

The Update

VANCOUVER ISLAND AIDS SOCIETY

October 1992

Volume 5, Number 4

The President's Message:

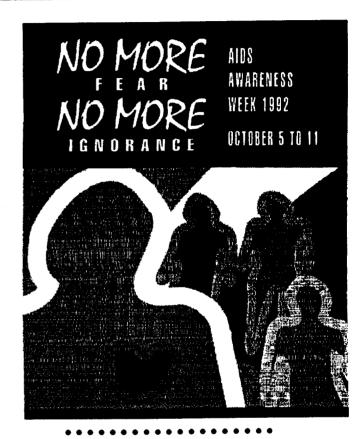
Autumn is a time of change, and for many, a time of new beginnings. For those of us who work with AIDS Vancouver Island, this is when we renew our commitment, settle in for a damp winter, and volunteer for projects that make AVI a community.

This is also the time of year when we say goodbye to last year's Board of Directors. For the past 15 months, members of the Board have assisted the Vancouver Island AIDS Society in achieving its goals of education, support and advocacy. Together they've tried to see the Society as it is, and dream what it could be. They've slogged through seemingly endless meetings, logged time on committees and at special events, debated the direction of our growing organization, and attempted more tasks than they thought were humanly possible. Thank you to our retiring Directors: Alison, Arnold, Andy, Terry, Ron, Leanne, Ken, and Donna. Thank you for your patience, strength, guidance and commitment. You join a long line of creative, stubborn, funny, tireless and respected individuals who have kept their "eyes on the prize" despite the chaos and change.

Welcome to the new members of the Board who accept the legacy and carry on the work -- Brian, Barbara, Suzanne, Paul, Michael, Craig, and Bryan -- who were elected to the Board at the recent Annual General Meeting. And to Don, Verna, Robin, Gordon and Bart, who have been re-elected for another term: welcome back. Your initiative and leadership will take us forward. For the next 12 months we'll work in partnership with staff and other volunteers on policies, programs and projects. Many of our tasks will be done at the committee level, and we'll be looking for other imaginative and energetic volunteers to serve on committees as diverse as education, finance, personnel, programs and services, and resource development. Interested?

Contact JoAnn, intrepid Coordinator of Volunteers or seek out a Director you know (or don't know!). We have a promising year ahead - join us and see for yourself!

Christine Morissette
President, AIDS Vancouver Island



BOARD ORIENTATION

The Orientation for new Board Members has been set for Sunday, October 25, 1992 at the AVI office, beginning at 9:00 a.m. This day long activity for all Board members will provide a chance to become more familiar with the roles and responsibilities of being on a board, discuss current issues, and a yearly planning exercise.

The day will be highlighted by a "Meet The Staff' session in the afternoon, to introduce the staff and programs to the new board. More information will be mailed to Board Members in October.

All Board Members are reminded of the potluck lunch. Bring the dish that best represents you!

CANADIAN
AIDS
SOCIETY

Reference Material NOT FOR LOAN AVI Resource Centre

: 384-4554 A United Way Member Agency

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

Christine Morissette

VICE-PRESIDENT

Bart Wittke

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Gordon Comer

DIRECTORS

Don Mathewson Verna Popejoy

Robin Thompson

Paul Leger

Suzanne Klausen

Barbara Herringer

Craig Hamilton Shier

Bryan Teixeira

Michael MacLennan

Brian Barton

STAFF

Executive Director

Administrative Services

Program Clerk

Support Services

Psychotherapist

Street Outreach

Dale Weston

James Austin

Isabella Luke

Curt Magnuson

Claudia Mimick

Jaine Mullally

Norman Mullally

JoAnn Reid

THE UPDATE

Editor: Ellen Bielawski

Coordinator of Volunteers

Production Editor: Isabella Luke

Editorial Committee: John Hodder, Dale Weston, JoAnn Reid.

The Update is published monthly by the Vancouver Island AIDS Society. Submissions and letters to the Editor are very welcome, and can be left with any staff member at AVI. #304-

733 Johnson Street, Victoria, BC, V8W 3C7

Advertisements are welcome and rates are available from

James.

Deadline is the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

Message From The New Support Services Coordinator

A mere two weeks from the time of my interview until my arrival in Victoria--not to mention the pace I have maintained since--have not permitted me much time for reflection; however, in taking a moment to catch my breath I realize that I would not have missed a minute of it. It has been both personally and professionally rewarding to meet and work with the many talented and committed people at AIDS Vancouver Island, and I would like to thank the clients, staff, volunteers, and members of AVI for welcoming me so warmly into your community.

Over the next several months we will be expanding the Support Services Programme together, and your input is vital to this process. I extend an invitation to all clients, support volunteers, and AVI members to share with me your ideas about the direction that our programme should take. It has come to my attention that a number of trained support volunteers are presently working in other areas of the organization. While this is great, I would like to propose that we reestablish a monthly meeting of Support Services Volunteers, so that we can get to know each other and begin to plan for the future. I propose that the first such meeting take place on Monday, October, 19, at 7:30 p.m. at AVI. Please call me at 384-1511 to let me know if you can attend. For those of you who have been waiting to take support training, after giving it a great deal of thought I have decided to wait a while before offering another training. so that we can reconnect the existing support services volunteers as well as allow enough time to reach out to those clients who are unaware of this important service. I encourage those of you who are not yet support volunteers to approach me with your ideas as well, and ask for your continued patience as I learn more about my work. It would be great if more men were interested in becoming involved in Support Services training. Many of our clients request male buddies, and at the present time it is not always possible to fill those requests. So, I'm sending out a call for a few eligible men...who want to become support volunteers.

Expanding our services so that they reach all areas of the island is a particular interest of mine, as is ensuring that we continue to be responsive to the needs of the island's gay and lesbian communities. I recently worked with gay and lesbian youth while on the Board of Directors of Pink Triangle Services in Ottawa, and am delighted that a similar youth group is meeting here in Victoria.

(continued on page 4)

LIVING ROOM WITH A VIEW

This page appears monthly, outlining news from the Living Room Project (The HIV+/PWA Lounge) and supplying a calendar of events for the Living Room.

The Red Binder located on the Living Room desk contains detailed schedules and services provided in the Living Room. Sign up sheets and events are listed inside. Please take a moment to review it.

Apologies

Many apologies to those inconvenienced by the recent mixup with massage times! To clear the confusion, Frank is now massaging every Tuesday morning. As well, on the first and fourth Tuesday's, massages will be all day in one hour time slots effective October 27. Michele's new schedule also begins September 22 and she will be in every other Wednesday, morning. Signup sheets are in the Living Room.

PWA/HIV+ LIVING ROOM CALENDAR										
OCTOBER 1992										
\$	М	. T	W	T	F	S				
				Peer Support Drop-in 1 - 4 pm	2	3				
4	5 HIV+/PWA Support 5:15	6 Massage-Frank 9:30- 4:00 pm	7 Massage-Michele 9:30-12:00 am	Reer Support Drop-in 1 - 4 pm	9	10				
11	HIV+/PWA Support 5:15 Unfacilitated	No Massage Today Joe the Barber 1:30 - 4:30 pm	14	Peer Support Drop-in 1 - 4 pm	16	17				
PWA Potluck 3:00 pm - Kobe's	HIV+/PWA Support 5:15	Massage-Frank 9:30-12:00 am Joe the Barber 1:30 - 4:30 pm	21 Massage-Michele 9:30-12:00 am	Peer Support Drop-in 1 - 4 pm	23	24				
25	26 HIV+/PWA Support 5:15	27 Massage-Frank 9:30- 4:00 pm	28	Peer Support Drop-in 1 - 4 pm	30	31				

HIV & Legal Issues Discussion Night

AIDS Vancouver Island and The Victoria AIDS Respite Care Society are pleased to present an evening with Professor Arthur Leonard.

Professor Leonard, currently on staff at New York University Law School is a well-known writer and champion of gay rights. He has written extensively on such issues as employment, AIDS and sexuality issues. His recent publications have focused on HIV-related employment discrimination and he is currently writing a Legal Encyclopedia on Sexuality and Law. He is co-chair of the New York City Bar Association's Special Committee on Lesbians and Gay Men in the Legal Profession, a member of the AIDS Advisory Committee on the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, and a member of the Society of American Law Teachers Board of Governors.

Professor Leonard will appear at the YM/YWCA on Tuesday, October 20th, 1992 at 8:00 p.m. The evening includes his presentation followed by question and answer period.

Staff Retreat

The AIDS Vancouver Island Administration & Program offices at 733 Johnson Street will be closed to the public on Wednesday, November 4th, 1992. All staff will be away for the day on a Retreat at a secret location!!

Members and PWAs needing assistance can still call the office as the HelpLine and Administration Switchboard will be open, calls will be forwarded to staff if required.

The office reopens the next morning at 9:00 a.m.

Information Exchange

Greater Victoria AIDS Information Network [GVAIN] meets on Wednesday, October 21, 1992 at 3:00 p.m. in the Portable Offices at 912 Vancouver St. [behind the Anglican Diocesan Office]. All members, volunteers, and PWAs are welcome to attend this meeting which brings local AIDS service groups/providers together to share information.

Employment Opportunity

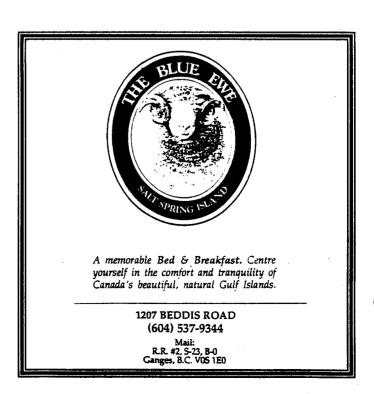
AIDS Vancouver Island is currently looking for a parttime worker in the Street Outreach Program. This position involves a great deal of front line work with a diverse population. Experience in working independently, knowledge of alternative education programs, and good people skills are required.

Resumes by October 5th to:
Ms. Jaine Mullally
Coordinator, Street Outreach
AIDS Vancouver Island
304-733 Johnson Street
Victoria, B.C. V8W 3C7

(continued from page 2)

Finally, it is a real thrill for me to be able to return to Vancouver Island after almost ten years away. During this time, I have returned many times to this island, and its beauty has instilled in me a strong sense of peace. The opportunity to use my social work training in the struggle against HIV/AIDS in this particular setting is a privilege for me, and I look forward to working with you in the months ahead.

Curt Magnuson Support Services Coordinator



GAY AND LESBIAN EDUCATION OUTREACH

Andy Farquharson facilitated a very successful focus group in The Living Room on September 10th with 18 representatives from across Vancouver Island in attendance.

The discussion focused on issues that surround effective education campaigns for lesbians and gay men as it relates to HIV disease. The evening was vocal, jam-packed, and productive.

Highlights of the discussion included the need for greater community involvement within the fight against HIV disease. People stressed the needs for outreach to isolated and special interest groups such as youth and women in rural areas. Self esteem was a major topic as it relates to chemical dependency and placing oneself at risk for exposure to HIV.

The evening's work has resulted in a brief written profile of the discussion and a community meeting is set for Thursday, November 12th, 7:30 pm in Duncan at "Inn at the Water Resort"- Hecate Room, Cowichan Bay.

Participants will receive a copy of the written discussions.

AIDS Awareness Week

AIDS Awareness Week kicks off on October 5th. Watch for the media through the month of October.

Wednesday, October 8th, Terry David Mulligan of MuchWest, is host of SUB Productions "AIDS On Campus", a noonhour presentation at the University of Victoria. Panelists present issues on HIV disease followed by a question and answer period. Plans are still in the works for film footage to be shot.

Action Needed Now!!

All members and supporters in the fight against AIDS are urged to write their Member of Parliament, insisting that the federal government renew its commitment to the war on AIDS. Federal funding is up for renewal on April 1st of next year and no decision has been made about the future of Health & Welfare's AIDS Community Action Program funding.

Your letter counts! Postage is free to an MP! Let's tell Ottawa that they must be accountable to the 30,000 plus people infected with HIV.

Watch for the petitions circulating at all AIDS Awareness Week events.

The Beyond Within

The Producers of Ravex, the mysterious warehouse party that rocked with nearly 400 hundred people last month, are set to produce another event for AIDS Vancouver Island.

It happens on Saturday, October 10th with tickets at \$8 by advance sales, \$10 at the door. Location is kept mum until the week before and more information can be had by calling 1-604-370-1079.

Performers include The Wizard of X, The Baptist, Bill, and special guest from Vancouver R. Shea and Philth.



1992 - "A Community Commitment"

The World AIDS Day Committee needs people who would like to work on this year's events. Call JoAnn and find out how things are shaping up.

Thanks All

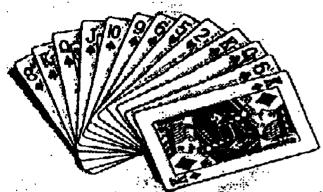
Big Thanks go out to Chris Morry at OxFam Canada and the wonderful duo at The Victoria Fringe Theatre Festival, Tammy and Angela, for all of their work in producing "Puppets Against AIDS." Final proceeds are not available at press time but an update will happen next month.

Attention Courtenay-Comox

Welcome aboard to Mairi Scanlon of Courtenay-Comox. Mairi will be this fall's Practicum Student from UVIC's School of Social Work. She will be working closely with Curtis to develop north island outreach to the Courtenay-Comox Valley region.

Anyone interested in the Courtenay Support Group can call Curtis at 384-2366. It meets every two weeks on a Monday evening and is available for PWAs, Families, Friends, and Lovers.

Volunteer News and Needs



Casino October 24 & 25

Almost a year to the day since the last one, we have finally drawn two evenings at the brand new Mayfair Casino on Douglas Street. To all those volunteers who have been waiting so patiently, please contact JoAnn ASAP to sign up for a shift! To those of you who enjoy an evening at the tables, come out to support the work of AVI.

Monthly Volunteer Meeting

A small but dynamic group of volunteers met on September 16th to put forth some ideas for the coming year. We have established that the monthly meeting will be held on the second Tuesday of every month at 7:30 pm. This will enable Denise to continue as facilitator inspite of her busy UVic schedule. The next meeting will be held Tuesday, October 13th, at 7:30 pm. Speaker unconfirmed at press time - call JoAnn in October for more details.

Volunteer Training

The next orientation for new volunteers will be held October 14, 22, 28 and November 7 and 8. The class is nearly full but those volunteers wanting to make up sessions they missed the first time around are invited to contact JoAnn.

BarBQ Bouquets

We would like to thank all those volunteers and staff who made the trek out to North Saanich on Sept 12th. It was great to share our home with you. Hope you enjoyed yourselves in spite of the rain! Our sincere thanks to all of you who helped in any way.

JoAnn, Les and Jenny

PERSONNEL CHALLENGE. PERSONAL COMMITMENT.

That is what makes AIDS Vancouver Island such a special place to work. This non-profit working to meet the needs of HIV infected/ affected people seeks qualified applicants for the position of:

COORDINATOR EDUCATION SERVICES

An awareness of HIV disease, background in communications and public education, and strong leadership skills are required to develop and expand education programs across Vancouver Island. Your unprecedented people skills encourage you to join this team of professionals committed to the fight against HIV disease.

Apply in Confidence to:

Dale Weston, Executive Director AIDS Vancouver Island 304-733 Johnson Street Victoria, B.C. V8W 3C7 Fax: (604) 380-9411 by October 7 1992

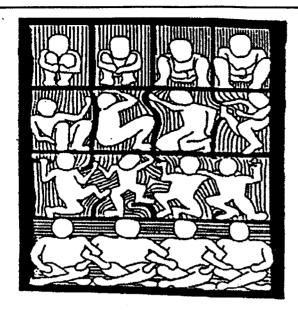


is an equal opportunity employer and invites applicants from diverse avenues, including gender, sexual orientation, ethnic origin, and HIV status.

AVI Christmas Party

Kit and Dene have again offered their beautiful home (this isn't a surprise to you, is it Dene?) for AVI's Christmas Party. It will be held on Saturday Dec 12th at 8 pm - details to follow in the December Update. If you would like to help with preparations for "the" event of the winter season, contact JoAnn. Mark Dec. 12th on your calender now!





Challenging Our Assumptions

The role of popular education in promoting health [October 30-31, 1992]

Who is It for?

Health and community workers (professional and voluntary) who:

- -are working with community based programs
- -could apply popular education skills and methods in their work
- -will attend the entire session
- -will represent their group or organization

What is it about?

The workshop is intended to introduce and link popular education to social change and examine its application to community based health programmes.

It will draw on both Canadian and Third World experiences and will involve hands on activities relevant to the work of the participants.

Time:

Oct 30 - 7:30 - 9:30 pm

Oct 31 - 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Location:

Cost:

Bastion Square, Victoria Registration: CUSO 612-620 View St.

Victoria, BC V8W 1J6

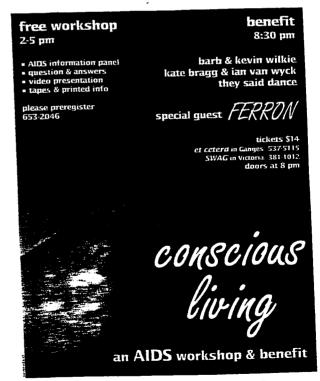
Phone: 384-3732 Fax: 388-5258 \$50 professional rate \$30 community rate Limited registration Lunch is provided

DR. TUTI PARWATI - SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER

CUSO and AIDS Vancouver Island are fortunate to have as their special guest, Dr. Tuti, a leading medical practitioner from Bali, Indonesia.

Dr. Tuti's work in HIV/AIDS has centered around the development of an AIDS-service organization in Surabaya. Her publications include "AIDS Education Among Specific Target Groups In The Province of Bali", "Efforts To Overcome AIDS In Bali", and High Risk Behaviour in HIV/AIDS Transmission".

Dr. Tuti will be present an informal evening discussing her work at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 8, 1992 in the AIDS Vancouver Island offices at 733 Johnson Street. Call 384-2366 for more information.



Sat, Oct 24 Salt Spring Activity Centre

+ all proceeds to AIDS Vancouver Island Emergency Assistance Fund +

BOOK NOTES

by Jeff Knox



Anal Pleasure & Health: A Guide for Men and Women by Jack Morin, Ph. D

After I finished reading this book, I flipped through a few other sex/health manuals and noticed the subject of anal sex was either avoided or discouraged (even by The Joy of Sex!)

This revised, updated edition exposes the conditioning and psychological blocks we grow up with that cause so much of the avoidance and hangups concerning this taboo subject. It also goes beyond that to help its readers become further educated about this part of our body and the various ways we can relax and incorporate anal pleasure into our own personal repertoires safely.

The book covers everything from water soluble lubricants to femiphobia with humour and insight.

(contains 200 pages, Yes Press, 1986)

Longtime Companion

Running time: approx. 2 hours

Producer:

Stan Wlodkowski

Director:

Norman Rene

Writer: Craig Lucas

This PBS American Playhouse presentation centres around a group of urban, closely knit friends from 1981 to 1989. The characters and storyline are well developed and engaging. The transitions from humorous scenes to the more serious ones work well also.

Favourite line: "It seems inconceivable now that there was ever a time before this" (the AIDS era).

Favourite scene: When eye-catching Patrick Cassidy shared a big, wet kiss with a fellow actor during a scene on a fictional soap opera called "Other People".

Get out the popcorn and the Kleenex tissues for this one! It's great!

(PBS-TV, Burlington, Vt., 1991)

Wanted:

People interested in forming a quilting circle contact Franklyn Clowater (Victoria Quilters Guild) at 383-9560. Beginners welcome.

Gay & Lesbian Choir

People interested in a possible Gay & Lesbian Choir should contact Curtis @ 384-1511

Cleaning Up Your Gardens?

Regret the day you planted 12 zuchinni plants? Lots of fresh produce available and you never want to see another mason iar in this decade?

Why not bring your surplus fresh produce to AVI and make it available for PWAs through either the Living Room or the Vancouver PWA Society - [Capital Region] Food Bank. Drops offs can be made anytime between 9 to 5 at 304-733 Johnson Street.

AGM THANK YOU!!

Special Thanks to the following people and businesses for their support in helping make the 6th Annual General Meeting a huge success:

Safeway Food Stores for the food trays; Open Space Gallery for the meeting space; Verna Popejoy for coordinating the event; Gord Comer for performing; Marjorie Mitchell for working at the tables; Michael MacLennan for helping organize Open Space; Frances Hunter for producing the Annual Report; Ray for designing the layout; Helen Hughes, Marianne Alto, and Moffat Clark for being there and supporting our programs; Linda, David, and Anne for being the voting scrutineers; Mary Lou for her help in preparing the refreshments; Nancy for baking; Paul for cleanup; Tara for her help in putting together the display; and everyone else, including the staff who gave the time and energy to making the meeting run smoothly.





OCTOBER 1992

S	M	Т	W	T	F	<u>S</u>
			. "	1	2	3
4	5 AIDS AWARENESS WEE HIV & PWA Support Group 5:15 pm	6 COCTOBER 5TH - 11TH Business Meeting 1:30 pm	7 Family, Friends & Lovers Support Group 7:30 pm 923 Burdett UVic Sub Productions 12 noon - Cinecenta	Dr. Tuti Presentation @ AVI office - 7:30 pm	9	Mayfair Mall Display Warehouse Dance 1-604-370-1079
11	HIV & PWA Support Group 5:15 pm (unfacilitated)	Business Meeting 1:30 pm Joe the Barber 1 - 4:30 pm	Volunteer Training 7:00 - 10:00 pm Family, Friends & Lovers Support Group 7:30 pm 923 Burdett	15	16	17
18	HIV & PWA 19 Support Group 5:15 pm Mtg. of Support Services Volunteers - 7:30 pm @ AVI	Business Meeting 1:30 pm Joe the Barber 1 - 4:30 pm Professor Leonard YM/YWCA - 8 pm	Family, Friends & Lovers Support Group 7:30 pm 923 Burdett	Volunteer Training 7:00 - 10:00 pm	23	24
25	HIV & PWA Support Group 5:15 pm	Business Meeting 1:30 pm Board Meeting 6:30 pm	Volunteer Training 7:00 - 10:00 pm Family, Friends & Lovers Support Group 7:30 pm 923 Burdett	Education Focus Group 7:00 pm	30	31

COMING EVENTS

AIDS Awareness Week - October 5th - 11th, 1992 - "No More Fear - No More Ignorance"

UVic Sub Production - October 7th - Cinecenta

Dr. Tuti Presentation - October 8th - AVI Office

Mayfair Mall Display - October 10th

Warehouse Dance - October 10th - call 1-604-370-1079

Professor Leonard - October 20th - YM/YWCA 8:00 pm

Potluck @ AVI - October 23 - 12:00 - 1:00 pm

"ACTION AGAINST AIDS: "'S FAR FROM OVER"

Federal government commitment to fight HIV/AIDS coming to an end - MONEY RUNS OUT March 31, 1993

So what does this mean?

It means the loss of programs; the loss of opportunities for prevention and empowerment; the loss of lives.

All federal programmes -

- funding of community-based initiatives in prevention education and support & care.
- work in the promotion of clinical trials
 & treatments.
- research funding,
- coordinating and integrating 10 provinces and 2 territories into a national strategy, and more

will not be funded.

Is AIDS still a problem?

There are more than 30,000 Canadians infected with HIV (the virus linked to AIDS). Prevention education is the only effective means to avoid infection. People living with HIV/AIDS continue to suffer discrimination based on society's fear and ignorance. A recent medical journal stated that 14% of Canadian doctors would prefer not to treat a person with HIV/AIDS.

Why do we need increased federal government support?

The AIDS epidemic has not been static. The numbers of people affected are greater. The numbers of people made vulnerable by poverty, gender, geography, sexual orientation, youth, are greater. New communities are now affected in urban centres and rural towns in all regions of Canada.

Much more is now understood about what we need to do. Consultations and information gathering have given us many solutions to the complex and difficult problems AIDS presents. Solutions will take time and they will take resources.

AIDS is still a new disease that does not have an adequate private sector fundraising base in place. We still need the support of governments to ensure that essential activities and programs

Canada: 1 in 10,000 Canadians are #iving with AIDS and 1 in 1,000 are HIV positive (1992).

Newfoundland: early results from a study of pregnant women point to 1 in 900 being HIV positive. This is six times higher than anticipated (1992). Ontario: 1 in 3,194 women giving birth to a live infant was HIV infected. In Toronto the rate was 1 in 1,976 while in the Ottawa-Carleton area the rate was an extraordinary 1 in 899 (1990). In Ontario there are over 12,000 reported cases of HIV infection and there are 200 new cases diagnosed every month (1992). Toronto/Montreal: AIDS related illnesses are the number one leading cause of death for men and women between the ages of 24 to 44 in both Toronto and in Montreal (1992).

Quebec: 1 in 1,638 women giving birth to a live infant was HIV positive. In Montreal, the rate was 1 in 616 (1990).

Vancouver/Victoria: 1 in 1,300 pregnant women infected (1990).

World-wide: The World Health Organization projects that by the year 2000, there will be 30 to 40 million persons HIV positive and 10 to 12 million persons living with AIDS (1992).

We need the federal government to live up to its commitments laid out in the 1990 national AIDS Strategy and to act on the numerous studies and reports presented to them this past year.

What can I do?

- You can call your Member of Parliament, write him/her a letter, let them know you
 want them to act to ensure that the federal government responds with increased
 funding to stop the epidemic and its horrible consequences.
- You can sign the petition, your friends can sign.
- Talk to your local AIDS organization and volunteer.

We need you to let the government know that we need more money for AIDS - that only real ACTION AGAINST AIDS will do!



Attention All Volunteers, Education Speakers, and Members

X

Education is crucial to stopping the spread of HIV disease. Directions in education, like the disease, are constantly changing as we find out more about what works and what doesn't....

*

Your input is needed on October 29, 1992.

Michael Yoder, an education and training specialist will be facilitating a group discussion of the future of education at AIDS Vancouver Island.

It starts at 7:00 p.m., is casual, and lively. Your thoughts about what works and what doesn't, needs to be included.

Consider this your personal invitation. The sky is the limit when many heads get together and think collectively.

Call Dale or Bart at 384-2366 for more information. Please feel free to preregister by October 27th so that we have an idea of how many people will be attending.

The Education Focus Group Thursday, October 29th 7:00 p.m. at AVI Bring your ideas....

We'll look for you there!