

May/June 1989

Volunteer Update

Volume 2, No. 5

A NOTE FROM NAIRN

As you will all know by now, Judith is no longer with A.V.I. and we are in the process of looking for a new Executive Director. This will take a couple of months (see below for details) and although this leaves us "in-between" for now, I believe that collectively we will keep A.V.I. functioning effectively. No major changes will be made and programs will continue to run as before. If you have concerns, please see Li or myself. Thanks to everyone who is helping me cope as Acting Executive Director.

-- Nairn

MY LIPTON

My Lipton, A.V.I.'s Street Outreach Worker, has tendered her resignation this week. She will be relocating to California. The following is the full text of her letter of resignation.

Tuesday, May 23, 1989

Dear People:

I am resigning from my position of Street Outreach Worker with AIDS Vancouver Island, effective July 9, 1989. Based on my knowledge and experience of the job duties of this position, I strongly urge that a replacement person be hired and ready to work with me during my last two weeks, June 27 to July 8.

This job has provided me, sometimes confronted me, with the opportunity to do "change the world" work. This means to me, "change myself" work. The hardest work any of us can do, of course, is this "personal" work.

To those people and issues that have met me with opposition and negativity. I wish to say a

sincere thank you. You have challenged me to reexamine my opinions and behaviour. This has enabled me to remain open minded and urged me to continue to grow. And, often, it has reconfirmed my convictions and principles. Always, I have been strengthened by these encounters.

I also wish to thank those people and issues that have agreed with me. Your cooperation and caring have served as great support and friendship.

There is much work to do in this crazy-mixed-up-magical world. My experience at A.V.I. has given me more skills and strength to participate. I would like to think that my time at A.V.I. has given the same to the people who are A.V.I., and the people I have served.

When I lie down it will be forever,

My Lipton.

SELECTION COMMITTEE

The committee to select a new Executive Director for AIDS Vancouver Island will be formed very soon. It will consist of five people: three board members, one staff member and one volunteer-member.

Any members in good standing of AVI who are interested in sitting on the Selection Committee should give their names to Li by June 7. All interested members will then meet and select one of their group to sit on the Selection Committee.

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Reference Material
NOT FOR LOAN
AVI Resource Centre

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The Selection Committee will:

- Draw up a list of questions to be asked at the job interview.
- Read resumes of all applicants for the position.
- Draw up a short list for interviewing.
- Do the interviewing.
- Select the best candidate for recommendation to the Board.
- The Board makes the final decision and hires a new Executive Director.

Resumes for the position of Executive Director are to be postmarked no later than June 16. The Selection Committee will operate after the AGM on June 20.

Any Questions? Ask Li or Nairn.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Don't forget! The Annual General Meeting is being held on Tuesday, June 20, from 7 to 10 pm. It will be located in the Woodward Room, Begbie Hall, Royal Jubilee Hospital.

MANY THANKS TO...

Don Mathewson for all the hard work he did contacting the press, doing interviews, and posting flyers for the Torch Song Trilogy benefit. Kudos!

Arnold Clark for the time he spent meeting with us and answering our questions and concerns about Judith's resignation. His efforts made a real difference in helping us understand and accept the process of decision. Thank you, Arnold!

TELECONFERENCE: AIDS IN THE WORKPLACE

by Li Decosas

To my chagrin and horror, I learned on my first day back from the East Coast that I and Ken Libbey would be facilitating a teleconference on AIDS in the workplace - the next day! Panic-stricken, I desperately attempted to delegate the task to another, better-versed and less crowd-shy, individual. I failed miserably.

The next day I arrived at Camosun College an hour early and paced the corridors, the theatre, the coffee shop, the concrete wasteland outside the building, where between meanderings, I chain-smoked. Ken arrived cool, calm and collected ten minutes before the event and assured me that all would go well.

We entered the theatre. My knees knocking, we were directed to the front of the stage and informed as to the sequence of the morning's events. There was an auspicious-looking table with two chairs, upon which sat a jug of water and two glasses, located to the side of the screen facing the audience. In less than two hours, that's where we would be! I tried to imagine which chair would be less prominent. Could I fake losing my voice and drink water incessantly? Nothing miraculous came to my rescue.

The lights went down, the screen came alive with the video transmission from Ottawa. Before I had time to panic I was engrossed by the audio-visuals before me. Rapidly taking notes, absorbing the information I heard, questioning the validity of statements, noting the lack of facilities for the hearing-impaired, I lost my fear and became a fully appreciative participant in the matters at hand.

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When it came time to facilitate, Ken was right. Everything did go smoothly; there were virtually no blank, awkward spots. Like myself, the audience had generated their own enthusiasm and concerns and needed little coaching to articulate their responses. Confidentiality was a key issue for our group discussion. That was also a major issue raised in other groups across the country, along with the need for more and better education.

Anyone requiring detailed information about the conference, feel free to contact me at A.V.I.

And finally, all good stories have a moral! Guess what this one is?

CORRECTION

Support Workers Meetings are held every second Monday, not 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month.

HELPLINE VOLUNTEER TRAINING

The next training sessions for Helpline volunteers will be held on Wednesday, June 7th and Thursday, June 8 at 6:45 pm in the A.V.I. office.

5TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON AIDS

This will take place in Montreal from June 4 to June 9. Wayne Cook, Larry Frost and Dr. Rae Graham will be attending as representatives of A.V.I.

TIME AND THE HOUR...

Yes! Volunteer hours are due again. Please submit your time sheets to Lorna before June 10th. Thanks for your cooperation!

NEWS FROM THE TECHNICAL SUPPORT PROGRAM

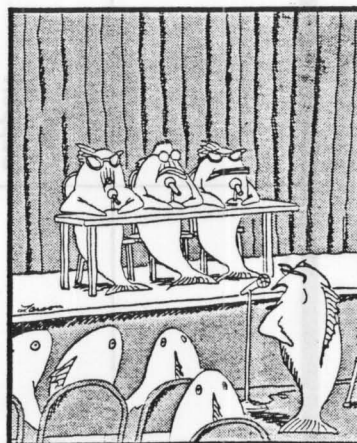
(those mysterious folks upstairs)

JOB OPENING

The position of Statistical Clerk has become available in the Technical Support Program at AVI. This is a Federal Job Development Project and is aimed at upgrading technical skills for re-entry into the workforce. This particular position entails learning the dBase IV program on the IBM PC and using it to manage databases and statistical operations at AVI. The successful applicant should have some prior knowledge of MS-DOS; exposure to dBase is helpful but not imperative, as training will be provided. **Applicants must be receiving Social Assistance and be unemployed for 24 out of the last 30 weeks.** Interviews will begin the week of May 29 - June 2.

Application Procedure: Please obtain a referral slip from the Canada Employment Centre and attach it to your resume. Resumes can be submitted to Claudine Gibb, the secretary of the Technical Support Program. They will be kept in strictest confidence.

For further information you may call Valerie Thompson Williams, Program Manager, at 384-1511.



The committee to decide whether spawning should be taught in school

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1 Coordinators' meeting 10:30 Business meeting 12:30	2	3
4	5 Support meeting 7pm	6 Red Cross speaker at Helpline meeting 6:45	7 Helpline training 6:45	8 Businessmeeting 12:30 Helpline training 6:45	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 Coordinators' meeting 10:30 Business meeting 12:30	16	17
18	19 Support meeting 7pm	20	21	22 Business meeting 12:30	23	24
25	26	27	28	29 Coordinators' meeting 10:30 Business meeting 12:30	30	