

Elderberries - Annual Report, 2011

Nova Scotia Rainbow Action Project hosted a Gathering of LGBT Elders at the Company House, Gottingen Street, on April 18, 2010.

>From that gathering grew a two-part action plan :
to provide additional social outlets for LGBT elders living in the
community
to build awareness of the needs of LGBT elders living in long-term care,
both current residents and the expected influx of aging LGBT baby
boomers

A social group, now called NSRAP Elderberries, has held monthly potluck and program socials since August, 2010. Some events were round table discussions, e.g. "Coming out," "Being single." Some featured guest speakers, e.g. Tuma Young on Wills and Estate Planning; Jane Kansas on her walk across the western United States. Others called on participants' talents as photographers, musicians, and poets.

Elderberries also assisted the Executive Director in presenting workshops at Northwood during development of the draft training module for staff of long-term care facilities.

Four members of the Elderberries organizing committee attended the LGBT Community Development Conference.

More than one hundred Elderberries members now keep in touch via a monthly e-mail newsletter. A Facebook page is in preparation.