



Rainbow Community Calendar

The **Rainbow Community Calendar (RCC)** is a monthly publication serving the LGBTQ community of Waterloo Region. It is named in tribute to the **Pink Triangle Community Calendar** created in 1989 by community activist Lisa Simkins. The **RCC** is issued by the **Rainbow Community Calendar Collective**, an action group of **SPECTRUM-Waterloo Region's Rainbow Community Space**. Print copies are available at SPECTRUM, ACKWA, libraries, community centres, government and social services agencies in Waterloo Region.

Online at: <http://ourspectrum.com/rainbow-community-calendar/>

Please e-mail calendar editor Lyn McGinnis with corrections or new information by the 20th of each month to: lynmc@rogers.com please put **RAINBOW CALENDAR in the subject line.**

SPECTRUM's **Resource Centre and Drop-in Space** is in Unit 210 at 283 Duke Street West, Kitchener, N2H 3X7 (corner of Duke Street West and Breithaupt). Park on Breithaupt Street side of the building, near the loading dock. Go in the Duke Street entrance, up the stairs, through the door, down the hallway to Unit 210.

Website: <http://ourspectrum.com/> **NEW!** (with hours of opening and much more)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SpectrumCommunitySpace/>

Twitter: @our_SPECTRUM **E-mail:** info@ourspectrum.com **Phone:** 226-779-9695

February Events

Starting February 1

SPECTRUM Prime. 7-9 PM, first and third Wednesdays of the month - **February 1** and **15** at SPECTRUM. We see things differently as we age. Priorities shift. Social circles change. Join us in a **new** discussion and social group for maturing LGBTQ adults. And if you are concerned about whether the group is a fit for you, then try it out to see. Lately, we have been sharing stories about our lives. We will also continue to think about what kinds of discussions

and activities we might like to have in future. We hope that this will be a step in the direction of creating a community support for us as we age. <http://ourspectrum.com/older-adults-group/>

Rainbow Chorus Spring Term! We are a non-auditioned community choir for LGBTQ+ folks and allies. We meet every Wednesday night in Guelph to join together in song and build a safe space for our members to be their true selves. Registration is from 7:00-7:30 p.m. on **February 1** and **8**. Rehearsals are 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Harcourt United Church at 87 Dean Ave., Guelph. <http://rainbowchorus.ca>

Starting February 2

Trans Peer Support Group. 7-9 PM on the first and third Thursday of the month. **February 2** and **16**. New day - new time - new facilitators. A safe and normalizing environment for anyone identifying in the trans/gender variant umbrella at SPECTRUM.

Rainbow Connections - Kitchener meetings, 7-9 PM first and third Thursdays of the month: **February 2, 16**. LGBTQ and Mental Health Group Main Floor, Self Help Alliance, 67 King St E. Kitchener. If you will be late, please contact us in advance so we know when to let you in. Also note that there is now a 15 minutes time-period that we can let you in, otherwise it becomes disruptive to group. We will be in the downstairs room, so ring the downstairs doorbell to be let in. Call 519-570-4595 to speak with either Jasmina, ext. 4052, or Brenda, ext. 4061 to verify meeting date and time, or for more information: <http://cmhawsselfhelp.ca/events/>

Queer & Trans Yoga A class for folks who self-identify as LGBTQ+ and want to be part of a positive community space. All abilities, ages, bodies, and sizes are welcome and celebrated in this beginner-friendly class. Every Thursday starting at 6:00 p.m. \$5 donation, with no one turned away for lack of funds. Join us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/qsytqy>

Starting February 3

day5games. 7-11 PM **February 3, 10, 17, 24** at SPECTRUM. Join us as we gather at our space to play board and card games, assemble jigsaw puzzles and fiddle with constructions in an informal atmosphere.

Starting February 4

SPECTRUM Saturday Symposium 2-5 PM Saturdays, **February 4, 11, 18, 25**. This social drop-in event is a great opportunity to meet other people, to talk

about whatever you currently have on your mind, and to make new friends! Come and hang out with us in a casual, relaxing atmosphere where you can just be yourself! This event is ideal for you if you just want to socialize in an LGBTQ-friendly setting. We typically talk about anything that comes to mind, from tv shows to languages to fairy tales to technology to music - and occasionally LGBTQ issues. We also have cookies and other (sometimes healthier) snacks to share. Feel free to drop in at any time between 2-5 pm. Everyone is welcome!

Starting February 5

Friends of Dorothy Bowling League Event. 1:15pm practice; 1:30 - 4pm bowling, Sundays: **February 5, 12, 19, 26**, at Brunswick Frederick Lanes, 385 Frederick Plaza, Kitchener.

ORG-SPECTRUM's Outdoor Recreation Group. Sundays. Events alternate between Lite and Regular:

February 5 - 2- 4 PM, "Lite": RIM Park, 2001 University Ave E, Waterloo, ON N2K 4K4. Meet in the foyer/food court of the Manulife Sportsplex. We plan to walk the trails around the Grey Silo Golf Course. This is Super Bowl Sunday, so the trail may be mostly vacated - we hope

February 12 - 1- 5 PM, "Regular": Meet at SPECTRUM Community Space, Unit 210, 283 Duke Street West, Kitchener. We hope to make this the most strenuous and wintriest hike of the season, with rewarding snacks & beverages at SPECTRUM afterwards..

February 19 - 2-4 PM, "Lite": Meet at the GRT Ainslie Terminal, Galt, Cambridge. Note: this is the Sunday of the Family Day long weekend and the first weekend of reading week for the universities.

February 26 - 1-5 PM, "Waterloo's Winter Festival": meet under the skylight inside the Waterloo Towne Square, the Uptown mall. We'll first partake of the

festival, and then who knows?
William Pensaert, General Manager,
SPECTRUM, office: 226-779-9695,
mobile: 519-503-9313.

Trans Fams Event. 4:00 p.m.,
February 5 (Sunday). Are you interest-
ed in meeting other families with Trans
and Gender Independent Kids? Want
to join our family and others for some
fun activities? Contact Holly for more
info at: hbmathers@gmail.com

February 6

Rainbow bereavement support group
Monday, February 6 1:30-3:30 PM.
All LGBTQ caregivers, spouses, friends
suffering loss. 298 Lawrence Ave.
Kitchener. Call 519-743-4114 ext. 117.
barb@hospicewaterloo.ca

Starting February 7

Queercraft - a Queer Crafting Group.
6-8 PM, Tuesdays: **February 7, 14, 21,**
28. Bring your portable craft to
SPECTRUM!

Starting February 8

Transgender Peer Support Group. 7-9
PM on the second and fourth Wednes-
day of the month. **February 8** and **22.**
For individuals who identify as trans-
gender and questioning. Self Help Al-
liance, 67 King Street East, Kitchener.
Call 519-570-4595 to speak with ei-
ther Jasmina, ext. 4052, or Brenda, ext.
4061 to verify meeting date and time,
or for more information.

Starting February 9

Rainbow Newcomers Thursday,
February 9, 23 7-9 PM at SPEC-
TRUM. A place for LGBTQ-identified
immigrants and refugees to social-
ize with each other and with LGBTQ
people who have been in town for a
while, and discuss issues related to
being a newcomer to Canada. More
information:
RainbowNewcomers@gmail.com

Starting February 14

OK2BME Youth Group. 6-7:30 PM Alter-
nate Tuesdays-**February 14, 28** More
information: <http://ok2bme.ca/>

Good Laughs Makeup Class. This
class will be a basic introduction class;
you will learn how to properly apply
your makeup as well as learn the tech-
niques to achieve the different looks
you want. This will be a two-hour class
taught by Gabriella **February 14.** Esti-
mated cost: \$10 - \$20 per person. For
details check the Facebook page at:
[https://www.facebook.com/
events/1913818902183313/](https://www.facebook.com/events/1913818902183313/)

February 21

Waterloo - Wellington - Perth PFLAG,
Parents Family and Friends Peer-
Support Group 7-9 PM on the third
Tuesday of the month. **February 21.**
Are you having difficulty coming to
terms with the sexuality, gender iden-
tity or gender expression of someone
close to you? Join us in a warm, wel-
coming and safe place for all family and
friends of people of the LGBTQ com-
munity at Pre-School Room, Downtown
Community Centre, 35-B Weber Street
West, Kitchener. More Information:
<https://www.facebook.com/PFLAG.WWP>

February 23

SPECTRUM Reading Circle 6:30-8 PM
on the fourth Thursday of the month.
February 23. In our Reading Circle we
read short stories and articles aloud on
the spot; no prior reading is required.
Then we reflect on what we have read.
We often spend longer discussing the
literature than we do reading it. Partici-
pants are encouraged to bring readings.
Join us for this exploration of LGBTQ
literature and what it means to us per-
sonally at SPECTRUM.

Sexual Health Awareness Drop
in 5-8 PM on the fourth Thursday of
the month. **February 23.** Sponsored by
ACCKWA at SPECTRUM, 283 Duke
Street West, Unit 210.

February 25

Queer Slow Dance with DJ M'Damn D,
hosted by the Rainbow Chorus of Wa-
terloo-Wellington, at the Art Gallery of
Guelph at 358 Gordon St., Guelph, from
8:00 p.m. -1:00 a.m. **February 25** This
event is 19+ and a cash bar. The Guelph
Queer Slow Dance is a fully accessible
event and a consent positive space. This
event is a fundraiser to help members
of the Rainbow Chorus participate in a
mass choir performance at the Lincoln
Center in New York City in June 2017.
Tickets are available on a sliding scale
from \$10-\$25 and can be purchased

February 28

Good Laughs. 7 PM until closing,
last Tuesday evening of the month:
February 28. A safe space for trans
people to explore their identity in the
community; open to allies as well at
Symposium Café, Waterloo (corner
of King and Erb) - back room. More
information:
goodlaughs81@gmail.com
[https://www.facebook.com/good-
laughs81/?fref=ts](https://www.facebook.com/good-
laughs81/?fref=ts)

Emotion 'trumps' rationality

by Lyn McGinnis

Democracy fails when emotion 'trumps'
rationality and contempt 'trumps' re-
spect Democracy can only function
when the public has a strong grasp
on the many aspects of the

day. There is a genuine difference
between having an opinion and having an
informed opinion. To this end soci-
ety must make education, at
all levels, its highest
priority. I am not talking
about work force training, but a thor-
ough and comprehensive preparation
for intelligent participation in society.
Part and parcel of this process would
be exposure to human diversity in
background, culture and perspective
along with a basic grounding in science,
history and how society functions.
Democratic institutions are only as

good as the citizenry employing them.
Critical thinking based on historical
fact and scientific evidence should be
fundamental in every child's schooling,
along with cultivating a healthy ease in

their own
skins so as
to not be
threatened
by diversity.
Perhaps democ-
racy has not
failed. It has
succeeded in revealing
the current
state of Western
society at
its worst.

The 'will of
the people' is riddled by ignorance
and fractured by class divisions. These
shocking levels of paranoia, credulity
and gullibility make these poorly pre-
pared populations easy prey for dem-
agogues. This toxic brew not only leads
to failures in democracy, but all forms
of civil society.

lynmc@rogers.com

