



Vancouver Pride Parade



members on the town, at events and in the community



Uniting Diverse Communities to End Violence Against Women dinner

OUT & about



Salt Spring Pride Parade

Editorial: Where does your dollar go?



STUART MCCREEDY
Editor

Shopping.

Love it or hate it, we all have to do it. We all want to stretch our money as far as we can, but at what social cost? Where you choose to spend your hard-earned money can have more impact than you think. You may not always have a lot of options open as to where to shop, depending on where you live, but when you do, consider this.

When you support a business that is anti-gay, you are actively advocating their stance and promoting homophobia.

When you frequent a business that partakes in union-busting, you are sending them the message that you think this is okay.

When you shop at a retailer that only pays minimum wage with little chance of meaningful advancement for their workers, you are going against the Living Wage Campaign and perpetuating the cycle that keeps so many workers and their families living below the poverty line.

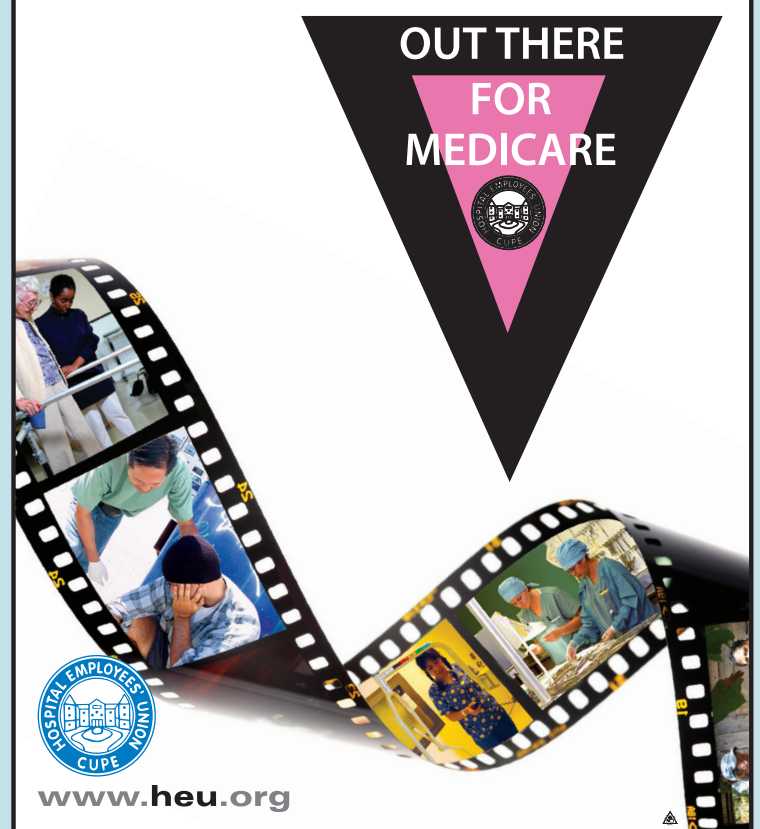
Both the B.C. Federation of Labour and CUPE maintain information about on-going labour disputes and "hot" edicts on their websites. Links to these websites are available on the HEU website at <www.heu.org>. Please take a look and familiarize yourself with current labour situations and company practices.

Talk to your family, friends and co-workers to find out where they do or don't shop, and ask them the reasons why.

Getting a good deal does not always have negative societal impact, but if I know that my money is supporting those who actively oppose me and what I believe in, I say deal me out.

The Hospital Employees' Union is PROUD to support the 22nd Annual Vancouver Queer Film Festival

August 12-22, 2010



Don't miss
Vancouver Pride Day -
August 1

educate • liberate • celebrate



Out and proud NDP MLA Mable Elmore talks to HEU

In an exclusive interview with *Pride Pages*, openly gay politician Mable Elmore – from the Vancouver-Kensington riding – discusses being a role model and her view on international LGBT issues

What made you decide to run as an MLA?

I was asked to run as a candidate and was successful. I have always been interested and involved in community and social justice issues since high school.

Do you think being a union activist helped or hurt you in your election campaign?

It was a big help. I was very involved with CAW Local 111 as a bus driver and also with the Vancouver District Labour Council. I was executive co-chair of the Women's Committee. I had the opportunity to learn a lot of new skills through the B.C. Federation of Labour Political Action Committee, and gained much practical experience on the municipal, provincial and federal levels.



MLA Mable Elmore

Do you feel additional pressure as an out-lesbian MLA to be a role model?

I don't think pressure is the right word. As an elected official, I feel I have a responsibility to uphold certain standards. One of my priorities is to advocate for LGBT issues and I speak out about LGBT issues in the Legislature. I am fully out and stated that in my initial speech in the Legislature. I want to move forward and be proactively involved in eradicating homophobia and transphobia wherever it exists.

Considering that Canada is a comparatively safe place in the world for LGBT persons, what do you think about the situation in Uganda regarding Bill 6A (legislation that broadens the criminalization for homosexual activity by introducing the death penalty and increasing incarceration time for gays or those who support LGBT rights)?

Canada is one of the leading countries in the world for legal victories regarding LGBT issues, but there is still work to be done about societal acceptance. All of us, as lesbian, gay, bi or trans persons, deserve to live free of all discrimination. The backwards, draconian, discriminatory laws being proposed in Uganda hurt us all.

In my capacity as an MLA, I have exerted pressure and urged all levels of government to condemn these actions and demanded a repeal of this bill. On a positive note, there is a growing strength in the international community movement for LGBT rights in response to such disgusting laws.

Co-chair Report: Don't miss this year's skydiving AIDS fundraiser



KAREN MCVEIGH
committee co-chair

The Pink Triangle Standing Committee has been working hard this year, and we've accomplished a lot.

We are one of the proud sponsors of this year's Vancouver Queer Film Festival. Our "Out There for Medicare" campaign logo will appear in the program guide book, and we are sponsoring the film *Other Nature*. The committee is excited about this as it gives us wider exposure in the community. As part of this sponsorship

initiative, we are also supporting the Generations Project and the newly formed Greater Vancouver Community Trans Forum Group.

Members of our committee look forward to participating in this summer's Prince George Pride festivities, and are pleased and honoured that HEU's financial secretary Donisa Bernardo will likely be coming with us to walk. Thanks to HEU servicing director Kathy Jessome for her offer to host us as well. We have also given support to Pride events in Campbell River, Salt Spring Island and to multi-union pride in Vancouver.

We have just finished revising our LGBT information booklet for all HEU members, and it will be available at convention.

In preparation for convention, we have also been busy compiling and writing resolutions, and are planning our social night.

I am now co-chair of the National CUPE Pink Triangle Committee and am looking forward to working with them on international LGBT issues, including what is happening in Uganda and aid for LGBT groups in Haiti.

Our committee is also holding a skydiving and BBQ fundraiser on June 19 to raise money for Vancouver's AIDS Walk (September 19). Hopefully, you have seen our advertising for the skydiving event (June 19). Please join us for this event as well as the AIDS Walk! We look forward to seeing you there.

And be sure to keep your eyes open for our newly designed AIDS ribbon pin, which will be available soon.

Please check HEU's website – www.heu.org – for more details.

In solidarity, Karen



Poster advertising our fundraiser. Come out and join us! Email velkins@heu.org or visit www.heu.org for further details.

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, phone us at **604-456-7192, ext. 3** or call toll-free at **1-800-663-5813 ext. 7192**.

ALL CALLS ARE CONFIDENTIAL