

## Look What's Happening At The Agency...

### Executive Director's Report for May 2006

#### Prevention Programs:

- Phillip was away on holidays for three weeks. Visited a youth and AIDS organization in Casablanca.
- Omar Dominguez was selected to sit on a national committee for CAS focusing on Gay men's health issues.
- Michael Mancinelli attended the International Harm Reduction Conference here in Vancouver.
- Series of workshops on gay men's sexual health presented in partnership with The Centre. Very successful and well attended.

#### Client Services:

- Case Management: 2 abstracts for the AIDS 2006 conference have been accepted:
  - AIDS Vancouver's case management program: Meeting the diverse needs of persons living with HIV/AIDS in British Columbia
  - Home-based case management: a model for reaching isolated families: Evan Mo and Heather Hoiness received scholarships to the conference and will be presenting these poster presentations for the case management team.

- Vicki Bright has requested, and been accepted for, a one-year leave to from her position as case manager at the Downtown Community Health Centre. Vicki will be taking the role of coordinator of the MAKa project, a CIHR-funded research project that will be working to increase access to treatment for women survival sex workers in the downtown eastside. Hiring to fill Vicki's position is underway.
- Grocery: Willow Lloyd will be co-presenting a workshop on food pantries at the Association of Nutritionists in AIDS Care (ANSA) Conference this August/2006. Also, our Nutrition Exchange project is getting underway with the hiring of nutrition student Kelly Spec, who will be with working with us through to December/06.
- Helpline/Reception: We have a new casual receptionist- Sean Jones joins Holly Gardiner as our relief pool for when Ian Benner is away.
- Miranda Compton attended the Canadian HIV/AIDS Research (CAHR) conference May 25 -28 in Quebec City, where she presented her Masters research on the impact of adequate housing on the health and health practices of persons living with HIV/AIDS.
- Laura Mervyn, case management supervisor has been awarded her MSW.

#### Partnership/Committee Work:

- John recently went to Edmonton to facilitate a workshop on Policy Development from a Human Rights Perspective and The Duty to Accommodate: employee rights and employer obligations. This workshop was a joint activity between AV and ICAD (Interagency Coalition and AIDS and Development)
- AV organized two public information events; Joanne Csetse, ED Canadian HIV Legal Network who provided an overview of current activities of the Network. Michael Vonn, BC Civil Liberties Association, spoke on confidentiality and disclosure as it concerns the work of the agency.
- William has met with, among others, Dr. Julio Montaner - CFE, Dr. Rolando Barrios - CFE, Margaret Burrell- B.C. Coalition for Disabilities, Daphne Spencer - BCCDC, Shanthi Besso - SFU, Ethel Whitty - Carnegie Centre, AIDS Victoria Island, Warren O'Brian - Ministry of Health, Jon Tinker of Panos Institute Canada, Cool Aid Society in Victoria, KDO sister organization in Victoria - *Voices of Substance*, and VARCS Victoria.
- AV has been represented by staff and Board members at a number of community events over the past month: AccolAIDS 2006, Vancouver Foundation, Hero Awards, CATIE Posi+ive art exhibition opening, National Day Against Homophobia, International Harm Reduction Conference and satellite KDO events.
- A number of staff and volunteers have been singled out and nominated for awards this past month including case management

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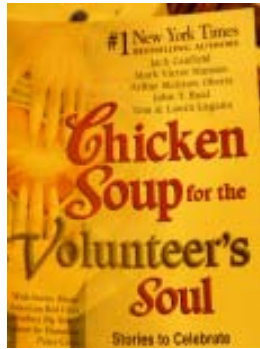
### "Volunteers Needed for this year's Pride Float"

Gayway will be building a fantastic float for this year's Pride parade on August 6<sup>th</sup>. Our Gaylien will hit the streets this year along with a bunch of fantastic characters to communicate the message of a flourishing community for all.

Join us for the float building workshops at Gayway every Wednesday night 7 - 9 pm starting on June 21<sup>st</sup> and every Saturday from 11 am - 4 pm starting on June 24<sup>th</sup>.



# Celebrating Volunteers at AIDS Vancouver!



Our annual Volunteer Recognition Event was a wonderful success. The Pacific Palisades Hotel welcomed AIDS Vancouver volunteers and staff for an evening of fabulous food, dazzling door prizes, creative comic relief and floating darling ducks. If you couldn't make it to the event, be sure to pick up your copy of "Chicken Soup for the Volunteer Soul" from your Program Coordinator, a gift from us to you. Once again, a heartfelt "THANK-YOU" to our amazing team of volunteers!



An Extra Special Applause to Our Generous Donors:  
**Body Energy Club**  
**Choices Market**  
**Elbow Room Cafe**  
**Laff Riot Girls: Ilona and Marilina**  
**Nesters Market**  
**Pacific Palisades Hotel**  
**Starbucks Coffee**



Parm Poonia  
Manager of Volunteer Resources





## Photo Exhibit: Giving Women Power Over AIDS

On May 31, 2006, AIDS Vancouver proudly presented an extraordinary photo exhibit called *Giving Women Power Over AIDS*. It was presented in partnership with Positive Women's Network, Red Roads HIV/AIDS Network and the BC Centre for Disease Control. This amazing photo exhibit told stories of love, family, HIV and microbicides.

*Giving Women Power Over AIDS* was showcased at the Telus World of Science and then moved to the main branch of the Vancouver Public Library. During its June 1 and 2 stay in the library's main concourse, it was seen by thousands of people. It was a very moving story and touched many people's hearts. AIDS Vancouver would like to thank all the staff and volunteers who gave so freely of their time and made this event a success. This travelling photo exhibit will be shown in various cities across Canada until August 2006.

Mandip Kharod  
HIV Prevention and Awareness Educator

## Need Information on HIV/AIDS? We're Here to Help You!

Whether you've just started volunteering and you want to learn more about HIV/AIDS or you've been volunteering for a long time and you want to update your knowledge on current issues, the PARC library can help you.

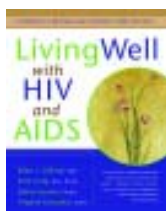
We can email you our monthly list of new materials, we can answer your questions or help you with your research, we can provide you with a selection of books and websites on any aspect of the disease, just ask us! And don't forget that you can access our catalogue anytime at <http://aidsvan.andornot.com>

## Come and visit the library!

Hours: Monday to Thursday 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM; Fridays 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Location: 1107 Seymour Street, Vancouver, BC  
Phone Numbers: 604-893-2294 or 604-893-2248  
Email: [library@aidsvancouver.org](mailto:library@aidsvancouver.org)

Veronique Moal  
PARC Librarian



### New in the library!

#### Living well with HIV and AIDS, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, 2005

"A cross between a self-help motivational discourse and an easy-to-follow health manual, this book offers invaluable advice to those entering the territory of AIDS. While the approach here is by no means a comprehensive look at the problems of living with HIV, the authors provide practical suggestions to make living with the illness more bearable" (Publishers Weekly).



### Executive Director's Report cont'd

volunteer team, Gayway and BoysRUs. Mandip Kharod and Parm Poona are this year's recipients of Honour Award for health, pride and respect for their community.

### Planning/Development:

- AV in collaboration with Panos Canada and Panos Caribbean is undertaking a photo exhibition entitled *AIDS in Two Cities* (Vancouver and Port au Prince Haiti) which will preview during AIDS Toronto 2006 and open in Vancouver in conjunction with World AIDS Day 2006.
- AV has been fortunate to receive nearly a dozen scholarships for staff, clients and volunteers to attend AIDS Toronto 2006. In addition nearly a half-dozen abstracts and posters have been accepted. The request for space in the Global Village for an ASO coalition from B.C., for which AV submitted a proposal, has also been accepted.
- In collaboration with Le Grand Circuit Foundation AV has signed on to Toronto Trek which is scheduled to coincide with AIDS Toronto 2006 with the view towards hosting a West Coast Trek in 2008 as a fund raising activity during our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.
- IMPACS is currently word-smithing sections of the draft in support of Board sub-committee which is currently editing the final Strategic Plan 2005-2007.

## Outreach Volunteers Needed? Yes, PLEASE!

Gayway is looking to put together a group of guys who want to do outreach for Gayway. The kinds of activities we're planning are:

- twice monthly sidewalk outreach (we set up our very cool display somewhere on Davie Street and interact with the sidewalk crowd to let them know about the great things that Gayway does in Vancouver)
- periodic bar outreach where we go out together to let the club and pub crowd know what we're up to... and hand out condoms and stuff

So, if you're interested you simply *must* get in touch with us! We need guys who are easy to approach and outgoing, who are comfortable meeting a variety of people and who want to help make Vancouver a better place to visit and live.

If you are an existing AIDS Vancouver volunteer, please contact either Burkhardt or Olivier at 604-682-3900 or burkhardt@aidsvancouver.org

If you would like to join our AIDS Vancouver volunteer team, please contact Parm Poonia at 604-893-2212 or parm@aidsvancouver.org

Olivier Ferlatte  
HIV Prevention and Awareness Educator



913 Davie Street,  
Vancouver, BC  
Phone: 604-682-3900

## Become a Member of AIDS Vancouver!

Membership is **free** for all AIDS Vancouver volunteers.

AIDS Vancouver membership entitles you to voting privileges at our Annual General Meeting (AGM). This means you have a say in who sits on the Board of Directors, and input into decisions that are made about the by-laws of the agency.

Our next AGM is set for  
**September 19, 2006**

To be eligible to vote, complete the enclosed form and return it to Carolyn Mount at AIDS Vancouver by **July 21, 2006**. There will be an email and posting on our website as to the time and location.

Carolyn Mount  
Executive Assistant  
604.893.2246

## Speed Dating Event

On May 31<sup>st</sup>, the Young and Fabulous group at Gayway held "Quick Fix" - a speed dating night for guys in their twenties at the Oasis Pub on Davie Street. On that evening, over thirty guys came to make friends, meet new lovers and connect with other youth. The event was an amazing success and caused a real buzz in the community. It's was very exciting and Gayway would like to thank everyone who helped organize as well as those who participated in the event. Gayway volunteers and staff are now looking at hosting more speed dating events with various age groups. Stay tune for more speed dating and don't hesitate to call us for more information or to get involved.

Olivier Ferlatte  
HIV Prevention and Awareness Educator



## Spring for Life Campaign:

The 2006 Spring For Life campaign was a year of growth and success. Gerberas were sold in for locations during the week of March 24 to 31, 2006. Over 5,500 flowers were sold.

Proceeds went to AIDS Vancouver, Friends for Life and YouthCO AIDS Society. Parm and fifteen AV volunteers in addition to numerous other volunteers from our partner agencies participated to make this a successful event.

### Submission Deadline: August 4, 2006

#### AIDS Vancouver Volunteer Resources Program Philosophy:

Volunteer Resources strives to build organizational commitment and competency by providing meaningful and relevant volunteer opportunities that support and enhance the mission of AIDS Vancouver. Paid and unpaid staff work together to alleviate vulnerabilities to HIV/AIDS.

Production of this resource has been made possible through a financial contribution from the AIDS Community Action Program, the Public Health Agency of Canada. The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent the official policies of the Public Health Agency of Canada.

### Volunteer Opportunities

Boys R Us  
Care Teams  
Gay Men's Meth Outreach Project  
Gayway - Gayze Contributing Editor  
Gayway - Gayze Editorial Board Member  
Gayway - Photographer/Illustrator

Gayway Distributor  
Gayway Press Corp  
Professional Counselling Program  
Reception  
Library

If interested please call our Information line at: **604-893-2266**

**AIDS Vancouver** 1107 Seymour Street Vancouver, BC V6B 5S8 Canada

[www.aidsvancouver.org](http://www.aidsvancouver.org)