongoing meetings...Harm Reduction Action Society (HRAS)
- Continuing support for The DTES Resource Centre Advisory Committee over the delays in getting open.

August / 2000

- Participate with info booth HEALTH FAIR 2000 (Oppenheimer Park)
- Outreach info booth at the 'Under the Volcano' festival (Cates Park)
- Sponsor and host community Event 'MAT/DOT Program Update (First United Church - 90 seat dinner)
- Attend as participant COMMUNITY DIRECTIONS meetings concerning
- Ongoing meetings...Harm Reduction Action Society (HRAS)
- Attend Gay Pride Parade

September / 2000

- Provide info booth HEALTH FAIR 2000
- Support maintenance of funding for the Positive Outlook Program MAT/DOT/Van. Native Health Society - hit meals)
- Info booth AIDS WALK 2000 (Stanley Park)
- Board member participation in V/RHB Harm Reduction/Peer Support Training Program
- Document PWA/IDU concerns by correspondence to Pharmanet concerning HIV medications and Methadone confidentiality respects.

October / 2000

- Attend Federated Anti-Poverty Group Conference (2 delegates - Naramata. BC)
- Support office Team Anchor Webmaster Upgrade course
- Attend Global Harm Reduction Symposium (3 delegates) - held at UBC.- international experts speakers and roundtable workshop)
- City Hall Union Workers strike protest and petition to reopen Carnegie Community Centre for essential service reasons.
- Attend official Open House - COMMUNITY DIRECTIONS (news release announcements concerning Vancouver Agreement and Revitalization DTES and more funding for Addiction Services)
- Attend Community Alliance Merchant Group Anti-Harm Reduction Protest March to Canada Place.
- Co-sponsor community-action event, "Rekindling the Spirit: HIV, Ethics & Spirituality in the Third Decade" Dr. David Roy, Ethicist) (Host DTES Walkabout, 120 Seat luncheon-Carnegie Community Centre, Harm Reduction Ethical Consult with community grassroots action group - First United Church and 350 seat evening speaking engagement - St. James Anglican Church.
- * Attend Open House for the new Portland Hotel for the hard-to-house
- Attend and support affiliate AGM's - B.C. First Nations AIDS Society "Healing Our Spirit,, AIDS Vancouver, British Columbia Persons with AIDS Society and the Harm Reduction Action Society
- Attend International Harm Reduction Conference - Miami, Florida (one presenter)

November / 2000

- Attend Pacific AIDS Network BC Fall ASO Conference (4 days / 2 delegates)

December / 2000

- Co-sponsored World AIDS Day with Carnegie Community Centre; AIDS Vancouver and BC Persons With AIDS Society
- Consumers' Board Office Team host an Open House for the tenants/consumers/users that live and access our HIV/IDU Harm Reduction Outreach location at the Washington Hotel

CONSUMERS' BOARD
DTES HIV/IDU Action Plan

Synopsis of Activities and Accomplishments: 2001

January / 2001

- ◆ liaize with V/RHB Re: Vancouver Agreement
(Health & Safety Issues for the DTES)
- ◆ Support & assist at a First Nations Elders Social
(held at Carnegie Community Centre)
- ◆ Attended Town Hall meeting at Carnegie Community Centre
Vancouver Agreement Health and Safety Issues for the DTES.
- ◆ Attend AIDS Vancouver Skills Building Workshop
(Safe Fix-sites - Frankfurt).
- ◆ Attend Community Forum "Sensible Solutions" - CCAP
(Safe Injection Sites and Heroin Maintenance)
- ◆ Attended Community Advisory Meeting re: S.A.P.A.C. BC
(Substance Abuse Prevention Addiction Commission)

February/2001

- ◆ Co-sponsor with BCPWA, Treatment Information Program,
Complementary & Alternate Medicine Project's
"Community Forum - Health Survey Update"
(Dinner held at First United Church)
- ◆ Address letter of supporting V/RHB's four Development
Permits re: Vancouver Agreement
- ◆ Attended annual Needle Exchange Manager's Meeting
Hosted by the MOH, HIV/AIDS Division
- ◆ Support & speak at City Hall DTES Development Permit Hearings.
Vancouver Agreement: Health & Safety Issues,
- ◆ Co-sponsor Working Retreat in Victoria with Carnegie AIDS
Support Group. Networking with HIV+ Consumers'
Advisory, Victoria Persons with AIDS Society, SOS
Needle Exchange, AIDS Vancouver Island
- ◆ Consult with Provincial Medical Health Officer, Dr. Perry
Kendall re: Consultation Report by the F/P/T Advisory
Committee on Population Health: "Reducing the Harm
Associated With Injection Drug Use In Canada"

March/2001

- ◆ Delegates to Bi-annual Pacific AIDS Conference
(Organize & host an all-day workshop)
"Harm Reduction & Injection Drug Use: Best Practices Forum"
- ◆ Attend V/RHB outcomes debriefing over the DTES
"Inoculation Blitz"
- ◆ Attend ongoing meetings of the Harm Reduction Action Society
(HRAS) at St. Paul's Hospital.
- ◆ Schedule C Protest to the Provincial Council of the NDP
(in solidarity with BCPWA)
- ◆ Delegate to "Forum on Substance Use in the LGBT Community"
- ◆ Attend Vancouver Women's Health Collective - Workshop
on Patient's Rights (St. James Anglican Church)
- ◆ Liaize with HIV/AIDS Division re: The Consumer's Board's:
"Peer-driven Needle Exchange"

April/2001

- ◆ Attend Board of Directors regular meetings, AIDS Vancouver (monthly)
- ◆ Provide consumers input to the Provincial AIDS Advisory Committee
- ◆ Attend and advise the Provincial Methadone Advisory Committee
- ◆ Support V/RHB & Vancouver Agreement DTES Development Permit process, including Appeal Board meetings
- ◆ Attend V/RHB Harm Reduction Training Course on overdose protocols - "59 Minutes"
- ◆ Attend Mental Health Conference (UBC)

May/2001

- ◆ Provide information booth at the Circle of Hope Coalition's "Annual Vigil of Honour"
- ◆ Co-sponsor and attend Annual AIDS Candlelight Vigil and Memorial
- ◆ Ongoing representation Resource Centre Advisory Committee

June/2001

- ◆ All all-day Symposium - Safe Injection Facilities, "Opening the Legal Doors" (SFU Downtown Campus)
- ◆ Attend ongoing Security policy meetings, Carnegie Community Centre
- ◆ Attend all-day Seminar, "AIDS Treatment" - Dr. Montaner (West End)
- ◆ Attend Lulu Island AIDS/Hepatitis Network Society annual barbeque and pig roast.
- ◆ Support bus strike protest (WARR), tent city at City Hall
- ◆ local newspaper interview with consumer/AIDS activist(Richmond)
- ◆ Attend and support Hepatitis Workshop (HepHive), Carnegie Community Centre
- ◆ Co-sponsor with BCPWA Society a Treatment Information Event - " Co-Infection Update" (1st United Church)
- ◆ Provide information booth at the Annual Health Fair (Oppenheimer Park)

July/2001

- ◆ Send Board delegate to the AIDS Conference and Skills Building Symposium (Montreal)



PORTLAND HOTEL SOCIETY
412 CARRALL ST.
VANCOUVER, BC V6B 2J7
PHONE: 683-0073, FAX: 683-6653

September 22, 1999

To Whom it May Concern:

RE: Consumer Board D.T.E.S. HIV / IDU

I write to emphasize the importance of nurturing a consumer group with regards to HIV / AIDs and injection drug users

Despite limited funds and resources, the Consumer Board has been a positive influence for those involved and most importantly for the development of "real" solutions to the crisis in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside

We support the Consumer Board's best efforts in promoting community health and commend them to you.

Sincerely,

PORTLAND HOTEL SOCIETY

Mark Townsend
Executive Director

MT/lw

**V
A
N
D
U**

Vancouver Area Network of Drug Users

**524 Powell Street
Vancouver B.C. V6A 1G9
(604) 253-5485**

September 25, 1999

To Whom It May Concern:

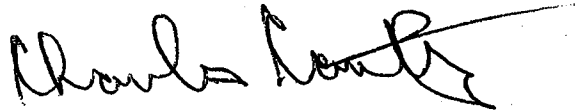
The Downtown HIV/AIDS Consumer Board has become an important consumer resource in its first year of operation as an information and referral centre.

Networking with other groups and agencies has also built up a mutual understanding to deal with problem solving in a positive manner.

The Vancouver Area Network of Drug Users fully supports the Consumer Board request for expanded funding so that they may continue to achieve their goals which include better office access for those seeking help and information and workshops to increase awareness and support for consumers.

Sincerely,

Charles Carty
Vice President
VANDU



ROOM 483
WEST BLOCK
OTTAWA ON. K1A 0A6
TEL: (613) 992-6030
FAX: (613) 995-7412
E-MAIL: daviel@parl.gc.ca



2412 MAIN ST.,
VANCOUVER, BC.
V5T 3E2
TEL: (604) 775-5800
FAX: (604) 775-5811

LIBBY DAVIES, M.P.
VANCOUVER EAST

September 29, 1999

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of the 5 year Strategic Plan submitted by the Downtown Eastside HIV/IDU Consumers' Board.

The need for a consumer-involved response to the Vancouver/Richmond Health Board declared emergency in the Downtown Eastside is critical. Information, education, peer support, advocacy and empowerment of IDU's is crucial to a rational response to the ongoing health emergency in this community.

I support the work of the Consumers' Board and hope the VRHB will provide ongoing support to enable the group to continue its work.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Libby Davies".

Libby Davies, MP
Vancouver East

ADS VANCOUVER

TAKING CARE OF EACH OTHER

1107 Seymour Street
Vancouver BC Canada V6B 5S8

Phone: (604) 681-2122
Fax: (604) 893-2211

E-mail: av@parc.org
Web site: www.aidsvancouver.bc.ca

October 22, 1999

To Whom It May Concern,

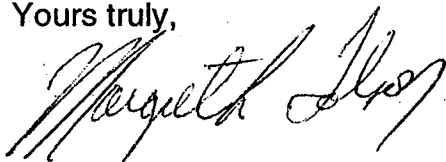
I am writing this letter to give my strong support to the DTES HIV/ IDU Consumers' Group. I have worked directly with the group for the last 6 months, and have known of the group's work over the last year:

Such consumer-based groups are vital to the education, support and empowerment of people in communities. Without a conduit from the people of the Downtown Eastside to the staff of the Vancouver/Richmond Health Board, health efforts in the neighbourhood risk failure and loss of meaning to the people they are meant to support. The HIV/IDU Consumers' Group has worked with energy and commitment to ensure people have a 'voice' in the decisions made about their health services, and the group has also facilitated a number of educational events in the Downtown Eastside.

A significant benefit of this group's work is their pursuit and welcome of partnerships with other community agencies. Giving their members options for support, providing information on a wide range of services, arranging for groups to have opportunities to work together, the Consumers' Group opens up a new potential route for social change in the Downtown Eastside. Just recently they co-sponsored a very successful workshop with the Carnegie Centre for women and they are co-sponsoring the World AIDS Day event at Carnegie this year as well. These may seem like small examples, but with limited funds and resources, this group has been a positive influence and contributed to real change. Such efforts are worthy of recognition and reward.

I support the innovative work being done at the Consumers' Group and I strongly urge the V/RHB to provide ongoing support to enable the group to continue its work.

Yours truly,



Margreth Tolson
Coordinator,
Women's Outreach

Hastings Medical & Dental Clinic

50 East Hastings Street
Vancouver, B.C. V6A 1N1

Dr. Ronald S Joe, Inc

Phone (604) 689-1615
FAX (604) 684-6517

November 6, 1999

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: D.T.E.S HIV/IDU Consumer Board

As a physician practicing in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside for the last 8 years, and one of the two doctors caring for the residents of the Portland Hotel Society, I have seen a significant rise in the number of patients contracting HIV/AIDS.

The key to reducing the rate of infection is through education and support and this is currently being facilitated by the Consumer Board. I whole-heartedly support the work of the Consumer Board as I have seen first hand the benefits it affords my patients.

Yours truly,



Dr. Ronald Joe, MBChB
GENERAL PRACTITIONER

Street Project Counselling Services

219 Main St., Vancouver BC, V6A 2S7
(604) 669-2205

November 19, 1999

To Whom It May Concern:

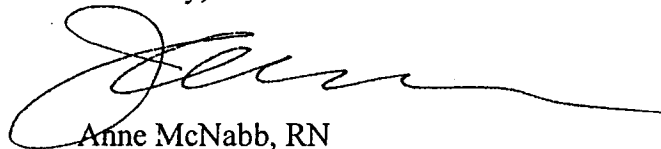
Re: Downtown Eastside HIV/IDU Consumers' Board

I am writing to add our support to the 5 year Strategic Plan proposed by the DTES HIV/IDU Consumers' Board.

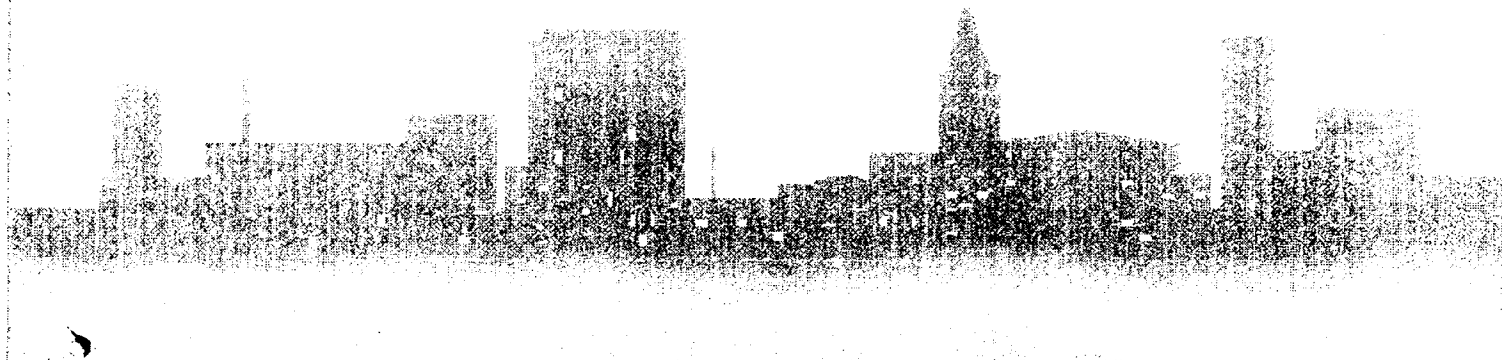
We have been aware of and involved with the work of the Consumers' Board since it's inception. The need for consumer based involvement is critical to the success of health efforts within the community. The Consumers' Board provides a direct link between the Vancouver/Richmond Health Board and the residents of the neighbourhood it is meant to support. Despite limited funds and resources, the Consumers' Board has been a positive influence in promoting community health and empowering consumers' to have their needs acknowledged.

We support the work of the Consumers' Board and would urge the VRHB to provide ongoing support and resources to enable the group to continue its efforts.

Sincerely,



Anne McNabb, RN
Senior Therapist





Carnegie Community Centre

401 Main Street, Vancouver, B.C., V6A 2T7 (604) 665-2220.

April 6, 2001

To whom it may concern:

The Carnegie AIDS Support Group has operated for approximately 7 years. It is tied to the DTES HIV/IDU Consumers' Board through membership of HIV and Hep positive persons.

Our Support Group and the Consumers' Board has worked in partnership on numerous AIDS and Hepatitis community events such as the annual World AIDS Day event, Hepatitis Day, annual AIDS Candlelight Memorial and Vigil, Women's AIDS educational events, movie nights and other educational forums.

We support the Consumers' Board and its programs and look forward to continued partnership in HIV, Hepatitis and IDU initiatives.

Please contact me at 665-3003 if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Rika Uto
Community Programmer

April 10 2001

Re: additional funding to "Consumers Board"
For Educational & Exchange Services:

To Whom It May Concern ,

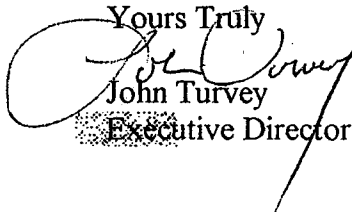
Please consider this a support letter for the Downtown Eastside HIV/IDU Consumer Board in their efforts to secure funding for services in the Downtown Eastside and HIV/AIDS Educational initiatives:

Quality HIV/AIDS information is a must if future conversions to HIV positivity are to be arrested. To achieve this educators must have credibility. This can be done by utilizing the services of IDU persons , who have the life experience. The proposed educational partnership to travel , and educate folks regarding risk behaviors, is a endeavor that is long over due and deserves support.

DEYAS has had occasion to work in partnership with the Consumer folks. We support them in their efforts to expand their Needle Exchange operation , we would urge potential funders to do the same.

At DEYAS we do support the Consumers Board in their efforts. If we can be of further assistance in this matter please do not hesitate to contact myself.

Yours Truly


John Turvey
Executive Director DEYAS

DEYAS
downtown
eastside
**youth
activities
society**

DEYAS
223 Main Street
Vancouver, B.C.
V6A 2S7 685 4488 Fax 685-7117

**RECONNECT
PROGRAM**

223 Main Street
Vancouver, B.C.
V6A 2S7 685 4488
Fax 685-7117

THE STREET PROJECT

Youth Street Workers
223 Main Street
Vancouver, B.C.
V6A 2S7
685 4488

NEEDLE EXCHANGE

223 Main Street
Vancouver, B.C.
V6A 2S7 685 6561
TDD 681 1932



Vancouver Native Health Society

April 11, 2001

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

We are happy to provide this letter outlining our complete support to the DTES Consumers' Board HIV/IDU Action Plan and its plan to establish a needle exchange and harm reduction program in partnership with BC Persons With AIDS Society.

Our Society has worked closely with both organizations within recent years, and are appreciative of their community approach to problem solving and their policy of ensuring people of all racial origins are meaningfully included as members.

I would be happy to answer any and all inquiries should that be necessary.

VANCOUVER NATIVE HEALTH SOCIETY

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lou Demerais', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and somewhat cursive.

**Lou Demerais
Executive Director**



carnegie
centre

401 Main Street, Vancouver, B.C. Canada V6A 2T7 (604) 665-2220

April 15, 2001

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of the Downtown Eastside HIV/ IDU Consumers Board.

Carnegie Centre has collaborated with the Consumers Board for a number of years on health oriented programs and special events. From our perspective, this has been a very fruitful relationship. Participants from the Consumers Board have worked with our community programmers and with program leaders from our Hepatitis C and HIV/AIDS support groups in making the International AIDS Day event here at Carnegie the largest such event in the province, and our major health event of the year. Our support groups have recently been able to share the costs of an overnight field trip to Victoria to meet with HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis groups there. The Consumers' Board has also worked alongside our Street Program staff, on the corner of Main and Hastings, to reach out to the street engaged population there. These examples are indicative of the cooperative relations which we have enjoyed .

Community groups need to work together in order to be as effective as possible in meeting the challenges posed by such serious health issues as Hepatitis and AIDS, and to better meet the needs of those who are addicted. We at Carnegie look forward to continuing our collaboration with the Consumers' Board in providing health education, support, and other direct services to the people of the Downtown community.

If you have any further queries, I can be reached at 665-3301.

Sincerely,

Michael Clague,
Director

501 East Hastings Street
Vancouver, B.C.
V6A 1P9
Phone: (604) 659-1166 or 659-1167
Fax: (604) 659-1169

MAT/DOT Program

April 25, 2001

I am a Community Healthcare Counsellor writing on behalf of the MAT Program to offer support to the Downtown Eastside HIV/IDU Consumers' Board. We at the MAT Program have been aware of the Board's work over the past two years.

The Consumers' Board has become an important consumer resource in the Downtown Eastside providing information, education, advocacy, and peer-based support. Most importantly, the Board ensures a rational and critical consumer voice in response to the health crisis in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside.

We applaud the innovation and integrity of the Consumers' Board in mobilizing consumer-based involvement, and support its ongoing efforts in this community.

Sincerely,



Tomiye Ishida

18th Annual International AIDS Candlelight Memorial & Vigil
Greater Vancouver Organizing Committee

c/o 703 Hawks Avenue, Vancouver, BC V6A 3J2

Tel: 604-254-4666 Fax: 604-254-4684 E-mail: jcj@canada.com


27 April, 2001

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE HIV/IDU CONSUMERS BOARD

The DTES HIV/IDU Consumer's board is an active sponsor of our Annual AIDS Candlelight Memorial & Vigil. We appreciate their support and assistance in organizing the above event, particularly in securing the involvement of Vancouver's Downtown Eastside.

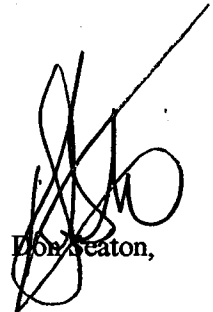
Sincerely,



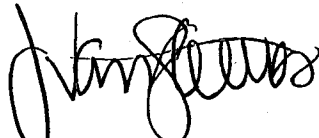
James Johnstone,



Georganne Cathrea,



Don Seaton,



Jeff van Steenes,



Howard Ehrlich,



& John Cameron.

2001 Greater Vancouver Organizing Committee

This year the Greater Vancouver AIDS Candlelight Memorial & Vigil is proud to be sponsored by:

A Loving Spoonful, AIDS Vancouver, ASIA, BC Coalition of People with Disabilities,
BC Persons With AIDS Society, Carnegie AIDS Support Group, DEYAS, DTES HIV/IDU Consumer's Board,
Downtown Eastside Women's Centre, Dr. Peter Centre, Friends For Life, Healing Our Spirit,
Heart of Richmond AIDS Society, Lulu Island AIDS/Hepatitis Network, Portland Hotel Society,
Red Road HIV/AIDS Network, St. James Community Service Society, Surrey HIV/AIDS Support Network,
Vancouver Native Health Society, VANDU, & YouthCO AIDS Society



BRITISH COLUMBIA
PERSONS WITH AIDS
SOCIETY



May 4, 2001

Downtown Eastside Consumers Board
#105-177 East Hastings Street
Vancouver, BC
V6A 1N5

Dear Downtown Eastside Consumers Board:

We are pleased to provide your organization with this letter of support for continuing funding of the important work that you are doing in the Vancouver downtown Eastside.

For the past 3 years the consumer Board has joined with AIDS organization in the on going battles to stop the spread of HIV/AIDS and Lobbying for the better services for all those affected by this problem.

We look forward in continuing our association with your member and all the wonderful work that you are doing

Sincerely,

Joel Nim Cho Leung
Secretary
BCPWA Board Of Directors

Pacific AIDS Resource Centre
1107 Seymour Street
Vancouver, B.C.
V6B 5S8

Tel.
(604) 681-2122
Fax
(604) 893-2251

e-mail: bcpwa@parc.org

Registered non-profit society Reg. #0760124-11-27

A member of

CANADIAN
AIDS
SOCIETY