

Speakers' Team Annual Report : 2016

The Speakers' Team creates a reservoir of public speakers on topics related to LGBT elders, provides outreach to hundreds of youth via schools events, and brings in money due to free-will offerings.

1. Membership :

Members taking part in speaking engagements January to June 2016:

Allison Brewer, Anita Martinez, Barend Kamperman, Bruce Walker, Eric Smith, Evelyn White, Jenn Nearing, Lynn Murphy, Mike Sangster, Nora Kerr, Norman Moulton, Norval Collins

2. Outreach to students: total est. attendance 840

- Charles P Allen High School April 8: est. attendance 80
- Citadel High School May 4: est. attendance 700
- GSA Conference (at Dal) May 21: est. attendance 20
- Halifax West Junior GSAs May 27: est. attendance 40

3. Income:

The Team does not charge, but accepted gifts:

Charles P Allen - \$100 (re 2015)

Citadel High - \$100 GSA Conference - \$75

Total contributions to Elderberries: **\$275**

4. Issues and actions:

a. Citadel's unprecedented choice of assembly presentation worked acceptably, although there was less student participation. Action: Team to accept assembly option if proposed by schools.

b. A Citadel student walked out due to hurt feelings re presentation language/content. Allison drafted a statement that in speaking truthfully about the past, hurtful language might occur, but with no intent to offend. Allison (as team leader) and Lynn (for Elderberries) wrote letters to Citadel High GSA: no response. Action: Team to use "beware" statement in introducing future sessions.

c. Participant commented we should have a Trans speaker. Action: Team Leader to approach more Trans members re joining Team.

d. Team Leader: Allison, assistant Lynn. Future teams to include a Board representative.

e. Issues re team organization: committee? recruiting? training? contacts with GSA? Action: Allison to call another Team meeting by end of August to work out recommendations.