

FEB 2011

UR Pride Newsletter

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Contact Us
306.586.8811 ext 207
contactus@urpride.ca
www.urpride.ca

UR Pride Centre
C/O U of R Students' Union
University of Regina
Regina, SK S4S 0A2

Programming

Canadian University Queer Services Conference Last month four representatives went to Toronto, Ontario to attend CUQSC, a national conference held every year that brings together students and service providers from across Canada to network and workshop together. This five day conference included a keynote speech by Cleve Jones, several workshops on anti-oppression and also allowed us to create new ties with centres across Canada. UR Pride is now part of a network of centres in the Canadian Prairies that includes the University of Winnipeg, Lakehead University and several other groups. UR Pride was also able to present a bid for hosting next year's conference and is pleased to announce that we came through! We are now looking a long road ahead of planning and work to bring together a national conference. We'll keep you posted throughout the process and volunteer opportunities will be a plenty!



Positive Space Network is in its last pre-stages where we are asking the university VP's to look over it and ok it. In the near future, we should be starting the actual training for the Positive Space Network which means faculty, staff, and students can sign up for a half hour intro to positive space which will allow you to stick up a positive space sticker in your area and also to become part of the positive space network. After the intro you can attend subsequent hour long workshops to receive knowledge on queer issues and a certificate stating you have completed all of the training.



Youth Group and Project Co-ordinator We came back from the holiday break to a wonderful present from the Community Initiative Fund; a \$24,000 grant to hire a Project Co-ordinator manage event planning, Youth Programming and Regina-wide sensitivity training. This means we can update the Youth Programming group to encompass youth age 14 to 24 and create a 2 hour a week program with events outside this time.

**\$24,000
Grant!**

Transgender Discussions We have started a new Transgender Discussion in the lounge with One Song Transgender Support Group. Every other week at 11:30am either Zak or Mikayla will be in the lounge to discuss Trans Issues. We had our first discussion on Tuesday the 18th and we have already received a lot of positive feedback.

**11:30am
Tuesdays**

DIVAS at The Owl After Much deliberation and headache we finally decided on a date for DIVAS at The Owl. So, mark off April 9th on your calendars as the day for shenanigans, gender bending, and more fun that you can handle in one night. And if you just can't wait that long to join in this fun, you are always welcome to help in the planning process because there is tons of stuff to do!!

**APRIL
9th!**

Regina LGBTQ Community

Earlier last month, Caitlyn and Lisa met with several Regina LGBTQ community stakeholders and a representative from Egale Canada to discuss community needs and interactions with police. Through these conversations we found out about a new national program that Egale is starting which will bring education to the police and education to youth on how to report a hate crime to the police. If you would like to learn more about this program and the research we've done, please visit our office at the U of Regina campus.

Marriage Commissioners Ruling

This month the Court of Appeals decided that marriage commissioners should have to marry same-sex couples regardless of their own religious beliefs. Saskatchewan is the first province to rule this way, which will make it one of the leading provinces on this topic and hopefully other provinces will follow suit. There was a press conference on Monday the 10th that Leah, Caitlyn and Lisa attended and they were asked for a couple interviews when the government decided to accept the court's ruling on Tuesday the 18th.

The Rainbow Wellness Resource Centre

The GLCR is in the middle of big renovations in the lower level of their building. They are planning on opening the area up for community groups to meet and hold services in. The RWRC and UR Pride were both asked to be a part of this! This means the RWRC will have a home to start their programming and UR Pride will have a second option for programming when they are addressing issues outside the university! There were quite a few other organizations that were asked to be a part of this, including Aids Program South Saskatchewan (APSS) and a psychologist from Northern Saskatchewan who is looking to move his practise to Regina. We are very excited to hear this news and look forward to moving the RWRC forward.

If someone asked you what PFLAG Canada is, would you have an answer?

PFLAG Canada is a charitable organization, which provides support, information and resources to anyone with questions or concerns about sexual orientation or gender identity issues. There are close to 80 chapters across the country, run by volunteers, doing their best to be present to people who are struggling with sexual and gender identity issues.

PFLAG Regina Chapter meets the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Connaught Library Meeting Room (3435 – 13th Avenue). We welcome anyone to attend our meetings to discuss what's on their minds and in their hearts. As parents and allies of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) community, we are open and willing to meet with your organization to raise awareness and foster understanding.

So join us at our monthly meeting or invite us to meet you – we are only a phone call away!

Mary Anne Bachelu
586-1168

Susanne Seckinger
522-9790

Francine Proulx-Kenzle
584-0844

UR Pride is always doing something every day of the week. We encourage you to get involved with the centre and be a bigger part of our organization. The following is our schedule of weekly activities. If you'd like to attend, just pop by or send us an email for more information about each event.

Mondays 1:30PM

GSA/Volunteer Meetings are for students who want to join our volunteer task-force. Meetings include a briefing of what's happening as well as projects for students.

Every other Tuesday 11:30AM

Join One Song on a transgender topic discussion in the lounge!

Wednesdays 7:00 - 9:00PM

UR Pride Youth Group (ages 14-24). Come hang out in our lounge where you can express yourself and make friends! Learn about the Queer community and get involved!

Last Thursday of every month 4:00PM

UR Pride Membership Meetings are a general meeting for ALL members of the UR Pride Centre. This meeting is for updating the membership on what we're doing and what we have coming up.

Fridays 3:00PM

UR Pride Board Meetings are held every week. They alternate between general meetings and executive meetings. If you'd like to attend a meeting, we'd appreciate notice in advance.

Wed 2nd Hug-A-Gay Day!

Everywhere all day

It's National Hug-A-Gay Day! Come by the Lounge or the info table in the Riddell Centre for hugs. Show your support and hug the gay you love today!

Wed 9th GSA Meet and Greet with UR Pride!

UR Pride Lounge at 4:00PM

Because of a huge demand in the community for a positive space for LGBTQ youth, UR Pride is having a Meet and Greet with GSA's and any other students who wish to come check out our lounge and new Youth Group Space.

Mon 14th A Very Special Valentine's Day Edition of OpenMic-Apalooza-Stockfest Extravaganza!

Institut Français Rotunda at 7:30PM - 9:30PM

We are hosting an open-mic night to showcase the talent of the people who help make UR Pride possible. ***That means you!*** Both membership and board members will be performing and you can too. Bring your friends to this friendly and casual opportunity to have some fun on a little stage in a welcoming environment and leave the judgements at the door.

Thu 24th Membership Meeting

UR Pride Lounge at 4:00PM

Even though it's Reading Week, our Monthly Membership Meetings are still important! Be in the loop and sit in on this very important meeting!

Tentative Agenda includes Positive Space Network, Youth Group, and CUQSC 2012 info!

April 9th DIVAS AT THE OWL - Mark it. More info coming soon!

UR Pride is always seeking volunteers to give a hand with everyday tasks as well as special opportunities.

Administrative:

Library

- Organizing Pamphlets
- Organizing the Books

Lounge

- Lounge Greeters (meet new people and keep the lounge clean)

Behind the Scenes

- Writing Manuals
- Help with Policies
- Board member shadowing (for those interested in running in our next election)

Events and Outreach:

Valentine's Day Cards

- Need people to make them
- Need people to table in Riddell and distribute

Open Mic (Feb 14)

- Need talents!

Youth Night (Wednesdays)

- Need helpers

Queer Film Nights

- Need a committee to organize this

DIVAS AT THE OWL (April 9th)

- Plan and execute decorations
- Ticket takers
- Ticket sellers (pre April 9th)

Email us at contactus@urpride.ca or stop by the office if you want more information or are interested in helping out!

LGBT Spirituality Group

meets the last Thursday of the month, 7pm at Sunset United Church (177 Sunset Drive)

Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Two-Spirit Men in Southern Saskatchewan?

AIDS Programs South Saskatchewan (APSS) wants to learn from you...

What can we do for you? APSS is conducting a survey on the needs of gay, bisexual, transgender and two-spirit men in Southern Saskatchewan. If you are positive, are your needs being met by APSS? What programs and services would you like to see APSS provide for you? Do you feel you have the information and support that you need to live a long, healthy life? Do you know how to avoid contracting HIV? Do you have an HIV positive partner and need support?

Your participation will help us to develop programs and services to better meet your needs. APSS will be hosting two focus groups in January and February to answer these questions or any others. These meetings are confidential and will be conducted outside of our office to protect your privacy. No names are necessary.

Call 924-8420 to ask for times and locations, or email jaqueline.a@sasktel.net.

To answer a short anonymous online questionnaire go to:

http://prairiecbr.com/index.php?option=com_surveys&Itemid=69

Women only Dance!!

Friday, February 4th at 8:30 pm. to midnight
at the GLCR - 2070 Broad Street (upstairs)

Hopefully we can have a good turnout of women so that we can do this a few more times throughout the year. I know lots of people have missed opportunities for visiting women from the community so this is a good chance to get together.

Red Party

Friday, February 11 at 9:00pm - February 12 at 3:00am
at the GLCR - 2070 Broad Street

Anti valentine's day party

\$7 admission or dress in Red and get in for \$5! There will be 3 amazing DJs!!

Prizes and Drink Specials!

Other Universities

Participate in a study of sexual orientation, activism, and group membership for a chance to win a \$100 amazon.ca gift certificate! This study is being run by a student at the University of Guelph, and it involves a 54 question survey that should take about 15 minutes to complete. Everyone over 18 is eligible, and your help would be greatly appreciated. More information (including researcher contact information and the survey itself) is available at the link below. Your input would be greatly appreciated.

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/socialgroups_survey

If you would like to add your event/update to the newsletter, please send your information to contactus@urpride.ca with the subject line "Newsletter Update".