

Newsletter - December 2018



Inside this issue

The 2018 Red Scarf Project distributes 268 scarves!
Government of Canada Endorses U=U!
Red Ribbon Campaign raises \$2410!

PARN is a community-based agency providing support and health promotion for people living with or affected by HIV and/or AIDS, or Hepatitis C. PARN provides education for people at risk for HIV and awareness of AIDS issues to the broader community.

PARN's Board of Directors

Chair:

Lawrence Finnie

Vice Chair:

Kirk Parry

Secretary-Treasurer:

Cynthia Lord

Members at Large:

Cheyenne Buck, Kim Kennelly, Mark Phillips (Past Chair)

What's Going On December 2018



Rainbow Youth Program
Every Thursday - 3:30 - 5:30 pm
Suite 302-2, 159 King Street



Office Hours @ PARN

Monday:

9:30 am–5 pm

Tuesday:

9:30 am–5 pm

Wednesday:

9:30 am–5 pm

Thursday:

9:30 am–5 pm

Friday:

9:30 am–5 pm

Closed Saturdays and Sundays

PARN Office Closures in December

Please note that the PARN offices will not open until 11:00 am on Wednesday, December 12 to accommodate an all-staff meeting. The PARN offices will be closed from 3:00 pm on Monday, December 24 until December 30 for the holidays. On December 31 (New Year's Eve) the offices will be open from 9:30 am until 3:00 pm. The PARN offices will be closed on Tuesday, January 1 (New Year's Day) and will re-open at 9:30 am on Wednesday, January 2.

Men's Sexual Health Clinics in Lindsay and Port Hope

PARN has partnered with the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit to provide monthly clinics dedicated to men's sexual health in Peterborough, Port Hope and Lindsay. Free and confidential services include testing for HIV, hep C, & sexually transmitted infections as well as condoms, lube & information on sexual health.

Lindsay - Thursday, December 13 - 5pm to 7pm

HKPR District Health Unit

108 Angeline St. S., Lindsay, ON

Port Hope - No clinic in December

HKPR District Health Unit

200 Rose Glen Rd, Port Hope, ON



Concerned About Your Status?

HIV testing is available in our region

The following locations offer HIV testing in Peterborough and the Four Counties:

Positive Care Clinic

Tuesdays and Thursdays at PARN – 9am to 4pm
1-866-303-2420 or 905-579-8711 ext. 3127

Peterborough Public Health Sexual Health Clinic

705-748-2021

Haliburton Kawartha Pine Ridge District Health Unit Sexual Health Clinic

1-866-888-4577 ext. 1205

Trent University Health Services

705-748-1481 (Trent students only)

Fleming College Health Services

705-749-5557 (Fleming students only)



Thursday Morning Drop-In

Make a difference every Thursday morning @ PARN by helping build a community that is a little more safe and a little more friendly.

Join PARN staff and volunteers every Thursday from 10:00am to 11:30pm to make kits for our Harm Reduction Works program.

**Harm
Reduction
Works
@
PARN**

Peer and Volunteer Training

What: PARN will be holding training sessions in December for peers and volunteers. Training topics will include: PARN's mission, vision and values; PARN programs and services; confidentiality; HIV 101; Hep C 101; Harm Reduction 101; and more. Refreshments will be provided. There is no cost for these training sessions.

When: Tuesday, December 11 (11:30 am to 4:30 pm) and Wednesday, December 12 (1:00 pm to 5:00 pm).

Where: 159 King Street, Suite 302-2, Peterborough

Who: People who are interested in volunteering with PARN, and current peers and volunteers who would like a refresher.

To register, or for more information, please contact Brittany Cameron at brittany@parn.ca or 705-749-9110 ext 204.

PFLAG Peterborough Meeting - Thursday, December 13 @ 7pm

PFLAG CANADA
PETERBOROUGH - ON

PFLAG Canada Peterborough Chapter usually hosts Sharing Meetings on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month* at 7pm in Suite 302-2 at the PARN offices on 159 King Street in downtown Peterborough. For directions or more information please contact Dianne McKay at 705 749 9723 or ladydi@nexicom.net. Visit the website at <http://www.pflagpeterborough.com>

*** Please note that PFLAG will not be meeting on Thursday, December 27.**

Canadian Government Endorses U=U Campaign

On World AIDS Day (December 1), the Honourable Ginette Petitpas Taylor, Canadian Minister of Health, officially endorsed the Undetectable = Untransmittable (U=U) campaign that promotes new scientific evidence that indicates that when an individual is being treated for HIV and maintains a suppressed viral load, there is effectively no risk of sexual transmission.

Canada is the first government to sign on to this global campaign that will directly improve the lives of people living with HIV and reduce stigma.



The Minister took part in a red ribbon flag raising ceremony on Parliament Hill with HIV and AIDS organizations from across the country. She later attended the World AIDS Day and Aboriginal AIDS Awareness Week kick-off event co-hosted by the Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network, the Interagency Coalition on AIDS and Development, and the Pauktutit Inuit Women of Canada.

"Canada is committed to preventing new HIV infections and achieving our global targets. The courage of people living with HIV inspires me. The continued support of initiatives like the Undetectable = Untransmittable campaign are critical to ending HIV-related stigma. Ending stigma will also go a long way in helping us prevent new infections, reach the undiagnosed, and ensure that people living with HIV receive the care, treatment and support they need."

- The Honourable Ginette Petitpas Taylor - Minister of Health

"I am thankful to all the individuals and organizations across Canada who devote their time and efforts to addressing HIV and other sexually transmitted and blood-borne infections. I continue to be a strong proponent for the Undetectable = Untransmittable (U = U) message. This is a principle firmly grounded in science but, more importantly, it is a way forward for treatment and care; it has the potential to change society's views and help end the stigma that can isolate, harm and hinder people living with HIV."

- Dr. Theresa Tam Chief Public Health Officer of Canada

For more information about the Undetectable = Untransmittable Campaign, please visit:
<https://www.preventionaccess.org/>

Moving to End Unjust HIV Prosecutions

Human rights advocates welcome historic announcement by federal government

The following statement is issued by the Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network on Saturday, December 1, 2018

December 1, 2018 – Today, on World AIDS Day, federal Attorney General Jody Wilson-Raybould announced a new directive to help limit unjust prosecutions against people living with HIV in Canada. This new directive, which comes after years of advocacy by the Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network and many partner organizations, is consistent with Justice Canada's own recommendations and a welcome step in the ongoing effort to the end the criminalization of HIV. It is also better aligned with the latest scientific evidence regarding HIV and its transmission.



Last year, the Canadian Coalition to Reform HIV Criminalization (CCRHC), of which we are a founding member, released its Community Consensus Statement, signed by more than 160 organizations Canada-wide. In this statement, we detailed key steps that the federal, provincial and territorial governments must take in order to curb the overly broad use of criminal law against people living with HIV. Yesterday, the CCRHC issued a follow-up statement in which more than 100 organizations called on the federal government to act on its stated concerns about “overcriminalization of HIV” and the conclusions of a Justice Canada report released a year ago. Scientists have also repeatedly called on federal and provincial governments to heed the science and limit prosecutions accordingly.

We are pleased that the government has listened to our collective voice and taken much-needed action today. We congratulate the Attorney General for this welcome and important step.

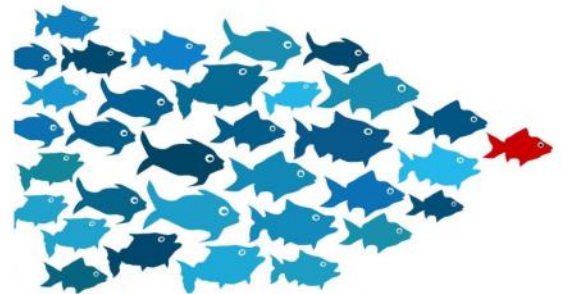
We note that this directive only governs federal prosecutors, who handle such criminal prosecutions only in Canada's three territories. We therefore continue to call on provincial Attorneys General to follow the federal government lead and issue similar directives limiting prosecutions against people living with HIV in their jurisdictions. At this time, no province has yet issued clear directives reflecting these limits on the misuse of the criminal law. Unjust prosecutions – and the fear of such prosecution – continue. We also continue to call on the Government of Canada to enact Criminal Code reforms that remove HIV non-disclosure prosecutions entirely from the reach of sexual assault laws.

Leadership Opportunity: PARN Board of Directors

PARN's Board of Directors is seeking dynamic, experienced individuals interested in governance and leadership.

Now more than ever, PARN, like other non-profit organizations is being called on to respond to the needs of our communities by providing critical supports that leverage opportunities in the sweet spots between silos. At PARN, our best work is done in partnership with community members, other organizations, institutions and businesses. By identifying shared concerns, exploring the sweet spot and imaging possibilities we can find solutions to some of our most pressing current day challenges.

Please contact board@parn.ca for a PARN Enduring Membership form and a Board application form, as well as a copy of our most recent E-NEWS.



**December
19th
7pm**

SoBar
**THE
Holiday
SOCIAL**

Come out and join us for a Sober event with holiday inspired Mocktails and Fauxtinis

Featuring fun and festive Drag performances by Dixie-Q and Janis from Accounting

~ All age event for cis and trans men to meet other men ~

Fantastic Prizes to be won, donated by local businesses

\$2 FAUXTINIS & \$3 MOCKTAILS

**The Theatre On King - 171 King Street,
Peterborough - Back Entrance**



COMMUNITY-BASED HIV/STBI PROGRAM
SUPPORT PREVENTION EDUCATION

2018 Red Ribbon Campaign



33 Volunteers
4 Locations
2000 Red Ribbons
\$2410 raised

Thank you to all of the volunteers and local businesses who helped PARN raise \$2410 and distribute 2000 Red Ribbons in our communities on Saturday, November 24, 2018. We are grateful for your ongoing support.

Please support the businesses that made space for PARN volunteers on November 24 for the Red Ribbon Campaign:

Thank you to Fabricland,
official supplier for the 2018
Red Ribbon Campaign.



Freshco (Brock Street)
Freshco (Lansdowne St.)
Metro
Morello's Independent Grocer



**Join us for the next meal at
The Bridge, 256 Brock**

**Wednesday, December 5th
3:00-7:00 pm**

**For info, updates and to request individual
reminders like our Facebook page:
WHAI@PARN**

**This is a free event for all self-identified women and the
youth and children in their care.
Food and activities are provided.**

**For more information, contact Rachel Petty by email at
Rachel@parn.ca or by calling 705-749-9110.**

Thank You for Your Support!

Red Scarf Project

World AIDS Day 2018



Generous people in our communities donated a total of 268 beautiful red scarves for the 2018 Red Scarf Project. On Saturday, December 1 - World AIDS Day - volunteers took to the streets to display the scarves in Peterborough, Lindsay, Grafton and Cobourg. The scarves were displayed like large red ribbons – the international symbol of HIV awareness and support - to raise awareness of World AIDS Day and HIV issues in our community. People who are in need of a scarf this winter were encouraged to grab one to bundle up against the cold in the coming months.



Thank you to everyone who took the time to create scarves for the Red Scarf Project, including residents and staff from Jackson Creek Retirement Residence who crafted 30 scarves this year, and members of Emmanuel United Church in Peterborough who donated 27 hand-made scarves!



We are grateful to St. Andrew's United Church in Grafton and PFLAG Cobourg for taking the lead in Northumberland where community members created 60 red scarves for December 1st!



PARN Invites you to our

Annual Holiday Social

Thursday, December 20
2:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Dinner will be served at 4:30 pm

Emmanuel United Church
534 George St. N



Please R.S.V.P. by Monday, December 17 to
Brittany Cameron by email at brittany@parn.ca or
by calling 705-749-9110 ext 204

Think you might have Hep C?

Get tested and find out
your results in 20
minutes!



PARN, in partnership with the Positive Care Clinic (Lakeridge Health), is providing no-cost rapid Hep C testing at the PARN offices on Tuesday afternoons from 1pm to 3pm. The test takes 20 minutes and can change your life !

Tuesday, December 11: 1pm-3pm

Tuesday, December 18: 1pm-3pm

There is a cure for Hep C

Eligibility requirements apply.

Please contact Becky Lyon
(Hepatitis C Outreach Coordinator) at
705-749-9110 or becky@parn.ca



COMMUNITY-BASED HIV/STBBI PROGRAMS
SUPPORT. PREVENTION. EDUCATION.



**Lakeridge
Health**

Naloxone Saves Lives



**Many people in our communities are at-risk for overdose death.
You can be prepared to save a life.**

Harm Reduction Works @ PARN provides no-cost Overdose Prevention Training and Naloxone Kits to anyone. The training can take as little as ten minutes and can change a life forever.

Please contact us at 705-749-9110 to arrange for training, or just stop by our office at 159 King Street, Suite 302 and we'll hook you up with the training and a kit.



Naloxone Saves Lives

WHAT IS YOUR STATUS



Where to go and what you need
to know to get tested for HIV.



Questions?

Call us or stop by:

PARN - Your Community
AIDS Resource Network
159 King Street
Peterborough ON
Phone: 705-749-9110
OR 1-800-361-2895

For a testing site near you call
the AIDS and Sexual Health
Info Line: 1-800-668-2437



United Way
Peterborough & District
Change starts here.