

Rainbow Nursing Interest Group (RNIG)

Member Update

March 2010

RNIG Annual General Meeting for All Members:

Saturday April 17, 2010, 9-11 am at Hilton Toronto, 145 Richmond St. West

Members planning on attending must register through the RNAO website http://www.rnao.org/Storage/64/5891_2010_AGM_Registration_Form.pdf by Wednesday, April 7, 2010. There will be a one-hour business meeting and a one-hour educational presentation. Elections will be held, and there will be executive positions open, so please consider standing for office, even in a co-capacity. Lori Ross, a social scientist at CAMH involved in a number of LGBT research initiatives will be sharing information that may impact on nursing. There is no cost. Refreshments are not provided.

Name the Newsletter and WIN a Free one-year membership to RNIG!

Submit your suggestion(s) for a catchy name for the RNIG "Member Update" newsletter and you could win your next year's membership to RNIG! E-mail suggestions to karla.stewart@smdhu.org or leanne.powell@mlhu.on.ca by March 31, 2010.

The name will be selected by vote at the AGM.

RNAO Submission to Premier Advocating for Trans Communities

A letter was sent by RNAO to Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty in December 2009 lauding the introduction of Bill 224, Toby's Act (Right to be Free from Discrimination and Harassment Because of Gender Identity), as a Private Members Bill and urging government support so that it moves beyond First Reading to eventual Royal Assent.

Get the letter at

http://www.rnao.org/Storage/66/6089_RNAO_letter_gender_identity_Premier_Dec_2009.pdf

Survey of RNIG Members

The Executive Committee of RNIG is interested in how to best serve members. We have developed a short, anonymous survey in order to elicit feedback on how we can best meet members' needs and to learn more about our members' issues and concerns. If you have not yet received an e-mail about this survey, or have not yet completed it, please complete the survey at: www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=muKXAiqto_2bLW1P4B5zVbUQ_3d_3d by Friday, March 19, 2010.

Planning for Pride

If you are interested in participating on a PRIDE sub-committee, please contact Judith MacDonnell (jmacdonn@yorku.ca) or Dianne Roedding (rdianne@region.waterloo.on.ca).

Newsletter Education Component

Starting with the next newsletter, we would like to incorporate an educational component into each newsletter. If you have any topics that you would like to see addressed, or can provide new information or research, please contact karla.stewart@smdhu.org or leanne.powell@mlhu.on.ca.

Upcoming Events:

London, Friday, April 23, 2010

“A Positive Space is a Healthy Place - Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity: Creating Inclusive Environments”.

This workshop is presented by OPHA’s Public Health Alliance for LGBTTTTIQQ Equity Workgroup, in partnership with the Middlesex-London Health Unit at the Four Points Sheraton, London. Registration and payment (\$60.00, includes lunch and resource manual) is required by October 16, 2009. For more information and registration form Nadina.Khalil@mlhu.on.ca

Toronto, Wednesday, March 24 to Friday, March 26, 2010

“Improving Access and Equity in Health for LGBT People”

This is Rainbow Health Ontario’s (RHO) first bi-annual provincial conference focused on the needs and issues of LGBT communities. Go to www.rainbowhealthontario.ca for conference details and to register.

Unfortunately, RNIG’s proposal submission was not accepted, but RNIG will have a poster display on site, and several members of your RNIG executive will be there!

Worldwide, every May 17

International Day Against Homophobia

The 2010 campaign theme is “Speaking about Silence - Homophobia in the Sports World”. The purpose of the campaign is to make athletes, those closely or loosely involved in this community, the media, and the general population more aware of the need to combat homophobia linked to both amateur and professional sports.

Go to www.homophobiaday.org for campaign information, posters and resources.

Pink Shirt Day is Wednesday, April 14, 2010

On April 14, 2010 wear something pink to symbolize that we as a society will not tolerate bullying anywhere. For more information and ideas for your workplace/school visit www.pinkshirtday.ca

Advocating for a Best Practice Guideline on Creating Nursing Environments that Support LGBTTTTIQQ Clients and Staff:

RNAO's Clinical Nursing Best Practice Guidelines (BPGs) are used internationally and have the potential to change health care. RNAO decides which best practice topics to work on based on input from nurses and other health care providers. Suggestions for a BPG topic can be submitted on the [Suggest a Topic form](#) on the RNAO website. Please support RNIG's efforts to have a BPG developed for the care of LGBTTTTIQQ clients and the support of LGBTTTTIQQ colleagues by going to the link and providing feedback encouraging RNAO to develop these BPGs.

ONA LGBT Discussion and Networking Opportunities

RNIG member Robin Fern has been selected for a two year term as the Ontario Nurses Association (ONA) Human Rights and Equity Provincial Team Representative for LGBT members. Robin invites discussion and networking opportunities from LGBT nurses through a dedicated email address at ONAhrelgbt@ona.org.

Current Campaigns

www.checkitoutguys.ca

Paps matter for trans men, regardless of who we have sex with, how we have sex or where we're at in transition. If you have a cervix, you need a Pap. This site developed by and for trans men and our healthcare providers, is here to provide more information about why you may need a Pap, and how to make the experience of getting one better. Paps are worth it! Posters and resource material are available for download

www.check-it-out.ca

It's true: Paps are for lesbian, bisexual, queer, gay and any other women who have sex with women. Basically, if you've ever been sexually active (including oral sex, sex with toys and sex with fingers) and have a cervix, you need a Pap test. The purpose of this campaign website is to give you and other women who have sex with women more information about what a Pap test is, why queer women need them and how to take care of ourselves and each other. Love her. Love yourself. Get a Pap. Posters and resource materials are available for download

Resources

Egale Canada, www.egale.ca "is a national organization that advances equality and justice for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and trans-identified people and their families across Canada."

PFLAG Canada, www.pflag.ca “is Canada's only national organization that helps all Canadians who are struggling with issues of sexual orientation and gender identity. PFLAG Canada supports, educates and provides resources to parents, families, friends and colleagues with questions or concerns, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week”.

The Lesbian Gay Bi Trans Youth Line, 1-800-268-9688 “is a toll-free Ontario-wide peer-support phone line for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, transsexual, 2-spirited, queer and questioning young people. The Youth Line also provides its peer-support service online through messenger and e-mail response” at www.youthline.ca.

“LGBTQ Cultures: What Health Care Professionals Need to Know About Sexual and Gender Diversity” The purpose of this online-only book from Lippincott “is to serve as an introduction to LGBTQ health issues and offer health care professionals tools for creating safer and more inclusive environments for the people they serve, and a more humane workplace for their LGBTQ coworkers. It provides a broad overview of the issues that are shared among those who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, or queer”. Check it out at www.nursingcenter.com/prodev/static.asp?pageid=928987

Posters

Fondation Émergence has re-issued two posters that were a huge success in previous Day Against Homophobia campaigns. One, entitled “Sexual Orientation is not a Choice” depicts a newborn with a hospital wristband that says “Homosexual”. The other shows two male hockey players kissing under a heading “Shocking? For Who?”. These posters can be ordered free of charge at www.homophobiaday.org/default.aspx?scheme=3098.

Global Aware Media has a nice poster “When Did You First Decide You Were Straight?” available online at www.globalaware.org.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Health Access Project has posters that you can order or download. Launched in 2007, this campaign was designed to combat homophobia and transphobia in healthcare. The title “Deserves the same care” and the tagline “Homophobia in healthcare is unhealthy” is on each of the six posters. You can access the posters at www.glbthealth.org/HAPmaterials

Scholarships for LGBTQ Studies

Lambda Foundation, www.lambdafoundation.com, is a registered Canadian Charity with the special mission of creating scholarships, awards, and bursaries in support of LGBT studies, education and awareness, in advancement of equality and human rights.

RNIG

Mission

To foster and advocate for nursing practice and environments that support people of all sexual orientations and gender identities.

Vision

“Every space a POSITIVE SPACE.”

Values

We value: Evidence-informed, inclusive, reflective, respectful, safe and supportive care and environments for people of all sexual orientations and gender identities.

Goals

Challenging invisibility and silencing faced by LGBTTTTIQQAA people.

Facilitate evidence-informed nursing care that reflects the needs of LGBTTTTIQQAA clients.

To provide resources, support and knowledge for registered nurses, their communities, and each other.

Your RNIG Executive

Co-Chairs

Judith MacDonnell jmacdonn@yorku.ca

Dianne Roedding rdianne@region.waterloo.on.ca

Treasurer

Elaine Hampson Elaine.Hampson@york.ca

Membership

André Boisvert aboisvert19@hotmail.com

Communication

Leanne Powell leanne.powell@mlhu.on.ca

Karla Stewart Karla.Stewart@smdhu.org

Policy/Political Action

Jean Clipsham Jean.Clipsham@halton.ca

Lisa Connolly lconnolly@kdchc.org

Student Liaison

Sarah Benbow

Susana Caxaj susana.caxaj@gmail.com