



Reference Material
NOT FOR LOAN
AVI Resource Centre

volunteer
UPDATE
newsletter

AGM OCT. 19TH

AIDS Vancouver Island's Annual General Meeting (AGM) is fast approaching. Set for October 19, 1996 at the James Bay Community Centre, 140 Oswego 1:00 - 3:30pm, the AGM provides the membership with the opportunity of reviewing the work of the Board of Directors and the agency. It is also the time to elect the Board of Directors for this coming year 1996/97 and to vote on the special resolutions which will, if passed, change the by-law's of AVI.

This year there are three officer positions (Chair, Vice-Chair and Treasurer) and five director-at-large positions which need to be filled. If all positions are filled this will complete the full 13 positions of the Board of Directors and create a working team to set the policies and direction for AVI over this next year. Members will have a chance to hear the nominees speak and then "ask questions" if required.

As mentioned earlier, the AGM also allows the membership to discuss and vote on proposed bylaw amendments. At this year's AGM there are three special resolutions to amend the bylaws of AIDS Vancouver Island. The first special resolution will change Bylaw 26 (2) to read:

The Executive Committee shall be five (5) in number, consisting of (a) The officers of the society; (b) **The Chair of the PWA Caucus;** and Director(s) to be elected by the directors, as needed.

The intent of this change is to clarify the role of the Persons With HIV/AIDS Caucus as it relates to the Executive Committee of AVI. The proposed change would ensure that the Chair of the Caucus is also a member of the

Executive Committee of the Board.

The second resolution would change Bylaw 27 (2) to read:

That the current Bylaw 27 (2) be deleted and replaced by **"The directors shall appoint from among their number, at the first meeting after the annual general meeting, a Chair, Vice-Chair, a Secretary and a Treasurer."**

This change would simplify the nominations process prior to the AGM and also make the way AVI selects the officers of the Board more comparable to many other non-profit organizations.

The third and final resolution this year deals with the structure of the Persons With HIV/AIDS Caucus. The third resolution would change Bylaw 47 to read:

(a) The PWA Caucus shall be an advisory body to the directors, choose its chair from among the directors who are living with HIV/AIDS, and meet at least quarterly.

(b) The board of directors may establish a professional advisory committee of such persons, within or without the society, as may be determined by the directors, with the powers, not exceeding the powers of the society, that the director may confer.

This amendment establishes the PWA Caucus as a legitimate part of the ongoing organizational structure of AVI.

On behalf of the Board of Directors I would like to take this opportunity to encourage you to attend the AGM and participate in your community organization.

- Ruthann Tucker



AIDS Vancouver Island

shall confront

Acquired

Immuno-Deficiency

Syndrome,

prevent its spread

through education,

support all those

infected and affected

by the disease,

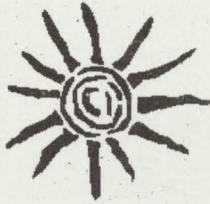
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- Pat Partridge



AIDS, and states its opposition to mandatory testing. As people have learned more about the virus, and as treatments and interventions have been developed, the policy has evolved. But its basic goal remains the same: To protect people with AIDS from discrimination.

The Canadian Human Rights Commission investigates complaints of discrimination against people with AIDS and HIV. Where there is evidence of discrimination, the Commission tries to end the discrimination, and make sure the victim receives some form of compensation. In this way, the Commission tries to ensure people with AIDS get equal treatment, and a chance to make the most of life.

The medical community is doing its best to make sure that people with AIDS or HIV can live longer, healthier lives than they could when the disease was first diagnosed. The human rights community - including the Canadian Human Rights Commission - is doing its part by trying to ensure that those longer lives are free from discrimination.

People interested in receiving a copy of the Canadian Human Rights Commission's AIDS policy, or a copy of the brochure HIV/AIDS Discrimination: It's against the law, can call or write to:

Canadian Human Rights Commission
Sir John Centre
420-757 West Hastings St.
Vancouver, B.C., V6C 1A1
Tel: (604) 666-2251

VOLUNTEER SERVICES

Comings and Goings

Welcome back Liisa (from Calgary) and Marion (from the Yukon) - the Speakers Bureau awaits! Our thanks and best wishes go out to Jackie Dineen, Shirley White, Sonia O. and Maureen M. for their contributions to AVI. Jackie, a support and fundraising volunteer at AVI for the past 3 1/2 years and at ACT before that, has gone on to pursue other interests. Shirley, a support volunteer and our resident Income Tax consultant, and her partner Richard are heading east to live in Nova Scotia. Sonia has moved to Quebec to further her career in education. Maureen, our hard-working Wednesday morning volunteer for the past 3 years is taking a much deserved break.

Volunteer Training

Core training in Victoria begins October 23rd and with the applications received to date we have more prospective volunteers than spaces. Our apologies to those who are on a waiting list but your interest in AVI is very gratifying. We will be planning another core training for Nanaimo within the next 6 months so if you live in the Central Island area and are interested in volunteering, please obtain an application from the Nanaimo office or call JoAnn or Bridget at 1-800-665-2437.

Thanks for the Time Sheets!

Many of you have responded to my plea and some of you have also sent in time sheets! The winner of the early bird draw is Caryl P. who has been working on the Helpline for the past 6 months through all the renovations. Thanks, Caryl! Relax and enjoy your gift from The Body Shop.

There will be a 'better late than never' draw to be held on October 15th for those of you who send in time sheets by that date. This blitz is certainly not intended to offend anyone but to enable us to more accurately record the many hours of time and energy

HIV & REHABILITATION RESEARCH PROJECT

Late breaking news!!! One hundred people living with HIV/AIDS, living in the Capital Regional District, are needed for an important project!! The AIDS Care, Treatment, & Support program of Health Canada (funded through the National AIDS Strategy) has selected the Victoria AIDS Respite Care Society (VARCS) as the site for a unique six-month research project which will study HIV & Rehabilitation.

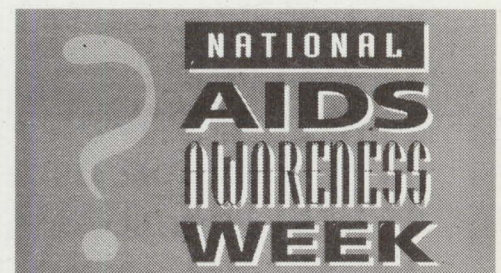
This project will look at the impact of rehabilitative care on people living with HIV. What is rehabilitative care? Well, some of the disciplines covered in this project are: Nutrition, Exercise, Physiotherapy, Massage, etc.) Participants will create their own program in consultation with experts in the fields and implement the program over the next six months.

If you are living with HIV/AIDS and are interested in participating in this project please contact:

Gary Murphy
Victoria AIDS Respite Care Society
611 Superior Street
Victoria, BC V8V 1V1
Phone: 388-6220

given by our volunteers. Thanks for your cooperation!

-JoAnn Reid



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

On October 15, 1996, AIDS Vancouver Island's Island Outreach Project will become a regular program of AVI's Nanaimo office. The Comox Valley office will close, relocating to the Nanaimo office. Island Outreach services will continue as before. In fact, we are confident that this change in structure will create a service delivery system that is more responsive to client and community demand.

Island Outreach has grown tremendously since its inception in February of 1993. Over 150 education sessions have been held across the Island, from Duncan to Port Hardy. Ongoing support services provide assistance to a growing number of people living with HIV/AIDS in very remote rural communities and semi-urban areas across the Island. The context for Island Outreach work has also changed enormously since 1993. Local AIDS service groups, along with other supportive community groups, have expanded their abilities to provide both support and prevention education. Island Outreach staff and volunteers have collaborated with local ASOs to create the Vancouver Island AIDS Network. The opening of AIDS Vancouver Island's Nanaimo office in December of last year is the culmination of years of community development work with local agencies and community members. It marks the success of the Island Outreach Project. Our Nanaimo office is now providing support and education services to clients and community as well as administrative back up to staff and volunteers. AVI remains

committed to supporting people living with HIV/AIDS in remote communities. We are committed to supporting local initiatives and assisting other Island ASOs to meet the coming challenges.

We would like to extend a special thanks to the clients, staff and volunteers of Island Outreach who have seen the project through from its beginnings in 1993. Their commitment and dedication have made the Island Outreach Project the success that it is.

RESEARCH INITIATIVES

Education Evaluation

The evaluation of AVI's Education Services continues. So far we have distributed our survey questionnaire in both Victoria and Nanaimo. This month we begin to distribute the survey across the Island and the Gulf Islands. In addition, a random sample of AVI members will receive a copy of the survey in the mail. If you receive a copy, please complete it and return it to Stephen at AVI in Victoria (the return postage is pre-paid). The survey is an important part of our evaluation process. We need and appreciate your feedback! In addition to the survey, we will be holding about 10 focus groups with staff, volunteers and clients throughout the fall. We need a diversity of voices at these focus groups. If you have ideas, comments, criticisms or something else to say about AVI's Education Services, please contact Stephen and sign up for a focus group session. We hope to hear from you.

VOLUNTEERS CONT.

Workshops for Volunteers

Participate in AIDS Awareness Week by attending a workshop on **HIV/AIDS & Substance use at AVI on Oct. 2nd from 6:00-7:30pm.** The featured speaker will be Scott Robertson, a private practitioner, who works in the area of HIV/AIDS & addiction.

Bridget is working with VARCS & VPWAs to set up a series of workshops on alternative treatment therapies. November will be the first month. Stay tuned for details!

The M.A.R.S project

The launch of the M.A.R.S. project was a tremendous success! Thanks to all those who attended the press conference and project launch September 19 at the Fran Willis gallery in Victoria. Artist Joe Average, who donated the image for the project, came over from Vancouver to sign posters and T-shirts. The M.A.R.S. posters, t-shirts and other promotional materials, created by Victoria graphic designer Miriam McPhail, are beautiful. Contact Stephen if you would like a M.A.R.S. poster or T-shirt. The T-shirts are \$15.00 each or 2 for \$25.00.

To participate in the M.A.R.S. project, please contact Stephen at 384-2366 or 1-888-776-MARS (6277). Help us find participants by giving someone you know one of our business cards, postcards or matchbooks. These items have information about the project on them and are available through Stephen.



AIDS Vancouver Island

OCTOBER 1996

DIRECTORY

**AIDS INFO LINE
(VICTORIA)
384-4554**

**TOLL-FREE INFO LINE
1-800-665-2437**

**ADMINISTRATION
EDUCATION
SPECIAL EVENTS
SUPPORT SERVICES
VOLUNTEERS
Tel: 384-2366
Fax: 380-9411**

**STREET OUTREACH
1220 Commercial Alley
Tel: 384-1345**

**ISLAND OUTREACH
(NANAIMO)
Tel: 753-2437
Fax: 753-4595**

**ISLAND OUTREACH
(Cowichan Valley)
TEL 746-0808
FAX 746-8666**

M	T	W	T	F	S/S
	1 HIV+ Women's Support Group 5-7pm AIDS Awareness Week Sept. 30-Oct.6	2 Community forum HIV/AIDS & Substance use 6-7:30pm Everyone welcome UPDATE Meeting 5:30 pm	3 Partners, Families & Friends Support Group 7-9 pm	4	5 6
7	8 Support Services Committee Mtg. 5:30pm	9	10	11	12 13
14	15 HIV+ Women's Support Group 5-7 pm	16	17 Partners, Families & Friends Support Group 7-9 pm	18	19 20 AGM James Bay Community Centre (140 Oswego) 1-3:30pm AIDS worship service & Holy Communion St. Paul's Anglican Church Nanaimo 10:30am
21 PWA Dinner 5:15 AVI Living Room	22	23	24	25	26 27 Volunteer Core Training
AIDS prayer vigil St. Paul's Anglican Church Nanaimo 9am - 6pm		Volunteer Core Training Starts			Volunteer Core Training
28	29 HIV+ Women's Support Group 5-7 pm	30 Volunteer Core Training	31		

LOCATION OF EVENTS

Events, unless indicated otherwise, occur at AVI's main office
304 - 733 Johnson Street.

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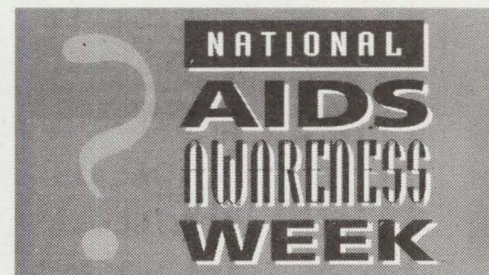
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NANAIMO REGIONAL NEWS

The First Annual Nanaimo Walks for AIDS! was held last month when the community of Nanaimo joined more than 50 cities across Canada who walked on the same day to raise money for AIDS. We'd like to thank everyone who participated, especially our co-hosts the Primus Project, a youth employment program that promotes Youth Safety. The money raised in Nanaimo will be split 50/50 between AVI's Financial Assistance Fund and the B.C. Center for Excellence on HIV/AIDS, which serves over 75% of the HIV positive persons in B.C. As the UPDATE went to press before we were able to tabulate the results of the fundraising from the First Annual Nanaimo Walks for AIDS! we will include a report in next month's issue.

This month, AIDS Awareness Week in Nanaimo will include a mall display at Harbour Park Mall on Thursday, October 3rd from 9:30am to 5:30pm and Friday, October 4th from 9:30am to 9:00pm. Free condoms and ribbons have been distributed to 10 downtown bars for the week. As the UPDATE went to press, we were still in the planning stages for a call-in show at the Cable 10 TV station. Please call Mana at 753-2437 for further information. If you're in the neighbourhood, drop by Harbour Park Mall on October 3rd or 4th.

Also, in the way of October news, our Administrative Assistant, Dana Becker will be going on maternity leave this month - to work on a project of a very different nature! Her last day of work for awhile (of the AVI kind!) will be October 17th. We all thank Dana for the great work she has done since the office opened in Nanaimo last year on World AIDS Day. Our best wishes to Dana and her babe in waiting.

The Nanaimo HIV/AIDS Education Project, co-sponsored by AVI and the Central Vancouver Island Health Unit, is wrapping up this month with several education sessions to community agencies including HIV/AIDS workplace policy development. The gay/

lesbian youth group has now resumed meeting. Education services will be continuing in Nanaimo as the Education Programmer, Mana Herel will remain in the position for the next 6 months, working 3 days/week. For information on the group or the project, contact Mana at 753-2437.

Attention Quilters (and all "wanna B's"!): A woman in Nanaimo is interested in making a quilt for the raffle or as part of the Annual AIDS Benefit to contribute towards the Financial Assistance Fund. She would like to get together with people to come up with a theme and design for the quilt and then make the quilt together. She is asking folks for \$25 to cover materials and will provide basic quilting lessons if needed. If you are interested in this creative opportunity, contact Dana at the Nanaimo office.

Support Groups:

There are currently support groups for people living with HIV/AIDS available through AVI in Nanaimo and Campbell River.

Nanaimo:

The Nanaimo PWA support group now meets the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month; art therapy sessions have also resumed. Please call the office for times and location.

Campbell River:

In Campbell River, our art therapy sessions are still continuing. The yoga/meditation facilitator is away for part of the fall. We hope to resume sessions again later in the fall/winter. Stay tuned for details! Please call the office for further information, times and location of the group. For those calling outside of the Nanaimo area, collect calls are accepted.

Island Outreach:

This month, the Island Outreach program will move its home base from the Comox Valley. This program which serves communities right across the Island will now be based out of the Nanaimo office. The

services, however, will remain the same. Support services for people living with HIV/AIDS and those affected as well as education services will be available by calling the Nanaimo office at 753-2437. Collect calls are accepted.

Office Hours:

Our office hours are Monday to Thursday from 9:00am to 5:00pm. We have a fairly large selection of books on treatment issues and health for people living with HIV/AIDS, as well as information for family/friends/partners and general information. Drop if you're in the neighbourhood. The office is located at #201 - 55 Victoria Rd. in Nanaimo (just up the hill from Harbour Park Mall). Our phone number is 753-AIDS (2437).

- Shari Dunnet

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH

Saint Paul's Anglican Church in Nanaimo is hosting two days of focused prayer on issues associated with AIDS. Their Sunday morning services on 20 October will be looking at AIDS and the theology behind healing prayer. An AVI member will deliver the sermon. Communion, also known as Holy Eucharist, will be celebrated and offered to those in attendance.

On Monday, 21 October, a full daily prayer will be held. The church will be open for silent prayer from 9:00am to 2:00pm. At 2:00pm Sandy Priestly will lead in the construction of an AIDS prayer quilted banner. From 4:00pm to 6:00pm a prayer and musical worship service will be held.

These worship opportunities are in celebration of Saint Luke's Day. St. Luke, the physician, is the patron saint of healing, medical discovery, and pastoral care.

For more information, call the church in Nanaimo at 753-2523.