



Vancouver: Multi-Union Pride - and our new *Out There for Medicare* banner!

members on the town, at events and in the community

## OUT & about

"It was a wonderful day for a jump. It was a lot of fun hanging out with HEU friends and the many other groups that were there... I was second to jump and it was scary, not being in control. Strapped to my instructor, we pushed off and down we went. It went by so fast, but it was one of the most exciting things I have ever done." (Ewen McCormick)



NDP MLA Mable Elmore



Prince George Pride

### Do ask. Do tell.

After enjoying a few flicks at the Vancouver Queer Film Festival, I came to realize how much I want to have more information about LGBT issues outside of my personal scope. I thought that I was reasonably well-informed about many of our community issues in general, but I have a lot to learn.



STUART MCCREEDY  
Editor

If you asked me about specific concerns that the South Asian Queer community has regarding cultural obstacles, I would draw a blank. If you asked me what the biggest concerns that "trans" members in our community have, I might have a better chance of identifying some of them, but I would definitely fall short in my answers. If you asked me about the history of Two-Spirited First Nations people, my response would be lacking.

As a wide and diverse community, we need to recognize and respect each other's unique views, opinions and situations, but also need to realize that we're all part of the same community.

We need to ask the questions of each other in order to educate ourselves. Societal stereotyping and isolation are things that we fight against, yet we often practice it against each other.

We've been brought up to look at "different" as "bad".

I think difference is the thread that stitches our rainbow together. Revel in it and thrive!

I hope to see you at Equity Night during HEU convention in October.

In solidarity,

Stuart

Pridepages

### SUPPORT Vancouver's 2010 AIDS Walk

Please join us and/or sponsor the HEU Team for this year's AIDS WALK for LIFE on Sunday, September 19. Our goal is to raise \$1,000 and we're about 70 per cent of the way there. Please help us meet and exceed our goal.

Donations can be made online through the link on the HEU website's home page (left sidebar under Hot Picks).

Here are the details:

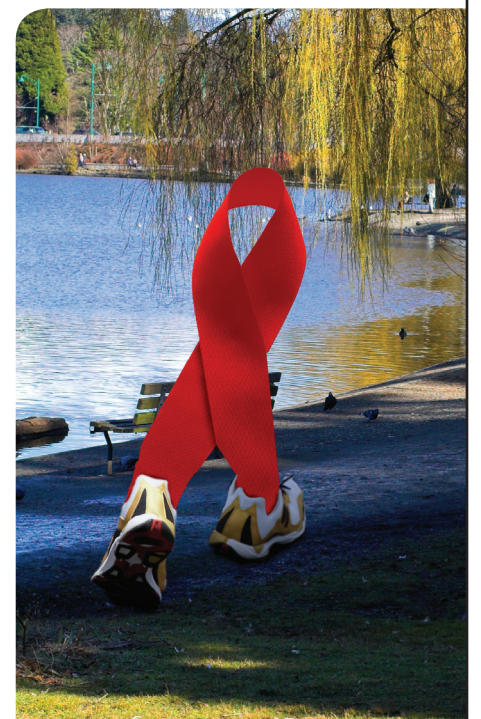
**Sunday, September 19, 2010: AIDS WALK for LIFE** (Sunset Beach, Vancouver). Registration and community pancake breakfast at 10:00 a.m.; the 10 km walk begins at 11:30 a.m.

Join or sponsor the **HEU Pink Triangle Committee Team**. Proceeds go to the British Columbia Persons with AIDS Society.

To get involved or pledge a donation, contact HEU team captain Victor Elkins: <velkins@heu.org> or 604-763-5781.

We'd love to see you there.

The Pink Triangle Standing Committee would like to thank everyone for supporting **The Sky is the Limit**, our skydiving fundraiser and BBQ, held June 19 in Abbotsford. Monies raised will contribute to the HEU Team's AIDS Walk pledges.





## Committee Report:

### Pride celebrations and gearing up for AIDS Walk



KAREN MCVEIGH  
committee co-chair

I hope everyone had a good 2010 Pride. This year, a few of us walked with Multi-Union Pride, and I would like to thank them on behalf of HEU's Pink Triangle Standing Committee (PTSC). This was also an opportunity for us to display our new *Out There for Medicare* banner.

In August, HEU in conjunction with the PTSC sponsored a film – for the first time – at the Vancouver Queer Film Festival. It was a movie from Nepal called *Other Nature*. We also placed an ad in the festival program.

With our sponsorship, HEU's *Out There for Medicare* ad was onscreen every night at 9:30 p.m. I am proud that HEU did this. It lets our community know that we are here.

In continuing our community outreach, the committee also placed an ad in the Gay and Lesbian Business Association of B.C. business directory under "Health Organizations", featuring our *Out There for Medicare* logo.

The PTSC is organizing an HEU Team for Vancouver's popular AIDS WALK for LIFE on September 19. We are still looking for people to walk or pledge donations to the team. For more information, check out the HEU website home page for links and logistical details.

We had a good time at Prince George Pride. Seeing Elton John perform there was great. Prince George Pride has grown over the years, but it's still sad that there are more participants in the parade than spectators to support us. It was an honour for me to be part of this parade. Special thanks to HEU director Kathy Jes-some for her hospitality.

We look forward to seeing you at the HEU Convention (October 24-29) in Vancouver, and especially at Equity Night.

In solidarity,  
Karen



Screen ad that was shown at this year's Vancouver Queer Film Festival. Also depicted is HEU's *Out There for Medicare* logo which was prominently featured in many of our recent advertising materials.

## HEU sponsors Vancouver Queer Film

The Pink Triangle Standing Committee was proud to sponsor the **22nd Annual Vancouver Queer Film Festival** this year. The number of films and wide variety of topics were simply amazing. Several committee members had the chance to attend some film screenings, but we wish we could have had time to see more. I would recommend seeing any of the films that were presented, but here are a couple of my favourites.

Our HEU-sponsored film was *Other Nature* from Nepal. It had a major focus on trans-individuals and issues in Nepal, and discussed the definition of a "third gender" among other topics. Activists' interviews with government officials and community groups made up an informative part of the film. Enshrined in Nepal's constitution is recognition of a third gender, but laws have never been enacted to reflect this progressive viewpoint. It was an insightful look at a society that most of us have never seen or experienced.

*Mr. Right* is a film from England. It was very entertaining. Who can't relate to the search for Mr. Right (or your personal equivalent) and the trials and tribulations involved, whether it be interactions with exes, awkward social situations, or dinner gatherings gone bad? Lots of laughs, a few poignant moments and a really good film overall.

I'm looking forward to the festival next year!  
Stuart McCready



The 'gang' at this year's Vancouver Queer Film Festival.

## Rainbow Refugee Committee

The Rainbow Refugee Committee (RCC) is a community group that's been supporting and advocating for queer/LGBT refugees since 2000.

RCC is establishing itself as a registered non-profit society. If you are interested in joining as a member, volunteering your skills, or donating, please email them at <info@rainbowrefugee.ca> or call 604-877-7768.

## LGBT ISSUES AND INFORMATION LINE

**WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!** *Did you know that we have...?*

- a confidential HEU LGBT Issues and Information telephone line:  
**604-456-7192, ext. 3**, or toll-free  
**1-800-663-5813 ext. 7192**
- a quarterly newsletter, *Pride Pages*
- a Pink Triangle Standing Committee that meets three to four times a year to work on all types of things for you
- community events and campaigns that all are invited to attend or become involved in
- an equity conference every two years with registration open to all LGBT members

Email us at [glesbian@heu.org](mailto:glesbian@heu.org), phone us at **604-456-7192, ext. 3** or call toll-free at **1-800-663-5813 ext. 7192**.

**ALL CALLS ARE CONFIDENTIAL**