

FIX : the Story of an Addicted City

is coming to the Okanagan.

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School's in

By Kate Alexander,
Educator/Speakers' Bureau Coordinator

"Kate and I have had unprotected sex and shared needles for drugs with each of you in this class"

Daryle Roberts, ARC's Executive Director, had had enough of the office yesterday, and decided to accompany me to a day of presentations to Grade 9 classes. We noticed our first presentation wasn't reaching all the kids. Unlike younger kids, Grade 9's are "cool", and don't like to ask questions. So during lunch he formulated a plan. I was dubious.

But it worked—every face registered shock (some needed reassurance that this wasn't for real). They listened much more attentively during the lecture about transmission of the HIV virus. Then, they all picked scraps of paper on which Daryle had written their "risky behaviour", for example:

- You shared a straw to snort cocaine.
- You performed oral sex on a female (with no barrier).
- You let your us give you a tattoo, using the same equipment on three other classmates.
- You shared a needle with us for steroids at the gym.
- You had unprotected anal intercourse with a female.
- You are in a long term relationship so you stopped using condoms.

We picked on each kid who thought their particular "behaviour" was risky, and had them work their way through the

HIV: TRANSMISSION MODEL

1. **BODY FLUID CAPABLE OF TRANSMITTING HIV:**
Blood, Semen, Vaginal Fluid, Breast Milk
+
2. **AN ENTRY POINT INTO THE BLOOD-STREAM:**
- Receptor cells in penis, vagina, anus
- Needles into blood stream
- Open Cuts or Sores
+
3. **AN ACTIVITY THAT BRINGS THE BODY FLUID AND ENTRY POINT TOGETHER:**

= RISK OF TRANSMISSION

"Transmission Model" for HIV. All three factors have to be present for there to be a risk.

Another interesting school experience was Grade 5 at the Vedanta Academy. These kids wouldn't stop asking questions. We used a more interactive presentation, dealing more with common myths and misconceptions, and with less emphasis on safer sex. However, one overhead mentioned that Masturbation ("sex with yourself") was a safe activity. The littlest kid asked me, "But HOW do you do that?" Now, I'm fairly hard to embarrass, but this was tough.

Other than stumbling over that question, my worries about this being too young an age to learn about HIV/AIDS were put to rest. Kids of all ages learn so much better when they feel free to ask



Kate giving a presentation

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TOPHER TALKS... A Client's (Jaded) Viewpoint

Activism: n. vigorous action to further a cause

Recently I received an e-mail with the following attachment about 25 activists here in Canada that were honoured for their commitment to the HIV/AIDS movement.

Canadian AIDS Activists Awarded the Commemorative Medal for the Golden Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

OTTAWA, ONTARIO - Twenty-five Canadian AIDS activists have been awarded the Commemorative Medal for the Golden Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The Canadian AIDS Society (CAS) sought nominations for the award from its 115 member organizations.

"On behalf of CAS, I would like to congratulate each recipient for their leadership in the field of HIV/AIDS in Canada," said Paul Lapierre, Executive Director of CAS. "These individuals are among the many Canadians that advocate for the rights and needs of people living with HIV/AIDS. The Canadian AIDS movement appreciates their efforts and dedication in the fight against HIV/AIDS."

I have had the pleasure and honour to meet with and on occasion work with 17 of the 25 individuals given this award. These are people who worked long and hard for the AIDS movement; it was a commitment, not "Just a job".

People working within the AIDS movement, or any Not for Profit field, traditionally, gave it everything they had. Because they believed in the movement, they worked long hours, even risked arrest if they believed in their cause strongly enough. These people never watched the clock, nor worried if work interfered with their weekend plans. These were people committed to the movement. These were true activists.

To these people I take my hat off, and Salute them for their time and dedication. I challenge those working in this field to look deep and hard into why they are in the job, they are in. Is it "just a job to pay the bills" or are they truly committed to the field and there to advocate for the rights and needs of people living with HIV/AIDS.

In the past few years the AIDS Movement has floundered and lost the steam of the early years. Part of the problem is a loss of interest in the disease and the belief that AIDS no longer kills you—there are drugs for it and everyone lives a normal life.

Personally, after volunteering on all levels from local, provincial and federal, I am beginning to believe that part of the problem lies within those working in all levels from local, provincial and federal. Also, in all fields from AIDS Service Organi-

zations, to doctors, lawyers, politicians and those infected or affected...

The activists of yesteryear have either died off or have truly gotten tired and burnt out. Hopefully, they have left the field to take care of themselves for a while and not just left out of anger or frustration.

After 20 years of watching friends, loved ones, and even complete strangers die from this disease, to feel that there is very little support from co-workers can be very frustrating.

The work ethic of 21st Century is to demand more pay for less work, not to take responsibility for one's own actions. Hell, if you mess up, all you have to do is cry to the union or your lawyer. File a complaint that it is wrong to expect you to do your job. Or better yet, Harassment is a nice catch term, when in doubt blame someone else.

In 1983 I joined the AIDS movement, I was part of the movement to get the blood supply checked, and started fighting for the rights of persons infected with HIV. I worked 12-hour shifts and would come off shift to spend hours on the phone or at a typewriter sending letters out, fighting for the Cause.

Conferences were paid for out of your own pocket; meetings were held all over the province. The movement then billeted people out in the host community. People car-pooled to the various cities without travel allowances, and meals were provided out of your own pocket.

We never watched the clock, nor complained when we had to do something after hours, or on weekends. Hell, most of us had real jobs to pay bills, and volunteered long hours to the movement, with few rewards.

I had the honour to visit the Canadian AIDS Quilt, on its last full display. This was a massive display full of pomp and circumstance. Each quilt panel was laid out, one by one. Each panel gave a story that ranged from celebration of life, to simply a teddy bear and the dates of an un-named infant that died of the disease, to very painful expressions of anger. No one makes Quilt Panels any more.

These were all reminders of the fact that AIDS KILLS, no one survives an infection with the virus. Just because the death rates have fallen does not mean that the fight is over. Reports now have it that there is a super resistant HIV virus out now that is infecting people. This is immediately limiting the number of drugs affective on the virus. So

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Twenty-five Canadian AIDS activists have been awarded the Commemorative Medal for the Golden Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

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questions, and while they might not be ready for some of the more subtle concepts—and detailed discussion about sexual activities—they are very open to new ideas. AIDS education at a young age gives kids tools they need for a lifetime of self respect, and this leads to self care and prevention, and, I hope, helps them develop empathy for those affected.

Historically, ARC has done few presentations in schools, because of conservative parent advisory councils. This seems to be changing. Since “Family Life” classes were cancelled, kids are getting less or no sex education—only when teachers can find time during Career and Personal Planning class.



Some of these teachers are now calling for us, and there is even a little more comfort with condom demonstrations during the classes. Distributing condoms to the students is still *verboten* (which is ironic, when we often encounter pregnant students, and KSS has a daycare on campus).

In hopeful anticipation of a rush on our services, we are planning to include a workshop on HIV/AIDS education at a teachers’ Professional Development Day later this year, to help them feel more comfortable with the subject.

If you are a concerned parent, please encourage teachers to invite ARC speakers to your children’s school.

Kate Alexander, Editor

This newsletter is the official publication of the AIDS Resource Centre—Okanagan & Region (ARC). It is published four to six times yearly. The materials in this newsletter are meant to be consistent with ARC purposes which are: a) to promote awareness of AIDS and related diseases, b) to develop and provide educational resources, c) to support those living with AIDS and those diagnosed with HIV+, and/or their significant others.

Even so, the opinions and comments within this newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect official ARC policy. The newsletter does not recommend, advocate or endorse the use of any particular treatment or therapy described as information. The Board, staff and volunteers of ARC do not accept the risk of, nor responsibility for any damages, costs or consequences of any kind which may arise or result from the use of information disseminated through this newsletter. Persons using the information provided through this newsletter do so by their own decision and hold the society’s board, staff and volunteers harmless. Submissions for publication may be sent to our offices at any time; publication deadline is two weeks prior to publication date. Submissions will be returned if a request is made in writing and an address is provided. Reprinting and distributing this newsletter is openly encouraged.

Core Training

Core Training is the tool we use to train our volunteers. It is extensive and intensive, interactive, fun, educational, challenging, and it is available to anyone with interest, regardless of their intention to volunteer.

Benefits:

- Confidence in understanding the risks of HIV and knowing how to reduce or eliminate chances of exposure;
- Increased level of comfort in discussing issues around sexuality and substance use;
- Many employers take volunteer activities into consideration when hiring.

Items we will cover:

- knowledge of HIV/AIDS; how it is transmitted;
- how it is *not* transmitted;
- testing, and the window period;
- risk reduction;
- disease progression;
- opportunistic infections;
- current treatments;
- treatments and vaccines under development;
- treatment failure and side effects;
- global and local HIV/AIDS statistics;
- Issues around poverty, ethnicity, age, gender, education, abuse, ability, mar-

ginalization and access to care, i.e. why some people are at greater risk from HIV than others;

- psycho-social and economic impacts upon individuals; families and communities;
- barriers to prevention;
- talking to children and youth.

A highlight is the panel discussion with people infected and affected by HIV/AIDS, who tell their personal stories of living with the disease.

Those who complete Core Training receive an attractive certificate. If you then begin to volunteer actively, you will be reimbursed the \$15.00 course fee. The course is offered free of charge to OUC Students.

Core Training Dates:

Friday April 4 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Saturday April 5 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Sunday April 6 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Location: Okanagan University College KLO Campus.

Pre-registration is mandatory, as space is limited. Contact Kate Alexander at 862-2437.

ARC’s office is located at:
**#202, 1626 Richter Street,
 Kelowna, BC V1Y 2M3**
 Phone: (250) 862-AIDS(2437)
 Toll Free 1-800-616-AIDS(2437)
 Fax: (250) 868-8662
 Website: www.arcok.com



Ellen Churchill & Friends

Invites You to a Gala Evening of Entertainment and a
"Silent Auction"

at the Rotary Centre for the Arts, presented by ARC

**Sat March
15th,
2003
7:00 pm**

Proceeds from
this Event to
**Support the
Youth Peer
Education
Program**
"Acts of Choice"
provided through
AIDS Resource
Centre, Okanagan
& Region



**Tickets
\$15**

**Available at the
door and at:**

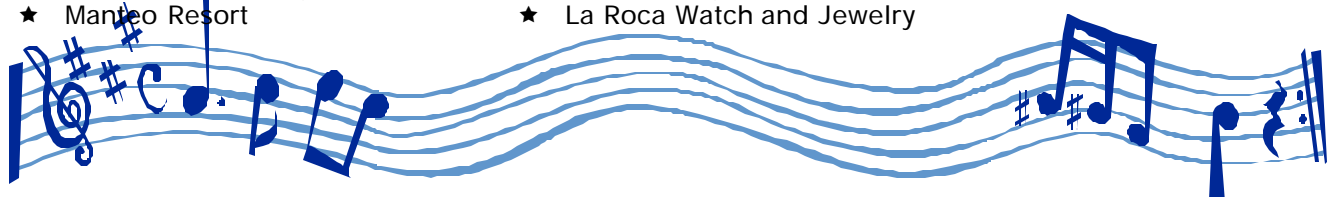
Bernard Callebaut
113 A-2365 Gordon Dr.
(250)862-2752

Funktional
2934 Pandosy St.
(250)763-0477

ARC
#202 1626 Richter St.
(250)862-2437

A warm Thank You to all our Sponsors including;

- ★ A.G. Super Store
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- ★ Road Racks Trampoline Rentals
- ★ Enigma Retail
- ★ Quails Gate Winery
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- ★ Kelowna Hostesses
- ★ St. Hubertus Estate Winery
- ★ Creations by Mom and Me
- ★ La Roca Watch and Jewelry
- ★ Muriel Demchuk
- ★ Art by Trisha Sellmer
- ★ **Many more Sponsors to follow**



NIGHT OF A THOUSAND DINNERS

By Daryle Roberts, Executive Director

The First Annual Night of a Thousand Dinners took place on February 15, 2003. A total of 4 Hosts participated on that evening, with 3 more Hosts participating in their own evenings prior to March 15, 2003. Total raised to date is \$1955.00 with 45 individuals participating. The Evenings proved to be a lot of fun for the Hosts and their guest had a good time.

Ultimately the goal of the project is to have 100 hosted dinner parties, each with 10 participants, which would mean that with 1,000 people making a \$25 donation the funds raised would total \$25,000 for the AIDS Resource Centre to use for a new nutritional

program to assist our clients. Current funding changes by the government have placed a strain not only on not-for-profit agencies but as well on the fixed incomes of most people living with HIV.

The next date for A Night of a Thousand Dinners is scheduled for November 1, 2003. If you are considering signing up as a Host, please call Melissa Hill at 862-2437 or e-mail: mhill@arcok.com. By participating in this you will increase the understanding that persons living with HIV have special nutritional needs, and that changes to their support affects them greatly in respect to their ability to obtain basic food and other required nutritional supplements.



SOME HELPFUL HINTS WHEN MEETING SOMEONE WITH HIV/AIDS

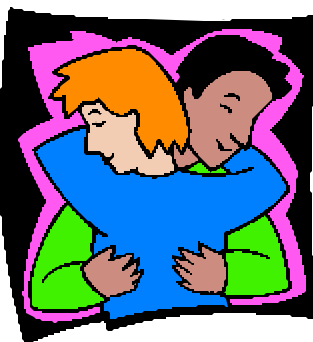
Sometimes the best way to treat ourselves is to let others know how we would like to be treated.

1. Do not run screaming from the room. This is rude.
2. Do not wipe your hand after you have shaken the hand of the person living with HIV/AIDS. This is rude.
3. If you must back away, do so slowly and with discretion. When you are far enough away that no one can hear you, ask yourself why you are so ignorant.
4. Do not assume a man living with HIV/AIDS is gay. Do not assume a person infected while sharing needles was sharing needles for drug use. Do understand the people with HIV/AIDS come from all walks of life. They are young and old, male and female, gay and straight, from every race and religion. They come from every province, large urban centres and small rural communities. They are as diverse as the people who make up our country. Do not assume that HIV discriminates.....only people do!
5. Do not refer to a person living with HIV/

AIDS as a victim or a sufferer. They are people living with HIV/AIDS.

6. Do not be afraid to hug a person living with HIV/AIDS. You can't get HIV this way.
7. Do not assume the person living with HIV/AIDS is in need of a hug.
9. Do not ask the person living with HIV/AIDS how they became infected. Instead ask yourself how you are protecting yourself from becoming infected.

Editor's note: I found this in an old edition of the ARC News—so old in fact it was called "Karing in the Okanagan". It was reprinted from the Sacred Fire Newsletter, who in turn acknowledged the Toronto People with AIDS Foundation. I like the article and hope it brings you a smile, albeit a bitter one.



And thanks to Greg for typing.

***Do not
assume that
HIV
discriminates
.....only
people do!***

Volunteer Profile: Greg Futa



Volunteer since: July 2002

Preferred position: Receptionist

Why this suits him: Enjoys answering the phones, and working with people; appreciates the lack of pressure and deadlines.

Transportation: bicycle through all weather.

Recent challenge: has had 2 bikes stolen in less than a month; is putting another one together from parts.

Favorite activity after work: spending time with friends, playing pool.

Dream: to run a pub/restaurant with entertainment, e.g. bowling, pool, video games.



Volunteer Opportunity: Office Assistant

Duties may include any number of projects involving data entry, filing, mailings, updating databases and other duties associated with a busy office. Computer experience would be useful but we can teach you what you need to know.

For more information please contact Melissa Hill at our office 862 - 2437

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new people are getting sicker faster.

We need to re-light the fires of Activism. We need to kick-start this movement, to bring HIV/AIDS back in the forefront of the community at large. Let those truly committed to the work, and those with passion and drive do the job. Get the dead wood out, and bring in People that are willing to fight for the cause. This is a disease that can be prevented so, **Let's Prevent, What We Cannot Yet Cure! Together We Can Make a Difference.**

I remember - AIDS

I remember,
They say that your life flashes before your eyes when you die.

But when your death is slow, it still is true,
Only you have time to dissect every contact, every relationship, every decision, good, bad or ugly.

I remember.

I remember,

My mother having one lung removed, due to cancer.

One year later, she had cancer in the other lung and refused further treatment.

A single mother of four children.

I remember.

I remember,

Thinking she was the smartest person I had ever met.

She had so much tenacity, intelligence, and such a principled mindset.

She left her mark on the world.

I remember.

I remember,

I felt like a surrogate husband and father,
As I was the only boy and the oldest.

I worried about the bills and dug forty post holes at the age of six for 50 cents an hour,
And gave it to my mother.

I remember.

I remember,

When she refused to fight the cancer because she

Had had such a hard life and was so tired.

I remember.

I remember,

That I face my own mortality and how hard it is to do the right thing all the time
And how tired I am and how hard it is.

But...I remember

My mother's tenacity, intelligence and principle-oriented way of loving.

Thank God I remember.

By Anonymous

Client Support plus

SUPPORT GROUP



Hello. My name is Willow Lloyd. I am a fourth year Practicum Student at ARC, from OUC's Bachelor of Social Work program.

I have already contacted some clients about a possible support group, to see if they are interested in attending one. If I have not reached you already

and you are interested in attending this support group, please don't hesitate to call me at ARC. I will be free to answer any of your questions. It looks as if the group will be underway either the beginning or middle of March. So I will keep you posted.

Thanks so much!

Fix-ing the Okanagan

By Brian Mairs,
OAAS Program Coordinator

In Vancouver the film ran for over a month. At the Toronto and Vancouver International Film Festivals, there was standing room only. Cabinet ministers, senior staff and policy advisors in Ottawa and Victoria have screened it. The ex-Mayor of Vancouver lost his job because of his position on drug policies stated in the film; the new mayor was elected in part because of the furor created by the release of the film, and Health Canada's national policy has been changed partially due to the influence of the show.

Now people in the Okanagan have a chance to see what the fuss is all about. The award-winning documentary **FIX: The Story of An Addicted City** will be touring the Okanagan Valley at the end of April. What makes this show unique is the community forum that follows each screening. The forums will feature informed local health professionals and outreach workers who can answer questions about the drug crisis which so deeply affects not only Vancouver but host communities in the Okanagan. Audiences also have a chance to ask questions of people who were directly involved in the movie. Director Nettie Wild will moderate the forums and the former Mayor of Vancouver; Philip Owen, will be a special guest in Kelowna, Penticton, and Vernon. Philip Owen is one of the central figures in the documentary.

FIX: The Story of An Addicted City (92 minutes) follows five characters at the centre of the drug debate. At its heart is the curious alliance between a drug addict, the activist he loves, and Philip Owen, then conservative mayor of Vancouver. Together they champion the daring new philosophy called harm reduction. The Mayor



Dean Wilson in a scene from *FIX*

plans to break away from the traditional war on drugs by seriously considering the opening of safe-injection sites, and implementing heroin maintenance programs.

The story of *FIX* spans two years, during which time our characters' lives interconnect to reveal a battle for the hearts, minds and streets of a city each one calls home.

For more information on this film and community forum tour, please contact Brian Mairs at 250.862.2437 or via email at fix@oaas.ca

- FIX: Dates and Places**
- **Salmon Arm** - Salmar Classic Theatre (April 25 and 26)
 - **Oliver** - Oliver Theatre (April 29)
 - **Vernon** - Vernon Towne Theatre (April 30)
 - **Penticton** - PenMar Theatre (May 1)
 - **Kelowna** - Paramount Theatre (May 2 and 3)

Save a Starfish

By Brian Mairs

OAAS Program Coordinator

There were two men walking along a beach one afternoon. One man stopped every so often and picked up a starfish he had found in the sand, and threw it into the ocean. His friend asked:

“What are you doing?”

“Saving Starfish”, was the reply

“There are thousands, possibly millions of starfish on the planet”, said his friend, “what possible difference could it make if you throw a starfish back into the ocean?”

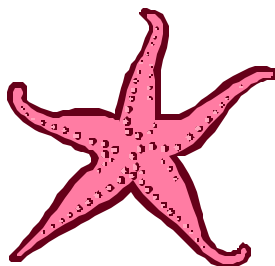
At that the first man picked up another starfish and threw it into the surf, and said:

“It matters to that one”

I often get asked why I volunteer to speak to groups about HIV and harm reduction. I often tell the story above to illustrate that my time, gas, energy, and reams of paper used in the process is all worthwhile if I know that one person was able to learn one new thing in the process, as that one thing may make the difference whether or not he person will one day protect themselves from contracting HIV. In my way I am saving

my own starfish, because it matters to that one person.

By repeating the message of abstinence from sex or drugs; or harm reduction through using condoms or sterile needles to family and friends, you too can save your own starfish.



(250) 862-2481

www.oaas.ca

I Hate Funerals

By Brian Mairs

OAAS Program Coordinator

We have been saying that the reported new infections of HIV in the Aboriginal communities are rising at an astounding rate when compared to non-Aboriginal communities. We have provided enough numbers to confuse an accountant or statistician to show that as Aboriginal people we are at a significant risk. We have held a conference and attended conferences where we presented facts and figures to Aboriginal leaders, front-line workers, and anybody else with an interest in hear what we have to say. We provide presentations both on and off reserve for free to all age groups in an attempt to educate the Aboriginal population about harm reduction to stem the HIV tide that is decimating our communities, just as smallpox did a century ago.



Even after all of this, we still attended the burials of three people last year in the Okanagan Valley, and another person will not see spring this year. This is four people too many who

have died needlessly. Such preventable deaths in our communities should shame us all into action to prevent the next person from taking chances with his or her life, and significantly affecting the lives of those around them.

Although I realize I am preaching to the converted, what are YOU doing to prevent the spread of HIV in YOUR community? Have you invited us to speak to your school children, your church group, or neighbourhood association? Do you belong to a community leaders' groups such as the Rotary, Lions or Elks, who may benefit from getting some information? Have you spoken to your children, your parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews about abstinence, safer sex,

needle exchanges and getting tested? Have you asked your local Friendship Centre to put on a workshop on HIV? If not, what will it take? Personally, I don't like funerals and don't want to attend yet another preventable burial.

To book a presentation, please call me at 862-2841

HIPPO update

PROFILE: LISA MORTELL

By Mark Perry

HIPPO Education Coordinator

Lisa has been an invaluable volunteer for ARC. She is a member of the Speakers' Bureau and provides Hep C 101 presentations to various agencies and schools, and has been instrumental in keeping our Hep C presentation up to date.

For the last three years ARC has been implementing the

in which Lisa has been a key advisory committee member. Lisa's input and contributions to the HIPPO project have been greatly appreciated. Beyond the responsibilities of the advisory committee, she has provided ARC with up to date health and hepatitis resources, and created the contents of a support group brochure that is now used throughout the Okanagan.

Lisa is the president of HEPKOP (HEPatitis Kelowna Outreach Program), a local support group organization for people infected or affected by Hep C. The group meets once a month, and offers people a safe and non-judgmental platform to share experiences, be listened to, socialize, and share information for living successfully with Hepatitis C. As well as a supportive environment, HEPKOP brings in speakers who present on various health maintenance and health improvement strategies. Currently in Canada there are very few support services for people with Hep C, which makes HEPKOP such an important organization. I would encourage anyone living with Hep C in the Kelowna area to attend a meeting. HEPKOP is a valuable resource for support, information, and an opportunity to share life experiences.



HEPATITIS SUPPORT Groups

VERNON:

HepLife. Call Sharon at 545-3092.

KELOWNA:

HEPKOP. Call Lisa or Elaine at 766-5132 or 768-3573.

PENTICTON:

Hepatitis Support Group. Call Alex or Sandra at 487-1589.



Lisa Mortell with her daughter Brett

HIPPO project (Hepatitis Information Project Program of the Okanagan),

Volunteering at ARC is only one of Lisa's contributions to our communities' health.

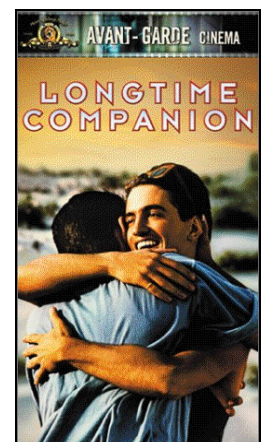
Film review: Longtime Companion

The late director Norman Rene and writer Craig Lucas made a pretty fine creative team on the stage and in the movies, and this 1990 drama about the evolving impact of AIDS on gay New Yorkers is their best cinematic achievement. The ensemble story follows the lives of nine or so characters as word of the so-called "gay cancer" eventually becomes a real force, killing several of them as the years go by. The film works well on a

number of levels, not least of which is the enviable closeness of the characters, the script's wit, the bittersweet experience of loss, and a celebratory attitude at the end mixing wisdom with defiance.

By Tom Keogh

Thanks to Amazon .com for this review. **Longtime Companion** is available for you to borrow from ARC's library.



NOTICE BOARD

FIX: the Story of an Addicted City

Each showing will be followed by a forum. See page 7 for details.

- **Salmon Arm** -
Salmar Classic Theatre
(April 25 and 26)
- **Oliver** -
Oliver Theatre (April 29)
- **Vernon** -
Vernon Towne Theatre
(April 30)
- **Penticton** -
PenMar Theatre (May 1)
- **Kelowna** -
Paramount Theatre (May 2
and 3)

For exact times and theatre locations, please telephone ARC closer to the dates.

ARC Hours

Our client service hours are
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Ellen Churchill & Friends, Silent Auction

Saturday March 15 at the Rotary Centre.

See Page 4 for details.

Free Coffee

Starbucks provides FREE coffee for ARC clients. Please ask at the reception desk for your coffee the next time you come in to the ARC office.



Reiki & Healing Touch

Enjoy the relaxing and balancing benefits of a quiet hour with Toshie. Call 862-2437 to book your free Tuesday session.

Client Support Hours

Kelowna

Terri Ross has drop-in hours at ARC on Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to noon. At other times, an appointment is necessary. Chris Jenner takes care of out-of town clients.

Vernon

Every second Friday, including March 14, 28, April 11, 25, May 9.

Princeton

Please call for an appointment, which will be on the second Tuesday of the month.

Penticton

Every second Tuesday:
March 3, 17, 31, April 14,
28, May 13.

Outside Kelowna, call
1-800-616-2437 to book an appointment. In Kelowna, call 862-2437.

Speakers' bureau



Would you like a speaker to come to your group or organization? We have over 20 trained volunteer presenters, who can appeal to audiences from kids to seniors, church groups to sex-trade workers. We can do anything from one-hour "speaks" to two-day workshops on HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis C. Some of our speakers are living with HIV or HCV, and will enrich the presentations with descriptions of their personal experiences. All presentations are interactive, and we strongly believe that there's no such thing as a stupid question. To book a speak, call Kate Alexander at 862-2437, educator@arcok.com

Volunteer Opportunity: Newsletter editor

Hone your writing skills learn more about HIV/AIDS ... learn the finer points of Microsoft Publisher learn to edit other people's contributions.....

If you have experience as a writer/editor, and have at least basic skills in Publisher or Quark Express, we could really use your help. ARC News is published six times a year. The level of commitment is about 30 hours' work per edition.

For more information and to set up an interview please contact Kate Alexander: 862-2437.