

# **NSRAP Elderberries - May events**

## **1. How to write poetry**

What inspires you to write poetry? Nature? Love? Injustice? But somehow your poems aren't as well expressed or as satisfying as you wish they were. Nora Kerr is a retired educator, and an internationally published poet who is now a member of a local poetry group that meets weekly. She will present a workshop on Sunday May 15 at the NSRAP Elderberries Potluck Social, Spencer House Senior Centre, 5596 Morris St, Halifax, 2:00 - 5:00 pm. If you like, you may bring one or two samples of your poetry for possible discussion; or even better, write something on the spot.

For the potluck, please bring something you would enjoy eating. Finger food, sandwiches, sweets and snacks preferred, but facilities for hot food are available. Coffee and tea will be provided.

Alcohol-free, scent-free, and pet-free, please. Free admission, but pass-the-hat for Spencer House. Limited parking at the back; accessible doorway at the side.

## **2. Farewell**

NSRAP Executive Director Hugo Dann has tendered his resignation as of May 20. The Elderberries will especially miss Hugo, who has helped us behind the scenes from the start, and has generously been on call at short notice whenever needed. He has also been active in developing the workshops on LGBTs in long-term care, pilots of which were presented at Northwood earlier this spring.

Lisa Buchanan has resigned from the NSRAP Board in order to become Interim Executive Director until the post can be filled probably early in the fall. She and Hugo are working together to ensure a smooth transition.

## **3. Hello sailor! gay life on the ocean wave**

Last fall Elderberries with seafaring experience were asked for memories to add Canadian content to this British-born exhibit. Here it is! The National Museum of the Atlantic will present the Hello Sailor! exhibit from May 19 to November 27. A lecture on "Hello Sailor! behind the scenes" is scheduled for Tuesday May 17, and the pre-exhibition opening and reception (cash bar and light refreshments) is Wednesday May 18.

<http://museum.gov.ns.ca/mmanew/en/home/whattoseedo/hellosailor.aspx>

## **4. "I met my thri-ill, on Citadel Hill...."**

Was the Hill pointed out to your innocent young eyes as a hotbed of illicit vice? Did you meet your sweetie there thirty years ago? Or did you meet a queer-basher, or maybe a vigilant cop? Independent researchers Kat Leaman and Chris Campbell are looking for any LGBT-related stories about Citadel Hill to record as oral history interviews. They will attend the May 15 Potluck Social, planning to make appointments with anyone who has stories to tell.

## **5. Mental Health Strategy Advisory Committee : LGBT Community Focus Group Consultation May 30**

Elderberries will be represented at this event by a member of the Program Committee

who is also representing another organization : however, we are looking for an additional representative. If you are interested, please respond to me and I will send you more info. (Just want to make sure we are not expecting to send a dozen!) If you are not able to attend, you may still provide feedback through the Nova Scotia Health Research Foundation website and a consultation questionnaire.

<http://www.nshrf.ca/initiatives/initiatives/mental-health-and-addictions-strategy-project/consultation-process/online-co>

[http://www.nshrf.ca/sites/default/files/consultation\\_questionnaire\\_03.25.11.pdf](http://www.nshrf.ca/sites/default/files/consultation_questionnaire_03.25.11.pdf)

6. Program Committee : Change in Membership

Heather Burke has returned to the Committee, and following the resignation of JJ Lyon, Norval Collins has agreed to serve as interim replacement for Hal Walsh.

7. All typos are the fault of unemployed wedding planners who failed to persuade Catherine to go for Prince Harry instead, who is cuter although has not such excellent job prospects. Come on guys, *much* cuter, right?

If you have received this e-mail, you are one of more than a hundred registered NSRAP Elderberries (who knew?). If you wish to unsubscribe, or to resign from Elderberries, please e-mail [malm1@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:malm1@ns.sympatico.ca)

If you want to encourage other 50+ LGBTs to join, please give them the above e-mail, or bring them along to a meeting (don't forget to bring a double batch of cookies!). See you soon!