

1. Elderberries : All Elderberries are invited to join the many events surrounding the International Day against Homophobia and Transphobia, May 16 and 17. There will be no Potluck Social this month.

2. International Day against Homophobia and Transphobia

Rally in the Grand Parade : Thursday May 16, 6:00 pm. Theme : Our Bodies, Our Health, Our Rights. Speakers, human chain. Sign language interpretation will be available. For more information, <http://nsrap.ca/community/May> 17 Please note that, although most other IDAHoT events take place May 17, the Rally will be on May 16.

Dating Game : a dialogue on homophobia. Presented by Gerard Cormier. Friday May 17, the Penthouse at Northwood, 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm.

Mr Cormier is Executive Staff Officer with the Nova Scotia Teachers Union, specializing in outreach programs and equity services. A special invitation to Elderberries has been extended from the Diversity Committee of Northwood.

2615 Northwood Terrace. Wheelchair accessible. Bring your lunch (or we could gether afterward at the coffee shop downstairs).

Note : this has elsewhere been promoted as a staff event, but the Diversity Committee has arranged for Elderberries to be included.

Health Impacts of Homophobia and Transphobia. Presented by prideHealth and AIDS Coalition. Friday May 17, O. E. Smith Auditorium, IWK Health Centre, 5850 University Avenue, 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm. Panelists : Jacqueline Gahagan,

Dalhousie School of Health and Human Performance; Ellen Taylor, Atlantic Centre of Excellence for Women's Health; Sheena Jamieson, Youth Project; Chris Aucoin, AIDS Coalition. For more information, see

<http://www.cdha.nshealth.ca/pridehealth/events-0>

3. OUTBid! Presented by Halifax Pride. Thursday May 23, Harbourfront Lounge, Casino Nova Scotia, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Live auction hosted by Eureka Love, in support of Halifax Pride and the Halifax Pride Festival. Tickets \$10.00 from 431-1194.

4. Good news department : Happy birthday this month for two well-known members of our community - Patricia Martinson and Robin Metcalfe!

5. Bad news department : Danny Chandler has asked me to let the Elderberries know that Bob Stead has cancer of the bladder which has spread outside. He will begin treatment this week. He is in a lot of pain. Danny says, "It may be a rough road ahead but we will get through it."

6. NSRAP : NSRAP reminds us that the AGM is coming up on June 15. Nova Scotia Rainbow Action Project is the voice of LGBTQ activism in Nova Scotia. You can join NSRAP, or renew your membership, in time to vote at the AGM, at

<http://nsrap.ca/join>

7. Elderberries performance : Laura MacWilliam, a social work student on placement at Northwood, is looking for Elderberries to put together a performance event, half hour to one hour, on issues LGBT seniors encounter, or on memories of coming out, earlier days in the community, etc. This would be performed on a weekday afternoon during Pride Week for residents and staff at Northwood. If you would like to sing, write a skit, read poetry, direct, produce, or otherwise be part of the event, first meeting is Wednesday May 22, the coffee shop in the Public Gardens, 10:00 AM. If interested but unable to attend this meeting, contact malm1@ns.sympatico.ca

8. Elderberries camping : "a wonderful big screened-in 'gayzebo' for cooking and sharing a meal together away from the bugs or rain...and a nice pool and deck for relaxing and enjoying during an outing to the beautiful countryside and the one and only queer campground in the region..." Sounds like your kind of place? It's the Mermaid and the Cow Campground, in Pictou County, <http://www.themermaidandthecow.ca>

Owner Jane Morrigen has extended an invitation for the Elderberries group to come for a picnic during the summer. Interested in coordinating a picnic visit? Please email malm1@ns.sympatico.ca

9. More info on May events :

<http://gay.hfxns.org/LocalEvents>

<http://www.menzbar.ca/calendar-events.html>

<http://www.thecompanyhouse.ca/html/calendar.html>

10. Editorial : If you have received this newsletter, you are a member in good standing of Elderberries. It is *possible* to renounce your membership and get rid of this newsletter, but then you would never hear of many of the activities that take place outside the bar scene. Due to editorial omniscience, this newsletter never contains those distressing errors of fact, spelling, and grammar so familiar to whom are readers of the Chronicle-Herald, or even <shudder> the Metro.