

Grand River Rainbow Historical Project

www.grandriver-rainbowhistory.ca/

celebrating the lives and times of rainbow folk in Grand River country

Guelph Gay Equality Newsletter → Guelph Gay & Lesbian Equality Newsletter → Guelph Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Equality Newsletter

Publishing History: Issued by **Guelph Gay Equality (GGE)** from 1977, May - 1990, August. Issued by **Guelph Gay & Lesbian Equality (GGLE)** from 1990, September - 1993, April. Issued by **Guelph Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Equality (GGLBE)** from 1993, May - 1995, September.

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Guelph Gay Quality

NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER 1986



A DOWNTOWN SUNRISE

Nervously I walked east on Queen Street to the newest woman's bar. As I approached the door, I took a deep breath to prepare myself for the loud music about to greet my ears. Silence. I checked my watch and it was only a quarter to eight. I guess night life starts a bit later in the city.

I sat at the bar and ordered a beer. Videos! Great, something to help me pass the time. Interestingly enough, it was the history of the girl groups from the sixties - how appropriate. I sat there sipping my beer, with my eyes transfixed to the TV screen, lost in a time warp.

The show ended. Now what. I turned around to order another beer but I was interrupted by flashing lights and the pounding beat of "Higher Love". The disc jockey was in her booth and the dance floor soon filled.

I glanced around to see if I recognized anyone. Ten minutes ago the place was practically bare. Now, there were women everywhere.

The music worked its way to my feet as they danced at the bar. The next song I'll have to let them have the freedom of the dance floor. Air Supply? A slow song? so early in the night? I haven't met anyone to dance with.

"It's awfully early to be playing a slow song", I said to the woman sitting beside me.

"The DJ must be in a romantic mood this evening", she replied in a faint British accent.

"Funny, so am I".

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. The following films will be presented by the Women's Resource Centre in Rm 334 UC starting at noon
 - Oct 21 Margaret Lawrence : First Lady of Manawaka
 - Oct 28 Plenty of Nothing - the role & status of Women Family Business in Canada
 - Nov 4 Behind the Veil - the history and influence of the world's largest all female communal organization the convent. (part one)
 - Nov 11 part two of Behind the Veil
2. Health Fair '87 will take place Mon and Tues February 9th and 10th in the U.C. Anyone wishing to help out or if you have any ideas for a display, please sign the list in the office.
3. Fri Oct 31 at noon in the UC courtyard singer/songwriter FAITH NOLAN will be appearing. Presented by International Students Week and WRC. If you have never seen/heard Faith, you should not miss this opportunity.
4. Please note that the member's own, "After you're out " is re-scheduled for some time in November.
5. GGE is in need of a person to do the group's bookkeeping. If you have a couple of hours to spare each month and are interested please leave your name and number in the office for Debbie.
6. Any ideas for the newsletter in November? The deadline is fri Oct 31. You can leave it the office, bring it to the dance or in the mailbox at the CSA offic

the gayline 836-4550

COMING ATTRACTIONS

TUES OCT 21 : Coffeehouse/Games Night.
come out for a social evening.

TUES OCT 28 : Happy Birthday GGE
a pre birthday bash including
a presentation of the groups
accomplishments.

TUES NOV 4 : Video Night.
"Mommie Dearest" portrays the
life of Joan Crawford.

TUES NOV 11 : Member's Own.
Tonight we will be showing a
video on older gays. Discus -
sion to follow.

the above events will be held in Rm 536
U.C. (the O.T.A.S. lounge) beginning
at 8 P.M.

FRI OCT 31 ; HALLOWEEN BIRTHDAY BASH
Come and celebrate GGE's 13th
birthday and Halloween.
Prizes for the best costume.
611 SILVERCREEK PKWY N at 9 P.M.

FRI NOV 28 : WELCOME CGRO DELEGATES DANCE
611 SILVERCREEK PKWY N at 9 P.M.

for further information please call the
gayline 836 - 4550

IT'S TIME FOR ACTION!

It is not too late to send your letter or the enclosed letter to your local MPP regarding Bill 7. As parliament will be resuming this month, the time for action is NOW. Please contact your MPP TODAY. (In Guelph Rick Ferraro is your MPP)

* * * * *

GUELPH GAY EQUALITY IS CHANGING

GGE will be contacting Norman Taylor of Kai Visionworks to ask him to visit Guelph again for a weekend workshop on "organizing for change." If you are interested, please call the gayline so we can have an idea of how many people would like to attend. Further information available in Nov's Newsletter.

The TIME is RIGHT for GAY RIGHTS !

The Ontario Legislature will soon consider Bill 7, a law which will amend the Ontario Human Rights Code to give equal protection to homosexuals.

Gay and Lesbian citizens have worked toward this goal since 1972.
WE'RE ALMOST THERE!

Opposition to this part of Bill 7 is coming from right-wing church and political groups such as REAL Women, Coalition for Family Values and the National Citizen's Coalition. Below is an example of the mentality of these people, reprinted from the Guelph Mercury, Sept. 5/86:

Old values disappearing

Legislation to forbid discrimination in housing and jobs on the basis of "sexual orientation" has been approved in principle by the three major parties. (Have you noticed how the media have ignored it?) The federal and provincial governments have indicated their intention to pass the bill that would, in practical application endorse the source of AIDS and support prostitution. Prostitution is certainly "sexually oriented." AIDS may be transmitted in various ways and can infect innocent people, but its source seems to stem from male-to-male

copulation. If public health is a government responsibility then sexually transmitted disease is a public and government responsibility. John Reimer is the only local member of either parliaments, who has declared strong opposition to this conflicting and contradictory legislation. Contradictory? The proposed legislation, approved by our well rewarded parliamentarians, could foster any number of outlandish situations. Or is this a subtle first step to legalize prostitution, even though sexually transmitted disease is a big part of total health costs?

The problem is not exclusively with our politicians. As a body I believe them to be intelligent, hard-working and reasonably well motivated. They are simply a part of, and a reflection of, society's abandonment of traditional values. However if Government confers on a behavioural group (practising homosexuals) preferential treatment, the result will be a strange situation.
Harold D. Ghent
Box 118, Ayr, Ont.

WHAT CAN YOU DO ?

Clip off the form letter and send it to your MPP today. TIME IS TIGHT - the bill may be considered as early as October, 1986. If you prefer, write a letter in your own words!

Send TODAY to: Your MPP (Guelph - Rick Ferraro)
Legislature of Ontario
Queen's Park, Toronto.

Call your local town or city hall for the name of your MPP.

Name _____
Address _____
Date _____

M.P.P.
Legislature of Ontario,
Queen's Park,
Toronto, Ontario.

Dear _____

I understand that the Legislature will soon consider BILL 7, a law designed to bring the Statutes of Ontario into conformity with the Canadian CHARTER OF RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS.

One of the proposed changes would be the addition of the term "sexual orientation" to the prohibited classes of discrimination covered by the ONTARIO HUMAN RIGHTS CODE. Such an amendment has the support of a majority of Ontarions (69%), as evidenced by a Gallup Poll taken in 1985. Many prominent religious, labour, legal and educational bodies in Ontario also support such a move.

As one of your constituents I urge you to support BILL 7, and in particular, the provision to make illegal those discriminatory practices based on "sexual orientation" in the areas of employment, housing, and provision of services to the public.

Sincerely,

Clip here and mail today!