

condi



AVI.

Reference Material
NOT FOR LOAN
AVI Resource Centre

Can we talk?

AIDS

VANCOUVER ISLAND 384-4554

Volume 2, Number 1

Summer, 1988

AZT policy reflects a moral judgment

AIDS sufferers n part of bill for c

Sweden's fear AIDS island like Al

AIDS concern shown with candlelight vigil

Study finds many babies showing sign of AIDS virus

10,000 show

Sweden starts anti-AIDS drive

body in AIDS test

AIDS more women

May 30 8:30 pm. 106 Superior St.
sponsored by AIDS VANCOUVER ISLAND

VIGIL '88

About 70 people attended Victoria's Second Annual AIDS Candlelight Vigil held May 30 in the Unitarian Church. The vigil, in memory of those who have died of AIDS and to support those still struggling with the disease, is part of an international event begun in San Francisco five years ago.

Speakers at this year's vigil included Dr. Perry Kendall, Medical Health Officer, Capital Regional District; Judith English, Executive Director, AVI; and Wayne Cook R.N., President of the Board of Directors, AVI. A Religious Response to AIDS, prepared by Dr. Stanley Sears, Minister of the Unitarian Church, was read by Dr. Sears and Reverend Ernie Lacasse of Victory Metropolitan Community Church.

In his talk, Dr. Kendall noted the parallel between our present battle against ignorance and discrimination in regard to AIDS and the fear and hysteria surrounding syphilis after it was officially recognized in the 16th century. "It was dubbed The Great Pox and viewed as a visitation from God, a punishment for the morality of the day." In the late 16th century, syphilis was raging through all of Europe, parts of Asia, and the cities of Africa.

In his Religious Response to AIDS, Dr. Sears pointed out the destructive effects of AIDS on human relationships: "We fear what it does to otherwise compassionate people as they face people who suffer from AIDS." "Yet we recognize," said Dr. Sears, "that there is hope, the hope that

Continued...

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EDUCATION VITAL

By Timothy Johnstone, M.D.
Deputy Medical Health Officer
C.R.D. Community Health Service

It is increasingly evident that AIDS and HIV infection are no longer limited to geographically or socially distinct "others," but represent a potential threat, either directly or indirectly, to entire communities.

Of the 45,318 HIV antibody tests performed in B.C. from October 1985 to January 1988 inclusive, 4.4% were positive. 80.8% of those were homosexual/bisexual, .7% intravenous drug users, and .15% prostitutes. The remaining 366 or 18.3% positive tests represented hemophiliacs, blood transfusion recipients, heterosexual contacts, and others for which the risk category was not specified.

Over 60 of those who tested positive were women, and recently B.C. had its first pediatric case, an 18-month old child.

Information and education are essential to prevent individual, family, social and community tragedies due to fear and ignorance about AIDS and HIV infection. The recent controversy over the new MaSTERS AND Johnson book on AIDS is a prime example of sensationalism and exaggeration overriding accepted medical wisdom in the minds of the public.

To help combat fear and ignorance about the AIDS "threat" in B.C., the B.C. Ministry of Health launched a new "AIDS in the Workplace" package on March 21. The package includes a manager's manual and three pamphlets: (1) Questions about AIDS in the workplace, (2) AIDS information for those attending to crime or accident victims, (3) AIDS - Be Responsible For Life.

The AIDS in the Workplace package is available free from the C.R.D. office at 524 Yates Street, Victoria.

Editor's Note: Strangely, AIDS VANCOUVER ISLAND, which offers AIDS educational materials, speakers, counsellors, support groups, and a 24-hour-a-day Help-line, is not mentioned as a resource in AIDS in the Workplace.

* * * LATEST STATS * * *

The latest statistics from the Federal Centre for AIDS, Ottawa, as of June 6, 1988 are:

	<u>TOTAL</u> <u>CASES</u>	<u>YEAR</u> <u>AGO</u>
British Columbia	352	234
Alberta	100	56
Saskatchewan	22	15
Manitoba	26	17
Ontario	698	409
Quebec	529	298
New Brunswick	8	6
Nova Scotia	30	16
P.E.I.	2	0
Newfoundland	7	1
Yukon and N.W.T.	1	0

PWAs!

ARE YOU DISCOURAGED by the fact that only one drug is available in Canada for the treatment of AIDS? Are there other services you think should be provided to PWAs?

Attend the founding meeting of the Island PWA Coalition on July 14 at 6:45 pm at 108-1175 Cook Street.

THIS MEETING IS OPEN TO PWAs ONLY. Come and voice your concerns.

Curious? Worried?

Want to find out about: AIDS?
"THE TEST?"
SAFE SEX PRACTICES?

For answers to these and other questions, we invite you to drop by our office at 108 - 1175 Cook Street and pick up one or more of the following free pamphlets:



- * AIDS and pregnancy
- * AIDS and The Workplace
- * AIDS Antibody Testing: What it's all about
- * AIDS: Get the facts
- * AIDS Important information for health-care providers
- * AIDS INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND TEACHERS
- * AIDS in CANADA: What You Should Know
- * AIDS The New Facts of Life
- * I Can't Cope With My Fear of AIDS
- * If you use Needles, Don't Share
- * Sex and AIDS
- * This is a TEST, This is only a test. Should you take it?
- * Wellness and AIDS
- * When a friend has AIDS...
- * Women Need to Know About AIDS

If you are unable to stop by and would like a package of all 15 brochures, please mail the coupon with \$2.00 to cover postage and materials to:
AIDS Vancouver Island, 108 - 1175 Cook Street, Victoria, B.C. V8V 4A1.

* * * * *

AIDS BROCHURES

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

_____ Postal Code

Also please include extra pamphlets of interest to: (check one)

___ gay males ___ lesbians

* * * * *

AVI Services

EDUCATION

- Public Speaking
- AIDS Helpline
- Resource Library (pamphlets, clippings, books, tapes, videos).

SUPPORT

- AIDS Helpline
- Volunteer Counsellors
- Buddy Program
- "Living Well" HIV+ Support Group
- Emergency Assistance Fund
- Professional Referrals

CONDI
BUTTONS!
\$1.00
at the
AVI office



Can you help?



We are still in need of several items which we hope someone will be generous enough to donate:

- DESKS & CHAIRS
- STACKING TRAYS
- PAPER CUTTER
- A VIDEO CAMERA
- TYPEWRITER & TYPEWRITER TABLE
- SHELVING UNITS for books and pamphlets
- A COUCH AND ARMCHAIRS for our counselling room
- 2 STURDY TAPE RECORDERS for volunteer training and evaluation.

Charitable receipts for income tax purposes are issued for all donations of money or goods. Many thanks to those who have already displayed their generosity.

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AVI	AIDS VANCOUVER ISLAND	APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP
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PLEASE COMPLETE ALL INFORMATION CLEARLY, THIS IS AN APPLICATION FOR		MEMBER NUMBER
<input type="checkbox"/> NEW MEMBERSHIP <input type="checkbox"/> RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP		
MR MS _____ APPLICANTS LAST NAME	_____ APPLICANTS GIVEN NAME(S)	
_____ APPLICANTS SUITE AND/OR STREET ADDRESS AND/OR POST OFFICE BOX NUMBER (FOR MAILING)		
_____ APPLICANTS CITY	_____ PROVINCE	_____ POSTAL CODE
_____ TELEPHONE NUMBER	_____ DATE OF APPLICATION	_____ SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT
FOR AVI USE ONLY: MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION ACCEPTED ____/____/____ BY:		
MEMBERSHIP RECEIPT # ISSUED EXPIRY ____/____/____		

Join us! Your input and financial support will aid in maintaining and expanding our educational and counselling programs. Memberships will be valid for one year and members will receive regular newsletter mailings, a complimentary copy of the book, "AIDS, What Every Responsible Canadian Should Know," and are entitled to vote at AVI annual general meetings.

Update from the President

Speaking as one of the founding members of AIDS Vancouver Island, I must say I'm extremely happy with the organization and the speed with which it's grown and expanded in the three years since its formation. In the last year alone, with the hiring of Judith English and the implementation of special training programs, the number of AIDS Vancouver Island volunteers has increased threefold to around 110 at present.

We owe a great deal of appreciation and thanks to our volunteers; without them this organization could not function the way it does. We have a lot of expertise among our volunteers, a lot of dedicated people.

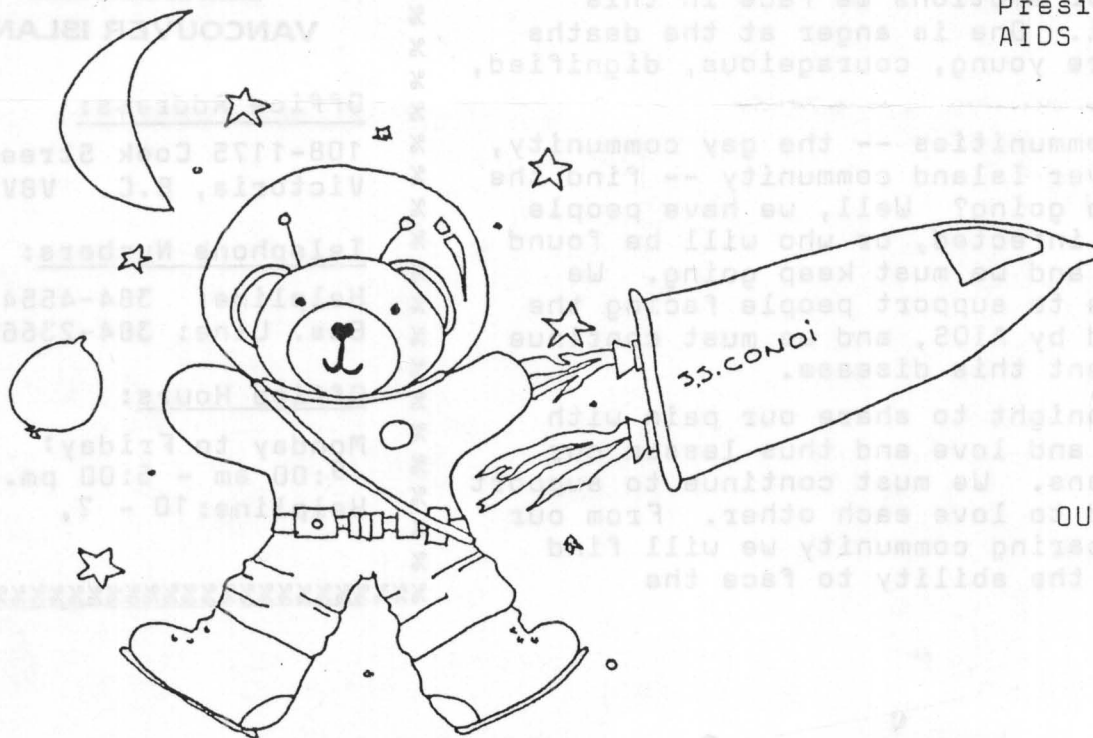
Our volunteer counsellors, who have recently finished their training, are now actively counselling clients. We are being contacted by increasing numbers of people who are antibody-positive, have just been diagnosed, or are the "worried well" with concerns about AIDS. The service is free and confidential and can be obtained by calling our office and requesting an appointment.

Sadly, the AIDS situation is gradually worsening, as it enters the heterosexual community. There is an increase in the number of women who are being diagnosed antibody-positive. AIDS is no longer confined to high risk groups. The danger lies in high-risk activities and anyone can be involved in those.

In the future we intend to increase and expand our programs, making them more available to more people. Our newest program is the Emergency Assistance Fund which we have just set up for those people who may come to us needing temporary financial assistance on an emergency basis. To raise money for the fund, two of AIDS Vancouver Island's volunteers took part in Vancouver's Third Annual 10-kilometer Persons With AIDS Walk-a-Thon in Stanley Park on June 26, raising over \$1,500 in pledges. On behalf of AIDS Vancouver Island I would like to say a very special thank you to all who contributed to the success of this event. I know that if we all pull together, there's no limit to what we can accomplish in the future.

* * * * *

Wayne Cook, R.N.
President of the Board
AIDS Vancouver Island



**Condi
says:**

USE CONDOMS
FOR ALL THOSE
OUT-OF-THIS-WORLD
EXPERIENCES!

Facing The Unfaceable..

By Judith English, Executive Director, AVI,
from her speech given at the AIDS Candle-
light Vigil, May 30.

One of the things about life that is beautiful is that people matter to each other. We care about each other, we love each other, we give to each other, we receive from each other. We are interconnected and interdependent. When one of us dies, all who care about that person grieve. As Rabbi Earl Grollman said: "Grief is the price we pay for having loved."

I'm one of the lucky ones. I haven't lost a lover and partner to this disease. So far, I haven't lost a really close friend to AIDS, although I'm dreading the day when I do. I haven't lost a son. I'm a mother, and I can't imagine what it would feel like to lose my son. I find it unthinkable that I could even continue functioning, although somehow, mothers do.

There's a lot of fear in the fight against AIDS. I'm afraid I'm going to lose people I love, maybe lots of people. In Toronto a few weeks ago I saw a memorial parchment with the names of people in Toronto who had died of AIDS listed on it. There were so many names. In the future, will we be facing something similar here in Victoria?

There are other emotions we face in this struggle as well. One is anger at the deaths of people who are young, courageous, dignified, beautiful.

How can our communities -- the gay community, the AIDS Vancouver Island community -- find the strength to keep going? Well, we have people we love who are infected, or who will be found to be infected, and we must keep going. We have to continue to support people facing the challenges posed by AIDS, and we must continue working to prevent this disease.

We are here tonight to share our pain with people we trust and love and thus lessen our individual burdens. We must continue to support and care for and to love each other. From our strengths as a caring community we will find the courage and the ability to face the unfaceable.

AIDS Vancouver
Island is a Member
of the CANADIAN AIDS
SOCIETY/LA SOCIÉTÉ
CANADIENNE DU SIDA

CANADIAN
AIDS
SOCIETY



LA SOCIÉTÉ
CANADIENNE
DU SIDA

%%%%%%%%%

%	AIDS	%
%	VANCOUVER ISLAND	%
%	<u>Office Address:</u>	%
%	108-1175 Cook Street	%
%	Victoria, B.C. V8V 4A1	%
%	<u>Telephone Numbers:</u>	%
%	Helpline: 384-4554	%
%	Bus. Line: 384-2366	%
%	<u>Office Hours:</u>	%
%	Monday to Friday:	%
%	9:00 am - 5:00 pm.	%
%	Helpline: 10 - 7,	%

%%%%%%%%%