

Elderberries Newsletter

April 2019 Contents

1. A Note From Your Chair
2. This Month's Second Sunday Salon
3. Annual General Meeting
4. Last Month's Salon
5. Wanted Military "Purge" survivors
6. Our Allergy policy
7. LGBT Events this April
8. In Memory of Ed Savage
9. Members Notices
10. About the Elderberries
11. Recounting Church Abuse



1 - From Your Chair

Hello cherished Elderberry!

Last month's event was Halifax Pride buying us lunch in trade for some feedback and opinions. This month, Pride Health is doing much the same.

Variety has always been at the core of our programming, and your Board normally works hard to mix up the different kinds of events. I would have preferred to have spaced out these events a bit, but in this case it wasn't possible.

I hope that you're enjoying the extra catering, and on behalf of our temporary hosts, thank you for participating.

The April event is about talking about health concerns, but we do not expect people to share openly, so to balance confidentiality and openness, we'll be sending out an anonymous questionnaire in advance.



2 - This Month's Event

Where: The Penthouse, 2615 Northwood Terrace, Halifax (directions below.)

When: Sunday, April 14th 2 - 4 pm

Topic: LGBT Elders Health Q, A & D! Questions, Answers, and Discussion! We each have a unique definition of health, influenced by our history, values, and more. We'll be gathering information, and talking about, what would be most helpful to improve the health of LGBT Elders in Halifax. To ensure confidentiality and openness, we'll be sending out an anonymous questionnaire in advance.

Food & Drink: Pride Health will be providing the food, Elderberries will be bringing a variety of beverages.

Directions: Enter Northwood via the door at North Street &



Northwood Terrace. Take any of the three elevators on your left to “P” the Penthouse. We have that whole space for the afternoon.

3 - Annual General Meeting

The 2019 Annual General Meeting was held just before the March Salon and was very well attended. The various annual reports were presented and approved by the membership, and three new members of the board were elected as a slate (in the panel to the right, here.)

The Annual Report is available by request.

Your new Board will meet in the near future to figure out who will be doing what roles.

2019-2020 Elderberries Board

- Allison Brewer
- Richard Crooks
- Pauline Fedrick
- Ann Gorman
- Barend Kamperman
- Daniel MacKay
- Scott MacNeil
- Anita Martinez
- Lynn Marie Murphy
- Mike Sangster
- Paula Wedge

4 - Last Month's Salon

In March, thirty participants from the Elderberries, OWLs and others, gathered to interact with Halifax Pride. Pride wanted us to share what works well in terms of interests and accessibility, and what could be improved.

The food theme was “Afternoon Tea” and Pride’s provided most of the food -- most of which was made by the Pride chair, Adam Reid himself! There was an abundance of victuals, including, by request, cucumber sandwiches with the crusts cut off! We even had Halifax’s Town Crier, Will Brewer there making proper proclamations for the occasion. Thank you, Halifax Pride!

Dalhousie professor and LGBT researcher Jacqui Gahagan also made a short presentation about the launch of two projects: an LGBT Archives to be housed at Dalhousie University, and a study of queer senior housing needs.



5 - Wanted: Military “Purge” Survivors

From: Maya Eichler, maya.eichler@msvu.ca

I’m trying to find members of the NS LGBTQ community who were affected by “The Purge” while serving in the military. I would like to include these perspectives in an upcoming book called Community Stories of War and Peace. The book tells a more complex and complete story of veteran experiences in Nova Scotia.



6 - Allergy Policy

If you have allergies -- to dogs, cats, cellphone signals, peanuts, tree nuts, pineapple, shellfish, pork products, deodorant, shampoo, perfume, fluorescent lights, mustard, anything -- and are planning to attend an Elderberries event, please tell us and we will notify our members a few days before the meeting.

We cannot guarantee compliance (or an allergen-free trip through Northwood to our space) but generally, our members will read and heed.

Everyone, always, however, appreciates a no-scent policy. Hint.



7 - LGBT Events in April 2019

LGBT Halifax 45+ meetup.com group

Find your tribe of like minded spirits. There are various interest groups meeting at different times. Once you're on meetup.com, look for the group:

Halifax-45-LGBTQ-Commingle-group

You can find *all* local GBLT Events in one place! Check out: <http://gay.hfxns.org/LocalEvents> or google "gay halifax local events"



8 - Ed Savage

24 February 1967 - 5 March, 2019

We are saddened to report the sudden passing of tireless Halifax event organizer, fabulous drag queen and larger-than-life personality, Ed Savage.

A fuller biography can be found in the Halifax Rainbow Encyclopedia. Click on <http://gay.hfxns.org/EdSavage> or search for "Gay Halifax Ed Savage."



9 - Members' Notices!

Do you have news? Got a grandkid, moving, planning a vacation, looking for shared accommodations? Your Elderberries Newsletter now has room for Hatch, Match & Dispatch announcements! If you have an announcement about a birth, a graduation, moving, wedding, of you, your partner, kids, your grandkids etc, just <Reply> with them, or send them to elderberries.scotia2@gmail.com !



10 - About The Elderberries

The Elderberries is the social, educational, and activism group for LGBT Elders in Atlantic Canada.

- To join the Society and the mailing list, send an email to AtlanticCanadaElderberries@gmail.com
- To be notified of Elderberries Events via Meetup, join the Meetup group, “Halifax-45-LGBTQ-Commingle-group” or click <http://meetu.ps/c/3Xqzj/BWpGw/d>
- We have a Facebook group too! Join the Facebook group, “NSElderberries”
- We have Elderberries mugs and cookbooks for sale. If you’re interested, please email us at the address above.

To be removed from this mailing list, just <Reply> with the word “Unsubscribe”



11- Recounting Church Abuse.

Rainbow Communion is the special LGBTQI Listening Committee of The Presbyterian Church in Canada. Its mandate is to offer a safe and respectful, confidential environment in order to encourage people to tell stories of harm done to them within and by the church because of homophobia, heterosexism and transphobia; and

to share stories of God's grace experienced by them and through them in Christian ministry, even in the midst of challenges they have faced.

The Listening Committee consists of 7 members drawn from across the church reflecting the diversity of the denomination and includes 2 members who identify as LGBTQI.

Two members of the Listening Committee will be available in Atlantic Canada May 10, 11, 12 to meet with any who wish to tell their story.

The local member is the Rev. Michael Veenema of Canning NS.

You may contact him at veenema.m@gmail.com to arrange a time.

Rainbow Communion also has a dedicated extension at church offices for confidential voicemail 1-800-619-7301 ext. 300, and an e-mail address not associated in any way with The PCC's communication infrastructure at rainbowcommunion@gmail.com

