



NEWSLETTER

Fall 2013

Action, development and queer liberation! Celebrating 5 years of queer activism in June 2014



PRIDE EVENTS

Queer Ontario was excited to have a presence and welcome many visitors at both Peel Pride, and Toronto Pride. With many we shared our experiences, and welcomed new members. Queer Ontario hopes to visit as many towns and cities as is possible in the next year.

- Join us on **Facebook** 
- Join us on **Twitter** 
- Sign up **News List** 
- Support **Support Us** 
- Visit **queerontario.org** 

Queer Celebration!

Queer Ontario will be celebrating our chairperson's milestone birthday on Saturday, November 23rd. We will be hosting a fundraiser and Nick Mule's birthday bash all in one night and one big Queer Celebration!



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QLT Project

Queer Liberation Theory Project
 The production team of Queer Ontario's Queer Liberation Theory Project is hard at work editing and rough cutting for a feature documentary that will feature numerous prominent academics, activists and artists of our communities who engage in queer liberation work. A trailer will soon be produced to assist us in our ongoing fundraising for this Project. Your donations are more than welcome to assist us in completing the documentary.

Bill C-279 update

Bill C-279, which seeks to include 'Gender Identity' under grounds for protection to the Federal Charter of Rights and Criminal code, has yet to become law. A private members Bill introduced by Randall Garrison in 2012 originally including 'Gender Expression' but was amended to only include 'Gender Identity' after much opposition from many Conservative MPs. This amendment allowed Bill C-279 to finally pass 3rd reading in the House of Commons and move on to the Senate in February 2013, however much of the Conservative rhetoric and reluctance with the Bill has followed it into the heavily Conservative Senate. What should have been a straight forward Royal ascent turned into more debate by the Senate and the Bill only passed second Senate reading in June 2013 and has yet to be called for third reading. With the Harper Government now proroguing Parliament until October 16, Bill C-279 will be set back to 1st reading in the Senate again and could be stalled indefinitely and eventually meet the fate of previous Bill C-389.

Presents THE GREG PAVELICH MEMORIAL PUBLIC FORUM ON EDUCATION
 Tuesday, October 1, 2013, 7-9 PM @ 519 Community Centre - Ballroom

This special event commemorates 10 years since the passing of Greg Pavelich, an out proud gay activist, labour rights supporter and teacher among many other community development roles. To recognize his numerous contributions to the LGBTQ communities, Queer Ontario hosts this Public Forum on Education, a topic Greg was so passionate about. Everyone is welcome!

Topics to be Discussed:	Panelists:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updating Sex Ed. Curriculum Post-Secondary Education of Professionals (Teachers) on Queer Issues One School System for Ontario Implementation of Bills 13 and 33 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Michelle Bourgeois (Ontario Rainbow Alliance of the Deaf) Mark Daye (Toronto Centre Candidate, Green Party of Ontario) Gary Kinsman (Queer Liberation and Anti-Capitalist Activist, Academic and Author) J Wallace (Gender Based Violence Prevention Program - TDSB)

This is a free and accessible event with ASL interpretation. Donations to help offset costs are welcomed. The 519 Community Centre is located at 519 Church St. Toronto ON

queerontario.org



Queer Ontario

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NEVER STOP THE DEMAND FOR

QUEER HUMAN RIGHTS

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY 2012



Left: The Queer Ontario picnic from 2011

Right: Queer Ontario members hold up the banner at Parliament Hill after the 40th anniversary 'We Demand' protest.

Left: A collage of many of the events, protests and victories that Queer Ontario was instrumental in.



OUR GOALS

- To provide a queer liberationist voice in Ontario and beyond
- To critically examine, deconstruct, analyze and provide alternative solutions to issues and laws affecting queer populations
- To provide public education to the general public on issues of importance to queer communities and the queer movement through a queer liberationist lens
- To undertake political actions of various means to advocate for changes that will benefit the lives of queer people
- To engage in coalition building with other groups involved in anti-oppression work towards social justice

POSITION STATEMENTS

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QO's Steering Committee

Chair: Nick Mulé Vice-Chair: Davina Hader
Treasurer: Richard Hudler Qc^} : Dwayne Shaw
Members At-Large: Brian De Matos

OUR MISSION

Queer Ontario is a provincial network of gender and sexually diverse individuals — and their allies — who are committed to questioning, challenging, and reforming the laws, institutional practices, and social norms that regulate queer people. Operating under liberationist and sex-positive principles, we fight for accessibility, recognition, and pluralism, using social media and other tactics to engage in political action, public education, and coalition-building.



OUR OBJECTIVES

- To host a virtual think tank via the Queer Ontario website that promotes a queer liberationist discourse
- To preserve the legacy of Queer Ontario's predecessor, the Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights in Ontario (CLGRO), as an archive on the website
- To create a network of queer liberationists across Ontario as individuals or local chapters
- To engage in advocacy, lobbying and political action efforts to address legal and social justice issues affecting queer Ontarians
- To collaborate with other anti-oppression groups to support mutual social justice goals

OUR USE OF THE TERM 'QUEER'

We use the term "queer" both as a way to critique foundational norms pertaining to identities and in a more popular usage as inclusive of a wide range of varying and fluid gender and erotic expression. Queer people, as members of the gender and sexually diverse populations, include but are not limited to 2-spirited, agender,

ambigender, androgyne, asexual, bigender, bisexual, cross-dresser, drag queen, drag king, fluid, gay, gender fluid, genderqueer, intergender, intersex, intrasex, kink, lesbian, non-gendered, omnisexual, pangender, pansexual, polysexual, transgender, transsexual, and transvestite,

Visit our website to read more on our Position Statements: queerontario.org

Click here to **Support Us**



DONATE & SUPPORT OUR WORK!

Queer Ontario is a not-for-profit organization operating on funds provided to us by our generous and capable supporters. Your donation will be channeled directly into our projects and operations, which will help us continue our educational and reformist work.

<http://queerontario.org/donate>



Queer Ontario