CONTENTS

Preface
Acknowledgements
Abbreviations

The Chronology

1976
1977
1978
1979
1980
1981


This book is dedicated to

Jim Egan
(1921–2000)

and

George Hislop
(1927–2005)
PREFACE

When I was at library school, more than thirty years ago now, I was introduced to some fascinating standard reference works of Canadian bibliography. They were commonly referred to by the names of their compilers, such as “Peel” or “Tremaine” or “Watters”.¹ They made a large impact on me: here were big, comprehensive bibliographies of Canadian works of the past, compiled over many years of singular research and labour. I spent hours looking through them, marvelling at the amount of effort it must have taken to research and compile them. They were extremely practical, and still useful many years after publication. In short, they were inspirational.

I dabbled in bibliographical compilation right after graduating from library school. In 1984 I was hired by the AIDS Committee of Toronto (ACT) to compile (with Alan V. Miller) the bibliographical checklist Medical, Social, and Political Aspects of the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) Crisis: A Selected Bibliography.² Much of this work was undertaken at the Canadian Gay Archives, and my introduction to that institution had profound consequences on my subsequent work.

Soon I was working in my spare time with Dennis J. Haubrich to compile a more complex, annotated bibliography on AIDS, titled Psychosocial Dimensions of HIV and AIDS: A Selected Annotated Bibliography, which was published by the Federal Centre for AIDS in 1988.³ This was excellent experience, and further fed my interest in bibliography.

In 1987 I talked my way into working for ECW Press on the strength of my interest in their publication series the Annotated Bibliography of Canada’s Major Authors (ABCMA). I’d sent a letter to ECW’s president, Jack David, asking if there were any employment opportunities there and before I knew it I was working part-time for ECW, doing verification on some of the forthcoming editions of the ABCMA. I spent many days in the book stacks at the Robarts Library, University of Toronto, tracking down the original sources cited in the
manuscript bibliographies, and making corrections when necessary. This was more interesting than might be expected, and was thorough, practical bibliographical training. Within a year I was working at the ECW Press office full-time, and eventually became managing editor. There I was able to work on many intriguing projects, including large works such as Freda Farrell Waldon’s *Bibliography of Canadia Published in Great Britain, 1519–1763*. But, while I was grateful to be able to work on these projects, in the back of my mind I was really looking to do my own work—to compile “McLeod”.

By 1989, besides working full-time at ECW, I was volunteering regularly at the Canadian Gay Archives. I’d thrown myself into the study of Canadian lesbian and gay history—particularly as represented in documents—and delighted in helping researchers, most of whom were university undergraduates or graduate students, to use the materials at the Archives for their projects.

At that time there were only a few standard reference tools on Canadian lesbian and gay history, such as James Fraser and Alan V. Miller’s *Lesbian and Gay Heritage of Toronto* (1982), William Crawford’s *Homosexuality in Canada: A Bibliography* (second edition, 1984), and Gary Kinsman’s *The Regulation of Desire: Sexuality in Canada* (1987). These works were good, but the field of Canadian LGBT history was so large and relatively untrodden that additional reference sources were desperately needed.

I started to spend more time poking about the collections of the Archives. The more I looked, the more I found. There was an incredible amount of published (and unpublished) material on the recent Canadian lesbian and gay past, some of it extremely obscure, scattered in many sources. I became particularly fascinated by “Victories and Defeats: A Gay and Lesbian Chronology 1964–1982,” compiled by James Fraser (with assistance from Michael Pearl and Dana Rice) and published in Ed Jackson and Stan Persky’s anthology *Flaunting It!: A Decade of Gay Journalism from The Body Politic*. It was a standard quick-reference tool, used regularly to solve straightforward questions about the dates of
Canadian lesbian or gay events. It was great as a bare outline, but lacked bibliographic sources to back up its information or provide further clues.

Then I had an idea: if a chronology of major events outlining Canadian lesbian and gay history for a particular period could be combined with a brief, selected bibliography of sources for each event, the result would be an authoritative reference guide to the origins and development of lesbian and gay liberation in Canada.

I had found my project, and I set to work.

Lesbian and Gay Liberation in Canada: A Selected Annotated Chronology, 1964–1975

I began to compile that book in 1989, and worked on it in my spare time for six years; it was published in 1996. When I started the work I had intended to expand the coverage of the “Victories and Defeats” chronology to the end of 1990, complete with bibliographic citations for each entry. The more I read, however, the more I realized this would be impossible to do in a single volume. The 1980s saw an explosion of lesbian and gay activity in Canada, with dozens of new groups forming. And how would I deal with the AIDS crisis? An annotated chronology of Canadian lesbian and gay organizing around AIDS alone could easily fill a separate volume. I then decided to end the chronology with the close of 1981, the year in which AIDS first came to public attention. Even this, however, proved untenable. A detailed though select chronology even of the period only to the end of 1981 would still be several hundred pages long. A sharper focus yet was called for.

Finally, I settled on covering the first twelve years of the homophile/gay liberation movement in Canada, from 1964 (when the Association for Social Knowledge [ASK], Canada’s first large-scale homophile organization, was formed in Vancouver) through 1975 (the year of the founding of the National Gay Rights Coalition/Coalition nationale pour les droits des homosexuels [NGRC/CNDH], the first truly national coalition of Canadian lesbian and gay groups). Coverage was selective and focused on self-declared lesbians and gay men and their
activities in regard to the forging of lesbian and gay communities and liberation in Canada. Special attention was given to important demonstrations, political action and lobbying, and legal reform. In addition to these areas, artistic and cultural contributions with significant lesbian or gay content were included, such as books, dramatic productions, and films.

A number of heterosexuals (some friendly, some not) who became embroiled in the struggle for lesbian and gay liberation in Canada were included. Foreign events that had a direct impact on the climate of liberation in this country were listed; Stonewall was the prime example. Other foreign events were included if Canadian lesbians or gays were involved in them directly, such as the opening of Michel Tremblay’s play *Hosanna* on Broadway or the attendance of Canadian academics at the Gay Academic Union conferences in New York.

There were twelve chapters, one for each year, and entries were chronological within each. Closely related entries were linked by internal references, and through an index. The early chapters were brief (less was happening then), while the chapters for 1974 and 1975 were more than fifty pages each. The full form of the name of an organization was used the first time it appeared but the acronym was used thereafter (a reference page included a full listing of abbreviations used).

The *Chronology* had three appendices. The first was a checklist of lesbian and gay organizations in Canada active during 1964 through 1975, arranged geographically and chronologically. The second was a checklist of Canadian lesbian and gay periodicals published during the period, arranged alphabetically by title. Appendix three was a preliminary checklist of Canadian lesbian and gay bars and clubs active during 1964 through 1975, arranged geographically.


The current volume is a continuation of the first and has the same level of detail, scope, and arrangement. It begins with 1976 and ends with
1981, the year of the Bath Raids in Toronto and the beginning of the first press reports concerning AIDS. Arrangement is chronological, one chapter per year. Foreign events that had an impact on Canadian lesbian and gay consciousness, such as the rise of Anita Bryant, the assassination of Harvey Milk, and the first reports of what would become known as AIDS, are included. Closely related events have internal links. An index is not included, as the text is searchable online. The full form of the name of an organization is used the first time it appears but the acronym is used thereafter (a reference page includes a full listing of abbreviations). As in the first volume, there are appendices. The first is a checklist of lesbian, gay, and transsexual organizations in Canada active during the period 1976 through 1981, arranged geographically and then alphabetically by place. The second is a checklist of Canadian lesbian, gay, and transsexual periodicals published during 1976 through 1981, arranged alphabetically by title. Appendix three is a preliminary checklist of Canadian lesbian and gay bars and clubs active during 1976 through 1981, arranged geographically and then alphabetically by place.

A NOTE ABOUT SOURCES

I have cast a wide net to examine and list both published and unpublished primary sources that help to verify the contents of each entry. The holdings of four institutions were of key importance: the Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto; the Archives gaiés du Québec, Montréal; the B.C. Gay and Lesbian Archives, Vancouver; and the Canadian Women’s Movement Archives, Ottawa. I was also able to examine or verify materials held in numerous other institutions, including the Glenbow Museum Archives, Calgary, the Toronto Reference Library, and the Robarts Library, University of Toronto. Finally, I have corresponded with or spoken to numerous lesbians and gay men who were directly involved in some of the events chronicled in this book. They were helpful in providing leads to new sources and in correcting errors or misconceptions on my part. Some of them were
asked to examine an earlier draft of the project and were able to offer cogent advice. Their participation was essential in making this a better resource.

The Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives in Toronto was my base of operations. It is a remarkable institution and contains one of the finest collections of lesbian and gay material in the world. It began in 1973 as an offshoot of the newspaper the *Body Politic*, the Canadian gay paper of record published from 1971 to 1987. It is this connection that accounts for its superb collection of lesbian and gay Canadiana from the 1970s and 1980s. The Archives started as the files of the newspaper, and grew from there. Almost every gay or lesbian liberation group formed in Canada during the 1970s and into the 1980s was in some way connected to the *Body Politic*, either through direct correspondence or through the exchange of newsletters or publications. The records of this correspondence still exist in the *Body Politic/Pink Triangle Press* fonds in the Archives, as do all of the posters, pamphlets, flyers, buttons, newsletters, books, and other items that were sent to the paper. When some of these groups went out of business, they sent their organizational records to the Archives. The Archives is fortunate to have the records of several other key Canadian organizations from this period. Of course, Toronto-based groups predominate—from the Community Homophile Association of Toronto (CHAT) to the Gay Alliance toward Equality (GATE) to the Coalition for Gay Rights in Ontario (CGRO)—but several key non-Ontarian groups are also represented. These include the papers of Gay Alliance toward Equality (GATE) (Vancouver), Gays for Equality (GFE) (Winnipeg), Gays of Ottawa/Gays d’Ottawa (GO), and Gay Alliance for Equality (GAE) (Halifax).

In the course of researching this project I conducted a systematic search through the following components of the Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives:

- The James Fraser Library (includes literature, non-fiction, and reference works)
- Canadian Daily Press Clippings Collection (arranged chronologically)
• Canadian Vertical Files Collection (a quick-reference collection of files on individuals and organizations)
• Archival Accessions (includes the fonds and collections of papers of individuals and organizations)
• Monograph Collection (mostly pamphlets)
• Photographic Image Collection (includes the photo archive of the *Body Politic*)
• Poster Collection
• Non-Lesbian/Gay Periodicals Collection (mostly clippings on lesbian or gay subjects printed in mainstream publications)
• Lesbian and Gay Periodicals Collection (includes the most complete collection of Canadian lesbian and gay publications in existence)

HOW TO USE THIS WORK

A compilation of this nature is only as good as its sources, which in some cases have been problematic. First, objectivity in journalism is a rare commodity. Publications and writers often are biased, consciously or unconsciously, and this will affect what they publish, and how news is presented. Readers should always keep this in mind. Second, journalism is not always factually correct. This is particularly true when numbers are involved (such as the number of people at a demonstration). Three different sources may report three different numbers. Which, if any, is correct? Also, breaking news sometimes produces contradictory or incorrect stories. I have done my best to weed out discrepancies and inaccuracies, but errors may still be present in the “facts” of some events, and perhaps even in their interpretation.

This cautionary note about sources reinforces the necessity that this book not be viewed as a *history* of lesbian and gay liberation in Canada between 1976 and 1981, but rather as a *chronology* of it, with additional bibliographical support. I do believe that any serious history of Canadian lesbian and gay liberation for the period must take into consideration the material presented here. But there are other sources, too, that require study. Oral histories and the correspondence of
organizations and individuals, for example, might be particularly fruitful areas to research. And, of course, history moves beyond the marshalling of facts and references when it uses these sources to present a thesis or to draw conclusions. Many leads have been presented here. It is up to you to use them, and others you may find, to reach conclusions concerning some of the events that occurred during the early years of lesbian and gay organizing in Canada. I hope that this volume, as well as its predecessor volume, will be seen as a handy point of departure, a stepping-stone toward further, more advanced, research.

Donald W. McLeod
Toronto
October 2016

NOTE: Several of the sources listed in this book are obscure and may be available at only one or two institutions in Canada. If you have trouble locating them, please contact me (or one of my colleagues) at the Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives:

Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives (CLGA)
34 Isabella Street
Toronto, Ontario, Canada
M4Y 1N1

Mailing address:

Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives (CLGA)
P.O. Box 699
663A Yonge Street
Toronto, Ontario, Canada
M4Y 1Z9

Telephone: 416-777-2755

E-mail: queeries@clga.ca


5 James Fraser and Alan V. Miller, comps., *Lesbian and Gay Heritage of Toronto*. Canadian Gay Archives Publication, no. 5 (Toronto: Canadian Gay Archives, 1982).


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I am indebted to the University of Toronto Libraries, former chief librarian Carole Moore, and current chief librarian Larry Alford, who approved three six-month research leaves from my position there, in 2006, 2010, and 2015, to work on this project.

James Fraser, with the assistance of Michael Pearl and Dana Rice, compiled “Victories and Defeats: A Gay and Lesbian Chronology 1964–1982,” published in Ed Jackson and Stan Persky’s anthology *Flaunting It!: A Decade of Gay Journalism from The Body Politic* (New Star Books and Pink Triangle Press, 1982); this work was helpful in providing a basic framework for the current project.

I would like to thank the following individuals for showing an interest in my research and for providing information or advice: Harold Averill, Edna Barker, Rick Bébout, Elspeth Brown, Constance Crompton, Yvon D’Amour, Ron Dutton, Ross Higgins, Ed Jackson, Ron Levy, Allan McDonald, Alan V. Miller, Julie Podmore, Neil Richards, Michelle Schwartz, Hans Soetaert, Graham Willett, Ian Young, and Peter Zorzi.

The collections of several libraries and archives were consulted in researching this book. I would like to thank the staff at the following institutions in particular for their kind support in finding material and answering queries:

- Archives gaies du Québec, Montréal (Ross Higgins)
- B.C. Lesbian and Gay Archives, Vancouver (Ron Dutton)
- Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto (particularly Harold Averill and Alan V. Miller)
- Canadian Women’s Movement Archives, Morisset Library, University of Ottawa, Ottawa
- Glenbow Museum, Library and Archives, Calgary
- Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa
- McLennan Library, McGill University, Montréal
- Robarts Library, University of Toronto, Toronto
• Toronto Reference Library, Toronto

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## ABBREVIATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AA</td>
<td>Alcoholics Anonymous</td>
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<tr>
<td>ABM</td>
<td>Anita Bryant Ministries (U.S.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACHUM</td>
<td>Association communautaire homosexuelle à l’Université de Montréal</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACT</td>
<td>Association for Canadian Transsexuals</td>
</tr>
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<td>ADGC</td>
<td>Association des droits des gais de Charlevoix</td>
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<td>ADGQ</td>
<td>Association pour les droits des gai(e)s du Québec (later, Association pour les droits de la communauté gaie du Québec)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGA</td>
<td>Atlantic Gay Association/Association des gai(e)s de l’Atlantique</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGE</td>
<td>Association of Gay Electors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGL</td>
<td>Association des gai(e)s des Laurentides</td>
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<tr>
<td>AGOQ</td>
<td>Association gaie de l’Ouest Québécois</td>
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<tr>
<td>AHM</td>
<td>Association homophile de Montréal (see also GMA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>AHRC</td>
<td>Alberta Human Rights Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>AIDS</td>
<td>acquired immune deficiency syndrome</td>
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<tr>
<td>ALGRA</td>
<td>Alberta Lesbian and Gay Rights Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>APA</td>
<td>American Psychological Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>APPLE</td>
<td>Atlantic Provinces Political Lesbians for Equality</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASK</td>
<td>Association for Social Knowledge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATQ</td>
<td>L’Aide aux transsexuels du Québec</td>
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<tr>
<td>BCFW</td>
<td>British Columbia Federation of Women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BCGEU</td>
<td>British Columbia Government Employees Union</td>
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<tr>
<td>BPDC</td>
<td>Book and Periodical Development Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>BPFPF</td>
<td>Body Politic Free the Press Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAAB</td>
<td>Coalition to Answer Anita Bryant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAC</td>
<td>Coalition against Censorship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAD</td>
<td>Coalition against Discrimination</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAHRL</td>
<td>Citizens against Homosexual Rights Legislation</td>
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<tr>
<td>CALGM</td>
<td>Canadian Association of Lesbians and Gay Men</td>
</tr>
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<td>CALGR</td>
<td>Coalition for the Advancement of Lesbian and Gay Rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acronym</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAMP</td>
<td>Campaign against Moral Persecution (Australia)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CARAT</td>
<td>Committee against Racism and Tackiness</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAS</td>
<td>Children’s Aid Society</td>
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<tr>
<td>CBC</td>
<td>Canadian Broadcasting Corporation</td>
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<tr>
<td>CCDLG</td>
<td>Coalition canadienne pour les droits des lesbiennes et des gais (see also CLGRC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCLA</td>
<td>Canadian Civil Liberties Association</td>
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<td>CDC</td>
<td>Centers for Disease Control (U.S.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CECM</td>
<td>Commission des écoles Catholiques de Montréal (see also MCSC)</td>
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<td>CGA</td>
<td>Canadian Gay Archives</td>
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<td>CGRO</td>
<td>Coalition for Gay Rights in Ontario</td>
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<tr>
<td>CGSL</td>
<td>Cabbagetown Group Softball League</td>
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<tr>
<td>CGU</td>
<td>Chatham Gay Unity</td>
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<td>CHAL</td>
<td>Centre humanitaire d’aide et de libération</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHAN</td>
<td>Community Homophile Association of Newfoundland</td>
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<td>CHANB</td>
<td>Caring Homosexual Association of North Bay</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHAR</td>
<td>Comité homosexual anti-répression (see also GCAR)</td>
</tr>
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<td>CHAT</td>
<td>Community Homophile Association of Toronto</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHE</td>
<td>Campaign for Homosexual Equality (U.K.)</td>
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<td>CHR</td>
<td>Council on Homosexuality and Religion</td>
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<td>CHRC</td>
<td>Canadian Human Rights Commission</td>
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<td>CHUM</td>
<td>Centre homophile urbain de Montréal</td>
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<tr>
<td>CICB</td>
<td>Criminal Injuries Compensation Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIRPA</td>
<td>Citizens’ Independent Review of Police Actions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLA</td>
<td>Canadian Library Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>CLGRC</td>
<td>Canadian Lesbian and Gay Rights Coalition (see also CCDLG)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CLT</td>
<td>Coalition for Life Together</td>
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<td>CNDH</td>
<td>Coalition nationale pour les droits des homosexuels (see also NGRC)</td>
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<td>COJO</td>
<td>Comité organisateur des Jeux Olympiques</td>
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<td>CP</td>
<td>Canadian Press</td>
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<tr>
<td>CPC</td>
<td>Communist Party of Canada</td>
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<td>Abbreviation</td>
<td>Full Name</td>
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<td>--------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>CPPA</td>
<td>Canadian Periodical Publishers’ Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRTC</td>
<td>Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission</td>
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<td>CSAB</td>
<td>Coalition to Stop Anita Bryant</td>
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<td>CSSMM</td>
<td>Centre de services sociaux de Montréal Métropolitain (see also MMSSC)</td>
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<td>CUP</td>
<td>Canadian University Press</td>
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<tr>
<td>CUPE</td>
<td>Canadian Union of Public Employees</td>
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<td>CUPW</td>
<td>Canadian Union of Postal Workers</td>
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<tr>
<td>DSO</td>
<td>dangerous sexual offender</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECM</td>
<td>Église communautaire de Montréal (see also MCC)</td>
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<td>EEOP</td>
<td>Equal Employment Opportunity Programme</td>
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<td>ELGRO</td>
<td>Edmonton Lesbian and Gay Rights Organization</td>
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<td>FACT</td>
<td>Foundation for the Advancement of Canadian Transsexuals</td>
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<td>FBI</td>
<td>Federal Bureau of Investigation (U.S.)</td>
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<td>FCT</td>
<td>Fédération Canadienne des transsexuels</td>
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<td>FEO</td>
<td>Fédération des étudiants de l’Ontario (see also OFS)</td>
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<td>FFLAG</td>
<td>Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays</td>
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<td>FLAG</td>
<td>Feminist Lesbian Action Group (Victoria)</td>
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<td>——</td>
<td>Fredericton Lesbians and Gays</td>
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<td>——</td>
<td>Free Lesbians and Gays</td>
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<td>FLM</td>
<td>Feministes lesbiennes de Montréal (see also LFM)</td>
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<td>Families of Gays</td>
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<td>Feminist Party of Canada</td>
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<tr>
<td>FYI</td>
<td>For Your Information</td>
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<tr>
<td>GAA</td>
<td>Gay Activists’ Alliance (U.S.)</td>
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<td>——</td>
<td>Gay Alcoholics Anonymous</td>
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<td>GAE</td>
<td>Gay Alliance for Equality</td>
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<td>Gay Associations of Edmonton</td>
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<td>GAFF</td>
<td>Gays at Fort Frances</td>
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<td>GAGE</td>
<td>Gay Action Group for Equality</td>
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<td>GALL</td>
<td>Gay Activist League of London (Ontario)</td>
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<td>——</td>
<td>Gay and Lesbian Liberals</td>
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<td>Acronym</td>
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<td>GAMES</td>
<td>Gay Artists, Musicians, and Entertainers Society</td>
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<td>Gays at Ryerson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GARD</td>
<td>Gay Association of Red Deer</td>
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<tr>
<td>GAT</td>
<td>Gay Asians Toronto</td>
</tr>
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<td>Gay Alliance toward Equality</td>
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<td>GATMC</td>
<td>Gays against the Movie <em>Cruising</em></td>
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<td>Gay Academic Union</td>
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<td>Gays at the University of Toronto</td>
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<td>GAY</td>
<td>Gay Alliance at York</td>
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<td>Gay Association of Youth (Saskatoon)</td>
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<td>GCAR</td>
<td>Gay Coalition against Repression (see also CHAR)</td>
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<td>GCAT</td>
<td>Gay Community Appeal of Toronto</td>
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<td>Gay Friends of Concordia</td>
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<td>GFE</td>
<td>Gays for Equality</td>
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<td>GFT</td>
<td>Gay Fathers of Toronto</td>
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<td>GGE</td>
<td>Guelph Gay Equality</td>
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<td>GGUL</td>
<td>Groupe gai de l’Université Laval</td>
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<td>GHAP</td>
<td>Groupe homosexuel d’action politique</td>
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<tr>
<td>GIRC</td>
<td>Gay Information and Resources Calgary</td>
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<td>GLAD</td>
<td>Gays and Lesbians at Dalhousie</td>
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<td>GLARE</td>
<td>Gays and Lesbians against the Right Everywhere (from June 1981: Gay Liberation against the Right Everywhere)</td>
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<td>GLL</td>
<td>Gay Leisure Link</td>
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<td>Gay Liberation Movement</td>
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<tr>
<td>GLOW</td>
<td>Gays and Lesbians on the Wagon</td>
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<tr>
<td>GLSS</td>
<td>Gay and Lesbian Support Services</td>
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<td>GLU</td>
<td>Gay Liberation Union</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acronym</td>
<td>Description</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>GMA</td>
<td>Gay Montreal Association (see also AHM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GO</td>
<td>Gays of Ottawa/Gays d’Ottawa/Gais de l’Outaouais</td>
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<td>Gay People of Carleton</td>
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<td>Gay Rights of Waterloo</td>
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<td>GSN</td>
<td><em>Gay Studies Newsletter</em></td>
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<td>Gays of Thunder Bay</td>
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<td>Gay Youth Guelph</td>
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<td>GYT</td>
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<td>HALO</td>
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<td>HOPE</td>
<td>Homophiles Option-Positive Experiences</td>
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<tr>
<td>HOT</td>
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<td>HUGS</td>
<td>Hamilton United Gay Societies</td>
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<td>International Gay Association</td>
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<td>IGCCS</td>
<td>Island Gay Community Centre Society</td>
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<td>INS</td>
<td>Immigration and Naturalization Service (U.S.)</td>
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<td>IWDC</td>
<td>International Women’s Day Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>JAC</td>
<td>John Grube, Alex Liros, Clarence Barnes (art collective)</td>
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<tr>
<td>JGM</td>
<td>Jeunesse gaie de Montréal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KKK</td>
<td>Ku Klux Klan</td>
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<td>LAFMPAG</td>
<td>Lesbian and Feminist Mothers Political Action Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>LAR</td>
<td>Lesbians against the Right</td>
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<tr>
<td>LFM</td>
<td>Lesbian Feminists of Montreal (see also FLM)</td>
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<tr>
<td>LGBT</td>
<td>lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender</td>
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<tr>
<td>LGR</td>
<td>Libertarians for Gay Rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abbreviation</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>LGSO</td>
<td>Lesbian and Gay Students of Ottawa</td>
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<td>LIL</td>
<td>Lesbian Information Line</td>
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<td>LLBO</td>
<td>Liquor Licensing Board of Ontario</td>
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<td>LLC</td>
<td>Lesbian Literary Collective</td>
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<tr>
<td>——</td>
<td>London Lesbian Collective</td>
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<td>LMDF</td>
<td>Lesbian Mothers’ Defence Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>LOOK</td>
<td>Lesbian Organization of Kitchener</td>
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<td>LOON</td>
<td>Lesbians of Ottawa Now</td>
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<td>LOOS</td>
<td>Lesbian Organization of Saskatoon</td>
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<td>LOOT</td>
<td>Lesbian Organization of Toronto</td>
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<td>LSA</td>
<td>League for Socialist Action</td>
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<td>MARL</td>
<td>Manitoba Association for Rights and Liberties</td>
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<tr>
<td>MCC</td>
<td>Metropolitan Community Church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>——</td>
<td>Montreal Community Church (see also ECM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCM</td>
<td>Montreal Citizens Movement</td>
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<tr>
<td>MCSC</td>
<td>Montreal Catholic School Commission (see also CECM)</td>
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<tr>
<td>MFS</td>
<td>Mutual Friendship Society</td>
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<tr>
<td>MGC</td>
<td>Manitoba Gay Coalition</td>
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<td>MHA</td>
<td>McMaster Homophile Association</td>
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<td>MJGCC</td>
<td>Moose Jaw Gay Community Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>MLA</td>
<td>Member of the Legislative Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>——</td>
<td>Modern Language Association (chiefly U.S.)</td>
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<td>MMSSC</td>
<td>Montreal Metropolitan Social Services Centre (see also CSSMM)</td>
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<td>MNA</td>
<td>Member of the National Assembly (Québec)</td>
</tr>
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<td>MP</td>
<td>Member of Parliament</td>
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<tr>
<td>MPP</td>
<td>Member of Provincial Parliament</td>
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<td>MUC</td>
<td>Montreal Urban Community</td>
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<tr>
<td>NABET</td>
<td>National Association of Broadcast Employees and Technicians</td>
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<tr>
<td>NAGA</td>
<td>North American Gay Alliance (mostly U.S.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>NAGAAA</td>
<td>North American Gay Amateur Athletic Alliance (mostly U.S.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>NDP</td>
<td>New Democratic Party</td>
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<td>Abbreviation</td>
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<td>NGRC</td>
<td>National Gay Rights Coalition (see also CNDH)</td>
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<td>Ontario Arts Council</td>
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<td>OFL</td>
<td>Ontario Federation of Labour</td>
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<td>OFS</td>
<td>Ontario Federation of Students (see also FEO)</td>
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<td>OGTC</td>
<td>Ontario Gay Teachers’ Caucus</td>
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<td>OHIP</td>
<td>Ontario Health Insurance Plan</td>
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<td>OHRC</td>
<td>Ontario Human Rights Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>OISE</td>
<td>Ontario Institute for Studies in Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>OPP</td>
<td>Ontario Provincial Police</td>
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<tr>
<td>OSSTF</td>
<td>Ontario Secondary School Teachers’ Federation</td>
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<tr>
<td>PC</td>
<td>Progressive Conservative</td>
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<td>PDCE</td>
<td>Privacy Defence Committee of Edmonton</td>
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<tr>
<td>PFLAG</td>
<td>Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays</td>
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<td>PFOG</td>
<td>Parents and Friends of Gays</td>
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<td>PLOT</td>
<td>Political Lesbians of Toronto</td>
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<td>PLUM</td>
<td>Political Lesbians United about the Media</td>
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<td>PLURA</td>
<td>Presbyterian, Lutheran, United, Roman Catholic, Anglican</td>
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<td>POG</td>
<td>Parents of Gays</td>
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<td>PPO</td>
<td>Positive Parents of Ontario</td>
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<td>PQ</td>
<td>Parti Québécois</td>
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<td>PSAC</td>
<td>Public Service Alliance of Canada</td>
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<td>PTP</td>
<td>Pink Triangle Press</td>
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<td>QHA</td>
<td>Queen’s Homophile Association</td>
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<td>RACAR</td>
<td>Riverdale (Toronto) Action Committee against Racism</td>
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<td>RCMP</td>
<td>Royal Canadian Mounted Police</td>
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<td>RGS</td>
<td>Ryerson Gay Students</td>
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<tr>
<td>RLGM</td>
<td>Ryerson Lesbians and Gay Men</td>
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<td>RMG</td>
<td>Revolutionary Marxist Group</td>
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<td>RNLGQ</td>
<td>Regroupement national des lesbiennes et gais du Québec</td>
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<td>RTPC</td>
<td>Right to Privacy Committee</td>
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<td>SAD</td>
<td>Straights against Discrimination</td>
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<td>SAGA</td>
<td>Salvation Army Gay Association</td>
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<td>SAHR</td>
<td>Saskatchewan Association on Human Rights</td>
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<td>SEARCH</td>
<td>Society for Education Action Research and Counselling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acronym</td>
<td>Full Name</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>SECH</td>
<td>Service d’éducation et de consultation sur l’homosexualité</td>
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<td>SEHQ</td>
<td>Service d’entraide homophile de Québec</td>
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<td>SFPQ</td>
<td>Syndicat des fonctionnaires provinciaux du Québec</td>
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<td>SFU</td>
<td>Simon Fraser University</td>
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<td>SGC</td>
<td>Saskatchewan Gay Coalition</td>
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<tr>
<td>SHARE</td>
<td>Society for Homosexual Awareness, Research, and Education</td>
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<td>SOL</td>
<td>Slightly Older Lesbians</td>
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<td>SOUL</td>
<td>Southern Ontario Union of Lesbians</td>
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<td>SPAG</td>
<td>Society for Political Action for Gay People</td>
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<td>STOP</td>
<td>Sauvez tous les opprimés du peuple/Save Today’s Oppressed Peoples</td>
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<td>TAG</td>
<td>Toronto Area Gays</td>
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<td>TAGG</td>
<td>Thompson Area Gay Group</td>
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<td>TAM</td>
<td>Transvestites/Travesties à Montréal</td>
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<td>TBP</td>
<td>The Body Politic</td>
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<td>TGA</td>
<td>Toronto Gay Action</td>
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<td>TGCC</td>
<td>Toronto Gay Community Council</td>
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<td>Trent Homophile Association</td>
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<td>Transvestites in Toronto</td>
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<td>TLBC</td>
<td>Toronto Lambda Business Council</td>
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<td>TOUCH</td>
<td>Toronto Organization of United Church Homosexuals</td>
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<tr>
<td>UARR</td>
<td>Urban Alliance on Race Relations</td>
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<td>UBC</td>
<td>University of British Columbia</td>
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<td>UGBC</td>
<td>Unity Guild of British Columbia</td>
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<td>UQAM</td>
<td>Université du Québec à Montréal</td>
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<td>USHA</td>
<td>University of Saskatchewan Homophile Association</td>
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<td>UU</td>
<td>Unitarian Universalists</td>
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<td>Van-Gay</td>
<td>Vancouver Gay Information Service</td>
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<td>VCC</td>
<td>Vancouver Community College</td>
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<td>VD</td>
<td>venereal disease</td>
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<td>VGCC</td>
<td>Vancouver Gay Community Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>VRB</td>
<td>Vancouver Resources Board</td>
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<td>Acronym</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>WAVAW</td>
<td>Women against Violence against Women</td>
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<tr>
<td>WDL</td>
<td>Wages Due Lesbians</td>
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<td>WECC</td>
<td>West End Community Centre (Vancouver)</td>
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<td>WGA</td>
<td>Western Gay Association</td>
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<td>WGMC</td>
<td>Winnipeg Gay Media Collective</td>
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<td>WGU</td>
<td>Windsor Gay Unity</td>
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<td>YLT</td>
<td>Young Lesbians Toronto</td>
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<tr>
<td>YM-YWHA</td>
<td>Young Men’s-Young Women’s Hebrew Association</td>
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1976

—— * Cowansville, Qué. * L’Énigme, a group for gay prisoners, was formed at the Cowansville Institution, a medium-security penitentiary. The group, led by Fernand Cloutier and helped by Father René Dufort, met every two weeks in the prison’s Roman Catholic chapel.


—— * Don Mills, Ont. * John Ballem’s novel *The Judas Conspiracy* was published by Musson.


—— * Erin, Ont. * Keith Maillard’s novel *Two Strand River*, “about a girl who should have been a boy and a boy who should have been a girl,” was published by Press Porcépic. It was reprinted in 1996 by HarperCollins.


—— * Markham, Ont. * Paul Wainberg’s novel *Ms. Charlotte’s Lovers* was published by Simon and Schuster Canada.

—— * Montréal * An English-language translation by Marc Lebel and Ronald Sutherland of Gérard Bessette’s novel *The Brawl* was published by Harvest House. It was first published as *La Bagarre* in a limited edition in 1958 (Montréal: Cercle du livre de France) and was republished by the same press in 1969.


—— * Montréal * Paul Chamberland’s book of poetry *Le Prince de Sexamour* was published by Éditions de l’Hexagone.


—— * Montréal * Michel Tremblay’s play *Les Héros de mon enfance* was published by Éditions Leméac.


—— * Montréal * Michel Tremblay’s play *Sainte Carmen de la Main* was published by Éditions Leméac. An English-language translation by


—— * Ottawa * Patrick Anderson’s *A Visiting Distance: Poems, New, Revised and Selected* was published by Borealis Press.


—— * Ottawa * Margaret Gibson Gilboord’s autobiographical story “Making It” appeared in her book *The Butterfly Ward*, published by Oberon. This book was the co-winner of the 1977 City of Toronto Book Award (shared with Margaret Atwood’s *Lady Oracle*). The story “Making It” was the basis for the movie *Outrageous!* (See also September 30, 1977.)


3


— Toronto * Philip Marchand’s collection of journalism Just Looking, Thank You was published by Macmillan. One of the pieces, “Out of the Closet and Into the Gay Bar” (previously published as “Send No Psychiatrists to Leo” in Saturday Night) was dismissed by John Hofsess in both Books in Canada and the Body Politic as being a shallow, flippant, and inaccurate look at coming out and the gay “lifestyle.”


— Toronto * Andreas Schroeder’s Shaking It Rough: A Prison Memoir was published by Doubleday.


— Vancouver * bill bissett’s book of poetry th wind up tongue was published by blewointmentpress.


— Vancouver * Marie-Claire Blais’s play The Execution, translated by David Lobdell, was published by Talonbooks.

—— * Vancouver * John Herbert’s collection of four plays, Some Angry Summer Songs: Plays, was published by Talonbooks. The plays (Pearl Divers, Beer Room, Close Friends, and The Dinosaurs) were written over a period of twenty years; this was the first anthology of gay plays published in Canada.


—— * Vancouver * Allan Rosen’s book of fiction Michael was published by blowointmentpress.


—— * Vancouver * Eddie Suckle’s novel And That’s All was published by Air Press.

—— * Vancouver * Michel Tremblay’s play *La Duchesse de Langeais* was published in English in *La Duchesse de Langeais and Other Plays* by Talonbooks. The translator was John Van Burek.


—— * Winnipeg * The Council on Homosexuality and Religion/Conseil de l’Homosexualité et la Religion was founded as a non-denominational organization of clergy and lay people, gay and non-gay, interested in the spiritual life of lesbians and gay men and in improving the attitude of religious institutions towards homosexuality.


**January** * Halifax * The Gay Alliance for Equality (GAE) started a discotheque, the Other Side, on Saturday nights at the Turret, a coffee house/restaurant located at 1588 Barrington Street, third floor. This was in response to a perceived lack of non-oppressive gathering places for
gay people in Halifax. Admission was $1.50, and there was a liquor licence about every second week. The disco closed at the end of April 1976 but reopened in autumn 1976.


January * Saskatoon * The University of Saskatchewan Gay Academic Union (GAU) was founded. Peter Millard was elected president, and Doug Wilson, Neil Richards, and Jim Quandt were also elected to the executive.

[Doug Hellquist, “Academic Group Elects First Officers,” Body Politic, no. 23 (1976), p. 3; “Ignorance Promotes Formation of Union,” Sheaf (Univ. of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon), 23 January 1976, p. 3.]

January * Scarborough, Ont. * Oswell Blakeston’s mystery Pass the Poison Separately was published by Catalyst Press.


January * Toronto * The Gay Alliance toward Equality (GATE) (Toronto) endorsed the “Open Letter to David Goodstein and The Advocate” then being circulated by the Gay Activists’ Alliance (GAA) New York. Goodstein, the publisher and majority owner of The Advocate, the major gay publication in North America, had attacked gay activists in his opinion column “Opening Space,” published January 14, 1976, as being unrepresentative of the “silent majority” of the gay community, and dismissed them with terms such as “neurotics” and “egomaniacs.”

**January** * Toronto * Toronto Area Gays (TAG) started operating a telephone-counselling service for gay men and lesbians, as well as informational drop-ins. The first phone call was taken on January 29. Harvey Hamburg was the spokesperson for the group, which was self-funded. TAG printed hundreds of stickers advertising the service and posted them around Toronto. TAG also advertised the phone line (964-6600) in the *Globe and Mail*; their ad was refused by both the *Toronto Star* and the *Toronto Sun*.


**January 5** * Toronto * Gay Women Unlimited (GWU), a breakaway group from the Community Homophile Association of Toronto (CHAT), was officially formed. Its goal was to provide a meeting place (at CHAT, 201 Church Street) and a warm social atmosphere for lesbians.

January 9 * Saskatoon * Justice F.W. Johnson of the Saskatchewan Court of Queen’s Bench reserved judgement on an injunction application by the University of Saskatchewan seeking to prohibit the Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission from conducting a hearing into the Doug Wilson case. (See also February 4, 1976.)

[“U of S Injunction Decision Reserved,” Saskatoon Star-Phoenix, 10 January 1976, p. 3; J. Varga, “Remember Doug Wilson?” Sheaf (Univ. of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon), 23 January 1976, p. 3.]

January 12 * Ottawa * Gay People of Carleton (GPC) was formed at Carleton University. Chris Morden was the first president of the group, which hoped to undertake a social and educational role on campus and to sponsor meetings, drop-ins, and dances. It was independent of the community-based group Gays of Ottawa (GO).


January 12 * Vancouver * A British Columbia Board of Inquiry chaired by Vancouver lawyer Joseph Wood ruled that the B.C. Human Rights Code provided protection for homosexuals. It found that the Vancouver Sun had discriminated against the Gay Alliance toward Equality (GATE) (Vancouver) by refusing to publish a three-line ad for Gay Tide. GATE (Vancouver) had launched a complaint in November 1974 under the new B.C. Human Rights Code. The Sun was ordered to pay GATE (Vancouver) $500 in costs and “to refrain from committing the same or similar contraventions of the Code in future.” This was the first time that sexual orientation was ruled a protected area under the B.C. Human Rights Code. GATE (Vancouver) organized a victory picket of the Sun on January 19, and about fifty women and men marched outside the Pacific Press Building at lunch hour. The Vancouver Sun appealed the ruling to the Supreme Court of British Columbia. (See also July 16, 1976.)
January 18 * Saskatoon * The Gay Community Centre of Saskatoon (GCCS) elected a new board of directors at its annual general meeting. Doug Wilson was elected president for a two-year term. Other new members elected included Bill Holmes a Court, Terry Martinuk, Neil Richards, Val Schrivener, and Nadine Scott.

[Doug Hellquist, “New Officers Elected,” Body Politic, no. 23 (1976), p. 3.]

January 23 * Montréal * The recently opened Club Baths of Montreal was raided by Montréal police, and thirty-four men were arrested and charged as being found-ins in a bawdy house. This was seen as part of a campaign of police harassment of Montréal gay establishments to “clean up” Montréal for the 1976 Summer Olympics. (See also May 20, 1976, and August 23, 1976.)

**January 24** *Saskatoon* * The Committee to Defend Doug Wilson held a public benefit concert and dance at the University of Saskatchewan campus.


**January 26** *Toronto* * John Herbert was presented with the Chalmers Canadian Play Award, worth $5,000, for his play *Fortune and Men’s Eyes*, during a ceremony at St. Lawrence Hall.


**February** *Montréal* * The Association homophile de Montréal/Gay Montreal Association (AHM/GMA) finally disbanded after months of difficulties. The group, with its library and drop-in centre, had been forced out of two rented premises in 1975 in the wave of harassment leading up to the 1976 summer Olympics. A group of leading members tried to succeed AHM/GMA by forming another group called the Gay Exchange.

February * Ottawa * The federal government introduced Bill C–83, a “peace and security” bill intended to clamp down on violent crime. It also dealt with the question of “dangerous sexual offenders,” proposing to remove the term from the Canadian Criminal Code without in any way changing the system of indefinite confinement for “dangerous sexual offenders.” The National Gay Rights Coalition/Coalition nationale pour les droits des homosexuels (NGRC/CNDH) denounced the bill, reiterating its support for the repeal of legislation providing for indefinite confinement of “dangerous sexual offenders” and calling for a review of all such cases. (See also March 9, 1976, and May 12, 1976.)


February * Ottawa * The NGRC/CNDH started a national campaign to lobby federal MPs to support the civil rights of gays through the inclusion of the term “sexual orientation” in the government’s proposed Canadian Human Rights Act. Local NGRC/CNDH member organizations across Canada coordinated the distribution of the bilingual brief “The Homosexual Minority and the Canadian Human Rights Act” to all 264 Members of Parliament. This was seen as a major step in the gay rights cause, as it was the first time that all sitting Members of Parliament had been approached on a systematic, national basis by representatives of the gay movement.


**February** * Toronto * The first issue of Our Image: The Body Politic Review Supplement was published as an eight-page insert in the Body Politic. It included reviews of books, mass media, and the arts. Ian Young’s column “The Ivory Tunnel,” a review of small press publications, also made its first appearance in Our Image. The February issue of Body Politic included the first publication of Michael Riordon’s column “Flaunting It” (p. 15), which was published regularly until issue 51 (March–April 1979).

**February 4** * Saskatoon * Justice F.W. Johnson of the Saskatchewan Court of Queen’s Bench granted a writ of prohibition to the University of Saskatchewan, barring the Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission from conducting a formal inquiry into the charge of discrimination laid by Doug Wilson against the university. Johnson ruled that the term “sex” as used in the Saskatchewan Fair Employment Practices Act referred only to gender, not sexual orientation, and that the Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission had exceeded its jurisdiction in accepting a complaint from Doug Wilson. This decision related to the Wilson job-discrimination case against the University of Saskatchewan, and overturned the ruling by the Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission of November 9, 1975. Wilson vowed to appeal the court injunction, while the Committee to Defend Doug Wilson continued to raise funds for legal costs. The Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission, however, did not appeal the ruling, and Wilson, along with the Committee to Defend Doug Wilson, decided by March 1976 to abandon pursuing the case any further due to high legal costs and a low chance of success. The Committee to Defend Doug Wilson was dissolved by the end of 1976. (See also March 22, 1976, and April 21, 1976.)

**February 9** *Toronto* *Bill Holloway and Tom Field were arrested at the corner of Yonge and Bloor streets for kissing in public; they were charged with obstructing the sidewalk and committing an indecent act. The men had been posing for photographs for an article on homophobia to be published in the newspaper *Alternative to Alienation*. (See also July 13, 1976.)

February 14 * Red Deer, Alta. * Members of Gay Alliance toward Equality (GATE) (Edmonton) distributed leaflets at the Liberal Party of Alberta’s convention and unfurled a banner reading “Gay Rights Now!” The party’s outgoing president, Jack Pickett, was outraged, and told the members of GATE to “stuff it.” He called the women in the group “hags” and concluded, “There are times when the rights of minority groups have to be curtailed.” The party’s new leader, Nick Taylor, however, spoke to GATE delegates and reaffirmed his support for gay rights. Positive feedback was also received from the party’s incoming president, Sharon Carstairs.


February 20 * Ottawa * The Charlatan, the student newspaper at Carleton University, published a special three-page gay supplement entitled “Coming Out.” The supplement included articles on GO, GPC, the GAU, Ottawa’s gay scene, and two general pieces, one on lesbians, the other on gay men.

[“Student Paper Carries Gay Supplement,” Body Politic, no. 24 (1976), p. 5.]

February 21 * Canada * John Hofsess’s profile of John Damien, entitled “Damien’s Exile,” was published in Weekend Magazine, a Saturday supplement distributed in twenty-one Canadian newspapers with a readership of five million. The profile received positive feedback from the public, but some gay activists felt that Hofsess had downplayed Damien’s homosexuality and the importance of his case to the gay movement. (See also March 30, 1976.)


**February 21–22** *Guelph, Ont.* *The second annual conference of the Coalition for Gay Rights in Ontario (CGRO) was hosted by Guelph Gay Equality (GGE) (formerly the University of Guelph Homophile Association [UGHA]) at the University of Guelph. More than fifty individuals representing thirteen member organizations attended and participated in plenary sessions, workshops, and a dance. On February 21, delegates supported a resolution that Ontario’s political parties state publicly their stand on whether the term “sexual orientation” should be included in the Ontario Human Rights Code.


**February 29** *Mississauga, Ont.* *A committee was struck to draft a constitution for the new group Gays of Mississauga. A temporary executive was chosen, including Elgin Blair as coordinator, Jim Sarandou as secretary, and Alan Parton as treasurer. The group sponsored discussions and social events, and was fully operational by August 30, 1976, when it became Gay Equality Mississauga (GEM).


**February–March** * Hamilton, Ont. * On-campus dances sponsored by the McMaster Homophile Association (MHA) were disrupted when windows were smashed and fire alarms set off. Instead of trying to arrest the culprits, the university’s chief of security recommended that the McMaster group have all of its campus privileges withdrawn. The events at McMaster were part of a series of homophobic incidents that occurred in Hamilton throughout 1976.


**March** * Vancouver * Maurice Flood announced his resignation as chair of GATE (Vancouver) and as editor of *Gay Tide*. Flood had been a key figure in the politics of gay liberation in Vancouver since 1971, and decided to step aside to allow others to become more involved in leadership roles in GATE (Vancouver). Flood was succeeded as chair of GATE (Vancouver) by Stephen Shirreffs.

[“Chairperson Resigns,” *Gay Tide*, 3, no. 2 (April 1976): 2; Gay Alliance toward Equality (GATE) (Vancouver) papers, 1982–005, box 10, minutes for 1976, Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto.]

**March** * Vancouver * GATE (Vancouver) was refused rental of office space at 1141 Richards Street because the owner of the property, Gordon Latham Ltd., would not rent to a gay organization. The company later insisted that the refusal was linked to the group’s past performance as tenants. Members of GATE organized a picket in front of the building on March 23, 1976, and submitted a complaint to the Human Rights
Branch of the B.C. Ministry of Labour. The complaint was rejected, as discrimination based on sexual orientation was not prohibited in section 5 of the B.C. Human Rights Code, relating to tenancy.


**March 6–7** *Toronto* *During their party convention, the Ontario Young Liberals, a group of young members of the Liberal Party of Ontario, passed a resolution calling for the inclusion of “sexual orientation” in the Ontario Human Rights Code.*


**March 7** *Toronto* *The Metropolitan Toronto Area Regional Conference of the New Democratic Party (NDP) voted to recommend the adoption of the program of CGRO, virtually unaltered, as party policy. This was the first time that a comprehensive stance on gay rights had been introduced into the policy-making process of a major political party in Ontario. On March 11, 1976, the St. George NDP Riding Association passed a similar resolution; this riding included most of the “gay” neighbourhood of downtown Toronto. (See also June 11–13, 1976.)*


**March 8** *Montréal* *Fifty gays, representing Centre homophile urbain de Montréal (CHUM), Gay McGill, and the Groupe homosexuel d’action politique (GHAP), participated in Québec’s first International Women’s Day march, sponsored by the labour-union-based Common
Front. This was only the third time that Québec gays had demonstrated publicly.


**March 9** *Ottawa* * NGRC/CNDH* representatives Ron Dayman and David Garmaise met with Stuart Leggatt, the New Democratic Party’s justice critic, to discuss the newly proposed Bill C–83. The NGRC/CNDH called the proposed legislation “one of the most extreme measures at the disposal of the Canadian legal system to oppress its homosexual minority,” and asked Leggatt and the NDP to press for amendments during committee hearings on the bill. Leggatt agreed and promised to seek NDP caucus support.


**March 9–30** *Toronto* * The New Marxist Institute, the Canadian Women’s Educational Press, and GATE (Toronto) sponsored a four-part lecture series entitled “Sexism and Capitalism,” held at the University of Toronto. The series examined leftist perspectives on the oppression of women and gays and aimed to forge links between gays, women, and the left.


**March 10** *Toronto* * Two plainclothes investigators from the RCMP Security Service questioned president Tom Warner at the GATE (Toronto) office about gay-movement demonstration plans for the Summer Olympics to be held in Montréal in July. Warner said that he knew of no plans at present, but added they might take shape in light of
ongoing police harassment of gay establishments and groups in Montréal.


March 11 * Toronto * Ellen Agger, a member of the Wages Due Collective, spoke at a rally of 400 people held at the University of Toronto to protest provincial government cutbacks in social services. Agger spoke on how the cutbacks affected lesbians. The protesters’ demands included wages for housework, an increase in the family allowance, and the removal of the family allowance from taxable income.


March 11 * Toronto * At a preliminary hearing before the Ontario Supreme Court, lawyers for the Ontario Human Rights Commission (OHRC) defended the OHRC’s decision of December 5, 1975, not to appoint a Board of Inquiry to investigate the John Damien case. They revealed that the Ontario Minister of Labour, Bette Stephenson, whose department administered the Ontario Human Rights Code, had recommended that the OHRC refuse to appoint the Board of Inquiry. Stephenson’s action was seen as an improper intervention to influence
the decision of the commission. Damien launched a suit against the OHRC to force a reversal of its decision that his dismissal did not violate human rights legislation, but this was eventually abandoned on June 29, 1976.


**March 17** *Vancouver* * The Vancouver local of the Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW) passed an amendment to its by-laws to protect gays and lesbians from discrimination on the job. A similar resolution had been placed before the same local four years before but had been defeated.


**March 22** *Saskatoon* * The University of Saskatchewan’s Campus Council debated the recommendations of the Schmeiser Committee, established to investigate the need for anti-discrimination policies at the university. After long and bitter debate the Council decided that the
university should not consider sexual orientation in decisions concerning hiring or assignment of duties, including appointments of dons in residences. (See also April 21, 1976.)


**March 24** * Toronto * GATE (Toronto) sponsored a forum entitled “Gay People in the News,” which attracted forty people, including some representatives of the media. Forty-five people had been asked to represent the print and media industries, but only three appeared: Max Allen (CBC radio), Rob Sands (CBC television), and Barrie Zwicker (*Content* magazine). The discussion focused on common, sensationalized coverage in the mainstream media of individuals who conform to gay stereotypes, and media ignorance of the gay community and gay movement as a whole. The *Toronto Star* published a fair account of the event the next day, the first time that the mainstream media had ever covered a GATE (Toronto) forum.


**March 27–28** * Saskatoon * The Gay Community Centre officially opened new facilities at 310 20th Street East. The 6,000-square-foot leased building allowed for the expansion of programmes and activities. The opening party was disrupted by thirty youths who attacked attendees.

March 30 * Montréal * The Political Action Committee of Gay McGill sponsored a public forum entitled “Civil Rights for Gay People: How Do We Get Them?” The audience of forty people heard presentations on gay rights at the federal, provincial, and local levels by speakers Ron Dayman (NGRC/CNDH), Tony Farebrother (Montreal Gay Times), and Luc Dore.


March 30 * Toronto * Charles MacNaughton, chairman of the Ontario Racing Commission, and other racing officials issued writs of libel against John Damien, John Hofsess, Weekend Magazine, and twenty-one Canadian newspapers. This was in reaction to Hofsess’s article “Damien’s Exile,” published in the February 21, 1976, issue of Weekend and which had been distributed through the newspapers. In the article, Damien stated that MacNaughton had fired him because of Damien’s homosexuality. The issuing of the writs of libel was seen as a bid to suppress further media coverage of the Damien case. (See also October 5, 1978.)


March–April * Toronto * There were calls in the Ontario Legislature from both opposition parties, led by MPPs Michael Cassidy (NDP–Ottawa-Centre), Albert Roy (Lib.–Ottawa East), and Vernon Singer (Lib.–Toronto Wilson Heights), for a judicial inquiry into the handling of the “Ottawa Sex Scandal” case by Ottawa’s morality squad. This related to the case of Michel Gravel, arrested on March 3, 1975, for operating two male-modelling agencies that were used as a front for a
prostitution service involving teenage boys. Seventeen other men were also arrested and charged with contributing to juvenile delinquency, gross indecency, or buggery. None of the youths were charged. The media had sensationalized the “Ottawa Sex Scandal,” calling it a “white slavery ring” and a “homosexual vice ring.” The names, ages, addresses, and occupations of the arrested men were published or reported not only locally, but also in newspapers across the country and on national radio. On March 18, 1975, one of the arrested men, Warren Zufelt, committed suicide by jumping from an apartment building. The case only grew in sensation. Michel Gravel eventually pleaded guilty to charges of operating a common bawdy house and gross indecency, and in September 1975 was sentenced to two years less a day at the Guelph Correctional Centre. The remaining defendants were dragged through the courts, and although some were found guilty of engaging in sexual activities with juvenile males, none of them received a jail term or a fine; the charges were dismissed or the men were given absolute discharges or suspended sentences. Ontario Attorney General Roy McMurtry rejected claims that there had been improprieties in the handling of the case and said that the Crown Attorney’s office in Ottawa had acted properly in laying the charges. This view was supported by Premier William Davis in a letter to GO dated July 15, 1976, in which he stated that “a public inquiry would serve no purpose.” But, on April 15, 1976, charges of assault causing bodily harm were laid against Constable Robert Gervais and Sergeant Alain Methot, two of the Ottawa policemen who had investigated the “Ottawa Sex Scandal.” The charges were laid under McMurtry’s direction, and after an OPP investigation into allegations made by George Duthie that the policemen had assaulted him during his arrest on March 8, 1975. Duthie had been charged with gross indecency; the charge was later quashed. (See also August 24, 1976.)


Spring * Brandon, Man. * Gay Friends of Brandon was formed when three gay men established an informational phone line for gay people in the Brandon area. The line lasted only until the summer of 1976, but the group was reestablished in the fall of 1977. (See September 2, 1977.)

Spring * Burnaby, B.C. * A chapter of the GAU was formed at Simon Fraser University on the initiative of Michael Eliot-Hurst, former chair of the Department of Geography at SFU. The Peak, an SFU student newspaper, and B.C. Teacher were initially reluctant to publish ads for the new group.
Spring * Halifax * CBC radio station CBH refused to air a public service announcement from GAE for its “Gayline” telephone information and counselling service. The station told GAE that the CBC had a national policy against accepting public announcements from homophile organizations. The NGRC/CNDH sent a letter of protest to CBC president Al Johnson and inquired whether such a national policy did in fact exist. (See also July 6, 1976.)


Spring * Vancouver * The Archives Collective was formed to collect, preserve, and make available archival materials relating to LGBT people in British Columbia. Some of the collected materials were deposited in the special collections section of the University of British Columbia Library, others were shipped to the Canadian Gay Archives in Toronto. Beginning at about the same time, Ron Dutton began to collect material related to LGBT people in British Columbia, and worked independently from the Collective (they were, in fact, unacquainted). In 1983, Dutton discovered the Collective, which had shrunk to one person and was about to close. Dutton was revitalized in his quest to collect material and formally established the B.C. Gay and Lesbian Archives, which remains one of the major community-based LGBT archives in Canada.


April * Calgary * Planning started for the establishment of the Imperial Sovereign Court of the Chinook Arch, dedicated to drag, social fraternity, and community fundraising. For the first two months of organizing, the group operated under the charter of the Scarth Street Society. In June 1976 it was granted its own charter by the Mother Court
of Canada, the Dogwood Monarchist Society and Imperial Dogwood Court, Vancouver.


April 1–3, 8–10 * Toronto * Sky Gilbert’s play City Nights was performed at the Cabaret Theatre Company, Church Street Community Centre.


April 2 * Toronto * The group Gay Jews for Gay Rights was formed. It was soon renamed Ha Mishpacha, began publishing a newsletter in May 1976, and sponsored social-recreational events, religious and cultural discussions, and political action for Jewish gays. On March 3, 1978, it officially became part of a new gay synagogue named Congregation B’nai Kehillah. (See March 3, 1978.) Early organizers of Ha Mishpacha included Don Drutz, Harvey Hamburg and Joey Shulman.


April 3 * Winnipeg * A chapter of Dignity, a group for lesbian and gay Roman Catholics, was officially formed.

[“Chapter Anniversaries,” Dignity Canada Dignité (Winnipeg), (June 1980), p. (5).]

April 5 * Ottawa * Ottawa City Council voted unanimously to prohibit discrimination against lesbians and gay men in municipal employment.
Ottawa was the second city in Canada (after Toronto, in 1973) to do so. The decision came after a year of intense lobbying by members of GO and others, and about thirty activists were in the public galleries to applaud the decision.


April 9 * St. John’s * When gay men who were dancing together were thrown out of the Waterfront, a run-down, mixed bar on Water Street that barely tolerated gays, the remaining gays present in the bar got up and walked out in protest. The owner of the Waterfront was later petitioned about his anti-gay policy; the petition was ignored. The gay men never went back and instead began to frequent the Sea Breeze, another mixed bar. But when clashes occurred between gays and a few homophobes at the bar, the management of the Sea Breeze hired two bouncers to ensure gay patrons a congenial atmosphere. This was unsuccessful, and on August 31, 1976, the Sea Breeze became a private members’ club open to both gays and straights.

April 10 * Toronto * Lesbian activists Christine Bearchell and Konnie Reich were assaulted at the corner of Bedford and Lowther streets while walking home hand-in-hand. The hysterical male assailant lashed the women with a belt, calling them “diseased” and demanding to know why they couldn’t “get a man.” The man was charged with assault with intent to cause bodily harm.


April 20–21 * Toronto * John Herbert’s play *Close Friends* was performed for the first time professionally at the Phoenix Theatre.


April 21 * Saskatoon * The Board of Governors of the University of Saskatchewan overturned a recommendation of Campus Council that homosexuality should not be considered in the selection of dons of residences. It did, however, accept that sexual orientation should not be a factor in the treatment of faculty or students in teaching positions. This decision was seen as a partial concession to the Committee to Defend Doug Wilson, which had demanded the adoption of an explicit policy of non-discrimination against gays throughout the university.


April 25 * Toronto * The NDP Gay Caucus was officially formed, marking the first time in Canada that a gay caucus had been formed within a major political party.

April–May * Vancouver * Although the first meeting of Dignity Vancouver took place at Jim Dorion’s apartment on September 15, 1975, it did not become an official chapter of the international group for gay Roman Catholics until April–May 1976. Gary Thompson served as pro tem president; Ernest Neumann was elected Dignity Vancouver’s first president in June 1976. Dignity Vancouver began to meet at St. Paul’s Church, 381 East Cordova Street. It grew slowly, and had thirty-five members by November 1979.

[“Dignity Vancouver Celebrates It’s (sic) Fourth Birthday,” *Dignity Vancouver*, November 1979, pp. (1–2).]

May * Montréal * The Family Services Association of Montreal began operating an expanded, comprehensive gay counselling service (available both in person and by phone), which was partially funded by the Québec government.


May * Ottawa * GO proposed that Ottawa City Council provide lesbians and gay men with access to community-owned facilities for events such as dances. At that time, no programs or events in Ottawa’s publicly funded community centres were oriented to the specific needs of gay people. John Duggan of GO presented the brief at an open town hall meeting of city council, attended by 300 people.


May * Québec, Qué. * Centre humanitaire d’aide et de libération (CHAL) organized a colloquium featuring André Baudry, president of the Paris-based homophile organization Arcadie.

May * Scarborough, Ont. * Ian Young’s book of poetry *Common-or-Garden Gods* was published by Catalyst Press.


May * Toronto * Archbishop Ted Scott, primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, informed the House of Bishops that a task force had been set up to study homosexuality. The decision was the result of a parish church in Huron Diocese expressing concern about the possibility of homosexuality within the church in Canada. (See also October 1976.)


May 3 * Edmonton * The formation of a gay caucus within the federal Progressive Conservative party was announced by Wayne D. Madden, the caucus spokesperson. The “lavender Tories” planned to lobby for changes in party policies on gay rights. (See also September 22, 1976.)

May 6 * Toronto * A private member’s resolution, sponsored by Margaret Campbell (Liberal–St. George), and a member’s bill, sponsored by Ted Bounsall (NDP–Windsor-Sandwich), both of which called for the amendment of the Ontario Human Rights Code to include “sexual orientation,” were debated and defeated in the Ontario Legislature.


May 7 * Vancouver * Ross Brown and a friend were harassed, assaulted, arrested, and detained for seven hours after two police officers saw them standing in a parking lot at the corner of Smithe and Homer streets at 1 a.m. When questioned by the police, they admitted to being gay, that they were coming from a dance, and that they were heading to the Gandydancer bar. Although they claimed they were not intoxicated, and requested and were refused a Breathalyzer test, Brown and his friend were arrested and detained. Brown vowed to sue the police, but later decided to drop the case due to lack of evidence and funds.


May 12 * Ottawa * The NGRC/CNDH presented the brief “The Dangerous (Sexual) Offender Legislation: A Call for Abolition” before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs, which was studying the proposed Bill C–83, the government’s “peace and security” legislation. The brief was presented by Ron Dayman (NGRC/CNDH), Charlie Hill (GO), and Denis LeBlanc (GO) and called for the abolition of all “dangerous sexual offender” legislation. Many of the members of the committee ignored the brief, while others were actively scornful. For example, Rene Matte (Créditiste–Champlain) opened his remarks with the sentence, “Our society must be very sick indeed if the government gave you permission
to appear before us.” The Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs finished studying the proposed bill in June and sent it back to the full House of Commons for a third and final reading, but the House adjourned before considering the bill, and it died. It was reintroduced in 1977 and was passed, without changes. (See also May 13, 1976, and July 24, 1976.)


**May 13** *Ottawa* * A motion to direct the government to amend the Criminal Code to make public exposure or advocacy of homosexuality an indictable offence was introduced in the House of Commons by Armand Caouette (Créditiste–Villeneuve). This came a day after the NGRC/CNDH had presented a brief advocating the abolition of dangerous sexual offender legislation. Caouette’s motion failed. (See also May 22, 1976, and July 24, 1976.)

[“MP Moves to Silence Gays,” Body Politic, no. 25 (1976), p. 5.]

**May 13–15** *Montréal* * Police raided five gay clubs (Le Taureau d’Or,
Studio One, The Stork Club, Jilly’s, and The Crystal Baths). Police reportedly arrived at Jilly’s, a lesbian bar, with cameras and rifles. No arrests were made in any of the raids. This was seen as part of a campaign of police harassment of gay establishments to “clean up” Montréal for the 1976 Summer Olympics.


May 15 * Montréal * After more than a month of undercover work by nine drug and morality squad officers, police raided the Neptune Sauna (456 rue de la Gauchetière) and arrested eighty-seven men. Four men were charged as being keepers of a bawdy house; the others were charged as found-ins. The police also seized the Neptune’s membership list, which contained more than 7,000 names. They billed the raid as “the break-up of the most important male homosexual prostitution ring in North America.” This was seen as part of a campaign of police harassment of gay establishments to “clean up” Montréal for the 1976 Summer Olympics. (See also May 20, 1976, and August 23, 1976.)


May 20 * Montréal * Police raided the Club Baths of Montreal for the second time in four months and arrested twenty-seven men; most were charged with being found-ins in a bawdy house. This was seen as part of a campaign of police harassment of gay establishments to “clean up” Montréal for the 1976 Summer Olympics. (See also August 23, 1976.) [David B. Goodstein, “Pre-Olympic Cleanups: 150 Arrested, Montreal Baths Close,” The Advocate, no. 193 (30 June 1976), p. 9; Gary Kinsman and Patrizia Gentile, The Canadian War on Queers: National Security as Sexual Regulation (Vancouver: UBC Press, 2010), p. 312; “Olympic Crackdown,” Body Politic, no. 25 (1976), pp. 1, 17.]

May 22 * Canada * The national executive of the Social Credit Party of Canada reaffirmed its traditional anti-gay stance and expelled all known gays from the party. This action reversed a pro-gay ruling made on March 5 by the leader of the Ontario provincial wing of the party, Robert Cochrane, which had failed to gain the approval of the general membership. (See also July 24, 1976.)


May 22 * Ottawa * Ottawa police raided the Club Baths of Ottawa (1069 Wellington Street) and arrested twenty-seven men; twenty-two were charged as found-ins, two with gross indecency, and three as being keepers. The police also seized financial records and the Club Baths’ membership list, which contained more than 3,000 names; the list was later returned. This was the first raid of its kind in the Ottawa area, and was seen as part of a campaign of police harassment of gay establishments to “clean up” Montréal and nearby cities for the 1976 Summer Olympics. (See also May 24, 1976; May 28, 1976; Summer 1976; August 12, 1976; Autumn 1976; October 21, 1976; January 28, 1977; and November 30, 1977.)


May 22–24 * Kingston, Ont. * The Queen’s Homophile Association (QHA) sponsored the conference “The Not-So-Invisible Woman: Lesbian Perspectives in the Gay Movement.” Fifty men and forty-five women from Ontario, Québec, and Nova Scotia attended. Although Wages Due Lesbians did not send an official delegation, they circulated a paper outlining the need for lesbian autonomy in the gay movement. Francie Wyland of Wages Due Lesbians moved at the first plenary session that the women in attendance meet alone to decide the agenda and direction for the conference. The conference reconvened, without the men, with the discussion focusing on lesbian autonomy. At the end of the conference, the lesbians met with the men to report on their discussion. They reported a need for an autonomous lesbian movement in Canada and the establishment of an informal coalition to work towards this goal. (See also June 1976.)

May 24 * Ottawa * GO held a news conference at the GO Centre to protest the raid on the Club Baths on May 22. The news conference received sympathetic coverage from both Ottawa dailies, as well as all eight local radio stations and four television stations. On May 25, the *Ottawa Citizen* held a special internal meeting and decided not to publish the names of the found-ins charged in the bath raids. This was a reversal of its position taken in 1975 in the case of the “Ottawa Sex Scandal”; the paper had been severely criticized by GO and others for its handling of that case.


May 28 * Ottawa * Fifty people picketed police headquarters to protest the raid on the Club Baths on May 22. This protest, organized by GO, was well covered in the media. This was one of the largest public gay protests held in Ottawa to that time.

[“Olympic Crackdown,” *Body Politic*, no. 25 (1976), pp. 1, 17.]
May 28 * Vancouver * Forty people marched in front of the courthouse during a demonstration organized by GATE (Vancouver) to show solidarity with the Ottawa and Montréal gay communities and to protest recent harassment and raids in those cities.

[“Olympic Crackdown,” *Body Politic*, no. 25 (1976), pp. 1, 17.]

June * Ottawa * Lesbians of Ottawa Now (LOON) was formed as an autonomous collective, and operated mostly as a social organization. It disbanded in January 1979. (See also October 9–11, 1976.)


June * Toronto * “Dykes,” a column dedicated to the concerns of Canadian lesbian feminists, was first published in issue 24 of the *Body Politic*. It was published regularly until issue 49 (January 1978–79), by which time the entire *Body Politic* included more lesbian content. Contributors to the column included Chris Bearchell and Marie Robertson.


June 4 * Toronto * Thirty lesbians and gay men picketed Jo-Jo’s disco (83 Granby Street) after the bar instituted a dress code (no blue jeans) for women but not for men. Jo-Jo’s dropped the policy within a week, after being visited by officers of the OHRC. (See also August 25, 1976.)

**June 5** *Toronto* * GATE (Toronto) approved the formation of a lesbian caucus, and elected the first woman to its executive body (Christine Bearchell), during the fourth GATE (Toronto) conference, a special planning and assessment meeting held every six months.


**June 11–13** *Kingston, Ont.* * At its biennial convention, the Ontario NDP voted 234 to 189 to approve a revised resolution calling for the inclusion of the term “sexual orientation” in the Ontario Human Rights Code. Windsor gay activist Harold Desmarais introduced the resolution. This was the first time in Canada that a major political party had adopted as policy one of the fundamental demands of the gay movement: the recognition and protection in law of the basic civil rights of lesbians and gays. The victory came after months of organizing and lobbying by the NDP’s gay caucus. At the same time, though, the convention dropped other controversial parts of the original resolution that might have hurt the NDP in the next Ontario provincial election. These included: guaranteeing a balanced presentation of sexual orientation in sex education programs; guaranteed Medicare coverage to gay couples; guarantees of equal treatment for homosexuals in public housing; an end to discrimination against homosexuals in the provincial public service; and a guarantee that homosexuality would no longer be considered a factor in cases of child adoption or child custody.


**June 17** *Toronto* * John Argue, representing CGRO and GATE (Toronto), presented the brief “The Homosexual Minority in Ontario” to the review committee of the OHRC. The committee had been established to hear proposals for changes to the Ontario Human Rights Code. The brief documented cases of discrimination in support of its principal recommendation, the amendment of the code to include “sexual orientation.” It had been mailed to the OHRC and to all Ontario MPPs earlier in the year. This was just one of more than forty similar briefs that were submitted to the committee throughout 1976 and early 1977.


**June 18** *Vancouver* * A forum organized by GATE (Vancouver) entitled “Against Police Repression” was held to show solidarity with the Ottawa and Montréal gay communities and to protest recent police raids in those cities.

[“Olympic Crackdown,” *Body Politic*, no. 25 (1976), pp. 1, 17.]

**June 19** *Montréal* * CHAR/GCAR organized the largest Canadian gay demonstration and march to date, which protested police harassment of gay bars and bathhouses in an attempt to “clean up” Montréal for the forthcoming Summer Olympics. Three hundred people marched from Dominion Square past Premier Bourassa’s office, COJO headquarters, and City Hall, to Viger Square, where a large rally was held to demand
an end to police raids and the dropping of all charges laid against the men arrested in the recent baths raids. (See also June 24, 1976.)


**June 21** * Hamilton, Ont. * In a letter to Brian Marsh, president of MHA, Ontario Liberal Party leader Stuart Smith declared party support for a sexual orientation clause in the Ontario Human Rights Code. This was believed to be the first public statement on gay rights ever issued by the party.

[“Liberal Party Leader Endorses Gay Rights,” Body Politic, no. 27 (1976), p. 5.]

**June 24** * Montréal * Stuart Russell, a member of the coordinating
committee of CHAR/GCAR and a leader of the Young Socialists, was fired from his job as a telex operator with COJO, the body responsible for organizing the Summer Olympics, after marching past the COJO office during the June 19 CHAR/CGAR demonstration. This was the fourth such political firing by COJO in recent months. COJO claimed the four were fired for security reasons, and because some of them “lacked qualifications.” CHAR/GCAR called for a full disclosure of the reasons for Russell’s dismissal, and demanded his immediate reinstatement. (See also July 9, 1976, and Autumn 1976.)


June 28–August 1 * Toronto * Richard O’Brien’s musical The Rocky Horror Picture Show, starring Brent Carver as Dr. Frank N. Furter, was performed by the Actors’ Stage Company at the Ryerson Theatre.


June 29 * Ottawa * Ellen Agger and Francie Wyland of Wages Due Lesbians Toronto spoke on wages for housework at the Ottawa Public Library.


Summer * Australia * The New South Wales branch of the Campaign against Moral Persecution (CAMP) denounced the governments of the
City of Montréal and the Province of Québec for the intensified oppression of gays leading up to the Summer Olympics.


**Summer** * Binghamton, N.Y. * John Alan Lee’s article “Forbidden Colors of Love: Patterns of Gay Love and Gay Liberation” was published in the *Journal of Homosexuality*.


**Summer** * Canada * Libertarians for Gay Rights (LGR) was established. Formed by American and Canadian gays of libertarian and anarchist political philosophies, LGR was dedicated to working towards individual rights for gay people.


**Summer** * Corner Brook, Nfld. * A branch of the Community Homophile Association of Newfoundland (CHAN) was formed in Corner Brook, Newfoundland’s second-largest city.


**Summer** * Halifax * GAE formed a civil rights committee to campaign at the provincial level for legislative change concerning gays.

[Robin Metcalfe, “Group Disco Closes, Community Centre Possible,” *Body Politic*, no. 25 (1976), pp. 5–6.]

**Summer** * International * Gay groups in six countries lent support to the NGRC/CNDH and Canadian gays in their struggle against the recent police crackdown on the gay communities in Montréal and Ottawa. Letters of solidarity were received from the Australian CAMP (New
South Wales Branch); the Danish Gay Liberation Front; the GAA (New York); the Scottish Minorities Group; the South London Gay Liberation Front; and the Union for Sexual Freedom (Northern Ireland).


**Summer** * Montréal * CHAR/GCAR gained the support of the Montreal Citizens Movement (MCM) in the battle against police oppression of the gay community and Mayor Jean Drapeau’s ongoing anti-gay “morality” campaign.


**Summer** * Ottawa * Four of the twenty-eight men arrested in the Club Baths of Ottawa raid on May 22, 1976, pleaded guilty (two to the charge of gross indecency, two to being found-ins at a bawdy house) and received absolute discharges.


**Summer** * Ottawa * GO and the Ottawa Women’s Centre established an Equal Rights for Lesbians Fund to help in the struggle for lesbian rights, particularly in child custody cases.


**Summer** * Saskatoon * GCCS presented the brief “Homosexual Men and Women: A Minority without Rights” to the Saskatchewan government, calling for protection against discrimination based on sexual orientation in provincial human rights legislation.

Summer * Toronto * The *Body Politic* received an operating grant for $1,500 from the Ontario Arts Council (OAC). The paper had been denied a grant the previous year because of perceived low standards of writing, editing, and design.

[“We Get Money,” *Body Politic*, no. 26 (1976), p. 5.]

Summer * Toronto * Les Cavaliers, which had been a venerable steak house located at 418 Church Street, was transformed into Les Cavaliers Piano Bar, “for discriminating gentlemen, sybarites, hedonists and epicures.”


Summer * Toronto * Three club-wielding gay bashers were surprised at Hanlan’s Point, a popular sunning spot for local gays, when they were surrounded by gay bathers after they had attacked a gay couple. Police were called.

[“Bathers Defend Beach,” *Body Politic*, no. 27 (1976), p. 17.]


Summer * Toronto * Metrospan, a Toronto-area advertising agency representing nine local newspapers, refused to handle a display ad, soliciting subscriptions, from the *Body Politic*, stating that it was “unacceptable for publication.” The ad showed the faces of two men smiling at the reader, the cover image from issue 24. The *Body Politic* brought the matter to the attention of the OHRC.
[“Why You Won’t Find Us in Woodbridge,” *Body Politic*, no. 25 (1976), p. 6.]

**Summer–Autumn** * Montréal * The Association communautaire homosexuelle à l’Université de Montréal (ACHUM) was formed after a series of successful dances and meetings. During the summer a coordinating committee was elected and a constitution adopted. On September 17, 1976, twenty-five gay men and lesbians attended the first fall meeting of the group. ACHUM’s objectives were mostly social, but it did also plan to organize discussion groups, panels, and conferences. ACHUM was the first gay group to form at a Francophone university in Canada.


**July** * Montréal * The remaining members of Labyris Montreal decided to regroup and form a new lesbian organization called Gay Women of Montréal. They held a weekly drop-in at the Women’s Information and Referral Centre, 3595 rue St. Urbain, and had their own space, Labyris at Powerhouse, 3738 rue. St. Dominique.


**July 6** * Halifax * The CBC responded to the NGRC/CNDH concerning radio station CBH’s refusal to air a public service announcement for GAE’s telephone counselling service. Although the CBC declared that
“there is no CBC policy against accepting public service announcements from homophile organizations as such,” there were a number of criteria to be met. Included among these was the requirement that “any announcement must not promote or comment on any controversial issue.” Members of GAE vowed to pursue the matter. (See also October 5, 1976.)

[Robin Metcalfe, “CBC Bureaucrat Imposes Ban on Gay Ads,” Body Politic, no. 27 (1976), p. 4.]

**July 6** *Verdun, Qué.* *The gay contact club Le Club Chasers/Chasers Club was officially formed. Its newsletter Le Club Chasers Club (continued by Chasers Mates) was a popular way for gay men to meet each other through anonymous ads linked to postal box numbers.*

[“Editorial,” Le Club Chasers Club, no. 36–37 (July–August 1979), p. (1).]

**July 9** *Montréal* *The Québec Civil Liberties Union held a press conference to protest the firing by COJO of Stuart Russell and three others for their political and sexual orientation. The Union announced that it would lodge a complaint with the Québec Human Rights Commission that COJO had violated the provisions of the Québec Human Rights Charter through discrimination based on political convictions. (See also Autumn 1976.)*

**July 13** * Toronto * Judge Drukarsh found Bill Holloway and Tom Field guilty of committing an indecent act, kissing in public at the corner of Yonge and Bloor streets on February 9, 1976, and fined them $50 each. They had been posing for photos for an article on homophobia to be published in the magazine *Alternative to Alienation*. On July 17, GATE (Toronto) and the *Body Politic* sponsored a kiss-in to support the right for gay people to publicly show affection. About twenty people paraded in same-sex couples at Yonge and Bloor streets, kissing as they walked. Policemen watched from the sidelines, but did not intervene. On July 23, a picket was held outside Old City Hall, the site of the courtroom where the men had been convicted.


**July 16** * Vancouver * After three days of hearings on the *Vancouver Sun*’s appeal of the January 12 ruling by the British Columbia Human Rights Commission, Justice James A. Macdonald of the B.C. Supreme Court withheld judgement pending further study of the arguments presented in the case. The *Sun* had been found guilty of discriminating against the Gay Alliance toward Equality (GATE) (Vancouver) by refusing to publish an ad for *Gay Tide*. On August 16, 1976, Justice Macdonald dismissed the appeal, saying that he found “no legal basis for interfering with the finding.” The *Sun* appealed the decision to the B.C. Court of Appeal. (See June 10, 1977.)


**July 23–25** * Toronto * Eighty women from Canada, England, and the United States gathered for the conference “Toward a Strategy for the Lesbian Movement,” sponsored by Toronto Wages Due Lesbians and held at the Don Vale Community Centre. Lesbian autonomy, wages for housework, and child custody were the major focuses of the session.  

**July 24** * Timmins, Ont. * At a policy convention, the Social Credit Party of Ontario voted to endorse most of the platform of CGRO. This was a direct challenge to the explicit anti-homosexual stance taken by the national executive of the Social Credit Party of Canada. The convention also voted to recognize the national Social Credit Gay Caucus, and condemned recent anti-gay statements made by party MPs Armand Caouette and Rene Matte.  

**July 29** * Toronto * Twenty people attended a meeting organized by Tom Warner of GATE (Toronto) to discuss ongoing gay-bashing incidents in David Balfour Park, a popular meeting place for gay men. Members of GATE later distributed leaflets at entrances of the park to warn of the situation.  

**July 31–August 2** * Montréal * The Central Committee Plenum of the League for Socialist Action (LSA) adopted a “Political Committee Statement on Gay Liberation” with little discussion and no amendments.
Amendments suggested by gay liberationists had been rejected by the Central Committee, and foot-dragging by the LSA on the analysis of gay oppression and capitalism led to disgruntlement among gay members of the LSA.

[Merv Walker, “LSA Line ‘Inadequate,’ Gay Activist Resigns,” Body Politic, no. 31 (1977), pp. 6–7. See various contributions published in preparation for the plenum in LSA-LSO Discussion Bulletin (Toronto), 12, no. 1 (June 1976) through 12, no. 3 (July 1976), and LSA/LSO Internal Information Bulletin (Toronto), 4, no. 3 (November 1976).]

**August** * Campbellford, Ont. * Prisoners at Warkworth Institution, a medium-security prison, formed a gay discussion group, later called the Unit One Pioneers, which met once per week with the prison psychologist to discuss various aspects of being gay, and the situation of being a gay prisoner. This was one of the first such groups formed in North America. By 1977, the group met with representatives of THA.


**August** * Guelph, Ont. * GGE began to operate the August Club, a gay disco and after-hours club, on Friday and Saturday nights at the Royal Hotel. It closed in March 1977. (See March 1977.)

[“GGE 5 Years,” OUT!, 1, no. 1 (November 1978): 5; “Going Public in Guelph,” Body Politic, no. 31 (1977), p. 5.]

**August** * St. John’s * CHAN established a headquarters at 127A Queen’s Road, which was used for group meetings and small-scale social activities, including a regular women’s night. CHAN was forced to close its headquarters in October 1977 due to financial difficulties.

August * Toronto * P.C. Williams was questioned by John Damien’s lawyers in an examination for discovery relating to the civil suit launched by Damien concerning his dismissal by the Ontario Racing Commission in 1975 due to his sexual orientation. Damien’s lawyers posed more than 200 questions to Williams, who replied “no comment” to each. The lawyers subsequently asked a court official to rule whether Williams was required to answer the questions; the official did not hand down a ruling for more than nineteen months.


August 12 * Toronto * Police armed with a search warrant raided the Club Baths of Toronto to gather evidence for the upcoming trials of the men arrested at the Club Baths in Ottawa on May 22, 1976. The Toronto location was the headquarters for the Canadian operation of the international Club Baths chain. The police seized financial records, letters of shareholders, photocopies of cancelled cheques, and some invoices.


August 22 * Fredericton, N.B. * Curtis MacCartney, a gay man, was brutally beaten and murdered in his apartment. Edmond R. Hopper was charged with second degree murder but was acquitted on November 22; the Crown prosecutor appealed the verdict. MacCartney’s was the second gay murder in Fredericton in just over three years.


August 23 * Montréal * Sixty-eight men pleaded not guilty to charges of being found-ins at a bawdy house in the Montréal bath raids and were
remanded. Thirty-one other men who pleaded guilty to the same charge received a fine of $100 or fifteen days in jail.


**August 24** * Ottawa * Charges of assault causing bodily harm laid against Constable Robert Gervais and Sergeant Alain Methot were thrown out of court during a preliminary hearing due to insufficient evidence. George Duthie, one of the acquitted clients in the 1975 “Ottawa Sex Scandal” male prostitution case, had initiated the charges. Duthie claimed that the officers had assaulted him at the police station after his arrest in 1975, but the police did not lay charges until a full year after Duthie had lodged his complaint. The dismissal of the charges by Ontario Provincial Court Judge Phil Baker caused an uproar in Ottawa, with GO charging that the whole case was a whitewash; questions were also raised in the mainstream media, particularly by the *Ottawa Citizen*, the *Ottawa Journal*, and CJOH-TV.

August 25 * Toronto * Lesbians called for a boycott of Jo-Jo’s Disco (83 Granby Street) due to the staff’s treatment of women patrons. Recently, a woman’s shoulder had been dislocated; another woman had been thrown down two flights of stairs.


September * Calgary * Gay Information and Resources Calgary (GIRC) was reestablished with an information, counselling, and drop-in centre and hotline operated from office space at 815 Seventh Street S.W.


September * Edmonton * The Alberta Human Rights Commission presented its report on recommendations for reform to the Alberta Individual Rights Protection Act to Premier Peter Lougheed’s Progressive Conservative government. The report had been made after the commission heard presentations from public groups, including the Gay Alliance toward Equality (GATE) (Edmonton). The recommendations included adding “sexual preference” to the act. The Alberta government suppressed the recommendations and did not table the commission’s report in the legislature until April 1978, after which it declared that only minor changes would be made to the act and that “sexual preference” would not be included. (See also May 11, 1978.)


September * Montréal * Paul-François Sylvestre’s memoir/diary *Propos pour une libération (homo)sexuelle* was published by Éditions de l’Aurore. Sylvestre had been accused of gross indecency in the “Ottawa Sex Scandal” of 1975. This event prompted him to come out as a gay
activist with GO, and to write about the experience of becoming an activist.


**September** * Peterborough, Ont. * Following the groundwork laid by a discreet lesbian group known as the “Women,” formed in October 1975, the Trent Homophile Association (THA) was formed at Trent University to provide a social outlet for gays and lesbians at Trent, and to sponsor information sessions concerning gay rights for the wider community. (See also December 7, 1976.)


**September** * Québec, Qué. * The Federal Advisory Council on the Status of Women called on the federal government to completely reevaluate the Criminal Code provisions relating to sexual offences; the Council’s recommendations included abolishing sections relating to gross indecency.

September * Toronto * NGRC/CNDH initiated a $6,000 fundraising project to support John Damien’s case. The group was able to raise more than $6,300 by the mid-December 1976 deadline.


September * Toronto * Staff, residents, and supporters of Nellie’s, a short-term hostel for women in crisis, demonstrated at Queen’s Park to demand permanent adequate funding for the service, a long-term residence for women, and new government policies to fund community-based services for women. Lesbians were among the strongest supporters of Nellie’s.


September * Toronto * Ken Waxman’s article “The Rise of Gay Capitalism” was published in *Toronto Life*. Waxman interviewed a cross-section of openly gay entrepreneurs whose businesses catered to Toronto’s gay community, including Peter Bochove, Jr., George Hislop, Peter Maloney, Jearld Moldenhauer, and Arthur Whitaker.

September 4–6 * Toronto * The fourth annual national gay conference, entitled “Many Faces, One Focus,” was hosted by GATE (Toronto) and held at Jarvis Collegiate. Almost 250 people representing more than forty lesbian and gay organizations registered, and many more people attended informally. Major themes of the conference included the relationship of lesbians to the gay movement and the responsibilities of the NGRC/CNDH. More than 400 people attended a rally and march held on September 5, from Allan Gardens to Nathan Phillips Square. Other events included the annual meeting of the NGRC/CNDH, panels and workshops, cultural presentations, a coffee house (at the CHAT Centre), and a dance at Holy Trinity Church.


September 7 * Ottawa * Ontario Solicitor General John Macbeth rejected calls for a public inquiry into the conduct of Ottawa police in
their investigation of the 1975 “Ottawa Sex Scandal” case. Members of GO, the Ottawa Citizen, and MPPs Michael Cassidy (NDP) and Albert Roy (Liberal) had been pressing for a public examination of the Ottawa police in prosecuting the users of the male prostitution service.


**September 9** *Toronto* *John Alan Lee of the GAU presented a submission before the OHRC, demanding the inclusion of “sexual orientation” in any future revision of the Ontario Human Rights Code.*


**September 12–18** *Ottawa* *GO celebrated its fifth anniversary with festivities including an anniversary dinner, a public forum, an educational session, a dance, and a film festival.*


**September 16** *Toronto* *In a brief submitted before the Code Review Committee of the OHRC by Patrick Kerwin, the Canadian Labour Congress recommended the amendment of the Ontario Human Rights Code to include protection based on sexual orientation. On the same day, Gerald Hannon of the Body Politic and Mary Axten of the Committee to Defend John Damien presented briefs to the OHRC as well. Hannon concentrated on discrimination against gay advertising in the mainstream press; Axten pressed for the full reinstatement and vindication of John Damien.*

**September 17** * Toronto * Brian Mossop was expelled from membership in the Communist Party of Canada (CPC) for “exhibiting an openly hostile attitude toward the Party.” Mossop was a gay activist who publicly advocated homosexuality, which was against Party rules.


**September 20** * Toronto * James Kennedy, a forty-nine-year-old civil servant, was beaten and murdered in his home after leaving the St. Charles Tavern.


**September 22** * Edmonton * At a public town hall meeting, Doug Roche (PC–Edmonton-Strathcona) stated that “the rights of homosexuals are not a major priority for me at present.” The comment came in response to a question asked by a lesbian constituent about whether Roche would support gay civil rights protection in the House of Commons. This comment came only months after Roche had made a forceful statement in the *Edmonton Journal* in defence of Wayne D. Madden, a gay member of his constituency executive.

September 23 * Halifax * The Dalhousie Gazette published an eight-page gay supplement, produced by members of GAE. It included articles on gays and the law, gays and the CBC, Canadian gay literature, and lesbian concerns.

[Gay Supplement, Dalhousie Gazette (Dalhousie Univ., Halifax), 23 September 1976, 8 pp.]

September 25 * Toronto * The Metropolitan Community Church (MCC), Spearhead, and the Lanyards hosted a reception, banquet, and dance in honour of Rev. Troy Perry, founding pastor of Metropolitan Community Churches, held at the War Amps Hall.

[“Troy Perry, Sept. 25/76,” Lanyard Newsletter (Toronto), issue 6, no. 3 (November 15, 1976): (2).]

September 26 * Calgary * The inaugural meeting of Dignity/Calgary was held at a private home; eight people attended. Gerry Moran was the coordinator of the group in its early days.

[G. Moran, “To Members and Friends of DIGNITY/Calgary” (letter), Dignity (Calgary), October 4, 1976, p. (1).]

September 29 * Nepean, Ont. * Eight men were arrested and charged with gross indecency for having sex in a public washroom at Steinberg’s Miracle Mart store (Merivale Road and Meadowlands Drive); police had set up hidden cameras and filmed scenes in the washroom. Five pleaded guilty and were given conditional discharges. Two others were also given conditional discharges, and the eighth man was given a small fine. The police tried to keep the arrests quiet, but there was considerable media attention to the case, most of it measured. GO protested the tactics used by the Nepean police in the arrests, the severity of the charges, and the gross indecency laws themselves.


**September 29** *Toronto* *Humber College’s Runnymede Neighbourhood Learning Centre began the night school course “The Sociology of Homosexuality,” taught by Earl Reidy, despite a sustained campaign against the proposed course based on the fear that it would “promote homosexuality.” For example, on August 10, 1976, the *Toronto Star* published a misleading article on the course entitled “Homosexuality Taught as Way of Life in Humber Course—Will Make It Easier for Others,” which was picked up by the Canadian Press wire service and published in newspapers across the country. Additional misleading articles and editorials about the course were published by the *Star* in the following weeks. This was the first gay studies course offered at an Ontario community college, with twenty-six students enrolled.


**Autumn** *Halifax* *GAE began publishing The Voice, a monthly newsletter.*
[Robin Metcalfe, “Gays Open Their Own Dance Club,” *Body Politic*, no. 27 (1976), p. 4.]

**Autumn (?)** * Hamilton, Ont. * Local 1005 of the United Steelworkers of America affirmed its support for the Ontario NDP’s stand on gay civil rights.


**Autumn** * Montréal * Gangs of young men launched several attacks on late-night strollers in Parc Lafontaine, a popular cruising spot for gay men. Police increased their surveillance of the park.


**Autumn** * Montréal * The Québec Human Rights Commission dropped Stuart Russell’s discrimination case against COJO. Russell was fired from his position at COJO for being a gay activist and for taking part in a demonstration against a pre-Olympic crackdown on the city’s gay community. The commission claimed that it had no jurisdiction in the affair because Russell’s firing on June 24, 1976, came four days before the commission officially began operation.


**Autumn** * Ottawa * The new federal immigration legislation would not bar homosexuals from entering Canada. In October 1975 the Special Joint Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons on Immigration Policy submitted a final report to Parliament advising the federal government to delete from the Immigration Act the provision that prohibited foreign gays from entering Canada either as visitors or as immigrants. The existing Immigration Act, passed in 1952, contained several references to homosexuals and “homosexualism” that were blatantly discriminatory. Gay activists had been pressing for the removal
of all references to homosexuality from the act. (See also November 9, 1976.)


**Autumn * Toronto *** The fall 1976 issue of *Canadian Theatre Review* devoted thirty-five pages to the theme “Homosexuality and the Theatre.” The section was edited by David Watmough and included short articles by Eric Bentley, Graham Jackson, Eric Nicol, and Robert Wallace, plus a panel discussion about homosexuality in Canadian theatre.


**Autumn * Toronto *** Francie Wyland’s *Motherhood, Lesbianism, and Child Custody: The Case for Wages for Housework* was published by Wages Due Lesbians Toronto. The thirty-two-page pamphlet was the first of its kind published in North America. An updated edition was published in 1977 in Bristol, England, by Wages Due Lesbians Toronto and Falling Wall Press.

**Autumn * Vancouver *** Issue 21 of *Canadian Fiction Magazine* focused on the work of Jane Rule. It included the story “Outlander” plus the first chapter of *The Young in One Another’s Arms*, as well as an interview with Rule by Geoff Hancock. Helen Sonthoff, Rule’s partner,
contributed a study of Rule’s fiction, and also compiled a bibliography of Rule’s works.


Autumn * Vancouver * A proposed expansion of the Club Baths chain into Vancouver met with official opposition at City Hall after staff reports said that the facilities were not actually a health club but were intended as a place for sexual contact between homosexuals, and would spread venereal disease.


Autumn * Windsor, Ont. * Windsor Gay Unity (WGU) was dissolved and reconstituted and restructured under the same name. The move was necessary to revitalize the organization and to allow it more flexibility. One of its first projects was to survey all candidates for the upcoming city council election. Most of the more than thirty candidates refused to respond to WGU’s survey, but Shirley Campbell and Henry Shanfield, who were both elected, pledged their support for a gay rights resolution banning discrimination based on sexual orientation in city employment.


October * Montréal * The Alpha Kira Fraternity was formed. A social fraternity for gay men, Alpha Kira was designed as an alternative to gay bars. Its object was to encourage close friendships and promote the mutual welfare of each member and of the gay community as a whole.

[“Alpha Kira Fraternity” vertical file, Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto; “President’s Comments,” Alpha Kira Newsletter, 3, no. 1 (March 1979): 1.]
October * Montréal * Police harassment of the gay community continued as most of the popular gay bars were raided by police for alleged over-crowding. During the same time, fifteen men were arrested at the Dominion Square Tavern for sexual activities in the tavern’s washroom.


October * Ottawa * Justice Minister Ron Basford announced that the federal government would reintroduce its Canadian Human Rights Act legislation early in the new session of Parliament. When originally introduced in 1975, the legislation did not include protection from discrimination based on sexual orientation. The government took this approach because it wanted the commission to work only in areas where there were already precedents (in provincial human rights codes). NGRC/CNDH and many other groups and individuals protested this exclusion throughout 1976. (See also December 2, 1976.)


October * Scarborough, Ont. * Graham Jackson’s book of short stories *Gardens* was published by Catalyst Press.

October * Toronto * The *Body Politic* increased its publication frequency from six to ten times per year after successfully raising $3,600 in a fundraising drive.

[“Thanks for Caring,” *Body Politic*, no. 26 (1976), p. 21.]

October * Toronto * The October issue of *Canadian Churchman*, the official national newspaper of the Anglican Church of Canada, contained six full pages of generally positive articles written by Ann Benedek on homosexuality, including interviews and profiles of lesbian and gay individuals and organizations (including CHAT and MCC). The issue generated much debate.


October * Toronto * The Hassle Free Clinic, located at 201 Church Street, a free clinic providing VD examinations, almost closed due to government underfunding. It was estimated that gay men made up 85 percent of the clinic’s clientele.


October * Toronto * John Hofsess’s profile of Jane Rule, “Calumnity Jane,” was published in *Books in Canada*.

October 1 * Saskatoon * GCCS hired Doug Hellquist (renamed Gens Hellquist from 1977) as its first full-time executive director to ensure the continued stability and growth of the organization.

[“Gay Centre Appoints Full-time Director,” *Body Politic*, no. 28 (1976), p. 3; Doug Hellquist, “Community Centre to Hire Full-time Director,” *Body Politic*, no. 27 (1976), p. 5.]

October 1–3 * Toronto * At its annual meeting the Law Union of Ontario adopted a resolution supporting substantially all of the program of CGRO. The resolution also condemned Ontario Solicitor General John MacBeth for refusing to call a public inquiry into the police handling of the “Ottawa Sex Scandal” case.


October 5 * Halifax * GAE presented a brief to the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) at a licence renewal hearing to protest the local CBC radio station CBH’s refusal to accept public service announcements for GAE’s Gayline. CBC said that it could not accept the announcements because of “the element of controversy inherent in the Gay Liberation Movement” but that it was in the process of formulating a national policy for public service announcements for gay organizations. (See also December [end] 1976.)


October 5 * Ottawa * NGRC/CNDH demanded a meeting with Solicitor General Francis Fox to discuss discrimination against homosexuals in and by the RCMP. This was in reaction to statements
made by an RCMP spokesperson in the *Globe and Mail* that investigations of prospective RCMP officers focus on “character weaknesses—alcoholism, homosexuality and traits such as extreme dependence on one’s mother.” Fox responded four months later in a statement that skirted the issue.


**October 6** *Mississauga, Ont.* *The Mississauga Times*, owned by the *Toronto Star*, printed an anti-gay column by James Bailey entitled “Gays Simply Aren’t Normal.” Bailey’s column was written in response to a press release announcing the formation of Gay Equality Mississauga (GEM). Elgin Blair, president of GEM, demanded a public apology, but was unsuccessful.


**October 9–11** *Ottawa* *About 320 women from across Canada attended the National Lesbian Conference, organized by LOON and held at the University of Ottawa. Discussions and workshops were held on civil rights, child custody, and the women’s movement. Social events included a dance, a coffee house, and a brunch. A proposal for the
formation of a national lesbian organization was adopted, and a steering committee was formed to work towards establishing it.


October 10 * Hamilton, Ont. * At a meeting of the steering committee of the CGRO, members of GATE (Toronto) reported the formation of an active lesbian caucus; MHA announced the formation of Gay Women of Hamilton (GWH); and CHAT announced that it would be emphasizing lesbian issues.

**October 12** *Windsor, Ont.* *The Windsor and District Labour Council adopted a resolution supporting the amendment of the Ontario Human Rights Code “to protect the civil rights of homosexual women and men.” It also urged trade unions to negotiate clauses in contracts that would prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation in hiring, promotion, and training.*


**October 14** *Canada* *Lesbians and gays joined in a national Day of Protest against the federal government’s program of wage and price controls. Members of local lesbian and gay groups joined protests in Vancouver, Saskatoon, Winnipeg, Windsor, Toronto, Ottawa, and Halifax. In Toronto, the Toronto Wages for Housework Committee organized the only women’s protest against wage and price controls. A crowd of about 400 attended a noon-hour concert held at Nathan Phillips Square. The performers were feminist singers Rita MacNeil and Boo Watson.*

October 14 * Saskatoon * The Gay Association of Youth (GAY) was formed at GCCS, a meeting place for gays under twenty-one.

[“Youth Group Formed,” Gay Community Centre of Saskatoon News, November 1976, p. 5.]

October 14 * Toronto * Harvey Hamburg of TAG was interviewed by David Scott-Atkinson of the Mississauga News on CITY-TV’s program Free for All. Scott-Atkinson, a public relations executive and writer who had published several homophobic columns in the News, made anti-gay remarks on air, including, “I don’t see anything gay about being a fag, a fairy, a poof, or a queer” and “… if somebody gassed your lot, I wouldn’t pause to eat for a second.” The station was immediately flooded with complaints. CITY decided not to rebroadcast the taped segment, and invited Hamburg back the next week for a more sympathetic interview.


October 21 * Ottawa * Andrew MacKey, who was the manager of the Club Baths when it was raided May 22, 1976, pleaded guilty to keeping a common bawdy house and was fined $500. Three other men pleaded guilty to being inmates (workers) in a bawdy house and were fined $100 each. Provincial Court judge Thomas Swabey questioned the bawdy house laws, in that homosexual activity in a private men’s club “doesn’t harm anyone” but said that there is “still a long way to go before the majority of a community will not be shocked by this sort of thing.” (See also January 28, 1977.)


October 23 * Canada * George Russell’s profile of Marie-Claire Blais, “Nightmare’s Child,” was published in Weekend Magazine.
October 27 * Toronto * Ontario NDP leader Stephen Lewis reaffirmed his support for gay rights and the inclusion of “sexual orientation” in the Ontario Human Rights Code during a speech at Osgoode Hall Law School. (See also November 29, 1976.)


October 28 * Toronto * CHAT and Toronto Wages Due Lesbians co-sponsored a benefit for lesbian mothers fighting for custody of their children.


October 30–31 * Montréal * Thirty-five predominantly Francophone lesbians and gays attended the first policy conference for ADGQ. This group was formed to succeed CHAR/GCAR and was the first distinctly gay civil rights group formed in the province of Québec. Executive committee officers elected at the conference were Ron Dayman, executive president, Claude Beaulieu, general president, Tom Green, vice-president, Stuart Russell, treasurer, and Marc Turgeon, secretary.

October 31 * Montréal * About thirty gays and lesbians picketed the Notre-Dame-de-la-Salette church after it broke a contract to provide space for a gay Halloween dance organized by Gay Women of Montreal (GWM).


October 31 * Toronto * In an annual Halloween ritual, hundreds of homophobes stood outside the Parkside Tavern on Yonge Street throwing eggs, tomatoes, apples, and insults, and waiting for drag queens to walk between the Parkside and the St. Charles Tavern, south on Yonge. Police did not disperse the mob, and no gay organization was visibly present during the event.


November * North York, Ont. * Charlene Robertson and her female lover applied for accommodation in a furnished one-bedroom apartment at the Atkinson residence at York University. Robertson was a third-year Women’s Studies major there. Heterosexual couples, married or not, were routinely granted rental of these apartments. Robertson and her partner were denied the accommodation and were told to apply for a two-bedroom apartment, which cost more. This situation caused an uproar on campus, with members of Gay Alliance at York (GAY) demanding that the university repudiate this policy and replace it with a clear statement of non-discrimination. The University’s administration set new guidelines for a housing policy that did not explicitly discriminate against gays or same-sex roommates, but gave married
couples first priority for all graduate housing (gays and lesbians were not yet allowed to legally marry.)


November * St. John’s * CHAN almost collapsed after three of the organization’s executive positions went unfilled after CHAN’s annual election. The positions were filled by CHAN’s January 1977 meeting, however, and a concerted effort was made to reaffirm CHAN’s role in an active, organized gay movement in Newfoundland.


November * Toronto * Gays at the University of Toronto (GAUT) was formed after staff at the University of Toronto Sexual Education Centre were initially reluctant to counsel gays.


November * Toronto * The United Church of Canada submitted a brief to the OHRC recommending the inclusion of “sexual orientation” in the proposed revisions to the Ontario Human Rights Code.

November * Vancouver * Kurt Hiller’s historic 1928 gay rights speech “Against Injustice,” translated from the German by John Lauritsen, was published in *Gay Tide*.


November 5 * Ottawa * Secretary of State John Roberts wrote in a letter to GO that Hugh Poulin (Lib.–Ottawa Centre), the Member of Parliament for the constituency where GO’s offices were located, had stated that GO’s program of community education and information dissemination about gay rights was not a priority in his riding. As a result, GO was blocked from receiving a $950 government grant.


November 6–7 * Saskatoon * The annual conference of the Saskatchewan Association on Human Rights (SAHR) passed a resolution supporting the inclusion of “sexual orientation” in Saskatchewan’s human rights legislation. The provincial government was planning to make changes to its human rights legislation during the current session of parliament and had indicated that it did not intend to add protection based on “sexual orientation.”


November 7 * Toronto * The Lesbian Organization of Toronto (LOOT) was officially formed after a number of meetings were held to discuss the common problems and needs of Toronto’s lesbians. These meetings stemmed from the enthusiasm generated by the National Lesbian
Conference held October 9–11, 1976, in Ottawa. LOOT’s first task was to establish a lesbian centre.


**November 8** *Toronto* *A benefit dance was held at David’s Disco (16 Phipps Street) to support the Committee to Defend John Damien.*

[“Damien at David’s” (advertisement), *Body Politic*, no. 28 (1976), p. 8.]

**November 9** *Windsor, Ont.* *The five-member Berkeley Music Collective, a lesbian band, were detained while crossing the border into Canada. After several hours, they obtained a ministerial permit to enter the country on the condition that they not perform musically; they were*
also required to post a bond of $150 to ensure that they would return to the United States. Gay civil rights groups had been fighting for changes to the Immigration Act, which prohibited homosexuals from entering Canada. (See also November 24, 1976.)


**November 11** *Ottawa* * Martin Hogarth, representing GO, laid a wreath at the National War Memorial during ceremonies on Remembrance Day. This was the second year in a row that GO had participated in the ceremony. The wreath included a pink triangle, the symbol that gay people were forced to wear in concentration camps. Hogarth had been dismissed from the Canadian armed forces in 1974 after admitting, under interrogation, that he was gay.


**November 12** *Hull, Qué.* * Members of GO distributed leaflets outside the final Robert Bourassa rally in the Québec provincial election campaign. GO denounced the Bourassa government for failing to support the inclusion of a sexual orientation clause in the Québec Human Rights Code. The GO protesters were forced to leave after being attacked by Liberal supporters. (See also November 15, 1976.)


**November 15** *Québec* * The Parti Québécois (PQ) under René Lévesque won a sweeping victory in a provincial election; it was the only party in the election that had publicly supported gay rights. In the campaign leading up to the election, members of GO and ADGQ were active in querying candidates about civil rights for gays in Québec. Several Liberal and Créditiste candidates were openly hostile. In the wake of the PQ victory, the ADGQ launched a public campaign aimed at
winning legal protection for gays in the Québec Human Rights Charter and the Canadian Human Rights Act.


November 15 * Winnipeg * John Damien spoke to seventy-five people at the University of Manitoba Student Centre. Every radio, television, and press outlet in Winnipeg covered Damien’s speech, and several radio stations arranged talk shows and interviews with Damien. The same evening Damien spoke at a fundraising dinner sponsored by GFE and held at the Mutual Friendship Society (MFS); it was attended by 125 people. The event raised over $1,000 for the Committee to Defend John Damien. (See also November 16 and 20, 1976.)


November 16 * Winnipeg * GFE filed a complaint with the Manitoba Human Rights Commission against the Manitoba Horse Racing Commission for failing to consider the application of John Damien for a position as a racing steward. A position had been posted for which
Damien was qualified, and for which he applied. A member of the Manitoba Horse Racing Commission went to Toronto to interview other applicants, one of whom was eventually hired.

[“Homosexuals Plan Protest of Racing Board Decision,” Winnipeg Tribune, 16 November 1976, p. 6.]

**November 18** * Toronto * Kathleen Hardy’s lesbian-themed play *The Performance*, starring Hardy and directed by Bonnie Marzlak, was presented at CHAT.

[Joanne Brooks, “Travelling Women’s Theatre Comes to Toronto” (review), Other Woman, 4, no. 6 (November–December 1976): 17.]

**November 20** * Winnipeg * Thirty-five members of GFE and others picketed the Manitoba legislature in support of John Damien and for the inclusion of “sexual orientation” in the Manitoba Human Rights Act. Representatives of GFE, the RMG, and the Winnipeg Lesbian Society addressed the crowd. High winds and blowing snow did not deter the protest, which was the largest gay rights demonstration held in Winnipeg to that time.


**November 23–27** * Ottawa * James O’Reagan and Robin Marshall’s play *Eschaton*, based on the suicide of Warren Zufelt after the “Ottawa Sex Scandal” in March 1975, was produced by Carleton University’s Sock ‘n’ Buskin.
[Audrey M. Ashley, “Suicide Spurs an Angry Play about Society,”  
*Ottawa Citizen*, 30 October 1976, p. 27; Lloyd Plunkett, “Eschaton”  
(review), *GO Info*, 4, no. 1 (January 1977): 8.]

**November 24** *Ottawa* *Minister of Employment and Immigration*  
Bud Cullen introduced the new proposed Immigration Act (1976), which  
contained no reference to homosexuals. In the old 1952 Immigration  
Act, homosexuals were barred from admission to Canada under a section  
entitled “Prohibited Classes.” This was seen as a victory by the gay  
movement, which had urged the removal of this archaic restriction. (See  
also July 25, 1977.)

[David Garmaise, “Gays Win Immigration Fight: Gays & Politics,”  
First Victory!” *NGRC Forum*, 2, no. 1 (Winter 1977): 1; “Gays Win  
on Immigration Act,” *Gay Rising*, December 1976, p. 3; D.H. (Doug  
Hellquist), “A Victory?,” *Gay Community Centre of Saskatoon News*,  
December 1976, p. (6); “New Immigration Act Ambiguous,” *Gay  
Tide*, no. 15 (February 1977), p. 8; “Le projet de loi sur  
l’immigration: aucun pouvoir nouveau aux provinces,” *Le Devoir*, 25  
November 1976, p. 7; Stuart Russell, “Ban on Homosexual  
Immigrants Removed: Victory for Gay Movement,” *Labor  
Challenge*, 20 December 1976, p. 4; Stuart Russell, “Gays Win Rights  
December 1976, p. 20.]

**November 25** *Toronto* *GATE (Toronto) held a forum on sex  
education and homosexuality in secondary schools. Sixty people  
attended, including representatives of various educational authorities.  
[“Gays and the Schools,” *Gay Rising*, December 1976, pp. 7–8; David  

**November 29** *Toronto* *Federal NDP leader Ed Broadbent was  
quoted in the November 29 issue of *Maclean’s* saying that, in order to  
make itself more palatable to the electorate, the NDP must stop  
supporting every fad issue or minority concern that came along,
“whether it’s the homosexual minority or whatever” (p. 58). This statement was contrary to a resolution adopted by the Ontario NDP calling for the inclusion of a “sexual orientation” clause in the Ontario Human Rights Code. (See also June 11–13, 1976.)


**December** * Halifax * The first issue of *Lesbian Canada Lesbienne* was published. It was an outgrowth of the National Lesbian Conference held in October 1976, and was seen as the newsletter of the national lesbian movement. It was compiled by members of the Atlantic Provinces Political Lesbians for Equality (APPLE).


**December** * Montréal * Police raided the Lime Light Disco (1254 rue Stanley); at least nine police cars blocked Stanley Street. Patrons of the Lime Light were asked to present identification.


**December** * Scarborough, Ont. * Judith Crewe’s *The Ancient and Other Poems* was published by Catalyst Press.


**December** * Toronto * Robert Burns’s article “Queer Doings: Attitudes towards Homosexuality in 19th Century Canada” was published in the *Body Politic*. This was one of the earliest articles to focus on nineteenth-century Canadian gay history, and, in particular, the case of George Markland (ca. 1790–1862), the disgraced inspector general of Upper Canada.
December * Toronto * Jane Rule’s story “Friends” was published in the Body Politic.

December 1 * Toronto * The December 1, 1976, issue of The Varsity, a student newspaper at the University of Toronto, published a two-page spread on “out” lesbians and gays on campus, written by Michael Lynch, then an assistant professor of English at the University of Toronto at Mississauga. Clarence Barnes, an instructor in the department of chemical engineering, was highlighted.

December 2 * Ottawa * Proposed legislation for the Canadian Human Rights Act was tabled in the House of Commons. Protection from discrimination based on “sexual orientation” was not included in the proposed Act. (See also December 11, 1976.)

December 3 * Edmonton * Rick Holowaty, twenty-one, and Dean Solomany, twenty, were charged with gross indecency after being arrested for kissing in a parked car in Queen Elizabeth Park. GATE (Edmonton) established a Holowaty/Solomany Defence Fund to fight the charges, which carried a maximum penalty of five years in prison.


December 4 * Canada * Paul Grescoe’s profile of Jane Rule, “One Kind of Loving,” was published in *The Canadian* magazine. This was the first profile of Rule published in a major Canadian magazine.


December 4 * Toronto * “A Pastoral Letter of Concern from Archbishop Pocock” concerning “the rapid growth of pornography in the society around us,” was read in all Roman Catholic churches in Toronto and appeared in church newspapers. This was seen by some in the gay community as part of a coordinated censorship crackdown involving a variety of governmental agencies, particularly the office of Ontario’s Attorney General, Roy McMurtry, and the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) and Metropolitan Toronto Police forces.


December 6 * Ottawa * Ian Maclellan of GO was defeated in a bid for a seat on the Ottawa Board of Education during a municipal election in Ottawa West. Maclellan, who was an independent with no political affiliation, finished eleventh out of twelve candidates in a race for six trustee positions.

December 7 * Peterborough, Ont. * John Damien spoke at a forum entitled “Homosexuals and Their Right to Work,” sponsored by THA at Trent University. Damien was also interviewed in the *Peterborough Examiner* and on CHEX Radio.


December 10 * Ottawa * On International Human Rights Day, GO wrote a letter to the editor of *Le Droit*, Ottawa’s French-language daily, protesting the paper’s anti-gay discrimination. For months the paper had refused to publish social and meeting announcements submitted by GO for the free daily current events listing “Le Carrefour.” The newspaper printed the letter and a reply, stating that the non-publication of the announcements had been due to a misunderstanding and that *Le Droit* would henceforth announce gay activities “with pleasure and at no cost.” This did not occur, however, and *Le Droit* refused to carry GO’s announcements for months to come.


December 11 * Toronto * Fifty people picketed the Federal Ministry of Justice offices at the Toronto-Dominion Centre, as well as several other locations downtown, to protest the exclusion of protection for gays under the Canadian Human Rights Act, which had been tabled in the House of Commons on December 2. The demonstration was organized by GATE (Toronto).

**December 17** * Vancouver * Members of GATE (Vancouver) joined with a gay member of CUPW to make a gay rights presentation before officers of the British Columbia Federation of Labour.

[“Labour Urged to Support Gay Rights,” *Gay Tide*, no. 15 (February 1977), p. 3.]

**December 18** * Toronto * An early-morning fire at the Barracks steam bath (56 Widmer Street) killed Rafael Angel Rojas of London, Ontario. The blaze, which caused extensive damage to the Barracks, was blamed on careless smoking. The Barracks was renovated and soon reopened. A coroner’s inquiry into the affair later recommended mandatory inspection of all public buildings at least once every two years.


**December 18** * Toronto * A disagreement over the closing time for a gay dance sponsored by GATE (Toronto), and held at the 519 Church Street Community Centre, resulted in GATE being banned from using the centre for two months. GATE had been holding monthly dances at the centre since July 1976.

December (end) * Vancouver * Canadian University Press (CUP), representing seventy student newspapers across Canada, approved a national boycott of CBC advertising to protest anti-gay discrimination by the CBC, which had refused to air a public service announcement in Halifax for GAE. (See also January 7, 1977.)

1977

— * Carlisle, Ont. * Larkspur and Lad’s Love, a collection of homoerotic poems and images, was published in an edition of 150 copies by Brandstead Press. The volume was edited by Clare MacCulloch and featured linocut illustrations by Gerard Brender à Brandis. The contributors were Will Aitken, Albert Collignon, Michael Illingworth, Graham Jackson, E.A. Lacey, Clare MacCulloch, Merv Thomson, Chris Wilson, Ian Young, and Clovis Zanetti.


— * Edmonton * A chapter of Parents of Gays (POG) was formed, with Cecilia McCormick as coordinator.


— * Montréal * The second edition, revised and corrected, of Alain Bouchard’s Nouvelle approche de l’homosexualité: style de vie was published by Éditions Homeureux.


— * Montréal * Denis Vanier’s book of poetry Comme le peau d’un rosaire was published by Parti pris.

—— * Saskatoon * Doug Wilson’s book of poetry The Myth of the Boy was published by Stubblejumper Press. This was the inaugural title from Stubblejumper Press, which was operated by Wilson.


—— * Toronto * Patrick Anderson’s Return to Canada: Selected Poems was published by McClelland & Stewart.


—— * Toronto * Timothy Findley’s novel The Wars was published by Clarke, Irwin. It won the Governor General’s Award for fiction and the
Toronto Book Award, and was filmed by Robin Phillips in 1983.


—— * Toronto * Although Ralph Lesser and Mark Whitehead had revived Gay Youth Toronto (GYT) beginning in 1975, the group had nowhere stable to meet. In 1977 Whitehead approached the board of the 519 Community Centre and asked permission for GYT to hold meetings there (519 Church Street). The board was reluctant at first, due to the youth of some of GYT’s members (sixteen to twenty-five). Whitehead marshalled support for the idea and the 519’s board agreed to the request, but by a margin of only one vote. This was a significant development for the Toronto LGBT community, as more groups soon began to meet there; the 519 Community Centre and the adjacent Cawthra Park eventually became a hub of LGBT activity in the Church-Wellesley neighbourhood.


—— * Toronto * Maxim Mazumdar’s two-act play, Oscar Remembered, was published by Personal Library. It was a monologue of Lord Alfred Douglas’s reminiscences of Oscar Wilde, which Mazumdar
performed across Canada and in the United States.

—— * Toronto * Mary Meigs’s book *Illustrations for Two Novels by Marie-Claire Blais* was published by Exile Editions.

—— * Toronto * The Metro Toronto Women’s Credit Union was formed. The non-profit institution advocated the withdrawal of women from male-dominated banks and financial institutions in order to redistribute women’s financial resources among women who had suffered discrimination, including discrimination based on sexual orientation.

—— * Toronto * Gordon Montador’s self-published poetry chapbook *This Language Love: Eleven Poems* appeared.

—— * Toronto * *Sexual Behaviour in Canada: Patterns and Problems*, edited by Benjamin Schlesinger, was published by the University of Toronto Press.

—— * Toronto * Charles Taylor’s collection of biographical portraits, *Six Journeys: A Canadian Pattern*, was published by Anansi. It included a chapter on Scott Symons, author of *Place d’Armes* and *Civic Square*.

—— * Toronto and Bristol, England * Francie Wyland’s pamphlet *Motherhood, Lesbianism and Child Custody* was co-published by Wages Due Lesbians Toronto and Falling Wall Press.


—— * Vancouver * Gwen Hauser’s book of poetry *Hands Get Lonely Sometimes* was published by blewointmentpress.

[“Aesthetera,” *Body Politic*, no. 48 (1978), p. 36.]

—— * Vancouver * Monica Holden-Lawrence’s experimental novel *Mad about the Crazy Lady* was published by Air Press.


—— * Vancouver * Stan Persky’s collection of prose and poetry, *Wrestling the Angel*, was published by Talonbooks.


January * Canada * The short film *Friday Night Adventure*, written by Richard Benner and directed by Frank Vitale, was broadcast on CBC television. The gay “one-night stand” story was bold for the time, and
included scenes in a gay bar and of cruising. CBC did not promote the film, but reported later that at least 187,000 viewers across Canada watched the show.


**January** * Montréal * Danny Cardinal, Mrs. J. Cardinal, David Cassidy, Dalida Green, and others formed a branch of Parents of Gays/Parents de gai(e)s.

[Gilles Garneau, “Dalida Green, une maman pour les homosexuels,” *Le Berdache* (Montréal), October 1980, p. 12; “Parents of Gays/Parents de gai(e)s” vertical file, Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto.]

**January** * Ottawa * Members of GO met with representatives of the Ottawa police to discuss relationships between police and the gay community. MPP Michael Cassidy (NDP–Ottawa-Centre) also attended the meeting. GO hoped to educate the police as to gay and lesbian concerns, particularly issues such as the bath raids and assaults in public parks, and to work towards a reduction in harassment of the community by the local police morality squad. This meeting was productive, and led to the appointment of Staff Sergeant Bill Cathcart as police liaison to the gay community.


**January** * Ottawa * An educational grant of $950 issued to GO by the Department of the Secretary of State Group Understanding and Human Rights Program was vetoed by MP Hugh Poulin (Lib.–Ottawa-Centre), who represented the riding in which GO’s offices were located.

[“Local MP Vetoes Grant,” *Body Politic*, no. 30 (1977), p. 9.]

**January** * Ottawa * Gays of Ottawa (GO) announced the winners of the first annual Oscar Wilde Awards for Homophobe-of-the-Year for 1976.
The national winner was Hugh Poulin (Lib–Ottawa-Centre), for his veto of an educational grant for GO. Charles McNaughton, chairman of the Ontario Racing Commission, was named in the provincial category for his role in firing John Damien. The local winners (a tie) were Constable Robert Gervais and Sergeant Alain Méthot of the Ottawa Police morality squad.


January * Ottawa * James O’Regan and Robin Marshall’s play Eschaton, about the suicide of Warren Zufelt following his arrest in March 1975 in the “Ottawa Sex Scandal,” was performed by the Sock ‘n’ Buskin Theatre Group at Carleton University.


January * Québec, Qué. * Réjean Raymond, a psychologist, taught a course on homosexuality in the École de psychologie at Université Laval.

[“Québec: Un cours sur l’homophilie” (news), Gay Montreal, 1, no. 15 (19 October 1976): 3.]

January * Toronto * The first issue of Directions: For Gay Men was published. It lasted for five issues, until the end of 1977.


January * Toronto * Canada’s first graduate university course on homosexuality from a gay perspective, “Education and the Gay Experience,” began at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE). John Alan Lee taught the course.

[“OISE Grad Course,” Body Politic, no. 31 (1977), p. 4.]

January * Toronto * The first issue of the Lesbian Organization of Toronto (LOOT) Newsletter was published. At least twenty-two issues were published through July 1979.
January * Vancouver * Vancouver police arrested more than thirty gay men in the area of English Bay, a popular cruising spot, and charged them with gross indecency or indecent assault. This cleanup sweep was in response to “citizen complaints” about sexual activity in the area. Later in 1977, the Vancouver City Council voted to install lighting in the area around the English Bay bathhouse to discourage gay cruising.


January * Winnipeg * The first issue of *After Stonewall: A Critical Journal of Gay Liberation* was published. Its aim was to serve gay liberation in the Canadian prairies and adjacent American states. The first eight issues were published in Winnipeg before the journal moved to Saskatoon. *After Stonewall* folded after issue eleven (Fall 1980).


January * Winnipeg * GFE began a gay men’s discussion group on personal and political awareness. The group was so popular that three additional groups were formed within two months to accommodate all the men interested in attending.


January 7 * Halifax * In a letter to GAE, Peter Meggs, vice-president of audience and public relations for the CBC, confirmed the CBC’s policy to refuse public service announcements on subjects deemed controversial, including homosexuality, on all of its English and French
radio and television networks. This national policy was established after GAE had intervened in CRTC hearings concerning the licence renewal of radio station CBH, which had refused to air a public service announcement for GAE’s Gayline. (See also February 17, 1977; February 19, 1977; March 9, 1977; April 5, 1977; April 28, 1977; October 25, 1977; November 15, 1977; December 1977; and December 26–January 2, 1977–78.)


**January 14** * Toronto * Father John McNeill, S.J., author of The Church and the Homosexual (1976), spoke before about 125 people at Our Lady of Lourdes Church; the event was sponsored by Dignity Toronto.

[“January Review,” Dignity Toronto Newsletter, 22 January 1977, p. (1).]

**January 18** * Miami, Fla. * The Miami Metro Commission passed an ordinance banning discrimination in Dade County in housing and employment based on sexual orientation by a vote of five to three. This ordinance had been bitterly opposed by religious conservatives, including Anita Bryant. Bryant, a former beauty queen and, since 1968, spokesperson for the Florida Citrus Commission, had accused gays of “trying to recruit our children to homosexuality.” Those opposed to the ordinance gathered enough signatures to force a referendum on the issue. This was the beginning of one of the most famous fights of the 1970s between religious and social conservatives and gay liberationists, a contest that would spill over into Canada. (There were many news stories and events related to Anita Bryant, particularly in 1977–78. See also May 16, 1977; June 7, 1977; June 25, 1977; June 29–July 3, 1977; July 22, 1977; November 5, 1977; December 29, 1977; January 14–15, 1978; February 5, 1978; February 17–19, 1978; March 31, 1978; April 1978; April 23, 1978; April 28, 1978; April 29, 1978; April 30, 1978;


**January 22** *Montréal* *Stuart Russell resigned from the LSA, Canada’s largest Trotskyist organization, due to its “inadequate and un-Marxist” position on homosexuality. Russell claimed that the organization had been procrastinating for more than five years on taking a definitive position on homosexual oppression and liberation. At the time of his resignation, Russell was the treasurer of the ADGQ.


**January 22** *Regina* *SAHR officially formed a subcommittee on gay rights to deal specifically with efforts to introduce sexual orientation into Saskatchewan’s human rights legislation. The subcommittee was chaired by Doug Wilson.


**January 22** *Toronto* *Brian Latocki, twenty-four, was murdered in
his home. Two other similar murders had occurred in Toronto in the previous two years; each victim was found naked in his bedroom, dead from a combination of stabbing, strangulation, and beating. Each victim was gay and had visited a gay bar the night before his murder. The similarity of the deaths led police to believe that one person may have been responsible for the murders, which have never been solved. Sergeant Julian Fantino was one of the officers who investigated the Latocki case; he later became Toronto’s chief of police, commissioner of the OPP, an MP, and a federal cabinet minister.


**January 28** * Ottawa * Charges against sixteen of twenty-two men arrested as found-ins in the Club Baths of Ottawa case were dismissed on a technicality. The other six men had all pleaded guilty and received absolute discharges.


**January 28–30** * Winnipeg * Members of GFE were highly visible at the annual convention of the Manitoba NDP, both as delegates and at an NDP Gay Caucus literature table. A resolution to add sexual orientation to the Manitoba Human Rights Act was supported by several constituency organizations, and by an official NDP panel, but did not make it to the floor of the convention due to time limitations.


**January 30** * Toronto * Rev. Bob Wolfe resigned as pastor of MCC (Toronto) and moved with his partner, Rev. Larry Gauer, to Vancouver to start a chapter of MCC there (MCC Vancouver began February 21, 1977). Rev. John Ayres was selected to be MCC Toronto’s new pastor,
but resigned by September 1977. Ayres was succeeded by Rev. Brent Hawkes, who was appointed interim pastor until February 1978. (See also February 19, 1978.)


**January–February** * Toronto * Gary Michael Dault’s examination of photographs of drag queens taken by Raphael Bendahan at the Club Manatee was published in Saturday Night.


**February** * Alberta * The Alberta Federation of Labour’s Human Rights Committee declared that it supported “in principle” the amendment of existing Alberta civil rights legislation to include “sexual orientation.”


**February** * Mississauga, Ont. * GEM held its annual meeting and elected new officers: Alan Parton, president; Kevin Gregg, secretary; and Elgin Blair, treasurer. GEM also began a media awareness campaign by placing ads in the gay press and in local weekly newspapers in Mississauga, Oakville, and Brampton.

[“GEM Raises Profile,” Body Politic, no. 31 (1977), p. 5; Alan

**February** * Montréal * Drop-in Gay, a new social centre for lesbians and gay men initiated by the Gay Community Services Project in collaboration with Gayline, opened every Friday night at Unitarian House (3419 Simpson Street).


**February** * Montréal * A representative of the Québec Human Rights Commission revealed in a meeting with members of ADGQ that the commission planned to establish a subcommittee to review the province’s Human Rights Charter, and that the subcommittee would include representation from ADGQ. The commission also noted that it was willing to intervene in cases involving anti-gay discrimination, despite the absence of “sexual orientation” in the Human Rights Charter.


**February** * Ottawa * Two gay men were stabbed by a man they picked up at a local non-gay bar, and had to be hospitalized. A nineteen-year-old man was later charged with two counts of attempted murder and one count of robbery with violence.


**February** * Saskatoon * A conference of prairie-province socialists was held, co-sponsored by the RMG and the LSA. Walter Davis, a gay activist, spoke at length about gay liberation and socialism.


**February** * Toronto * Sharon Riis’s novel *The True Story of Ida Johnson* was published by the Women’s Press. The work was later
adapted as a play, *The Story of Ida Johnson*, and was performed at the Nightwood Theatre in October 1979.


**February** *Toronto* *Michael Riordon interviewed John Damien in the February 1977 issue of the *Body Politic*. Their discussion focused on the status of Damien’s case and changes to Damien’s personal life in the two years since the Ontario Racing Commission fired him.


**February** *Vancouver* *Gay Tide* published an extensive interview by David Rand of Ellen Frank, a Vancouver lesbian-feminist, in which she discussed major events in the women’s and lesbian movements as well as the relationship of lesbians to the gay movement.


**February 1** *Toronto* *LOOT* moved to new quarters at 342 Jarvis Street. The large house was shared with the office of the feminist newspaper *The Other Woman* and the 3 of Cups coffee house.


**February 4** *Montréal* *Police raided the Palais d’Or (Lorelai) disco, and the Crystal Sauna. Fifteen men were charged as being found-ins at the sauna.*

February 4 * Winnipeg * American lesbian activist Barbara Gittings spoke to 300 people at the University of Manitoba on the topic “Gay Liberation Is for Children Too,” concerning the development of non-sexist and non-homophobic children’s literature. The event was co-sponsored by the University of Manitoba’s Students’ Union and by GFE. Gittings also appeared on several local radio and television talk shows, as well as at a GFE open house.


February 5 * Toronto * About 150 people attended a rally and dance in support of John Damien, held at Trinity College, University of Toronto. Speakers at the rally included MPP Margaret Campbell (Lib.–St. George), David Garmaise (NGRC), lawyers Harry Kopyto and Paul Jewell, Bob Powers (CUPE Local 1230), Lukin Robinson (NDP candidate), and John Damien.


February 6 * Toronto * The steering committee of CGRO adopted a policy on education, proposed by GATE (Toronto), for a “fair and accurate representation of homosexuality in Ontario’s schools.”


**February 6** *Toronto* *LOOT* held the first general meeting of the new year at its new location, 342 Jarvis Street, during which an eight-member coordinating committee was elected.


**February 6–12** *Saskatoon* *A week of celebration was held to mark the fifth anniversary of the GCCS. Activities during the celebration included a dance, a film festival, a coffee house, an open house, and a reunion. The *Body Politic* marked the anniversary with a feature article describing Saskatoon as having “one of the biggest gay centres in the country.”


**February 8** *Toronto* *Christopher Isherwood* addressed an audience of 300 at a fundraising event for John Damien, sponsored by GAU at the University of Toronto. He was later interviewed by Will Aitken for a profile in the *Body Politic*.


**February 8–10** *Saskatoon* *The GAU presented a festival of gay-
themed films at Place Riel Theatre. The films were *Fox and His Friends*, *The Grasshopper*, *If*, and *Sunday Bloody Sunday*.

[“5th Anniversary Celebrations,” *Gay Community Centre of Saskatoon News*, February 1977, p. 1.]

February 9 * Montréal * Uniformed and undercover policemen raided the popular Taverne Bellevue, 151, rue Ste. Catherine E.; there were no arrests, but one patron was reportedly beaten.


February 10 * Toronto * Police raided the International Steam Baths at 458 Spadina Avenue, and charged three men with committing an indecent act in a public place. The three later pleaded guilty in provincial court and were given conditional discharges. A fourth man was charged with committing indecent assault on a male. (See also March 11, 1977.)


February 12 * Montréal * François Couture, fifty-one, was murdered in his apartment. On April 25, 1977, Roger Chamberland, twenty, was found criminally responsible for Couture’s death at a coroner’s inquiry. Chamberland claimed that he had been threatened and sexually assaulted before striking Couture with a hammer.


February 12–21 * Toronto * Robert Wallace’s play *Good-bye Pompeii* was performed as part of the Glendon College Dramatic Arts Programme, Glendon College, York University.


February 14 * Toronto * Glad Day Bookshop was informed by Canada Customs that the books *Loving Man* and *Men Loving Men*, both published in the United States, had been seized for judgement as to whether they contravened the Customs Act. Similar books aimed at heterosexuals, such as *The Joy of Sex*, were readily available in Toronto. In March, Glad Day was informed that both books were “immoral and indecent” and could not be imported into Canada. Glad Day appealed the ruling. The Ministry of Revenue, responsible for customs, reviewed the case and allowed *Loving Man* entry, but prohibited *Men Loving Men*.


February 17 * Halifax * Eleven women and ten men protested the CBC’s discriminatory policy, reiterated on January 7, 1977, which did not allow for the broadcast of gay public service announcements. This was the first public gay demonstration held in Atlantic Canada, and was covered by local media. (See also February 19, 1977.)


February 19 * Canada * Playwright Michel Tremblay spoke openly and positively of his homosexuality for the first time during a profile broadcast on CBC-TV’s national news.

[Ron Dayman, “Damnée Manon, sacrée Sandra” (review), *Our
February 19 * Halifax, Montréal, Ottawa, Toronto, Winnipeg, Vancouver * Dozens of lesbians and gays participated in demonstrations held to protest the CBC’s discriminatory policy prohibiting the broadcast of gay public service announcements. This was the first nationally organized gay demonstration, coordinated by the NGRC, and was seen as a milestone for the Canadian gay movement. These demonstrations were so successful that the NGRC decided to intervene in all future licence-renewal applications made by the CBC before the CRTC.


**February 20** * Regina * A two-thirds majority of the provincial council of the NDP passed a resolution supporting the inclusion of sexual orientation in the provincial Human Rights Act. The NDP led a majority government in Saskatchewan at that time. This was the second provincial NDP party (after Ontario) to officially adopt gay civil rights as party policy.

[...]

**February 21** * Ontario * The report of the provincial Conservative government’s Interim Committee on Financial Assistance for Students was released. The report recommended that all students be assessed for eligibility for student aid based on their parents’ income, or independently if they were legally married. As same sex marriage was not allowed, gay and lesbian students feared that they would be forced into marriages of convenience if they wanted to be considered for financial aid independently. Under the existing program, students were considered independent after a certain period of post-secondary
education.


**February 28** *Ottawa* The CRTC renewed the licence of Halifax CBC radio station CBH without restriction despite complaints by GAE that the station and the CBC network discriminated against gays by refusing to air their public service messages. (See also April 5, 1977.)


**February–March** *Montréal* Michel Tremblay’s new play *Damnée Manon, sacrée Sandra* was performed at the Théâtre de Quat’Sous. This was the final of a series of plays portraying the gay underside of east-end Montréal. The play was published in 1977 in Montréal by Éditions Leméac; an English-language translation by John Van Burek, with the same title, was published in Vancouver by Talonbooks in 1981.


**March** *Edmonton* During its annual convention, the Alberta NDP passed two resolutions, supporting the addition of sexual orientation to the Alberta Bill of Rights and the extension of the Alberta Individual’s Rights Protection Act to include several groups, including gays. Both resolutions were passed without debate. This was the third provincial NDP party (after Ontario and Saskatchewan) to officially adopt gay civil rights as party policy.

[Bob Radke and Walter Davis, “Alberta NDP Endorses Gay Rights,}

While Manitoba Side-steps the Issue,” *Body Politic*, no. 32 (1977), p. 5.]

March * Edmonton * GATE (Edmonton) moved to 10144–101st Street in order to be closer to other establishments patronized by the gay community.


March * Garden City, N.Y. * Jane Rule’s novel *The Young in One Another’s Arms* was published by Doubleday. The Canadian Authors Association selected it as the best Canadian novel of 1977.


March * Guelph, Ont. * The August Club, a disco and after-hours club operated by GGE, closed due to financial difficulties. Located on the second floor of the Royal Hotel (106 Carden Street), it was the only gay
club in Guelph and had provided a convenient weekend gathering place for gays from Guelph, Kitchener, and surrounding towns.


**March** * Ottawa * The managers of the Hudson’s Bay Company store on Rideau Street removed hidden, closed-circuit television cameras that had been installed in a fourth-floor men’s washroom. The cameras had been placed there in an attempt to end sexual activity that had been occurring in the washroom; several men had been arrested there earlier in the year. Representatives of GO met with Bay officials after learning of the cameras and suggested alternative methods to halt the activities, including doing major renovations to the washroom, posting warning signs, and publicity. These suggestions were implemented and were successful in halting the activities in the washroom.


**March** * Scarborough, Ont. * Gay patrons who were dancing at the mixed Minutes Disco at the Scarborough Town Centre (300 Borough Drive) were threatened and harassed by management and straight patrons when they refused to stop dancing together.


**March** * Toronto * Catalyst Press, a gay literary publisher coordinated by Ian Young, was denied membership in the Literary Press Group, an organization of Canadian literary publishers.


**March** * Vancouver * Lesbian singer Ferron’s first album, *Ferron*, was released by Lucy Records.
March * Vancouver * Mayor Jack Volrich called for the closing of clubs in the Davie Street area that “cater to the homosexual crowd” and supported an ongoing police crackdown on the gay community. Volrich was also successful in applying to the provincial government to grant a moratorium on the issuing of liquor licences to establishments in downtown Vancouver, excepting hotels, citing the allegedly frequent calls to the police by these establishments, “especially those catering to homosexuals.” (See also April 6, 1977.)

March * Winnipeg * The first regular meeting of Winnipeg Gay Youth was held.

March 2 * Montréal * Stuart Russell attended a press conference organized by the Ligue des droits de l’Homme and denounced the RCMP’s refusal to release files on persons fired “for security reasons” prior to the Montréal Summer Olympics in 1976. Russell, a socialist and openly gay, had been dismissed from his position at COJO, the Olympic games coordinating committee, supposedly because he had not been given the necessary security clearance by the RCMP. Although the Ligue des droits de l’Homme had tried to force the RCMP to provide justification for its actions, on March 22, 1977, Justice Jules Deschenes of the Québec Superior Court ruled that the Ligue had exceeded its jurisdiction and that the RCMP was justified in withholding reasons for denying security clearances.


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March 4–6 * Sudbury, Ont. * At its spring conference, the Ontario Federation of Students (OFS/FEO) almost unanimously supported the endorsement of the thirteen-point program of CGRO. The OFS/FEO was the first organization outside the gay movement to endorse the CGRO program in its entirety. (See also June 9–13, 1977.)


March 6 * Mississauga, Ont. * Representatives from GEM attended a forum on homosexuality organized by the congregation of the Church of St. Luke.


March 8 * Kingston, Ont. * The *Whig-Standard* published a front-page story claiming that the QHA had been “recruiting” at local high schools. Members of QHA had visited three high schools, at the invitation of teachers, to discuss gay aspects of human sexuality before students in senior health classes. A parent’s complaint set off the media coverage, which continued through the week (also on CKWS, a local radio station). On March 16, the *Whig-Standard* published a letter of protest from the QHA. On May 26, 1977, the Frontenac County Board of Education voted twelve to four to prohibit anyone who professed to be a homosexual from lecturing to students in county schools. This decision was made after anti-gay forces in the city organized two petitions to the board.


**March 9** *Halifax* * Representatives of GAE criticized the CBC and two local daily newspapers, the *Chronicle Herald* and the *Mail Star*, at a forum entitled “Media Accountability to the Public,” sponsored by the Dalhousie University School of Business Administration and the CBC. The CBC and the newspapers had refused to accept public service announcements from GAE. Some members of the panel were mildly supportive of GAE’s position, while the audience was strongly supportive. CBC-TV taped the forum (renamed “Them and Us”) and broadcast it a week later, with the GAE speakers and audience response to them removed.


**March 9** *Montréal* * The last issue of the bi-weekly commercial French-language tabloid *Gay Montréal* was published. Although it published twenty-five issues during 1976–77, and had a reported circulation of 30,000, *Gay Montréal* could not turn a profit. Mostly oriented to the Montréal bar scene, it was also an important source of information on the local gay movement and particularly the activities of the ADGQ. With its demise, Québec was temporarily left without a Francophone gay publication.


**March 9** *Saskatoon* * The GCCS appointed a committee to review the structure and operations of the centre. This became necessary after personality conflicts and differing visions of the centre’s mandate and
organizational structure threatened the operation of the centre.


March 10 * Ottawa * In a statement presented to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs, Justice Minister Ron Basford continued to reject suggestions that the proposed Canadian Human Rights Act be amended to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation.


March 11 * Toronto * Three undercover policemen arrested seven men at the International Steam Baths (458 Spadina Avenue). The men were charged with indecent assault on a male and performing an indecent act. One arrested man claimed that he had been entrapped. The Toronto Star published the names, ages, and addresses of the charged men. Two men were also charged with keeping a common bawdy house; they were found not guilty by Ontario Provincial Court Judge Peter Wilch on February 25, 1979.

March 12 * Kingston, Ont. * About thirty people, representing QHA and other groups, picketed the King’s Lounge, a new downtown bar, due to its prohibition of male same-sex dancing. The demonstration drew a crowd of more than a hundred spectators, as well as reporters from the Whig-Standard and local radio and television stations. This was the first gay demonstration held in Kingston.


March 12 * London, Ont.* The first woman-only dance was held at the University of Western Ontario. It was so popular that it became the impetus for the formation of the London Lesbian Collective (LLC), which provided social alternatives (meetings and dances) for lesbians.


March 12 * Mississauga, Ont. * Elgin Blair of GEM attended a session of the Social Planning Council (an organization of local service agencies), to express concern about GEM’s difficulties in finding a suitable meeting place.

March 12 * Regina * Representatives of SAHR presented a brief to Ned Shillington, Minister of Cooperation and Cooperative Affairs, urging the Saskatchewan government to include sexual orientation in proposed amendments to the provincial Human Rights Act. SAHR also coordinated what was called “the largest gay rights demonstration ever held on the Prairies.” About 125 people marched before the Saskatchewan Legislature in support of the amendment. The marchers were hit by a few eggs and were photographed by undercover policemen. The march was followed by a panel discussion entitled “Perspectives on the Struggle for Gay Liberation,” attended by more than seventy-five people. The panel members included Walter Davis (After Stonewall), Mallory Neuman and Bev Siller (activists from Regina), and Doug Wilson (GCCS).


March 12 * Toronto * LOOT held an open house at 342 Jarvis Street. Several hundred women attended the event, which also included displays by the Women’s Bookstore, the 3 of Cups coffee house, the Metro Toronto Women’s Credit Union, and The Other Woman newspaper.

March 14 * Windsor, Ont. * Windsor City Council adopted a resolution prohibiting discrimination against city employees on the basis of sexual orientation. The resolution carried by a narrow margin, four to three, and only after outbursts of homophobic comments from members of council and spectators. WGU had lobbied for support of the resolution. Windsor was the third Canadian city (after Toronto and Ottawa) to pass such a resolution.


March 15 * Toronto * The Toronto Board of Health announced that the Government of Ontario would cover 85 percent of the Hassle Free Clinic’s budget for 1977. Hassle Free, a free alternative health clinic specializing in the treatment of VD among gays, had faced a funding crisis since September 1976; bridge funding had ended in December 1976 and the clinic’s staff worked without pay for the first three months of 1977 to keep the clinic open.


March 16 * Saskatchewan * The Citizens’ Advisory Council of Saskatchewan passed a resolution calling for the addition of sexual
orientation to Saskatchewan’s human rights legislation.


**March 17 * Toronto * The Other Woman, Canada’s major feminist newspaper, officially ceased publication after volume 5, issue 1. The paper closed due to rising debts and a decline in the collective’s membership (down to two, Gillean Chase and Cynthia Wright) and in volunteer numbers. The archives of the publication were entrusted to Pat Leslie, a former member of the collective. On July 14, 1977, Leslie announced the formation of the Women’s Archives, which was organized to record and preserve the history of the women’s movement (including lesbian history) in Canada; the file of The Other Woman formed the core of the collection at its inception.


**March 18 * Ottawa * Dignity Ottawa Dignité, a chapter of the international organization of Roman Catholic gays, was established. Carole Payer served as chairperson during 1978–79. The group met at Christ Roi Church, 252 Argyle Avenue.

**March 20** * Toronto * GAU (Toronto) reaffirmed its commitment to support John Damien, and that the future commitment of the Committee to Defend John Damien “be closely linked with the Canadian gay liberation movement.” (See also April 16, 1977.)


**March 26** * Toronto * About 150 women heard lesbian folksinger Casse Culver and the Belles Starr Band perform at the hall of St. Paul’s Church, Avenue Road. This was one of a series of special events organized by the 3 of Cups coffee house.

[“Women’s Coffeehouse Booming” (photograph), *Body Politic*, no. 33 (1977), p. 5.]

**March 29–April 9** * Toronto * Female impersonator Craig Russell performed an exclusive cabaret engagement at the Theatre-in-the-Dell (300 Simcoe Street). He was in Toronto after filming the movie *Outrageous!* (See also September 30, 1977.)


**Spring** * Edmonton * A special sexually transmitted disease clinic was set up by the provincial social services department to serve Edmonton’s gay population.

Spring * Hamilton, Ont. * The Hamilton Gay Association, a new social group, placed an advertisement in the personal column of the *Hamilton Spectator* for contestants for a proposed Gay Easter Pageant. This generated many vicious letters in response, which were published in the *Spectator*. Only two letters were positive; one was from Brian Marsh, president of MHA. This was the first letter to the editor from MHA published by the *Spectator*, in spite of at least fifty previous attempts. The Gay Easter Pageant itself was never held, due to a lack of response to the ad.

[Shane Que Hee, “*Spectator Readers Say No to Gay Easter Bunnies,*” *Body Politic*, no. 34 (1977), p. 9.]

Spring * Hamilton, Ont. * MHA donated a copy of the film *The Invisible Minority* to the Hamilton Public Library and to McMaster University’s Sexual Education Centre. At that time the Sexual Education Centre had no material dealing with homosexuality.


Spring * Manitoba * In a campaign to provide accurate information on homosexuality, GFE sent more than 250 copies of George Weinberg’s book *Society and the Healthy Homosexual* to public and school libraries throughout the province. Libraries in rural areas were particularly targeted.


Spring * Montréal * Jean-Guy Prince, a Québec gay writer, was awarded a grant for $7,000 under the Canada Council’s Explorations program to prepare a handbook on gay liberation and gay groups in Canada and Québec. This was thought to be the first grant awarded under this program for a gay project.


Spring * Ottawa * The Student Council of Carleton University adopted
a hiring policy that prohibited discrimination based on sexual orientation in hiring done by the Students’ Association.


Spring * Peterborough, Ont. * Members of THA presented seminars at the Peterborough County Jail and the Civic Hospital in an attempt to expand community outreach.

[David Beauchamp and Tricia Murphy, “Gays Go to Jail, Then Hospital,” Body Politic, no. 34 (1977), p. 9.]

Spring * Winnipeg * The Manitoba Law Reform Commission recommended that transsexuals born in the province who had undergone a “certifiable” sex change be granted a birth certificate showing their preferred gender. This recommendation came after a two-year study, which had been initiated at the request of transsexuals.


April * Montréal * Gay social workers and members of the Gay Social Services Project bitterly opposed an attempt by management at the Ville-Marie Social Services Centre to establish a computerized registry of social service clients that would include names and personal data; they saw this as a “dangerous invasion of privacy.” On April 15, Québec Social Services Minister Denis Lazure intervened to support the protesters, stating that this collection of personal information was unnecessary.

[John Blacklock, “Minister Intervenes, Opposes Collection of Personal Data,” Body Politic, no. 34 (1977), p. 6.]

April * Ottawa * In appearances before the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs in the House of Commons, representatives of the Canadian Bar Association, the Advisory Council on the Status of Women, and the Canadian Labour Congress supported the inclusion of sexual orientation in the Canadian Human Rights Act.
April * Peterborough, Ont. * THA sponsored a forum entitled “Homosexuality and Society,” which was attended by 125 people. The panellists discussed various aspects of homosexuality and special problems faced by gay people. Tom Nind, the president of Trent University, assured the gathering that Trent’s administration did not discriminate against faculty or staff on the basis of sexual orientation in matters of hiring or promotion.

April * Toronto * Violent incidents occurred in David Balfour Park for a second year in a row as a gang of men attacked and robbed gay men.

April * Toronto * The Don Mills Mirror, a newspaper controlled by Torstar, the parent company of the Toronto Star, refused to print an ad directing gays and lesbians in Don Mills to attend a political meeting. The paper refused the ad because it contained the word “gay,” which the paper thought might offend “young hockey players.” Cheryl Freedman, who wished to place the ad, eventually had it printed in the Toronto Star, although the Star changed the word “gay” to “homosexual.”

April * Toronto * Ian Young’s article “Our Old Enemy,” concerning press censorship in Canada, was published in Books in Canada.

April 1 * Hamilton, Ont. * MHA held a forum for forty school guidance
counsellors, social workers, and students. George Hislop of CHAT and Joyce Asquith of the Human Sexuality Clinic at McMaster University addressed the gathering. Copies of a new MHA resource booklet were also distributed.


April 1 * Vancouver * Police swept through several gay clubs and arrested thirty-four people on minor drug offenses related to possession of amyl nitrate and marijuana. Numerous other people were taken from the clubs and later released because of “mistaken identity.”

[Don Hann and Rob Joyce, “City Police Record: Smash Hit!” Gay Tide, no. 16 (1977), p. 4.]

April 2 * Argentia, Nfld. * Master Corporal Gloria Cameron, an eight-year veteran, and eight other women [seven, originally, but one more woman had turned herself in] were honourably discharged from the Canadian Armed Forces under Administrative Order 19–20 because they were lesbians. This followed an investigation by members of the Special Investigations Unit ordered by the base commander after two women were rumoured to have married each other during a ceremony in December 1976. Cameron appealed her expulsion to General J.A. Dextraze, chief of defence staff, but was unsuccessful. (See also May 9, 1977.)


**April 2** * Montréal * A contingent of twenty-five gays and lesbians organized by ADGQ participated in a demonstration supporting free access to abortion. Almost 1,000 people marched in the demonstration, which was organized by many women’s groups including Coop-Femmes, a Montréal lesbian group. The march was held to support a manifesto (“We’ll Have the Children That We Want”) presented to the PQ government on March 8, 1977, which was International Women’s Day and the opening day of the new session of the Québec National Assembly.


**April 4** * Toronto * The first reading of Toronto–St. George Liberal MPP Margaret Campbell’s private member’s bill (Bill C–16) to amend the Ontario Human Rights Code to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation was held in the Ontario Legislature. (See also April 28, 1977.)


**April 5** * Montréal * The CRTC held a hearing concerning the licence-renewal application for CBH (Halifax), the CBC-affiliate radio station that had refused to air a public service announcement for GAE. The CRTC wanted to know specifically how the CBC had arrived at its decision to refuse public service announcements for gay groups. Stuart Russell made a submission representing GAE, which was followed by a submission by Barry MacDonald, representing CBH. MacDonald said that the CBC had deemed homosexuality controversial and that it believed that the majority of Canadians would be opposed to condoning homosexual acts as acceptable behaviour, thus the blanket ban on
service announcements for gay groups. Under questioning from the CRTC, MacDonald admitted that the CBC had not conducted any polls to determine if Canadians considered homosexual activity to be controversial.


April 6 * Vancouver * About 350 gays and their supporters attended a public meeting called by the police to discuss “prostitutes and other unsavoury characters” on Davie Street in Vancouver’s West End. Members of GATE (Vancouver) displayed a banner at the meeting and distributed a leaflet entitled “Gays Will Not Be Scapegoated.” Audience members questioned the police about ongoing harassment of the gay community in clubs, on the beaches, and in the streets. Prostitutes and transsexuals also raised complaints. After losing control of the proceedings, the police abruptly ended the meeting. (See also May 16, 1977.)


April 9–10 * Ottawa * The second annual conference of CGRO was held at the University of Ottawa, hosted by GO. About seventy-five participants, representing seventeen member groups, attended panels, lectures, and workshops that focused on “Gay Equality in the Schools.” More than 2,000 invitations had been sent out to teachers, principals, and trustees of four Ottawa-area school boards and the Hull Protestant school board, but no one turned up at the conference workshops on sex education. The conference adopted several resolutions, including the formation of the Ontario Gay Teachers’ Caucus.


**April 15** *Montréal* * Ten people were hurt after La Grande Discotheque (77A, rue Ste. Catherine E.) was set alight by an arsonist. [*“Montreal Police Seeking Two Men after Blaze Is Set at Discotheque,” Globe and Mail*, metro ed., 16 April 1977, p. 3.]

**April 15** *Seattle, Wash.* * Board members from the Dorian Group (Seattle), the Portland Town Council (Portland, Ore.), and SEARCH held a daylong session to discuss matters of mutual interest, including lobbying, political action, and building community support. This was the first time that the groups had met formally. (See also July 29, 1977.) [*“Joint Board Meeting of Pacific Northwest Groups,” SEARCH News, 1, no. 6 (May 1978): 1.]

**April 16** *Toronto* * The Committee to Defend John Damien held a conference at the CHAT hall (201 Church Street) to plan strategy, and particularly to discuss the enlistment of non-gays to support Damien’s cause. About forty people attended the meeting, which was marred by procedural confusion. Several proposals were adopted, including the motion that the NGRC organize a national day of protest demanding John Damien’s reinstatement. [*“Conference in Defence of John Damien,” After Stonewall, no. 2 (1977), p. 24; Michael Lynch, “Conference Call Stimulates Debate,” Body Politic, no. 32 (1977), p. 7; Michael Lynch, “Damien Defense Strategy Debated,” Body Politic, no. 33 (1977), p. 4; Michael Lynch, “Tories Try Damien’s Stamina,” Body Politic, no. 34 (1977), p. 9; “STRUCTURE: When the Going Gets Tough” (editorial), Body Politic, no. 33 (1977), p. 2.]
**April 17** * Ottawa * MCC (Ottawa) received its official charter as a member congregation of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches, with Rev. Philip Speranza as pastor.


**April 19** * Ottawa * Three representatives of the Ottawa Police, Superintendent Tom Flanagan; George Zukhow, head of the morality squad; and Staff Sergeant Bill Cathcart, liaison to the gay community, attended a general meeting of GO to discuss issues of interest to the gay community.


**April 20** * Toronto * Representatives from several local gay groups met with the University of Toronto’s Sex Education Counselling Service to establish the basis for a gay drop-in centre at the University of Toronto, which began operation in September 1977.


**April 23** * Montréal * The first formal initiation of members was held for the Alpha Kira Fraternity, a social group for gay men. David Cassidy was elected the group’s first president.


**April 23** * Toronto * Lesbian singer Alix Dobkin performed at the 3 of Cups coffee house.


**April 28** * Toronto * Liberal Toronto–St.George MPP Margaret Campbell’s private member’s bill (Bill C–16), to amend the Ontario Human Rights Code to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation, was discussed and defeated in the Ontario Legislature. The
bill did not come to a vote because, under new rules of the Legislature, it was disqualified after more than twenty Progressive Conservative members, including at least four cabinet ministers, rose to object to it.  

**April 29** *Québec* * The Québec Teachers’ Federation/Centrale de l’Enseignement du Québec passed a resolution supporting the inclusion of sexual orientation in the Québec Human Rights Charter and the Canadian Human Rights Act.  

**April 29** *Vancouver* * Members of GATE (Vancouver) confronted Justice Minister Ron Basford during a public address by Basford on Bill C–25, held at the Vancouver Public Library. GATE’s spokesman Rob Joyce complained about five years of inaction on the part of the federal government in adding protection based on sexual orientation to Canadian human rights legislation. He cited the John Damien and *Gay Tide* cases as examples of why this protection was necessary. Basford was unmoved, and said that the new legislation would flow from “established rules of discrimination.”  

**April 30** *Halifax* * Thirty-four members and supporters of GAE picketed the Jury Room, a lounge in the Carleton Hotel, to protest the exclusion of gays. About a dozen gays had been expelled from the lounge during two incidents that occurred there on April 21 and 22. New management of the lounge had consistently refused to serve openly gay
men. GAE called for a boycott of the lounge, and the picket received wide media coverage in Halifax.


**May** *Mississauga, Ont.* * Alan Parton, the president of GEM, was harassed and mocked by a homophobic salesman at the Mankind Shoe Store at Square One as he walked by the store. Parton sent a letter of complaint to Kinney Shoes of Canada, the owner of the store, and received a letter of apology immediately. The salesman was dismissed from his position.


**May** *St. John’s* * CHAN celebrated its third anniversary with a program to build awareness and support in the community. CHAN had almost collapsed during the previous winter and had called a general meeting in March 1977 to discuss its future. The group continued to have organizational and financial difficulties throughout the year.


**May** *Toronto* * The Cabbagetown Professional League, a gay softball league, was formed with four teams.


**May** *Windsor* * Three defence attorneys made vigorous attempts to discredit the eyewitness testimony of two gay men, Steven Armstrong
and Norman St. Onge, during the trial relating to the murder of Linda Rockwood in 1973. The attorneys for the three men accused of murder repeatedly probed the gay relationship between Armstrong and St. Onge, trying to discredit them as witnesses. The judge and jury rejected the attempted character assassination, accepted the testimony, and convicted the accused men.


May 3 * Toronto * LOOT began operating a counselling and information phone line (960–3249), as well as a drop-in, at the LOOT Centre (342 Jarvis Street). In September 1981, the phone line was renamed the Lesbian Phone Line.


May 5–June 11 * Toronto * Frank Marcus’s play The Killing of Sister George was performed at the Toronto Truck Theatre, 94 Belmont Street.


May 6–8 * Montréal * Over forty people attended the first orientation conference of ADGQ. The group decided to hold a Québec-wide gay liberation convention in October 1977, and to begin publication of a monthly ADGQ bulletin, Gai(e)s du Québec. (See also October 15–16, 1977.)

[“L’ADGQ tient son 1er congrès d’orientation,” Gai(e)s du Québec: Bulletin, 1, no. 1 (July 1977): (1–2); “Le premier numéro de Gai(e)s du Québec!” Gai(e)s du Québec: Bulletin, 1, no. 1 (July 1977): (4);]

**May 7** *Winnipeg* * Ninety people representing ten groups attended the first Manitoba Gay Conference, held at the University of Winnipeg. The conference resulted in the formation of the Manitoba Gay Coalition (MGC). Bill Lewis, who had organized the conference, was presented with a special award in recognition of his dedication to furthering gay liberation in Manitoba.


**May 8** *Winnipeg* * The CHR held the first of what became a regular monthly service of worship, which lasted into the 1980s.


**May 9** *Ottawa* * Private Barbara Thornborrow of the Canadian Armed Forces was confronted by the Canadian Forces’ Special Investigations Unit concerning her alleged lesbianism. She was told she was being questioned for reasons of national security, because she was “susceptible to blackmail.” Thornborrow admitted that she was a lesbian and was given two choices: sign a document confirming her lesbianism (which would lead to her release from the service, under Canadian Forces
Administrative Order 19–20), or undergo psychiatric counselling. Thornborrow rejected both options and decided to go public with her situation by arranging for a lawyer and calling GO. The NGRC also publicized her case. The Department of Defence later claimed that Thornborrow was not threatened with dismissal but had already asked for and received permission to leave the army. (See also May 17–19, 1977, and June 20, 1977.)


May 9 * Toronto * Holy Trinity Church, the site of many gay community activities, was badly damaged in a fire that began in an old Eaton’s warehouse nearby; it was later completely restored.


May 16 * Toronto * Maclean’s magazine reported that Anita Bryant had
been quoted in the May 1977 issue of *Miami* magazine saying that “sperm is the most concentrated form of blood. The homosexual is eating life. That’s why God calls homosexuality an abomination.”


**May 16** *Vancouver* *Six representatives of the gay community (Larry Gauer, Geoff Mains, Jim McFadden, Richard Sullivan, Brian Tipper, and Bob Wolfe) met with high-level officials of the Vancouver police department to discuss ongoing community relations and dialogue, as well as ongoing arrests made at English Bay and elsewhere in Vancouver. Eventually, these police-dialogue liaison meetings became a monthly event.*


**May 17–19** *Ottawa* *The Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs undertook a clause-by-clause study of the government’s proposed Canadian Human Rights Act (Bill C–25). An amendment to add sexual orientation to the prohibited categories of discrimination in the act was proposed by MP Gordon Fairweather (PC–Fundy-Royal), but it did not have the support of the Progressive Conservative party; the amendment was defeated in the committee by a vote of four to two, with three abstentions. The committee debate on May 19 was particularly lively, sparked by the case of Barbara Thornborrow, who was threatened with dismissal from the Canadian Armed Forces because of her lesbianism. The Thornborrow example prompted Justice Minister Ron Basford to cite national security as a reason for excluding sexual orientation from the act. (See also June 2, 1977.)*

[“Being Lesbian ‘May Cost Job’: Armed Forces Employee,” *Toronto
May 19–July 10 * Toronto * Mart Crowley’s play *The Boys in the Band* was staged by the Toronto Truck Theatre at the Colonnade Theatre (131 Bloor Street West). On June 28, two performances were scheduled as a benefit for the Committee to Defend John Damien.


May 21 * Toronto * About a hundred people rallied and marched for gay civil rights from Queen’s Park to City Hall. The event was organized by CGRO as part of its campaign for the June 9 Ontario provincial election. This was the largest rally and demonstration by CGRO to date.


May 23–24 * Bolton, Ont. * About a hundred women attended a feminist conference, billed as a country retreat, to embark on consciousness-raising and to discuss strategies and directions for the women’s movement. Members of Wages Due Lesbians (Toronto) attended and spoke on organizing in the Wages for Housework campaign. A discussion on the “institution of heterosexuality” led to a rift among participants, with some lesbian separatists challenging other women to justify heterosexuality politically.

May 25 * Montréal * Speaking in French, John Damien addressed a public forum of forty people, sponsored by ADGQ.


May 26 * Toronto * The Islander, a weekly newspaper for Blacks, published an article entitled “June Wedding for Faggots.” The article concerned the marriage of two Black gays in a Toronto church. Bromley Armstrong, who was a member of the OHRC, published The Islander. Gay groups including GATE (Toronto), CHAT, and GO protested to Armstrong, calling for him to either apologize for the slur or resign from the commission. On June 2, 1977, the newspaper’s editorial director, Errol Townshend, published an editorial that attacked gays and supporters of gay rights. Then, on June 9, the newspaper published a letter from Brian Mossop, the president of GATE (Toronto), demanding that Townshend apologize to the paper’s gay readers. Mossop was in turn attacked in print with Townshend’s reply: “We’re so sorry we hurt your feelings, darling. But we’re not going to kiss and make up tonight. We’re not in the mood (smile). You know what we mean. Now, drop dead. But get one thing straight before you do: Blacks and your crowd are not in the same boat.” Meanwhile, Armstrong said that while he would not allow derogatory epithets in the paper, “As a newspaper publisher I did not, and I will not, limit free expression of opinion in the pages of The Islander ...” (See also Summer 1978.)


**May 27** *Montréal* *John Damien addressed a group of more than sixty people at an event sponsored by Drop-in Gay.*


**May 30** *Toronto* *An undercover policeman from Fourteen Division arrested a man at the International Steam Baths (458 Spadina Avenue) and charged him with indecent assault on a male. The next week, another officer from the same division arrested four men at the Oak Leaf Steam Bath (216 Bathurst Street); two were charged with indecent assault on a male, and two with gross indecency.*


**June** *Edmonton* *In an address before the Alberta district convention of the Knights of Columbus, MP Walter Dinsdale (PC–Brandon-Souris) stated that homosexuals and their campaigns for more rights could spell the death of the family as a basic unit of society. It was also announced during the convention that the Knights of Columbus had set aside $500,000 to battle moral decay, which included the fight for gay rights.*
Dwight Potvin, chairperson of the Edmonton Community of Gay Christians, coordinated a petition against this position on gay rights.

[“Family Threatened,” Regina Leader-Post, 14 June 1977, p. 31; “Petition Grows as Concern Mounts over KC’s Stand on Gay Rights,” Gay Christian Sower (Edmonton), 1, no. 3 (1977): 6.]

**June** *Halifax* GAE signed a three-year lease of the Turret (1588 Barrington Street, third floor), for use as a gay community centre. GAE had been using the space, a former restaurant and coffee house in downtown Halifax, for its weekly disco and by the end of June 1977 was operating a full schedule of events there.

[Robin Metcalfe, “Gay Community Centre Opens,” Body Politic, no. 35 (1977), p. 6.]

**June** *London, Ont.* The Gay Activist League of London (GALL) was formed after some community members became dissatisfied with the operation of HALO. They saw HALO as drifting away from building a gay community and a gay political movement in London and were particularly upset with HALO’s recent restriction of community dances to members only. The first issue of Now We’ve Got GALL was published in June 1977. Members of GALL were also active in monitoring and leafleting in Victoria Park, a major male gay cruising area in London. GALL soon fell victim to apathy, and disbanded by the end of 1977.


**June** *Saskatoon* The Saskatoon Public Library issued a seventeen-page annotated bibliography on homosexuality, which had been prepared for the fifth NGRC conference, held in Saskatoon June 29–July 3, 1977.

[Homosexuality: An Annotated Bibliography. Saskatoon: Saskatoon Public Library, 1977.]

June * Toronto * Michael Lynch requested to interview five principals of the Stratford Shakespearean Festival company, all of whom were reportedly gay men, for an article in the Body Politic. The festival’s public relations director denied the request, fearing that the interviews “would be misinterpreted by the wrong people.” [Michael Lynch, “Actors and Shakespeare and Stratford and Us,” Body Politic, no. 35 (1977), pp. 23–25.]

June 2 * Ottawa * In a unanimous vote in the House of Commons, Parliament passed the Canadian Human Rights Act (Bill C–25), which governed employment by the federal government but which contained no provision for protection from discrimination based on sexual orientation. The NGRC had launched a vigorous campaign to persuade Members of Parliament to amend the act, and had enlisted the support of a broad range of labour, women’s, religious, legal, educational, and other groups. (See also September 1, 1977.) [David Garmaise, “Protection Denied in Human Rights Act,” NGRC Forum, 2, no. 3 (Summer 1977): (4); “No Rights for Gays: Canadian Human Rights Act,” Body Politic, no. 34 (1977), pp. 1, 9; “Rights Act

**June 2** *Ottawa* “Out of the Closets,” a half-hour program produced by GO with assistance from LOON, was shown on both local cable television networks. Public reaction was excellent, and the program became a monthly series featuring news, reviews, community events, and interviews.


**June 3** *Toronto* The Big Brothers Association of Metropolitan Toronto organized an institute called “Screening Sexual Behaviours,” on how to identify “individuals with predominantly homosexual and pedophilic tendencies.” The main speaker was Dr. Ruth Bray, a psychologist at the Forensic Service at the Clarke Institute for Psychiatry. The Ad Hoc Committee of Gays to Bring Light into the Clarkeness was formed and went to the institute to demand the right to present the “gay” point of view. Twenty-four gay protesters disrupted the conference and tried to change the agenda to one of “Overcoming Homophobia.” After a standoff with organizers, six protesters were allowed to remain as resource people and to monitor the accuracy of all statements made about gays. They challenged some speakers, particularly Dr. Bray, for referring to gays as “deviants.”

June 3 * Toronto * Hundreds of well-wishers attended a party held at the CHAT Centre to celebrate the fiftieth birthday of George Hislop, the president of CHAT.


June 4 * Vancouver * GATE (Vancouver) organized a rally and march of about 125 people, including fifty lesbians, outside the Georgia Street courthouse to protest police harassment of the gay community.


June 4–5 * Trois-Rivières, Qué. * More than a hundred people attended a symposium on homosexuality entitled “Among Others,” sponsored by the Service d’Entraide homophile de Québec (SEHQ). There were no gay groups in Trois-Rivières at the time and it was hoped that the symposium would inspire gays and lesbians in the city to organize.


June 5 * Toronto * The *Toronto Sun* published an exposé of an ongoing police morality squad investigation of a gay call-boy service, using a sensational cover headline, in bold type: “Boys for Sale in Gay Sex Ring.” The service was run by someone known as “Blue” [Douglas Rearick] through a telephone number, and employed youths aged fourteen to nineteen. Rearick, a thirty-one-year-old American, was not charged in connection with the service, but was later charged with possession of marijuana and placed on three months’ probation; Rearick was deported to the United States.


**June 7** * Dade County, Fla. * Former beauty queen and Florida orange juice spokesperson Anita Bryant, her husband, Bob Green, and their fundamentalist Christian organization, Save Our Children, Inc., had lobbied for a public referendum, which on this day successfully repealed (by a vote of 69 to 31 percent) a county ordinance that prohibited discrimination based on “affectional or sexual preference” in the areas of housing, public accommodations, and employment. This was a major battle and was seen as the first defeat in the struggle for gay civil rights in the United States. Save Our Children’s tactics included an early, successful use of the fear of “child molestation,” which would be used by anti-gay forces during the remainder of the 1970s and throughout the 1980s. The ruling in Dade County sparked anti-Bryant protests and a boycott of Florida orange juice by progressives throughout the United States and Canada.


**June 9** *Ontario* *There was a coordinated effort by CGRO to get gays and lesbians to vote against the Progressive Conservative party in the June 9 provincial election. CGRO put forward three demands during the campaign: (1) the immediate reinstatement of John Damien; (2) the addition of “sexual orientation” to the Ontario Human Rights Code; (3) equality for gay people in the schools. Also, Therese Faubert, a lesbian, ran for the LSA in a Brampton riding held by Progressive Conservative Premier Bill Davis (she came fourth). Barry Weisleder also focused on gay liberation as an RMG candidate in Toronto-Riverdale. Frank Lowry, a member of the NDP Gay Caucus, ran against Conservative Education
Minister Thomas Wells in Scarborough North (Lowry won more than 10,000 votes). The Progressive Conservatives under Premier Bill Davis were returned to power with an increased minority government, winning 58 of 125 seats.

Vote against the Tories” (advertisement), *Body Politic*, no. 34 (1977), p. 3.]


**June 10** * Vancouver * The B.C. Court of Appeal, in a two-to-one decision, overturned the B.C. Supreme Court’s ruling supporting GATE (Vancouver) in its complaint against the *Vancouver Sun*. The Court of Appeal ruled that the *Sun* had reasonable cause for not printing a classified ad for GATE (Vancouver), advertising subscriptions to its newspaper, *Gay Tide*. GATE (Vancouver) vowed to appeal the decision to the Supreme Court of Canada. (See also October 17, 1977, and October 5, 1978.)


**June 15 * Ottawa * The *Body Politic*’s application for financial assistance from the Canada Council was rejected as ineligible because the grants were “meant for journals directly concerned with arts and literature in the classical sense of the word”; creative non-fiction writing and reporting were not eligible.


**June 15 * Ottawa * Deputy Revenue Minister J.P. Connell informed the *Body Politic* in a letter that the book *Men Loving Men* had been classified “immoral and indecent” by Canada Customs and would not be allowed into Canada. The book had been mailed to the *Body Politic* for review. An earlier ruling by Customs had not banned a similar book, *Loving Man*, and explicit guides for heterosexuals had long been allowed into Canada. Impounded copies of *Men Loving Men* were not returned to the sender but were sent to Ottawa to be burned. The *Body Politic* appealed to Revenue Canada, but was unsuccessful. The newspaper then appealed to the courts, but dropped the appeal in September 1978.


**June 20 * Ottawa * Private Barbara Thornborrow was given official notice of her honourable discharge from the Canadian Armed Forces, effective June 24, 1977, for being a “sexual deviate” who was “not advantageously employable.” Thornborrow had been confronted about her lesbianism in May 1977, after which she went public in numerous
interviews and news stories on radio and television stations and in newspapers across Canada. She appealed her expulsion to the Chief of Defence Staff in Ottawa, but was unsuccessful.


June 22 * Toronto * The documentary Jill Johnston October 1975, by Kay Armatage and Lydia Wazano, was shown at Innis College, University of Toronto. Johnston, an American lesbian-feminist and author of Lesbian Nation (1973), attended the screening and answered questions afterwards. Johnston stunned the audience when she revealed that she did not want to be associated any longer with the movie’s portrayal of her past life (as a radical, militant dyke-feminist). Later that day, Johnston read at the 3 of Cups coffee house.


June 23 * Peterborough, Ont. * The Peterborough Board of Education ruled that high school students were to be taught in health classes that homosexuality is a “deviant” behaviour and not an alternative form of sexual expression. The original health curriculum had described homosexuality as “an alternative means of sexual expression.” Members of THA protested the ruling.

June 25 * Toronto * About 300 people participated in a demonstration organized by the newly formed Coalition to Stop Anita Bryant (CSAB). The group marched down Yonge Street and over to the CBC building on Jarvis Street, where Bryant was burned in effigy. This was the first of several coalitions and public actions across Canada organized to protest Bryant’s anti-gay crusade. CSAB was later succeeded by the group Free Lesbians and Gays (FLAG). (See also July 22, 1977.)


June 27–29 * Toronto * *Standing Room Only in Provincetown*, a revue starring Waylon Flowers and Madam, was performed at the Colonial Tavern (203 Yonge Street).


June 29 * Canada * A Gallup poll concerning the inclusion of sexual orientation in the Canadian Human Rights Act found that 52 percent of Canadians favoured protection from discrimination in employment and access to public services, while 30 percent were opposed and 18 percent couldn’t say.

June 29–July 3 * Saskatoon * “Towards a Gay Community,” the fifth annual NGRC conference of gay men and lesbians, was hosted by the GCCS. Plenary sessions were held at the University of Saskatchewan. The keynote speaker was Barbara Thornborrow, the lesbian who had been dismissed from the Canadian Armed Forces just days before. The conference featured a march (on July 1) of 250 people for lesbian and gay rights, through downtown Saskatoon, as well as workshops and cultural and social programming including an art exhibition, book displays, film screenings, and a cabaret and dances. There were five workshops specifically for lesbians, which drew a large number of women. Delegates also approved ensuring that lesbians had 50 percent voting control during resolutions. Resolutions adopted at the conference included plans for a National Day of Protest to be held in October 1977 and that would use the John Damien case as a focus for the human rights/sexual orientation issue. A national petition on human rights was to be circulated by the NGRC, and detailed plans for strategy during the next federal election were discussed. The NGRC also agreed that it would intervene at CRTC hearings when CBC licence-renewal applications were heard. In addition, the NGRC voted to oppose the airing of any commercial message that featured Anita Bryant or any representative of Save Our Children, and opposed Bryant’s entry into Canada.


**June 30** *Calgary* * Ann Silversides published an overview of Calgary’s gay community in the *Calgary Herald*, focusing on Dignity and GIRC.


**June 30–July 3** *Winnipeg* * During its annual convention, the federal NDP passed a resolution supporting gays, and accepted as party policy the basic civil rights demands of the NGRC. Resolutions favouring gay rights had been passed by local NDP-riding associations in Winnipeg earlier; the Winnipeg NDP Gay Caucus had coordinated this effort.


**Summer** *Montréal* * Police raided the Dominion Square Tavern (1243, rue Metcalfe) and charged twenty-five men with being found-ins at a bawdy house. The owner was charged with operating a bawdy house, and was found guilty in January 1978.

Summer * Montréal * Lesbian Feminists of Montreal/Feministes Lesbiennes de Montréal (LFM/FLM) was founded. Three members of the group were awarded a Young Canada Works project grant of $6,000 to operate the lesbian counselling service “Lesbian Action.” The service, operated from the Women’s Information and Referral Centre on St. Urbain Street, organized weekly drop-ins and discussions as well as other social activities and a counselling phone line.


Summer * Montréal * The film *Le Soleil se lève en retard* was released. It was a heterosexual love story created by two of the most famous openly gay artists in Québec: Michel Tremblay (who wrote the script) and André Brassard (who directed).


Summer * Regina * The Odyssey Club (2242 Smith Street), almost closed due to lack of attendance at its regular Saturday dances. The club, run by the Atropos Fellowship Society, was the only public place in the city, other than parks, for gays to socialize. The Odyssey was redecorated and revived. It also discontinued its BYOB policy and began operating under special occasion liquor permits. As only one permit was allowed per week, socials with liquor were usually held only on Saturdays. On August 14, 1977, the Atropos Fellowship Society was renamed the Gay Community of Regina (GCR) after a special general membership meeting amended the group’s constitution and elected a new board of directors. On September 15, 1977, the club celebrated its fifth anniversary.

[David, “President’s Report” (column), *Changes* (Gay Community of Regina), 1 (December 1977): 2; “Gay Centre Alive,” *Carillon* (Univ.

Summer * Vancouver * The Non-Medical Use of Drugs Directorate awarded a grant of $5,450 to SEARCH to study alcohol abuse and service needs in the gay community in Vancouver.


July * Toronto * The Globe and Mail refused to print an advertisement seeking to raise funds for the Committee to Defend John Damien. The writer John Hofsess attempted to place the ad, which included previous editorial copy from the Globe itself. The ad was rejected because the reasons for Damien’s firing were currently before the courts and the Globe would not accept an ad that referred to the reasons for the firing (i.e., Damien’s homosexuality).

[“Globe Nays Ad that Quotes the Globe,” Body Politic, no. 35 (1977), p. 9.]

July * Toronto * Ray Barton, Bonnie Perry, and Randy Vivian founded the York Rainbow Society of the Deaf, the first group for gay deaf people formed in Canada.
July 4–17 * Montréal * Police carried out a sustained series of raids on gay establishments. On July 4, more than ten policemen (one armed with a machine gun) raided Studio One (968, rue Ste. Catherine O.), a popular gay disco. Patrons were questioned and some were handcuffed, although charges were not laid. In the same week, Le Jardin disco (1258, rue Stanley), and Bud’s (1250, rue Stanley), were also raided. Truxx, 1426, rue Stanley, was raided on the weekend of July 16–17, and police intimidated people in front of Le Jardin by calling them “faggots.” During the same period, police increased surveillance of Mount Royal and Parc Lafontaine, popular cruising areas.


July 5 * Toronto * The Tri-Aid Charitable Foundation was formed after several board members of the Chatsworth Foundation resigned. Tri-Aid was a non-profit, charitable organization offering professional social services to the gay community. Its first programs included Tri-Aid House (a co-ed residence for gay youths located at 8 Irwin Avenue, which operated from 1977 to 1979) and Tri-Aid Counselling Service. Officers of the Foundation were Doug Chin, president; Gayle Janes, vice-president; and Karsten Kossmann, secretary-treasurer.

July 13 * Toronto * Fifty people picketed the Supreme Court of Ontario building to support equal custody rights for lesbian mothers. Wages Due Lesbians organized the demonstration.


July 13 * Vancouver * B.C. Minister of Human Resources Bill Vander Zalm attacked the existence of a Gay Workers’ Support Group within the Vancouver Resources Board (VRB). Later, on January 1, 1978, the 1,400 employees of the VRB became part of the B.C. Ministry of Human Resources, under Vander Zalm. The unionized employees of VRB had previously been protected from discrimination based on sexual orientation, but this came under attack when they transferred to the British Columbia Government Employees Union (BCGEU).


July 18 * Toronto* * David Foreman and Bob Schisler, members of GATE (Toronto), were arrested after pasting posters on mailboxes. They were charged with unlawfully distributing handbills, a violation of a municipal by-law. The posters advertised a gay dance and a protest against Anita Bryant. On November 21, 1977, they were found guilty in Ontario Provincial Court of wilful damage and were fined $300 and sentenced to seven days in jail. (At the time of sentencing, Schisler was
the president of Gays at Ryerson [GAR].) Members of GATE picketed the courthouse to protest police harassment. Foreman and Schisler appealed their conviction, and on May 10, 1978, County Court Judge Roger Conant refused to drop the charges but did reduce their sentences to a fine of $100 each. Foreman and Schisler appealed their conviction to the Ontario Court of Appeal, which on March 9, 1979, refused permission to appeal the conviction.


**July 20** *Toronto* *Ombudsman Arthur Maloney presented a report to the Ontario Legislature in which he asked that the Vital Statistics Act be amended to allow changes in gender designation on birth certificates for people who had undergone gender reassignment. This was the second time that Maloney had made the request. A complaint had been made to Maloney by someone who wished to marry but could not until their birth certificate was changed.


**July 21** *Ontario* *The OHRC Code Review Committee report* *Life Together* *was released. Number ninety among its ninety-seven recommendations was that sexual orientation be included in the code as
a prohibited ground of discrimination. This followed five years of insistent pressure on the commission by representatives of the gay movement in Ontario. Reaction in the mainstream press was mixed. (See also May 4, 1978, and February 1, 1979.)


July 22 * Toronto * In the city’s largest gay demonstration to date, over 500 people marched from City Hall up Yonge Street to hold a candlelight rally in Queen’s Park. The event was organized by CSAB. Chants included “Hey hey, ho ho, Anita Bryant’s got to go!” and “Two-four-six-eight, we don’t over-populate!” Toronto’s major newspapers did not cover the event.


July 23–August 1 * Vancouver * Gay Unity Week was held, with events each day at various local clubs and bars. The first gay Unity Picnic was held on July 31.
July 24 * Halifax * A group of eight women spray-painted over a wall mural located in the Turret, the Gay Community Centre operated by GAE. The painting, by Randy Gaynor, depicted two sets of female breasts with an electric current running between two nipples, all surrounded by a scroll of lipstick. The women vandals regarded the mural, nicknamed “The Tits,” as sexist and a wanton objectification of female sexuality. Reaction to the defacing ranged from anger and shock to enthusiastic support.


July 25 * Ottawa * Parliament passed an amended Immigration Act (1976) that removed homosexuals from the list of inadmissible classes of person. The amended act replaced the Immigration Act of 1952, and came into force on April 1, 1978. This was seen as the first victory on the national level for NGRC.


July 27 * Winnipeg * The executive director of the Manitoba Human Rights Commission declared that he “fully supports” the inclusion in the Manitoba Human Rights Act of protection from discrimination based on sexual orientation.


July 29 * Vancouver * A joint meeting of members of the Dorian Group
(Seattle), the Portland Town Council (Portland, Oregon), and SEARCH was held at the Sands Hotel. The one-day conference focused on fundraising, media, and public education strategies.

[“Three City Conference,” SEARCH News, 1, no. 7 (July 1978): 1.]

**July 30** * Hamilton, Ont. * The Hamilton Spectator published its first major article on the gay community in that city. The full-page article featured interviews with prominent gays in the community, such as Brian Marsh and Shane Que Hee, as well as comments from local church leaders. (See also September 10, 1977.)


**August** * Montréal * Members of ADGQ appealed to the Gay Social Services Project to ask that the Ville-Marie Social Services Centre offer services to Francophone lesbians and gays in the French language. This was a concern that carried on until at least 1979.

[“Les services sociaux, les lesbiennes et les gais,” Le Berdache, no. 6 (1979–80), pp. 29–37.]

**August** * Toronto * John Hofsess’s article “Sexual Niggers,” an examination of anti-gay prejudice in Canadian media, was published in Content, Canada’s national news media magazine.


**August 1** * Toronto * Emanuel Jaques, a twelve-year-old Portuguese-Canadian shoeshine boy, was found sexually assaulted and murdered on the roof of Charlie’s Angels (245 Yonge Street), a body-rub parlour. He had been assaulted and drowned in a sink on July 28. Four men were later charged with first-degree murder: Saul David Betesh, Werner
Greuner, Robert Wayne Kribs, and Josef Woods. This case launched a public outcry that became focused on the Yonge Street “sex strip.” The gay community was also drawn into the case because Saul Betesh had contacted George Hislop, president of CHAT, after the murder to ask for advice; Hislop told him to turn himself in to police. The Jaques case generated intense news coverage in the press, on radio, and on television. At least one commentator, Borden Spears, a senior editor at the Toronto Star, dared to claim that some of the media coverage was tasteless, unprofessional, and prejudicial to the case. There were numerous stories and events related to the Emanuel Jaques case during 1977–78. (See also August 2–3, 1977; August 3–4, 1977; August 8, 1977; August 9, 1977; August 12, 1977; August 13, 1977; August [late] 1977; September 2, 1977; January 16, 1978; February 8, 1978; February 15, 1978; March 12, 1978; May 1978; Summer 1978; August 17, 1980; August 24, 1979; December 18, 1980; and April 13, 1981.)


**August 2–3 * Toronto * More than 200 residents of Regent Park held a moment of silence during a gathering to remember Emanuel Jaques and also local nine-year-old boy Kirk Deasley, who had been murdered in a gay sex slaying exactly four years before Jaques. The angry crowd demanded the return of capital punishment and the immediate closing of all body-rub parlours on Yonge Street. They also helped to organize a
march the next day, August 3, during which hundreds of angry demonstrators marched down Yonge Street past the massage parlours to City Hall, where they were met by Mayor David Crombie.


**August 3** *Ottawa* *In a letter to the NGRC, Solicitor General Francis Fox stated that overt or publicly professed homosexuality would not disqualify someone from obtaining either employment or a security clearance in the Canadian public service. (See also August 17–18, 1977.)*


**August 3–4** *Toronto* *More than 3,000 people filed by the open casket of Emanuel Jaques at the Ryan and Odette funeral home on Dundas Street West. 1,500 people attended the funeral on August 4, held at St. Agnes Church. The 250-car funeral procession, under police escort, took ninety minutes to travel from the church to Holy Cross Cemetery in Thornhill, where Jaques was buried.*


**August 4** *Winnipeg* *Dick Smith organized Project Lambda, Inc., an attempt to create a gay community centre in Winnipeg that would
provide services for gay people and act as an information centre for
visitors to the city. The MGC endorsed Project Lambda.
[“Community Centre Seeks Support,” Body Politic, no. 39 (1977–78),
pp. 6–7; “Lambda Update,” Out & About (Winnipeg), November
1981, pp. 1–2, 4; Project Lambda, Inc., papers, accession 1997–100,
Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto; “Project Lambda:
Winnipeg Gay Centre,” After Stonewall, no. 4 (1977), pp. 21–22.]

August 8 * Toronto * A massive demonstration by 15,000 people,
mostly Portuguese-Canadians, held at City Hall and the Ontario
legislature, called for the restoration of capital punishment, more powers
for the police, and the eradication of homosexuals. Later, some members
of the Portuguese community began to denounce the climate of hysteria
surrounding the Jaques murder. (See also August 9, 1977.)
[Ulli Diemer, “Death on Yonge Street,” 7 News (Toronto), 13 August
1977, p. 2; Michael Lynch, “Media Fosters Bigotry with Murder
36 (1977), pp. 1, 4; Movimento Communitario Portugues/Portuguese
Community Movement, “Let’s Rethink What Happened on Yonge
Street!,” Education Editor (Toronto), September 1977; Brian Rogers,
“15,000 March on City Hall, Legislature over Boy’s Slaying,” Globe
and Mail, metro ed., 9 August 1977, p. 1; Victoria Stevens, “Angry
Crowd Seeks Revenge for Emanuel,” Toronto Star, four star ed., 9
August 1977, p. B1; “Victims of a Media Orgy” (editorial), Body
Politic, no. 36 (1977), p. 2; Tom Warner, “Crackdown Gone Too Far,

August 9 * Toronto * At a press conference held at the CHAT centre,
Tom Warner, coordinator of CGRO, charged that some press accounts
of the recent murder of Emanuel Jaques had transferred guilt onto the
entire gay community by using such terms as “homosexual orgy.”
Warner asked that civic leaders, particularly Mayor David Crombie,
issue public statements to dispel these false accusations. He also asked
that any attempt to “clean up” the Yonge Street body-parlour strip not
include a drive against gay people. (Shortly after the Jaques murder,
Ontario Attorney-General Roy McMurtry had called for the re-introduction of vagrancy laws as a way to eliminate male street prostitution in Toronto.) At the same conference, George Hislop, the president of CHAT, charged that the press had neglected to report accurately his role in bringing about the arrest of Saul David Betesh, one of the accused men. Hislop was the target of several death threats after the Jaques murder; death or bomb threats were also telephoned to the CHAT Centre, the Body Politic, to GATE, the 519 Church Street Community Centre, and to Glad Day Bookshop. In the weeks following the Emanuel Jaques murder, some journalists such as Peter Worthington and Claire Hoy, both of the Toronto Sun, would claim that gay activists were to blame for Jaques’s murder.


August 12 * Toronto * Radio station Q107 rejected an advertisement for the Body Politic on the grounds that “at the present time, public sensitivity to gay-oriented advertising would be negative and not in the best interests of either the advertiser or the radio station.” On July 5, 1977, the station had agreed to do a series of thirty-second spots for the Body Politic, but backed down due to the subsequent media assault on the gay community following the murder of Emanuel Jaques. The Body Politic filed a complaint with the CRTC concerning Q107’s action, but was told that the CRTC had no power to influence Q107’s decision.

**August 13** *Vancouver* *In the wake of the Emanuel Jaques case in Toronto, the* Province *reported on boy prostitutes in the residential West End district of Vancouver, claiming that 200 boys were prostituting themselves on Davie Street. Although acting superintendent Vic Lake labelled the article “sensationalism,” he ordered the vice squad to make a complete report on the matter. At the time, Vancouver was a recognized centre for juvenile prostitution. On August 18, Vancouver Police Chief Don Winterton announced a crackdown on the “epidemic” of juvenile prostitution in the city.*


**August 15** *Montréal* *Representatives from fifteen Montréal-area gay and lesbian groups met to discuss problems of communication and lack of unity among the groups. (See also October 15–16, 1977.)*


**August 17–18** *Toronto* *In two articles concerning personal, confidential files on prominent politicians being kept by the RCMP, Lawrence Martin of the* Globe and Mail *uncovered evidence that the RCMP was still collecting files on homosexuals in the public service, which were classified under “character weakness.” The RCMP also admitted that it used homosexuals as paid informants. The NGRC immediately issued a press release and a letter to the RCMP and...*
Solicitor General Francis Fox, calling on the federal government and the RCMP to stop the practice of keeping files on gay people. The Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC), which represented most of Canada’s civil servants, later presented a brief to the federal government criticizing its approach to homosexuality and security clearances: “There is no evidence that homosexuals, any more than heterosexuals, are likely to reveal state secrets as a result of seduction or blackmail.”


**August (late) * Toronto * The owners of Art Works Galleries on Bleecker Street were charged with the sexual assault of a fourteen-year-old Native employee. When they were released without bail, pending trial, members of the Native Canadian Centre of Toronto held a demonstration at Queen’s Park. One placard at the demonstration read, “Where is the media when Emanuel is Native?” In the wake of media hysteria over the murder of Emanuel Jaques, coverage of this case was generally restrained.


**September * Calgary * The GAU was established at the University of Calgary as the first lesbian or gay group on campus. Its aim was to provide a focus for discussion and to promote gay studies and scholarship. The first executive consisted of Mac Melrose (president), Gale Comin (vice-president), Dallas Cooper (secretary), and Brian
Wingrove (treasurer).


September * Calgary * A branch of MCC was established, organized by Rev. Lloyd Greenway. By December 1977, about fifteen people were attending MCC services, held at the Unitarian Church.


September * Montréal * Harvey Blackman and Roy Salonin of the gay Jewish group Naches were invited by Rabbi Mark Golub to speak at the Temple Beth Sholom’s Oneg Shabbat, to take place February 10, 1978. This invitation was thought to be the first such overture to homosexuals by a Jewish leader in Montréal. But, it was soon withdrawn due to what Rabbi Golub later called a “programming error.”


September * Toronto * The Globe and Mail rejected a quarter-page display ad submitted by Glad Day Bookshop, without explanation. The ad was to have appeared in the Saturday book review section of the Globe. Several Canadian book industry associations protested the Globe’s decision. Glad Day started a petition against the action, and sent
a letter of complaint to the OHRC.


**September** *Toronto* *Terry Phillips resigned as chairperson and as a member of the Committee to Defend John Damien. The organization had been hampered by a lack of formal structure and internal disagreement over the most effective strategy to portray the Damien case in the media: a more generic “human rights” approach versus specific “gay rights.” At a meeting on October 6, Michael Lynch was elected interim chairperson.*

**September** *Toronto* *With Downcast Gays: Aspects of Homosexual Self-oppression*, by Andrew Hodges and David Hutter, a pioneering study of gay self-oppression originally published in London by Pomegranate Press in 1974, was printed in a new edition by Pink Triangle Press. This was the first book published by Pink Triangle Press,
which also published the *Body Politic*. A French-language translation of the work, *Pardonnez-nous notre existence: Aspects de l’auto-oppression homosexuelle*, was published in Québec City in 1979 by the Groupe gai de l’Université Laval (GGUL).


**September* *Vancouver* *GATE (Vancouver) adopted the position paper “Gay Liberation & Québec Self-determination,” which supported the democratic right to self-determination for Québec.


**September* *Victoria* *The Feminist Lesbian Action Group (FLAG) was formed by members of the recently closed Victoria Women’s Centre. FLAG’s aim was to build a solid support system for lesbians in Victoria, to effect social and political change, and to provide opportunities for social contact and discussion concerning issues of interest to lesbians.


**September* *Windsor* *About thirty people attended a Labour Day weekend meeting of the Steering Committee of CGRO, hosted by WGU. The meeting focused on adopting new strategies for getting “sexual...
orientation” added to the Ontario Human Rights Code. These included letter-writing campaigns, the submitting of a new brief to the Ontario Legislature, and holding more rallies and demonstrations in support of the proposal at the time the government introduced the human rights legislation.


September 1 * Ottawa * Former MP Gordon Fairweather was appointed as the first commissioner of the Canadian Human Rights Commission (CHRC). The CHRC, which had been created under the new Canadian Human Rights Act, was passed in June 1977 and began its official operation on January 1, 1978. The gay movement welcomed Fairweather’s appointment as he was seen as sympathetic to gay concerns. In May 1977, Fairweather had moved, unsuccessfully, an amendment to add sexual orientation to the prohibited categories of discrimination in the Canadian Human Rights Act.


September 2 * Brandon, Man. * The first meeting of Gay Friends of Brandon (GFB) was held at a private home. The group began to hold regular meetings, operated a phone line, and advertised in the local daily and university newspapers.

[“Brandon Organizes,” Body Politic, no. 38 (1977), p. 5.]

September 2 * Toronto * Alderman Allan Sparrow called a press conference to publicly dissociate himself from a “runaway repressive atmosphere being generated by events in the downtown core.” He
specifically dissociated himself from the “repression of the gay community.” Sparrow’s remarks were made following calls by the public and politicians to “clean up” Yonge Street in the wake of Emanuel Jaques’s murder. Other local politicians, including Mayor David Crombie and Alderman Arthur Eggleton, had also expressed concern that the proposed “cleanup” not infringe on the rights of any group.


**September 10** * Hamilton, Ont. * The Hamilton Spectator printed its first unsolicited, favourable news item regarding gays, concerning the pro-gay resolutions recently approved by the American Sociological Association during its national convention in Chicago.


**September 10** * Toronto * Three gay men were attacked and badly beaten by three teenage gay-bashers in Riverdale Park. (See also May 2, 1978, and Autumn 1978.)


**September 13–18** * Toronto * Charles Ludlam’s play *Camille* was performed by the Ridiculous Theatrical Company at the Factory Lab Theatre.

[Robert Wallace, “*Camille*” (review), Body Politic, no. 38 (1977), p. 16.]

**September 20** * Toronto * “Gay News and Views,” a thirteen-week series of half-hour programs produced by the Gay TV Collective, began broadcasting on Rogers, Metro, and Maclean-Hunter cable television channels. Each program consisted of a seven-minute news segment, interviews and discussions with members of the gay community,
entertainment by gay artists, and a community calendar. Viewer complaints forced Maclean-Hunter to reschedule the show to a later time slot. Management at Rogers attempted to cancel its broadcast of the show in September 1977, but later re-evaluated its position. (See also May 26, 1978.)


September 21 * Halifax * The first meeting of Gay Youth Halifax (GYH) was held at the Turret Community Centre. Wendell Enman founded the group.  

September 23 * Toronto * Dudes bar officially opened at 10 Breadalbane Street. By the summer of 1978 Dudes also served meals.  

September 25 * Toronto * The gay community information phone line service 923-GAYS began operation. It featured a day-by-day listing of gay community events known as the Gay Community Calendar. Harvey Hamburg managed 923-GAYS from its inception until September 1979, when Jim McNiel succeeded him.  
[923-GAYS papers, accession 1984–007, Canadian Lesbian and Gay

September 28 * Calgary * George Hislop spoke on aspects of homosexuality as the featured guest speaker during sexuality week at the University of Calgary.
[“George Hislop,” Gay Moods (GIRC, Calgary), 1, no. 5 (23 November 1977): 7.]

September 30 * Toronto * The movie Outrageous!, starring Craig Russell, premiered in Toronto at the Odeon York. Based on the short story “Making It” by Margaret Gibson (published in The Butterfly Ward, 1976) and directed by Richard Benner, Outrageous! examines the lives of Robin Turner (Russell), a female impersonator, and his childhood friend Liza (Hollis McLaren), a schizophrenic, and the “fringe” worlds in which they live. Many of Russell’s impersonation scenes were filmed at the Club Manatee in Toronto. The low-budget Outrageous! was a critical and box office success; it was followed in 1987 by the less successful Too Outrageous! (See also November 20, 1977, and March 5, 1978.)


**September 30** *Toronto* *The first meeting of the Ryerson Homophile Foundation (RHF) was held at Ryerson Polytechnical Institute. RHF began with nine members, including three women; Doug Chin was the organizer. In October 1977 RHA was renamed Gays at Ryerson (GAR). [Karen Anderson, “Gay Association Off to Slow Start,” *Ryersonian* (Ryerson Polytechnical Institute, Toronto), 5 October 1977, p. 6; Matthew Kudelka, “Gay’s Posters Ripped from Walls,” *Eyeopener* (Ryerson Polytechnical Institute, Toronto), 6 October 1977, p. 5; C. Redmond, “Homophile Association Off to a Start,” *Eyeopener* (Ryerson Polytechnical Institute, Toronto), 13 October 1977, p. 11; Ryerson Lesbians and Gay Men papers, accession 1997–102, Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto.]

**Autumn** *Edmonton* *GATE (Edmonton) sought endorsements for a brief to be submitted to Edmonton City Council calling for legislation to prohibit discrimination against gays in civic employment. When they approached the Netherlands Church, an organization that had internationally supported gay rights, a spokesman for the Church refused support, citing God’s wrath on the cities of Sodom and “Gemorra” [sic] “because of their sinful lives including homosexuality.”

**Autumn** * Guelph, Ont. * GGE, in cooperation with cable channel 8, prepared a half-hour program entitled “Human Sexuality: A Discussion of Alternatives,” featuring panelists Earl Reidy and Joyce Asquith.


**Autumn** * Ontario * CGRO launched the fundraising drive Target 2000 to finance a public education campaign promoting the inclusion of “sexual orientation” in the Ontario Human Rights Code.


**Autumn** * Prince George, B.C. * Charlotte Croquette and Mark O’Neill started a social support group for local gays. The Prince George Crisis Centre acted as the contact for the group. Gay People of Prince George grew to almost a hundred members by March 1978, and was also issuing the newsletter *Gag Rag*.


**Autumn** * St. John’s * The city’s first gay bar, the Upper Deck, opened at 208 Water Street.


**Autumn** * Saskatoon * Grapevine, an interfaith support group for lesbians and gay men, was founded.

[“Grapevine” vertical file, Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto.]
**Autumn** * Saskatoon * Gay activist Doug Wilson was elected to a three-year term on the board of directors of SAHR.


**Autumn** * Toronto * Seven writers recommended by Catalyst Press received grants from the OAC through the Council’s Writer’s Reserve program.


**Autumn** * Toronto * CHAT’s offices moved to a more modest space on the second floor of 19 St. Joseph Street. The relocation was linked to CHAT’s financial difficulties, which resulted from increasing competition from commercial establishments catering to the gay community and decreasing attendance at CHAT’s regular dances.


**Autumn** * Toronto * Justice Peter Cory of the Supreme Court of Ontario made the first reported pronouncement in Ontario on the subject of lesbians and child custody in the case of *Wine v. Wine*. Justice Cory, in a preliminary statement, said that lesbianism “… could have a detrimental effect upon the children and quite possibly the mother should not have custody.”


**Autumn** * Toronto * Michael J. Levin’s mixed-media show *StarBabies* was presented at the Centre for Experimental Art and Communication (CEAC). *StarBabies* starred “Bob Star, the Bearded Lady,” and explored themes of cross-dressing, radical drag, and celebrity.

Autumn * Vancouver * The El Toro bathhouse was ordered by city staff to remove doors from all cubicles as a requirement of having its licence renewed. The action came at the request of Medical Officer of Health Gerald Bonham, who was concerned about the rate of syphilis among gay men in British Columbia and thought that the move would allow for less opportunity for promiscuous sexual contact involving total strangers. Vancouver City Council also instructed city staff to draft a by-law that would extend the no-doors rule to all bathhouses in Vancouver. This was seen by some gays as part of an organized crackdown campaign on gays in Vancouver.


October * Canada * Gay groups across the country began to circulate a petition calling on federal and provincial governments to add sexual orientation to their human rights legislation. NGRC coordinated the petition, with a goal to collect 50,000 signatures by May 15, 1978. The plan was to present the petition to the House of Commons on June 1, 1978, the first anniversary of the passage in the House of the Canadian Human Rights Act. There was some resistance. MP Jake Epp (PC–Provencher), for example, wrote back to the NGRC that he was opposed to the campaign, and that “what is needed is not the protection of homosexuals but for Canadians who are not deviants.” The NGRC responded by asking Progressive Conservative leader Joe Clark to reprimand Epp.

October * Montréal * Gay Friends of Concordia (GFC) was formed at Concordia University. Murray Nicol was president of the group, which met weekly to discuss current events and activities around Montréal.  

October * Montréal * “Homosexuality in the Movies,” a festival of twenty-five films, was held at the Sir George Williams campus of Concordia University.  

October * Port Hope, Ont. * Rev. Joseph MacDonald, a local Baptist minister, was appointed chairman of Citizens against Homosexual Rights Legislation (CAHRL), a newly formed national committee that intended to inform the public about the “perversion of homosexuality.” (See also November 1977.)  

October * Québec, Qué. * ADGQ presented the brief “La minorité homosexuelle au Québec et la Charte des droits et libertés de la personne/The Homosexual Minority in Quebec and the Human Rights Charter” to members of the National Assembly. The brief outlined cases of anti-gay discrimination in employment, housing, and access to public services and underlined the absence of any protection for gay people in the Charter. (See also October 25, 1977.)  

October * Toronto * Olivia Records and the 3 of Cups coffee house sponsored a performance by lesbian singers Teresa Trull and Meg Christian.

[“In Concert” (photograph), Body Politic, no. 39 (1977–78), p. 22.]

October * Vancouver * Gay USA, a film by Arthur Bressen, Jr., premiered at a gay film series held at the Pacific Cinematheque. The film was shown as a benefit for GATE (Vancouver), in support of its ongoing court case against the Vancouver Sun.


October * Windsor, Ont. * The CUPE local representing outside workers for the city of Windsor was successful in negotiating a contract that included a clause prohibiting discrimination against city employees based on sexual orientation.


October 1 * Canada * A Gallup poll found that 60 percent of Canadian adults thought that homosexuality was wrong; the same proportion thought that adultery was wrong as well. Only 13 percent believed that homosexuality between consenting adults was not wrong.

[“Most against Homosexuality,” Ottawa Citizen, weekend ed., 1 October 1977, p. 4.]

October 7 * Hamilton, Ont. * The McMaster Film Board premiered its film A Son of the Family, directed by Shawn Selway, at the Broadway Theatre. The film explored the experience of coming out. Members of MHA had participated in the film.

[Bill Lewis, “A Son of the Family” (review), Body Politic, no. 39 (1977–78), p. 22; Shane Que Hee, “Steel City Updates,” Body Politic,
October 8–10 * Halifax * GAE and APPLE sponsored the First Annual Atlantic Gay Conference, “Our Atlantic Gay Community—Uniting against Oppression,” held at the Turret Gay Community Centre. Eighty-six delegates attended the conference, which was open to all lesbians and gay men in the four Atlantic provinces. John Damien addressed the opening plenary. There were workshops, three disco evenings, cultural events, a panel discussion, and a march on Province House, the Nova Scotia legislature. This conference was an important milestone for gay organizing in Atlantic Canada, and provided a forum for lesbians and gays from smaller communities without gay organizations.


October 11 * Manitoba * The incumbent NDP under Premier Ed Schreyer was defeated in a provincial election by the Progressive Conservatives, under leader Sterling Lyon. Members of MGC played an active role during the election campaign, particularly in polling candidates and in posing questions during public events. Jeremy Bass of GFE, for example, was able to quiz Premier Schreyer about his stand on gay rights during a forum at the University of Manitoba. Schreyer was dismissive, saying that he would not be “bullied” into answering and that “… I’ve got more important things to worry about.” Lloyd Axworthy, who was very gay-positive during the campaign, was the only Liberal elected to the Legislature.


October 13 * Vancouver * David Watmough’s article “On Being Gay in Vancouver: A Prominent Author’s Thoughts on the Gay Fact in Vancouver” was published in Metro Magazine.

October 15 * Windsor, Ont. * The University of Windsor Faculty Association approved its first negotiated contract, which included a clause protecting faculty from discrimination based on sexual orientation.

October 15–16 * Montréal * The Congrès national de tous les gai(e)s du Québec/First National Congress of Gay Men and Lesbians in Québec was organized by ADGQ and held at the Saint-Pierre Apôtre Centre. The conference was the first opportunity for a province-wide dialogue on gay liberation, the building of a united movement in Québec, and the future launching of a Québec gay coalition. The gathering included plenaries, reports, panels, workshops, and a dance. On October 15, 125 people marched through downtown Montréal in pouring rain to support the inclusion of “sexual orientation” in Québec and Canadian human rights legislation, the reinstatement of John Damien, and an end to police repression against the gay community.

October 16 * Toronto * CSAB sponsored a daylong cultural festival at St. Paul’s Church on Avenue Road to celebrate the 123rd anniversary of the birth of Oscar Wilde. A benefit showing of Derek Jarman’s new homoerotic film Sebastiane, based on the life of St. Sebastian, was held at the festival.


October 17 * Ottawa * Harry Kopyto, a lawyer representing GATE (Vancouver), appeared before the Supreme Court of Canada to present
the case concerning the refusal of the *Vancouver Sun* to print an ad for *Gay Tide*. The Court was to decide whether to hear GATE’s appeal against the B.C. Court of Appeal decision of June 10, 1977, which upheld the right of the *Vancouver Sun* to refuse an ad for GATE’s newspaper *Gay Tide*. This was the first time in Canada that the Supreme Court of Canada heard a gay civil rights case. (See also November 8, 1977.)

[“GATE vs. the *Sun*,” *Gay Moods* (GIRC, Calgary), 1, no. 5 (23 November 1977): 4; Paul Trollope, “Vancouver GATE Goes to Supreme Court,” *Body Politic*, no. 36 (1977), p. 8.]

**October 17** *Toronto* *A “Lifestyles” column in *Maclean’s* profiled Studio II, a new lesbian bar at 72 Carlton Street.*

[Jacqueline Swartz, “Where the Love that Dares Not Speak Its Name, Can” (column), *Maclean’s*, 17 October 1977, pp. 72d, 72f.]

**October 18** *Ottawa* *The Commission of Inquiry Concerning Certain Activities of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (commonly known as the McDonald Commission after the chairman, Justice David C. McDonald) began hearing testimony both in public and in camera. During its extensive hearings it did not touch on the RCMP’s persecution of homosexuals in the Canadian civil service during the 1950s and 1960s. This matter was blown wide open by the publication of John Sawatsky’s book *Men in the Shadows: The RCMP Security Service* in 1980. (See also August 17–18, 1977; November 20, 1977; and Spring 1980.)*


**October 18–23, 25** *New York, N.Y.* *Following on the success of *Outrageous!*, Craig Russell performed a one-man show at Theater East,*
a small, basement venue located at 211 East 60th Street.


**October 19 * Edmonton * The question of gay rights was raised at several all-candidate meetings leading up to the Edmonton civic election, held October 19. Members of GATE (Edmonton) were active in polling candidates on rights for gays and lesbians. Dr. Ivor Dent, an independent candidate and former mayor, publicly declared his support for a municipal by-law that would prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation in civic employment. Don Tapscott, representing the Revolutionary Workers’ League (RWL), consistently defended the rights of gay people throughout the campaign. Another candidate, Eddie Keehn, was a militant Christian who called for the closure of gay clubs and the firing of gay and lesbian city employees. Cecil Purves, who declared that the protection of the rights of gay workers at City Hall was not a proper concern for municipal government, won the election.


**October 19 * Toronto * John Damien appeared on *90 Minutes Live*, the nationally televised talk show hosted by Peter Gzowski.


**October 21–22 * Calgary, Edmonton, Halifax, Montréal, Ottawa, Toronto, Vancouver, Windsor * Days of Protest for John Damien rallies and associated events were held in cities across the country. The protesters had three demands: (1) human rights legislation to protect homosexuals; (2) job security as a gay right; and (3) the reinstatement of
John Damien. The rallies were coordinated by NGRC. Damien spoke at a public forum in Edmonton on October 21. Former Edmonton mayoralty candidate Eddie Keehn had threatened to disrupt the event, which was held without incident. More than 200 people attended the forum, which was seen as a major victory for gay rights in Edmonton. Damien spoke in Vancouver on October 22.


**October 22** * Montréal * More than fifty policemen, some wearing bulletproof vests and armed with machine guns, raided the Truxx and La Mystique bars (1424–26, rue Stanley) shortly after midnight and arrested 146 men, charging them with being found-ins in a common bawdy
The arrested men included two lawyers, fifteen teachers, and a school director. The owner of Truxx, Giuseppe Salvaggio, was charged with keeping a common bawdy house. Eight charges of gross indecency and two of possession of illegal drugs were also laid. All of the men charged were taken to police headquarters and held without bail for fifteen hours, and subjected to compulsory VD testing. All but one of the men pleaded not guilty to the charges. Charges against most of the found-ins were dropped, but only after five years. On December 14, 1982, the charges against 120 men were dismissed after the Crown Attorney advised the judge that he would not be proceeding with the case as it would cost “too much money.” This was the largest mass arrest in Canada since the War Measures Act was invoked during the FLQ crisis in October 1970. It came only one week after Montréal had hosted the First National Congress of Gay Men and Lesbians in Québec. Truxx reopened, was renovated, and attracted larger crowds than ever (including women), but the bar closed for good on March 19, 1978. 


**October 22 * Windsor, Ont. * The city’s first gay demonstration was held when twenty-four people protested against employment discrimination against gays during the Days of Protest for John Damien. They demonstrated in front of an Ontario government building before marching through the city market and along the main street. Local media gave extensive coverage to the event.


**October 23 * Montréal * Two thousand people demonstrated in downtown Montréal to protest the police raid on the Truxx and Mystique bars. The riot-like protest blocked one of the main intersections in
downtown Montréal (at Stanley and St. Catherine streets) and was the largest and most militant gay demonstration held in Canada to that time. The spontaneous protest was organized in less than six hours by ADGQ, by distributing 4,000 leaflets in all gay bars and clubs in the city. Policemen on motorcycles (with sidecars) attacked the crowd, attempting to clear the street by driving into the crowd at high speed. Several demonstrators were run down; others were hit in indiscriminate billy-club attacks. The demonstrators retaliated by throwing bottles and glasses at the passing motorcycles and policemen, and by singing and dancing in the streets. These events were widely covered in local radio, television, and print media. In the weeks following the raid, police continued to intimidate the gay community by entering other clubs and discos, including Le Jardin, Limelight, the Lincoln, and the Truxx bar again.


**October 23** *Toronto* *A* forum entitled “From the Gay Left to Trotskyism” was presented by the Spartacist League and the Red Flag Union (formerly the Lavender and Red Union), at Hart House, University of Toronto.


**October 25** *Canada* *The CBC adopted an “equal opportunity” personnel policy that guaranteed equality in employment opportunities and job protection for women and minority groups, including gays. The CBC was the first Canadian crown corporation to include protection based on sexual orientation in its employment policies, but at the same time it still refused to broadcast public service announcements for gay or lesbian organizations.


**October 25** *Montréal* *In* a meeting with representatives of ADGQ, the Québec Human Rights Commission/Commission des droits de la personne du Québec made public its decision to recommend the addition of sexual orientation to Article 10 of the provincial Human Rights
Charter. (See also December 15, 1977.)

**October 25** *Ottawa* *Gordon Fairweather, chief commissioner of the CHRC, reiterated his support for inclusion of sexual orientation in the Canadian Human Rights Act during the annual meeting of the National Capital Region Civil Liberties Association. David Garmaise, president of GO, also addressed the meeting.

**October 25** *Toronto* *American feminist-lesbian writer and theorist Kate Millett addressed an audience of 500 (mostly women) at the University of Toronto in the first of a series of discussions entitled “The Evolving Woman,” sponsored by the Women’s Fund Raising Coalition.

**October 26** *Hamilton, Ont.* *The Cha Cha Palace (2 Northcote), formerly a gay club, was firebombed. It had closed two months before after a new gay disco opened at the Windsor Hotel.
October 26 * Montréal * ADGQ held a press conference to denounce the police raid on the Truxx and La Mystique bars on October 22. They demanded (1) a public inquiry into police conduct during the raid; (2) a public inquiry into police repression of gays in general; and (3) that Québec Justice minister Marc-André Bédard drop all charges arising from the raid. (See also October 28, 1977.)


October 28 * Montréal * Québec Justice Minister Marc-André Bédard announced at a luncheon that charges in the Truxx raid might be dropped if “police intolerance” could be proved; he also asked for a complete report from the Montréal police. Bédard said that he would meet with the Québec Human Rights Commission to discuss the inclusion of sexual orientation in the provincial Human Rights Charter. (See also December 15, 1977.)


October 28–30 * Toronto * Twenty-five members of the Law Union of Ontario participated in a workshop on the politics of gay liberation, held during the Union’s fall conference at Hart House, University of Toronto. The Union, an organization of progressive lawyers, had called upon the Law Society of Upper Canada, the governing body of the legal profession in Ontario, to rule clearly against discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in its code of professional conduct. Later, the Law
Society presented the motion, which was defeated by a margin of six votes.


**October 31** *Montréal* *A Committee of the Accused,* composed of seventy men who had been arrested on the October 22, 1977, Truxx raid, was established to organize the defence of those arrested and to raise funds for the trial. The Truxx bar inaugurated the fund with a $500 donation.


**October 31** *Toronto* *A gay street patrol,* Operation Jack O’Lantern, was launched to curb homophobia on Yonge Street and the surrounding gay neighbourhood during Halloween. This action was taken after unsuccessful meetings were held earlier in October between Toronto police and representatives of GATE (Toronto) and MCC Toronto. In previous years the police had taken a casual attitude and did little to control the anti-gay mob that had traditionally formed on Yonge Street opposite the St. Charles Tavern. The police had encouraged gays to stay away from the St. Charles on Halloween. Dissatisfied with the police’s position, members of GATE (Toronto) contacted local political representatives including Alderman Allan Sparrow, MPP Margaret Campbell, and Mayor David Crombie. All three politicians contacted police officials to express their dissatisfaction with the police response, and urged them to provide adequate protection for the gay community on Halloween. On October 31, the gay patrol and a hundred policemen were successful in working together to curb violence in the community. Still, the crowd of 5,000 people that gathered outside the St. Charles was
unruly. Seventeen people were arrested and charged with causing a disturbance or with being a common nuisance. An additional thirty-eight people were removed by police to prevent a breach of the peace, but were not charged.


November * Guelph, Ont. * The Ontario Gay Teachers’ Caucus (OGTC) was formed to discuss employment protection for gay teachers, problems of gay students, and sex education in the schools. It met once per month, and by 1979 had about forty-five members.


November * Toronto * Rick Bebout’s interview-profile of Quentin Crisp was published in the Body Politic.

[Rick Bebout, “The Ever-obliging Mr. Crisp: The Naked Civil Servant Is Eager to Please. But Always, Somehow, On His Own Terms,” Body Politic, no. 38 (1977), pp. 8–9.]

November * Toronto * Claire Hoy, an anti-gay columnist with the Toronto Sun, narrowly escaped being hit by a coconut cream pie when
he was leaving CBC studios on Jarvis Street after the taping of a panel program on gay rights (broadcast on November 24). The pie, thrown by a member of the gay community, was deflected and smeared the back of another panellist, Rev. Joseph MacDonald, a Baptist minister and the national chairman of the recently formed CAHRL. Both men had spoken against legislative protection for homosexuals during the program. The other panellists were John Damien and Gerald Hannon of the Body Politic.


November * Toronto * Transvestites in Toronto (TIT), a social group for transvestites and drag queens, was officially formed. It was founded by Denise (formerly Dennis) Hudson.


November 1 * Toronto * Representatives of CGRO met with the Ontario Liberal Party caucus at Queen’s Park to explain CGRO’s thirteen-point program and to urge Liberal support for the inclusion of “sexual orientation” in the Ontario Human Rights Code.


November 2 * Montréal * More than 300 lesbians and gay men attended
a public forum to discuss strategy on how to deal with ongoing police repression of the gay community. Speakers representing ADGQ, the Québec Human Rights Commission, the Ligue des Droits de l’Homme, and the Montréal City Council addressed the crowd; representation from the Québec Ministry of Justice was notably absent. (See also November 4, 1977.)


**November 4** * Montréal * About forty marchers attended a rain-soaked picket of police headquarters to protest the Truxx raid.


**November 4, 6** * Toronto * Charlotte Bunch, an American feminist-lesbian writer and theorist, addressed a large audience at the University of Toronto on November 4 as part of the “Evolving Woman” series. She visited LOOT on November 6 for a “Brunch with Bunch,” where she spoke on “Feminism for Lesbians.”


**November 5** * Toronto * The organization Women against Violence against Women (WAVAW) was formed after the first national “Take Back the Night” march. WAVAW became involved in actions against Renaissance International’s anti-feminist, homophobic “Christian Liberation Crusade,” which brought Anita Bryant to Canada, as well as organizing to oppose domestic and street violence against women.

November 8 * Vancouver * The B.C. Court of Appeal refused leave for GATE (Vancouver) and the B.C. Human Rights Commission to appeal GATE’s case against the Vancouver Sun to the Supreme Court of Canada. On November 21, application was made directly to the Supreme Court of Canada. This was the second of two bids to win leave to appeal to the Supreme Court. A separate appeal made on October 17, 1977, had not yet received a response from the court. On December 14, 1977, the Supreme Court of Canada agreed to hear GATE’s appeal. (See also October 5, 1978.)


November 11 * Ottawa * Representatives of NGRC placed a wreath at the Cenotaph in memory of homosexuals killed by the Nazis during World War Two.

**November 15** * Ottawa * John Duggan of GO presented an intervention before a hearing of the CRTC, arguing against the CBC’s application for renewal of licences for its Ottawa-area stations. Duggan stated that the CBC’s ongoing policy of refusing public service announcements for homosexual organizations limited gay access to public services and thus contravened the Broadcasting Act of 1968.


**November 16** * Montréal * ADGQ was denied access to a school auditorium that it had booked weeks before. Hundreds of people had assembled to discuss strategy proposals to combat ongoing police oppression of the gay community in Montréal and had to be turned away when the booking was cancelled at the last moment. The executive of the Commission des écoles catholiques de Montréal/Montreal Catholic School Commission (CECM/MCSC) had decided that the aims of ADGQ were “not in keeping” with those of the commission. Claude Beaulieu, president of ADGQ, made complaints to the commission and a press release denouncing the discriminatory policies of the board was distributed. After the amendment to the Québec Human Rights Charter was passed on December 15, the Commission reconsidered its position and allowed the ADGQ to rent the hall, although signs and banners outside the school during gay meetings continued to be banned.

November 20 * Toronto * The *Toronto Sun* published an exposé of the RCMP’s “Operation Featherbed,” which had been established in about 1968 after a decade of other similar security investigations. It involved a special squad that investigated suspected homosexuals in the Canadian civil service and rooted out “security risks” in sensitive posts who could be blackmailed by Soviet or other foreign agents. The operation particularly focused on homosexuals in the Canadian Department of External Affairs.


November 20 * Virgin Islands * The Virgin Islands Film Festival awarded Craig Russell a special jury prize for “the best male and female performance of the year” for *Outrageous!*


November 21 * Toronto * Issue 39 (December 1977–January 1978) of the *Body Politic*, which contained Gerald Hannon’s controversial article on adult-child sexuality, “Men Loving Boys Loving Men,” was published. It contained interviews with three pedophiles and with an adult who in his youth had a relationship with a pedophile. For six months the *Body Politic* collective had debated whether to publish the article. Reader reaction to the publication was mixed, and eventually prompted more letters to the editor than any other article in the paper’s history. (See also December 1977; December 22, 1977; December 25, 1977; December 27, 1977; December 28, 1977; and December 30, 1977.)

[Marlowe Amber, “Boys Noise” (letter), *Body Politic*, no. 51 (1979), 199]

**November 24–25** *Peterborough, Ont.* *A student referendum was held at Trent University to decide whether the Trent Student Union should continue to fund “politically or sexually oriented groups” that had non-student members, including THA. The referendum was the result of a petition circulated on campus in October. It generated a letter of concern from Trent University’s president T.E.W. Nind, as well as the formation of the Coalition for Freedom of Association, a group of fifteen campus organizations that would be affected by the vote. Students voted by a large majority (914–336) to fund the groups.


**November 30** *Ottawa* * Provincial Court judge Bernard Ryan found Peter Maloney guilty of keeping a common bawdy house. The charge arose out of the police raid on the Club Baths of Ottawa on May 22, 1976, during which acts of oral sex had been observed by officers. Maloney had been a shareholder and secretary-treasurer of the club, and was arrested later in Toronto. Ryan concluded that although gay sauna clubs may have a place in the community, the sexual acts that occur there must be private, and cannot take place in front of observers. Maloney received a conditional discharge, with the provision he sever links with the club and report to a probation officer for a year.


**December** *Scarborough, Ont.* * Kenneth Hopkins’s book *The Dead Slave and Other Poems of Martial* was published by Catalyst Press.

**December** * Scarborough, Ont. * Tom Meyer’s book of poetry Uranian Roses was published by Catalyst Press.


**December** * Toronto * Rev. Dave Gunton of MCC Toronto moved to Edmonton to become the founding pastor of MCC Edmonton. (See also Spring 1978.)

[“Gay Christian News” (note), Metro Community News 4 (December 1977): 3.]

**December** * Toronto * John Liston, executive director of Big Brothers of Metro Toronto, asked police to investigate allegations made about a Big Brother’s sexual affair with a boy, published in Gerald Hannon’s article “Men Loving Boys Loving Men” in issue 39 of the Body Politic.

[Kevin Scanlon, “Big Brothers’ Gay Slur Fury,” Toronto Sun, 25 December 1977, p. 3.]

**December** * Toronto * The Toronto Lambda Business Council (TLBC) was formed, with eight members. The council’s objective was to promote the interests of gay-owned businesses in the community. Within two years the council had grown to 103 members, representing more than $50 million gross sales per year.

December * Vancouver * bill bissett’s *Pomes for Yoshi* was published by Talonbooks. (See also December 2, 1977.)


December * Winnipeg * Chris Vogel of GFE and Rev. Ted Millward of CHR appeared before a hearing of the CRTC to file an intervention against the CBC’s applications for licence renewals for the Winnipeg stations CBWT and CBWFT.


December 2 * Ottawa * Robert Wenman (PC–Fraser Valley West) complained in the House of Commons that “the Canada Council is supporting, with public money, individuals to write what anyone in this chamber would term as offensive and demeaning pornography” (Wenman, 1487). Wenman was referring to Council support for the work of Bertrand Lachance and bill bissett, publisher of blewointmentpress. bissett’s own work was also published by Talonbooks. bissett’s poetry, as well as various titles published by blewointmentpress, frequently contained homoerotic imagery. The controversy, focusing on the nature of literary merit and the independent, arm’s-length integrity of Canada Council arts support, dragged on until 1979. bissett and Talonbooks fought back, organizing wildly successful support benefits featuring poets such as Margaret Atwood and Allen Ginsberg. On June 23, 1978, bissett and Talonbooks filed suit in the Supreme Court of B.C. against eight Conservative MPs, seven newspapers, and thirteen others for libel and violation of copyright (printing excerpts of bissett’s poetry without permission). These actions
helped to silence the critics, and also to validate literary experimentation and reinforce the independence of the Canada Council. A continuing decline in Canada Council support for blewointmentpress, however, forced a suspension of publishing in 1979 and bissett’s loss of ownership of the enterprise by 1983.


December 3–4 * London, Ont. * Representatives from sixteen member groups of CGRO met to discuss strategy, and agreed to push further for the inclusion of sexual orientation protection in the Ontario Human Rights Code. CGRO also passed a statement of principle that urged gay teachers to be less secretive about their sexual orientation, and rejected assumptions that “gay teachers are a danger to children.” This statement was later denounced by London school board education director Douglas McVie, who said that teachers should not discuss their sexual preferences in the classroom at all.


December 4 * Regina * Discussions in Regina led to the establishment
of the Saskatchewan Gay Coalition (SGC), an alliance of groups that strived to be non-sexist and feminist, and wished to “effect political, social and educational action to ensure full human rights for all gay men and lesbians in Saskatchewan.” Early organizers included Kay Bierwiler, Wiesia Kolasinska, Susan Langer, Terry Nelson, Marg Taylor, and Doug Wilson. The SGC folded in 1982.


December 7 * Québec, Qué. * An amendment to the Change of Name Act was passed in the Québec National Assembly. It permitted transsexuals to obtain from the Québec Minister of Justice a change of designation of gender and name in civil status registers. This was the first legislation of its kind passed in Canada. On the same day, the PQ introduced the first reading of an amendment to article ten of the Québec Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms that would include protection from discrimination based on sexual orientation. (See also December 15, 1977.)


December 10 * Toronto * Neil Wilkinson was murdered in his Charles Street apartment, becoming the fifth gay man in Toronto to be killed in two years. Most of the victims were last seen alive either at the St. Charles Tavern or the Parkside Tavern. On January 30, 1978, James
Allen Walker was arrested at the Parkside Tavern and charged with Wilkinson’s murder.


**December 14** *Mississauga, Ont.* * The *Mississauga Times* published a full page on homosexuality in its “Lifestyles in Mississauga” series. The page included profiles by Connie Rae of local gay activists Elgin Blair and Allan Parton.


**December 15** *Québec, Qué.* * The Québec National Assembly, during a quiet, late-night session, approved the adoption of a sexual orientation amendment to the Québec Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms (Bill 88), making Québec the first Canadian province, and the largest political jurisdiction in North America, to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation in housing, employment, and access to public services. There was only minor opposition to the amendment, which was signed into law on December 19. This was seen as a major victory for the Canadian gay rights movement, and followed more than three years of lobbying by Québec gay organizations. At the time, it was also felt that the huge October 23, 1977, demonstration against the Truxx raid had helped to bring about a rapid passage of the amendment. The adoption of the amendment was not well covered by the mainstream media.

December 17 * Canada * Ian Young’s article “Gay in the Seventies” was published in Weekend Magazine. It was an overview of the development of gay liberation in Canada since the 1960s and featured a famous colour centrefold photograph of twenty-one prominent Canadian gays and lesbians. Weekend was carried as a supplement in thirty-two newspapers across Canada, with a total circulation of 1.7 million. The article provoked a large reader response, between one and two hundred letters, which was largely negative. A Weekend poll of Canadian attitudes towards homosexuality, published in the same issue, found that 47 percent of Canadians felt that homosexuality was more an illness than a preference.


December 22 * Toronto * Claire Hoy of the Toronto Sun singled out the Body Politic article “Men Loving Boys Loving Men” in a column entitled “Our Taxes Help Homosexuals Promote Abuse of Children,” which railed against two $1,500 OAC grants that had been awarded to the Body Politic.


December 25 * Toronto * Claire Hoy of the Toronto Sun wrote a second column in response to the Body Politic article “Men Loving Boys Loving Men,” entitled “Kids, Not Rights Is Their Craving.”

[Claire Hoy, “Kids, Not Rights Is Their Craving” (column), Toronto

December 26–January 2 * Halifax * During its national conference, CUP voted to continue a boycott of CBC radio advertising to protest the CBC’s refusal to air public service announcements submitted by gay and lesbian groups.


December 27 * Toronto * The Body Politic collective issued a statement denying that it urged the molestation of children and asserting its right to publish articles on controversial issues.


December 27 * Toronto * The Toronto Sun published an editorial entitled “Bawdy Politic,” which called for an end to government arts grants to the Body Politic and for the exclusion of sexual orientation from the Ontario Human Rights Code.


December 28 * Toronto * Ontario’s Attorney-General Roy McMurtry was quoted in the Globe and Mail as saying he was “appalled” by Gerald Hannon’s article “Men Loving Boys Loving Men,” as “described in news reports” and that he would discuss the article with legal advisers. On December 29–30, several Toronto media sources reported
that the York Crown Attorney had been consulted by the Metro Toronto police morality squad about the possibility of laying obscenity charges against the *Body Politic*. (See also December 30, 1977.)


**December 29** *North York, Ont.* *Mel Lastman, mayor of North York, announced plans to award Anita Bryant a medal for “her crusade against homosexual activists.” The medal was to be presented during Bryant’s upcoming visit to North York, on January 15, 1978, which was coordinated by Rev. Ken Campbell of the Campbell-Reese Evangelical Association and Renaissance International. Lastman later backtracked, and on January 9, 1978, withdrew the offer, stating that he had not realized the full extent of her campaign and could not agree that homosexuals should face discrimination in employment and accommodation.


**December 30** *Toronto* *Five members of Operation P, a joint Toronto Police–Ontario Provincial Police anti-pornography squad, presented a search warrant and entered the offices of the *Body Politic* (21 Duncan Street, fifth floor). They stayed for more than three hours and seized twelve shipping cartons of material, including subscription lists,
corporate records, chequebooks, distribution and advertising records, manuscripts for publication, personal mail, and material in the Canadian Gay Archives (at the same location). The material was seized so that it might be examined for evidence to support the laying of charges under the Criminal Code, relating to the newspaper’s publication of Gerald Hannon’s article “Men Loving Boys Loving Men.” Charges were not laid immediately, but were pending. This police action sparked outrage among progressives and civil libertarians across Canada, as well as in New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and London. Within days, letters of support were received from across the continent. Canadian journalists Pierre Berton, June Callwood, and Charles Templeton deplored the police actions, as did eight members of Toronto city council, who expressed their “extreme concern” in a letter to Ontario’s Attorney-General Roy McMurtry. Later, many prominent individuals and organizations issued statements of support for the Body Politic. There were numerous stories and events related to the trials and appeals of Pink Triangle Press/Body Politic from the end of 1977 through 1981. (See also December 31, 1977; January 4, 1978; January 5, 1978; February 1978; February 3, 1978; February 7, 1978; March 15, 1978; March 23, 1978; March 30, 1978; April 14, 1978; April 24, 1978; May 24, 1978; June 5, 1978; June 28, 1978; June 28–30, 1978; July 18, 1978; September 8, 1978; September 29, 1978; November 9, 1978; December 30, 1978; January 2, 1979; January 3, 1979; January 31, 1979; February 14, 1979; March 6, 1979; March–April 1979; April 11, 1979; June 2, 1979; June 15, 1979; October 26, 1979; December 27, 1979; February 6, 1980; February 7–8, 1980; February 29, 1980; March 4–5, 1981; March 18, 1981; October 6, 1981; November 24, 1981; and December 21, 1981.)


**December 31** *Toronto* * Members of the *Body Politic* collective together with lawyer Clayton Ruby held a press conference to denounce the police raid on the newspaper’s offices the day before as an attack on freedom of the press. Ruby said that he would initiate an action in the Supreme Court of Ontario to quash the search warrant and demand that everything taken in the raid be returned.

1978

—— * Calgary * Marjorie Crews, the mother of a gay son, formed a branch of POG. The Parents of Gays association in New York City assisted Mrs. Crews in forming the group.


—— * Calgary * Gay Youth Calgary (GYC) was formed as an independent support and social group with all members under twenty-one years old. GYC met regularly at the Old Y, 223 12th Avenue S.W., and by March 1979 had twenty members.

[Steve Agnew, “Gay Youth Group,” *Gay Calgary*, no. 10 (March 1979), pp. 1, 5.]

—— * Carlisle, Ont. * Poems for Dave by Geoffrey Austain (pseudonym of Gerard Breder à Brandis) was published by Brandstead Press in an edition of thirty copies. It contained linocut illustrations by Breder à Brandis.

—— * Chatham, Ont. * Paul Robertson attempted to start a gay group for Chatham and area. Chatham Gay Unity was founded by 1979.

[“Growing,” *Body Politic*, no. 73 (1978), p. 6.]


—— * Fredericton, N.B. * Gwen Hauser’s book of poetry *The Ordinary Invisible Woman* was published by Fiddlehead Books.

[“Aesthetera,” *Body Politic*, no. 48 (1978), p. 36; Douglas Barbour,

—— * Halifax * Gays and Lesbians at Dalhousie (GLAD), an organization of students, teachers, and workers at Dalhousie University, was formed.


—— * Halifax * The social group Homophiles Option-Positive Experiences (HOPE) was formed, with Mary Ann Mancini as coordinator, and met regularly at the Turret Gay Community Centre. A subgroup of this organization was Gays and Lesbians on the Wagon (GLOW), for gays and lesbians with alcohol or drug dependencies.

[“Growing,” Body Politic, no. 43 (1978), p. 6.]

—— * Halifax * Sparrow, a multi-denominational Christian gay group, was formed. It was led by Father Mike MacDonald and met every Sunday evening at the Turret Gay Community Centre.

[“Growing,” Body Politic, no. 43 (1978), p. 6.]

—— * Markham, Ont. * Eve Zaremba’s detective novel A Reason to Kill was published by PaperJacks. The book’s protagonist, Helen Keremos, was a lesbian private investigator based in Vancouver. This was the first of six novels in the Helen Keremos mystery series.


—— * Montréal, Qué. * Luc Charest’s novel *Autrement* was published by Éditions Allégoriques.


—— * Montréal * The pamphlet *Contribution sur l’histoire du mouvement gai* was published by the Ligue Ouvrière Révolutionnaire, a Trotskyist group.


—— * Montréal * Pierre Dupont’s travel book *Guide de Montréal*, with a chapter on gay Montréal written by Alain Bouchard, was published by Éditions les Quinze.


—— * Montréal * A chapter of Integrity, the group for gay Anglicans, was formed, with Eric Hill acting as convenor. The group met monthly for prayer sessions, Bible readings, communion, and potluck dinners.


—— * Montréal * Jeanne d’Arc Jutras’s novel *Georgie*, on lesbian


—— * Montréal * Michel Tremblay’s first novel, La grosse femme d’à côté est enceinte, was published by Éditions Leméac. An English-language translation by Sheila Fischman, The Fat Lady Next Door Is Pregnant, was published in September 1981 in Vancouver by Talonbooks. [Jean-Marc Descôteaux, “Une grosse femme attachante” (review), Le Berdache, no. 3 (September 1979), p. 35; Alonzo le Blanc, “La grosse

—— * New York, N.Y. * Barry D. Adam’s sociological study The Survival of Domination: Inferiorization and Everyday Life was published by Elsevier.


—— * Ottawa * The bilingual second edition of Gays and the Law/Les gai(e)s devant la loi was published by the Political Action Committee of GO.

—— * Ottawa * Willie Won’t Fly, a children’s story written by Jim Quixley and illustrated by Clarence Barnes, was published by Borealis Press. Quixley and Barnes were active in Toronto’s gay community. (See also December 2, 1980.)


—— * Saskatoon * Jordan Rand’s *The Year of the Horse: Poems and a Story* was published by Stubblejumper Press.


—— * Scarborough, Ont. * Graham Jackson’s *Dance as Dance: Selected Reviews and Essays*, the first collection of dance articles and reviews in Canada, was published by Catalyst Press.


—— * Toronto * Sue Wells and three other women formed the Amazons Motorcycle Club. The small but active group of lesbian bikers attended several annual organized events, and became a fixture of the Toronto gay community by leading the annual Pride Parade and the Dyke March.


—— * Toronto * Don Garner’s book of poetry *Dirty Laundry* was published by Huron Path Press. Garner used to sell his self-published poetry on the street, especially on Yonge Street opposite the Parkside Tavern. (See also October 16, 1980.)


—— * Toronto * The Hassle Free Clinic published the pamphlet *V.D.*:

—— * Toronto * The group Young Dykes for a New Age was formed to provide peer support and a social atmosphere for young lesbians.

—— * Vancouver * The SEARCH Youth Group was formed for gay youth under twenty-one years old. It operated independently of SEARCH, which provided space for meetings. The SEARCH Youth Group initiated social events and peer-group counselling.

—— * Victoria, B.C. * The University of Victoria Gay Focus Club was formed.

—— * Winnipeg * Rev. A.E. (Ted) Millward’s gay-supportive pamphlet What the Bible Says to Homosexuals was published by the CHR. It was republished in at least two later editions, in 1981 and 1986.

January * Kitchener, Ont. * The Lesbian Organization of Kitchener (LOOK) was formed by Cindy Butcher to hold social and political events for lesbians.
January * London, Ont. * The Western Gay Association (WGA) was formed after twenty individuals met at the University of Western Ontario. The group was to provide a counselling and information service as well as coordinate social activities.


January * Québec, Qué. * Jacques Briand’s article “C’était gai en Nouvelle France?” was published in *Le Gaîbëcois*.


January * Québec, Qué. * The offices of CHAL moved to 175, rue Prince-Edouard.


January * Québec * The 40,000-member Syndicat des fonctionnaires provinciaux du Québec (SFPQ)/Quebec Union of Provincial Civil Servants agreed to include sexual orientation as a ground for unlawful discrimination in its collective agreement proposal. This move was the result of lobbying by gay members of the SFPQ in Montréal, Québec City, and Sherbrooke, and the support of the ADGQ.


January * Toronto * British actor Ian Barritt was entrapped by police in a Toronto Transit Commission washroom. Barritt pleaded guilty to a charge of committing an indecent act and was sentenced to six days in jail. He was in custody for only one day before being released on bail pending appeal, but was deported to England.

**January** * Toronto * Citizens against Homosexual Rights Legislation (CAHRL), led by Joe MacDonald, came to local media attention during Anita Bryant’s visit to Toronto in January. The group had been active in lobbying MPPs for several months, and may also have been connected to anti-gay submissions mailed to Ontario MPPs by the Movement to Restore Decency.


**January 1** * Calgary * The Foundation for the Advancement of Canadian Transsexuals (FACT) was formed, with Nicholas C. Ghosh [later known as Rupert Raj] as president, Kyle J. Spooner as vice-president, and Christopher E. Black as secretary-treasurer. The non-profit organization was devoted to public education on the topic of gender dysphoria. They provided free information, counselling, and referral services, conducted academic research, and lobbied for political reform of sex laws within Canada. FACT published the newsletter *Gender Review*. FACT moved to Toronto in July 1979. (See also July 1, 1979.)


**January 1** * Toronto * A fire at David’s Discotheque (16 Phipps Street) caused $100,000 in damage.


**January 1** * Vancouver * GATE (Vancouver) held a demonstration to protest the police raid on the *Body Politic*. This was the first of a series of demonstrations held across the continent.


January 5 * Toronto * An editorial in the Toronto Sun described the Body Politic as “a crummy, dirty publication without a redeeming feature.”

[“Depravity” (editorial), Toronto Sun, final ed., 5 January 1978, p. 10.]

January 6 * Toronto * Claire Hoy of the Toronto Sun wrote that homosexuals “want to spread their message, to sign up converts, to get into the school system and preach.”

[Claire Hoy, “Homosexuals Recruiting” (column), Toronto Sun, 6 January 1978, p. 12.]

January 7 * Toronto * The board of directors of the Canadian Periodical Publishers’ Association (CPPA) passed a resolution supporting the removal of Tariff Item 99201–1, which permitted Canada Customs officials to seize “immoral or indecent” publications at points of entry. The motion for the resolution had been raised by the Body Politic at the CPPA’s annual general meeting in September 1977.


January 8 * San Francisco, Calif. * Harvey Milk was sworn in as the first openly gay man to be elected to public office in California, representing district five on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. Milk served only eleven months in office, during which time he was responsible for passing a gay rights ordinance for the city, and was an inspiration to gay activists across North America. On November 27, 1978, Milk and Mayor George Moscone were assassinated at City Hall by former supervisor Dan White, one of the most shocking political killings in American history. Since then, Milk’s memory has been kept alive through books, films, and even an opera. In August 2009, President
Barack Obama posthumously awarded Milk the Presidential Medal of Freedom for his contribution to the gay rights movement. (See also March 21, 1978, and November 27, 1978.)


January 9, 23, 30 * Saskatoon * The GAU presented a three-night gay film series at Place Riel Theatre; the films were Death in Venice, Gay USA, In the Best Interests of the Children, and A Comedy in Six Unnatural Acts.


January 11 * Montréal * A group of fifty gays and lesbians met to discuss the ramifications of Bill 88, the amendment to the Québec Human Rights Charter that added “sexual orientation” to the list of protected grounds of discrimination. The meeting, sponsored by ADGQ, was addressed by a lawyer from the Human Rights Commission who warned that the Charter covered discrimination in housing, employment, and access to public services only, and would not eliminate more general discrimination against gays or homophobia.


January 14–15 * Toronto * On January 14, more than 1,000 people attended a rally at St. Lawrence Market and marched in the freezing cold to protest Anita Bryant’s visit to Toronto. To date, this was the largest gay rights demonstration in Toronto’s history. The coalition that formed to protest Bryant and her Save Our Children campaign was the most broadly based, politically diverse collection of lesbian, gay, and feminist groups seen in Toronto to that time. This coalition sparked the interest of the RCMP, which conducted undercover surveillance of the anti-Bryant
protests in Toronto. The rally itself was hosted by Pat Murphy of WAVA. Twelve speakers representing a wide range of community groups addressed the rally; there were also three women singers and three skits. A march up Yonge Street followed, which was the largest and loudest gay demonstration in Toronto’s history to that time. On January 15, Anita Bryant spoke at the People’s Church in North York, while 500 anti-Bryant demonstrators protested across the street. At the end of the service, Rev. Paul Smith of the People’s Church was hit with a lavender cream pie, thrown by a protester. This was the first stop on Bryant’s Christian Liberation Crusade, sponsored by Rev. Ken Campbell and the fundamentalist Christian group Renaissance International. Campbell announced plans for further Bryant rallies in major Canadian cities, to be held over the next six months. At the same time as Bryant’s appearance at the People’s Church, an interdenominational service in support of gay rights was held at MCC Toronto, organized by Rev. Brent Hawkes. Among those present were Rabbi Mark Shapiro of Holy Blossom Temple; Rev. Bruce McLeod, past moderator of The United Church of Canada; a Roman Catholic priest; and an official representative of the Anglican church.

January 1978, p. A2.]

**January 14–February 26** * Toronto * Michel Tremblay’s play *Saint Carmen of the Main* was performed at the Tarragon Theatre.


**January 15** * Toronto * Fifty gay men and lesbians met to form Gay Lobby, a group to coordinate lobbying efforts regarding gay issues at the Ontario Legislature, and specifically to persuade Ontario MPPs to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation. A coordinating committee was established, composed of three gay men and three lesbians, including George Hislop of CHAT, Brent Hawkes of MCC, John Argue, and Francie Wyland of WDL.


**January 16** * Ontario * *Toronto Sun* columnist Claire Hoy was featured as a guest on the weekly program “Speaking Out” on TVOntario. The discussion was to focus on the broader question of moral standards for teachers but soon became a debate on homosexuality.


**January 16** * Ottawa * County Court Judge Elmer Smith awarded an unnamed Montréal gay man custody of his thirteen-year-old son and eight-year-old daughter, as he was deemed “the parent with the most meaningful emotional ties with the children.” This was believed to be the first time in Canada that a homosexual father won a child custody case.

January 16 * Toronto * The preliminary trial hearing was held before Justice Anthony Maloney of the Supreme Court of Ontario for Saul David Betesh, Werner Gruener, Robert Wayne Kribs, and Josef Woods, charged with first-degree murder in the slaying of Emanuel Jaques. The four men all pleaded not guilty. (See also February 8, 1978.)


January 17 * California * California State Senator John Briggs (R–Fullerton) began to distribute a revised petition, which became known as the “Briggs Initiative.” It called for the “filing of charges against school teachers, teacher’s aides, school administrators or counsellors for advocating, soliciting, imposing, encouraging or promoting private or public sexual acts between persons of the same sex…”; it also prohibited hiring and required dismissal of such persons if school boards determined them unfit for service. The petition required 312,404 signatures before May 1, 1978, in order to be placed on the November 1978 ballot. (See also November 7, 1978.)


**January 17** *Toronto* * * Norman Webster, the provincial affairs columnist for the *Globe and Mail*, published a column discussing amending Ontario’s human rights legislation to include sexual orientation. The column was filled with caricatures and assumptions about gay people.


**January 17** *Toronto* * * In late December 1977, WGU had filed an intervention against the CBC’s application for the licence renewal of its Windsor outlet, CBET. On January 17, Paul Trollope of GATE (Toronto) represented WGU and delivered the intervention before public hearings of the CRTC.


**January 18–February 5** *Mount Royal, Qué.* * * Maxim Mazumdar’s monodrama *Rimbaud* was performed at the Phoenix Theatre.

[“Maxim Mazumdar” vertical file, Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto.]

**January 19** *Toronto* * * Robin Farr, a representative of the Ontario Ministry of Culture and Recreation’s Halfback program, in which Canadian books and magazines could be purchased with credits from used Wintario Lottery tickets, sent a letter to the *Body Politic* confirming that the newspaper had been dropped from the program. The *Body Politic* had been accepted into the program on December 14, 1977, but was dropped after obscenity charges were brought against it on January
5, 1978; the newspaper appealed the decision.

**January 19** * Toronto * The twenty-six trustees of the Toronto Board of Education voted unanimously to support the inclusion of sexual orientation in the Ontario Human Rights Code.

**January 21** * Canada * CBC Radio’s “Cross Country Checkup” featured Charlie Hill of GO as the special guest.
[“Monitor” (column), Body Politic, no. 40 (1978), p. 18.]

**January 21** * Québec, Qué. * Claude Beaulieu, president of ADGQ, sponsored a conference entitled “Le Terrorisme hétérosexual,” held at CHAL.
[“Le Terrorisme hétéro,” Le Gaibécois (Québec), 1, no. 7 (March 1978): 5, 8, 10.]

**January 23–25** * Montréal * The ADGQ requested permission from the Commission des Ecoles Catholiques de Montréal (CECM)/Montreal Catholic School Commission to rent the Cardinal Newman School hall to hold its third orientation conference in April. The request was granted on January 25, but the decision was suspended on March 6 and reversed by the commission’s executive on March 7, because they feared “the possible repercussions on the education of the CECM’s children.” The ADGQ lodged a complaint with the Québec Human Rights Commission and in June 1978 the commission ruled that the CECM had violated sections 10 and 12 of the Québec Human Rights Charter. This was the first time that the Québec Human Rights Commission had investigated a complaint of discrimination based on sexual orientation under the
revised charter. (See also August 15, 1978.)


January 24 * Montréal * A gay group was officially formed at the Université du Québec a Montréal (UQAM).


January 24 * San Francisco, Calif. * A demonstration was held at the Canadian consulate to protest the December 30, 1977, police raid on the Body Politic. Openly gay City Supervisor Harvey Milk urged the gathering of a hundred people to support the paper with donations, subscriptions, and even a possible tourist boycott of English Canada.


January 27 * Hamilton, Ont. * Professor John Alan Lee of the University of Toronto (Scarborough) participated in a debate on whether gay people should be allowed to teach, as part of the series The Great Debate, hosted by Pierre Berton and broadcast on CHCH-TV.


January 27 * London, England * A picket was held outside Canada House to protest the raid on the Body Politic.

January 27–February 26 * Toronto * John Herbert’s satirical revue *The Wonderful Whores* played at the Poor Alex Theatre.


January 28 * Saskatoon * The Saskatchewan Gay Coalition (SGC) held its first general meeting, at which members approved a statement of purpose. The SGC also began publication of the newsletter *Gay Saskatchewan*. The newsletter, later titled *Grassroots*, grew from a small list of thirty contacts to over 2,100 subscribers by 1982. It included news of lesbian and gay political and social events, editorials, classified advertisements, and letters from readers.


January 30 * Saskatoon * The January 30 issue of *Red Eye*, a newspaper published by the Engineering Students’ Society at the University of Saskatchewan, contained material offensive to women and gays. The Women’s Directorate of the University of Saskatchewan filed a class action against the paper with the Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission. The GCCS and more than twenty individuals also filed complaints.


February * Edmonton * The Unitarian Church of Edmonton called on the municipal and provincial governments to enact legislation that would prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation.

February 1978, p. B3.]


**February** * Montréal * Gay Women of McGill was formed after women were reluctant to attend meetings of Gay McGill, which was dominated by men.


**February** * Toronto * Amethyst, a group for lesbian alcoholics, was started by a member of LOOT.


**February** * Toronto * In a tie vote, the Collective of the *Body Politic* rejected publishing an advertisement submitted by the Club Baths of Ottawa because it was too sexual, although the drawing of the man in the ad showed no genitalia.

February * Toronto * An editorial in the February issue of *Books in Canada* deplored the police raid on the offices of the *Body Politic*, calling it a “blatant attempt at old-fashioned state censorship.”


February * Toronto * Sara Ellen Dunlop, singer and pioneering lesbian activist, died of cancer. Born and raised in Alabama, Dunlop became a legend in Toronto during the 1960s for her involvement in the early gay clubs the Music Room and the Melody Room. She later recorded her own original music on the label Sara Ellen’s Homemade Records (created with her partner and business manager Shirley Anne Stonehouse), and was the driving force behind the band Mama Quilla. Her company, Sara Ellen’s Music Ltd., was one of the earliest recording companies wholly owned and operated by women.


February * Toronto * The Fireweed Collective was formed, with members Gay Allison, Lynne Fernie, Hilda Kirkwood, and Charlene Sheard. The collective’s goal was to publish *Fireweed*, a feminist journal that would “publish work from women in all cultures and classes so that a diversity of views can be shared.” *Fireweed* was committed to publishing work by lesbians in each issue. The first issue of *Fireweed* (Autumn 1978) was launched during the Fireweed Festival, held at Harbourfront September 22–24, 1978. (See also September 22–24, 1978.)


February * Toronto * MCC decided to end its four-year tenancy at Holy Trinity Anglican Church after Anglican Bishop Lewis
Garnsworthy of the Toronto diocese, and rector of Holy Trinity, stated that MCC would have to conduct its blessing of homosexual relationships (“holy unions”) elsewhere. Garnsworthy’s directive followed the February 3 statement by the House of Bishops of the Anglican Church of Canada that the Church would not perform holy unions for homosexual couples. (See also February 3, 1978.)

[“Homophile Church Severs Anglican Ties,” Canadian Churchman, March 1978, p. 22.]

February * Vancouver * Mary Beth Knechtel’s novella The Goldfish That Exploded was published by Pulp Press.


February * Vancouver * ted northe, empress of the Imperial Court of Canada, announced that he was stepping down from the position after eight-and-a-half years.

[“ted northe Steps Down,” MCN West (Vancouver), no. 18 (16 February 1978), p. 1.]

February * Winnipeg * The first issue of Out & About was published by Project Lambda.


February * Winnipeg * Michael Riordon’s radio play The Other Cheek was broadcast on CBC Winnipeg’s program “Roundabout”.

[“Doug Harrison,” “The Other Cheek” (review), Body Politic, no. 42 (1978), p. 20.]
February 1 * Mississauga, Ont. * The Mississauga Library Board cancelled the showing of the film *The Naked Civil Servant*, which was to have been shown at the Central Library on February 7. The film depicted the life of openly gay English writer Quentin Crisp, and was to have been followed by a discussion led by Elgin Blair, coordinator of GEM. Mississauga Councillor Hazel McCallion, a member of the Library Board, remarked, “I’m not sure a public body should promote a topic that is not generally accepted by the public.” (See also February 27, 1978, and April 26, 1978.)


February 3 * Toronto * The House of Bishops of the Anglican Church of Canada released a statement affirming that “homosexual persons are entitled to equal protection under the law with all other Canadian citizens.” But the Church would not perform holy unions for homosexual couples, as “It is clear from Holy Scripture that only the sexual union of male and female can find expression within the covenant of holy matrimony.”


February 3 * Toronto * The February issue of the *Body Politic* was released three weeks late due to the disruption caused by the police raid and charges. The issue was also reduced in size, from thirty-two to twenty-four pages.


February 3 * Toronto * The BPFPF and the Mariposa Film Group co-
sponsored the Canadian premiere of the documentary *Word Is Out: Stories of Some of Our Lives*. More than 300 people attended the screening, held at the University of Toronto Education Auditorium. Later in the year, when the film came into general release, the Ontario Board of Film Censors gave it a Restricted rating (restricting it to people eighteen years or older) even though *Word Is Out* contained no sex, violence, or bad language. The restriction was thwarted in October 1978, however, when *Word Is Out* was shown on PBS cable television.


**February 5** *Brandon, Man.* The MGC held its first meeting outside of Winnipeg. GFB hosted the meeting, during which twenty representatives of Manitoba gay groups discussed strategies to respond to an expected visit to Manitoba by Anita Bryant.


**February 6** *Winnipeg* CHR began broadcasting the weekly radio series “Gay Christian Forum” [later called “Gaysweek”] on CJUM-FM. The program originally focused on gays and spirituality, but expanded to include news, reviews, and interviews. The program lasted until mid-1980, when it formed the basis for the formation of the Winnipeg Gay Media Collective (WGMC). (See also September 6, 1980.)

February 7 * Toronto * About sixty people attended a forum on freedom of the press and the *Body Politic*, held at the Faculty of Library Science Auditorium, University of Toronto. The event was sponsored by the Graduate Students’ Union (GSU) General Council, and featured speakers Chris Bearchell of BPFFP, Professor Douglas Chambers of Trinity College, and David Gibson of the *Body Politic*.

[“Forum to Discuss Raid on Gay Rights Paper,” *Grad Post* (Univ. of Toronto), 31 January 1978, p. 4; Eric Starkman, “Gay Rights Grab the Limelight,” *Varsity* (Univ. of Toronto), 8 February 1978, p. 8.]

February 8 * Toronto * The trial of Saul David Betesh, Werner Gruener, Robert Wayne Kribs, and Josef Woods, accused of murdering Emanuel Jaques, began before Ontario Supreme Court judge Anthony Maloney, and a jury. Members of the gay community followed the trial with apprehension, fearing that the sexual orientation of the defendants would be used to smear the entire community. (See also February 15, 1978, and March 12, 1978.)


February 9 (approx.) * Montréal * Bruce Garside and Jo-Anne Stitt, counsellors with the Ville-Marie Social Service Centre’s Gay Social Services Project, spoke on the gay lifestyle as part of a panel discussion at the Lacolle Centre, Concordia University. About twenty-five people attended the event.

February 10 * Toronto * Charles MacNaughton, the chairperson of the Ontario Racing Commission when John Damien was dismissed in 1975, was finally examined by Damien’s lawyers. This was the last of a series of examinations of discovery before the actual date for a civil trial could be set.


February 11 * London, England * During a demonstration held in Trafalgar Square in support of Gay News, which had been convicted of blasphemy, the 5,000 demonstrators turned to face Canada House and roared their anger at the police raid of the Body Politic and demanded that the charges be dropped.


February 15 * Halifax * The St. Mary’s Journal published a long interview with Robin Metcalfe, chair of GAE.


February 15 * Toronto * Robert Wayne Kribs was found guilty of first-degree murder in the death of Emanuel Jaques. Kribs had originally pleaded not guilty, but changed his plea to guilty when the trial began. (See also March 12, 1978.)


February 15–18 * Halifax * Eight men were arrested and charged with committing gross indecency after being entrapped in a Woolco washroom at Scotia Square. The men appeared in court on February 28, 1978. Afterwards, their names and addresses were published in local media such as the Halifax Chronicle-Herald, local radio news
broadcasts, on the Canadian Press wire service, and were featured on the CTV and CBC-TV national news. Wendell MacKay, deputy justice minister of Prince Edward Island, was one of the accused. After being charged, MacKay suffered self-inflicted gunshot wounds and spent time in hospital; he was later acquitted. GAE protested the charges, and the resulting media circus.


February 17 * Toronto * In a column in the Toronto Sun entitled “Tide Turns on Homosexuals,” Claire Hoy claimed that the Body Politic would never again receive grant money from the OAC. The council denied that it had provided any information to Hoy that would support his statement. Up to that date the Body Politic had received two grants from the OAC, for $1,500 each. (See also May 24, 1978, and September 29, 1978.)


February 17–18 * Toronto * The Committee to Defend John Damien launched Project Pledge Card, a fundraising strategy, and with LOOT sponsored a benefit screening of the films Gay USA and In the Best Interests of the Children. About 200 people attended the films.

February 17–19 * Saskatoon * The first Prairie Women’s Socialist Feminist Conference was held at the University of Saskatchewan. Topics for discussion included wages for housework and Anita Bryant’s speaking tour of Canada.

[Untitled article, *Gay Saskatchewan* (Saskatoon), 1, no. 2 (March 1978): (2b).]

February 19 * Toronto * MCC (Toronto) elected Rev. Brent Hawkes to be their pastor; Hawkes had served as interim pastor for the past six months. Rev. Hawkes was chosen over five other candidates, winning 78 percent of the vote on the second ballot. He was the first Canadian to become the official pastor of a chartered church of the Universal Fellowship of MCC. (See also May 18–21, 1978.)


February 19 * Winnipeg * About eighty people inaugurated a gay film series, sponsored by Project Lambda. The films shown included *A Son of the Family* and *Sunday Bloody Sunday*.


February 21 * Toronto * The Toronto chapter of the Association of Professional Student Service Personnel, representing psychologists, social workers, and school community-relations workers in the Toronto Board of Education, voted at its annual meeting to support the inclusion of sexual orientation in the Ontario Human Rights Code.

February 21 * Toronto * Lawyer Clayton Ruby, representing the *Body Politic*, appeared before Justice Hugh Garrett of the Supreme Court of Ontario to have the search warrant used by the police in the December 30, 1977, raid on the newspaper’s offices quashed, and the twelve cartons of seized material returned. Justice Garrett reserved judgement. (See also March 15, 1978.)

[Paul Trollope, “Supreme Court Hears TBP Appeal: Judgement Due This Month,” *Body Politic*, no. 41 (1978), p. 5.]

February 23 * Vancouver * Robert Cook of GATE (Vancouver) presented a brief to a licence renewal hearing of the CRTC to protest CBC radio’s continuing refusal to carry gay public service announcements.


February 24–26 * Toronto * At the Liberal Party of Canada’s biennial policy convention, delegates in a workshop and at the plenary session passed a resolution supporting the guarantee of fundamental human rights, including “sexual preference,” in any new Canadian or revised constitution. This was the first time that the Liberal Party of Canada had acknowledged the need for legislation protecting homosexuals.


**February 25** * Montréal * The *Montreal Star* published an article on Ernest Dupont, a thirty-nine-year-old gay man whose application to become a Big Brother was rejected because he was openly gay. At that time, Big Brothers routinely screened out gay applicants.


**February 27** * Edmonton * An editorial in the *Edmonton Journal* stated that freedom of the press was at stake in the police raid on the *Body Politic*.


**February 27** * Mississauga, Ont. * Mississauga City Council voted six to three to uphold the Mississauga Library Board’s decision to prohibit the showing of the film *The Naked Civil Servant*, which depicted the life of openly gay English writer Quentin Crisp. Members of GEM attended the council meeting and attempted to have the decision reversed. The board’s action caused considerable controversy and was criticized by the Canadian Library Association and the *Mississauga Times*. (See also March 14, 1978, and April 26, 1978.)


**February 27–March 8** * Toronto * Craig Russell performed at the Imperial Room at the Royal York Hotel, selling out eighteen consecutive shows.


**March** * Canada * The NGRC established Petition 50,000, an attempt to gather the signatures of 50,000 Canadians to support the inclusion of “sexual orientation” in the Canadian Bill of Rights and the Canadian Human Rights Act. The petition was to be presented to Parliament in the fall of 1978.


**March** * Montréal * In a letter to the community newspaper *Le Guide*, the Front Commun pour le Respect de la Vie (FCRV), an anti-abortion group, protested the inclusion of sexual orientation in the Québec Human Rights Charter. This was the first group to voice public opposition to the inclusion since its passage in December 1977.


**March** * Ottawa * Tom Marshall’s novel *Rosemary Goal* was published by Oberon Press.


**March** * Toronto * Chris Bearchell’s interview with American lesbian theorist Charlotte Bunch was published in the *Body Politic*.


**March** * Toronto * The *Body Politic* reported that a recent study conducted by Dr. Barry Adam of the University of Windsor clearly showed that self-identified lesbians or gay men applying for an articling position at Ontario law firms received about 30 percent fewer interview offers than persons not identified as gay.


**March** * Toronto * In an interview conducted by the *Body Politic*, Dorothea Crittenden, the recently appointed chairperson of the OHRC, said that people in Ontario did not discriminate against gays and therefore the addition of sexual orientation to the Ontario Human Rights
Code was a “non-issue.” This was in direct opposition to the report produced by the commission, *Life Together*, under her predecessor Dr. Thomas Symons. There had been some opposition to her appointment when Crittenden, a long-time civil servant, joined the OHRC in January 1978; her appointment was seen by some as politically motivated. At that time, strong supporters of a sexual orientation amendment, such as Thomas Symons and Rev. Bruce McLeod, left the OHRC.


**March * Toronto ** John Hofsess’s article on the lives of several members of GYT, “Looking for Mr. Gaybar,” was published in *Toronto Life*.


**March * Toronto ** Bonnie Kreps’s article “Women Who Love Women” was published in *Homemaker’s Magazine*.


**March * Toronto ** An editorial published in the *United Church Observer* stated that practising homosexuals and heterosexuals intending to have sex outside of marriage should not be ordained as Christian
ministers.


**March** *Windsor, Ont.* *Ed Broadbent, leader of the federal New Democratic Party, signed the NGRC petition supporting the inclusion of sexual orientation in the Canadian Human Rights Act. Members of WGU approached Broadbent during his visit to the Chrysler auto assembly plant. WGU had been asking autoworkers to sign the petition as they were leaving work, with mixed results.


**March 1** *Canada* *Partial access to more than 1,500 federal government data bank files was extended to the public under the new Canadian Human Rights Act. This included materials of interest to gays and lesbians, including data banks maintained by such agencies as the Ministry of Employment and Immigration, the Ministry of Justice, and the Ministry of the Solicitor-General (which included the RCMP).

[“Gov’t Files Opened,” *Gay Rising*, 18 March 1978, pp. 1–2.]

**March 1–13** *Montréal* *The gay men’s art show “Imagerie Homosexuelle” was shown at the Galerie Laurent Tremblay, 4809, rue Marquette.


**March 3** *Montréal* *Ken Popert, president of PTP, spoke at a conference at Concordia University organized by GFC and the Concordia Women’s Union. Popert discussed recent incidents which he described as “harassment of the Toronto gay community by the Toronto Police Force,” including the December 1977 raid on the offices of the *Body Politic*, which was published by PTP.*

March 3 * Toronto * Congregation B’nai Kehillah (formerly Ha Mishpacha) was officially formed, with Kenaz Artaxerxes as president. Its goals included providing social and religious support for gay, lesbian, and transgendered Jews, providing education on these subjects, and providing a voice for gay, lesbian, and transgendered Jews at public events, functions, and discussions. Services and functions were held at Holy Trinity Church, 10 Trinity Square.


March 5 * West Berlin, Germany * Craig Russell won the Silver Bear best actor award for his performance in Outrageous! at the twenty-eighth annual Berlin Film Festival.


March 6 * Hamilton, Ont. * OPP constable Paul Head, twenty-eight, was arrested outside the Windsor Hotel (31 John St. North), a gay gathering place, and was taken to Burlington, Ontario, where he was charged with gross indecency and contributing to the delinquency of a juvenile (for having sexual relations with a thirteen-year-old boy). OPP intelligence branch officers had been investigating Head’s personal life after he had been spotted hanging out at gay bars. Head was immediately suspended from the OPP, and within hours had typed up a letter of resignation. Two days after submitting the letter of resignation Head withdrew it, saying that he had been forced into making it. The OPP said that the resignation had already been accepted and could not be withdrawn, and Head decided to go to court to fight for his reinstatement. Head was held in jail for two weeks before bail was
posted. The charge of gross indecency against Head was eventually dropped, but he did plead guilty to contributing to the delinquency of a juvenile, a lesser charge, and was given a suspended sentence and one year’s probation. The case for Head’s reinstatement to the OPP, however, dragged on for years, all the way to the Supreme Court of Canada. (See also March 21, 1980; March 31, 1980; April 29, 1980; May 20, 1980; June 12, 1980; October 22, 1980; April 10, 1981; October 14, 1981; and December 9, 1981.)


March 8 * Montréal * A contingent of gay men and lesbians participated in International Women’s Day activities at Parc Lafontaine. [Comité des communications de l’ADGQ, “Le 8 mars, appuyons la lutte des femmes,” Gai(e)s du Québec: Bulletin, 2, no. 2 (March 1978): (2–3); Comité gai 8 mars, “Gai(e)s! Femmes! Même ennemi, même combat!” Gai(e)s du Québec: Bulletin, 2, no. 3 (April 1978): 4.]

March 8 * Toronto * More than 400 women and children participated in International Women’s Day activities centred at the 519 Church Street Community Centre, which included a “feast,” a costume parade, and an evening concert at Convocation Hall featuring Rita MacNeil and Beverly Glen-Copeland. The festivities were monitored by undercover RCMP officers.

March 8 * Toronto * The Lesbian Mothers’ Defence Fund (LMDF) was officially launched by WDL and was coordinated by Francie Wyland. The fund was intended as a permanent resource for women who needed information and funds to contest child custody cases in court.

March 8 * Winnipeg * Two hundred people demonstrated at the Manitoba Legislature on International Women’s Day against recent draconian cuts by Sterling Lyon’s Conservative government. Lesbian issues were represented at the rally by WDL and the gay liberation journal After Stonewall.

March 11 * Toronto * More than 2,000 women and a few men packed
Convocation Hall, University of Toronto, for a rally marking International Women’s Day. Many lesbians participated, and lesbian issues were addressed during the event.


March 12 * Toronto * After only a few hours of deliberation, an Ontario Supreme Court jury found Saul David Betesh and Robert Wayne Kribs guilty of first-degree murder, and Josef Woods guilty of second-degree murder, in the slaying of Emanuel Jaques. Werner Gruener was acquitted. On March 22, 1978, Justice Anthony Maloney sentenced Betesh, Kribs, and Woods to life in prison. Betesh and Kribs were not eligible for parole for twenty-five years; the trial jury recommended that Woods be eligible for parole after ten years, but Judge Maloney raised this to eighteen years. The men were sent to Kingston penitentiary where they served their sentences in a protective isolation unit. During his sentencing remarks, Maloney wondered aloud how common pedophilia was among homosexuals and questioned whether, in light of this case, homosexuals deserved protection from discrimination in the Ontario Human Rights Code. His remarks sparked outrage in Toronto’s gay community. The Crown later attempted to appeal the acquittal of Gruener, as well as Woods’s reduced charge, based on Justice Maloney’s charge to the jury. (See also August 24, 1979.)

March 14 * Mississauga, Ont. * The film _The Naked Civil Servant_ was shown by GEM at the Unitarian Church after it was dropped by the Mississauga Library Board in a decision supported by the Mississauga City Council on February 27. Both the board and the council had expressed fears about the film’s possible effect on minors. Only twenty-one people attended the screening, and the film was generally well received. After its showing John Bodis, the secretary of GEM, told the audience that he had recently received two telephone calls threatening his life. (See also April 3, 1978, and April 26, 1978.)


March 15 * Toronto * Justice Hugh Garrett of the Supreme Court of Ontario rejected the _Body Politic_’s application to quash a search warrant used by the police to raid the newspaper’s offices on December 30, 1977. The _Body Politic_ appealed the decision to the Ontario Court of Appeal. (See also March 23, 1978, and April 14, 1978.)

March 18 * Toronto * The Pink Satin Bombers, an American gay male theatre collective, held a benefit performance at the St. Paul’s Centre for the BPFPF.


March 19 * Toronto * Eight gay fathers and three children attended the first meeting of Gay Fathers of Toronto (GFT). This inaugural meeting of the group was convened by Michael Lynch at his home after he had received letters from gay fathers responding to an article about him and his son Stefan, published in the Globe and Mail.


March 20 * San Francisco, Calif. * San Francisco’s Board of Supervisors voted ten to one to ban discrimination based on sexual orientation in employment, housing, and public accommodation. It was estimated that about one in seven of the city’s residents were gay or lesbian. Supervisor Dan White cast the only dissenting vote.

[“San Francisco Outlaws Anti-gay Discrimination,” Province (Vancouver), four star ed., 22 March 1978, p. 3.]

March 20 * St-Jérôme, Qué. * The Association des gai(e)s des Laurentides (AGL) was formed.

March 22 * Ottawa * The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs, chaired by Mark MacGuigan and Simma Holt, tabled its third report in the House of Commons. The report concerned pornography and its eleven recommendations concentrated on increasing penalties for depicting explicit erotic activity in general, and in particular any sexual depiction or simulation relating to persons younger than sixteen years old.


March 23 * Toronto * Sixty people marched outside of Ontario Attorney General Roy McMurty’s office to protest the charges laid against PTP and the Body Politic on January 5, 1978. The demonstration was organized by the Ad Hoc Coalition to Defend the Body Politic.


March 24–April 30 * Toronto * The Lindsay Kemp Company’s productions of Flowers (by Jean Genet) and Salomé (by Oscar Wilde) were performed at Toronto Workshop Productions.

[Graham Jackson, “Flowers; Salome” (review), Body Politic, no. 43 (1978), p. 15; Graham Jackson, “David Haughton: Working with

**March 28** *Calgary* *The Coalition for the Advancement of Lesbian and Gay Rights (CALGR) was formed, with Annabelle Paxton of GIRC acting as coordinator. About thirty people and representatives from several organizations, both gay and straight, attended the first meeting.

[“Anita’s Answer,” *Gay Calgary*, 2, no. 2 (May 1978): (1); “Coalition for the Advancement of Lesbian and Gay Rights” vertical file, Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto.]

**March 30** *Toronto* *In discussing the *Body Politic*’s legal troubles, Dennis Braithwaite, a columnist for the *Toronto Star*, wrote that “Freedom of the press is not unconditional, nor should it apply to all publications equally.”


**March 31** *Winnipeg* *The Coalition to Answer Anita Bryant (CAAB) was formed to plan a demonstration outside the Winnipeg Convention Centre during Bryant’s April 29 appearance there.

[“Bryant to Assault Prairies,” *Body Politic*, no. 42 (1978), p. 22.]

**March–April** *Toronto* *Hubert Kennedy’s two-part article on Karl Heinrich Ulrichs (1825–95), the pioneer of homosexual emancipation, was published in the *Body Politic*. Kennedy later published *Ulrichs: The Life and Works of Karl Heinrich Ulrichs, Pioneer of the Modern Gay Movement* (Boston: Alyson Publications, 1988).

Spring * Canada * A shipment of the American magazine *Mandate* was stopped at the border by Canada Customs agents. An eight-page section showing erections was removed before the issue was allowed to be distributed in Canada. Other similar magazines, such as *Blueboy*, *Honcho*, and *Numbers*, had also been turned back by Canada Customs.


Spring * Edmonton * MCC established a congregation, led by Rev. David Gunton. Within a year it had twelve registered members, and attendance of up to eighty people at its weekly services.


Spring * Guelph, Ont. * The Central Student Association of the University of Guelph enacted regulations concerning the circulation of printed materials on campus. The action was in response to GGE’s complaints concerning homophobic articles published in *Today’s Student*, a right-wing Christian fundamentalist paper published in Ames, Iowa, by the Campus Crusade for Christ. The Guelph student Bible Studies group had distributed large numbers of copies of the paper on campus.

[“Student Groups Held Responsible for Anti-gay Lit,” *Body Politic*, no. 43 (1978), p. 8.]

Spring * Halifax * The Turret Gay Community Centre was granted a club licence by the Liquor Licence Board of Nova Scotia, allowing sales of alcohol to members and guests any evening of the week except Sunday. The centre had recently extended its opening hours to six nights per week, which included a folk music night, a drop-in/meeting night, two disco nights, and two nights of quiet music.


Spring * Ottawa * A British Columbia organization called B.C. Citizens for Integrity presented a petition to Parliament calling for amendments to the Criminal Code that would restrict the publication of pornography
and also “prohibit the public advocacy and/or public assertion of homosexual behaviour.” The petition, with 8,275 names mostly from the Vancouver and lower Fraser Valley area, was sponsored by Benno Friese (PC–Surrey-White Rock).

[Ron Dayman, “Petitions for and against Gay Rights,” *NGRC Forum*, 3, no. 2 (Spring 1978): (3–4).]

**Spring** *Ottawa* *A public poll concerning the amendment of the Ontario Human Rights Code to include sexual orientation was held in the Ottawa-Centre riding of Ontario MPP Michael Cassidy. Of 427 responses, 64 percent favoured inclusion. Cassidy, who had recently won the leadership of the Ontario NDP, had been a long-time, consistent supporter of gay rights in the Ontario legislature.


**Spring** *Ottawa* *Liberal MP Kenneth Robinson (Toronto–Lakeshore) accused the CHRC of “bucking Parliament” by preparing to research the extent of discrimination against gay people in Canada. Robinson said that Parliament had already decided months before not to include sexual orientation in the Human Rights Code. The remarks were made during a Commons Justice Committee review of the Commission’s annual budget.


**Spring** *Prince Albert, Sask.* *The gay periodicals *Cellmate* and *Metro Community News*, both published by MCC, were banned from the Prince Albert Penitentiary because they were judged by prison authorities to proselytize.


**Spring** *Saskatoon* *Attempts were made to form a group for Jewish
lesbians and gay men in Saskatchewan.


**Spring** *Toronto* *The Addiction Research Foundation published a review of the recreational use of vasodilators (commonly called poppers). The report found that headaches were the only common side effect of using poppers. More severe side effects were rarely reported, and no long-term problems were known, according to the report. At the time, poppers were a popular recreational drug in the gay community.


**Spring** *Toronto* *Eric Bentley’s two-act play about Oscar Wilde, “Lord Alfred’s Lover,” was published in *Canadian Theatre Review*. [Eric Bentley, “Lord Alfred’s Lover,” *Canadian Theatre Review*, no. 18 (Spring 1978), pp. 36–121.]

**Spring** *Toronto* *Consumer and Commercial Affairs Minister Larry Grossman introduced Bill 11, An Act to Amend the Vital Statistics Act, in the Ontario Legislature. One part of the legislation would allow transsexuals to amend the sex status on their birth certificates. The bill passed, and came into law, late in 1978.


**Spring** *Toronto* *The Lesbian and Gay Trade Union Group was established. Its immediate goal was to encourage the formation of gay caucuses in unions to provide support for gays and lesbians in the workplace.


**Spring** *Toronto* *Robert Patrick’s play The Haunted Host was performed at the Harbourfront Theatre.*

Spring * Toronto * In a recorded telephone message, the Western Guard, a white supremacist group, stated its formal opposition to homosexuality, calling it “an unnatural tendency.”
   [“Gays Cited in Hate Message,” Body Politic, no. 44 (1978), p. 28.]

April * Don Mills, Ont. * John Alan Lee’s book Getting Sex: A New Approach—More Fun, Less Guilt was published by Musson Book Company/General Publishing. (See also June 19, 1978.)

April * Mississauga, Ont. * GEM announced the establishment of Gayline West, a counselling and information phone line to serve Mississauga, Brampton, and Oakville.

April * Toronto * The play Oscar Remembered, starring Maxim Mazumdar as Lord Alfred Douglas and directed by William Hutt, was produced at the Toronto Free Theatre.

April * Vancouver * About thirty women met to form the Coalition against Discrimination (CAD) in response to the anti-gay campaigns of Anita Bryant and Renaissance International. CAD focused on promoting women’s rights, lesbian rights, and civil rights. A schism soon occurred
when several women disagreed with the political strategies of the coalition and left to form Lesbian Feminists of Vancouver under the B.C. Federation of Women (BCFW).


April 1 * Canada * Canada’s new Immigration Act, which removed long-standing prohibitions against homosexuals entering the country either as visitors or as immigrants, was proclaimed in force.


April 1–2 * Ottawa * The first Canada-wide conference of Dignity chapters was held at the University of Ottawa. The workshops covered a variety of topics affecting gays in the Roman Catholic Church, including ministry, ethics, and theology from a gay perspective. Gerry Moran was elected chairman for Region XI, Dignity Canada Dignité.


April 3 * Toronto * John Bodis, president of GEM, was fired from his job as a purchasing clerk for the City of Toronto. Bodis claimed he was fired because he was gay. Later, his dismissal was reduced to a five-day suspension—this also was challenged.

[“City Clerk Beats Firing, Claims Discrimination,” Body Politic, no. 44 (1977), p. 7; John Stewart, “Gay Spokesman Fired, Rehired,”]
April 3 * Toronto * Tim Guest, a member of GYT and the Revolutionary Workers League, was interviewed in *Socialist Voice* about the plight of lesbian and gay youth.


April 10 * Ottawa * In its first annual report, the CHRC stated that prohibition of discrimination based on sexual orientation was a key issue and that it would undertake research so that it could make a recommendation to Parliament.


April 14 * Toronto * A three-man panel of the Ontario Court of Appeal upheld Justice Hugh Garrett’s March 15, 1978, ruling allowing the search warrant used by the police in the raid of the *Body Politic’s* offices on December 30, 1977. The *Body Politic* sought leave to appeal the decision to the Supreme Court of Canada. (See also June 5, 1978.)


April 17 * Oakville, Ont. * At a special meeting concerning the proposed screening of the film *The Naked Civil Servant* on April 26, the Oakville Library Board voted four to three to allow the presentation. Chairman of the Board John Beatty resigned following the vote.

April 18 * Toronto * Members of FLAG distributed leaflets to Toronto Sun employees that accused the paper of indulging in yellow journalism in its treatment of gays, feminists, and other minorities. On April 23, 1978, Claire Hoy printed the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the organizers of FLAG in his Sunday Sun column. As a result, two members of the group received numerous harassing and threatening telephone calls.

[Robin Hardy, “Hoy Column Sparks Hate Calls,” Body Politic, no. 43 (1978), p. 8.]

April 21–22 * Calgary * A seminar on homosexuality and the church was held. It was headed by Rev. Jim Hillson, convenor of a task force established by the Calgary Presbytery’s Church in Society Division. The task force was to investigate the issue from theological, behavioural, and pastoral perspectives and to prepare a study paper on its findings.

[“Homosexuality Study Being Prepared,” United Church Observer, March 1978, p. 34.]

April 23 * Moose Jaw, Sask. * A videotaped presentation by Anita Bryant, filmed at the Christian Liberation Crusade in Toronto, January 15, 1978, was presented at the Christian Liberation Crusade Jubilee Rally, held at the Peacock Auditorium. The rally was organized by Rev. Ken Campbell. (See also July 1, 1978.)


April 24 * Toronto * The police gave the Body Politic permission to obtain photocopies of records seized in the December 30, 1977, raid that were crucial to the newspaper’s operation.

April 26 * Oakville, Ont. * Richard Moses, chief librarian at Oakville Public Library, sponsored a public viewing of the film *The Naked Civil Servant*. The film had previously been banned by the Mississauga Public Library.


April 26 * Vancouver * Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver confirmed that they would not accept homosexuals to act as big brothers for fatherless boys due to fear of objections from the boys’ mothers.

[“Big Brothers Reject Gays,” *Vancouver Province*, 27 April 1978, p. 14.]

April 27 * Toronto * John Argue, a swimming instructor with the Toronto Board of Education and a gay activist, was fired from his position as lifeguard at Glenview Senior Public School because of his open homosexuality. After a hearing, on May 17, 1978, the Personnel and Organization Committee of the Toronto Board of Education reversed the dismissal. Argue did not seek reinstatement, however, but was later rehired by the board as an instructor for its summer swimming program.


April 28 * Peterborough, Ont. * One hundred fifty people participated in the city’s first gay demonstration and rally to protest a visit by Anita Bryant to Memorial Stadium. THA organized the protest.

April 29 * Edmonton * A visit by Anita Bryant to the Edmonton Coliseum, sponsored by People’s Church of Alberta, prompted 300 people to participate in the first gay demonstration held in the city, organized by CAAB, and Concern, a coalition of liberal churches, women’s organizations, and gay civil rights groups.


April 29 * Vancouver * GATE (Vancouver) sponsored an anti–Anita Bryant protest outside Holy Rosary Cathedral, to show solidarity with gays and lesbians in Edmonton and Winnipeg who were protesting Bryant’s appearances there.

[“Anita & Renaissance,” Kinesis, May 1978, p. 4; Terry Last, “Anita Bryant ... Again,” Forum (CLGRC, Montréal), 3, no. 3 (Summer
April 30 * Don Mills, Ont. * Cheryl Freeman was evicted from her Ontario Housing Corporation townhouse after she began to co-habit with Diane Oster (her partner for six years) at the residence. Freeman claimed that she, Oster, and Freeman’s six-year-old daughter were evicted because of the couple’s sexual orientation.


April 30 * Winnipeg * Three hundred fifty people demonstrated during a visit by Anita Bryant to the Winnipeg Convention Centre, sponsored by Renaissance Manitoba. This was by far the largest gay demonstration to date in the city, and was organized by the CAAB. WDL sponsored a lesbian concert, which raised funds for the first Lesbian Mothers’ Defence Fund (LMDF) in Winnipeg. Bryant’s visit also garnered attention for the newly formed organization Manitoba Physicians for Homosexual Understanding, a pro-gay group of six male doctors dedicated to open discussion of homosexuality.


May * Montréal * A complaint was filed with the Québec Human Rights Commission after La Presse refused to print a classified advertisement submitted by Jeunesse gaie de Montréal (JGM); two other Montréal dailies, the Montreal Star and Montréal-Matin, had previously accepted the ad. The commission ruled that the Québec Human Rights Charter also applied to gays under twenty-one years of age, even though certain parts of the Canadian Criminal Code made sex for them illegal.


May * Prince Albert, Sask. * The Prince Albert Gay Community Centre was established. The group advertised in the Prince Albert Daily Herald, operated a phone line, and held social gatherings on Friday evenings in a private home.

Doug Wilson, “At the Grassroots,” After Stonewall, no. 9 (Fall 1979), pp. 7–8, 15–17.]

**May** *Toronto* *Buddy’s Backroom Bar* opened in the basement of 64 Gerrard Street East, below the gay-friendly Crispins restaurant. It closed August 29, 1987.


**May** *Toronto* *An editorial in the May issue of Criminal Lawyers’ Association Newsletter* criticized Toronto media coverage of the Emanuel Jaques murder trial as being sensationalized and inflammatory.


**May** *Toronto* *Pat Leslie’s profile of LOOT,* “Behind Closed Doors,” was published in the Body Politic.


**May 1** *Montréal* *About twenty-five men and women formed a gay contingent, organized by ADGQ, in the annual May Day parade. This was the first time in several years that there had been an organized gay contingent in the demonstrations.*


**May 2** *Toronto* *County Court Judge Hugh O’Connell sentenced Terry Atkinson, David Ing, and Orland Roberts to eight months in a reformatory and one year’s probation for the savage beating of three gay
men (Peter Holleley, Gary Illman, and Hennis White) in Riverdale Park, a popular gay cruising spot, on September 10, 1977. The youths were residents of Clifton House, a group home for delinquent boys, when the crime occurred. The Ontario Court of Appeal later trebled their sentences, to two years less a day, the maximum that could be served in a provincial jail.


May 3 * Toronto * CGRO distributed copies of its brief Discrimination and the Gay Minority to all members of the Ontario Legislature.


May 4 * Toronto * During debate in the Ontario Legislature on Life Together, the report of the OHRC, Ontario Liberal party leader Stuart Smith spoke in support of including sexual orientation in the Ontario Human Rights Code. Life Together’s most controversial recommendation was that sexual orientation be added to the code. Several NDP members spoke in favour of the amendment, but the Conservative government’s lone speaker, John Williams (PC–Oriole) rejected the recommendation in that it was not the government’s job to be “legislating social behaviour and standards.”


May 8 * Montréal * The trial of Giuseppe Salvaggio began at the Montréal Municipal Court. Salvaggio, the owner of the Truxx bar, had been charged with keeping a common bawdy house after the police
raided Truxx on October 22, 1977. Salvaggio pleaded not guilty, and this opening trial had the responsibility of determining whether or not Truxx was in fact a common bawdy house. The case was eventually remanded until December 12, 1978, when the lawyers’ closing arguments would be heard. (See also April 2, 1980.)


**May 11** *Edmonton* * The Alberta Human Rights Commission issued a press release strongly criticizing the provincial government’s failure to act on the commission’s recommendations to include “sexual preference” in a reformed version of the Alberta Individual Rights Protection Act. The commission had made the recommendations in September 1976.


**May 11–June 11** *Toronto* * Thomas Babe’s play *A Prayer for My Daughter* was performed at the New Theatre, Bathurst Street Theatre.


**May 13–14** *Montréal* * ADGQ held its third congress, at UQAM.


**May 14** *Toronto* * Lorne Reznowski, the newly elected leader of the
federal Social Credit Party, vowed to stamp out homosexuals in an interview printed in the *Toronto Star*. Reznowski stated, “I have the greatest compassion for homosexuals. But it’s a serious psychological disorder. And you don’t cure something by legalising it.” Bill Vander Zalm, the Human Resources minister in the Social Credit government of British Columbia, supported Reznowski’s comments. Members of GATE (Vancouver) called for Vander Zalm’s dismissal.


May 16 * Québec, Qué. * Forty delegates attended a workshop on sexual orientation and the legal and social aspects of anti-gay discrimination, held during a three-day conference of provincial and federal human rights commissioners. This was the first time that such a gathering had discussed the issue of sexual orientation.


May 16 * Toronto * The TLBC, the first association of gay businesses
in Canada, had been incorporated in Ontario in 1977 as a non-profit corporation. It was an independent association operated to promote gay business. The council’s first president was Michael Laking, and its first general meeting was held May 16, 1978, at Dudes, with representatives of eight businesses present.


May 17 * Toronto * CGRO held a press conference at the Ontario Legislature to present its brief Discrimination and the Gay Minority to the media. Reaction was mixed; Norman Webster devoted a positive column in the Globe and Mail to the brief and Stuart Smith’s endorsement of it, while Claire Hoy published a negative opinion, “Homosexuals Far from Harmless,” in the Toronto Sun. An editorial in the Toronto Star supported the inclusion of “sexual orientation” in the Ontario Human Rights Code.


May 18 * Waterloo, Ont. * Gay Rights of Waterloo (GROW) was
formed to serve gays and lesbians in the Kitchener-Waterloo area.


**May 18–21** * Fredericton, N.B. * The Canadian Unitarian Council passed a resolution in support of efforts to modify federal and provincial human rights codes to bar discrimination based on sexual orientation; thirty-six members voted in favour, and there was one abstention.


**May 18–21** * Toronto * At the second annual conference of MCC Canada, Rev. Bob Wolfe resigned as MCC Canadian coordinator and was replaced by Rev. David Gunton of MCC Edmonton. On May 21, 1978, Rev. Brent Hawkes was officially installed as the pastor of MCC Toronto by Rev. Elder Troy Perry.


**May 19–22** * Ottawa * About a hundred lesbians met at Carleton University for the Ontario Lesbian Conference, sponsored by LOON. The focus of the gathering was “personal growth” for lesbians. A workshop was held on “Our Political Future” and a coffeehouse featured lesbian performers. A Lesbian Newsletter Coalition was proposed at the conference, and Sibyl Frei of Guelph, Ontario, agreed to coordinate the first issue. Unfortunately, Frei was unable to produce the newsletter, and the coalition never really came together; one six-page issue of *Dyke Daily*, coordinated by Peg McCuaig, was published in April 1979.


**May 19–22** * Saskatoon * The SGC hosted the Prairie Gay Conference, which attracted more than one hundred people, almost half of them women. There were a variety of workshops, dances, and cultural events held during the conference. This was the first prairie gay conference held since May 1975. A proposal for a fall prairie gay cultural event was advanced at the conference, resulting in the first Metamorphosis celebration held October 6–9, 1978. There was also a commitment made by delegates that a Prairie Gay Conference would be held annually; Calgary was chosen as the host city for 1979. (See also October 6–9, 1978.)


**May 19–June 17** *Montréal* *Michel Tremblay’s play* *Sainte-Carmen de la Main*, directed by André Brassard, was performed at the Théâtre du Nouveau Monde.


**May 20–22** *Toronto* *The first bi-national gay youth conference was held at the 519 Church Street Community Centre, sponsored by JGM, Young Lesbians Toronto (YLT), and GYT. The conference included workshops on age-of-consent laws, creating gay youth groups, and oppression within the educational system. There were over seventy-five delegates at the conference, almost all of whom were under twenty-five years of age. The conference approved the formation of the Bi-National Gay Youth Coalition, to be headquartered in Montréal and Toronto.*


**May 22** *San Diego, Calif.* *At a meeting of its governing assembly, the United Presbyterian Church overwhelmingly rejected the ordination of practising homosexuals. This was the first such explicit policy on homosexual clergy ever established by a major Christian body.*

May 22 * Toronto * Gays picketed a theatre showing the movie *A Different Story*, starring Perry King and Meg Foster, an unconventional love story in which a gay man and a lesbian marry for convenience, fall in love, and have a baby.


May 23 * London, Ont. * The Coalition to Answer Anita Bryant (CAAB) was formed in anticipation of a June 10, 1978, visit to London by Bryant. Her “singing engagement” was postponed until September 10, 1978, due to illness. (See also September 10, 1978.)


May 24 * Toronto * The OAC informed the *Body Politic* that its application for funding under the Youth Secretariat’s Experience ‘78 program had been rejected because of the criminal charges pending against the newspaper. On September 14, 1978, the *Body Politic* appealed the decision to Ontario’s ombudsman Arthur Maloney. The ombudsman’s office spent almost two years investigating the appeal, and finally concluded in August 1980 that “the Council had acted responsibly.” (See also June 28–30, 1978.)


May 26 * Toronto * Maclean Hunter Cable TV informed the Gay TV Collective that its program “Gay News and Views” would no longer be shown. The program was dropped because it was seen to be offensive. John Haynes, programming coordinator for Maclean Hunter, stated that “The material on the program is intellectually hostile, and disrespectful to the establishment heterosexual community.”
May 26–28 * Montréal * The Ligue des droits de l’homme (LDH), a Québec civil liberties group, sponsored a conference entitled “Police and Freedom” at the Université de Montréal. The meeting aimed to establish Opération Liberté/Operation Freedom, a large coalition to “defend and extend democratic rights and freedoms.” Gays and lesbians were recognized as targets for police attack, as had occurred during the pre-Olympic “clean-up” in 1976 and the Truxx raid in 1977. The central activity of the coalition was to prepare for a large demonstration in Montréal to be held October 16, 1978, which was later postponed to November 17, 1978. (See also October 16, 1978, and November 17, 1978.)

May 31 * Camrose, Alta. * During the annual conference of The United Church of Canada, the Church’s Edmonton presbytery urged the Province of Alberta and the City of Edmonton to take a stand against job discrimination based on sexual orientation.

May 31 * London, Ont. * Delegates at the annual meeting of the Canadian Sociology and Anthropology Association called upon the Attorney General of Ontario to drop the charges against the Body Politic, and supported the inclusion of sexual orientation in the human rights code of each Canadian province and in the Canadian Bill of Rights.

**May 31** *Vancouver* *The lesbian-feminist singer Ferron held a benefit concert for the *Gay Tide* Defence Fund at Faces (795 Seymour Street).*

[“Ferron” (advertisement), *Gay Tide*, no. 19 (April 1978), back cover.]

**June** *Connecticut* *A plan to build a monument to victims of the Nazi Holocaust led to gay interest in the project. When the local Human Rights Commission decided to drop gays from participating after objections were made by various religious groups, Naches, Montréal’s gay Jewish group, sent a strong letter of protest.*


**June** *Edmonton* *A shipment of lesbian and gay books and other items from the Oscar Wilde Memorial Bookshop in New York to Vanguard Books in Edmonton was detained by Canada Customs because of their “controversial” nature. The books (including *The Joy of Lesbian Sex*) were available elsewhere in Edmonton, and in other Canadian cities. When the two bookstores protested the seizure, the shipment was released.*


**June** *Montréal* *Pierre Dupont’s profile of the gay community in Montréal, “Le ghetto rose,” was published in *L’Actualité.*


**June** *Toronto* *The Committee to Defend John Damien announced that John Damien was financially destitute and said that it would accept donations for his personal subsistence.*
[“Damien Destitute, Committee Launches Plea for Help,” *Body Politic*, no. 44 (1978), p. 5.]

**June** * Toronto * The Freedom of Expression Committee of the Book and Periodical Development Council (BPDC) was formed. Gerald Hannon of the *Body Politic* joined the committee as a representative of the CPPA.


**June** * Toronto * Gotham, a gay American musical-comedy group, performed at the El Mocambo Tavern (464 Spadina Avenue).


**June** * Toronto * The Hassle Free Clinic announced that it would conduct a study of intestinal parasites among gay men in conjunction with Dr. Donna Keystone and the Ontario Ministry of Health. The results of the study, which indicated that as many as two-thirds of sexually active gay men in Toronto carried intestinal parasites, were released in the fall of 1978.


**June** * Toronto * Dean Haynes, a member of FLAG, announced his candidacy for alderman in Ward 6 in the fall 1978 civic election. Haynes was the first openly gay man to run for Toronto city council on a gay rights issues platform, but had to withdraw his candidacy before election day due to lack of support.

[Robin Hardy, “Gay Candidate Drops Campaign, but Sees Role for Gay Alderperson,” *Body Politic*, no. 46 (1978), p. 6.]

**June** * Toronto * The gay Anglican group Integrity was granted permission by the Rector and Vestry of Holy Trinity Church to use the
church for meetings. Since its founding in 1975, Integrity/Toronto had been meeting mostly at members’ homes.


**June** * Toronto * In the June issue of Canadian Lawyer, George Jonas wrote that although outlawing homosexuality would be “pernicious,” enshrining it as a basic human right would also be wrong.


**June** * Winnipeg * The Manitoba Association for Rights and Liberties formed a committee on sexual orientation. Marion Packham and Chris Vogel were elected co-chairpersons. The committee’s first priority was to push for the inclusion of sexual orientation in the Manitoba Human Rights Act.


**June 1** * London, Ont. * Lyn MacDonald was fired as a clerk at the Master Variety Store, 478 Central Avenue, after the owner learned that she was a lesbian. MacDonald called a press conference, printed protest leaflets asking people to boycott the store, and with about fifteen other people held London’s first gay demonstration at the store on June 6–7, 1978. MacDonald was later harassed and evicted from her apartment. The Gay Action Group for Equality (GAGE) was formed after these events.


June 5 * Ottawa * A three-judge panel of the Supreme Court of Canada dismissed PTP’s application for leave to appeal Ontario court rulings upholding the legality of the search warrant used by police to raid the Body Politic’s offices on December 30, 1977.


June 7 * Montréal * A group of gays crashed the annual meeting of the Centre de Service Sociaux du Montréal Métropolitain (CSSMM) to demand that it stop discriminating against people based on their sexual orientation.

[“Les gai(e)s manifestent contre le CSSMM,” Gai(e)s du Québec: Journal, 1, no. 1 (July–August 1978): 6–7.]

June 8 * Toronto * Ralph Lesser and David Maclean, members of GYT, were acquitted of charges of loitering. The two had been arrested on January 13, 1978, after an evening of distributing flyers in front of the St. Charles Tavern for an anti-Bryant march and rally.


June 8–10 * Ontario * Anita Bryant cancelled what was to be her third
Canadian tour, to promote her new book *The Anita Bryant Story*, due to a throat infection. Bryant was to have toured Ottawa, Owen Sound, and London. Plans for Bryant to visit Canada in 1979 later collapsed as well in the face of gay protests and resistance, described as “barbaric intimidation” by Rev. Ken Campbell.


June 9 * Ottawa * The Task Force on the Status of Lesbian and Gay Male Psychologists was established by the Canadian Psychological Association during the association’s annual meeting. Gary McDonald was the coordinator of the group.


June 10 * Toronto * The Tom Robinson Band played at the El Mocambo Tavern (464 Spadina Avenue). Robinson, an Englishman, was the first openly gay leftist rock star.


June 17 * Montréal * Two hundred people marched past the main police
headquarters and City Hall to a rally in Viger Square, to protest ongoing repression and discrimination against the gay community in Montréal. The marchers demanded that charges against the Truxx defendants be withdrawn, and that custody rights for lesbian mothers be recognized. The demonstration was organized by the Coalition ad hoc du 17 juin.


**June 19** * Toronto * John Alan Lee was interviewed about his new book Getting Sex by host Micki Moore on the CITY-TV program “Other Arrangements.”


**June 21** * Ottawa * The NGRC issued a statement condemning Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau for failing to include sexual orientation as one of the prohibited categories of discrimination in the draft bill of a proposed new Canadian constitution, the Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms.


**June 25** * San Francisco, Calif. * Numerous Canadians attended the 1978 Gay Freedom Day celebration. Maurice Flood addressed the rally on behalf of GATE (Vancouver), and Therese Faubert spoke as a lesbian mother.

June 28 * Toronto * The Toronto police used a search warrant to examine the bank records of PTP, the publisher of the *Body Politic*, to gather evidence for the upcoming trial. The bank never informed PTP of the search, which was discovered later by accident.


June 28–30 * Toronto * The OAC decided to grant $1,650 to the *Body Politic* but on the following day deferred the decision. Karsten Kossman, secretary to the OAC’s Film and Literature Officer Steve Stevanovic, resigned in protest over the council’s handling of the application. In September 1978 the application was reconsidered and approved. (See also September 29, 1978.)


June 28–July 3 * Halifax * “Building Solidarity: The Fight against Repression,” the sixth annual conference for lesbians and gay men, was hosted by GAE and held at Dalhousie University. The conference, attended by more than 200 people representing forty gay organizations from across Canada, sponsored many workshops, including ones on abortion, gender reassignment (sex change), gay youth, ageism, and police repression, as well as a full cultural program. Terry Last and Paul Ledoux’s cabaret piece *The Night They Raided Truxx* was performed at the Turret Gay Community Centre. Jim MacSwain also performed the one-person show, *The Bearded Lady’s Reflection*. The final plenary sessions were turbulent, and led to major structural changes to the NGRC, which was renamed the Canadian Lesbian and Gay Rights Coalition (CLGRC). The issue of lesbian participation was a hot topic, and delegates examined the organization’s 50 percent lesbian control resolution passed at the 1977 conference. (See also December 1978.)

June–August * Mississauga * The Peel Regional Police morality squad arrested six men at a public washroom at the Rockwood Mall and charged them with gross indecency; four of the men were also charged with committing an indecent act. Their names, ages, and addresses were published in the local newspapers.


July Canada Day Weekend * Toronto * The first annual Canada Cup Tournament was held, sponsored by the gay Cabbagetown Group Softball League (CGSL). This year the Canada Cup was won by a team from New York.
Summer * Toronto * Ontario Human Rights Commissioner Bromley Armstrong was re-elected as a director of the Canadian Civil Liberties Association despite protests over his involvement in a 1977 incident in which homophobic articles appeared in his newspaper The Islander. Armstrong stated that he regretted that the incident had occurred, but also said that he could not interfere with freedom of the press.


Summer * Toronto * In contract negotiations between CUPE local 1582 and the Metropolitan Toronto Library Board, the board said that it was afraid to set a precedent by including a sexual orientation clause in the collective agreement. Library workers at the University of Toronto and Toronto Public Library already had received this protection in their contracts.


Summer * Toronto * The Ontario Ministry of Correctional Services confirmed that gay men imprisoned in Ontario’s correctional system were automatically classified as maximum security risks and placed in a special protective unit, regardless of whether the crime for which they were imprisoned was sex related.


Summer * Toronto * The Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario received confidential research information indicating it would experience a net loss of voter support if it amended the Ontario Human Rights Code to include sexual orientation. As a result, the governing party decided not to introduce such an amendment even though the
OHRC recommended it. At the time, Ontario was still in the grip of an anti-gay backlash stemming from the Jaques murder case.


**Summer** * Toronto * The Social Credit Party distributed leaflets in the Pape-Danforth area, pledging “to get the homos off the TV and have their perversions cured.”


**Summer–Autumn** * Toronto * Toronto police continued to arrest numerous men for sunbathing in the nude at Hanlan’s Point on Toronto Island. Hanlan’s Point had been a beach popular with gay men since before World War II. (See also November 29, 1978, and March 1, 1979.)


**July** * Toronto * The gay-friendly restaurant Neighbours opened at 562 Church Street.


**July 1** * Moose Jaw, Sask. * In the city’s first gay demonstration, 250 people protested against Anita Bryant’s appearance at a Canada Day rally at Ross Wells Park, sponsored by the Moose Jaw Fellowship for Evangelism. The march and protest, organized by the Saskatchewan CAAB, included members of the SGC as well as student and feminist groups. The new group Moose Jaw Gay Community provided entertainment.

July 1 * Toronto * Alan Dawson, the style editor of the Globe and Mail, declared that a decision had been made to allow the word “gay” back into news copy and headlines after an eight-month ban at Canada’s national newspaper. “Homosexual” had been used exclusively instead of “gay,” but this was found to be imprecise and both words were now allowed.

[“‘Globe’ Yields to Progress,” Body Politic, no. 46 (1978), p. 7.]

July 6 * Toronto * In sentencing a man accused of buggery, Judge Hugh Locke of County Court described the act as “a filthy practice (which) since biblical times to the present day has been regarded as extremely repulsive. Even beasts of the field don’t do it.” The CGRO, in

cooperation with the Osgoode Gay Caucus, later prepared a protest to the Canadian Judicial Council demanding that disciplinary action be taken against Locke because of his bigoted remarks.


**July 10** *Edmonton* * Following several preliminary meetings, a chapter of Dignity, the group for Roman Catholic lesbians and gays, was officially formed.


**July 12** *Ottawa* * Charles Duquette of GO was fined $25 after pleading guilty to violating a city by-law prohibiting posterimg. GO later approached City Hall to lobby for information kiosks to be set up on city property so that any community organization could place posters there.

[“City May Provide Poster Sites After Plea from Gay Group,” *Body Politic*, no. 46 (1978), p. 4; “GO Member Fined for Posterimg,” *GO Info*, 5, no. 7 (July–August 1978): 1.]

**July 12** *Toronto* * Rev. Brad Massman, an official of the Archdiocese of Toronto and well-known crusader against pornography, visited Rev. Brent Hawkes of MCC Toronto to ask him to testify against the *Body Politic* at its upcoming trial. Hawkes refused. Massman also contacted other gay organizations, including Dignity Toronto, in an attempt to enlist gay witnesses to testify against the newspaper. On September 5, 1978, police officers from Operation P (pornography) visited Hawkes in another attempt to get him to testify on behalf of the Crown. He refused again.


**July 12** *Winnipeg* * Manitoba Public Works minister Harry Enns
confirmed that barriers had been installed on the grounds of the
Manitoba Legislature to stop traffic between midnight and 7 a.m. The
gates were actually erected to interfere with car cruising in the popular
area known as “the Hill.” Traffic counts had shown that more than
double the number of cars used the roads in the middle of the night as
compared to daytime usage. (See also September 13, 1978.)
[“Grounds Chained at Night,” Winnipeg Tribune, final ed., 13 July
1978, p. 4; “Tories Barricade against Sexual Activity,” Body Politic,
o. 46 (1978), p. 7.]

July 18 * Toronto * The trial date for PTP/Body Politic was set for

July 28 * Vancouver * Members of GATE (Vancouver) joined hundreds
of women in a pro-choice abortion march sponsored by Concerned
Citizens for Choice on Abortion. Stephen Shirreffs of GATE addressed
the marchers, and brought greetings and support from the CLGRC.
[“Gays March in Pro-abortion Demo,” Body Politic, no. 46 (1978), p. 6.]

July 29–August 6 * Vancouver * The second annual Gay Unity Week
was held. Mayor Jack Volrich declined to sign a proclamation declaring
the Week, saying that he was “too busy” to meet with representatives of
the gay community.
[“Mayor Refuses to Proclaim ‘Gay Week,’” Body Politic, no. 47

July–August * Richmond, B.C. * Over a two-week period, RCMP
officers arrested and charged eighty men with gross indecency at a
public washroom in Minoru Park. Hidden cameras and remote
technology were used in the arrests.
[“40 (sic) Charged with Gross Indecency,” Vancouver Province, 24
August 1978, p. 15; “Cops Bust 80 in Park,” Gay Tide, no. 20
August * Montréal * The August issue of *L’Actualité* presented an exposé of life in a Québec prison, written by the pseudonymous “X.” The author included the description of several “homosexual relationships,” and the brutal murder of a gay inmate.


August * Québec, Qué. * The Québec provincial government agreed to co-sponsor a trip to France, through the Office franco-québécois pour la jeunesse (OFQJ)/Franco-Quebec Office for Youth, for twenty lesbians and gays to study France’s gay rights movement. This decision received bad press in Québec, questioning the government’s budgetary priorities. The trip, which had been planned for November 13 to December 5, 1978, was cancelled. A similar venture, planned for March 1980, was also unsuccessful.


August * Toronto * David Watmough’s novel *No More into the
Garden: The Chronicles of Davey Bryant was published by Doubleday Canada.


August * Vancouver * The Society for Political Action for Gay People (SPAG) (later renamed the Society for Political Action by Gays) was formed to lobby and poll political candidates in the Lower Mainland in an effort to track political attitudes towards gays and lesbians and try to effect political change. SPAG (formerly SEARCH Political Action [SPA]) had originally formed under SEARCH but was reconstituted as a separate entity.


August 7 * Toronto * The Canadian Gay Archives (CGA) held its first public display in front of City Hall as part of Simcoe Day festivities. The Archives was present as a member of the Toronto Area Archivists Group (TAAG).


August 9 * Kitchener-Waterloo, Ont. * The hour-long show “Gay News and Views” was first broadcast on CKMS-FM 94.5 radio at the University of Waterloo. Run by the Kitchener-Waterloo Gay Media Collective, this was the first regularly scheduled gay radio programme in Canada.


August 10 * North York, Ont. * North York Controller Robert “Bob” Yuill threatened to launch a class action suit against the American manufacturers of an anatomically correct homosexual doll called “Gay Bob.” Yuill objected to what he saw as a misuse of the name “Bob” and did not want the dolls sold in Canada.


August 14–20 * Toronto * The eighth World Conference of the Universal Fellowship–Metropolitan Community Churches was held in Toronto, hosted by MCC Toronto.

**August 15** * Montréal * The Québec Human Rights Commission informed ADGQ that it had reconsidered its former decision concerning the refusal of the Montreal Catholic School Commission to rent a meeting room to the group and now “recognized the legal merits of the CECM’s decision to refuse the rental of a room to the organization.” The CECM had used article 20 of the Québec Human Rights Charter to argue that discrimination could be permitted when “founded on aptitudes or qualities required in good faith.”


**August 17–20** * Port Huron, Mich. * Lesbians travelling to the third Michigan Womyn’s Music Festival, held near Hesperia, Michigan, were refused entry into the United States because of their sexual orientation. A number of other lesbians and gay men had recently been denied entry into the United States. WGU began compiling documentation on border turn-backs to support a public call for an end to such discrimination.

August 19 * Toronto * In a review of the documentary film *Word Is Out*, *Toronto Star* movie critic Clyde Gilmour complained that the production was “totally one-sided in favor of homosexuality rather than an exercise in objective screen journalism,” and that “such horrors as the slaughter of a Toronto shoeshine boy and California’s trash-bag murders are not even hinted at.”


August 20–26 * Mulmur Township, Ont. * Five women and ten men participated in the program “Living as a Gay Person Today” during a summer camp for gay people. The event, sponsored by the Unitarian Church, was held at Unicamp.

[“Camping It Up a Great Success!” *Body Politic*, no. 47 (1978), p. 15.]

August 23–27 * Toronto * Thousands of people participated in Gaydays: In Celebration of Lesbians and Gay Men, a cultural festival to entertain and inform gay people. Organized by the group Liberated Energy, with coordinators Naomi Brooks, Val Edwards, Harvey Hamburg, and Gordon Montador, Gaydays included a gay fair in Queen’s Park with booths, displays, entertainment, and music. An opening night gala featured Ferron, Sheila Gostick, George Hislop, and John Rechy. On Saturday night, more than 1,400 people attended what was billed as the biggest gay dance in the history of Toronto, held at St. Lawrence Market. Hundreds of people attended an all-day picnic at Hanlan’s Point on Sunday. Gaydays was one of the largest and most successful gay events organized in Canada to that time, and was a precursor to the large-scale gay pride events that became popular starting in the 1980s.


**August 25** *Ottawa* *After a review of its policies, the CBC informed the CRTC that it would not accept public service announcements from an organization that was “controversial in itself.” As homosexuality was still a controversial subject, the CBC would continue to reject public service announcements from gay groups. (See also October 11, 1978.)


**August 26** *Mosport Raceway, Ont.* *The Village People performed as part of the Canada Jam concert, held at the Mosport Raceway.*


**August 26–28** *Coventry, England* *Representatives of eleven organizations from Europe, North America, and Australia met during the annual conference of the Campaign for Homosexual Equality (CHE) to
form the International Gay Association (IGA). Canada was represented by Ron Dayman of CLGRC, who also gave the closing speech at the CHE conference.

[“Gays of the World Unite,” *Forum* (CLGRC, Montréal), 3, no. 4 (Fall 1978): (1).]

**August 28** *Québec, Qué.* Denise Goyette announced the closing of SEHQ for one year, citing financial difficulties.

[“C’est arrivé en 1978,” *Gai(e)s du Québec: Journal*, 1, no. 5 (February–March 1979): 4.]

**August 28–September 1** *Toronto* At the American Psychological Association (APA)’s annual conference, the temporary Task Force on the Status of Lesbian and Gay Male Psychologists recommended that a permanent lesbian and gay task force be established within the APA. Also during the conference, Paul Cameron, a psychologist from the Fuller Theological Institute, Pasadena, California, presented a controversial paper entitled “A Case against Homosexuality,” which argued a rationale for discrimination against homosexuals. Cameron was later interviewed on CTV’s *Canada AM*.


**August–September** *Toronto* John Hofsess wrote in *Books in Canada* that he believed that although gays were winning tolerant recognition as authors and characters in the world of fiction, they were in fact losing ground in the real-world struggle for liberation because of a few “militants.”

September * Edmonton * The Edmonton Lesbian and Gay Rights Organization (ELGRO), a political activist group, was officially formed at the University of Alberta, with Henry Van Ryk acting as spokesman. ELGRO planned to hold forums and demonstrations, as needed, to counter the activities of such groups as Renaissance International, which had sponsored Anita Bryant’s visit to Edmonton in April 1978. ELGRO’s first public forum was held on November 24, 1978; about fifty people attended a panel discussion on societal and self-oppression of lesbians and gays.


September * Guelph, Ont. * Gay Youth Guelph (GYG) was formed with ten members, twenty-five years of age or younger. Al Dearnley and Sandy Pratt served as coordinators, with Michael Hauser as secretary.


September * Ottawa * The Fugitive, an English translation by David Lobdell of Marie-Claire Blais’s novel *L’Insoumise* (1966), was published by Oberon Press.


September * Toronto * Morley Callaghan’s *No Man’s Meat and the Enchanted Pimp* was published by Macmillan of Canada. “No Man’s Meat,” a lesbian love story, was originally published in a private edition in Paris in 1931 and was only now being released for the general reader.


300

**September * Toronto * Truxx, an eighteen-minute documentary on gay community reaction to the Montréal bar raid, premiered at the Toronto Film Festival. Made by KLS Communications (gay filmmakers Gord Keith, Jack Lemmon [not the actor], and Harry Sutherland), *Truxx* was Canada’s first gay political film.


**September * Toronto * Patrick Watson’s science-fiction novel *Alter Ego*, in which a cloned man falls in love with himself, was published by Lester & Orpen.


**September * Victoria, B.C. * Waves: A Lesbian Feminist Newsletter was launched by the Rights of Lesbians Subcommittee of the B.C. Federation of Women.

**September 2–4** *Windsor, Ont.* Eighty-six delegates attended the CGRO annual conference, “Never Going Back,” hosted by WGU. Events included workshops, panel discussions, films, a dance, and a barbecue. A new CGRO constitution was approved, as were plans to survey candidates for the November 1978 school board elections.


**September 5–9** *Toronto* Sky Gilbert’s play *Angels in Underwear: A Beat Fantasy*, a nostalgic look at the era of the Beat poets, was performed at the Dream Factory, 496 Queen Street East. This was the first production of the Buddies in Bad Times theatre company, founded in 1978 by Jerry Ciccoritti, Sky Gilbert, Ken McDougall, and Matt Walsh. During the 1980s Buddies established itself as the most successful queer theatre company in Canada.

September 7 * Ottawa * Gordon Fairweather, chief commissioner of the CHRC, criticized the federal government’s proposed charter of human rights and freedoms before a meeting of the joint Senate–House of Commons committee studying the constitution. Fairweather remarked that the proposed charter was missing key areas of protection from discrimination, including sexual orientation, physical handicap, and marital status.


September 7 * Vancouver * Vancouver’s first gay radio programme, “Coming Out,” made its debut on Vancouver Co-operative Radio (CFRO 102.7 FM). Broadcast on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m., the programme was run by a collective and lasted for many years.


made a presentation to the Ontario Legislature’s justice committee asking that protection on the basis of gender and sexual orientation be included in the bill.


**September 8** *Toronto* *Toronto* police returned four of the twelve cartons of material that were seized in the December 30, 1977, raid of the *Body Politic* offices to lawyer Clayton Ruby. The material included books and an out-of-date subscription list.


**September 9** *Dundas, Ont.* *Anita Bryant* spoke at a meeting hall, with little organized opposition to her appearance. Bryant was accompanied by Rev. Ken Campbell of Renaissance Canada. (See also September 10, 1978.)


**September 10** *Etobicoke, Ont.* *About 125 people* demonstrated against Anita Bryant’s evening appearance at the Queensway Cathedral.


**September 10** *London, Ont.* *About 150 people* participated in an anti-Anita Bryant demonstration organized by the London CAAB outside the London Gardens Coliseum. This was the largest gay demonstration to date in London. About 2,000 people attended Bryant’s concert. Bryant was accompanied by Rev. Ken Campbell of Renaissance Canada. The end of the concert was interrupted when the Coliseum had
to be evacuated due to a false bomb threat. Other protest activities that weekend included a rally held at the HALO centre, a Saturday night dance, and an MCC church service on Sunday.


**September 10–16 * Montréal * Le *Nouveau Samedi* published a twelve-page special section examining lesbian and gay life in Québec.

[“Les Homophiles: Une Minorité qui s’affirme de plus en plus!” *Le Nouveau Samedi*, 10–16 September 1978, pp. 11–22.]

**September 13 * Calgary * Jerry Kissinger was disqualified from becoming a foster parent when the Foster Care Department of the Alberta government learned he was gay. Although it was admitted he had otherwise superior qualifications, and the boy’s natural parents supported Kissinger’s application and knew of his sexual orientation, Kissinger was denied custody of a twelve-year-old mentally handicapped boy whom he had helped for more than two years at the Baker Centre. Kissinger approached the Alberta Human Rights Commission for assistance, but was unsuccessful.

September 13 * Winnipeg * Peter Petkaw, thirty-one, was beaten unconscious in the gay cruising area known as the “Hill,” near the Manitoba legislature. He died thirteen days later. The area had witnessed an increasing number of assaults against gay men in recent months. John Usher and Patrick Holt were later arrested and charged with first-degree murder in Petkaw’s death. Holt was later released. (See also November 11, 1978, and February 23, 1979.)


September 15 * Toronto * The Swedish gay liberation magazine Revolt was seized by Canada Customs officials after the September issue was declared “immoral and indecent” because of its sexually explicit illustrations.


September 20 * Toronto * Sandy LeBlanc, manager and part owner of Studio II, a gay disco at 72 Carlton Street, was murdered. The case remains unsolved.


September 20–October 18 * Toronto * The Gay Offensive Collective (GOC) produced the six-part series This Program May Be Offensive to Heterosexuals, “a weekly hour of fun, satire, and gaiety,” which was broadcast on Rogers Cable TV channel 10. Heather Ramsay and Richard Sutton hosted the series.

[Chris Bearchell, “This Is the Last ‘Dykes’ Column,” Body Politic,
September 22–24 * Toronto * The Fireweed Collective sponsored a fundraising festival of poetry, music, and dance at Harbourfront park. There were almost forty performers, including Heather Bishop, Beverly Glenn-Copeland, Lorna Glover, Charnie Guettel, April Kassirer, Pat Kelly, Arlene Mantel, and Lorraine Segato.


September 29 * Ottawa * Gays picketed the Greek Embassy to protest anti-gay laws presently before the Greek Parliament that would declare gays a “medical threat to society.” This was part of a worldwide action organized by the IGA.
September 29 * Toronto * The OAC awarded the *Body Politic* an operating grant of $1,650, following a three-month deal and much backroom politicking. The grant was made at a time when the magazine was still facing charges of possessing, distributing, and mailing obscene material. The decision outraged *Toronto Sun* columnist Claire Hoy, who published three pieces between October 12 and October 15 attacking the grant. On October 12, Ontario Minister of Culture and Recreation Reuben Baetz issued a statement in which he disagreed with the OAC’s decision to award the grant, calling it “impolitic and insensitive.” Finally, on October 16, an editorial in the *Toronto Sun* entitled “Bawdy Politics” berated the OAC for the grant.


September 29 * Windsor, Ont. * After leaving the Ritz Hotel Tavern (88 Pitt Street East), a gay bar, Robert MacKenzie had the rear window of his car smashed by police, who then threatened to lay various charges if he protested. MacKenzie complained to Windsor’s chief of police and to the media; the *Windsor Star* ran the story on the front page. Two officers were placed under internal investigation because of the incident.

[Doug Firby and Michael Frezell, “Chief Says Policeman to Face Charges,” *Windsor Star*, final ed., 3 October 1978, pp. 1, 4; Jim

**September 30–October 1** * Montréal * The ADGQ held its fourth congress, during which it replaced its executive by a collective and adopted the “Manifeste et Programme de l’ADGQ.”


**Autumn** * Brandon, Man. * Administrators and the Faculty Association at Brandon University agreed to include a clause in the union’s contract that would prevent discrimination based on sexual orientation.


**Autumn** * Calgary * Elva Rowland, a supervisor of the Southern Region of the Alberta Human Rights Commission, stated that the commission was “disappointed” by a remark made by Alberta’s Minister of Labour Neil Crawford. Crawford had stated in effect that any government that supported gay rights had to be out of its mind. The remark was made after the commission published its recommendation to include sexual orientation in the Alberta Individual Rights Protection Act.


**Autumn** * Kitchener-Waterloo, Ont. * The Gay Media Collective was formed to produce a gay radio programme, which broadcast three nights per week on community radio.

Autumn * Montréal * Born a Man ... Let Me Die a Woman, an exploitative American documentary about transsexuals, played for seven weeks at a soft-core pornographic theatre.

[Thomas Waugh, “Medical Thrills” (review), Body Politic, no. 49 (1978–79), pp. 41–42.]

Autumn * Toronto * The Coalition for Usable Transportation (CUT), representing physically handicapped people, reaffirmed its policy of demanding the addition of sexual orientation, as well as physical handicap, to prohibited grounds of discrimination in the Ontario Human Rights Code.


Autumn * Toronto * Quentin Crisp performed his one-man show An Evening with Quentin Crisp: The Naked Civil Servant at the Toronto Workshop Productions Theatre.

[Burke Campbell, “Crisp and Stylish” (review), Body Politic, no. 49 (1978–79), p. 41.]

Autumn * Toronto * John Damien sued Dr. Thoreau Willard O’Mulvenny, his personal physician, after learning that the doctor had violated medical confidentiality when he told officials of the Ontario Jockey Club that Damien was gay, which eventually led to Damien’s firing by the Ontario Racing Commission in February 1975. (See also February 11, 1979.)


Autumn * Toronto * The Ontario Labour Relations Board ruled that a requirement by a gay bar that all waiters and bartenders be homosexual did not significantly change the character of the establishment. Therefore, when the Forge (a straight bar, located at 5 St. Joseph Street) closed and re-opened as Katrina’s (a gay disco and restaurant), the
International Beverage Dispensers’ and Bartender’s Union Local 280 would still be the certified bargaining agent for employees there. The ruling received nationwide media attention after a CP wire service story erroneously reported that the waiters were fired after Katrina’s opened because they were not homosexual.


**Autumn** * Vancouver * Gay men and lesbians were harassed and beaten in the street and even inside a gay club in a series of homophobic incidents, some involving gang attacks.

[“Gangs Beat Gays,” *Gay Tide*, no. 21 (December 1978), p. 5.]

**Autumn** * Vancouver * Steve J. Spears’s play *The Elocution of Benjamin Franklin* was performed as part of the Vancouver Playhouse New Series at Spratts Ark Theatre.


**September–October** * Toronto * The Ontario Ministry of Labour Library published three bibliographies on homosexuality compiled by Alan V. Miller: *Homosexuality and Employment: A Selected Bibliography*; *Homosexuality and Human Rights: A Selected Bibliography*; and *Homosexuality in Specific Fields: The Arts, the Military, the Ministry, Prisons, Sports, Teaching and Transsexuals: A Selected Bibliography*. The works were compiled by searching the collections of the ministry, the University of Toronto Library, and the CGA.


October * Calgary * Representatives of several gay organizations met to discuss the feasibility of opening a gay community centre in the city. The Scarth Street Society coordinated the meetings. [Robert Harris, “Community Centre,” Gay Calgary, 2, no. 4 (December 1978): 1–2.]

October * Montréal * The glossy gay magazine Attitude was first published, in a print run of 35,000 copies. [Ron Dayman, “Montreal Gets New Gay Media,” Body Politic, no. 48 (1978), p. 9.]


October * Toronto * The Body Politic decided not to print a full-page ad for Joe Martin, a candidate for alderman in the Toronto civic
elections. Martin was perceived to have degraded and exploited women as the owner of a (heterosexual) pornography and body-rub business.


**October** * Toronto * The lesbian-feminist and gay male collective PinkType was formed to produce quality typesetting for progressive publications.

[“Just Your Colour Type. Pink” (advertisement), Body Politic, no. 48 (1978), p. 42; PinkType papers, accessions 1982–003 and 1983–023, Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto.]

**October** * Winnipeg * Project Lambda began a fundraising campaign to purchase a building to be used as a permanent gay centre. It also applied for status as a charitable organization.


**October 2–8** * Québec, Qué. * Semaine de l’homophilie (Gay Week) was held. Mayor Jean Pelletier refused to proclaim the week, stating that a proclamation “might be interpreted as approval, on behalf of myself or Québec City municipal authorities, of the viewpoints you have on these questions.”


**October 3** * Montréal * Montréal's first gay television programme began a trial run of sixteen weeks on Cablevision Nationale. The programme, containing news and interviews, was named “88” after Québec’s Bill 88, which had added sexual orientation to Québec’s Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms. The show was revived in January 1980, but only after some difficulties with Cablevision Nationale.

[“Le 88 enfin présenté à Québec,” Le Berdache, no. 7 (February


October 4 * Halifax * Red Herring Co-operative Bookstore was told by Canada Customs that lesbian books published by Diana Press in California were not permitted to enter Canada. The bookstore decided to reorder the nineteen books and threatened legal action to get them.


October 5 * Ottawa * The GATE (Vancouver) versus the Vancouver Sun case reached the Supreme Court of Canada. Nine justices of the court heard the case, which stemmed from the Vancouver Sun’s refusal to print a classified ad for GATE (Vancouver)’s newspaper Gay Tide in October 1974. This was the first time that a gay civil rights case had been heard by Canada’s highest court. While the case was being heard, gays demonstrated outside of the Supreme Court building, and also in Vancouver in front of the Sun building. The Court’s decision was deferred. (See also May 22, 1979.)


October 5 * Toronto * An agreement was signed whereby the chairman of the Ontario Racing Commission and three former racing officials dropped a writ of libel under the Libel and Slander Act against John Hofsess’s article “Damien’s Exile,” published in the February 21, 1976, issue of Weekend Magazine.


October 6–9 * Québec, Qué. * Sixty people gathered at Université Laval for the second annual Congrès national de tous les gai(e)s du Québec, sponsored by CHAL. Workshops and panels were held, and a
Québec-wide gay coalition, the Regroupement national des lesbiennes et gais du Québec (RNLGQ), was established.


**October 6–9** *Saskatoon* *Hundreds of people attended the first Metamorphosis gay cultural festival, sponsored by SGC, held on Thanksgiving weekend at the GCCS. Featured performers included Ferron from Vancouver, Blackberri from San Francisco, and Michael Gordon from Regina. One highlight was a large march and rally held at City Hall. Metamorphosis was so successful that it became an annual event promoting positive aspects of lesbian and gay life on the prairies. The Metamorphosis weekends usually included art and crafts displays, a parade or march, educational workshops, films, dances, coffee houses, concerts, and a Thanksgiving feast. The early Metamorphosis festivals attracted both women and men, but by the late 1980s the organizers and participants were mostly female. Metamorphosis was presented annually until 1989, and was revived in 2001 and 2002.


**October 7–9** * Toronto * Over sixty representatives of gay youth in Ontario met at the 519 Community Centre to work out strategies for the Bi-national Gay Youth Coalition. Al Dearnley, a seventeen-year-old spokesman for the group, said that information on services and support groups for homosexuals should be made available in high schools.


**October 10** * Toronto * At an all-candidates meeting organized by GATE (Toronto), held in advance of the October 16 federal by-election in the riding of Toronto Rosedale, all five candidates attending supported the inclusion of sexual orientation in the proposed Canadian charter of human rights. David Crombie, former mayor of Toronto, won the seat for the Progressive Conservatives.

October 11 * Ottawa * During a hearing before the CRTC, the CBC reiterated its policy of refusing all public service announcements from homosexual organizations, due to public controversy concerning homosexuality. In April 1979, the CRTC renewed the CBC’s licences for three and a half years, ignoring the numerous protests by representatives of gay groups that had been made in public hearings of the CRTC across Canada.


October 11–November 29 * Vancouver * Dr. Jaime Smith, a psychiatrist and director of SEARCH, offered an eight-week gay studies course through the University of British Columbia Centre for Continuing Education, held at the Vancouver Public Library.


October 12 * Toronto * Poet Thom Gunn delivered the first Philip Child Memorial Reading, held at Seeley Hall, Trinity College, University of Toronto.

[“University of Toronto. Trinity College” vertical file, Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto.]

October 16 * Edmonton * ELGRO sponsored a rally and panel discussion in support of Operation Liberty. The protest against police
oppression of lesbians, gays, and other minority communities was held to coincide with the eighth anniversary of the invocation of the War Measures Act during the October Crisis.


**October 19** *Montréal* *Near the first anniversary of the Truxx raid, police raided the Dominion Square Tavern (1243, rue Metcalfe) and arrested twenty-two people. The men were charged as found-ins in a common bawdy house, and were forced to undergo compulsory VD testing. On October 24, gays and lesbians picketed the municipal courthouse to mark the anniversary of the Truxx raid and to show solidarity with the accused.*


**October 19** *Saskatoon* *The SGC participated in a human rights teach-in sponsored by Operation Liberty.*

[“Operation Liberty,” *Gay Saskatchewan* (Saskatoon), 1, no. 10 (November 1978): (5).]

**October 19** *Toronto* *The Ontario Press Council upheld the *Toronto Star*’s right to refuse to use the word “gay” in its news and editorial pages rather than “homosexual.” Michael Lynch, a gay activist and professor of English at the University of Toronto, had launched a complaint with the council after the *Star* published a letter to the editor from Lynch that substituted the word “homosexual” for “gay.” The council did, however, suggest that newspapers “review their policies on the use of the word ‘gay,’ since it has gained widespread recognition as a synonym for homosexual and as a self-adopted label of this minority group.”*
October 20–21 * Toronto * The Conference on Human Freedom and Sexuality was held at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE). Attendance was restricted to people eighteen years of age or older due to fear of a police raid. Censored materials were displayed, and the organizers did not want to take the chance of police interference at the conference. Several workshops dealt with gay (but not lesbian) topics. The sexologist Dr. John Money attended, as did the French director Louis Malle, whose film Pretty Baby had recently been banned by Ontario censors. The Centre for Human Freedom and Sexuality, based in Toronto, was founded as a result of the positive interest in this conference.

October 21 * Vancouver * Dignity Vancouver hosted a meeting of representatives of chapters of Dignity from Portland, Ore.; Seattle, Wash.; and Vancouver to discuss issues of cooperation and outreach.

October 23 * Montréal * Vincent Price portrayed Oscar Wilde in John Gay’s play Diversions and Delights, performed at the Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier, Place des Arts.


[“Congratulations to Dignity, Vancouver!” SEARCH News, 1, no. 10 (October 23–November 21, 1978): 3.]

[“Oscar Wilde” vertical file, Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto.]
**October 24** * Edmonton * Representatives of ten local gay and lesbian organizations met for an initial discussion on forming a gay community centre. This was the first large inter-organization meeting of gays held in Edmonton.

[“Will Edmonton Have a Gay Community Centre?” *Communigay* (Edmonton), no. 2 (1978), p. 4.]

**October 25** * Gatineau, Qué. * L’Association gaie de l’Ouest Québécois (AGOQ) was refused permission to rent premises to be used as an office and centre. The Québec Human Rights Commission was informed of this illegal action, but was ineffective in pursuing it. On November 7, 1978, another member of AGOQ was successful in leasing the same space by stating that the group he represented was a “social agency” but the landlord later illegally locked them out.


**October 25–November 19** * Toronto * Christopher Hampton’s two-act play *Total Eclipse*, on the relationship between Arthur Rimbaud and Paul Verlaine, was performed by Labyrinth Productions at the Bathurst Street Theatre.


**October 27** * Halifax * APPLE and friends organized the first of a continuing bi-monthly series of women’s coffee houses, featuring music and poetry, held at 1252 Hollis Street. About fifty women attended each one.

October 28 * Regina * The convention of the Saskatchewan Federation of Labour (SFL) passed a resolution calling for the immediate inclusion of sexual orientation in the Saskatchewan Human Rights Act. The SFL had included protection from discrimination based on sexual orientation in its own constitution since 1975.

[“Metamorphosis,” *Gay Saskatchewan* (Saskatoon), 1, no. 10 (November 1978): (4).]

October 29 * Toronto * Members of LOOT held a special meeting to discuss a query from a transsexual woman whether she would be allowed to enter the LOOT house to interview members for a university essay on lesbian politics. The person had been born male but had undergone surgery to become an anatomical female, and now identified as a lesbian. About thirty-five women attended the meeting, and the discussion aroused strong feelings. Although some support was expressed for the transsexual, in the end the vote was one in favour, four abstentions, and the remainder against the application.


October 29 * Vancouver * Lesbians at War undertook its first paint-and-poster action against establishments that “profit off the backs of women in a sexist, misogynistic, or otherwise exploitative manner.” They targeted the Love Shop, and glued a message to the front door: THE LOVE SHOP IS A CRIME AGAINST WOMEN.


October 31 * Toronto * Despite earlier promises from police made to representatives of the gay community, large crowds of anti-gay heterosexuals were allowed to gather on both sides of the street in front of the St. Charles Tavern (530 Yonge Street) on Halloween. This had become a yearly ritual, during which hundreds of heterosexuals
congregated outside the St. Charles to jeer and throw eggs and tomatoes at gay men entering the popular tavern. Customers of the tavern actually used the back door to enter and exit, where they were generally unmolested. At least ninety people were arrested that evening, more than ever before. The gay community patrol, Operation Jack O’Lantern, helped to prevent attacks on gays, and escorted people between gay bars.  

November * Ottawa * Pierre Viau, managing editor of Ottawa Revue, an arts and entertainment guide, was charged with distributing obscene material due to the magazine’s illustrated coverage of a photographic art exhibit by Richard Nigro at the SAW Gallery in its October 26 issue.  
[“Art Mag Charged with Obscenity,” Body Politic, no. 49 (1978–79), p. 8.]

November * Regina * Gay Regina was formed to act as an educational and political organization and to lobby for human rights protection for gays and lesbians. The group joined the SGC and presented a number of events in cooperation with the GCR. It disbanded in May 1980.  

November * Saskatoon * Plans to form a group for gay Metis and native people, the first of its kind in Canada, began after a group of native people approached the SGC’s rural outreach programme. The group was
a long time in forming, and didn’t hold its first formal meeting until November 18, 1979.

[“Native Gay Group Forming,” *Gay Saskatchewan* (Saskatoon), 1, no. 11 (December 1978): (6); “Native Gays,” *Gay Saskatchewan* (Saskatoon), 2, no. 12 (December 1979): (6); “New Gay Centre Boosts Native Gays,” *Body Politic*, no. 50 (1979), p. 11.]

**November** * Toronto * The staff association bargaining committee of the Children’s Aid Society of Metropolitan Toronto sought to include protection from discrimination based on sexual orientation in its union contract. Ontario Social Services Minister Keith Norton declared that the proposal would likely meet with strongly negative public reaction. On November 26, 1978, columnist Claire Hoy and the *Toronto Sun* attacked the proposal, and the society was deluged with telephone calls, most of them supporting Hoy’s position. Under pressure, the employees’ union withdrew the clause from contract demands.


**November** * Toronto * Members of the Turkish-Canadian Friendship Association protested screenings of the film *Midnight Express* by distributing leaflets attacking the film for portraying Turkey as “a whole nation as sadists and homosexuals.” Ed Jackson of the *Body Politic* sent a letter to the *Globe and Mail*, deploving the film’s insulting depiction of
Turkey and the Turkish people but also complaining about the Friendship Association’s slur against homosexuality.


November 3 * Toronto * Lesbians participated in a rally and march at the O’Keefe Centre against the punk rock band Battered Wives, organized by WAVAW. The protesters objected to the band’s blatant trivialization of women’s oppression and domestic violence. (See also November 8, 1978.)

November 6 * Toronto * Gotham, a gay American musical-comedy group, performed at Massey Hall.


November 7 * California * Proposition 6 (The Briggs Initiative), a statewide referendum calling for the dismissal of gay or gay-positive teachers from the public school system, was defeated by a margin of 58 to 42 percent. A broad-based grassroots movement to oppose this right-wing offensive politicized thousands of gay people. Organizers were able to elicit “No on 6” public endorsements from President Jimmy Carter, former president Gerald Ford, governor of California Jerry Brown, and former governor of California Ronald Reagan. The defeat of Proposition 6 was one of the greatest victories for the American gay movement in the 1970s, and generated international interest.


November 8 * Edmonton * The Alberta School Trustees’ Association passed a resolution (329 in favour, 318 against) asking the Alberta government not to introduce legislation that would restrict local school boards “from dealing with proven instances of homosexuality among
any of its paid employees, elected officials, or student enrolments.” The resolution had been proposed earlier in the year by Willard Brooks of Cardston, Alberta, at a meeting of Southern Alberta school trustees held in Lethbridge, Alberta. The resolution’s intent was to encourage the expulsion of gay students and staff from schools. It was proposed shortly after the Alberta Human Rights Commission released its recommendation to add sexual orientation to Alberta’s Individual Rights Protection Act. The resolution was also made in response to the Alberta Teachers’ Association’s strong opposition to Anita Bryant’s appearance in Edmonton on April 29, 1978. The action was controversial, and occurred the same week that voters in California had defeated Proposition 6, a similar initiative; the Edmonton Journal called it “outrageous and unwarranted.”


November 8 * Montréal * About twenty-five gay men and lesbians demonstrated in front of Montréal City Hall to call for an end to police harassment and to urge citizens to vote against Mayor Jean Drapeau in the upcoming November 12, 1978, civic election. The demonstration was organized by ADGQ. (See also November 12, 1978.)

November 8 * Montréal * Police arrested thirty-three women and twenty-five men and beat up many others at a demonstration protesting the appearance of the band Battered Wives at the Theatre Saint-Denis. The protest was organized by the Montréal Coalition des Femmes contre la Violence. Many lesbians and gay men had been in the demonstration.


November 9 * Toronto * BPFPF had an information booth at Toronto’s Town Hall during the Freedom of Expression Committee’s reading entitled “Banned Books.”


November 10 * Montréal * ADGQ filed a complaint with the Québec Human Rights Commission against Québec Liberal party leader Claude Ryan after Ryan commented in the magazine *L’Actualité* that one of the reasons for his marriage was that he did not want to “passer pour un maudit homosexuel” (“pass for a damned homosexual”). The commission dismissed the complaint in 1979 after it concluded the remark was an innocent joke.


November 11 * Ottawa * A wreath bearing a pink triangle was laid at the Cenotaph by members of CLGRC to remember lesbians and gays who died during World War II. Martin Hogarth, a corporal in the Canadian Armed Forces until his dismissal in 1975 on the grounds of homosexuality, laid the wreath.

November 11 * Winnipeg * A silent vigil was held near the gay cruising area at the Legislature buildings to protest recent physical attacks against men in the area, including the beating death of Peter Petkaw. Local police had been unsympathetic concerning the attacks, and suggested that one solution would be for gays to stay away from the area.


November 12 * Montréal * Mayor Jean Drapeau was re-elected to office with 61 percent of the vote. Drapeau and the Civic Party took all but two of the city council’s fifty-four seats. The ADGQ had campaigned hard against Drapeau and his party, and had called upon lesbians, gays, and their supporters to vote against Drapeau in view of his long record of anti-gay actions.


November 13 * Mississauga, Ont. * GEM played a role in the municipal election of November 13 by recommending candidates that they felt would help to make Peel region a safer place for gay people to live. Hazel McCallion, who was not recommended, was elected mayor of Mississauga.

November 13 * Toronto * William S. Burroughs, author of *Naked Lunch*, read at the Cinema Lumiere.


November 13 * Vancouver * The *Vancouver Express*, a newspaper published by striking workers of the *Vancouver Sun* and the *Province*, accepted a subscription ad for *Gay Tide*. *Gay Tide* had launched a lawsuit against the *Vancouver Sun*, which was currently before the Supreme Court of Canada, after the paper had refused to print a similar ad in 1974.


November 13 * Windsor, Ont. * Jim Monk, an openly gay autoworker for Chrysler Canada, lost a bid for election as a trustee for Ward 3 of the Windsor Board of Education. Monk was active in WGU and other groups. Although he was endorsed by the Windsor Labour Council and campaigned vigorously, Monk placed seventh out of eight candidates for the two seats.


November 13–December 8 * Ottawa * The National Film Theatre hosted a ten-film series entitled “Images of Homosexuality,” which included *Truxx* and *The Naked Civil Servant*.


November 14 * Toronto * An organizational meeting was held at MCC,
29 Granby Street, to form a Toronto chapter of POG. (See also November 27, 1978.)


**November 15** * Toronto * Ontario NDP leader Michael Cassidy declared that proposed new landlord and tenant legislation relating to residential tenancies should include provisions protecting people from eviction based on their sexual orientation. Cassidy made the statement during question period at a public meeting called by the Federation of Metro Tenants’ Associations, held at St. Lawrence Hall.


**November 15** * Vancouver * SPAG actively polled candidates for city council, the school board, and the parks board regarding gay issues, in advance of the November 15 Vancouver municipal election. Jack Volrich, who had opposed human rights for minorities and had spoken of the “homosexual problem” in the past, was re-elected to a second term as mayor of Vancouver.


**November 17** * Montréal, Halifax, Regina, Toronto * Over 1,000 people attended a demonstration in Montréal organized by the coalition Opération Liberté/Operation Freedom, held to protest increasing state repression in Canada. The event commemorated the eighth anniversary of the invocation of the War Measures Act during the October Crisis in 1970, and the first anniversary of the Truxx raid. Gays and lesbians participated in a contingent supported by a coalition of seven gay and lesbian groups. Public meetings and events in support of the Montréal
demonstration were also held in Halifax, Regina, and Toronto.

November 18 * Edmonton * Lesbians participated in a demonstration and rally to “reclaim the streets” in a protest against rape. Edmonton had recently witnessed an alarming rise in sexual assaults, giving it the reputation of Canada’s Rape City.

November 18–19 * Regina * Delegates at the annual provincial NDP conference debated and for the first time approved (by a counted vote) a resolution to prohibit discrimination on the basis of age, marital status, sexual orientation, or handicap. The SGC had lobbied extensively for this result. In his closing address, however, NDP Premier Allan Blakeney dampened expectations of immediate action by declaring that
it would “require a good deal of thought to see what the appropriate role of government is.” (See also April 20, 1979.)


November 19 * Regina * SAHR passed a resolution supporting the inclusion of sexual orientation in Saskatchewan’s human rights legislation, and voiced support for the SGC.

[“Saskatchewan Association on Human Rights Supports Our Coalition,” Gay Saskatchewan (Saskatoon), 1, no. 11 (December 1978): (6).]

November 22 * Toronto * Toronto Ward 7 school trustee Barry Tulip was arrested in the washroom at the Eaton’s store at Shopper’s World Plaza and charged with gross indecency and performing an indecent act. Tulip was one of seventy-four men arrested during police stake-outs of the washrooms. He pleaded guilty to performing an indecent act (the other charge was dropped), was given a conditional discharge, and was warned to stay away from Shopper’s World Plaza. Tulip described the case as a police “set-up”; he had been acquitted of similar charges in 1977.

[Ian Harvey and Jan Lounder, “It Was Police Set-up, School Trustee Says: Morals Charge Guilty Plea ‘Doesn’t Mean a Thing,’” Toronto Sun, 11 January 1979, p. 2.]

November 24–26 * Toronto * Forty Jewish gay men and lesbians from around North America gathered for “Shabbaton ’78,” sponsored by the B’nai Kehillah Congregation. The religious and cultural celebration
included workshops and seminars to discuss organizing and social programming.


November 26 * Toronto * William Duncan Robinson, twenty-five, was stabbed to death in his apartment after being seen leaving the St. Charles Tavern in the company of a man. Robinson was the fourteenth gay man to be murdered in Toronto since February 18, 1975; eight of the murders were unsolved. There was speculation that one man committed a number of the murders.


November 27 * San Francisco, Calif. * Gay supervisor Harvey Milk and gay-ally mayor George Moscone were assassinated at City Hall by former supervisor Dan White, who was charged with their murders. The death of Milk, who symbolized the ascendancy of openly gay men and lesbians to public office, was a heavy blow to the gay community in San Francisco and elsewhere. Jewish gays were particularly affected by Milk’s murder; Congregation B’nai Kehillah of Toronto held a memorial service for Milk on December 8, 1978, at Holy Trinity Church. (See also May 21, 1979.)

November 27 * Toronto * A press conference was held to announce the official formation of a local branch of POG, the third in Canada. The group was coordinated by June Tattle and assisted by Betty Fairchild of Denver, Colorado, author of *Now That You Know*, who had long been associated with Parents of Gays organizations in the United States.


November 29 * Ottawa * In the House of Commons, Justice Minister Marc Lalonde tabled a report by the Law Reform Commission of Canada calling for the repeal of Criminal Code sections making gross indecency, indecent assault, rape, buggery, and bestiality indictable criminal offences under the present law. The commission recommended that these sections be repealed and replaced by only two new ones, sexual interference and sexual aggression. Under this proposal, consensual sexual activity would not be a matter for the Criminal Code.

[Ron Dayman, “Criminal Code Reform,” *Forum* (CLGRC, Montréal), 3, no. 3 (Summer 1978): (2–3); Mike Johnstone, “Brief to LRC,”]
November 29 * Toronto * Provincial Court Judge Charles Scullion disqualified himself from hearing charges against ten men arising out of arrests made at Hanlan’s Point beach for public nudity. Scullion had received information from the police about these charges while working in the Attorney-General’s offices until September 1978. The cases were remanded until February 28 and March 1, 1979. (See also March 1, 1979.)


November 30 * Montréal * The Rubber Gun, a gay-themed film directed by Allan Moyle and produced by Moyle and Steven Lack, was released.

David Mole, “Mainlining” (review), Body Politic, no. 54 (1979), p. 33.

November (late) * Ottawa, Toronto * Supporters of John Damien distributed 7,000 flyers to people entering racetracks in Ottawa and Toronto to remind them of Damien’s case.


December * Lollar, West Germany * Schwule Poesie am Beispiel Ian Young [Gay Poetry Modeled after Ian Young] by Joachim S. Hohmann and Ian Young, a German translation of a collection of Young’s selected poems, was published by Verlag Andreas Achenbach.

December * Ottawa * The GCCS and SGC announced their withdrawal from the CLGRC due to major policy differences on gay rights strategies and lesbian participation within the movement. After Stonewall magazine also announced that it would be leaving CLGRC by February 1979.


December * Québec, Qué. * The Groupe Gai de l’Université Laval (GGUL) received official accreditation at Laval University.


December * Toronto * The Association of Gay Social Service Workers was officially formed. Its goals were to offer mutual support and solidarity to gay social workers, to provide a forum for gay issues within the profession, to promote gay rights, to develop and pool knowledge about the gay subculture, and to discuss clinical issues regarding counselling to gays.


December * Toronto * The Toronto Teachers’ Federation, representing male and female elementary school teachers in the City of Toronto, passed a motion at its representative assembly incorporating a general human rights clause as policy. The clause included protection based on sexual orientation.


December * Vancouver * bill bissett’s book of poetry Sailor was published by Talonbooks.

December 2 * Calgary * After the manager of the King’s Arms Tavern (“The Pit”) at the Palliser Hotel (133 Ninth Avenue S.W.) denied further service to about forty people seated in the “gay” section of the bar, six policemen arrived to assist him in evicting more than twenty patrons. The King’s Arms had been popular with a regular gay clientele for years, but starting with a renovation of the tavern in May 1977, relations between patrons and management had deteriorated.

[Doug Young, “King’s Arms Denies Service: Gay Customers React to Discrimination,” *Gay Calgary*, 2, no. 4 (December 1978): 1.]

December 2 * Toronto * Writers May Sarton and Audrey Thomas read at the OISE Auditorium in an event sponsored by the Toronto Women’s Bookstore and the Women’s Writing Collective.


December 3 * London, Ont. * A meeting of CGRO was held. Community engagement and financial difficulties faced by lesbian and gay groups were prominent topics of discussion.


December 4 * Vancouver * Craig Russell performed at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre.


December 4–16 * Toronto * The San Francisco Gay Men’s Theatre Collective performed the play *Crimes against Nature* at the Music Hall Theatre.


**December 7** * Montréal * ADGQ laid an official complaint with the Québec Human Rights Commission against the agency that provided Santa Clauses for local department stores. M. Henri Paquet, president of the Association des pères Noël du Québec (Association of Santa Clauses of Quebec), had declared that all candidates for hiring must have “no homosexual tendencies.” (See also June 8, 1979.)


**December 9** * Toronto * LOOT held a benefit dance at St. Paul’s Church to raise money for a Canada-wide lesbian conference.


**December 9–10** * Ottawa * A conference marking the thirtieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, sponsored by the CHRC, concluded that Canada needed tougher human rights laws, less conservative courts, less powerful governments, and a public that didn’t turn the other cheek. Gay rights were mentioned frequently during the conference, particularly the absence of sexual orientation protections in provincial human rights codes (except in Québec).


**December 9–10** * Québec, Qué. * Father Gerard was ordained as an openly gay priest in the Eucharistic Catholic Church during a special ceremony held by a bishop of the order from New York City. The Church, theologically conservative but socially liberal and based on the
rites of the Roman Catholic Church, had about a hundred members in the Québec City region.


**December 9–22** * Toronto * On December 9, 1978, policemen raided the Barracks baths (56 Widmer Street) and arrested twenty-eight men. Twenty-three of the men were charged with being found-ins in a common bawdy house, and five with keeping a common bawdy house. George Hislop, president of CHAT, was one of the men charged as a keeper. About twenty policemen participated in the raid, and used hammers and crowbars to smash in doors and open lockers. Police also seized the 800-name membership list for the Barracks, as well as membership cards. This is believed to be the first organized assault by police on a gay bathhouse in Toronto’s history. On December 11, about 400 people attended a community meeting held at the 519 Church Street Community Centre to discuss options for an organized action against the police raid. A press conference was held December 12, and on December 16, 400 people marched from the 519 Church Street Community Centre to Toronto City Hall for a rally, which was addressed by Alderman Dan Heap, Tim McCaskell of the *Body Politic*, Rev. Brent Hawkes of MCC, and others. On December 12, the accused men appeared in provincial court before Judge Jack Climans, pleaded not guilty, and were remanded. On December 22, the December 9th Defence Fund was formalized, with Michael Laking as chair and Rev. Brent Hawkes as treasurer. The fund hoped to raise up to $100,000 to help cover the legal expenses of the owners and found-ins. (See also December 18, 1978; January 22, 1979; March 5, 1979; June 2, 1979; July 6, 1979; October 29, 1979; November 19, 1979; November 28, 1979; December 10, 1979; January 4, 1980; February 26, 1980; April 8, 1980; June 4, 1980; September 8, 1980; November 17, 1980; February 5, 1981; March 16, 1981; March 20, 1981; March 30–April 21, 1981; April 2, 1981; April 22, 1981; April 23, 1981; May 1981; May 4, 1981; June 12, 1981; June 23, 1981; October 15, 1981; November 20, 1981; and December 11, 1981.)

December 16 * Toronto * The LMDF and GYT held a benefit dance at the 519 Community Centre.


December 18 * Toronto * Staff Sgt. Gary Donovan of the Metro Toronto Police called three school boards in the Toronto region to inform them of the names of teachers in their employ charged in the December 9 raid on the Barracks baths. The police department later
reprimanded Donovan for his action.


December 30 * Toronto * The lesbian rhythm and blues/rock band Mama Quilla II was officially launched at LOOT’s New Year’s celebration concert, held at St. Paul’s Centre, which was attended by 280 women. Mama Quilla II included Susan Cole (piano/vocals), backed by Anne (guitar), Linda Jain (drums), Donna Marchand (bass), and Linda Robitaille (guitar).


December 30 * Toronto * The fundraising party “Raid!” was held at the Dream Factory to mark the first anniversary of the police raid on the offices of the Body Politic. Performers included David Roche and the Beds.
December (late) * Edmonton * At its annual conference, CUP voted to uphold its two-year boycott of CBC radio advertising to protest the CBC’s discriminatory public service announcement policy. CUP also passed a motion in support of the *Body Politic*.


Winter * Toronto * The Ontario Board of Censors cut more than one minute from Jack Hazan’s *A Bigger Splash*, a documentary on gay British painter David Hockney, for its commercial release in Ontario.


Winter * Toronto * Representatives from five gay organizations prepared a proposal asking the Toronto Board of Education to establish a Gay Liaison Committee. John Argue was the contact for the Committee.

[“Committee Seeks Link to Board to Express Community Concerns,” *Body Politic*, no. 50 (1979), p. 14.]
1979

—— * Austin, Tex. * Robert K. Martin’s book *The Homosexual Tradition in American Poetry* was published by the University of Texas Press. Martin was a professor of English at Concordia University in Montréal.


—— * Halifax * The play script *The Night They Raided Truxx*, by Paul Ledoux and Terry Last, was published by the Dramatists’ Co-op of Nova Scotia.


—— * LaSalle, Qué. * Guy Ménard’s book of poetry *Fragments* was published by Hurtubise HMH.


—— * Montréal * Marie-Claire Blais’s novel *Le Sourd dans la ville* was published by Editions internationals Alain Stanké. It won the 1980 Governor-General’s Literary Award for French-language fiction. An English-language translation by Carol Dunlop (*Deaf to the City*) was published in Toronto in spring 1981 by Lester & Orpen Dennys; in the U.S. in 1987 by Overlook Press (Woodstock, N.Y.); and again in Toronto in 2006 by Exile Editions.

—— * Montréal * A.E. Dreuilhe’s study *La Société invertie, ou, les gais de San Francisco* was published by Flammarion.

—— * Montréal * Guilda (pseud. of Jean Guilda de Mortellaro), one of Canada’s most famous female impersonators and cabaret performers, released the memoir *Guilda: elle et moi*, co-written with Denis Monette and published by Éditions Québécor. A second, heavily illustrated memoir, *Il était une fois—Guilda*, co-written with Carolyne Marengo and Nicole Hogue, was published in Laval, Québec, by P.P. Canada in 2009.

Bibliography. Second ed., Canadian Gay Archives Publication no. 9 (Toronto: Canadian Gay Archives, 1984), p. 258.]

—— * Montréal * André Roy’s book of poetry Les Passions du samedi was published by Les Herbes Rouges.

—— * Montréal * Paul-François Sylvestre’s history of the Canadian gay liberation movement’s first decade, Les Homosexuels s’organisent: au Québec et ailleurs, was published by Éditions Homeureux.

—— * Montréal * Transvestites/Travesties à Montréal (TAM) was formed to organize social evenings, discussion groups, and outings for transvestites, both heterosexual and homosexual. The newsletter TAMs & Tissues began publication in October 1979. David Cassidy was the coordinator of TAM.
[“Growing,” Body Politic, no. 54 (1979), p. 13; “TAMs,” TAMs & Tissues, 1, no. 1 (October 1979): (6).]

—— * Montréal-Nord * Claude Beausoleil’s La surface du paysage: Textes et poèmes was published by VLB Éditeur.
—— * Toronto * Don Garner’s book of poetry *Yukon Violation* was published by Huron Path Press.


—— * Toronto * Thom Gunn’s poem “Bally Power Play” was hand-printed by David Brooks at the Massey College Press as a limited edition broadside (ninety copies) and sold to collectors as a fundraiser for the BFPFP.

[“Aesthetera,” *Body Politic*, no. 60 (1980), p. 33.]

—— * Toronto * A second edition of *With Downcast Gays: Aspects of Homosexual Self-oppression*, by Andrew Hodges and David Hutter, was published by PTP.


—— * Toronto * Father John H. McGoey’s book *Sex, Love and the Believing Boy* was published by Gall Publications. The book, aimed at teenage boys, declared that all devout young Roman Catholics should always say no to premarital sex, masturbation, contraception, homosexuality, and abortion. It was reprinted in 1987.

[Chris Bearchell, “Perfecting the Story of NO, or, Pity the Believing Boy” (review), *Body Politic*, no. 63 (1980), p. 15.]

—— * Toronto * *Paul/David*, a short documentary about gay men aimed at the high school market, was released. It was directed by Gord Keith and produced by Jack Lemmon and Harry Sutherland.


—— * Toronto * *Craig Russell and His Ladies*, with text by Craig Russell and photographs by David Street, was published by Gage Publishing Limited.

— * Toronto * A group of gay working reporters and editors in the mass media formed the Toronto Gay Press Club. The group met once a month to discuss gay politics, covering gay news stories, and coming out in the newsroom.

[“Growing,” Body Politic, no. 54 (1979), p. 13.]

— * Toronto * TIT began to publish a newsletter, Skirting the Issue, which ceased after only one issue.

[“Aesthetera,” Body Politic, no. 57 (1979), p. 36; Denise Hudson papers, accession 2002–064, Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto.]

— * Toronto * Susan Tyburn’s pamphlet Breaking the Chains: The Struggle for Gay Liberation and Socialism was published by the International Socialists.


— * Vancouver * The Lesbian and Feminist Mothers Political Action Group (LAFMPAG) was formed to increase feminist support for mothers and children.

—— * Vancouver * The Lesbian Literary Collective (LLC) was formed, as a successor to the Lesbian Literary Society that had started in late 1975 or early 1976. Members of the LLC came together to read and study literature, and went on to publish the lesbian-feminist newspaper Radical Reviewer, beginning in June 1980.


—— * Vancouver * Michael McGarry’s short film In Black and White, produced at a Simon Fraser University film workshop, was rejected for showing by the judges of the 1979 British Columbia Student Film Festival. Although the film was of high quality, it was rejected because of its theme, which was about the police harassment of men who cruise public washrooms. (See also November 2, 1980.)


—— * Victoria, B.C. * The Society for Homosexual Awareness, Research, and Education (SHARE) was formed to provide lesbians and gay men with a supportive meeting place and to fight against discrimination based on sexual orientation. In 1981 it became the Island Gay Community Centre Society (IGCCS).


**January** * Saskatoon * The steering committee of the SGC released a forty-six-page brief, Lesbians and Gay Men: A Minority without Rights, which called for the inclusion of sexual orientation in the Saskatchewan
Human Rights Code. The brief was delivered to all members of the Saskatchewan legislature. Renaissance Saskatchewan, a right-wing evangelical group associated with Rev. Ken Campbell, vehemently opposed this amendment to the code. (See also February 21, 1979.)

[John Cooper and Maureen Semchuk, “Protection for Homosexuals Urged in Human Rights Legislation,” Carillon (Univ. of Regina), 1 February 1979, p. 3; “Gays, Renaissance Spar Over Rights Brief,” Body Politic, no. 50 (1979), p. 14; “Renaissance International Rears Its Ugly Head,” Gay Saskatchewan (Saskatoon), 2, no. 3 (March 1979): (8); Untitled article, Gay Saskatchewan (Saskatoon), 2, no. 1 (January 1979): (5).]

**January** * Saskatoon * The Saskatoon and District Labour Council passed a resolution calling for Saskatchewan’s human rights legislation to be amended to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation.

[Untitled article, Gay Saskatchewan (Saskatoon), 2, no. 3 (March 1979): (3).]

**January 2** * Toronto * The trial of PTP, publisher of the Body Politic, and the Press’s corporate officers Gerald Hannon, Ed Jackson, and Ken Popert, began before Ontario Provincial Court Judge Sydney Harris at Old City Hall. They were charged with using the mails to distribute material alleged to be immoral, indecent, or scurrilous; the charges related to the publication of Gerald Hannon’s article “Men Loving Boys Loving Men” in the December 1977 issue of the Body Politic. There were many reporters and spectators present during the six days of testimony and legal arguments, including gay men and lesbians wearing pink triangles, as well as Christian activists armed with Bibles. For a two-week period, Toronto and cross-Canada media were filled with news of the trial and other gay topics. Gay rallies were held across Canada, and also in Boston, New York, and San Francisco, to protest the trial. Judge Harris heard the final summations on January 16, 1979, and postponed judgment until February 14, 1979.


January 3 * Toronto * The BPFPF and the GATE (Toronto) sponsored a rally and march, attended by about 350 people. George Hislop introduced the speakers and entertainers, including Joanne Kates, Gordon Montador, the Clichettes, David Maclean, General Idea, Lorraine Segato, Chris Bearchell, and the Pink Triangle Press trial defendants (Gerald Hannon, Ed Jackson, and Ken Popert). Newly elected Toronto mayor John Sewell addressed the rally; he defended the *Body Politic* and called for an amendment to the Ontario Human Rights Code to outlaw discrimination against gays. Sewell’s carefully worded speech, delivered when the PTP case was still before the courts, caused a
media uproar. Within two weeks of the event Sewell was not able to leave his office except under police guard, due to a threat made against his life. By late January, however, the majority of the hundreds of letters and telephone calls received at the mayor’s office supported his stand. (See also January 7, 1979, and March 6, 1979.)


January 6 * Port Huron, Mich. * American border authorities prevented a gay man from entering the United States because a routine computer check revealed a twelve-year-old conviction for a sexual offence; he was classified as a “known sexual deviant” and was denied entry.

January 7 * Toronto * In reaction to Mayor John Sewell’s defence of homosexuality at a rally on January 3, about 1,000 people, mostly fundamentalist Christians led by Rev. Ken Campbell and Rev. David Mainse, rallied at Toronto City Hall for a Festival of Faith, Freedom, and the Family.


January 11 * Vancouver * More than 400 people protested outside the Orpheum Theatre, where a Christian revival meeting was being hosted by Rev. David Mainse of 100 Huntley Street. There were rumours that Anita Bryant was scheduled to appear at the revival, but she did not. The protesters picketed, handed out brochures, and spoke to the meeting attendees. The protest was organized by the CAD.

January 12 * Saskatoon * Deputy Mayor George Taylor officially opened the new rented premises of the GCCS, located on the lower level of 245 Third Avenue South. The centre was based at this location until the end of February 1982, when the landlord locked the GCCS out of the location due to non-payment of rent.


January 12 * Victoria, B.C. * Nancy Goldsberry of FLAG organized a protest of about thirty people outside a rally sponsored by the religious television program 100 Huntley Street. She claimed that funds raised by the program were being sent to support the Anita Bryant Crusade and Renaissance International, both of which were campaigning against gay rights. The groups denied the accusation.


January 13 * Toronto * John Argue sent a letter to Fiona Nelson, chair of the Toronto Board of Education, on behalf of five gay organizations asking for the establishment of a Gay Liaison Committee. Nelson and the board refused to even acknowledge the request for almost six months, and finally agreed to two brief meetings in June and July 1979. (See also October 21, 1979.)

[“John Argue” vertical file, Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto; “Putting a Full Nelson on the Liaison Issue,” Body Politic,

**January 15** * Ottawa * Members of the CHRC declared that they were reluctant to advocate that benefits granted to married couples also be extended to unmarried couples, including homosexual couples.  

**January 17** * Windsor, Ont. * Gail (Gayle) Bezaire, a lesbian mother, was granted custody of her two children. This was allowed only under strict guidelines that would prevent “any open and avowed lesbian or homosexual relationships in the home,” and despite the stated disapproval of her lesbianism by Judge Joseph McMahon of the Essex County Court. On April 23, 1979, Judge McMahon reversed his decision after Bezaire moved to Toronto to live with her female lover. On May 1, 1979, twenty-five lesbians and gay men picketed the Family Court in Toronto to protest the reversed decision. In May 1979, Bezaire moved to Calgary where she established the Gay Parents’ Defence Fund (GPDF). A separate Gayle Bezaire Defence Committee was also established to help raise funds to appeal her case. (See also March 15, 1980, and September 18, 1980.)  

January 19–25 * Vancouver * Mike Ura’s profile of gay hustlers working the Davie Street strip was published in Georgia Straight.  

January 21 * Oakville, Ont. * A Christian Liberation Rally, sponsored by Rev. Ken Campbell of Renaissance International, was held at Faith Baptist Church. The theme of the rally was “Grossly Indecent” and focused on homosexuals. Local gay activists attended the rally to protest.  

January 22 * Toronto * The December 9th Defence Fund, an ad hoc support group established to aid the twenty-eight men charged in the raid on the Barracks on December 9, 1978, elected an executive committee during a public meeting. This group was the forerunner to the Right to Privacy Committee (RTPC). (See also March 5, 1979.)  

January 26–27 * Saskatoon * Delegates of the annual conference of the Saskatoon and District Labour Council, representing thirty-six local unions, passed a resolution supporting the expansion of provincial human rights legislation to outlaw discrimination based on sexual orientation.  
January 28 * Regina * The Regina chapter of the SGC was formed.
[John Cooper, “Gay’s [sic] Outreach Program Unique,” *Carillon* (Univ. of Regina), 1 February 1979, p. 1.]

January 30–31 * Halifax * GAE organized a picket of the Canada Customs office to protest the growth of censorship in Canada. The next day, GAE sponsored a public meeting on censorship, held at the Turret Gay Community Centre. Speakers at the meeting included Tom Burns, owner of the Alternate Bookstore, Alex Wilson of the *Body Politic*, and Lynn Murphy, a Dartmouth librarian.

January 31 * Toronto * The St. George NDP Riding Association passed a resolution calling for an independent civilian probe into allegations of police harassment of the gay community, particularly relating to the police raids on the *Body Politic* and the Barracks.
[“NDPers Backing Homosexuals,” *Toronto Sun*, 1 February 1979, p. 2.]

January–February * Toronto * CGRO launched a campaign to compile evidence of police harassment of lesbians and gays throughout Ontario.

February * Boston, Mass. * Glad Day Bookshop opened a branch store in Boston, located at 22 Bromfield Street, second floor.
February * Kelowna, B.C. * George Milne, forty, was arrested on five charges of gross indecency with males under nineteen years old, and five additional charges of indecent assault against the same men. During the trial, the Crown dropped the indecent assault charges because there was no evidence of force, violence, or coercion. The youths testified that they had consented to and were willing participants in any sexual activity. After a lengthy hearing, however, Milne pleaded guilty to the charges of gross indecency. This was his second conviction, as he had been jailed thirteen years earlier after being convicted of indecent assault. The Crown applied to have Milne declared a dangerous sexual offender (DSO), which was granted in September 1979, and he was placed in the Matsqui Federal Penitentiary in Abbotsford, B.C., for an indeterminate sentence.


February * Québec * The Conseil de presse du Québec/Quebec Press Council agreed with plaintiffs that articles published in the newspapers *Le Soleil*, *La Presse*, and *Quotidien de Chicoutimi* had fostered anti-gay prejudice. (See also May 1979.)


February * Toronto * John Hofsess’s profile of Marie-Claire Blais, “I Am, Simply, a Writer,” was published in *Books in Canada*.


February * Toronto * A second edition of George F. Walker’s play *Zastrozzi: The Master of Discipline: A Melodrama* was published by Playwrights Co-op. It was re-published by Playwrights Canada Press in

February 1 * Toronto * The Coalition for Life Together (CLT) was formed to represent the interests of all groups that were recommended by the report *Life Together* for inclusion in an amended Ontario Human Rights Code. The CLT brought together supporters of gays and lesbians, people with disabilities, the elderly, and former prisoners.

February 6 * Vancouver * Representatives of SEARCH and SPAG made submissions to a meeting of Vancouver City Council, which was reviewing the Equal Employment Opportunity Programme (EEOP). Council decided to withdraw funding for EEOP.

February 7 * Ottawa * The House of Bishops of the Anglican Church of Canada decided to allow the ordination of “admitted homosexuals” to Holy Orders if they agreed to abstain from homosexual sex. The new policy, which was revealed in the March 1979 issue of *Canadian Churchman*, caused a storm of controversy across the country. But, during a ten-day Anglican Consultative Council conference held in May 1979 in London, Ontario, Most Rev. Donald Coggan, Archbishop of Canterbury, declared that the Anglican Church of Canada had made the right decision. The Church later clarified that the decision did not mean that it condoned homosexuality as a lifestyle among clergy or the laity.
[“Anglicans Will Ordain Celibate Gays ... and Baptists Are Upset,”

**February 8** *Windsor, Ont.* *The Windsor Star* refused to print a display ad for a WGU dance, stating that it had an unwritten policy of allowing gays to advertise only in the classified ads section of the paper. WGU complained to the publisher of the Star prior to requesting an adjudication by the Windsor Media Council and the Ontario Press Council. (See also May 11, 1979.)

[“Stay in Classifieds, Star Publisher Says,” Body Politic, no. 51 (1979), p. 14.]

**February 9** *Regina* *The executive council of the Saskatchewan
Federation of Labour presented its annual brief to the provincial government. The brief included a request that discrimination based on sexual orientation be prohibited by human rights legislation.

[Janet Steffenhagen, “SFL Calls for Rejection of Wage Control,” Saskatoon Star-Phoenix, 9 February 1979, p. 3.]

**February 10–12** * Vancouver * Leonard Matlovich, the American air force sergeant who challenged the Pentagon in 1975 regarding its bias against gays in the military, visited Vancouver and spoke at SEARCH’s awards dinner on February 11.


**February 11** * Toronto * Dr. Thoreau Willard O’Mulvenny, the Fort Erie doctor who revealed to John Damien’s employers that he was gay, thus initiating the events that led to Damien’s dismissal by the Ontario Racing Commission, died after a brief illness. Damien had sued O’Mulvenny when the doctor’s role in his dismissal was discovered. John Damien’s legal fight against his dismissal was now entering its fifth year.


**February 14** * Toronto * Ontario Provincial Court Judge Sydney Harris found PTP, publisher of the Body Politic, and defendants Gerald Hannon, Ed Jackson, and Ken Popert not guilty as charged. He ruled that the December–January 1977–78 issue of the magazine, including the
article “Men Loving Boys Loving Men,” was not scurrilous, nor
indecent, nor immoral. The second charge, possession of obscene
material for distribution, was withdrawn by the Crown attorney. A
victory celebration was held that evening at Buddy’s Backroom Bar, 370
Church Street. Ontario Attorney General Roy McMurtry said that the
Crown would consider appealing the verdict. (See also March 6, 1979,
March–April 1979, and February 29, 1980.)

[Fred Blazer, “Clayton Ruby’s People Power,” Maclean’s, 22 October
1979, pp. 14, 16, 18; “Body Politic Acquitted,” Gay Calgary, no. 10
(1979), pp. 1, 3; “Body Politic Wins Court Case!” SPAG News
(Vancouver), 1, no. 5 (March 1979): 1, 3; “Body Politic Wins: Crown
to Appeal,” Gay Tide, no. 22 (1979), p. 3; Jonathan Burston, “The
Beer Was Sexist” (letter), Body Politic, no. 52 (1979), p. 4; Robin
Centerfold, 3, no. 4 (April–May 1979): 152–53; Ron Dayman, “Le
Body Politic en cour,” Gai(ejs du Québec: Journal, 1, no. 5
(February–March 1979): 1–2; Wendy Dey, “The Boys in the Band
Play On,” Maclean’s, 26 February 1979, p. 26; Claire Hoy, “Judge
Harris’ Logic Was Fuzzy in Homo-tab Case” (column), Toronto Sun,
Sunday ed., 18 February 1979, p. 12; Claire Hoy, “So They’re Free to
Print Filth: A Court Victory for Zanies” (column), Toronto Sun, 15
February 1979, p. 8; “The Judgment [sic]: The Queen vs. Pink
Triangle Press,” Body Politic, no. 51 (1979), p. 10; “Not Guilty
Gary Oakes, “Sex Article ‘Not Immoral’: Charges against
Homosexual Magazine Dismissed,” Toronto Star, four star ed., 15
February 1979, p. A2; “Pink Triangle Acquitted: News,” Metro
Community News 6 (2 March 1979): 5; “Pink Triangle Trial
Testimony,” Metro Community News 6 (2 February 1979): 2–3; Ken
Jean-Michel Sivry, “Retour sur le procès Body Politic,” Gai(e)s du
Québec: Journal, 1, no. 6 (April–May 1979): 6–7; David Lewis Stein
Chatelaine, July 1979, p. 24; “Still on Trial” (editorial), Body Politic,
no. 51 (1979), p. 7; “Update,” Gaymates (Saskatoon), no. 17 (1979),

**February 14–27** *Toronto* * Larry Fineberg’s comedy play *Life on Mars* was performed at the Toronto Free Theatre.


**February 16** *Ottawa* * Fire destroyed the GO Centre and several other offices and small stores at 378 Elgin Street. Arson was not suspected. GO lost all of its books, furniture, files, and some of its archives. During the following months GO was frustrated by anti-gay bigotry in searching for accommodation for a new centre. By June 1979 GO had relocated to 288½ Bank Street, but moved again in October 1979 (to 175 Lisgar Street) after having a dispute with the landlord over building standards. (See also May 23, 1980.)

February 17 * Toronto * David Lancashire’s article “The Pedophile: The Myth and the Reality” was published in the *Globe and Mail*.

February 19 * Toronto * The *Body Politic* launched a libel action against the *Toronto Star* and its editor-in-chief Denis Harvey. The action stemmed from the *Star*’s publication on February 15 of an article entitled “Now *Body Politic* Asks Cash from Wintario,” the day after the *Body Politic*’s acquittal, as well as an editorial on February 16 that erroneously implied that the *Body Politic* was making “truculent” and “provocative” demands for government funding. The *Body Politic* dropped the suit after the Ontario government announced that it would appeal the newspaper’s acquittal.

February 19–21 (Toronto) and February 22–24 (Montréal) * Save Today’s Oppressed Peoples/Sauvez tous les opprimés du peuple (STOP), a Christian counselling service formed to help men and women renounce homosexuality, held conferences that included testimony from “gays gone straight.” Rev. Francis Cormier, a former transsexual and reformed homosexual, formed STOP. A graduate of the Ontario Bible College, Cormier was the author of the book *The Boy Who Wanted to Be a Nun*. STOP was affiliated with Exodus International, based in
Minnesota. These were the first two conferences of their kind held in Canada.

[Stuart Russell, “STOP Us If You’ve Heard This One …,” Body Politic, no. 52 (1979), p. 9; “Sauvez tous les opprimés du peuple” vertical file, Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto.]

**February 20** * Winnipeg * Seven men and twelve male teenage hustlers were indicted on multiple sex charges after a police crackdown. Five other men were charged at later dates. The men were charged with having sex with the youths, aged thirteen to eighteen, in exchange for money, food, or lodging, in what became known as the “juvenile sex-for-cash” scandal. Most of the men charged were professionals, and included television host and columnist Allan Spraggett and Richard C. Malone, publisher of the Winnipeg Free Press. (See also July 1979; July 26, 1979; August 14–15, 1979; October 30, 1979; November 1979; December 12, 1979; February–March 1980; and April 3, 1980.)


**February 21** * Saskatoon * Kay Bierwiler, Brian Gladwell, and Doug
Wilson of SGC met with Saskatchewan’s Attorney General Roy Romanow to discuss their brief, *Lesbians and Gay Men: A Minority without Rights*. They reported Romanow was unwilling to commit himself and was in no way encouraging. He mentioned a hot debate in the NDP caucus and said that if human rights protections were granted for lesbians and gays that those rights might exclude teachers and child care workers.

[“AG Urges Group to Continue Pressure,” *Body Politic*, no. 51 (1979), p. 14; “Coalition Meets with Attorney General,” *Gay Saskatchewan* (Saskatoon), 2, no. 3 (March 1979): (6).]

**February 23** * Winnipeg * John Usher, eighteen, was sentenced to life imprisonment for the September 1978 murder of Peter Petkaw, who had been attacked on the “Hill,” Winnipeg’s outdoor gay cruising area.


**February 23–25** * Toronto * Harbinger Community Services of York University coordinated the first Interprovincial Conference of Sexuality Peer Counsellors, held at Hart House, University of Toronto. The conference was sponsored by the Bi-national Conference on Lesbian and Gay Youth. On February 25, the Lesbian and Gay Peer Counsellors Association was formed. At the same time, the Gay Social Workers group was forming.


**February 24** * Red Deer, Alta. * The Gay Association of Red Deer (GARD) held its first organizational meeting at the G.H. Dawe Community Centre. Fourteen people attended. GARD faced immediate opposition from local weekly newspapers. The *Red Deer Advocate* refused to print an ad announcing GARD’s formation, and the *Red Deer Advisor* refused to allow the group to use its mail-forwarding service. (See also March 1979.)

[Bruce, “GARD Holds First Meeting,” *Gay Association of Red Deer (GARD) Newsletter*, March 1979, pp. 1–2; Bruce, Untitled article,
February 27 * Regina * Provincial Conservative party leader Richard Collver caused a commotion in the Legislature after picking up on a flippant comment made by Brian Currie, president of GCCS, during a radio interview on station CKOM. Currie had mused about the statistical probability of there being a gay cabinet minister in Saskatchewan. Collver demanded in the Legislature that Premier Allan Blakeney respond to the charge, noting that homosexuals were easily blackmailed. Blakeney called Collver’s comments contemptible, denying the presence of any homosexuals in the cabinet. He also threatened to sue Collver for slander if he repeated the accusation outside of the Legislature. The controversy abated, and Collver stepped down as leader of the Progressive Conservatives on May 28, 1979. (See also April 20, 1979.)
Spokesperson Just Assumes One Minister Is Homosexual,” Regina Leader-Post, 28 February 1979, p. 14; “Premier Attacks Collver Rumour of Gay Minister,” Globe and Mail, metro ed., 1 March 1979, p. 9; Untitled article, Gay Saskatchewan (Saskatoon), 2, no. 3 (March 1979): (3); “Upset in the Legislature,” Gay Saskatchewan (Saskatoon), 2, no. 4 (April 1979): (3, 9).

February 27–March 4 * Toronto * Mazim Muzumdar’s Dance for Gods was performed at the Phoenix Theatre.


February 28 * Calgary * Fred Kennedy, a columnist for the Albertan, complained about the presence of male prostitutes on the streets of downtown Calgary, “... the lowest form of human degradation, which has grown to major proportions since a benevolent federal Liberal government allowed homosexuals out of the latrine.”

[Fred Kennedy, “Calgary Paying Price for Boom” (column), Albertan (Calgary), 28 February 1979, p. 6; “The Lowest Form of Degradation?” (editorial), Gay Calgary, no. 10 (1979), p. 2.]

February 28–March 17 * Toronto * John Palmer’s play The Pits was performed at the New Theatre, Adelaide Court.

[“Aesthetera,” Body Politic, no. 51 (1979), p. 39.]

February–March * Saskatoon * GAU presented its third lesbian and gay film series at the Place Riel Theatre. The films included A Bigger Splash, The Children’s Hour, and Word Is Out.

[“Film Series,” Gay Saskatchewan (Saskatoon), 2, no. 3 (March 1979): (3–4).]

March * Fredericton * The University of New Brunswick NDP Club put forward a resolution at the provincial NDP convention calling for the inclusion of a sexual orientation clause in the New Brunswick Human Rights Code.
March * Red Deer, Alta. * Ted Bower, the editor of the *Red Deer Advocate* and a father of four, pleaded guilty to sexually assaulting a fifteen-year-old boy in a sauna at a local swimming pool.

[“Red Deer Editor Guilty,” *Body Politic*, no. 52 (1979), p. 15.]

March * Toronto * “The Inside Track” section of *Saturday Night* published several brief profiles of gay and lesbian activists from across Canada, including Doug Wilson (“Out of the Closet in Saskatoon”), Naomi Brooks (“At Least They Have a Mutual Enemy”), Jarld Moldenhauer (“The Literary Side of Gay Liberation”), Marcel Pleau (“Gais et gaias in Québec”), and George Hislop (“No Matter What Happens, George Is Cheerful”).


March * Victoria, B.C. * Bill Keetch, a gay man, filed a complaint against the Ministry of the Attorney General with the British Columbia Human Rights Branch after he charged that he had been turned down for a position in the Court Probation Office because of his sexual orientation. Although the Ministry did not admit wrongdoing in the affair, on December 10, 1979, it agreed to pay Keetch a cash settlement of $7,600 and offered a temporary position; Keetch accepted.


March 1 * Montréal * Over thirty complaints of discrimination based on sexual orientation had been lodged with the Québec Human Rights Commission since the adoption of Bill 88 in December 1977. The numbers were released by Yves Coté, director of the Québec Human Rights Commission’s educational services, during a conference to
review the impact of Bill 88, sponsored by ADGQ. To date, only a few of the complaints had been resolved. (See also June 1979.)


**March 1** *Toronto* *Ontario* Provincial Court Judge Fred McMahon acquitted several men who had been charged with public nudity at Hanlan’s Point beach during the summer of 1978. He ruled that sunbathing in an isolated location was a lawful excuse for being nude, even though the beach was a public place. The office of the Attorney General appealed the acquittals, and County Court Judge Patrick Lesage later overruled the acquittals. All the men received either conditional or absolute discharges, and did not appeal.


**March 2** *Blaine, Wash.* *Laura Foster,* a resident of Vancouver, was turned away at the United States border because of her lesbianism. She was taking the bus to Eugene, Oregon, and had kissed her lover goodbye at the bus depot in view of the bus driver and passengers. When the bus reached the border she was questioned and refused entry. (See also August 26, 1979.)

[“Fighting Prejudice ... Out Now: Never Going Back,” Gay Tide, no. 23 (1979), p. (5).]

**March 5** *Toronto* *A general meeting of the December 9th Defence Fund confirmed that funds raised for the defence of men charged in the December 9, 1978, Barracks bathhouse raid would be made available in equal portions to keepers and found-ins. Later in March, the fund was renamed the Right to Privacy Committee (RTPC).
March 6 * Toronto * Ontario’s Attorney General Roy McMurtry announced that the Crown would appeal the February 14, 1979, acquittal of PTP and the Body Politic, claiming eight errors of law in the original judgement. (See also February 7–8, 1980.)


March 6 * Toronto * Mayor John Sewell postponed an appearance at a dinner sponsored by the Lambda Business Council (TLBC), an association of Toronto gay business owners, in the wake of negative public reaction to his appearance at a January 3, 1979, rally in support of the Body Politic.


March 7 * Collingwood, Ont. * A display ad printed in the Collingwood Times and the Enterprise-Bulletin weekly newspapers, and other local papers later, announced the opening of the Gay Information Centre. The informal centre, which operated from a post office box and a telephone number, coordinated parties at members’ homes in an attempt to give focus to gay life in the Collingwood region, and to provide accurate information about homosexuality. Charles La Frenie and Greg Rogers coordinated the ads and the centre. (See also March 21, 1979.)

March 7 * Toronto * Almost two dozen people took part in an anti-gay demonstration held at Queen’s Park, organized by the group Concerned Citizens of Toronto. The protesters presented a petition to Ontario Minister of Labour Robert Elgie, and demanded the formation of a new government body to “oversee children’s rights” because those rights were being undermined by militant homosexuals. There was a lone counter-demonstrator, James Fraser of the CGA, marching at the rally with a placard stating “Read the Body Politic.”


March 8 * Montréal * Numerous gay men and lesbians participated in International Women’s Day celebrations.

[Le comité-gai 8 mars, “Solidarité Femmes-Gais,” Gai(e)s du Québec: Journal, 1, no. 6 (April–May 1979): 8.]

March 9 * Toronto * Playwright John Herbert announced that he had contacted theatre producers around the world who had produced his play Fortune and Men’s Eyes and asked them to stage benefit performances on behalf of the BPFPF. Herbert’s move was in reaction to the Crown’s decision to appeal the acquittal of PTP and the Body Politic, announced three days before.

[“McMurtry Appeals TBP Acquittal, Refuses to Return Seized Material,” Body Politic, no. 52 (1979), p. 12.]

March 10 * Canada * The end to harassment of lesbians was one of four basic demands highlighted during International Women’s Day. This was the first time lesbian rights had been an up-front issue among organizers of the annual rally and march. Gay contingents were particularly evident in Halifax, Montréal, Toronto, Edmonton, and Vancouver.

March 10–12 * Montréal * Patrons of Bud’s, 1250, rue Stanley, a popular gay men’s bar, were harassed on three consecutive evenings by police officers. On the third evening, the police demanded the name, address, occupation, and age of every person in the bar.


March 12 * Toronto * Employees at the Richmond Street Health Emporium, 260 Richmond Street East, voted down a proposal to become members of the Hotel and Club Employees Union, Local 299, part of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Bartenders International Union. This was the first attempt in Canada to unionize workers at a steam bath. In June 1979, David Foreman, who had been most active in trying to unionize the bath, was dismissed. Foreman complained to the Ontario Labour Relations Board that he had been dismissed because of his union activities, and in August 1979 the Richmond Street Health Emporium settled the complaint by paying Foreman $900 in compensation.


March 13 * Toronto * The Tri-Aid Charitable Foundation, which operated a group home for gay youth at 8 Irwin Avenue, was refused registration under the Children’s Boarding Home Act by the Ontario Ministry of Community and Social Services, under minister Keith Norton. The ministry declared that it “felt anxious about the potential impact on a child’s sexuality at Tri-Aid House.” As a result of the ministry’s decision, Tri-Aid’s application to Toronto City Hall for rezoning as a boarding home was also defeated. Doug Chin, founder and
director of Tri-Aid, appealed both decisions. (See also August 13–16, 1979; September 14, 1979; and September 27, 1979.)


**March 14** * Alberta * Peter Lougheed’s Progressive Conservative Party consolidated its position in a provincial election, winning seventy-four of seventy-nine seats in the legislature; the Social Credit Party retained four seats, and the New Democrats held one seat. During meetings leading up to the election, NDP candidates had supported gay rights legislation, while the PC party continued to ignore calls for change.


**March 15–April 15** * Toronto * Steve Petch’s play *Sight Unseen*, a Tarragon Theatre Production, was performed at the Phoenix Theatre.


**March 16** * Ottawa * In its second annual report, the CHRC declared that, although it should have broadened powers to protect against discrimination based on sexual orientation, it required more experience with the legislation in its present form before making a strong case for
amendments to Parliament.

March 16 * Toronto * RTPC circulated copies of racist and homophobic articles that had been published in News and Views, the official publication of the Toronto Police Association. (See also March 28, 1979.)

March 18 * Toronto * Paulo Monette stabbed his lover, James McIntyre, to death after an evening of drunken argument. Monette pleaded guilty to manslaughter and on August 19, 1980, was sentenced to five years in penitentiary.
[“Five Years for Stabbing Lover,” Body Politic, no. 67 (1980), p. 15.]

March 20–26 * Toronto * Time In a Dark Room, a play for dancers by Graham Jackson and David Earle, was performed at the Toronto Dance Theatre.

March 21 * Collingwood, Ont. * Charles La Frenie, one of the organizers of the Gay Information Centre, was given notice by his employer, the Highwayman Inn, after being interviewed about the opening of the centre in Collingwood. La Frenie complained about the dismissal to the OHRC, but was told there was nothing they could do.
March 24 * Toronto * A conference entitled “Lesbians and Feminists in the Women’s Movement” was held.


March 26 * Toronto * A large public meeting, held at the Council Chamber, Toronto City Hall, resulted in the formation of the Working Group on Police-Minority Relations. The working group was formed in response to the racist and homophobic articles published in the March 1979 issue of News and Views, and to police resistance to taking appropriate disciplinary action against officers who abused minorities. (See also March 28, 1979, and June 12, 1979.)


March 28 * Toronto * Police Chief Harold Adamson and Police Association President Mal Connolly issued statements apologizing for homophobic statements made in Staff Sergeant Tom Mocclair’s article, “The Homosexual Fad,” published in the March 1979 issue of the Metropolitan Toronto Police Association’s journal News and Views. Mocclair referred to gays as “weirdos” and “fags.” Other articles in the same issue had denigrated Blacks, Jews, Catholics, and Italians. On April 2, Toronto City Council voted unanimously to condemn the Metropolitan Toronto Police Association for publishing the articles. Later, it was revealed that Mocclair had been accused of striking a gay man in front of the St. Charles Tavern during Halloween in 1968. (See also April 5, 1979, and June 13, 1979.)

[“Adamson, Police Union Head Apologize for 2 Articles,” Globe and Mail, metro ed., 29 March 1979, p. 5; Dick Beddoes, “Caution Beats

March 30 * Vancouver * Faculty members at the University of British Columbia (UBC) ratified a new framework agreement for collective bargaining that included protection from discrimination based on sexual orientation.
[“Gays Covered at UBC,” *SPAG News* (Vancouver), 1, no. 6 (April 1979): 11.]

**March 31** * Los Angeles, Calif. * The CGSL met with four other leagues to form the North American Gay Alliance (NAGA), an umbrella group of softball leagues that sponsored the annual Gay Softball World Series. (See also September 1979.)


**March–April** * Toronto * After its acquittal on February 14, 1979, the *Body Politic* reprinted the entire text of Gerald Hannon’s controversial article “Men Loving Boys Loving Men” in its March–April 1979 issue. The reprint was followed by an analysis by Chris Bearchell, Rick Bebout, and Alexander Wilson, of public reaction to the article.


**March–April** * Toronto * A *Toronto Star* poll indicated contradictory public attitudes towards employment rights for gay men and lesbians. More than four out of five of the 206 people polled said there should be “no prejudice against homosexuals in their right to work,” and yet more than half said, “There are jobs that homosexuals should not be allowed to have.”


**March–April** * Toronto * Thomas Waugh’s examination of the career of gay film director F.W. Murnau, “Murnau: The Films behind the Man,” was published in the *Body Politic*.

March–November * Canada * RCMP officers raided the homes of gay men across Canada, from Montréal to Saskatoon, armed with search warrants and writs of assistance to allow them to ransack homes and seize private pornography collections. Later in the year, RCMP visited at least two men in Vancouver to ask about possession of pornography. At the time, in Canada it was not illegal to possess pornography for private use. It was suspected that the RCMP was helping the FBI to investigate the distribution of film pornography from Brentwood, Falcon, and All-American Studios. During the annual conference of the CLGRC, held in Ottawa June 27–July 2, 1979, the CLGRC agreed to make presentations condemning the raids before the McDonald Commission investigating RCMP wrongdoing.


Spring * Québec, Qué. * A parliamentary commission of the Quebec National Assembly heard dozens of briefs on reform to the family law section of the Civil Code. Briefs submitted by the RNLGQ and the Montreal Association of Women and the Law called for the expansion of the definition of common law couples to include couples of the same sex.


April * Chicoutimi, Qué. * The newspaper Progrès-Dimanche agreed to pay an out-of-court settlement to avoid being charged with violating the Quebec Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms after it refused to print
an ad in September 1978 for CHAL announcing a gay liberation conference.


April * Toronto * During its Provincial Council meeting, the Ontario Secondary School Teacher’s Federation (OSSTF) passed a resolution to amend its anti-discrimination policy to include the term “sexual orientation.” [Ed Jackson, “Ontario Teachers’ Groups Endorse Gay Rights,” *Body Politic*, no. 53 (1979), p. 10.]

April 3 * Victoria, B.C. * During a meeting of the British Columbia Human Rights Commission, commissioner Ted Pearce suggested that they should establish a “take-a-gay-to-lunch day.” This was only one of several derogatory remarks about women and gays that Pearce made that day. Several complaints were lodged against Pearce, and B.C.’s Minister of Labour Allan Williams said that he would investigate. On May 1,
1979, the Commission issued a press release to apologize for remarks made during the meeting. (See also May 3, 1979.)


**April 3–7 * Montréal * ADGQ held its fifth planning conference, during which it decided to change its name slightly to L’association pour les droits de la communauté gaie du Québec (ADGQ). ADGQ also decided to publish a new journal, *Le Berdache*, beginning in June 1979, to replace the journal *Gai(es) du Québec*. *Le Berdache* came to be seen as a serious Francophone paper of record, in some ways similar to the *Body Politic*. It was published until September 1983 (issue 33).


**April 5 * Toronto * The Metropolitan Board of Commissioners of Police heard submissions from the gay community concerning Tom Moclair’s homophobic article “The Homosexual Fad,” published in the March 1979 issue of *News and Views*. The RTPC organized the meeting, held at the boardroom of police headquarters. The gay delegation submitted the brief *Our Police Force Too!*, written by John Alan Lee,
Peter Maloney, and George Hislop, which listed ten demands including the establishment of a permanent police–gay community liaison for Toronto. (See also May 17, 1979; May 31, 1979; and July 26, 1979.)


April 6 * Toronto * Richard William Andes was sentenced to eight years in prison for manslaughter in the August 1978 killing of Peter Christopher (Shirley Hauser), a transsexual.

[“Killer Gets 8 Years,” *Body Politic*, no. 52 (1978), p. 15.]

April 6–29 * Halifax * A production of Charles Dyer’s play *Staircase*, directed by Peter Wildeblood and starring Douglas Campbell and John Neville as the aging gay hairdressers, was performed at the Neptune Theatre.

[John Pallas, “Gay Theatre in Halifax?” *Have You Heard?*, 1, no. 11 (6 April 1979): (9).]

April 10 * Toronto * About one hundred people attended a rally of gays and people with disabilities, held at Queen’s Park, to protest delays in human rights legislation. The event was organized by CLT, and focused on the almost two-year-old report *Life Together*, submitted to the Ontario government by the OHRC. The report had recommended that human rights protection be extended to people with disabilities, to the elderly and young, and to gays and lesbians. The rally was addressed by leaders of both Ontario opposition parties (Stuart Smith of the Liberals and Michael Cassidy of the NDP), both of whom claimed that controversy over sexual orientation was delaying changes to the code. Ontario’s labour minister Robert Elgie, the minister responsible for introducing human rights amendments, was booed by the crowd when he delivered a speech that avoided the issues and stated that change would
not come quickly.


April 11 * Toronto * The Ontario Attorney General’s office declared that materials seized in the December 30, 1977, raid of the Body Politic’s offices would not be returned. This was believed to be the first time in Canadian legal history that materials seized as evidence for a court case were not returned after an acquittal. (See also June 2, 1979, and October 26, 1979.)


April 13–14 * Toronto* San Francisco performance artist Pat Bond gave two one-person monologues, Conversations (April 13) and Gertrude Stein (April 14), at the Medical Sciences Auditorium, University of Toronto. The shows were co-sponsored by the Committee to Defend John Damien and CGRO.

[Advertisement, Body Politic, no. 51 (1979), p. 20.]

April 13–15 * Toronto * CGRO held its annual conference, hosted by MCC. About seventy-five men and six women attended. The conference theme was “It’s Your Move—Lesbians and Gay Men Taking Responsibility for Our Future.” There were workshops on human rights, education, and police harassment. The issue of the lack of lesbian participation was raised, and many delegates came to question the value of continuing the conferences as little of real importance was accomplished.
April 20 * Regina * Bill 94, new legislation amending the provincial human rights code, was introduced in the Saskatchewan legislature but omitted protection based on sexual orientation. Reports suggested that the NDP government had been deterred by public opposition and by a fear that it would be seen as protecting one of its own after the Collver gay cabinet member accusations. In response, the SGC organized a protest demonstration at the Legislature on May 5. The seventy protesters were met by MLA Bill Allen, who tried to defend the government’s position and referred to homosexuality as a “moral issue.”


April 20–22 * Vancouver * The second annual Canadian conference of
Dignity was held, with a focus on chapter management and development. Ken DeLisle of Winnipeg was elected regional director for Dignite Canada Dignité (Region XI of Dignity, Incorporated).

[“The Vancouver Conference,” *Dignity Canada Dignité* (Winnipeg), March–April 1979, p. 8.]

**April 21** * Edmonton * The Alberta Lesbian and Gay Rights Association (ALGRA) was created during the Alberta Gay Conference. Delegates from Calgary, Red Deer, and Edmonton attended the Conference, the first of its kind in Alberta. ALGRA was formed to coordinate efforts among provincial groups in the areas of civil rights, rural outreach, public education, government lobbying, and inter-group communication. Doug Young of Calgary and Clare McDuff-Oliver of Edmonton were elected to represent ALGRA on the CLGRC’s Executive Coordinating Committee.


**April 23** * Toronto * The Village People performed before 18,000 screaming and dancing fans at Maple Leaf Gardens. Gloria Gaynor was the opening act, and came back for an encore to perform her recent hit, “I Will Survive.”


**April 24** * Toronto * The Fly by Night Lounge officially opened at the Stage 212 Hotel, 212 Dundas Street East (at George Street). In its earliest days it was known as the Side Action Lounge, and welcomed
both lesbians and gay men, but it soon became a major gathering place for lesbians. Pat Murphy and other lesbians had raised several thousand dollars and persuaded the owner of a strip club (now Filmore’s) to allow the lesbian-oriented lounge to operate at the back of the building. The Fly by Night closed on February 9, 1981, when new owners of the premises forced the club out. (See also February 9, 1981.)


**April 27** *Manitoba* *Five gay employees of the MS Lord Selkirk II, a luxury lake liner, were dismissed by the ship’s captain because of their sexual orientation, without justification or severance pay. GFE urged a boycott of the ship, and some of the dismissed men lodged complaints with the Manitoba Human Rights Commission and the Manitoba Labour Board.*


**April–May** *Hamilton* *Hamilton City Council voted thirteen to five to pass an anti-pornography by-law to control magazines appealing to “erotic or sexual appetites.” Sex magazines such as *Playboy* and *Penthouse* were now to be displayed at least six feet above floor level or behind counters in all stores, and wrapped in sealed packages with only the titles exposed. This was the first by-law of its kind in North America.*
April–May * Toronto * Philip Marchand’s two-part article “Dissenting Adults,” an examination of dissention between evangelical Christians and Toronto’s gay community, was published in *Toronto Life.*


May * Montréal * The Conseil de presse du Québec/Quebec Press Council upheld complaints of anti-gay prejudice filed by RNLGQ and Les Productions 88 (a gay media collective) against *La Presse* and *Journal de Montréal.*


May * Toronto * Fundraising began to establish a Centre of Affirmation and Dialogue to house the Toronto chapter of Dignity. The centre was to offer retreats, seminars, and counselling to gays, lesbians, and their families. Dignity had been meeting at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, but was forced to move in June 1979 due to renovations. After a brief interim at the 519 Community Centre, the next month Dignity began meeting for weekly masses at St. Paul’s Catholic Church on Power Street, but this was discontinued in November 1979 due to complaints from the parish council. Gerald Emmett Cardinal Carter, Archbishop of
Toronto, banned Dignity from using the church. Dignity moved temporarily to the gay-supportive Bloor Street United Church. (See also September 1979 and January 1980.)


May * Toronto * Glad Day Bookshop began advertising a books-by-mail-order section in the Body Politic. This replaced PTP’s own books-by-mail service, which had been advertised in the paper since 1977 but was being discontinued.

[“Pink Triangle Is Pleased to Announce Gay Books from Glad Day” (advertisement), Body Politic, no. 52 (1979), p. 44.]

May * Toronto * The OAC turned down an application by the Body Politic for a grant to hire a summer employee under the Experience ’79 programme. The publication’s “uncertain judicial situation” was given as the reason for the rejection.


May * Toronto * Mary Schendlinger won the first Great Canadian Lesbian Fiction Contest, sponsored by the Body Politic, and judged by
Marie-Claire Blais and Jane Rule. Her short story “The Sickbed” was published in the May 1979 issue of the *Body Politic*, and won a $400 prize.


**May 1** *Montréal* * The ADGQ presented its brief *La Communauté Gaie et la police de la CUM/The Gay Community and the MUC Police* to the Public Security Council of the Montreal Urban Community (MUC), which governed the local police force. The brief called for sweeping reform in the relations between Montréal’s police force and the gay community.


**May 3** *Victoria, B.C.* * Almost a hundred people attended a “Public Indignation Meeting” at which the Coalition for Human Rights, a group representing minorities in the Victoria area, called for the resignation of members of the British Columbia Human Rights Commission after insulting remarks were made by several commissioners about women and gays at a commission meeting held on April 3, 1979, and also later in the press. (See also December 7–9, 1979.)


**May 3–5** *Saskatoon* * Delegates at the provincial convention of CUPE voted to support the banning of discrimination based on sexual
orientation in provincial and federal human rights acts.
[“Union Votes Support,” *Body Politic*, no. 54 (1979), p. 16.]

**May 4–6** *Cleveland, Ohio* * Members of WDL (Toronto) were major supporters of a workshop on “Lesbianism and Sports,” held at the First National Women’s Running Conference.

**May 4–6** *Moncton, N.B.* *The Atlantic Provinces Library Association established a permanent committee to oppose censorship. The Intellectual Freedom Committee also supported GAE in its stand against censorship.

**May 7–12** *Toronto* *Divine performed in Tom Eyen’s play *The Neon Woman* at the Danforth Music Hall.

**May 10** *Ajax, Ont.* *Members of the Intelligence Bureau of the Metropolitan Toronto Police raided the home of James Reginald Stewart and charged him with possession and distribution of obscene material. They had traced Stewart though an advertisement he had placed in the *Body Politic*.

**May 10** *Toronto* *John Damien was ordered by the Ontario government to pay $2,486 for the court costs of the Ontario Racing Commission, resulting from his suit against the OHRC, which he was forced to abandon in June 1976. The Ontario Racing Commission had not been a party to that suit, but had demanded to be included. Damien was obliged to pay the court costs, otherwise the Ontario Racing
Commission could use its status as a creditor to block progress of Damien’s outstanding suit against them.


May 10 * Vancouver * Robert Cook, a member of GATE (Vancouver), ran as a protest candidate in the West Vancouver–Howe Sound riding during the British Columbia provincial election, held May 10, 1979. Cook ran, unsuccessfully, against the incumbent Allan Williams, the Social Credit party’s minister of labour, in an attempt to raise human rights issues relating to sexual orientation. Other out gay candidates surfaced during the campaign, including Keith Eady and Doug Henderson, both of whom ran unsuccessfully in the riding of Vancouver-Centre.


**May 11** *Windsor, Ont.* *The Windsor Star* announced that it had changed its policy and would now accept gay advertisements in general display pages. The announcement was made at a hearing before the Windsor Media Council, which had been called after WGU filed a complaint concerning the *Star*’s discriminatory advertising policy. The Windsor Media Council dismissed the charge of discrimination. On June 14, 1979, the Ontario Press Council announced that it found the *Windsor Star* guilty of discrimination against WGU in this complaint, even though the paper had changed its policy.


**May 11–13** *London, Ont.* *The Ontario division of CUPE passed two resolutions concerning sexual orientation during its annual convention. The first resolution, to amend the general human rights clause in CUPE’s constitution to include sexual orientation, was at first met with an outburst of laughter and derision from some delegates, but was passed by more than a two-thirds majority. A second resolution, which encouraged local affiliates to bargain for the inclusion of sexual orientation in the non-discrimination clause of collective agreements, also passed.


**May 14** *Toronto* *Ontario Minister of Labour Robert Elgie met with
representatives of the gay community in his office to discuss amendments to the Ontario Human Rights Code. The delegation, consisting of Jim Monk (WGU), Mariana Valverde (the Body Politic), Rev. Brent Hawkes (MCC Toronto), and John Damien, presented Elgie with an updated version of the 1978 brief *Discrimination and the Gay Minority*. (See also June 18, 1979.)

[“Cabinet Minister Meets Ontario Gays,” Body Politic, no. 53 (1979), p. 13.]

**May 15** *Smeaton, Sask.* Donald Jones, a former principal, was fired from his teaching position at an elementary school. Jones had been working at the school for four years without incident when he was accused of engaging in homosexual activity in private. Jones admitted that he had homosexual relations with two men with their consent. The Nipawin District School Board tried for six weeks to persuade Jones to resign. When he refused, they dismissed him on the grounds of immoral behaviour, alleged mental instability, and unprofessional conduct. Jones and his lawyer demanded that the Saskatchewan Minister of Education constitute a Board of Reference under the Education Act to investigate the firing and rule on its legality. The SGCC established the Fight Back Defence Fund to help pay for legal costs, and also circulated a petition to protest the school board’s actions. The Board of Reference was established and began to meet on August 20, 1979. (See also September 12, 1979.)

Teacher,” *Prince Albert Daily Herald*, 1 September 1979, p. 3; “The Struggle Continues ...,” *Gay Saskatchewan* (Saskatoon), 2, no. 8 (August 1979): (5).]

**May 16** * Toronto * During an incident outside the gay bar Dudes, 10 Breadalbane Street, two patrons were subjected to body searches and Constable George Puce allegedly made homophobic remarks. A complaint was lodged with the police-controlled Citizen Complaint Bureau, which in July 1979 refused to prosecute Puce. This decision was reversed in July 1979, and Constable Puce was charged under the Police Act with “discreditable conduct” and “unnecessary exercise of authority.” Although five gay witnesses to the event testified against Puce in Police Court, he was found not guilty on November 6, 1979.


**May 16–June 23** * Toronto * The a cappella group the Nylons (Ralph Cole, Marc Connors, Paul Cooper, and Claude Morrison) performed in “Seams Like Music” at Van Sloten’s Cabaret, 291 Dundas Street West. This was the group’s first club engagement; they later became internationally famous.


**May 16–July 1** * Toronto * Cheryl Cashman’s one-woman show *Turning Thirty* was performed at the Factory Theatre Lab.
May 17 * Toronto * The Metropolitan Board of Commissioners of Police delayed taking action on complaints regarding police harassment of gays and other minorities. Several community groups, including the Working Group on Police-Minority Relations, had submitted briefs to the board in April 1979, with the promise that the board would respond by May 17. One of the major demands of the briefs was for the establishment of a permanent police liaison with the gay community. (See also May 31, 1979.)


May 18–20 * Edmonton * Sixty people participated in the third annual district conference of the MCC in Canada, which focused on church expansion.

[“MCC Makes Plans for Church Growth,” Body Politic, no. 54 (1979), p. 15; “Metropolitan Community Churches” vertical file, Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto.]

May 19–21 * Toronto * More than 400 women attended the Bi-national Lesbian Conference, sponsored by LOOT and held at Hart House and the Medical Sciences Building at the University of Toronto. Workshops were held on age-of-consent laws, bisexuality, and lesbian concerns in Québec. There were also art exhibits, a coffee house, a concert, and a dance. The comic Robin Tyler hosted a benefit performance for the LMDF and the Winnipeg Women’s Building. The only trouble at the conference occurred on May 20 when the banquet was interrupted by seven uniformed police officers sent to investigate possible violations of liquor regulations. Natalie LaRoche, an organizer of the conference, was later charged with violating a liquor licence and illegal possession of alcohol.

[“1,000 Lesbians: Getting Some Answers,” Body Politic, no. 51 (1979), p. 28; “1,000 Lesbians: Questions and Answers,” Body Politic, no. 50 (1979), p. 30; Gay Bell, “‘Boogie a la Amazon’;

**May 20** * Calgary * Participants at the Prairie Gay Rights Conference (May 19–21) heard allegations that Joe Clark was “soft” on homosexuality. This came two days before Clark’s Progressive Conservative party won a minority government in the federal election, and Clark became prime minister. Later, GATE (Edmonton) contacted Clark’s campaign office in Jasper, Alberta, to ask about Clark’s position on sexual orientation. A PC spokesman declared that Clark was not necessarily opposed to the inclusion of sexual orientation in federal human rights legislation but that he had not made this declaration before the election because it might have affected the election result. (See also May 22, 1979.)
May 21 * San Francisco, Calif. * The White Night Riots occurred outside San Francisco’s City Hall as the international gay community reacted with shock and anger after Dan White, murderer of gay supervisor Harvey Milk and pro-gay mayor George Moscone, was handed a lenient sentence in a trial by jury. White was found guilty of voluntary manslaughter, rather than first-degree murder, and could be paroled in less than thirty-six months. White’s defence attorneys had argued that his eating too many sugar-laden Twinkies had contributed to his “temporary insanity” at the time of the shootings. About 5,000 people demonstrated, besieging City Hall and setting police cars on fire. Unarmed gay men were beaten by police during the riots, both at City Hall and on Castro Street. More than a hundred policemen and forty demonstrators were injured. Complaints of police brutality sent to the Police Internal Affairs Bureau were dismissed as “unfounded” until Police Chief Charles Gain later overruled the bureau’s report and declared that he had personally witnessed police brutality and misconduct during the event. Mayor Diane Feinstein removed Gain from office in 1980 because of Police Officers’ Association opposition to him. (As a note of interest, Gain had served briefly as the chief of police in Calgary, Alberta, in 1972.) (See also July 3, 1979.)


**May 22** * Canada * A federal election was held in which Pierre Trudeau’s Liberal Party was defeated by the Progressive Conservatives, under the leadership of Joe Clark. In the lead-up to the election, member groups of CLGRC were active in distributing a Gay Rights Charter, which outlined major movement demands in the areas of sexual orientation, the criminal code, and child custody. Many local gay groups also tried to raise gay issues during the election campaign, but without much success. In the British Columbia riding of Burnaby, however, twenty-seven-year-old Svend Robinson was elected for the NDP; a strong voice for LGBT issues from his election, in spring 1988 Robinson became the first sitting Canadian MP to announce his gay sexual orientation.

May 22 * Ottawa * The Supreme Court of Canada ruled that newspapers have the right to reject advertising that runs contrary to their advertising policy. The six to three decision rejected the appeal by GATE (Vancouver), ruling that the Vancouver Sun had “reasonable cause” to refuse to print a fifteen-word classified ad for Gay Tide, published by GATE (Vancouver), in October 1974. This was the first gay rights case decided by the Supreme Court of Canada. (See also June 1979, September 15–22, 1979, and November 16, 1979.)


**May 27** *Vancouver* *Rev. Bob Wolfe and Rev. Larry Gauer resigned their appointments with MCC Vancouver to take up work in the United States. Wolfe was succeeded as pastor of MCC Vancouver by Rev. David Gunton on June 1, 1979 (formally installed December 2, 1979). A farewell service for Wolfe and Gauer was held by MCC Vancouver on May 27 at the Scottish Auditorium.

[“MCC Minister to Be Installed,” *SEARCH News,* 2, no. 7 (November 1979): 9; “MCC Ministers Bid Farewell to Vancouver,” *SEARCH News,* 2, no. 4 (May 1979): 8.]

**May 31** *Toronto* *The Metropolitan Board of Commissioners of Police responded to demands for the disciplining of racist and homophobic officers by issuing a seventy-page “Declaration of Concern
and Intent (Standing Order 25),” which dealt with bigotry and
discrimination only in a general way. There was no specific reference
made to sexual orientation. Minority groups denounced the declaration
as insulting and demanded further action from the police. (See also June
19, 1979; June 28, 1979; and July 26, 1979.)

August 1979, p. 21; Paul Trollope, “Cop Report Called ‘Insulting,’
Gays Prepare for Showdown,” Body Politic, no. 54 (1979), pp. 12–
13.]

May–June * Toronto * A police entrapment blitz resulted in the arrest
of thirty-four men on gross indecency charges in a washroom at the
Greenwin Square shopping mall on Bloor Street. The police had
constructed a surveillance post in a boarded up cubicle, which featured a
fake air ventilation grille through which the officer could watch
activities in the adjacent stall. A glory hole had been left in place
between the last two stalls. The police removed the observation post
from the washroom by June 25 under pressure from the gay community
and city politicians. (See also June 28, 1979, and December 13, 1979.)

[“Cop Hides in Toilet for Entrapment Blitz,” Body Politic, no. 54
(1979), p. 15; Barbara Hurd, “Metro Covers for Cops: Police Caught
Peeping in Toilets,” Toronto Clarion, 27 June–10 July 1979, p. 3;
Ross Irwin, “Cops Forced to Stop Entrapment at Greenwin Square
Washroom,” Body Politic, no. 55 (1979), p. 11.]

June * Montréal * Pierre Dupont’s article “Le ghetto rose” was
published in L’Actualité. Critics in the gay community declared it
superficial and erroneous.

[Pierre Dupont, “Le ghetto rose,” L’Actualité, June 1979, pp. 54–55,
57, 59, 61–62; Stuart Russell and Richard Labonte, “‘A Tiresome,
Monotonous Militance,’” Body Politic, no. 54 (1979), p. 36.]

June * Montréal * The Federation Canadienne des Transsexuels (FCT),
the Québec branch of FACT, announced that it would launch a class
action suit against the Quebec Medical Insurance Board. Hospitals in the
Montréal area refused to perform transsexual operations, which were then only available in the United States at great expense. FCT demanded that the Quebec Medical Insurance Board pay for the cost of these operations in the United States. The Hospital Insurance Act stipulated that if necessary medical services were unavailable in Québec, the cost of insured medical services would be paid in full if the patient was referred to an institution outside of Canada on the written recommendation of two doctors. This was the first class action suit taken on a gay-related issue in Québec.


**June** *Niagara Falls, Ont.* *The Gay Youth Niagara (GYN) phone line was established, which soon led to the establishment of Gay Unity Niagara (GUN). In August 1979, Tim Veysey placed advertisements in nine local papers to announce the organizational meeting for GUN. The *Welland Tribune* originally refused to print the ad, but later agreed. The *Port Colborne News* refused to print the ad and was not contacted again. GUN later asked residents of the Niagara region to boycott the *Port Colborne News*.


**June** *Québec, Qué.* *The third annual report of the Québec Commission des droits de la personne/Quebec Human Rights Commission stated that the commission handled eighteen complaints of discrimination based on sexual orientation in 1978.


**June** * Toronto * The *Body Politic* introduced a new column, “Taking Issue,” intended for contrary positions too extended to be printed as letters to the editor.

[“Take Issue with Us” (editorial), *Body Politic*, no. 53 (1979), p. 3.]

**June** * Toronto * The GLU established a series of gay self-defence classes in response to a growing perception of violence against gay people in Toronto. The eight-week course attracted about twenty-five participants. The group also initiated self-defence patrols for the city’s principal danger areas: the downtown core and parks.


**June** * Toronto * Jane Rule’s article “Teaching Sexuality,” concerning the sexual education of children, was published in the *Body Politic*.


**June** * Vancouver * GATE (Vancouver) published the last issue of *Gay Tide*. After the Supreme Court of Canada’s decision on May 22, 1979, the newspaper’s collective decided to shift focus and to concentrate on operating a community office rather than a newspaper. Soon after, GATE (Vancouver) opened an office at 119 West Pender Street, Suite 102. *Gay Tide* resumed bi-monthly publication in December 1979, for only two issues, until February–March 1980.

[“Disparition du *Gay Tide*,” *Le Berdache*, no. 2 (1979), p. 11; “GATE Opens Office,” *SPAG News* (Vancouver), 1, no. 9 (July–August

**June–July** * Montréal * Support workers at the Université du Québec demanded the recognition of gay and lesbian couples in negotiations for a new contract. This went beyond the protection of sexual orientation as defined in the Quebec Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms.

[“Union Demand Redefines ‘Couple,’” Body Politic, no. 55 (1979), p. 11.]

**June 1** * Toronto * A large gang of youths invaded David Balfour Park, a popular gay cruising spot, beating at least one gay man and threatening others.


**June 1–3** * Toronto * GLU held a Festival of Gay Spirits, which included a demonstration, a coffee house, and a film festival.


**June 2** * Chatham, Ont. * CGU sponsored the first gay dance held in Chatham, at the Mariner Room in the William Pitt Hotel, King and Sixth streets. About forty people attended.

[Untitled article, This Week with Alexander (Toronto), 1, no. 6 (1979): 5; “Up and Coming,” Body Politic, no. 52 (1979), p. 14.]

**June 2** * Toronto * Gay demonstrators marched to police headquarters at 590 Jarvis Street to demand the return of materials seized in raids on the Barracks and the Body Politic. The RTPC organized the protest. Activist John Argue presented Deputy Chief Jack Ackroyd with a “People’s Writ of Return.”

**June 6** *Toronto* *The Toronto police officer charged teacher Don Franco with keeping a common bawdy house, for the purpose of the practice of acts of indecency, in his own home. The policeman had telephoned Franco to say that he was responding to an ad in the *Body Politic*. He was invited into Franco’s home and discussed sexual acts with him. Franco was interested in sadomasochism, had a dungeon in his home, and advertised for partners regularly in the *Body Politic*. He had been one of the found-ins charged in the raid on the Barracks steam bath on December 9, 1978. When Sergeant Gary Donovan of the Police Intelligence Bureau later informed Franco’s school board about the charges, Franco informed Rev. Brent Hawkes of MCC Toronto about what had happened and Hawkes made the matter public. Franco later became involved with the RTPC as membership secretary. The police raided Franco’s home and confiscated various items, including membership lists of the RTPC and of the NDP Gay Caucus. The raid on Franco’s home was widely condemned in the gay community, and was seen as an act of revenge on the part of the police. The case made legal history, as it was the first time in Canada that a private home had been charged as a bawdy house when there was neither prostitution nor sex with minors involved. (See also June 13, 1979; June 18, 1979; July 6, 1979; June 5, 1981; and September 24, 1981.)

June 7 * Vancouver * Co-op Radio (102.7 FM) began broadcasting the half-hour-long Lesbian Show every Thursday evening. The program discussed lesbian issues, profiled lesbian singers, writers, artists, politicians, and comedians, and featured a lesbian calendar of events. Produced by Sherry McCarnan, Gisele Perreault, Ann Russell, Connie Smith, and Silva Tenenbein, this was the first lesbian radio program in Canada. By March 1980 the Lesbian Show was running a tape service and had produced a six-part series, “Lesbians and Music.”


June 7 * Windsor, Ont. * The Human Rights Committee of Local 195 of the United Auto Workers urged the Ontario Minister of Labour to implement the recommendations of the Life Together report, including the addition of sexual orientation as a prohibited ground for discrimination in the Ontario Human Rights Code.

[“Windsor Car Workers Urge Code Changes,” Body Politic, no. 56 (1979), p. 10.]

June 8 * Montréal * The Association des Pères Noël de la province de Québec (Association of Santa Clauses of Quebec) reversed its previous anti-gay stance, stating that “any person of good morals, notwithstanding their sexual orientation, can be considered to be a Santa Claus.” At least
one gay man had been refused a job as a Santa Claus in a Québec store and was later financially compensated after an investigation by the Quebec Human Rights Commission.


**June 8–9** *Toronto* *A Late Snow*, a play by Jane Chambers, was performed by the Atthis Theatre company. *A Late Snow* was the first all-woman script, written by a woman and with positive lesbian images, produced in Canada. This production also represented the premiere of the Atthis Theatre Company, the first entirely lesbian theatre group in Toronto.


**June 8–30** *Toronto* Andy Fabo’s art exhibit “The Male à la Mode” was shown at the A Space Gallery, 299 Queen Street West.


**June 9** *Red Deer, Alta.* GARD hosted the first conference of ALGRA, held at Red Deer College. A seminar was followed by a beer bash and barbeque.


**June 10** *Toronto* Six hundred feminists and lesbians attended the founding meeting of the Feminist Party of Canada (FPC). During
question period, Peg McCuaig of the Southern Ontario Union of Lesbians (SOUL) asked how the FPC would react to the participation of visible lesbians in the organization. Although the crowd applauded, organizers tried to evade the question.


June 12 * Toronto * The executive committee of the Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto asked its legal and personnel departments to draft a bill of rights governing Metro employees. This was a direct result of lobbying by members of RTPC and the Working Group on Police-Minority Relations. (See also June 19, 1979.)

[“Call for Metro to Draft Rights Bill: Demand of Homosexuals,” *Toronto Sun*, 13 June 1979, p. 33.]

June 13 * Toronto * Mayor John Sewell presented a motion to the executive committee of Toronto City Council asking that the Metropolitan Police Commission issue a clear statement that it was totally committed to combating discrimination due to “race, sexual orientation, or physical disability.” The motion was endorsed by the four other members of the executive committee, and was sent to City Council for discussion.


June 15 * Ottawa * Members of the Canadian Library Association (CLA) passed a resolution during the CLA’s annual conference protesting the Attorney General of Ontario’s appeal of PTP and the *Body Politic*’s acquittal. Thomas Edge, one of the organizers of the CLA’s newly formed Gay Interest Group, moved the resolution.

June 16–23 * Montréal * Montréal’s first Gay and Lesbian Pride Week was held, directly before the annual Fête nationale (St-Jean Baptiste Day), which is on June 24. Gairilla Week began with a street demonstration of more than 300 people and a picnic and dance. It concluded with a day of music, theatre, and dance on rue Duluth, near Parc Lafontaine. Gairilla Week was successful even though it was refused funding by the organizing committee of the Fête nationale.


June 17 * Vancouver * A diverse group of lesbians and gay men met at the Britannia Centre Library to discuss the possibility of creating a gay community centre in Vancouver. (See also August 13, 1979, and March 23, 1980.)


June 18 * Toronto * Ontario Minister of Labour Robert Elgie confirmed that the Progressive Conservative (PC) government planned to introduce amendments to the Ontario Human Rights Code during the fall sitting. Gay activists organized for a final push to include sexual orientation as a protected ground of discrimination in the code. (See also August 4–5,
June 18 * Toronto * The RTPC and the Working Group on Police-Minority Relations held a press conference to call for Roy McMurtry, the Attorney General of Ontario, to ask the Ontario Police Commission to investigate harassment of homosexuals among some members of the Metro Toronto police force. The committee also demanded the resignation of Toronto Police Chief Harold Adamson if he could no longer control the conduct of his officers. (See also June 19, 1979.)


June 19 * Toronto * In a seventeen to fourteen vote, Metro Council called on the Metropolitan Board of Commissioners of Police to answer specific demands of the gay community and other minority groups and to amend their statement on discrimination to specifically include race, sexual orientation, and physical disability. On June 25, the City of Toronto Council unanimously passed the same resolutions passed by the Metro Council. (See also June 28, 1979.)


**June 21–22** *Toronto* * Singer Barbara Cook performed at the Music Hall Theatre.


**June 22** *Toronto* * An unnamed “elected city official” was apprehended by Toronto police in a washroom at the Royal York Hotel for an alleged “homosexual incident” but was not charged at the time. The men’s washrooms at the Royal York had been a busy cruising spot for gay men for years. Toronto media, and particularly columnist Claire Hoy of the *Toronto Sun*, suspected a cover-up and demanded that charges be laid. On August 9, 1979, the *Sun* reported that a charge of common assault had been brought against Ward 9 Alderman Thomas Wardle, Jr., following an incident at the Royal York Hotel on June 22, 1979. (See also October 4, 1979.)


**June 25** *Toronto* * At a public meeting at the 519 Church Street Community Centre, sponsored by ReforMetro, a left-leaning civic party, to discuss continuing police oppression of gays and other minorities, Rev. Brent Hawkes, representing RTPC, called on gays to be prepared to take militant action against police in the streets, and demanded the resignation of Toronto Police Chief Harold Adamson “if he can’t get the
police force under control.” At the meeting, ten resolutions concerning police-minority relations were passed overwhelmingly and were to be presented to Metro Council and the police board. Later, a spontaneous demonstration was held outside 52 Division police headquarters; about eighty gay men marched to protest police harassment, holding hands and shouting slogans such as “Gay Rights, Right Now.” (See also June 28, 1979.)


**June 27–July 2** *Ottawa* *Marion Dewar,* the mayor of Ottawa, welcomed more than 200 delegates to “Celebration ’79: Celebrating Ten Years of Lesbian/Gay Liberation,” the seventh annual CLGRC/CCDLG conference, sponsored by GO, by declaring June 27 “Human Rights Day” in Ottawa. The theme of Celebration ’79 was the celebration of ten years of gay liberation in Canada. Twenty-nine workshops were held, as well as three panel discussions, numerous social activities, and a march. The CLGRC/CCDLG decided to move toward the creation of a central databank of cases of discrimination based on sexual orientation. This decision was based on advice given by Gordon Fairweather, chief commissioner of the CHRC, who was a guest panellist at the conference. The conference itself received mixed reviews. There was friction between organizers interested in local, grassroots action, and those who supported a national strategy. Few lesbians attended the conference, and the matter of lesbian participation led to bitter debates. Evangelist Ken Campbell of Renaissance Canada was also in Ottawa this weekend. He criticized Mayor Dewar for welcoming “fornicators” into the city, and sponsored his own “Festival of Faith, Freedom, and the Family.” Bill Prankard of the Bill Prankard Evangelistic Association also attacked Mayor Dewar in the press for allowing Celebration ’79 to be held in Ottawa.
June 28 * Toronto * At the monthly meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Commissioners of Police, the board refused to add sexual orientation to its Declaration of Concern and Intent, but did agree to amend its by-laws to guard against unauthorized disclosure of arrests without permission of the chief of police. The board did not respond to the other eight demands of the gay community, thus defying explicit directions from the Toronto City Council and the Metropolitan Toronto Council.
At the same meeting, Aldermen Dan Heap and Allan Sparrow appeared with gay community representatives to deplore recent police entrapment of gay men at the Greenwin Square shopping mall on Bloor Street. (See also July 26, 1979.)


Summer * Kitchener-Waterloo, Ont. * CKMS 94.5 radio broadcast a lesbian program entitled Leaping Lesbians on Thursday evenings.


Summer * Winnipeg * The CHR became the first Manitoba gay organization to achieve federal charitable status.


Summer–Autumn * St. Catharines, Ont. * The Twilight Villa Social Club, 117 Chetwood Street, was vandalized and harassed in several incidents, which included damage to cars in the club’s parking lot, a firebomb threat on Halloween, and the shattering of windows and doors by showers of rocks and debris. The club had operated for more than five years at Chetwood Street but was sold after these incidents. It closed for good in March 1980.

[“City to Purchase Twilight Villa?,” Gay Niagara News, 1, no. 3 (March 1980): 1, 5; “Crowd Returns to Twilight Villa,” Gay Niagara News, 1, no. 2 (February 1980): 1, 8–9; “On Again–Off Again’ Club Opening Is Off Again,” Gay Niagara News, 1, no. 7 (September

**July** * New Delhi, India * Stephen O. Murray’s sociological study of gay Toronto, “The Institutional Elaboration of a Quasi-ethnic Community,” was published in the *International Review of Modern Sociology*.


**July** * Ottawa * In a letter to the CHRC, Admiral R.H. Falls, the Chief of Defence Staff, reiterated the Canadian Armed Forces’ opposition to the inclusion of sexual orientation in the Canadian Human Rights Act.

[“Apoplexy Now,” Body Politic, no. 58 (1979), p. 10.]

**July** * Toronto * The Body Politic found it necessary to begin self-censoring contributions to its classified ads section after it became known that the police were searching the ads pages to track down and arrest gay men.


**July** * Toronto * A few gays with disabilities planned to form a Disabled Gay Group.


**July**  * Toronto * A gay man revealed to the Body Politic that he had been arrested in his home in February 1979 after engaging in mild sadomasochism with two other men. The man charged that the policemen had taken him to 52 Division headquarters where they beat him during questioning.


**July**  * Toronto * Michael Lynch’s article “The End of the ‘Human Rights’ Decade,” in which he called for a new strategy for gay liberation, one that went beyond legislation and protection in human rights codes, was published in the Body Politic.


**July**  * Toronto * Jane Rule’s regular column “So’s Your Grandmother” was first published in the Body Politic.

[Jane Rule, “Stumps” (“So’s Your Grandmother” column), Body Politic, no. 54 (1979), p. 20.]

**July**  * Winnipeg * Preliminary hearings began in the “juvenile sex-for-cash” scandal that occurred in February 1979; twelve men had been charged with various counts of buggery and gross indecency. (See also July 26, 1979.)

[“Indecency Hearings Begin in Winnipeg,” Body Politic, no. 56 (1979), pp. 12–13.]
July 1 * Toronto * The headquarters of FACT moved from Calgary to Toronto. Nicholas C. Ghosh [later known as Rupert Raj] remained as FACT’s executive director.


July 3 * San Francisco, Calif. * Former San Francisco supervisor Dan White was sentenced by Superior Court Judge Walter Calcagno to seven years and eight months in prison after being convicted of the voluntary manslaughter of Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk on November 27, 1978. This was the maximum term allowed for the offence. White served five years at Soledad State Prison before being paroled on January 6, 1984. He committed suicide on October 25, 1985.


July 6 * Toronto * Don Franco, charged with keeping a bawdy house in his own home, won a delay in his trial until after the Barracks case had been settled. It was expected that the Barracks trial would set legal precedents that would bear on the Franco case.


July 15 * Rimouski, Qué. * Alain Bouchard and Levi Bérubé were ordered to leave Le Zodiac disco because they were dancing together. They later filed a complaint with the Quebec Human Rights Commission, declaring that they had been discriminated against in access to public services because of their sexual orientation, contrary to the Quebec Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms. The owner of the disco admitted that he had violated the charter, and in August 1979 the commission concluded that Bouchard and Bérubé had been discriminated against. In February 1980, the two men received compensation of $25 each. Le Zodiac was fined $75 and was ordered to issue a written apology to the men, and to change its policy.

**July 17** *Nanaimo, B.C.* The Victoria Human Rights Coalition, composed of gays and lesbians, the elderly, women, and racial minorities, presented a brief at a hearing of the British Columbia Human Rights Commission, demanding that the commission improve its support of minorities. Neil Lundquist of SEARCH spoke to the commission on the portion of the brief devoted to sexual orientation. (See also December 7–9, 1979.)


**July 19** *Toronto* Fifteen people, representing members of the three major political parties as well as non-aligned individuals, formed the Association of Gay Electors (AGE) to monitor the performance of politicians at all three levels of government in Metro Toronto. AGE held its first public meeting on August 9, 1979, at the 519 Community Centre, at which Tom Warner was elected the first president of AGE. The group’s eventual goal was to promote an openly gay candidate for office in municipal elections.


**July 19** * Vancouver * A group of fourteen to sixteen youths viciously beat two men in a parking lot near Sunset Beach, on the assumption they were gay. At least two men were later charged by police.  

**July 26** * Toronto * The Ontario Police Commission released a twenty-one page report in which it denied requests for an inquiry into the treatment of minorities by the Metro Toronto police, and dismissed demands for the establishment of a civilian review board.  

**July 26** * Winnipeg * Richard C. Malone, former publisher of the *Winnipeg Free Press*, pleaded guilty to one charge of buggery and one charge of attempting to obstruct justice in the “juvenile sex-for-cash” scandal that occurred in February 1979. He was also committed to trial on two charges of gross indecency to which he pleaded not guilty. On October 2, 1979, Malone was found guilty on two charges of gross indecency involving juvenile males, and on October 23, 1979, was sentenced to one year in jail for obstruction of justice. He also received concurrent sentences for other offences.  

**July 27–August 6** *Vancouver* Gay Unity Week was held, and focused on various social events including a picnic held in Mission, B.C., on August 5. One highlight of the week occurred on July 31, when almost 300 people attended a public meeting held at the West End Community Centre (WECC) to discuss increasing violence against gays and lesbians in Vancouver. GATE (Vancouver) sponsored the meeting. Audience members claimed that a recent “clean-up” campaign organized by Vancouver city council had caused some of the violence. The meeting was temporarily disrupted when an assailant threw a stink bomb into the auditorium. Resolutions were passed calling on Mayor Jack Volritch and police to stop ignoring crimes against gays, and also endorsing a rally against anti-gay violence to be held August 11, 1979. (See also August 11, 1979.)

July–August * Edmonton * Sheldon (later Shelley) Ball, serving a life sentence for murder at the Edmonton Institute, is believed to be the first Canadian to have undergone gender reassignment surgery while in custody, and to have served time in both male and female prisons. Ball had served three years in maximum security institutions for men before transitioning to Shelley Ball and being transferred in 1980 to the Kingston Prison for Women. Ball’s operation was paid for by the Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP).


July–September * Toronto * Undercover policemen used the charge of “counselling” an indecent act while entrapping gay men in public washrooms and parks. This was part of a continuing pattern of police harassment of gay men in Toronto conducted during the summer of 1979. (See also December 13, 1979.)


August * Montréal * Alain Bouchard’s *Guide gai du Québec* was published by Éditions Homeureux.

August * Montréal * “Hommage aux nus,” an exhibition of drawings and artworks by Peter Flinsch, was held at Galerie André-Georges, 224, rue St-Paul Ouest.

[Henri Olivier, “‘Hommage aux nus’ dans le vieux Montréal” (review), *Le Berdache*, no. 3 (1979), p. 37.]

August * Sault Ste. Marie, Ont. * The council of the Township of Day and Bright Additional (population 265) passed a resolution declaring that homosexual rights groups should not receive government grants “for any purposes” and disapproved of groups advocating “an alternative lifestyle that is not attractive.” In August 1979, the council sent the resolution to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.


August * Toronto * Rick Bebout’s profile of the Canadian Gay Archives, “Stashing the Evidence,” was published in the *Body Politic*.


August * Toronto * Minority spokespeople criticized the appointment of Gerald Emmett Cardinal Carter, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Toronto, as an informal police-minority mediator. (See also September 19, 1979, and October 29, 1979.)


August * Toronto * Dudes Outfitters, a clothier devoted to the macho look for gay men, opened at 12 Irwin Avenue.

**August** * Toronto * A group of lesbians and gay men, spearheaded by Harvey Hamburg, established the Gay Community Appeal of Toronto (GCAT) to raise funds for a cross-section of community organizations and projects. (See also January 1980.)


**August** * Toronto * American gay historian Jonathan Ned Katz’s article “Why Gay History?” was published in the *Body Politic*.


**August 2** * Calgary * Representatives from ALGRA presented a brief to the Alberta Human Rights Commission urging them to recommend the addition of sexual orientation to the province’s human rights legislation.

August 4–5 * Toronto * Gay activists held the Gearing Up Conference at the University of Toronto to prepare strategy for the upcoming amendments to the Ontario Human Rights Code, which were to be introduced in the fall sitting of the Ontario Legislature. A ten-point programme for action was adopted. A campaign committee was struck, based in Toronto, and a sixteen-member steering committee as well as working committees were established. Peter Maloney was hired as a full-time lobbyist for the duration of the campaign.


August 7 * Toronto * Gay activist Bob Schisler was chased and attacked in David Balfour Park by a gang of youths; two of the youths had been pretending to kiss, while others hid in the bushes. Schisler was punched, kicked, and beaten with sticks.


August 8 * Québec, Qué. * Robert Burns (PQ–Maisonneuve), a principal political ally and supporter of the gay movement in Québec, resigned his seat in the Quebec National Assembly and retired from politics. Burns had been a key supporter of the inclusion of “sexual orientation” in the Quebec Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms.


August 9 * Toronto * The 1979 BlueBoy Man of the Year, Canada’s first annual male pageant, was held at Katrina’s, 5 St. Joseph Street. Fifteen contestants participated in the business suit, jeans, and swimsuit categories. The winner, Leon P., received entry into the 1979
International BlueBoy Man of the Year contest, to be held in New York, plus a $100 prize, a trophy, and a gold medal.

[“BlueBoy ‘Canada’ Contest,” *This Week with Alexander* (Toronto), 1, no. 14 (1979): (11–13).]

**August 11** *Vancouver* *More than 400 people rallied in Robson Square to protest the lack of police response to anti-gay violence in the city. This was the largest gay rally held in Vancouver to that date. Police Chief Winterton called the rally “an overreaction”. His offer to meet privately with representatives of the gay community was rebuffed with calls for a public meeting. Later, the Gay/Police Dialogue, a liaison committee between the city’s gay community and the Vancouver Police Department, was established."


**August 13** *Vancouver* *The Vancouver Gay Community Centre (VGCC) Building Fund was established to coordinate fundraising for the establishment of a community centre. Lennie Lifchus was elected first chair of the fund committee. (See also October 2, 1979.)"

[“Vancouver Gay Community Centre,” *SPAG News* (Vancouver), 1, no. 10 (October–November 1979): 5.]

**August 13–16** *Toronto* *The Day Nursery Review Board, an administrative tribunal, heard testimony to determine whether the gay group home Tri-Aid should be registered under the Children’s Boarding Home Act. Testimony was heard from supporters and opponents of Tri-Aid. Arguments tended to focus on the competency of the staff, the size and location of the house, and, particularly, fears concerning the sexual
orientation of the staff and the dangers of sexual involvement with the teenage residents of the home. (See also September 14, 1979, and September 27, 1979.)


August 14 * Victoria, B.C.* The Victoria Parks Department blocked a police initiative to have motorized police patrols through Beacon Hill Park, a gay cruising area.


August 14–15 * Winnipeg* The legal status of fellatio and masturbation as sexual offences under Canadian law were tested unsuccessfully in the cases of Allan Spraggett and Arthur John Arkin, who had been charged in the “juvenile sex-for-cash” scandal that occurred in February 1979. Arkin, a former youth counsellor at the Manitoba Youth Centre, was eventually sentenced to twelve months in jail, which was reduced to four months on appeal.


August 15 * Toronto* The Metropolitan Toronto Library Board refused to accept a demand by library assistants represented by CUPE Local 1582 to include the words “sexual orientation” in the no-discrimination clause during contract negotiations. The board said that it already had a non-discrimination policy concerning homosexuals and that it would be redundant to include the words in the contract. Later, J.S. Ridout, chairman of the Metropolitan Toronto Library Board, declared that
sexual preference was “a personal choice matter” on a par with automobile colour.


**August 18** * Canada * Weekend Magazine published the results of a public opinion poll it had conducted on the topic of homosexuality. Of the 2,000 people polled, 47 percent claimed to find it “fairly easy” or “very easy” to accept homosexuality in others.


**August 20–22** * Toronto * Seven activists (Don Barlow, Clarence Barnes, Harvey Hamburg, Ken Hancock, John Alan Lee, Jim McNeil, and Mark Whitehead) staged a “Gay Sit-in for Justice,” held in an eighteenth-floor waiting room at the offices of Ontario Attorney General Roy McMurtry, 18 King Street East. Additional gay supporters unfurled a banner on the street and handed out leaflets to explain the action. The sit-in demonstrators demanded to meet with McMurtry, who had refused to meet with any gay representatives for two months, to discuss ongoing police and judicial harassment of the gay community. Although their demands were not met, the protestors did meet with two of McMurtry’s aides, and McMurtry did write to the RTPC’s chairperson Rev. Brent Hawkes. On August 31, 1979, Attorney General McMurtry agreed to meet to hear concerns of the gay community that were not related to cases already before the courts.

August 20–24 * Port Huron, Mich. * United States immigration officers harassed lesbians travelling to attend the fourth annual Michigan Womyn’s Music Festival. Up to fifty women were not allowed to cross into the United States. This happened only a week after Leonel Castillo, the commissioner of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), issued a directive on August 13 announcing that persons entering the United States were not to be detained or deported if they were suspected of being homosexual. Letters of complaint were sent to INS officers at Port Huron, United States Attorney General Benjamin Civiletti, and Flora MacDonald, Canada’s Minister of External Affairs. (See also August 26, 1979.)


**August 21** * Montréal * The Quebec Court of Appeal ruled in a two to one decision that Municipal Court Judge A.M. Stalker had exceeded his jurisdiction by ordering that the men charged as “found-ins” during the October 22, 1977, police raid on the Truxx bar undergo testing for venereal disease as a condition of their release pending trial.


**August 22** * Toronto * A special tribunal of the CHRC ordered the extreme right-wing Western Guard Party to stop transmitting telephone hate messages that attacked Jews, Blacks, and gays. (See also February 21, 1980.)


**August 22** * Vancouver * A preliminary meeting was held at the Britannia Centre to discuss the establishment of a gay community centre in Vancouver. (See also October 2, 1979.)


**August 24–25** * Medicine Hat, Alta. * Representatives of GIRC met with several lesbians and gay men to plan the organization of a gay
group in the city.

**August 25** * Lethbridge, Alta. * An organizational meeting was held to form the Gay Community Centre of Lethbridge (GCCL), which would focus on social events such as dances, barbeques, and ski weekends, as well as informal meetings at the Red Coach Lounge in the Marquis Hotel, Fourth Avenue and Seventh Street South.
[“More than ‘Pil,’” *Gay Calgary*, no. 13 (1979), p. 3.]

**August 26** * Blaine, Wash. * Rob McConnell, a Canadian gay man, was denied entry to the United States because of his sexual orientation. This was despite a recent official order by Leonel Castillo, the commissioner of the INS, stating that gays were no longer to be excluded from the United States. (See also October 11, 1979.)

**August 26** * Toronto * Police shot and killed Jamaican-Canadian Albert Johnson at his home as police-minority relations continued to deteriorate in Toronto. The police claimed they shot Johnson in self-defence when he threatened them with a gardening tool that they mistook for an axe. Thousands of Blacks marched eight miles through the streets in protest, and many of the city’s minority groups, including gays and lesbians, were outraged and demanded reforms and accountability by the police in the handling of minority issues. On September 28, 1979, Constables Walter Cagnelli and William Inglis were charged with manslaughter in Johnson’s death. At a rally held on September 30, 1979, 2,000 police officers pledged moral and material support for the two officers, and supported a vote of non-confidence in Mayor John Sewell, who had criticized police violence. (See also September 11 and 13, 1979.)

**August 31** * Montréal * A McDonald’s restaurant was granted a temporary injunction by the Quebec Superior Court to prevent the opening of a gay disco, L’Aéroport, above its Peel Street location. There had been a dance club at the location for at least twenty years but as soon as renovations were undertaken to turn it into a gay disco in the spring of 1979, McDonald’s complained. (See also October 27, 1979.)


**September** * British Columbia, Manitoba * During party conventions, the provincial NDP of British Columbia and of Manitoba adopted as party policy the intention to amend their provincial human rights code to include sexual orientation.


**September** * Milwaukee, Wis. * Warren Shepell of Toronto was elected commissioner of NAGA, the umbrella organization that sponsored the annual Gay World Series of softball.


**September** * Ontario * A public opinion poll survey called “A Study of
Attitudes in Ontario,” conducted by Market Facts of Canada, was sponsored by the Ontario government. In a section on movie censorship, two thirds of the respondents said that they would censor movie scenes showing sex between two men or two women. The results of the poll were not made public until March 11, 1980.


**September** * Ottawa * The CHRC released *Sexual Orientation: A Policy Planning Report*, prepared by Marjorie Ward, which discussed the institutionalization of homophobia in Canada and resulting barriers to the amendment of the Canadian Human Rights Act to include sexual orientation. The RCMP and the Canadian Armed Forces were singled out as being especially opposed to such an amendment. The release of the report prompted the CLGRC to call on Prime Minister Joe Clark’s government to amend the Canadian Human Rights Act to include “sexual orientation” as a prohibited ground of discrimination.


**September** * Toronto * The first issue of the Canadian feminist journal *Broadside* was published. *Broadside* contained a variety of articles of interest to lesbian-feminists.


**September** * Toronto * The Centre of Affirmation and Dialogue, a meeting place for gay and lesbian Roman Catholics, was founded at St. Philip’s House, 507 Queen Street East. It closed in 1981.


September * Toronto * Six talks and discussions on gay liberation and Marxism, coordinated by Tim McCaskell, David Mole, and George Smith, were sponsored by the Toronto Marxist Institute and held at Lord Lansdowne School, 33 Robert Street. [Advertisement, *Body Politic*, no. 56 (1979), p. 42; “Marxist Institute” vertical file, Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto.]


September * Vancouver * The WECC refused to rent space to GATE (Vancouver) in which GATE could hold gay self-defence classes. (See also October 23, 1979.) [“Self-defence Class Refused Centre Room,” *Body Politic*, no. 57 (1979), p. 10.]

September 4 * Saskatoon * An arsonist set a fire that caused over $10,000 damage to the GCCS. The centre’s library and a sound system were destroyed, but it reopened on September 15. [“Arson Confirmed in Gay Centre Fire,” *Saskatoon Star-Phoenix*, 5 September 1979, p. D7; “Centre Damaged,” *Gay Calgary*, no. 13 (1979), p. 3; “Fire Destroys Library, Cops Suspect Arson,” *Body Politic*, no. 57 (1979), p. 13; “Fire in Saskatoon,” *Gay Saskatchewan*
September 6 * Toronto * The Working Group on Police-Minority Relations proposed several motions for endorsement by Toronto City Council. The motions included: rejection of any intermediary between the Police Commission and minority communities, establishment of a Civilian Review Board with its own independent investigators, replacement of the Police Board by a democratically elected committee of metro council members, and the laying of charges against the officers involved in the shooting of Albert Johnson. Although council did not consider these recommendations, on September 18, 1979, it did pass a non-confidence motion in the Metro Police Commission, saying that “it no longer reflects the mentality” of a racially mixed city.


September 8 * Toronto * Holly Near (vocals) and J.T. Thomas (piano) performed Concert for a Nuclear-free Future at the Faculty of Education Building, University of Toronto.


September 10 * Windsor, Ont. * Members of WGU picketed the Wandlyn Viscount Motor Hotel, 1150 Ouellette Avenue, to protest the hotel management’s discrimination against gay employees.


September 11 * Toronto * The Albert Johnson Benefit Concert was
held. Human Rights Commissioner Bromley Armstrong was the only Black speaker to mention gays at the concert. He emphasized the need for the inclusion of sexual orientation in human rights legislation, and publicly offered his support to meet this goal.


September 12 * Smeaton, Sask. * A Board of Reference ordered the reinstatement of teacher Donald Jones, who had been dismissed by the Nipawin School Board after admitting he had homosexual relations with two men with their consent. Although Jones had stated he was willing to resign if he was reinstated, he requested the hearing to clear his name. The Board of Reference rebuked the school board’s arbitrary process of dismissal, stating that it was not convinced that an indication of homosexual behaviour was grounds for dismissal, or that an admitted homosexual would be automatically rejected by the local community. Following the decision, Jones announced that he would not be returning to his job because he could not work for a board that had treated him so outrageously. (See also November 16, 1979.)


September 13 * Toronto * Ontario Attorney General Roy McMurtry announced that the government would introduce legislation to create a civilian review panel of alleged police wrongdoing. McMurtry’s action
followed continuing pressure from minority community groups in the
wake of the police killing of Albert Johnson on August 26, 1979.
[Robert Trow, “Cop-minority Relations Deteriorate in Wake of Albert
Johnson Killing,” Body Politic, no. 57 (1979), pp. 8–9.]

**September 13** * Toronto * A fundraising dance for the RTPC was
cancelled after the Liquor Control Board of Ontario refused to issue a
liquor licence for the event.
[“Board Denies Booze, Hot Affair Cancelled,” Body Politic, no. 57
(1979), p. 14.]

**September 14** * Toronto * Final submissions were presented before the
Day Nurseries Review Board concerning Tri-Aid’s application to be
registered under the Children’s Boarding Homes Act. (See also
September 27, 1979.)
[Gerald Hannon, “Group Home Awaits Judgment [sic],” Body Politic,
no. 57 (1979), p. 15.]

**September 15** * Vancouver * Rob Joyce and a male friend were evicted
from Humphrey’s Lounge at the Denman Place Inn, 1733 Comox Street,
for allegedly kissing and hugging at a table. GATE (Vancouver)
lunched a complaint of discrimination with the B.C. Human Rights
Commission and with the Vancouver licensing inspector. At a city hall
hearing on October 30, 1979, Roger Herbert, the Director of Licences
and Permits, noted that sexual orientation was not one of the grounds for
protection from discrimination under a by-law that governed licensed
establishments in Vancouver and refused to temporarily suspend the
lounge’s licence. GATE (Vancouver) vowed that it would ask
Vancouver City Council to amend the by-law but was unsuccessful
when the council’s Standing Committee on Community Services agreed
with Herbert on November 29, 1979.
23 (1979), p. (5); “Gay Complaint Dismissed,” Westender
(Vancouver), 1 November 1979; “Gay Duo’s Eviction Protested,”}
September 15–22 * Vancouver * An advertisement headed “Gay Women: interested in meeting others for correspondence and friendship?” was printed in the Business Personals section of the *Vancouver Sun*. The ad was for the lesbian magazine *Liaison*. This was seen as somewhat inconsistent, as the *Sun* had fought the *Gay Tide* advertisement case all the way to the Supreme Court of Canada only months earlier.


[“Media,” *It’s Your Move*, 2, no. 1 (31 October 1979): (4).]

September 18 * Toronto * The Law Society of Upper Canada ruled that gay activist Peter Maloney would be allowed to article as a law student and be allowed to enrol in the Bar Admission Course despite being found guilty as a keeper of a bawdy house. The conviction related to the May 22, 1976, raid on the Club Baths of Ottawa, of which Maloney was the manager at the time.

[“Student May Article Despite Raid Charge,” *Body Politic*, no. 58 (1979), p. 12.]

September 19 * Montréal * The Gay Social Services Project of Ville-
Marie Social Services Centre began hosting a group for gay men over fifty years old.

**September 19** *Toronto* * During its first annual general meeting, AGE released a report containing an analysis of the voting records of city, borough, and Metro Toronto politicians on gay rights and police issues.

**September 19** *Toronto* * Six representatives of the gay community met with Gerald Emmett Cardinal Carter, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Toronto, in his capacity as informal police-minority mediator. Carter declared at the meeting that although the Church viewed homosexuality as sinful, he would be able to separate his moral position from his position on civil rights.

**September 19** *Vancouver* * The Back to Eden health food store refused to give a job to Jonas Goldstein, an openly gay man, because of his sexual orientation. GATE (Vancouver) sponsored a picket of the store on September 29, 1979, and lodged a complaint with the B.C. Human Rights Commission.

**September 22** *Calgary* * Thomas Earl Nash, twenty-two, was murdered in Central Memorial Park, a popular gay cruising area. Nash was one of three straight men who had been abusing gay men in the park. Brian Christopher Hawkhurst and Greg Paul Spencer attacked the
men, and Nash died in hospital after being slashed in the throat with a broken bottle. Hawkhurst and Spencer were charged with second-degree murder. (See also Summer 1980.)

[“Victim a Queerbasher in Park Slaying,” *Body Politic*, no. 58 (1979), p. 15.]

**September 24–November 5** *Winnipeg* *The University of Manitoba’s Continuing Education Division offered a six-week course entitled “Homosexuality in History and in Contemporary Society.” This was the first academic course on gay studies offered in Manitoba, and was coordinated by Dr. Ted Millward of St. John’s College.*


**September 26** *Ottawa* *A poll conducted by the CHRC found that two out of three Canadians favoured giving job protection to gay people.*


**September 27** *Toronto* *The Tri-Aid gay group home was again refused registration as a boarding home under the Children’s Boarding Home Act. Although the Day Nurseries Review Board acknowledged there was a “great need” for the kind of service Tri-Aid was attempting to provide, it concluded that “the staff of Tri-Aid House were not sufficiently or appropriately qualified to offer residential care to young people … experiencing … problems in their sexual orientation.” Tri-Aid House, located at 8 Irwin Avenue, closed in November 1979.*

**September 28–29** *Halifax* *On the evening of September 28, the manager of the Turret Club was beaten and robbed as he was making the daily bank deposit. The next evening, several people harassed gays and threw a stink bomb in the front door of the Turret building; later that night, a bomb threat was made against the Turret. Police evacuated the building and made an investigation.

[“That Was the Week-end That Was,” *Have You Heard?*, 2, no. 2 (5 October 1979): (1).]

**September 29–30** *Toronto* *MCC (Toronto) held a Festival of Love, which was attended by 600 people. Events included a fundraising banquet, workshops, worship services, and a dance. During the banquet, certificates of appreciation for services in the field of human rights were awarded to MPP Margaret Campbell and George Hislop. John Damien and John Sewell also received awards. The festival was attended by Rev. Troy Perry, founder of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches, and Rev. Freda Smith, pastor of the MCC of Sacramento, California.


**September 30** *Vancouver* *A Lesbian and Gay Arts Festival was held at WECC, and was organized by GATE (Vancouver). The organizers of the event had difficulty in securing the rented space due to reluctance on the part of the centre’s board, which stated initially that “the Centre’s
aims and goals are different from those of GATE.” (See also October 23, 1979.)

[“Gays Use Centre,” *Gay Tide*, no. 23 (1979), p. (7).]

**Autumn** * Calgary * The University of Calgary Infertility Clinic’s frozen human sperm bank refused to inseminate lesbians and unmarried women as a matter of policy.


**Autumn** * Montréal * *Agenda gai 1980*, an illustrated calendar and date book compiled by Paul-François Sylvestre, was published by Éditions Homeureux.


**Autumn** * Ottawa * The group Lesbian and Gay Students of Ottawa (LGSO) was formed; most of the members were from the University of Ottawa.


**Autumn** * Saskatoon * *After Stonewall*, a gay liberation journal that had been published in Winnipeg, resumed publication (with issue nine) in Saskatoon after two of the collective’s founding members, Walter Davis and Bill Fields, moved there. The new Saskatoon collective also included Amy Gottlieb, Wiesia Kolasinska, and Doug Wilson.


**Autumn** * Saskatoon * The Lesbian Organization of Saskatoon (LOOS) was formed as a successor to the Saskatoon Lesbian Society.

Autumn * Toronto * “Michel Tremblay Casebook,” which included articles about Tremblay by Don Rubin and Renate Usmiani; interviews with Tremblay, André Brassard, and John Van Burek; a biographical checklist; plus the script of Tremblay’s *Les Socies (The Pedestals)*, was published in *Canadian Theatre Review*.

[“Michel Tremblay Casebook,” *Canadian Theatre Review*, no. 24 (1979), pp. 10–60.]

Autumn * Toronto * The gay pop band TBA was formed, with members Steven Bock, Paul Hackney, Glenn Schellenberg, and Andrew Zealley. TBA performed contemporary electronic dance music, and opened for such bands as Rough Trade and Tom Robinson.


Autumn * Toronto * Transsexual Counselling Services was established under the directorship of Janice Anderson.


Autumn * Vancouver * Three lesbian students at the King Edward campus of Vancouver Community College (VCC) applied to the student council for recognition as a gay organization on campus. The students were thwarted when they were told to register at least twenty-five members to be recognized officially.

[“King Edward Comes Out,” *Gay Tide*, no. 23 (1979), p. (6).]

October * Lennoxville, Qué. * Daron Westman was instrumental in forming the Gay Students’ Alliance at Bishop’s University despite threats, harassment, and a physical attack. The group had moved off-campus by January 1982, however, due to ongoing harassment. Westman and others also formed the community-based l’Association gaie de l’Estrie in Sherbrooke by 1980. (See also August 1980.)


**October** * London, England * After five years of preparation, the Church of England’s report on homosexuality was released. It urged greater understanding and sympathy for homosexuals, and concluded that homosexual relationships could be justified, although heterosexual marriage remained the norm. It also stated, however, that if a priest was living in a homosexual union with another man, he should resign. The report generated much controversy.


**October** * Toronto * Marie-Claire Blais’s novel *A Literary Affair* (*Une Liaison parisienne*, 1975), translated by Sheila Fischman, was published by McClelland & Stewart.


**October** * Toronto * A commemorative feminist issue of the *Body Politic* (issue 57) was published. It was organized by the Women’s Issue Committee, and was published to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the declaration of the Lord Chancellor of Great Britain that Canadian women were “persons” and could therefore hold public office.

[“Special Collectivities” (editorial), *Body Politic*, no. 57 (1979), p. 3.]

**October** * Toronto * Political Lesbians of Toronto (PLOT) was established as a lesbian-feminist group committed to radical social,
economic, and political change.


**October** *Vancouver* * Britt Hagarty’s fictionalized memoir* *Prisoner of Desire* *was published by Talonbooks.*


**October** *Vancouver* * The brief “Vancouver, Aspirations from a Minority Status” was submitted to the Goals for Vancouver Programme of the Vancouver Planning Commission by Geoff Mains on behalf of SEARCH.*


**October 2** *Calgary* * Craig Russell performed an evening of female impersonations at the Jubilee Auditorium.*
October 2 * Vancouver * Representatives of almost thirty Vancouver-based organizations met at WECC to elect an interim board for the proposed Gay People’s Community Centre. Grace Flesher was appointed spokesperson for the board.

[Donna Sturmanis, “Their Place,” Vancouver Magazine, February 1980, pp. 76–87; “Vancouver Gay Community Centre Planned,” BiLine (Vancouver), 1, no. 6 (December 1979): 20.]

October 3 * Toronto * Derek George Grant died of a seizure while in police custody after being entrapped and arrested in the washroom of the Parkside Tavern, 530 Yonge Street. Two police officers were hidden in a storage room next to the washroom, and had been observing the washroom through a ventilation grate. Grant and three other men were seen having sex. The policemen burst in and arrested the men, but in the ensuing melee two of the men escaped. Grant was placed in a headlock and later choked during a panic attack at police headquarters, and could not be revived. The man arrested with Grant was not charged, and was released. The Toronto Police Morality Bureau later revealed that twenty-eight men had been arrested in the Parkside’s washroom during 1979 alone. A coroner’s inquest later ruled that Grant’s death had been accidental. (See also February 25, 1980.)

October 4 * Toronto * Alderman Thomas Wardle, Jr., pleaded guilty to a charge of common assault, and was given a conditional discharge and three months’ probation by Provincial Court Judge Joseph Addison. The case arose out of what the press had originally referred to as a “homosexual incident” at a washroom at the Royal York Hotel. The Toronto Sun claimed that the case was a cover-up and that Wardle, Jr., received a light sentence, and the case was hushed up, because his father was a former Progressive Conservative member of the Ontario Legislature. Alderman Wardle was later defeated in the November 10, 1980, municipal election.


October 4–5 * Toronto * Oscar: A Portrait of Oscar Wilde, written and performed by Raymond Clarke, was presented at the NDWT Theatre as a fundraising event for RTPC.

[“Oscar—a Success!: Defence Fund Benefit,” RTPC Newsbreak (Toronto), (November 1979), p. 3.]

October 5–8 * Saskatoon * Metamorphosis ’79, A Prairie Celebration of Lesbians and Gay Men, was held. Sponsored by the SGC, the weekend festival featured meetings, workshops, coffee houses, a fair, dances, performers (including Meg Christian and Ferron), and a Thanksgiving feast. More than 150 people attended. On October 6, about sixty-five placard-carrying marchers paraded through downtown streets,
calling for equal rights for gay people.

**October 6** *Toronto* *Three hundred people representing nine groups marched through the financial district to rally for abortion rights in front of the Royal York Hotel, which was hosting a Right to Life convention. Lesbians were prominent among the marchers.

**October 6–8** *Montréal* *The third national conference of lesbians and gays in Québec was held, sponsored by the RNLGQ. A resolution from the RNLGQ recommending a yes vote on a provincial referendum on sovereignty association to be held in 1980 passed. Also, during a workshop on gays with disabilities, the formation of a group for gay deaf people—Les Bons gens sourds—was announced.

**October 9–November 27** *Vancouver* *A UBC Gay Studies program series of lectures entitled “Gay Studies: A Diversity of Lifestyles, Relationships, and Adaptations to Minority Status” was held at the Vancouver Public Library. The program was coordinated by Dr. Jaime Smith.*
October 10–November 14 * Canada * Being Gay, a six-hour series of interviews and observations on gay and lesbian life, was broadcast on CBC radio’s documentary programme Ideas. Max Allen and Geraldine Sherman produced the series. The Body Politic was criticized after it accidentally printed an ad for the series in its October 1979 issue (number 57), as gay groups across Canada had been boycotting CBC radio advertising because of the CBC’s longstanding refusal to run public service announcements for gay organizations.


October 11 * San Francisco, Calif. * United States immigration officials prohibited Tal Renal, an Israeli citizen living in Edmonton, from entering the United States because of his sexual orientation. This was part of a continuing campaign of harassment of lesbians and gay men entering the United States.

[“Immigration Head Says We’re OK, but U.S. Border Still Closed to Gays,” Body Politic, no. 58 (1979), p. 9.]

October 11 * Toronto * Police raided the Hot Tub Club, 9 Isabella Street, four apartments, and a cottage in Northumberland County near Peterborough and laid multiple charges, from keeping a common bawdy house to making obscene films. The raids were the culmination of a five-month investigation lead by Inspector James Majury of 55 Division and involved more than fifty police officers. At the Hot Tub Club, nine men
were charged as keepers and fourteen as found-ins. More than a hundred people gathered outside the club on Isabella Street to jeer at the police and to chant their support for the men being arrested inside. The crowd was joined by Toronto aldermen Dan Heap and Allan Sparrow, who had spoken out in recent months against police harassment of gays. The RTPC offered to defend the men charged on bawdy house offences. (See also January 17, 1980.)


**October 14** * Toronto * The Toronto local of CUPW supported a motion to amend the Ontario Human Rights Code to include sexual orientation. They also passed a resolution to ask the Ontario Federation of Labour (OFL) to petition the Ontario government to amend the code. (See also November 30, 1979.)


**October 14** * Toronto * Fifteen hundred people rallied in Nathan
Phillips Square and marched to the Ontario Legislature to protest increased racism and police violence against minority groups. Several hundred lesbians and gays participated in the protest. Although some organizers objected to a visible gay presence at the rally, Rev. Brent Hawkes spoke to the crowd on the common problems gays and racial minorities had with the Metro police. Demonstrators called for the establishment of a civilian review board with ethnic representation to review complaints against the police, as well as the resignation of Police Commissioners Phil Givens and Paul Godfrey, and Police Chief Harold Adamson.


October 14 * Washington, D.C. * The first March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights was held, followed by a five-hour rally. Tens of thousands of people attended, including Canadians.


October 15 * Ottawa * The office of the Postmaster General prohibited issues of the Swedish gay liberation/sex magazine Revolt from entering Canada.

October 15 * Washington, D.C. * The United States State Department sent a message to American diplomatic posts around the world instructing officials to deny visas to known homosexuals. Lawyers for the department said that the INS was “statutorily required to enforce the exclusion of homosexual aliens” under the McCarran-Walter Act, passed by Congress in 1952. This message nullified an earlier directive from the Immigration and Naturalization Service stating that gays were not to be excluded.


October 17 * Montréal * City police seized sadomasochistic materials during a raid on Le Priape Sexshop, 1661, rue Sainte-Catherine Est. Claude LeBlanc, owner of Le Priape, was charged with distribution of obscene material under Section 159 of the Criminal Code. Canada Customs had also been interrupting shipments of materials to the store. (See also October 31, 1979.)


October 17–20 * Montréal * Concordia University sponsored a gay and lesbian arts festival, held at the Sir George Williams campus as well as the Loyola campus. There were art exhibitions, gay community information booths, a film festival, and a concert featuring Ferron and Heather Bishop.

[“Concordia University” vertical file, Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto.]

October 19–20 * Toronto * The second annual conference on Human Freedom and Sexuality was held at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education. The theme was “Childhood and Sexuality,” to coincide with the United Nations declaration of 1979 as the Year of the Child. The sessions included films, workshops, a panel discussion, and the annual

meeting of the Centre for Human Freedom and Sexuality.
[“Conference on Human Freedom and Sexuality (1979)” vertical file, Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto.]

October 21 * Toronto * At a meeting initiated by GLU and RTPC, Toronto police agreed to make efforts to stop the abuse and violence directed at gay people by the mob that traditionally gathered outside the St. Charles Tavern on Yonge Street during Halloween. Despite similar promises in previous years, the police had been ineffective in controlling the thousands of people who gathered, some of whom threw eggs and stones at anyone suspected on being gay. (See also October 31, 1979.)
[Ross Irwin, “Cops Meet with Gay Community, Say They’ll Halt Hallowe’en Mob,” Body Politic, no. 58 (1979), p. 11.]

October 21 * Toronto * Gay and lesbian representatives made a presentation calling for the establishment of a Gay Liaison Committee before a Toronto Board of Education committee of school superintendents and principals. (See also April 1980.)
[“Putting a Full Nelson on the Liaison Issue,” Body Politic, no. 66 (1980), pp. 8–9.]

October 22 * Saskatoon * Several candidates for alderman and mayor candidates declared their opposition to anti-gay discrimination during an all-candidates meeting held at the SGCC.

October 22 * Toronto * The OAC denied a $1,000 operating grant to the Body Politic despite an independent jury’s recommendation, stating that such a grant would not be “in the best interests of the arts in Ontario.” This was the first time that the council had overturned a jury’s decision.
October 23 * Toronto * Representatives from AGE and RTPC met with the Legislation and Licensing Committee of Metro Council to clarify the council’s position concerning protection from discrimination based on sexual orientation. Although several committee members spoke in favour of a gay resolution, the committee sent the resolution to a Management Subcommittee, with no time frame for action.


October 23 * Vancouver * Kevan Tisshaw, the new Community Recreation Coordinator for WECC, declared that the centre would respond to the needs of the whole community, including gay people. This represented a shift in policy, as the centre had previously been reluctant to allow access to gay community groups wishing to book space for meetings. There were still tensions between gay organizations and the WECC’s board of directors, however, which extended into 1980.


October 23 * Vancouver * The Vancouver School Board fired janitor Ray Horton for discussing his homosexuality with two male students at Tupper High School. Horton refused to promise that he would never again discuss his sexuality with students, and was dismissed. Although he was a member of CUPE (Local 392), CUPE could not support him because sexual orientation was not protected in the provincial human rights code. (See also December 8, 1979, and January 3, 1980.)

congédie un concierge pour être ‘sorti’ en parlant,” *Le Berdache*, no. 7 (1980), p. 16.]

**October 23** *Winnipeg* * The Manitoba Association for Rights and Liberties (MARL) task force released a report recommending that discrimination based on sexual orientation be made illegal under the Manitoba Human Rights Act.


**October 24** *Ottawa* * Fourteen people attended the initial eucharist and planning meeting for Integrity/Ottawa, held at St. George’s Church.

[“Integrity Forms a Chapter in Ottawa,” *Integrity/Toronto Newsletter*, 1, no. 5 (1979): 1.]

**October 24** *Toronto* * Under pressure from CGRO, the *Globe and Mail* for the first time allowed the use of the word “gay,” as opposed to “homosexual,” in personal classified advertisements published in the paper.


**October 25** *Montréal* * The gay magazine *Le Berdache* sponsored a round-table discussion on the topic “Is There a Homosexual Literature?” Three hundred people attended the event, which featured writers Jean Basile, Louky Bersianik, Marie-Claire Blais, Paul Chamberland, and Yves Navarre.


**October 25** *Toronto* * Heather Bishop performed at the Fly by Night Lounge, 212 Dundas Street East.

[Karen Henderson, “Prairie Woman Mellowing: Heather Bishop at
Fly-by-Night,” *Lesbian Perspective* (LOOT), November 1979, pp. (1, 3).

**October 26** *Toronto* * Provincial Court Judge Sydney Harris reserved judgement on a motion to return materials belonging to PTP seized during the police raid of the offices of the *Body Politic* on December 30, 1977. (See also December 27, 1979.)


**October 27** *Montréal* * Gays and lesbians picketed a McDonald’s outlet on Peel Street after the company obtained a temporary injunction to block the opening of a new gay disco, L’Aéroport, above the restaurant.


**October 29** *Toronto* * Seven gay activists held a “mince-in” at the Ontario Legislature to draw attention to government inaction on human rights for lesbians and gays. The group was evicted from the visitors’ gallery for holding hands, hugging, kissing, and blowing kisses at Premier Bill Davis. The event garnered much publicity, and on October 30 Attorney General Roy McMurtry agreed to meet in his office at a later date with a small group of gay representatives to discuss community concerns. (See also March 31, 1980.)


**October 29** *Toronto* *In his capacity as informal mediator between minority groups and Toronto police, Gerald Emmett Cardinal Carter released a report that called on the Metro Toronto Police Force to improve its relations with minority groups and to establish some form of civilian review procedure. The report avoided referring to gay concerns, although at a press conference Carter did state that consensual sexual acts performed in private were no concern of the police, and agreed that the police should not have laid bawdy house charges in the Barracks steam bath raid. The Police Commission adopted the report’s recommendations on November 1, 1979, and struck two committees to deal with them. (See also December 13, 1979.)


**October 30** *Ottawa* *Serge Tardif, who was stabbed five times by Pierre Jodoin on September 22, 1976, while cruising at Major’s Hill Park, Nepean Point, was refused compensation by the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board (CICB). The CICB, established by the Ontario government in 1971 to compensate innocent victims of violent crime, ruled that Tardif had directly contributed to his stabbing by going into the bushes to have sex with Jodoin, a man he did not know, and denied his application. Jodoin was convicted of wounding and received a suspended sentence and three years’ probation.


**October 30** *Winnipeg* * Provincial Court Judge Ian V. Dubienski reserved judgement on two charges of gross indecency against Allan Spraggett. Spraggett had been charged on February 20, 1979, as part of the “juvenile sex-for-cash” scandal. (See also April 3, 1980.)


**October 31** *Montréal* * Claude LeBlanc, owner of Le Priape Sexshop, challenged Canada Customs in Quebec Superior Court over their detaining shipments of gay magazines, including travel guides, from the United States. He charged that Canada Customs was employing a double standard as magazines such as *Penthouse*, which included pictures of nude women, were routinely allowed through. (See also December 1979.)


**October 31** *Toronto* * A man was acquitted of the charge of counselling the commission of an indecent act when Ontario Provincial Court Judge Robert Dnieper dismissed the case. Dnieper ruled that sexual intercourse, defined at the trial as “insertion of a man’s penis into a woman’s vagina,” could not occur between two men.


**October 31** *Toronto* * Despite promises to control and disperse the crowd, police failed to prevent a violent, homophobic mob from gathering on Halloween evening on Yonge Street in front of the St. Charles Tavern. Almost 2,000 people gathered on the street, throwing
eggs and chanting “Kill the queers.” The Yonge Street entrance to the bar was actually closed; patrons entered by the back alley door, which was heavily guarded by police. At least 103 people in the mob were arrested, most of whom were charged with breach of the peace. A volunteer gay defence patrol, Operation Jack O’Lantern, spent the evening escorting gays and lesbians through the neighbourhood, and became involved in at least one altercation. On the same night, drag personality Riki Tick hosted a private Halloween party, “Fantasy Follies,” held at the Masonic Temple.


November * Montréal * Naches filed a complaint with the Quebec Human Rights Commission after the Young Men’s–Young Women’s Hebrew Association (YM-YWHA) refused to rent a meeting space to them. Naches had been trying to rent space from the YM-YWHA since April 1977, without success. In October 1982 Beatrice Vizkelety, a lawyer investigating the case, ruled that Naches had indeed been excluded from the Y based on the sexual orientation of its members, which was an act of discrimination under the provincial human rights charter. Before the commission as a whole made a ruling, the YM-YWHA notified Naches that it could rent a room for meeting space.


November * Moose Jaw, Sask. * Dan Reardon, founder of the Moose Jaw Gay Community Centre (MJGCC), was interviewed for an article in the Moose Jaw Times-Herald. At that time, the MJGCC did not have a permanent home, but ran a gay counselling hotline. Reardon’s dream was to establish a coffee house where local gays and lesbians could socialize. He had discussed the concept with Mayor Herb Taylor, said that he would apply to the city for a $4,000 grant, and hoped that the centre would be open by May 1980. As soon as the news hit the press, though, there was considerable public backlash against the proposed centre, including petitions and letters of complaint sent to the Moose Jaw City Council. Mayor Taylor had to call a press conference to clarify his stand on the matter, and declared that in his personal opinion the gay community would not get a grant from the city.


November * Toronto * A gay couple who had been living together for more than twenty years wished to become foster parents but declined the placement of a sixteen-year-old gay youth after they were told that information about the intended placement could become public.


November * Toronto * The Cara Shop newsstand at the Yonge-Eglinton Centre discontinued the sale of the Body Politic because it was “not up to the standards” of the store. The decision was announced after a
regional supervisor for the Cara chain was offended by the November 1979 issue, which featured a zucchini on the cover.

**November** * Toronto * An ad hoc committee was established to patrol the area of Philosopher’s Walk on the University of Toronto’s St. George campus after two rapes had been committed there in a month. Committee members charged that campus and metro police were not providing adequate policing in the area for women; police claimed they didn’t have enough staff. At the same time, it was reported that gay men continued to be approached and entrapped by undercover policemen in the area, which was a well-known cruising ground. Later, police released statistics stating that twenty-eight gay men had been arrested in the area during 1979 alone.

**November** * Toronto * Officer Stevens of the Toronto police’s Morality Bureau spoke to a Sociology of Deviance class at York University. During the talk Stevens described in graphic detail his surveillance of local gay baths and used derogatory terms such as “fags” and “queers,” as well as limp-wrist gestures.

**November** * Winnipeg * Patrick Francis Jemmet and Clifford Thomas Everton were granted suspended sentences and John Gordon Creighton received two years’ probation in the “juvenile sex-for-cash” scandal. The Manitoba Attorney General’s office later appealed these sentences as being too lenient; Jemmet later received a sentence of eight months in jail.
[Alan McLean, “Crown Says Judge Too Lenient, Appeals Suspended
November 2 * Vancouver * During an open discussion at the British Columbia Social Credit Party convention, Vince Stone of the Marijuana Education Society of B.C. stated that estrogen contained in cannabis was linked to an increase in homosexual behaviour.

November 2–4 * Saskatoon * Three NDP constituency organizations (Regina Centre, Saskatoon Centre, Saskatoon Nutana) again submitted resolutions to the party’s annual convention pressing for human rights protections for lesbians and gays.
[“NDP Convention,” Gay Saskatchewan (Saskatoon), 2, no. 11 (November 1979): (9).]

November 3 * Toronto * During a speech at Ontario’s first Gay Human Rights Day rally, Scarborough’s mayor Gus Harris declared his support for amending the Ontario Human Rights Code to protect sexual orientation. Harris was later barraged by letters and telephone calls, about half of which were negative. The rally and fundraising concert, featuring lesbian feminist stand-up comic Robin Tyler, was organized by the Human Rights Campaign Committee of CGRO and was held at the Faculty of Education Building, University of Toronto, 371 Bloor Street West.

**November 8** * Edmonton * Bob Lundrigan, a vocal opponent of gay rights, was announced as the new chair of the Alberta Human Rights Commission (AHRC). Lundrigan had stated earlier in an interview that gays didn’t deserve protection in the Individual Rights Protection Act, Alberta’s human rights legislation. On November 9, Alberta labour minister Les Young, the minister responsible for the AHRC, was interviewed by the *Edmonton Journal* and stated that he was not disturbed by Lundrigan’s views on gay rights and proceeded to make discriminatory, anti-gay remarks. Young remarked that Albertans who made their homosexuality obvious should be prepared to face discrimination. Local gay and lesbian activists were outraged; Young was characterized as “Alberta’s George Wallace without a wheelchair.” Lundrigan later reversed his position, and supported the inclusion of sexual orientation in the Individual Rights Protection Act. (See also February 5, 1980.)


**November 9–12** *Halifax* *Thirty-six people attended the Atlantic Gay and Lesbian Community Conference, “Building a Community Spirit,” sponsored by GAE. The conference encouraged improved communications between individuals and groups throughout the Atlantic provinces. Workshops and a cabaret were held, films were shown, and a wreath was laid at the Halifax War Memorial as part of Remembrance Day ceremonies.


**November 11** *Calgary* *During an event held at the Calgary Christian Centre, Minneapolis-based evangelist Brian Ruud verbally attacked Rev. Lloyd Greenway of MCC Calgary, referring to him as a demon possessed, and condemned homosexuals in general as being drug addicts, alcoholics, and murderers.
November 12 * Toronto * Rev. Ken Campbell complained to the OHRC, criticizing the Lambda Business Council’s 10 percent discount to gay customers. Campbell claimed that the gay-owned businesses were discriminating against self-confessed heterosexuals.


November 14 * Fort Qu’Appelle, Sask. * Eighty-four people attended a one-day workshop organized by The United Church of Canada to examine issues relating to homosexuality in the church and society. The film *Word Is Out* was shown during the workshop.

[Walter Davis, “United Church,” *Gay Saskatchewan* (Saskatoon), 2, no. 12 (December 1979): (5).]

November 15 * Toronto * The Most Reverend Edward Scott, primate of the Anglican Church in Canada, delivered the homily at a service of Integrity/Toronto, and met with members of the congregation after the service.


November 16 * Smeaton, Sask. * The Nipawin District School Board launched an appeal of the reinstatement of teacher Donald Jones, who had been dismissed by the board after admitting that he had homosexual relations with two men with their consent. The appeal was dismissed by Justice A.L. Sirois of the Saskatchewan Court of Queen’s Bench on November 30 because Jones had already resigned from the position. The board appealed this decision to the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal, which rejected their appeal on June 11, 1980.

[Matt Bellan, “Bisexual Teacher Wins Fight against Dismissal from *...*”]

November 16 * Vancouver * The Vancouver Sun published a classified advertisement for Gay Tide, the publication of (GATE) (Vancouver), despite winning a Supreme Court of Canada decision on May 22, 1979, which allowed the paper to deny advertising based on personal standards. Publisher Clarke Davey declared that the Vancouver Sun would no longer automatically reject all gay ads. The Sun, however, had recently refused to print an ad for Lesbian Information Line (LIL). On November 17, the Province also published the Gay Tide ad.


November 17 * Saskatoon * The first meeting of the Gay Education Workers Group was held at the Association on Human Rights office. Four people attended the meeting, but there were additional telephone calls and letters from interested parties. Discussion focused on
difficulties faced by gays and lesbians working in the education system.

[“Gay Education Workers,” *Gay Saskatchewan* (Saskatoon), 2, no. 12 (December 1979): (7).]

**November 17** * Toronto * Seventy-five people marched in front of Ontario Attorney General Roy McMurtry’s office on Grosvenor Street to protest police discrimination. Many of the marchers were gay, and Rev. Brent Hawkes of the MCC addressed the crowd on behalf of the gay community.


**November 17** * Winnipeg * More than 300 women attended the Full Moon Ball, held at the Winnipeg Ski Club. The event was sponsored by Ms. Purdy’s, a lesbian social club.

[“Winnipeg Women’s Dance,” *Gay Saskatchewan* (Saskatoon), 2, no. 12 (December 1979): (2).]

**November 19** * Toronto * The Barracks trial began at Old City Hall. Andy Fabo, Paul Gaudet, George Hislop, Jerry Levy, and Rick Stenhouse were charged with being keepers of a common bawdy house, stemming from a police raid on the Barracks bathhouse on December 9, 1978. Defence lawyer Morris Manning asked for an adjournment, stating that he intended to challenge the constitutional validity of the vaguely worded bawdy house laws. Provincial Court Judge Harold A. Rice reserved judgement on the constitutional motions and adjourned the case until January 4, 1980. (See also November 28, 1979, and January 4, 1980.)


**November 20–22** *Montréal* * The ADGQ held its sixth planning convention.


**November 22** *Toronto* * Ontario Minister of Labour Robert Elgie introduced Bill 188: Act to Provide for the Rights of Handicapped Persons, for first reading in the Ontario Legislature. The segregation of rights for handicapped persons into a separate bill was seen as a ruse by the PC government to be selective in amending the Ontario Human Rights Code. This approach went against the recommendations of *Life Together*, the report of the OHRC released in 1977, which called for considerable expansion and revision of the Code, including protection from discrimination based on sexual orientation. Elgie was later forced to withdraw the bill after organizations representing handicapped individuals in Ontario almost unanimously called it “segregationist and discriminatory.”


November 22 * Toronto * In a speech delivered to the Empire Club of Toronto, Gordon Fairweather, head commissioner of the CHRC, declared that the Ontario government should stop being timid in passing legislation to protect homosexuals.


November 24 * Calgary * Mayor Ross Alger refused a request from GIRC to proclaim November 24 Gay Community Day. The mayor’s office claimed that Alger’s time was booked and he could not accommodate the request. GIRC and other local groups went ahead with festivities anyway, which included informational displays, discussions, and refreshments.


**November 25** *Prince Albert, Sask.* *The Prince Albert Gay Community Centre celebrated the official opening of its first rented facility, located at 4–241 Tenth Street East. This was the site of Saturday night socials presented by the Zodiac Club, and the location of the group’s phone line. The centre was also open for informal drop-ins, Wednesdays through Fridays.

[“Community Expands in Saskatchewan,” *Gay Horizons*, no. 15 (1980), p. 4; “Gay Centre Opens,” *Sheaf* (Univ. of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon), 29 November 1979, p. 5; “PAGCC Grand Opening,” *Gay Saskatchewan* (Saskatoon), 2, no. 12 (December 1979): (7).]

**November 26** *Toronto* *Ontario Liberal leader Stuart Smith met with representatives from CGRO. CGRO’s press release concerning the meeting stated that Smith had said that he would quit as leader of the Ontario Liberal Party if the Liberal caucus failed to support the inclusion of a sexual orientation clause in the Ontario Human Rights Code. The next day a furious Smith declared that he had been misquoted, and his position had been “seriously distorted.” Smith said that he would support the inclusion of sexual orientation protection personally, but that the other members of the Liberal caucus would have a free vote on the matter in the Legislature.


**November 28** *Toronto* *The men charged as found-ins during the
December 9, 1978, police raid on the Barracks steam bath appeared in Ontario Provincial Court and were remanded until February 26, 1980. (See also February 26, 1980.)


**November 29** * Montréal * Justice Marc Beauregard of the Quebec Superior Court ruled that the CECM was guilty of discriminating against ADGQ when it refused to rent meeting space to the group on January 25, 1978. This was a precedent-setting case under the Quebec Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms, as in this case the CECM had tried to use religious grounds to seek an exemption from the charter’s Article 12, which prohibited discrimination based on sexual orientation. The CECM appealed the case to the Quebec Court of Appeal, the highest court in Québec.

November 29 * Toronto * AGE released the report “Gay Issues: How Metro Votes,” which evaluated the voting records of Metro councillors on minority rights issues since June 1979. Eight representatives had consistently supported gay or minority rights resolutions, including three Metro mayors: Gus Harris (Scarborough), Mel Lastman (North York), and John Sewell (Toronto).


November 30 * Toronto * During their annual convention, members of the OFL passed a resolution urging the Ontario government to amend the Ontario Human Rights Code to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation. A similar resolution had failed to pass at the OFL’s 1978 convention.


December * Calgary * Gay Calgary, the publication of Gay Information and Resources Calgary (GIRC), was renamed Gay Horizons.

[“Growing,” Body Politic, no. 58 (1979), p. 15.]

December * Halifax * The first issue of Glad Rag, the newsletter of Gays and Lesbians at Dalhousie University (GLAD), was published.

[“Growing,” Body Politic, no. 60 (1980), p. 15.]

December * Montréal * Mr. Justice James K. Hugessen of the Quebec Superior Court upheld a Canada Customs decision prohibiting forty-nine gay male pornography magazines from entering Canada. Hugessen used the “community standards” test to determine which magazines were “immoral” or “indecent,” based on defined criteria. The case had been launched in October 1979 after shipments of gay magazines destined for
Le Priape Sexshop were confiscated by Canada Customs. Le Priape appealed this decision to the Federal Court of Appeal. (See also October 23, 1980.)


**December** *Toronto* *Emma’s*, a non-profit, cooperative downtown social club for women, was established.


**December** *Toronto* *Homosexuality in Canada: A Bibliography*, compiled by Alex Spence, was published by PTP. This was the first comprehensive checklist ever published of material by and about gay people in Canada. It was also the first in a series of publications produced by the Canadian Gay Archives. A second edition, compiled by William Crawford, was published by the CGA in 1984.


**December** *Toronto* *PTP and the CGA published The Genetic Imperative: Fact and Fantasy in Sociobiology*, compiled by Alan V. Miller. This was the first major bibliography published on sociobiology, with almost 2,000 citations.


**December** *Toronto* *An article published in the United Church
Observer noted that homosexuality would be one of the subjects covered in a report on homosexuality [*In God’s Image ... Male and Female*] being prepared by The United Church of Canada. It also quoted Rev. Howard Mills, secretary of the Church’s Division of Ministry, Personnel and Education, urging gays not to press the issue of homosexuality yet “because the Church doesn’t have a clear mind and has an uneasiness about that lack of clarity.” (See also March 1980.)


**December 1 * Toronto * The interfaith funding agency PLURA (Presbyterian, Lutheran, United, Roman Catholic, Anglican) awarded a grant of $4,000 to the Human Rights Campaign Committee of CGRO. The grant was used to employ Robin Hardy as a full-time grassroots organizer in small towns and rural areas of Ontario, beginning March 3, 1980. This was part of CGRO’s push for the inclusion of sexual orientation in the Ontario Human Rights Code.

December 3 * Edmonton * The *Edmonton Journal* refused to publish a classified ad for *Gay Horizons*. The ad sought new subscribers and members for ALGRA. (See also February 21, 1980.)


December 3 * Halifax * The Dalhousie University Faculty Association ratified its first contract, which included a clause forbidding discrimination based on sexual orientation.


December 4 * Toronto * A delegation from CGRO met with the full OHRC. The commission committed itself to supporting all ninety-seven recommendations in the 1977 report *Life Together*.


December 5 * Fredericton * Thirty-four people attended the first general meeting of Fredericton Lesbians and Gays (FLAG). An interim steering committee continued the work of establishing FLAG, which included setting up a social committee, a phone line, and a drop-in centre (at 749 Charlotte Street).

December 7–9 * Vancouver * The British Columbia Human Rights Commission held a conference on human rights, during which it voted to censure the commission itself for past public comments made by its members that had violated the spirit of the provincial Human Rights Code. Chairperson Margaret Strongitharm also called for the inclusion of a sexual orientation clause in the B.C. Human Rights Code. Eight gay and lesbian groups attended the conference. GATE (Vancouver) had been invited to attend but decided to boycott the conference, denouncing it as a “publicity gimmick,” and held a protest at Robson Square calling for the resignation or firing of four of the commissioners. (See also December 8, 1979.)

December 8 * Vancouver * About a hundred supporters of GATE (Vancouver) held a demonstration in Robson Square to protest the firing of Ray Horton and the inaction of the B.C. Human Rights Commission on gay issues.

[cited sources:

December 9 * Vancouver * SPAG published the brief *Rights and Realities: Discrimination and the Gay Women and Men of British Columbia*.

[cited sources:

December 10 * Toronto * Gay activist George Hislop, under charge in the Barracks case, was elected to a three-year term on the Toronto City Planning Board, a citizen advisory board reporting to city council. Hislop was the first openly gay person to hold public office in Toronto. (See also February 1980 and November 10, 1980.)

[cited sources:
“Homosexual on Planning Board,” *Toronto Sun*, final ed., 11 December 1979, p. 5;
Peter Maloney, “Gay Politics,” *Our Toronto*, 1, no. 2 (January 1980): 4;

December 11 * Toronto * Ontario Attorney General Roy McMurtry announced plans to introduce a bill creating an independent police review board to hear citizen complaints against police. The proposed board would be a three-year pilot project, and would require that citizens first register complaints with the police department itself. This procedure
brought into question the independence of the board. McMurtry’s announcement came after months of pressure from local minority groups, as well as the release on October 29 of the Carter Report on police-minority relations, which recommended the establishment of a civilian review board.


**December 12** * Winnipeg * Heinz Merton was sentenced to two years probation in the “juvenile sex-for-cash” scandal.


**December 13** * Toronto * Gay community representatives Gerald Hannon, Rev. Brent Hawkes, George Hislop, John Alan Lee, and Brian Mossop met with the minorities subcommittee of the Metropolitan Board of Commissioners of Police to demand an end to police entrapment of gays in parks and washrooms. One hundred and ninety gay men had been arrested in Toronto during 1979 and charged with sexual offences.


**December 13–14** * Toronto * American performance artist Pat Bond appeared in “Conversations,” a benefit show for the Committee to Defend John Damien, held at Katrina’s, 5 St. Joseph Street.

[Michael Lynch and Mariana Valverde, interviewing Pat Bond, “Pat

**December 16** * Saskatoon * Sixty-five people attended a dinner “roast” to honour Doug Wilson, who was taking a break from his work as a gay activist. The dinner was held at the SGCC and was sponsored by the SGC, which Wilson had helped to found.

[“Doug Wilson Roast,” *Gay Saskatchewan* (Saskatoon), 3, no. 1 (January 1980): (3).]

**December 16** * Toronto * A local chapter of Rock against Racism, formed to combat violence and discrimination against immigrants, racial minorities, women, and gays, held its first concert at St. Paul’s Centre. The event featured the bands Joe Hall and the Continental Drift and No Frills.


**December 17** * Toronto * The Executive Committee of the Faculty Council of the School of Social Work at the University of Toronto voted to establish a task force to examine the faculty's relationship with minority communities, including lesbians and gays.


**December 17** * Toronto * David Weinberger’s article on transsexuals, “Prisoners of Their Own Bodies,” was published in *Maclean’s*.


**December 27** * Toronto * Ontario Provincial Court Judge Sydney Harris ordered the Crown to return all materials belonging to PTP seized during the police raid on the offices of the *Body Politic* on December 30,
1977, and to pay costs. The Crown appealed the decision on January 17, 1980, and it was heard before Ontario County Court Judge J. Greenwood in February 1982. On March 15, 1982, Judge Greenwood overturned Judge Harris’s decision, and allowed the Crown to keep the material that had been seized. The remaining boxes were not returned to PTP until April 15, 1985, more than seven years after they were taken.


Winter * Toronto * Ontario Provincial Court Judge Anthony Charlton found Joaquim Darocha guilty of committing an indecent act in a public place, and gave Darocha a discharge. Police had charged Darocha after seeing him having sex with another man at night in his car. In finding Darocha guilty, Judge Charlton disagreed with a recent ruling by the Supreme Court of Canada that a car was not a public place but a private one.

1980

— *Georgetown, Ont.* *Georgetown Gay Friends* was formed as a social group, with Jack Van Gelderen as coordinator. The *Georgetown Gay Friends Newsletter* began publication in mid-1980.

— *Montréal* *Claude Beausoleil’s* *Au milieu du corps l’attraction s’insinue: Poèmes, 1975–1980*, was published by Éditions du Noroît.

— *Montréal* *Alain Bouchard’s* *Le Complexe des dupes* was published by Éditions Homeureux.

— *Montréal* *Nicole Brossard’s* *Amantes* was published by Les Quinze.

— *Montréal* *Luc Charest’s* *Le Rouquin* was published by Éditions Allégoriques.

— *Montréal* *Michel Girouard’s* autobiographical work *Je vis mon homosexualité* was published by Éditions Québécor. An injunction to stop distribution of the book was laid by Roger Emmanuel Mirranda but it was dismissed by Québec Superior Court judge Lise Lemieux.
[Côte à Côte, “Injonction contre le livre de Michel Girouard,” *Le

—— * Montréal * Guy Ménard’s *De Sodome à l’Exode: jalons pour une théologie de la libération gaie* was published by Éditions de l’Aurore and Éditions Univers. A second edition was published in Laval, Québec, by Guy Saint-Jean in 1983.

—— * Montréal * Guy Ménard’s *L’Homosexualité démystifiée: questions et réponses* was published by Éditions Leméac.


—— * Montréal * Yves Thériault’s novel *Le Partage de minuit* was published by Éditions Québécor.
— * Montréal * Michel Tremblay’s play *L’Impromptu d’Outremont* was published by Leméac. *The Impromptu of Outremont*, a translation by John Van Burek, was published in Vancouver by Talonbooks in 1981.


— * Montréal * Michel Tremblay’s novel *Thérèse et Pierrette à l’école des Saints-Anges* was published by Leméac. *Therese and Pierrette and the Little Hanging Angel*, translated by Sheila Fischman, was published in Toronto by McClelland & Stewart in 1984. This work won the Prix France-Québec literary prize in 1981.


— * Montréal * Denis Vanier’s *Œuvres poétiques complètes: Tome I* (1965–1979) was published by VLB Éditeur and Parti pris.


— * Montréal * Josée Yvon’s novel *Travesties/Kamikaze* was published by Les Herbes Rouges.


— * Ottawa * *Triptyque lesbien: Chronique lesbienne du moyen-âge québécois*, by Jovette Marchessault, was published by Les Éditions de la


—— * Sudbury, Ont. * The Gay Association of Sudbury was formed with help from CGRO’s Operation Outreach.


—— * Toronto * Colin Campbell’s video *He’s a Growing Boy; She’s Just Turning Forty* was released.


—— * Toronto * The 1980 editions of the standard reference books *Corpus Almanac of Canada* and the *Canadian Almanac and Directory*
listed lesbian and gay organizations for the first time.


—— * Toronto * Don Garner’s book of poetry *Running Sore* was published by Huron Path Press. (See also October 16, 1980.)

—— * Toronto * The artist collective General Idea’s videotape *Test Tube* was released.

—— * Toronto * Graham Jackson’s book of stories *Not Really by Chance* was privately printed.

—— * Victoria, B.C. * *Gayzette*, the newsletter of the University of Victoria Gay Focus Club, began publication.

**January** * Maine, New Brunswick, Québec * Northern Lambda Nord, a network of rural lesbians and gays, was formed. It was initially based in Caribou, Maine, and issued a bilingual newsletter.

**January** * Niagara Falls, Ont. * The first issue of *Gay Niagara News* was published by GUN and was mailed to all aldermen in the Niagara region. It garnered negative public responses from at least four aldermen
from Thorold, Ontario.

**January** * Toronto * Club Isabella opened at 9 Isabella Street, under new ownership and management. It replaced the Hot Tub Club, which had been raided by police in October 1979.
[“Club Isabella” (advertisement), *Body Politic*, no. 60 (1980), p. 38.]

**January** * Toronto * The GCAT, which was founded by Harvey Hamburg to raise funds to support gay community projects, received letters patent as a non-profit corporation and launched its first fundraising drive.

**January** * Toronto * Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church offered to provide meeting space for Dignity, but forbade the celebration of Sunday Mass. The offer was accepted in spring 1980. Dignity had been meeting at Bloor Street United Church since being ousted from St. Paul’s Catholic Church in November 1979.

**January** * Winnipeg * The support group Families of Gays (FOG) was formed by Bev Scott. (See also March 1980.)


**January 2** * Toronto * Delegates to the annual CUP conference approved a motion to support the *Body Politic* through participating in an ad campaign to be published in the *Globe and Mail* on February 6, 1980. (See also February 6, 1980.)


**January 3** * Vancouver * Ray Horton, fired from his job as a high school janitor in October 1979 for refusing never to discuss his homosexuality with students, was invited to a meeting by the British Columbia Human Rights Branch to discuss the details of his case.


**January 4** * Brampton, Ont. * Two people held an anti-gay protest at the Centennial Mall. They held placards reading “Down with Faggotry” and “Smash the *Body Politic*.”

[“Couple Risks Colds to Abolish Faggotry,” *Body Politic*, no. 60 (1980), p. 9.]

**January 4** * Toronto * Five men charged with being keepers of a
common bawdy house in the Barracks trial were ordered by Provincial Court Judge Harold A. Rice to stand trial without a jury on January 28, 1979. They launched an appeal to the Supreme Court of Ontario. The men appeared in Ontario Provincial Court on January 28, 1979, but the proceedings were adjourned because of the motion pending in the Supreme Court of Ontario. (See also April 8, 1980.)


January 5 * Toronto * Albert Gedraitis was fired from his position with Adelaide Building Maintenance after complaining of anti-gay harassment on the job, which he claimed was a violation of safety regulations under the Occupational Health and Safety Act. Gedraitis appealed his dismissal and brought the matter before the Ontario Labour Relations Board.


January 5 * Toronto * The Toronto and District Liberal Association adopted a sexual orientation resolution with respect to the Canadian Human Rights Act. (See also July 5, 1980.)


January 8–10 * Winnipeg * Marc Rubin, a gay public school teacher from New York, coordinated a series of lectures and a panel discussion on “Homosexual Teachers: Threat or Special Opportunity?,” held at Red River Community College, the University of Manitoba, and the University of Winnipeg.

[“Gay Teachers’ Topic of Lectures, Panel,” GFE News (Winnipeg), 27 December 1979, p. 1; reprinted in Manitoban (Univ. of Manitoba), 7 January 1980, p. 3.]
January 14 * Winnipeg * The Lesbian Conference Planning Committee announced that the 1980 Bi-national Lesbian Conference, scheduled to be held on the May 24 weekend in Winnipeg, had been cancelled due to a lack of financial and human resources.


January 17 * Toronto * Twelve people who had been arrested in October 1979 in raids on the Hot Tub Club and several private homes appeared in court. Charges ranged from keeping a common bawdy house to making obscene films. Judge Harold A. Rice ordered the accused to stand trial on September 8, 1980. (See also September 8, 1980.)


January 19 * Fredericton * FLAG held its first social, a disco evening at 565 Prospect Street.


January 19 * Montréal * Police charged ten men with “gross indecency” and “contributing to juvenile delinquency” after they uncovered a sexual services ring involving teenagers aged thirteen to seventeen, which was operated by a seventeen-year-old youth.


January 20 * Saskatoon * The Native Gay Group presented an authentic native dinner at the GCCS. The dinner was followed by a demonstration of traditional dancing and music.


January 23 * Montréal * David Cassidy, a community worker with Ville Marie Social Services, filed a complaint with the Quebec Human Rights Commission following the cancellation of a speech he had been
asked to deliver to students at Baron Byng High School on January 15, 1980. Cassidy’s talk, “Homosexuality: Exploding the Myth,” was scheduled for a voluntary student meeting after hours, as part of a weekly series organized by Sun Youth, a community recreation group. The talk was cancelled after one teacher threatened to call both the press and the police if Cassidy spoke.


January 25–26 * Vancouver * David Sereda and Carol Street appeared together in concert at the Oddfellows Hall to raise funds for the VGCC and the “Coming Out” radio show.


January 28 * Saskatoon * The home of gay activist Gens Hellquist was raided by two RCMP officers, who seized pornographic films and magazines linked to All-American Studios. The San Francisco–based porn company had been charged with criminal offences in the United States.


January 28 * Toronto * The Hassle Free Clinic moved to 556 Church Street, second floor.
February * Kingston, Ont. * A lesbian mother was awarded sole
custody of her ten-year-old daughter. This was the third reported case in
Canadian history of a court awarding child custody to a homosexual
parent.

[“Lesbian Mom Wins Custody Fight,” *Toronto Star*, Saturday ed., 15
March 1980, p. A18; “Lesbian Mother Wins Custody: Quality of
Relationship Cited as Deciding Factor,” *Body Politic*, no. 63 (1980),
p. 11.]

February * Niagara Falls, Ont. * *Gay Bibliography, 1980*, a listing of
more than a hundred items on homosexuality available through the
Niagara Regional Library System, was compiled by Tim Veysey and
Roy Horth, members of GUN.

1, no. 2 (February 1980): 12; “Growing,” *Body Politic*, no. 63 (1980),
p. 12.]

February * Toronto * Gerald Chan and Richard Fung placed an
advertisement in the *Body Politic*, asking for gay and lesbian Asians to
meet to discuss common interests and concerns. They were joined by
Nito Marquez and Tony Souza and began meeting regularly at the 519
Community Centre. This was the beginning of the group Gay Asians
Toronto (GAT).

[“Asian & Gay/Lesbian?” (advertisement), *Body Politic*, no. 60
1 (Summer 1979): 10–12; Richard Fung, “Gay Asians of Toronto,”
Toronto” vertical file, Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto;
Within a Minority: Gay Asians Reconcile Two Communities Through
Tom Warner, *Never Going Back: A History of Queer Activism in
Canada (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2002), p. 185.]

February * Toronto * Gay and Lesbian Liberals (GALL) was formed, with Peter Maloney as one of the organizers. GALL made a splash by sending out letters to all 700 pre-registered delegates to the annual meeting of the Ontario Liberal Party, held February 29–March 2, 1980, in Toronto. It also sponsored an information display in a room at the Holiday Inn, the site of the meeting.


February * Toronto * Gerald Hannon’s article on the gay disabled, “No Sorrow, No Pity,” was published in the Body Politic.


February * Toronto * The appointment of George Hislop, as well as a Black woman and a labour activist, to the City of Toronto Planning Board in December 1979 provoked bigoted comments by James Bredin in the article “Winds of Change,” published in the February 1980 issue of the Metro Toronto Police publication News and Views.


February * Toronto * “The Male Image,” an exhibit of paintings, drawings, collages, and Xeroxes by Andy Fabo and Robert Winkler, was shown at 165 Carlton Street.

**February** * Toronto * Mariana Valverde’s article “Feminism Meets Fist-fucking: Getting Lost in Lesbian S&M” was published in the *Body Politic*.


**February 1** * Calgary * GIRC filed a complaint with the Alberta Human Rights Commission after the Victoria Park Community Association refused to rent their hall to the group for a dance, scheduled to be held in June 1980 during the eighth annual conference of the CLGRC.


**February 5** * Alberta * The Alberta Human Rights Commission announced that it would not recommend the addition of sexual orientation to the Individual Rights Protection Act, Alberta’s human rights code. Bob Lundrigan, chair of the commission, argued that the small number of complaints from gay people justified omitting sexual orientation from the recommendations. Members of GATE (Edmonton) and ALGRA called for the resignation of the entire commission.


**February 5** *Toronto* *More than 200 people crowded into the Metropolitan Toronto council chambers to protest a proposed “emergency measures” by-law that would provide for special police powers during an emergency. The demonstrators claimed that the definition of “emergency” was too broad (it could include social or political protests, for example), and that the new powers would be abused. Council postponed debate on the motion. A rewritten version was proposed later, but it was also denounced by some as being too vague.


**February 6** *Toronto* *The BPFPF published a full-page advertisement in the *Globe and Mail*, with the heading “We urge the Attorney-General of Ontario to drop the appeal against The Body Politic,” followed by the names of more than 800 supporters. The ad was published to coincide with the hearing concerning PTP’s acquittal, scheduled for the next day. This ad represented a landmark in Canada for organizing straight support for a gay political issue. This was the first time an advocacy ad for a gay cause was published in a Canadian daily newspaper.


**February 6** *Vancouver* * A special “fact-finding meeting” on sexual orientation between the Legislative Review Committee of the British Columbia Human Rights Commission and all lesbian and gay organizations in the province was cancelled after the commission neglected to invite lesbian groups to participate. The meeting was rescheduled for March 1980.


**February 7** *Toronto* * Supporters of John Damien gathered for a small party to mark the fifth anniversary of his firing by the Ontario Racing Commission.


**February 7–8** *Toronto* * County Court Judge George Ferguson heard arguments concerning whether PTP’s February 14, 1979, acquittal should be overturned. During the proceedings, lawyer Ian Scott obtained the court’s permission to intervene in the appeal on behalf of the Canadian Civil Liberties Association (CCLA). The CCLA argued that section 164 of the Criminal Code, under which PTP had been charged, should be struck down as it contradicted the guarantees of freedom of speech and of the press stated in the Canadian Bill of Rights. Crown counsel Ian MacDonnell argued that Provincial Court Judge Sydney Harris had made fundamental errors in his ruling to acquit PTP, and that the defendants either be found guilty as charged or the case be sent back to Provincial Court for a second trial. (See also February 29, 1980.)
February 9 * Toronto * Ten gay men went as couples to the Conversat, a formal dance held at Trinity College, University of Toronto. (See also February 7, 1981.)

[“And They’re Not the Boys in the Band,” Body Politic, no. 61 (1980), p. 11.]

February 9 * Toronto * Thirty women and ten gay men picketed the movie Windows, directed by Gordon Willis, showing at the Imperial Six theatre. The film depicted a lesbian (Elizabeth Ashley) who hired a man to rape a woman (Talia Shire) she was in love with, to convince the woman not to go to bed with men.

Human Rights Commission, demanding that the workers be reinstated. Although the commission investigated the matter, it dismissed the complaint. A year after the incident, Gaston Nadeau, one of the three fired men, was rehired by the same restaurant and received an apology as a condition of his reinstatement.


February 11–15 * Vancouver * Gay People of UBC sponsored the first Gay Week at the University of British Columbia. Events included lectures, films, a debate, a Valentine’s Day dance, and a talk by American feminist activist Kate Millett. Tim Stevenson, president of Gay People of UBC, spoke to a luncheon gathering of fifty people at the UBC Faculty Club. During his talk Stevenson declared that bigots such as Anita Bryant could have a positive impact on the gay community by shaking gays out of complacency and inspiring them to be more vocal in pressing for recognition and equal rights.


February 13 * Edmonton * Daniel Kautz, a thirty-two-year-old gay man, set fire to the Beth Shalom Synagogue, causing more than $1 million in damage. Over the next three weeks he set fire to three other religious institutions (the South Side Church of the Nazarene, St.
Joseph’s Cathedral, and the mausoleum at the Edmonton Cemetery), causing heavy damage. Kautz later admitted under psychiatric examination that he felt persecuted by religion because of his homosexuality. He also was convinced that he was the Antichrist, and howled at the moon when setting the fires. On March 2, 1981, Kautz pleaded guilty to charges of arson and breaking and entering, and was sentenced to a term of four years, to be served under psychiatric care at the Alberta Hospital.


February 13 * Toronto * An advertisement concerning gay-positive election candidates, sponsored by Renaissance International, was published in the Globe and Mail. Readers were encouraged to elect a “moral majority” on federal election day, February 18, 1981. (See also February 18, 1981.)


February 14 * Canada * CLGRC had declared February 14 Pink Triangle Day to commemorate the acquittal of PTP on February 14, 1979. The day was to be set aside as an annual celebration of gay history. Events took place in several cities, including Vancouver, Edmonton, Fredericton, and Halifax. GATE (Vancouver) sponsored a talk by Douglas Sanders on the history of ASK, active in Vancouver from 1964 to 1968. GAE celebrated with a cabaret, which was the beginning of a campaign to raise funds for new facilities for GAE.

[“Canadian Gay Holiday—February 14th,” Gay Niagara News, 1, no.


February 15 * Toronto, Ottawa, Montréal * A dozen gay men, members of Gays against the Movie Cruising (GATMC), protested and distributed leaflets at the Uptown Theatre in Toronto during the first day of release of William Friedkin’s film Cruising. Eight uniformed policemen were on duty inside and outside the theatre. Members of GATMC handed out leaflets for a week at the film. Gays also protested outside the Claremont Theatre in Montréal (and distributed a bilingual leaflet) and outside the Elgin Theatre in Ottawa. (See also February 21, 1980, and February 29, 1980.)


503

**February 18** * Canada * A federal election was held, in which Pierre Trudeau’s Liberal Party defeated the government of Joe Clark and the Progressive Conservatives. Lesbian and gay groups across Canada were active in polling, holding meetings, and supporting gay-friendly candidates.


February 18 * Toronto * Maclean’s published the articles “Gay Impact,” by Barbara Amiel, and “Gay Style—Why It’s Everywhere,” by Lawrence O’Toole, about the impact of gay men on current trends in disco, clothing, advertising, and high tech.


February 20 * Calgary * The Calgary Herald published an anti-gay advertisement entitled “So That’s Gay?,” sponsored by the First Missionary Baptist Church. Up to this point the Herald had repeatedly refused to accept an ad for GIRC, stating that it was “not suitable for publication.”


February 21 * Edmonton * Doug Whitfield of ALGRA filed a
complaint with the Alberta Human Rights Commission relating to the *Edmonton Journal*’s refusal on December 3, 1979, to print a classified advertisement for *Gay Horizons*. The commission found that the *Journal* had discriminated against *Gay Horizons* but could not take much action, as it had no legal authority in the matter. The commission’s chairman, Bob Lundrigan, wrote to the *Journal*’s publisher J. Patrick O’Callaghan in complaint. O’Callaghan denied that there had been discrimination, and stated that the ad was rejected because *Gay Horizons* “didn’t conform to our standards of taste and acceptability.”


**February 21** * Toronto * A twenty-nine-year-old man claimed that he was raped by two men, one of whom was armed with a knife, after leaving the Barn, 83 Granby Street. He was able to use self-defence skills to eventually ward off the attackers.


**February 21** * Toronto * Justice Jean-Eudes Dubé of the Federal Court of Canada found John Ross Taylor, leader of the far-right white supremacist party the Western Guard, guilty of contempt of court and sentenced him to one year in jail and a fine of $5,000. The sentence was suspended, however, and Taylor would not have to serve it if he followed the court’s instructions. A special tribunal of the Canadian Human Rights Commission had ordered Taylor on August 22, 1979, to cease making and transmitting recorded telephone messages that incited hatred and contempt against Jews. The recordings had also been used repeatedly to attack gays.

February 21 * Toronto * About fifty gay men and lesbians, as well as supporters from the Toronto Rape Crisis Centre, attended a meeting at the 519 Church Street Community Centre to discuss the movie *Cruising* and how to protest it. GATMC called the public meeting, which endorsed a demonstration to be held on February 29, 1980. (See also February 29, 1980.)


February 22 * Calgary * City police raided the gay club 50/50, 704 14th St. N.W., and charged several patrons with illegal possession of liquor.


February 25 * Moncton, N.B. * Eric Teed, a lawyer for the New Brunswick Bar Society, criticized a proposed reformed family law bill during a meeting of the Moncton Home and School Association. The legislation, entitled The Marital Property Act, was to be re-introduced in the New Brunswick Legislature. It was meant to provide a more equitable division of property acquired during marriage. But its Article 41 of Part IV stated that “persons who have cohabitated continuously for a period of not less than 3 years shall be deemed to be spouses.” As “spouse” was not given a gender identification, opponents to the bill claimed that it could be sued to support same-sex couples, as well as bigamists and polygamists.


February 25 * Toronto * Gerald Hannon, Rev. Brent Hawkes, John Alan Lee, and Peter Maloney met with Norman Bolter, owner of the St. Charles Tavern and co-owner of the Parkside Tavern, to discuss ongoing police entrapment of gays in the Parkside’s washroom. Bolter agreed to close off the infamous spy hole and to hire Roy Bowman, a gay man, to keep an eye on the place and to discourage sexual activity there.

February 26 * Toronto * The seventeen men charged as found-ins in the December 8, 1978, raid on the Barracks steam bath who pleaded not guilty appeared in Provincial Court. As proceedings were pending in the Supreme Court of Ontario concerning charges against the keepers of the Barracks, which would impact the charges against the found-ins, Provincial Court Judge Reid Scott adjourned their cases until June 4, 1980. Five additional found-ins had earlier pleaded guilty and were given absolute discharges. (See also June 4, 1980.)


February 29 * Toronto * About forty people picketed in front of the Uptown Theatre to protest the movie Cruising. The group GATMC organized the demonstration.


February 29 * Toronto * County Court Judge George Ferguson set aside the February 1979 acquittal of PTP and sent the case back to Provincial Court for a new trial. Ferguson ruled that there were sufficient errors of law in Judge Harris’s decision to warrant overturning the acquittal. PTP appealed Ferguson’s decision to the Ontario Court of Appeal on March 25, 1980, citing twenty-two separate errors of law in the decision. (See also March 4–5, 1981; March 18, 1981; June 15, 1981; October 6, 1981; November 24, 1981; and December 21, 1981.)


**February–March** *Winnipeg* The course “Homosexuality and Social Institutions” was offered by the Continuing Education Division of the University of Manitoba; Ted Millward and Chris Vogel were the coordinators.

[“Homosexuality and Social Institutions,” *Out & About* (Winnipeg), January 1980, p (5).]

**February–March** *Winnipeg* Manitoba judges imposed jail sentences of up to fifteen months on several men charged in the “juvenile sex-for-cash” scandal of February 1979. Although they had received suspended sentences earlier, the Crown appealed and demanded stiffer sentences for the men, convicted of having sex with consenting juvenile hustlers.


**March** *Manitoba* Betty Fairchild, the founder of several American parents of gays associations and co-author of *Now That You Know: What Every Parent Should Know About Homosexuality*, gave talks in Brandon and Winnipeg, and helped in the formation of a FOG group in Winnipeg. Her visit was sponsored by GFE, Gay Friends of Brandon, and the University of Manitoba Students Union.

March * Toronto * Three letters to the editor in the March 1980 issue of *Forum*, the official publication of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers’ Federation, denounced the printing of advertisements for the Ontario Gay Teachers’ Caucus in the magazine. A four-line contact ad had been printed in *Forum* since October 1979. The magazine also received negative telephone calls and cancelled subscriptions because of the ads.


March * Toronto * John Sawatsky’s book *Men in the Shadows: The RCMP Security Service*, a study of the history, structure, and operation of the RCMP Security Service, was published by Doubleday Canada. Two chapters of the book detailed the Service’s obsession with identifying and harassing gays, and discussed the notorious Fruit Machine, a failed programme to develop a device that could detect sexual orientation. Dozens of suspected homosexuals were fired from the Canadian federal civil service during the 1950s and 1960s by the Security Service as subversives or security risks simply because of their sexual orientation.

March * Toronto * Members of the Toronto Organization of United Church Homosexuals (TOUCH) publicly criticized The United Church of Canada for its lack of open dialogue with its gay members. At the time, the United Church was completing its report of the Task Force on Human Sexuality, later known as *In God's Image... Male and Female*. The study was first reported to the public in the March 1980 issue of the *United Church Observer*, which generated some alarm in the media and among church members. (See also August 16–25, 1980.)

March * Vancouver * GATE (Vancouver) urged gays and lesbians to boycott Vancouver’s Yellow Cab Company after the company was accused of racism for firing nine East Indian drivers in February 1980. [“Yellow Cab Boycott Is Urged by GATE,” Body Politic, no. 63 (1980), p. 13.]

March * Vancouver * Gay Leisure Link (GLL) was formed as an organization to coordinate social activities for gay men and lesbians in the Vancouver area. [“A Special Announcement: First Anniversary,” Gay Leisure Link Newsletter (Vancouver), 1 March 1981, p. 1.]

March 4 * Vancouver * Vancouver City Council turned down an application for a grant of $9,920 by the Vancouver Status of Women to help fund their women’s advocacy Ombudservice. Opposition to the grant was led by Alderman Bernice Gerard, a television evangelist and pro-life supporter, who criticized the group for its support of abortion and as a front for placing gay activists in schools. The Vancouver Status of Women appealed the decision. [Chris Davis, “City Denies Women’s Grant after Council Shouting Match,” Body Politic, no. 62 (1980), p. 13; Richard Willett, “City Council Denies VSW Grant—Again: Frontlines,” BiLine (Vancouver), 2, no. 3 (1980): 5, 20.]

March 5 * Edmonton * Representatives of almost all of Alberta’s gay groups, including the ALGRA, Dignity for Gay Catholics, GATE (Edmonton), GIRC, MCC (Calgary), and MCC (Edmonton) made presentations before the Alberta Human Rights Commission. The
commission admitted that it had not pressed for gay rights protections in Alberta’s human rights legislation because it thought the PC government would not consider the commission’s other recommendations unless sexual orientation was dropped.

[“Gay Rights Dropped to Please Tories,” Body Politic, no. 62 (1980), p. 11.]

March 5 * Québec, Qué. * Québec Minister of Justice Marc-André Bédard introduced Bill 89, “An Act to Establish a New Civil Code and to Reform Family Law,” to the Quebec National Assembly. It was seen as more progressive than the federal Divorce Act in that the proposed bill removed references to sodomy and homosexual acts as grounds for divorce. There was nothing in Bill 89, however, concerning common law marriages, including those of same sex couples.


March 5 * Toronto * Gay Bell and Cate Smith of the group Political Lesbians United about the Media (PLUM) presented the brief “The Positive Portrayal of Lesbians in the Media” to the CRTC Task Force on Sex-role Stereotyping in the Media, held at the Hotel Toronto, 145 Richmond Street West.


March 8 * Toronto * George Hislop and Peter Maloney attended “Changing Attitudes for the Eighties: A Conference on Police/Community Relations,” held at the Hotel Triumph, to put forward the concerns of gay people. Gay representatives had not been invited to the conference, sponsored by the Liaison Group on Law Enforcement
and Race Relations, which concerned itself only with relations between police and visible minorities. Hislop and Maloney were able to make a presentation on the problems of gay youth during a workshop on Youth and Law Enforcement. They were also able to speak informally with Attorney General Roy McMurtry, who was the keynote speaker at the dinner, to encourage him to call a meeting with representatives of the gay community. (See also March 31, 1980.)


March 8 * Toronto * Lesbians and gays participated in a large rally and march to celebrate International Women’s Day.


March 10 * Niagara Falls, Ont. * Members of CUPE Local 133 working at the Niagara Frontier Humane Society abandoned attempts to have sexual orientation included in the anti-discrimination clause of their new contract, which was ratified on March 10, 1980. They were unsuccessful in negotiating this in their contract in 1981, as well.


March 11 * Toronto * After leaving Les Cavaliers, 418 Church Street, a popular gay restaurant and bar, a gay man was accosted by two men in the parking lot behind the restaurant. He was pushed into a car and driven to Cherry Beach, where he was beaten and robbed. (See also April 20, 1980.)

March 11 * Toronto * The Most Reverend Lewis S. Garnsworthy, Archbishop of Toronto and Metropolitan of Ontario, celebrated the Holy Eucharist and delivered the homily at an Integrity/Toronto service, held at Holy Trinity Church.

[“Archbishop Visits Integrity/Toronto,” Integrity/Toronto Newsletter, 2, no. 2 (20 May 1980): 1.]

March 11–22 * Toronto * Michel Tremblay’s play Hosanna, starring Ted Pearson and George Pothitos and directed by Peter Van Wart, was performed at the NDWT Theatre, 736 Bathurst Street.


March 13 * Toronto * AGE chose George Hislop as a candidate for alderman in the November 1980 election in Ward 6, which included most of downtown Toronto’s gay community. More than 200 people attended the meeting, held at the 519 Church Street Community Centre. Hislop was the first openly gay candidate to run for elected civic office in Toronto’s history. (See also April 9, 1980.)


March 13 * Toronto * The CGA was incorporated under the laws of the Province of Ontario as a corporation without share capital. The first six directors were Joan Anderson, Chris Bearchell, James Fraser, Gerald Hannon, Ed Jackson, and Alan V. Miller.

March 14 * St. John’s, Nfld. * Police raided Friends, 208 Water Street, the major gay bar in Newfoundland, for overcrowding and cited violations to fire regulations.


March 15 * Toronto * LOOT sponsored a benefit coffee house for the Gayle Bezaire Defence Fund. Bezaire was a lesbian mother who was fighting to regain custody of her children. (See also September 18, 1980.)


March 17 * Halifax * Poet Ian Young read at Dalhousie University and the Turret to enthusiastic audiences.

[“Poet Comes to Dal: Interview with Ian Young,” Glad Rag (Gays and Lesbians at Dalhousie, Halifax), 1, no. 4 (April 1980): 2, 4; “St. Patrick’s Day Visit by Poet is GLAD Success!” Glad Rag (Gays and Lesbians at Dalhousie, Halifax), 1, no. 4 (April 1980): 1.]

March 17 * Toronto * “A Recluse Walks on Troubled Waters,” Ian Anderson’s profile of Liberal Minister of Finance Allan MacEachen, was published in Maclean’s. The article referred to MacEachen as “the enigmatic Cape Breton Island bachelor” and used other ambiguous phrases to suggest that MacEachen was gay.


March 17 * Toronto * Justice Gordon Blair of the Ontario Court of Appeal ordered the release of a man who had previously been convicted and sentenced to six months in jail for taking thousands of photographs of boys engaging in sexual acts. The man had served nine weeks in
reformatory, and was undergoing psychiatric treatment.


**March 18** * Ottawa * Denis LeBlanc of GO announced that GO would no longer coordinate the office of CLGRC as of CLGRC’s annual meeting in June 1980. GO withdrew because of the burden of administrative tasks and the “expectations of the movement.” (See also June 27–July 1, 1980.)


**March 18–29** * Calgary * The Loose Moose Theatre Company and GIRC co-produced a staging of John Herbert’s play *Fortune and Men’s Eyes*, held at the Pumphouse Theatre.


**March 19** * Edmonton * Gordon Fairweather, chief commissioner of the CHRC, announced that in its forthcoming annual report the commission would strongly recommend the protection of gays and lesbians in human rights legislation. The comment was made in response to a brief presented by Dignity and ALGRA. In its third annual report, released April 28, 1980, the CHRC called on Parliament to add sexual orientation to the proscribed grounds of discrimination in the Canadian Human Rights Act.


**March 19** * Toronto * Provincial Court Judge Joseph Addison found João Pereira, nineteen, guilty of two counts of assault causing bodily harm and fined him $400. On January 6, 1980, Pereira and a friend had assaulted two gay men on Yonge Street who were on their way home from the St. Charles Tavern.


**March 21** * Toronto * Three judges of the Divisional Court, a branch of the Supreme Court of Ontario, ruled that Paul Head be reinstated retroactively as a member in good standing of the OPP as of March 7, 1978. They ruled that the resignation letter Head had submitted on March 6, 1978, had been obtained by the OPP under pressure. The OPP, represented by the Attorney General of Ontario, filed an application for leave to appeal the decision. (See also March 31, 1980; May 20, 1980; June 12, 1980; and October 22, 1980.)

March 23 * Vancouver * After nearly a year of fundraising and organizing, the 275 members of the VGCC elected a board of directors. Grace Flesher and Wayne Hellard were the first co-chairs of the twenty-member board, which held ten male and ten female positions. On April 9, 1980, the VGCC was incorporated under the British Columbia Societies Act.


March 24 * Montréal * Gaiécoute, a free telephone reference service for Francophone lesbians and gays, was founded.


March 24 * Toronto * Harold Desmarais was hired as the executive secretary of CGRO as part of CGRO’s Human Rights Campaign. The position, which focused on building support for the inclusion of sexual orientation in the Ontario Human Rights Code, was funded by seven gay businesses.


March 26 * Toronto * The Working Group on Minority-Police Relations held the public forum “Police Reform—A Year Later and Still No Action” at the Toronto City Hall Council Chambers. Rev. Brent Hawkes, representing the RTPC, presented an examination of the police budget.

[“David White” vertical file, Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto.]

March 30 * Toronto * Bell Canada ratified a new contract with its
operators and cafeteria workers in Ontario and Québec that included protection from discrimination based on sexual orientation.


March 31 * Burlington, Ont. * After his reinstatement to the OPP by a ruling of the Supreme Court of Ontario, Paul Head reported back to work and was immediately served with a notice of suspension signed by Commissioner Harold Graham. Head was charged with “conduct likely to bring discredit to the reputation of the Ontario Provincial Police force,” based on the same conduct that had originally landed him in trouble, and which had been dealt with in court in 1979. Head and his lawyer filed a motion in the Supreme Court of Ontario to have the charge quashed. (See also April 29, 1980.)


March 31 * Gatineau, Qué. * Roger Rinfret, a popular priest in the town of Masson, Québec, was found murdered in a room in the Ritz Motel. He had been stabbed multiple times by one of two youths he had taken to the hotel for sex. Alain McMurtie, twenty, pleaded guilty to a charge of second-degree murder and was sentenced on January 23, 1981, to life in prison with possibility of parole after ten years. Eighteen-year-old Michel Madore had the charge of first-degree murder dropped after he pleaded guilty to the lesser charge of armed robbery with violence and received a sentence of five years. Detective Pat Burns was one of the two policemen who cracked the case; he later became famous as a National Hockey League head coach between 1988 and 2004.

[Janet Cotton, “Murder and the Cathedral,” Maclean’s, 4 August 1980, p. 18; David Garmaise, “Quebec Gay Priest Brutally

**March 31** *Toronto* * Five gay activists (Chris Bearchell, Rev. Brent Hawkes, George Hislop, John Alan Lee, and Peter Maloney) met with Ontario Attorney General Roy McMurtry and two assistants to discuss concerns of the gay community that were not “before the courts.” The conversation focused on police entrapment, street violence against gays, police surveillance of the gay community, and the issue of civilian review of complaints against police.


**March–April** *Saskatoon* * The GAU presented a weekly gay film series at Place Riel Theatre that included showings of *August and July*, *A Special Day*, *Sunday Bloody Sunday* and *Victim*.

[“Gay Academic Union Film Series,” *Gaze*, March 1980, pp. (6–7).]

**Spring** *Ottawa* * Pat Carney (PC–Vancouver Centre) announced that she would introduce a private member’s bill in the House of Commons to add sexual orientation to the proscribed grounds of discrimination in the Canadian Human Rights Act and the Canadian Bill of Rights. Carney introduced the bill on May 2, 1980. At about the same time, Svend Robinson (NDP–Burnaby) announced that he, too, would be introducing a private member’s bill dealing with sexual orientation as well as other recommendations released in the recent annual report of
the CHRC.


Spring * Toronto * Dr. Mike Sanders, a psychiatric resident at the Clarke Institute of Psychiatry and major in the United States Air Force, undertook a biological study in an attempt to correlate homosexual behaviour with altered hormone levels. Sanders sought cooperation from the gay community to conduct his study.


Spring * Vancouver * The Vancouver Police threatened to launch a campaign of arrests in gay cruising areas, particularly English Bay and Sunset Beach, unless public sexual activity was halted in those places. GATE (Vancouver) once more asked Mayor Jack Volrich to instruct the police force to stop its campaign of harassment and entrapment of gays and lesbians in Vancouver.


Spring * Winnipeg * The program Gaysweek was broadcast on Wednesdays on CJUM–FM radio. It was a joint production of GFE and the CHR.
April * Montréal * Gay psychologist and writer Alain Bouchard launched a campaign to persuade the Québec provincial government to nominate an openly gay commissioner to the Commission des droits de la personne (Human Rights Commission).


April * Toronto * Edgar Z. Friedenberg’s article “Canada: The Culture of Deference,” was published in the Body Politic. This was an abridged version of chapter 1 of his book Deference to Authority: The Case of Canada (White Plains, N.Y.: M.E. Sharpe, Inc., 1980).


April * Toronto * Phyllis Grosskurth’s Havelock Ellis: A Biography was published by McClelland & Stewart.


April * Toronto * Philip Marchand’s examination of friendship between gay men and straight women, “The Warm Platonic Alliance of Straight Women, Gay Men,” was published in Chatelaine.

[Philip Marchand, “The Warm Platonic Alliance of Straight Women, Gay Men,” Chatelaine, April 1980, pp. 43, 80–81, 84–86; Brian Rees,
April * Toronto * A draft revision of the Toronto Board of Education’s *Handbook of Students’ Rights and Responsibilities* was released. This was the first version of the *Handbook* to contain material on gays and lesbians. (See also May 1980.)


April * Winnipeg * The fifteen-member Winnipeg chapter of Dignity began to hold a regular monthly Mass.


April 1 * Port Huron, Mich. * Steven Harris was denied access to the United States after he admitted to American border authorities, during questioning, that he was a homosexual. Harris’s friend was also denied access because he admitted to being an associate of an admitted homosexual. CGRO wrote to several MPs on behalf of Harris, including Mark McGuigan (Lib.–Windsor-Walkerville), the Secretary of State for External Affairs. McGuigan replied that he was concerned with reports of such acts of harassment at the border and would ask officials from his department to raise the matter with U.S. officials.

[“Coalition for Gay Rights in Ontario (CGRO)” vertical file, Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto.]

April 2 * Montréal * Municipal Court Judge Roland Langlois found Giuseppe Salvaggio, owner of the Truxx bar, guilty of keeping a common bawdy house. On April 10, 1980, he was sentenced to ten days in jail and fined $5,000. Salvaggio’s lawyer appealed the ruling to the Quebec Court of Appeal; the sentence was later reduced to three days in jail and a fine of $5,000.


**April 2, 9** *Toronto* *Commissioner Winfield McKay of the Metropolitan Toronto Commissioners of Police caused a public outcry after excerpts of letters he had sent to *Globe and Mail* columnist Dick Beddoes were published. In them McKay called gay community leader George Hislop and feminist school trustee Susan Hunter-Harvey “misfits” and also attacked Black activist Dudley Laws. Despite calls for his firing by members of Toronto City Council and also members of the gay and Black communities, McKay was censured but not disciplined and continued his attacks on Hislop and Laws at a public meeting in May 1980.


April 3 * Winnipeg * Former CBC television personality Allen Spraggett was found not guilty of two charges of gross indecency. He had been charged on February 20, 1979, as part of the “juvenile-sex-for-cash” scandal. Spraggett, a popular expert on the occult, was married and had five children. He had lost all of his income from radio, television, and lecture appearances because of negative publicity generated by the case.


April 4 * Regina * Gay Regina, in co-operation with the Gay Community Centre and the SGC, hosted the fourth annual Prairie Conference of Lesbians and Gay Men. The event included meetings, workshops, a community dinner, and a dance. Gay Regina disbanded in May 1980.

**April 7** * Calgary * A public forum was held to discuss planning for Celebration ’80, the eighth annual conference for lesbians and gay men to be held in Calgary, June 27–July 1, 1980. The forum, sponsored by GIRC, revealed considerable opposition to holding a public march during the conference, based on fears of property damage and a religious, homophobic backlash. Opposition to the proposed march was led by local gay club owner Vance Campbell and by Rev. Lloyd Greenway of MCC Calgary. The march was cancelled; this was the first time that a public march was not held in the host city of the national conference of the Canadian Lesbian and Gay Rights Coalition (CLGRC). (See also June 27–July 1, 1980.)


**April 7–11** * Toronto * The impact of current political and economic trends on the lives of gay people was discussed in a workshop held at the annual meeting of the American Orthopsychiatric Association, held at
the Sheraton Centre Hotel. Speakers included Lucia Valeska of the U.S. National Gay Task Force and Stanley J. Weinberg, a New York psychotherapist.


April 8 * Toronto * Justice Donald Steele of the Supreme Court of Ontario dismissed a motion by Morris Manning, lawyer for the five men charged as keepers of a common bawdy house in the Barracks case, which requested that the Supreme Court find the bawdy house laws unconstitutional and declare that the Provincial Court of Ontario had no jurisdiction to try the defendants. Manning appealed the ruling to the Ontario Court of Appeal, Ontario’s highest court, on April 10, 1980. (See also September 8, 1980.)


April 9 * Toronto * George Hislop and Ryerson Polytechnical instructor Jack Layton appeared before a meeting of the Ward 6 Community Organization to seek the community group’s endorsement as an aldermanic candidate in the November 10, 1980, Toronto civic election. Hislop and Layton were running to replace Alderman Allan Sparrow, who was retiring. On April 26, 1980, Hislop won the organization’s endorsement by a margin of thirty-seven votes. (See also November 10, 1980.)

April 11 * Toronto * CGRO filed a letter of complaint with Revenue Canada against Ken Campbell’s Renaissance International. CGRO maintained that Renaissance International had engaged in political activities against gays and lesbians, thus violating its charitable status under the Income Tax Act. Renaissance had sponsored Anita Bryant’s Christian Liberation Crusade in January 1978. Revenue Canada revoked the group’s charitable status later in 1980, stating that Renaissance had “devoted resources to activities that are not charitable.” Campbell appealed the decision to the Federal Court of Appeal.


April 11 * Toronto * Lawyer Barbara Schlifer was assaulted and murdered at her apartment building on Leuty Avenue. This case sparked outrage and much media attention. On May 6, 1980, 500 women staged an angry “Take Back the Night” march through the Beach neighbourhood to protest the killing, and violence against women. There
were few leads in the case. In May 1980, both CHUM–FM and “City Pulse” news on CITY–TV speculated that Schlifer might have been killed in a case of “lesbian rage.” There was no evidence to support this speculation, and the theory was soon dropped. On May 2, 1984, Fernand Arthur Robinson, who had been only fifteen at the time of the crime, was found guilty of first degree murder in the case and was sentenced to life imprisonment with no possibility of parole for twenty-five years.


April 13 * Montréal * About 200 gay men and lesbians attended a “Gay Benefit Supper for the YES,” a fundraising event for the “Yes campaign” in the Québec provincial referendum to be held May 20, 1980. This was the first organized expression of gay support for the yes vote, and also the first time that a Montréal gay bar (Jonas) had allowed a political event to take place on its premises. Parti Québécois MNA Gerald Godin addressed the attendees. (See also May 20, 1980.)

April 17 * Toronto * The Ontario House of Anglican Bishops and the Provincial Council of the Anglican Church passed a resolution affirming that gays receive “equal justice in regard to employment in common with all Ontario citizens,” supporting an amendment to the Ontario Human Rights Code. (See also May 1980.)


April 19–20 * Toronto * Toronto’s first feminist film festival was held at the Funnel Theatre, 507 King Street East. Several new, lesbian-themed films were shown, including *Larking*, by Lorraine Segato, and *Labrys Rising*, by Margaret Moores and Almerinda Travassos.


April 20 * Toronto * Two Metro Toronto police officers removed a man accused of drunken behaviour from Les Cavaliers, 418 Church Street, a popular gay restaurant and bar. They were later observed severely beating the man in the back seat of their police car. A witness filed a complaint with the Metropolitan Toronto Citizens’ Complaint Bureau. The complaint was later dismissed when the victim of the beating told a different story to the police investigators than that told by the man filing the complaint.


April 23 * Montréal * Almost fifty police officers raided the Sauna David, 4109 rue St-Denis, and arrested and charged fifty-nine men with being found in a common bawdy house. Six men, including co-owners Albert Vandal and Denis Souch, were charged with keeping a common bawdy house. (See also April 26, 1980; May 5, 1980; June 18, 1980; November 5, 1980; December 5, 1980; January 1981; January 15, 1981;
and July 8, 1981.)


April 24 * Montréal * ADGQ organized a round table on “Le ghetto homosexuel: piège utopie ou libération?” at UQAM. Participants included Marie-Andrée Bertrand, Alain-Emmanuel Dreuilhe, Daniel Pinard, André Roy, and Jean-Claude Klein.


April 25–27 * Montréal * Almost 300 delegates attended the first symposium on homosexuality held in Québec, covering everything from medicine and art to religion and liberation, at the Hôtel LaSalle, 1240 rue Drummond. The symposium was organized by Alain Bouchard and the Service d’éducation et de consultation sur l’homosexualité (SECH).

April 26 * Montréal * More than 1,000 gay men and lesbians blocked the intersection of Stanley and St. Catherine Streets in a late-night demonstration to protest the police raid on the Sauna David three nights before. Although the demonstration was illegal, there was no confrontation with police as there had been during the demonstration held in October 1977 to protest the Truxx raid.


April 26 * Toronto * “Gay Power, Gay Politics,” a manipulative portrait of gays in San Francisco, was broadcast in prime time by CBS. Several days later, Stephen Lewis, the former head of the Ontario NDP, made negative comments about the gays portrayed in the program during one of his regular commentaries on CKEY radio. Lewis reported that “the sense of revulsion has not yet abated” and that he was sickened by the “horribly menacing” gay vote in San Francisco.


April 27 * Thunder Bay, Ont. * Gays of Thunder Bay (GTB) was established with help from Robin Hardy and CGRO’s Operation Outreach. The group’s immediate aims were to fundraise, find office space, and start an information phone line. By September 1980 they had rented office space at 7–214 Red River Road. David Belrose served as GTB’s first president.

[“Gays of Thunder Bay” vertical file, Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto; Gerald Hannon, “On the Road with Outreach: Creating a Sense of Family from Toronto to Thunder Bay,” *Body
April 29 * St. Catharines, Ont. * OPP officer Paul Head was arrested by Niagara Regional Police detectives and charged with indecent assault on a male, Wayne Smith Riddell. The assault allegedly occurred during a dart game at Riddell’s home. There was speculation in the press that the police were trying to bolster a case of “discreditable conduct” against Head in order to oust him from the OPP.


April 30 * Montréal * During the six months leading up to April 30 at least fifty-eight men were charged with acts of gross indecency in public washrooms in downtown Montréal.


April 30 * Winnipeg * A woman complained to police after she accidentally picked up a copy of *The Joy of Gay Sex* in a Winnipeg bookstore, mistaking it for *The Joy of Cooking*. Police threatened to prosecute Coles and Classic bookstores for selling obscene material unless they removed the books *The Joy of Gay Sex* and *The Joy of Lesbian Sex* from their shelves. The bookstores complied. Manitoba Attorney General Gerry Mercier came under fire for supporting the informal banning of the books; Mercier had promised to prosecute any booksellers found selling them in Manitoba. GFE vowed to fight the ban. (See also November 1, 1980.)


**May * Miami, Fla. * Anti-gay crusader Anita Bryant filed for divorce from her husband of twenty years, Bob Green, citing “irreconcilable differences.” The divorce, which was granted on August 15, 1980, was precipitated by disagreements over the management of Anita Bryant Ministries (ABM). Ontario-based evangelist Rev. Ken Campbell was a director of ABM, and the Bryant-Green split led him to confess that he had been “taken for a ride” by Bryant when he organized her Canadian anti-gay tour in 1978.


**May * Montréal * A transsexual, referred to as “Miss D,” filed a complaint with the Quebec Human Rights Commission shortly after being refused service at the Casse Croute Allemande restaurant, 171, rue Ste-Catherine est, solely because of her sexual identity. The owner of the restaurant had said she did not want men dressed as women, or prostitutes, in her restaurant, which was located in the red-light district. The commission ruled in the fall of 1981 that the restaurant owner was guilty of discrimination based on sex and/or sexual orientation, and filed
a lawsuit against the owner asking for $1,000 in damages. In April 1982, Provincial Court Judge Pierre Durand awarded the complainant $500 in “moral damages” plus interest and court costs.


May * Toronto * LOOT vacated the house at 342 Jarvis Street that it had occupied since 1977. A LOOT general meeting held April 27 approved the move; the house was underused and was in poor condition. LOOT planned to open an office later in the year.


May * Toronto * Jim Quixley’s play The Queer Masquerade won the best play award in the first annual writing competition sponsored by the New Writers’ Cross-Canada Workshop.

[“Aesthetera,” Body Politic, no. 64 (1980), p. 37.]

May * Toronto * After a year and a half of discussion, the Toronto Board of Education was still reluctant to establish a Gay Liaison Committee, similar to existing board committees dealing with women’s issues and the Black and Southeast Asian communities. (See also July 28, 1980.)

[“School Board Waffles on Liaison Committee,” Body Politic, no. 64 (1980), p. 14.]
May 1 * Toronto * The Most Reverend Lewis Garnsworthy, Metropolitan of Ontario, wrote on behalf of the Ontario House of Anglican Bishops to Ontario Premier Bill Davis, urging assurance of “just treatment in our province for homosexual citizens.”


May 4 * Montréal * The Sauna David was destroyed by fire just twelve days after it was raided by police. Arson was suspected, although no one was charged. This was the third time in recent years that a Montréal gay bathhouse had been destroyed by fire shortly after being raided by police (others were the Sauna Aquarius, in 1975, and the Club Baths Montreal, in 1976).


May 4 * Toronto * The RTPC held its first policy conference. About twenty people discussed the accomplishments of the RTPC in its first year, as well as future goals and organizational structure.


May 10 * Vancouver * Delegates attending the B.C. conference of The United Church of Canada, held at St. Andrew’s Wesley Church, voted by a margin of 500 to 50 against a move to refuse ordination to homosexuals. It was believed that if the conference opposed homosexuals becoming ministers, then church membership for gays would be illegal as admission to the church was seen as the basic form of ministry.

**May 14** *Vancouver* * A public forum discussing a proposed ward system for Vancouver, held at Kitsilano Hall, turned into a debate on whether gays were given fair treatment by City Hall. Several gay activists, including Rob Joyce, Terry Ludwar, and Vincent Manis, complained that politicians had been ignoring issues of interest to gays and lesbians.


**May 14** *Vancouver* * Police officers, representatives of the gay community, and Councillor Darlene Marzani met to discuss recent and ongoing incidents of violence against members of the gay community.


**May 15** *Montréal* * Nigel Crawhall took a male date, Sal, to his graduation dance at Mount Royal High School. Reactions were mixed. Crawhall, the editor of the school’s yearbook, also arranged for the yearbook to contain an advertisement for Androgyny Books, at that time Montréal’s gay, lesbian, and feminist bookstore.


**May 15–17** *Montréal* * The seventh planning convention of ADGQ was held at Dawson College.


**May 16–18** *Toronto* * Dignity Canada Dignité, Region XI of Dignity, Inc., held its annual conference at St. Philip’s Centre of Affirmation and Dialogue. Delegations from chapters in Edmonton, Montréal, Ottawa, Toronto, Vancouver, and Winnipeg attended meetings, workshops, and a banquet.
May 17–19 * Toronto * About sixty delegates attended the annual CGRO conference. Highlights included Robin Hardy’s presentation on “Operation Outreach,” which was CGRO’s attempt to organize gay men and lesbians in towns and cities in Ontario without formal gay groups.


May 18 * Toronto * About 1,400 gay men and lesbians attended “Sunrise High,” an all-night dance held on the two observation decks and disco floor at the top of the CN Tower.


May 20 * Québec * The first public referendum on Québec sovereignty was held; the majority (59 percent) voted against the motion. The CLGRC supported the right of Québec to self-determination. Gays and lesbians in Québec supporting sovereignty formed the Comité des Berdaches pour le OUI, which was active leading up to the vote.


May 20 * Toronto * The OPP received permission to appeal the March 21, 1980, court-ordered reinstatement of gay constable Paul Head. (See also June 12, 1980.)


May 22 * New Westminster, B.C. * Two men were killed and two others were injured in a fire at the New Westminster Steam Baths, located at Front and Sixth streets. A coroner’s jury later recommended that hourly checks be made of patrons, and that persons using the baths be limited to a six-hour stay.


May 23 * Ottawa * About fifty members of GO held a grand opening for GO’s new social centre, located at 175 Lisgar Street.


May 23–26 * Shirley, N.J. * About 150 lesbian and gay delegates, including several Canadians, attended the first Northeast Conference of Multinational Lesbian and Gay Male Feminist Socialists. Billed as “the rise of the Lavender Left,” this was the first time that lesbian and gay leftists had gathered for a conference in the United States. The two main themes of the meeting were “building an anti-racist lesbian and gay movement” and “how to fight the Right and win.” The weekend included plenary sessions, panel discussions, workshops, social events, and cultural activities. Ironically, feminist socialism was hardly discussed at the conference. The final session discussed plans to launch a national Lavender Left Network.


**May 26–28** *Winnipeg* *A workshop entitled “Social Work Practice and the Sexually Oppressed” was organized by the University of Manitoba’s Continuing Education Division and School of Social Work. The guest speaker was Dr. Harvey L. Gochros, an author on sexuality and director of the Institute for the Study of Sex.*

[“Human Sexuality Workshop Topic,” *Winnipeg Tribune*, 22 May 1980, p. 18.]

**May 31** *Brampton, Ont.* *The Human Rights Coalition and the Working Group on Minority-Police Relations organized a demonstration to protest the Ontario government’s reluctance to deal with human rights reforms. Brampton was the home of Ontario Premier Bill Davis. The demonstration marched through Brampton’s streets and past Davis’s constituency office.*


**June** *Charlevoix, Qué.* *Paul H. Gaudreault and others formed the Association des droits des gais de Charlevoix (ADGC).*


**June** *Montréal* *The Groupe de pression 80–81 was formed by the MCM and other groups, including ADGQ, to combat recently enacted city by-laws, including by-law 5464, which prohibited anyone from remaining in a public place for the purposes of prostitution. Gay activists*
protested the anti-prostitution by-law because it was sufficiently vague to be used against anyone cruising in a public place, including parks. (See also June 16, 1980.)


June * Montréal * La Presse, the largest French-language daily newspaper in North America, refused to publish a ninety-word display advertisement for Le Club Contact, a gay dating service. In response, Alain Bouchard of Le Club Contact filed a complaint on July 25 with the Commission des droits de la personne (Quebec Human Rights Commission) and the Conseil de presse du Québec (Quebec Press Council). (See also December 22, 1980.)


June * Toronto * An unnamed transsexual’s application to become a nun with the Anglican motherhouse of the Sisters of St. John the Divine was rejected.

[“Man with New Sex Shunned by Nuns,” Toronto Sun, Sunday ed., 22 June 1980, p. 36.]

June * Vancouver * Jim Thomas of GATE (Vancouver) registered a complaint with the B.C. Human Rights Commission against the Vancouver Herald. Thomas charged that an article by Stephen Brown entitled “Gay Lifestyle Is All Wrong,” published on June 4, 1980, promoted homophobia through “a gross misrepresentation of fact.”

June 2 * Ottawa * CUPW ratified a contract with the federal government that included a no-discrimination clause protecting sexual orientation. This was the first time that gay employees of a Canadian federal government department had been awarded such protection.


June 4 * Toronto * Seventeen men charged with being found-ins in the December 9, 1978, police raid on the Barracks steam bath appeared in Provincial Court; they were remanded to November 13, 1980.

[“In the Courts,” *Body Politic*, no. 65 (1980), p. 12.]

June 4–July 12 * Toronto * Claude Gai starred in an English-language translation of Michel Tremblay’s play *La Duchesse de Langeais*, produced by Tarragon Theatre at the Black Cat Cabaret, 42 Hayden Street. John Van Burek did the translation and also directed.


June 6 * Wetaskawin, Alta. * Keith Digby, keynote speaker at the graduation ceremony of Wetaskawin Composite High School, caused an uproar when he encouraged gay students to stand up to adversity. In his speech Digby stated, “Some of you out there are gay…. The fight to be as proud of your sexuality as your heterosexual brothers and sisters are of theirs, is one of the most difficult I can imagine.” Digby was the artistic director of Theatre 3 in Edmonton, and a former drama teacher at the school.


June 9 * Montréal * Daniel Bouffard, the first openly gay candidate to run for election to the Roman Catholic School Commission, failed in an
attempt to unseat incumbent Norbert Lacoste, a priest. Bouffard, a member of ADGQ, ran in Ward 7.

**June 10** *Toronto* * A proposed civilian-review-procedures bill sponsored by the PC government was defeated in the Ontario Legislature. The proposed bill, which would have had public complaints about the police investigated by the police first before being passed to a public complaints board, had been widely criticized.

**June 12** *Ottawa* * Ten gays and lesbians, representing Dignity Ottawa Dignité, GO, and other organizations, met with sixteen counsellors from Catholic Family Services to discuss counselling resources in the community.

**June 12** *St. Catharines, Ont.* * OPP constable Paul Head appeared in Provincial Court to face charges of indecent assault on a male; the trial by judge and jury was adjourned until October 22, 1980. (See also October 22, 1980.)
[“In the Courts,” *Body Politic*, no. 65 (1980), p. 12.]

**June 14 and 16** *Ottawa* * The *Ottawa Citizen* published a brief series on local gay life, including an overview article by Tom Van Dusen about gay life in Ottawa, a coming-out article by *Citizen* staff writer Richard Labonté, and a lurid account by Tim Harper on “the world of quickie sex in washrooms, parks and saunas.” The articles caused a public uproar. The *Citizen* was deluged with phone calls and letters from irate readers; more than 500 people cancelled their subscriptions in the week following the publications. Labonté received at least fifty-five abusive phone calls at work and at home, but also a number of letters thanking
him for his work.


**June 16** *Montréal* * About 350 people, including many lesbians and gay men, picketed City Hall to protest recently enacted by-laws, including the anti-prostitution by-law 5464.


**June 16** *Montréal* * A petition of more than 700 names sent to Québec Justice Minister Marc-André Bédard demanded the appointment of a gay person as a commissioner to the commission des droits et libertés de la personne du Québec. The petition was received too late for consideration as seven new (heterosexual) appointees to the Commission were announced on June 18, 1980.


**June 17** *Vancouver* * The Gay Interest Group of the CLA, formed in February 1980 to facilitate access to and increase public awareness of gay materials, held its first meeting at the CLA’s annual convention. The group, coordinated by Tom Flemming, sponsored a resolution urging libraries to provide materials and information that promote an understanding of homosexuality, which was carried. One of the Gay Interest Group’s first projects was to publish *A Brief Preliminary Guide to Recommended Reading Matter on Homosexuality (English and French Titles)*, coordinated by Ted Millward.
June 17–19 * Bolton, Ont. * Ministers from American, Canadian, and English congregations of MCC met to discuss strategy to aid the estimated 10,000 to 12,000 gay and lesbian Cuban refugees (commonly referred to as Marielitos) being held in military camps in the United States. The refugees had fled Cuba to the United States to escape “Castroite homophobia.” The MCC group pledged $60,000 to strike a special Task Force, based in Los Angeles, that would coordinate communication with the American government and other agencies and would seek sponsors and funding to get the refugees out of the camps.


June 18 * Montréal * The men charged as found-ins or keepers during the April 23 police raid on the Sauna David appeared in court and were remanded to various dates extending over the next six months. About twenty of the accused formed a defence committee, under the direction of accused found-in François Brunet.

**June 19–22** *Toronto* *The York Rainbow Society of the Deaf* sponsored the fourth international convention of the National Rainbow Society for the Deaf, held at the Westbury Hotel. The convention attracted hundreds of delegates from Montréal, Toronto, Vancouver, and nineteen Rainbow societies in the United States.


**June 21–July 3** *Montréal* *More than 10,000 gays and lesbians participated in the second annual Gairilla Week, Montréal’s gay and lesbian pride celebration. Events included a pride march and picnic in Parc Lafontaine on June 21, dances (June 24 and 28), an art exhibition (Jardin des Fantasmes), and participation in le Fête Nationale des Québécois on June 24. Canada’s first Gay Cinema Week (Semaine du Cinéma Gai) was also held as part of the festivities (June 26–July 2), and included screenings of twenty-five lesbian and gay films and a round-table discussion on “Cinema and Homosexuality.”


**June 24** *Vancouver* *GATE (Vancouver) announced its dissolution, after nine years of activity, as well as the end of its publication *Gay Tide*. GATE (Vancouver) had faced a dwindling membership in recent
years and was forced to move to a smaller office in the spring of 1980 due to financial difficulties. The group maintained that it could no longer operate without an expanded membership, or without grants or subsidies. In its final statement, GATE (Vancouver) complained of the gay community’s shifting emphasis from liberation to social services and lobbying.


**June 27–30** * Toronto * CGSL sponsored the Canada Cup ’80. Teams for Boston, Milwaukee, Minneapolis/St. Paul, New York, and Toronto competed. Male cheerleaders entertained the crowd as the team from Minneapolis/St. Paul took the cup.


**June 27–July 1** * Calgary * Celebration ’80, the eighth annual conference of CLGRC, was held. Calgary’s mayor Ross Alger had earlier refused to proclaim an official civic day in honour of the national conference, and declined to officially open it. Workshops and seminars were held at MacEwen Hall, University of Calgary. Other events included a dance, a buffet, and a rally/picnic held at Prince’s Island park. Plans for a march though Calgary’s city centre on June 28 were originally abandoned in fear that it would provoke increased violence against gays. But when GIRC applied for a parade permit and was denied by Calgary police, it sponsored Calgary’s first gay picket, at Calgary City Hall, which generated much attention in the local media. During the final plenary session, the sixty-seven conference delegates (of whom fewer than ten were women) voted to disband the CLGRC, as it was seen to have outlived its usefulness; this decision was ratified in
September 1980 by 70 percent of the CLGRC members. In its place, the Canadian Association of Lesbians and Gay Men (CALGM) was formed as an individual membership organization devoted entirely to federal lobbying for lesbians and gays. CALGM’s interim executive included Henry Berg (Calgary), Peter Maloney (Toronto), Claire McDuff-Oliver (Edmonton), and Charlotte Rochon (Saskatoon). In May 2007, an internal Toronto police report leaked to the Globe and Mail revealed that an undercover police officer had followed George Hislop and Peter Maloney from Toronto to the Calgary conference to keep track of their activities.


**June 30** * Toronto * Two lesbians who were walking with their arms around each other were attacked by two unidentified men, beaten, and robbed near Dundas and Mutual streets. The women were found unconscious by police patrolling the area and were taken to hospital.


**Summer** * Calgary * A proposal made by police to enforce an 11 o’clock curfew on Central Park, Calgary’s main outdoor cruising area, was met with opposition from both the gay community and the local press.


**Summer** * Edmonton * Dozens of gay men were beaten or threatened in the area of the Hill, a popular cruising ground, raising fears in the community of the existence of a “queer-beater” gang. Police were unable to stop the violence, and gays were warned to stay away from the area.


**Summer** * Halifax, Toronto, Windsor * Anti-discrimination clauses including sexual orientation were successfully negotiated in three union contracts: Dalhousie University Staff Association (Halifax); Local 578 of the Ontario Public Service Employees’ Union, representing workers at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE) (Toronto); and Local 195 of the United Auto Workers, representing workers at the International Playing Card Company (Windsor).

Summer * Ottawa * Peter Maloney of GALL received information from a source in the federal department of justice that the department had recommended to Justice Minister Jean Chrétien that sexual orientation be added as a protected ground of discrimination to the Canadian Human Rights Act. (See also July 5, 1980.)


Summer * Ottawa, Toronto * The Department of Manpower and Immigration awarded almost $16,000 to gay groups to support hiring summer students. GO was awarded $6,264 to hire university students to coordinate a community outreach service and educational sessions with professionals and agencies. The GCAT received $9,700 to hire staff to develop a co-operative mailing service for the Toronto gay community called FYI (For Your Information).


Summer * Toronto * The Back Door Gym and Sauna opened at 12½ Elm Street.


Summer * Toronto * Paintings by Andy Fabo were featured in a display at the Glenmore Gallery, 84 Yorkville Avenue.


Summer * Toronto * At least nine gay men were charged with
committing an indecent act in a public place after being arrested at washrooms in suburban malls, including Fairview Mall and Sheridan Mall. Police had staked out the washrooms at the request of shopping centre management. (See also September–October 1980.)


**Summer** * Toronto * A group of gay Toronto-area health workers formed Gays in Health Care to improve communications among lesbian and gay health workers active in traditional medical disciplines and allied fields. The group’s coordinator was Randy Coates.


**Summer** * Toronto * Gay socialists were planning to form a Lavender Left group. Bert Hansen coordinated the effort.


**Summer** * Toronto * Police used a Metro parks by-law making it an offence to be in the Toronto Islands park area without being properly clothed to charge nude sunbathers at Hanlan’s Point beach, a popular gay sunning and cruising area.

[“Bare Bums Offend Cops,” Body Politic, no. 67 (1980), p. 15.]

**July** * Vancouver * The Club Vancouver opened at 339 West Pender Street (downstairs) as part of the international Club Bath chain.

[“Club Vancouver” vertical file, Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto.]

**July** * Winnipeg * The Gay Clergy Support Group was founded by the CHR, coordinated by Ted Millward.

July 3–13 * Toronto * John Greyson’s performance art installation “Aspects of Contemporary Gay Art: An International Symposium” was exhibited at Warehouse 222 at Harbourfront.


July 4 * Kingston, Ont. * Brian Burch was fired from his position as assistant coordinator of the Summer Adolescent Program of Kingston General Hospital’s Regional Centre for Handicapped Children after he revealed his bisexuality to a supervisor. Burch complained about unfair dismissal to both the Ontario Human Rights Commission and the Ontario Labour Relations Board, but without result.


July 5 * Winnipeg * The biannual national convention of the Liberal Party of Canada adopted a resolution supporting the inclusion of sexual orientation as a protected ground of discrimination in the Canadian Human Rights Act.


July 7 * Vancouver * “Gayblevision,” a weekly half-hour show for lesbians and gays, began broadcasting on Cable 10 Community TV. Vancouver’s first television program oriented towards gay people was produced by Greg Cutts, Mary Anne McEwen, and Verne Powers.


July 10 * Edmonton * Bob Lundrigan, chairman of the Alberta Human
Rights Commission, stated that he believed other Canadian rights commissions were focusing too much on gays while ignoring the plight of other minority groups. Lundrigan told a meeting of the Alberta Commission, “I don’t see how we can advocate protection of gays, who don’t appear to have a demonstrated problem, while ignoring others.”


**July 10** *Toronto* *Glad Day Bookshop* received a letter from Canada Customs in Windsor, Ontario, stating that five book titles destined for the store had been seized as “immoral and indecent” and prohibited entry to Canada under the Customs tariff.


**July 16** *Ottawa* *A meeting of Integrity/Ottawa* was held, at which members elected the first executive of the organization. Dr. Michel Gaulin served as the new convenor.

[Untitled news item, Integrity Ottawa Newsletter, Summer 1980, p. (1).]

**July 19** *Toronto* *Men against Sexism*, a group of mostly gay men, distributed leaflets protesting the objectification of women to the thousands of people attending the Miss Toronto Beauty Pageant, held at the Canadian National Exhibition Stadium. The Metropolitan Toronto Police Association sponsored the pageant as part of its annual Police Games. Although the protesters were not physically attacked, they were heckled as “communists” and “fags.”


**July 19** *Vancouver* *The first Eucharist and meeting of Integrity/Vancouver* was held at Christ Church Cathedral. The celebrant was Integrity Chaplain Father Roy Dungey.
July 21 * Hamilton, Ont. * Bruce Leonard Musson, sixty-nine, pleaded guilty to one charge of indecent assault and four charges of gross indecency. Musson had been charged for having sex with youths aged twelve to sixteen, which he claimed had been consensual. Musson had been charged with similar offences before. Although doctors said that Musson was ill with heart disease and had less than a year to live, he was sentenced to three years in prison.


July 28 * Toronto * The Toronto Board of Education School Programs Committee granted an official hearing to the ad hoc group of lesbians and gays who had been lobbying since 1979 for the establishment of a gay liaison committee. Eleven of the twelve school board trustees in attendance at the meeting passed recommendations to explore establishing a lesbian/gay liaison. Three days later, on July 31, 1980, the Toronto Board of Education trustees voted 18 to 4 in favour of forming a subcommittee to report on “establishing liaison between the Board and the lesbian/gay community.” (See also September 9, 15, and 29, 1980.)

August 1980, pp. A1, A6; Claire Hoy, “Gay Okay Is Sick!” (column), 
_Toronto Sun_, 5 August 1980, p. 14; “A Modest Proposal” (editorial), 
_Body Politic_, no. 66 (1980), p. 7; Halyna Perun, “Trustee Committee 
on Homosexuals Called a Step Backward,” _Globe and Mail_, metro 
ed., 4 August 1980, p. 5; “Putting a Full Nelson on the Liaison Issue,” 
_Body Politic_, no. 66 (1980), pp. 8–9; Roger Spalding, “School Board 
Trustees Vote to Investigate Formal Ties with Gay/Lesbian 
Community,” _Body Politic_, no. 66 (1980), p. 8; “Trustees Won’t Drop 
Study on Homosexual Link,” _Toronto Star_, four star ed., 29 August 
1980, p. A16; “The Urge Is Natural, the Practice Is Not’: 
Confessions of a ‘Mid-Victorian,’” _Body Politic_, no. 66 (1980), p. 8; 
David Vienneau, “Toronto Trustees to Debate Link with 
David Vienneau, “Trustees to Explore Homosexual Issues,” _Toronto 
Star_, four star ed., 1 August 1980, pp. A1, A3; Ted Welch, “Public 
Reject Gay Group in School: ‘Homosexuality Is Immoral,’” _Toronto 
Sun_, 3 August 1980, p. 52.]

**July–August** * Calgary * Most of the July–August 1980 issue of 
_Calgary Women’s Newspaper_ (twelve pages of content) concerned 
lesbian, bisexual, and gay topics. 

[ _Calgary Women’s Newspaper_, July–August 1980.]

**August** * Hamilton * The Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police 
confirmed that it was their policy to strictly enforce the section of the 
Juvenile Delinquency Act that required police to inform a parent or 
guardian if anyone under the age of sixteen was found in the company of 
a known criminal or a person who admits he is homosexual. The policy 
came to light after a social worker in a local juvenile detention home 
came in contact with a fourteen-year-old gay teenager. Police had 
noticed the parents of the youth when they apprehended him at night on 
Jackson Street, a gay cruising area; the parents subsequently threw the 
teenager out of his home. 

[“Parents Must Be Told If Child Gay, Say Cops,” _Body Politic_, no. 67 
(1980), p. 16.]
August * London, Ont. * Members of HALO were attacked by a gang of youths outside their club premises, and cars in the parking lot were vandalized. Several suspects were later arrested and charged with assault and/or robbery.


August * Ottawa * A branch of POG was established.


August * Regina * GCR sold its property at 2242 Smith Street and purchased a lease on a building at 2069 Broad Street. The Odyssey Club initially operated at the new location under special occasion permits and was open Friday and Saturday nights. In 1981 it was renamed Rumours, and operated at Broad Street until the end of 1985, when it moved to 1422 Scarth Street.


August * Toronto * The Coalition against Censorship (CAC), a band of twelve organizations (including the *Body Politic*), which had formed to lobby against all forms of state censorship, tried to arrange a legal, private screening of the movie *The Tin Drum*. The Ontario Censor Board had banned the film from public distribution in Ontario after the distributor, New World Mutual, refused to make three cuts to it. Plans for the private screening fell apart when New World Mutual balked at being associated with some of the “left leaning” organizations associated with CAC.

[Fay Orr, “Distributor Kills Coalition Plans for Private Screening of

August * Toronto * Members of CGRO and Dignity canvassed Ontario’s Roman Catholic bishops for statements supporting the inclusion of sexual orientation in the Ontario Human Rights Code.  

August * Toronto * “Deliberations,” a column devoted to theoretical discussion and the analysis of gay and feminist issues, debuted in the Body Politic.  

August * Toronto * Peter Maloney and other representatives of the gay community organized a meeting with minorities liaison officer Eric Wright and 52 Division Superintendent Sproule to discuss a format for handling gay community complaints against the police force. The gays wanted to plan a conference to invite representatives from government, the police, and the community to discuss issues of concern to gay people. The police adamantly opposed the idea of a conference, saying that mechanisms already existed for getting police and community representatives together. A compromise was reached when it was agreed that gay representatives would hold monthly meetings with downtown police divisions to discuss specific problems such as entrapment in parks, or lack of police protection on Yonge Street.  

August 1 * Toronto * CBC–TV broadcast a profile of Toronto’s gay community, centring on the LBC, during the evening news.  

August 1–10 * Vancouver * Gay Unity Week, the annual lesbian and
gay cultural celebration, was held. In a vote of 8 to 3, members of Vancouver City Council had earlier refused to recognize the week with an official proclamation. The week’s events, including a coffee house, a concert, a dance, and a boat cruise, were well attended. Gayfest ’80, a festival of gay arts, artists, and organizations, was held on August 9 at WECC and attracted about 500 people. Vancouver alderpersons Mike Harcourt and Darlene Marzari participated in the opening ceremonies and addressed gay constituents at the SPAG booth.


August 2 * Kitchener, Ont. * GROW sponsored its second annual carnival, held at the Pioneer Sportsman Club.

[Advertisement, Body Politic, no. 65 (1980), p. 34.]

August 5 * Edmonton * Bob Shumaker quit his job as a chemical process maker at Celanese Canada, claiming harassment and discrimination on the job because he was gay. Shumaker filed a complaint against the company with the Alberta Human Rights Commission. Later, the Energy and Chemical Workers’ Union, of which
Shumaker had been a member, used the case to press for a non-discrimination clause based on sexual orientation in their collective agreement. (See also April 1981.)


**August 9** *Toronto* *A bazaar was held at the 519 Church Street Community Centre to raise funds for the LMDF.*


**August 14–17** *Hesperia, Mich.* *The annual Michigan Womyn’s Music Festival attracted thousands of lesbians, including many Canadians. Canadian women going to the festival were warned in advance not to discuss their sexuality at the border. In previous years, dozens of women had been turned back at the Port Huron–Sarnia crossing, in particular, on the grounds that they had admitted to, or were suspected of, being lesbian.*


**August 16–25** *Halifax* *The study document *In God’s Image ... Male and Female*, which advocated acceptance of gays and lesbians into*
ministry, was debated by delegates to the twenty-eighth General Council of The United Church of Canada. Only 20 of 452 delegates opposed the report, which was then sent out to the Division of Mission to be debated by presbyteries and congregations of the church throughout the country.


August 17 * Toronto * Werner Gruener, who had been charged but acquitted in the July 1977 rape and murder of Emanuel Jaques, was arrested at the Canadian National Exhibition grounds and charged with being a common nuisance for breathing fire on passersby. He was freed on bail on condition that he seek psychiatric testing and report weekly to a parole officer. On October 6, 1980, he was sentenced to one day in jail after being convicted of the charge. (See also December 18, 1980.)

August 20 * Hamilton, Ont. * Hamilton United Gay Societies (HUGS), a coalition of four independent groups, organized an all-candidates meeting to focus on gay issues, leading up to the September 8, 1980, by-election in the federal riding of Hamilton West. Dr. Stan Hudecki, the Liberal candidate, was generally positive on gay issues. He stunned the audience of sixty-five, though, when he discussed how the intestinal problems of some gay people posed a risk of contamination to the food service industry, since there were so many gay people working in that field. Hudecki eventually won the election by more than 2,000 votes. [*“Lukewarm Liberal Wins Hamilton Riding,”* *Body Politic*, no. 67 (1980), p. 16.]

August 24 * Kingston, Ont. * Josef Paul Woods, convicted in the July 1977 slaying of Emanuel Jaques, attempted to kill Saul David Betesh, a co-conspirator in the crime, by stabbing Betesh in the throat at the Kingston Regional Reception Centre (formerly the Kingston Penitentiary). Betesh required thirteen stitches to close the wounds, but recovered. Woods was charged with intent to wound. Woods and Betesh were being held in protective custody at the centre. On September 29, 1981, Woods was found guilty of the charge and was sentenced to an additional four years in prison. (See also December 18, 1980.)

Defies Solution,” *Toronto Life*, September 1979, pp. 60–63, 177–78, 180, 182, 185–89.]

**August 25** * Toronto * David Allan Baker, a transsexual who robbed two banks in order to start a new life, was found guilty and sentenced to four years in penitentiary for the robberies.


**August 25** * Toronto * Two plainclothes policemen patrolling David Balfour Park came upon three men having sex in a secluded part of the park. One man escaped, but the other two were charged with committing an indecent act. (See also August 26, 1980, and December 19, 1980.)


**August 26** * Toronto * Plainclothes policemen arrested five men in a late-night raid in David Balfour Park, during which Constable Richard Dionne discharged his revolver three times into the ground. Seven other men escaped. The men were taken to 53 Division, where they were charged with gross indecency and committing an indecent act. On August 28, 1980, the *Toronto Sun* reported the names, ages, and home addresses of the accused. On October 30, 1980, Prof. John Alan Lee, chair of the RTPC, presented a brief before the Metropolitan Board of Commissioners of Police stating that gays having sex in city parks were treated much more harshly than heterosexuals in the same position, and that police were failing to distinguish between a crime and a nuisance. (See also November 17, 1980.)


**September** * Fredericton * The first issue of *FLAG Mag*, the newsletter of FLAG, was published.


**September** * Lennoxville, Qué. * Campus officials at Bishop’s University and Champlain Regional College halted distribution of the 1980–81 joint student handbook because of allegations of gay editorial bias. The handbook was edited by openly gay student Daron Westman, president of the Bishop’s-Champlain Gay Students’ Alliance, and contained positive sections on gay topics, such as the position of gays in society, and information on local gay nightlife. Distribution continued only after a printed disclaimer was issued with each copy. Late in the evening of September 9, 1980, over seventy-five mostly male students from Bishop’s gathered behind a campus residence and burned one hundred copies of the handbook in a bonfire. The event was held to demonstrate against “fag propaganda” and material allegedly inappropriate to the university. C.I.H. Nicholl, the principal of Bishop’s University, refused to comment on the incident. On September 17, 1980, a public meeting was held to discuss the book burning.

September * Mississauga, Ont. * Karl Von Goetz, a former mercenary, formed the League against Homosexuals to fight the formation of a gay liaison committee by the Toronto Board of Education. The League distributed thousands of pamphlets entitled “Queers Do Not Produce: They Seduce.”


September * Montréal * Gay McGill cut its right to funding from the Students’ Society at McGill University after it found the financial tie limited its activities. Gay McGill had wanted to donate funds to L’Androgyne but was blocked because the bookstore was a for-profit enterprise.


September * Montréal * Playwright Michel Tremblay was interviewed by Christian Bédard and Robert de Grosbois in the gay journal Le Berdache. Tremblay discussed his plays, Québec nationalism, and gay life in Québec. The interview was later translated by Brian Mossop and published in the Body Politic.


September * New York * Jane Rule’s novel Contract with the World was published by Harcourt, Brace, Jovanovich (Academic Press).

   [Barbara Amiel, “Relentless Torment of Urban Souls” (review), Maclean’s, 29 September 1980, pp. 56, 58; Yvonne Crittenden, “In

**September * Toronto * Columnist Dick Beddoes resigned from the *Globe and Mail* after he admitted that on September 3, 1980, he had plagiarized most of a column on homosexual rights from the work of Russell Baker, a columnist at the *New York Times*. Later it was found that the *Globe and Mail* removed the plagiarized column from its microfilm and computer editions.


**September * Toronto * An installation of art boxes by Tim Guest was shown at the YYZ Gallery, 567 Queen Street West.


**September * Toronto * Stu Newton formed the right-wing lobby group
Positive Parents of Ontario (PPO) to help defeat the creation of a proposed liaison committee between the Toronto Board of Education and the local gay community. Over the next months the group distributed fliers targeting school trustees and NDP members of the Toronto Metro Council who had supported the proposal. (See also September 15 and October 19, 1980.)


**September 3** * Toronto * George Hislop’s campaign office officially opened at 181 Harbord Street. Hislop was running to be elected on November 10, 1980, as the first openly gay alderman on Toronto City Council. Mayor John Sewell caused a media storm when he attended the opening and endorsed Hislop’s candidacy. There was concern that the move was a sign that “gay power politics” were taking over City Hall.


**September 6** *Winnipeg* * The Winnipeg Gay Media Collective began producing a weekly half-hour television show, “Coming Out,” shown on Saturday evenings on Videon cable station channel 13W.


**September 8** *Toronto* * The Ontario Court of Appeal dismissed an appeal by the five men charged as keepers of the Barracks as a common bawdy house, ruling that the men had no right to a trial by jury and would be tried by a judge. On October 20, 1980, defence counsel Morris Manning sought leave to appeal the decision to the Supreme Court of Canada. (See also November 17, 1980.)


**September 9** *Toronto* * Metro Council, the governing body for the greater Toronto area, rejected a Metro Bill of Rights that included sexual orientation by a vote of 22 to 8, and instead substituted a weaker declaration about being an equal-opportunity employer.


**September 9** *Toronto* * The School Programs Committee of the Toronto Board of Education passed a motion unanimously calling for
the amendment of the anti-discrimination policy to ban discrimination based on sexual orientation in the Toronto school system. (See also September 18, 1980.)

[Roger Spalding, “Motion to Curb School Bias Offsets Trustees’ Scuttling of Probe Committee,” Body Politic, no. 67 (1980), pp. 13–14.]

**September 10** *Washington, D.C.* * The United States Department of Justice announced that it would modify the procedure by which lesbians and gay men had been excluded from entering the United States. Officers of the INS were no longer allowed to question travellers about their sexual orientation. Lesbians or gay men who voluntarily declared their homosexuality would still be barred from entry. Questioning of travellers could still lead to harassment, as when two women and one man were turned back while trying to visit Niagara Falls, N.Y., on September 12, 1980, after they declared that they were going to visit gay bars for the evening.


**September 15** *Toronto* * The Toronto Board of Education’s subcommittee to investigate formal liaison with the gay and lesbian community finally met, but was disbanded after only one meeting. A delegation of gays and lesbians spoke at the meeting, as did twenty-six other mostly fundamentalist Christian opponents of liaison, including Rev. Ken Campbell. (See also September 29, 1980.)


**September 15 and 19** *Toronto* *Ontario Provincial Court Judge Thomas Mercer dismissed charges of making an obscene film against Andrew Homorodean (September 15) and Robert Ramsey (September 19); both had been charged during the police raid on the Hot Tub Club in October 1979. Robert Ramsay, aged twenty, had earlier been found guilty of keeping a common bawdy house in the Hot Tub affair. He faced additional charges, but committed suicide on October 1, 1980.


**September 17–27** *Toronto* *The New Drama Centre’s production of Stephen Ralstan’s play* *Mixed Company: A Play about Sexual Diversity in Toronto* *was performed at the Bathurst Street Side Door Theatre, 736 Bathurst Street.*


**September 18** *Toronto* *The Ontario Court of Appeal refused to overturn the April 1979 judgement of County Court Judge Joseph*
McMahon that took the custody of two children away from Gayle Bezaire, a lesbian. It did, however, allow Bezaire leave to appeal to Judge McMahon for a variation of his order “if changed circumstances could be shown.” Justice Bertha Wilson, the only woman on the Court of Appeal, also clearly stated that she did not agree with Judge McMahon’s implicit statement that the mother’s lesbianism was a negative factor in Bezaire’s case for the custody of her children. On November 14, 1980, Bezaire took her two children from the home of her former husband, George Bezaire, and went into hiding. Bezaire’s appeal to the Supreme Court of Ontario to regain custody of the children was dismissed in January 1981 after she and her lawyer failed to appear in court. Ontario Supreme Court Justice A.W. Maloney issued an order that Bezaire return the children immediately to their father. The children were recovered in the United States in October 1985 and returned to George Bezaire. Gayle Bezaire surrendered to police in Windsor in December 1985. She was charged with one count of abduction and four counts of harbouring, and was found guilty on all counts by a jury on June 9, 1987. Judge Sidney Dymond gave Bezaire an absolute discharge on the first charge, and sentenced her to three years’ probation and 300 hours of community work for the others.


September 18 * Toronto * The Toronto Board of Education voted 19 to 4 to amend its anti-discrimination policy to ban discrimination based on
sexual orientation, but added a clause forbidding proselytization of homosexuality in the schools. (See also January 26, 1981.)


**September 19–21** *Toronto* * MCC Toronto held the second annual Festival of Love, which included a dinner, films, workshops, and a dance. Honoured guests included Rev. Dr. Clifford Elliott of Bloor Street United Church and Rev. Dr. Doris Dyke, professor at Emmanuel College and the Toronto School of Theology. Certificates of appreciation were awarded to Harvey Hamburg and Alderman Allan Sparrow for contributions towards the betterment of the gay community.


**September 22** *Winnipeg* * The inaugural meeting of the Oscar Wilde Memorial Society was held, during which a constitution was adopted and a slate of officers was elected. Bob Wilson served as the first president. The society was formed to improve the quality of life for gay people in Manitoba through sponsoring a range of activities. Over a hundred memberships were issued in the first month, and the newsletter *Wilde Times* began publication in October 1980.

[“The Oscar Wilde Memorial Society,” *Wilde Times* (Winnipeg), October 1980, p. 2.]

**September 25** *Montréal* * Dr. André Lanthier, a Montréal endocrinologist, told a meeting of the Association des Médecins de
Langue Français du Canada that radical feminism causes a substantial increase in homosexuality among young men.


**September 25–October 5** * Toronto * A Buddies in Bad Times and Theatre Passe Muraille co-production of Sky Gilbert’s play *Lana Turner Has Collapsed!* was performed at the Theatre Centre, 95 Danforth Avenue.


**September 27** * Toronto * Ontario Provincial Court Judge Thomas Mercer dismissed charges of being found in a bawdy house against four men charged in the October 1979 raid on the Hot Tub Club. Three other men were found guilty of the same charges, and were given absolute discharges. (See also October 4, 1980.)


**September 29** * Toronto * The Toronto Board of Education’s School Programs Committee met to discuss the dissolution of the subcommittee formed to investigate liaison with the lesbian and gay community. The subcommittee was indeed disbanded, but representatives of sixteen delegations, mostly representing Christian fundamentalist organizations and churches, still insisted on speaking on the subject. The presentations were filled with bigoted diatribes, and sparked at least one shouting match. The committee’s recommendation to dissolve the subcommittee...
was sent to the Toronto Board of Education, which approved it on October 9, 1980.


**September–October** * Toronto * Metropolitan Toronto police officers arrested several dozen men (unofficial estimates ran as high as one hundred) for gross indecency over a six-week blitz of public washrooms in suburban malls. The arrests took place mostly at the Fairview Mall and the North York Sheridan Mall.


**September–November** * Toronto * Toronto police arrested at least twelve men on charges of gross indecency during surveillance stakeouts at a washroom at the Islington subway station.


**Autumn** * Carlisle, Ont. * Alan V. Miller’s collection of poetry With Clouds Rolling By was published by Brandstead Press. The work included engravings by Gerard Brender à Brandis.

Autumn * Montréal * *Le Berdache,* the publication of ADGQ, received a grant for $2,200 from the Québec ministry of cultural affairs to help pay for production and promotion costs.  

Autumn * Ottawa * The OAC awarded Paul-François Sylvestre a grant of $2,500 to conduct research for his second series of short stories. Sylvestre was a former president of GO.  

Autumn * Scarborough, Ont. * Catalyst Press, a small press publisher of poetry and fiction operated by Ian Young since 1969, ceased publishing due to financial strains.  

Autumn * Toronto * George Bowering’s novel *Burning Water,* loosely based on the life of Captain George Vancouver, was published by Musson. It won the Governor-General’s award for fiction, 1980.  
Bibliography, second ed. (Metuchen, N.J.: Scarecrow Press, 1982), entry 365.]

Autumn * Toronto * Toronto-area lesbians organized an informal potluck group that met every few weeks for food and talk.

Autumn * Vancouver * A group of lesbians and gay men affiliated with the Cold Mountain Institute formed the Weaver Institute, which offered workshops on “humanistic experiential group process” using personal encounter, gestalt, and psychodrama.

Autumn * Winnipeg * Richard North of Project Lambda planned to open a gay café that would help to finance a community space and the activities of Project Lambda.

October * Montréal * The tabloid paper L'Actualité-Gaie began publication.

October * Montréal * L’Aide aux transsexuels du Québec (ATQ) was formed, with Manon Frigon acting as administrative secretary. (See also January 7, 1981.)

October * Toronto * Rev. Ken Campbell filed a complaint with the OHRC protesting the Toronto gay community’s ongoing attempts to negotiate a formal liaison with the Toronto Board of Education. Campbell complained that the board had a “preference for perverts over parents.” Campbell also complained to Ontario’s Attorney General, Roy
McMurtry, the chair of the Toronto Board of Education, Fiona Nelson, and to the *Toronto Sun*.


**October** * Toronto * Andy Fabo displayed six acrylic paintings at a show entitled “Self-portraits of an Alleged Keeper of a Common Bawdy House” at the Funnel Gallery, 507 King Street East. Fabo had been arrested in the raid on the Barracks bathhouse on December 9, 1978; his case was still before the courts.


**October** * Toronto * Daryl Hine’s *Selected Poems* was published by Oxford University Press.


**October** * Toronto * The collaborative gay art group JAC (John Grube, Alex Liros, Clarence Barnes) was formed.

October * Toronto * Michael Riordon’s article “Getting Royally Fucked by a Perfect Sissy” was published in the *Body Politic*.


October * Toronto * The Toronto Gay Community Choir was formed and began rehearsals, with Peter Schaffter as director. The choir made its debut at the annual general meeting of the 519 Church Street Community Centre on November 13, 1980. Its first big event was a Christmas concert held at the Bathurst Street United Church on December 19, 1980.


October 4 * Toronto * Gays and lesbians participated in a “Ban the Klan” march, organized by the Ad Hoc Coalition for Racial Equality, which formed in Ramsden Park and went south on Yonge Street. The Ku Klux Klan had recently established an office in east-end Toronto. Aldermanic candidate George Hislop addressed the rally on behalf of the gay community.

[“Groups Plan Protest to ‘Ban the Klan,’” *Body Politic*, no. 67 (1980), p. 16.]

October 4 * Toronto * Three men were found guilty of keeping a common bawdy house in the case of the October 1979 raid on the Hot Tub Club. In total, five of the six men originally charged with keeping a common bawdy house were found guilty, and received sentences ranging from a fine of $300 for employees to $2,000 or three months in jail for the owners of the Hot Tub Club. The sixth man, Robert Slee, faced additional charges; he did not appear in court on the trail date and was thought to have fled the country.

**October 6** *Montréal* * The hour-long gay television program *Côte à côte* debuted on Vidéotron community cable, Channel 9. It was the successor to the program *88*, but was cancelled in June 1981.


**October 6** *Peterborough, Ont.* * Gay activist David Ramsden, the self-confessed ringleader of the Committee against Racism and Tackiness (CARAT), went on trial before Provincial Court Judge George Inrig on charges of theft. CARAT was known for “liberating” tacky lawn ornaments, and on April 29, 1980, had stolen four flamingos, two Black jockeys, a Black lantern holder, two gnomes, a grey rabbit, three swans, and Snow White and all seven dwarves from area lawns. On January 12, 1981, Judge Inrig found Ramsden guilty of possessing stolen property, fined him $200, and placed him on probation for two years.


**October 6** *Vancouver* * Craig Russell was interviewed on “Gayblevision” on Cable 10 Community TV.


**October 7** *Montréal* * Two men charged in the Sauna David raid of April 23, 1980, were acquitted on charges of gross indecency.
October 7 * Saskatoon * The University of Saskatoon Students’ Union presented Craig Russell in concert at the Centennial Auditorium. [“Boys Will Be Girls,” Sheaf (Univ. of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon), 2 October 1980, p. 13; “Impersonator Craig Russell,” Saskatoon Star-Phoenix, 8 October 1980, p. D1.]

October 9 * Simcoe, Ont. * Archie Barton Leitch was found not guilty of charges of attempted murder, wounding, and assault. On June 6, 1980, Leitch had attacked his roommate, Bruce Elliott, after Elliott threatened to sexually assault him. Leitch smashed a bottle over Elliott’s head and stabbed him several times. Leitch claimed that he had done this in self-defence, and that he was “just doing the Lord’s work” in standing up to Elliott, whom he described as “an instrument of Satan.” [Paul Trollope, “Just Doing the Lord’s Work,” Body Politic, no. 68 (1980), p. 11.]

October 9 * Toronto * The Toronto Board of Education trustees unanimously voted to have the board’s Equal Opportunity Office investigate bias in city schools, based on sexual orientation. [Roger Spalding, “Gays Lose Bid for School Liaison but Board Outlaws Discrimination,” Body Politic, no. 68 (1980), p. 10.]

October 10–13 * Montréal * The fourth annual congress of gay men and lesbians in Québec was held at Hôtel de Lasalle, 1240 rue Drummond, sponsored by the RNLGQ. The RNLGQ disbanded shortly afterward. During its two years in existence it generated little enthusiasm and attracted only six organizations as members. [ADGQ, “Editorial: Quand nous sommes morts rose …,” Le Berdache, no. 15 (1980), p. 3; “Congrès du RNLGQ,” Le Berdache, no. 12 (1980), pp. 8–10; “Congrès national des lesbiennes et gais du Québec (1980)” vertical file, Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto; Marc Morin, “Requiescat in pace” (letter), Le Berdache, no.
October 10–13 * Saskatoon * The third annual Metamorphosis, a Prairie Celebration of Lesbians and Gay Men, was organized by the SGC. More than 300 people attended the cultural festival, which included workshops, a coffee house, dances, and a concert featuring Peter McGehee, David Sereda, Carol Street, Chris Tanner, and the band Painted Ladies.


October 12 * Canada * “New Directions for the Old Religion,” a programme on contemporary explorations in gay and feminist spirituality, was broadcast on CBC radio. The show was produced by Max Allen and Robin Hardy, and included interviews with Z. Budapest, John Burnside, Carol Crist, Arthur Evans, Harry Hay, Charlene Spretnack, Starhawk, and Mitch Walker.


October 15 * Montréal * A slate of progressive candidates backed by the coalition Montréal Plus was able to gain control of the executive committee of the Corporation de la fête nationale. Jean-Michel Lagacé, a Montréal gay activist, was subsequently named president of the Corporation, which was in charge of organizing the celebrations for Québec’s national holiday (June 24).


October 15 * Toronto * Timothy Lafontaine was fined $300 for
participating in a pornographic movie and $100 for allowing his Isabella Street premises to be used as a common bawdy house. The charges related to the police raid on the Hot Tub Club in October 1979.


October 15 * Vancouver * The inaugural meeting of Parents and Friends of Gays was held; early organizers included Mrs. Norma Houghton and Mrs. Vi Willetts.


October 16 * Toronto * Don Garner, a gay man who had been selling his poetry chapbooks at Yonge and Maitland streets, across from the Parkside Tavern, for three years, was charged under a Metro Toronto by-law for selling on the sidewalk without a permit. Garner had applied for a permit every year, but was always refused. The charge was withdrawn on November 14, 1980.


October 16 * Toronto * TAG won a victory against the Liquor Licensing Board of Ontario (LLBO) and was awarded a special occasion liquor permit. The LLBO had disputed that TAG, and similar organizations, was an “association” that qualified for a permit because it did not have a constitution or by-laws. The Liquor Licence Appeal Tribunal ruled that TAG fulfilled the requirements of an association because the telephone information and counselling service filled a community need.

October 16 * Windsor * Dave Simmons, president of the student council at the University of Windsor, declared that he was not in favour of supporting the establishment of a gay club at the university. Other executive members of the council criticized Simmons’s remarks and the club was eventually recognized.


October 18 * Mississauga, Ont. * The CGA and the University of Toronto co-sponsored “Whitman in Ontario,” a conference to mark the centenary of Walt Whitman’s visit to Canada. Michael Lynch and Alan V. Miller organized the event, which was attended by fifty-three delegates and was held at the University of Toronto’s Erindale campus.


October 19 * Toronto * About 250 to 350 people attended the Festival Celebrating Freedom and Family, held at Nathan Phillips Square. Billed as a show of strength against “gay power politics,” and aimed at Mayor John Sewell and the Toronto Board of Education in particular, the event was organized by Stu Newton of PPO. The rally was like a religious revival meeting, complete with prayers and choruses, and was also addressed by Rev. Ken Campbell and Andy Koornstra, an ex-gay. (See also November 10, 1980.)

October 19 * Toronto * The seven-member Gallery Committee of the Pauline McGibbon Cultural Centre resigned in the wake of controversy over the exhibit “Women’s Images of Men,” which was shown at the centre from September 18 to October 19, 1980. The centre’s Board of Directors had received complaints about drawings and lithographs of male nudes by artists Diane Pugen and Claire Weissman Wilks; two homoerotic images by Weissman Wilks drew the most criticism. The Gallery Committee members resigned after the Board of Directors issued demands that were seen as undermining the committee’s artistic freedom and autonomy.


October 19–22 * Saskatoon * The conference “Homosexuality: Between Legalism and Licence” was held at the University of Saskatchewan. The presentations examined “Biblical perspectives on homosexuality and how they inform faith today.” Speakers included Ted Millward, coordinator of CHR, and Anita Hall, coordinator of Lutherans Concerned. (See also October 28, 1980.)


October 22 * St. Catharines, Ont. * OPP constable Paul Head appeared in court to face charges of indecent assault, but the Crown adjourned the hearing until January 5, 1981, later put back to April 10, 1981.


October 23 * Montréal * The Federal Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal by the gay sex shop Le Priape following a Canada Customs ban on the importation of gay erotic literature. No reasons for the dismissal were given.


**October 25** * Winnipeg * Liberation Books, an independent, socialist bookstore, planned to distribute copies of The Joy of Gay Sex and The Joy of Lesbian Sex during a demonstration protesting the banning of the sale of the books imposed by Manitoba’s Attorney General Gerry Mercier. (See also November 1, 1980.)


**October 28** * Hamilton, Ont. * The gay community television show “Steel City Gays” premiered; it was broadcast once every fourth Tuesday on cable channel 4.

[“Gay TV Hits Steel City,” Body Politic, no. 68 (1980), p. 12.]

**October 28** * Saskatoon * Lutherans Concerned—Canada was established as a ministry for gay Lutherans and their supporters. Early coordinators of the group were Jan Bjorndahl and Martin Garber-Conrad.

[“Lutherans Concerned” vertical file, Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto.]

**October 31** * Toronto * The Great Imposters presented “Drags to Riches: A Masquerade Ball” at the Hotel Toronto, 145 Richmond Street West.

[Advertisement, Body Politic, no. 67 (1980), p. 46.]

**October 31** * Toronto * For the first time, Toronto police did not allow homophobes and spectators to congregate across from the St. Charles Tavern on Yonge Street to watch for drag queens during Halloween. Traffic and pedestrians were kept moving with the help of large numbers
of police officers. Gay community members had met with police officials from 52 Division to discuss how to prevent the anti-gay mobs from forming on the street.


**October–November** * Toronto * Although Ryerson Polytechnical Institute’s student union agreed to provide up to $400 in funding, Mike Balz and Randy Henkel otherwise met with abuse, harassment, and a bomb threat when they attempted to establish a gay student group, the Ryerson Gay Student Association. This was the second attempt to establish a gay student group at Ryerson.


**November** * Montréal * Lawyer Sam Boskey filed a complaint with the Quebec Press Council against radio station CJAD and an announcer’s comments regarding two gay men who were not allowed to dance together at Disneyland. The announcer remarked that the men might fight Disneyland on the issue, if they were capable of making a fist. On May 11, 1981, the Council ruled that the remarks were “pejorative” and violated Québec’s Charter of Rights and Freedoms and also the regulations of the CRTC.

**November** *Toronto* *Robin Hardy’s “The Day the Homos Disappeared,”* a humorous social commentary about what would happen to society if homosexuals suddenly vanished, was published in the *Body Politic*. It was reprinted in the anthology *Flaunting It!*, as well as several other publications.


**November** *Toronto* *MCC (Toronto) moved from 29 Granby Street, where it had been sharing space with other gay groups, to the south wing of the Bathurst Street United Church, 736 Bathurst Street. Two hundred fifty people attended the opening service, held on December 7, 1980.*


**November** *Toronto* *The Warwick Hotel, located at 164 Dundas Street East, closed. Notorious as a hangout for prostitutes, petty criminals, and drunks, the Warwick’s tavern was known as “the sleaziest bar in Toronto” and was the last burlesque bar in the city. Brandy [Allan Maloney], a famous local female impersonator and master of ceremonies of the bar’s All Star Nude Strip Revue, had performed there since 1959.*

November 1 * Winnipeg * More than 150 people demonstrated in front of the Manitoba Legislature to protest the provincial government’s informal ban on the sale of gay sex manuals. After the demonstration, Liberation Books once more began selling copies of the books *The Joy of Gay Sex* and *The Joy of Lesbian Sex* despite the threat by Manitoba’s Attorney General Gerald Mercier and the Winnipeg police department that any stores found selling them would be prosecuted.

November 2 * Vancouver * CBC Vancouver followed its broadcast of the Santa Claus Parade with Michael McGarry’s short film *In Black and White*. The film examined the issue of police entrapment in public washrooms. Although it contained no sex or nudity, it did show two men kissing. The CBC was deluged with calls complaining about the inappropriate scheduling of the program.


November 5–10 * Montréal * Three men charged with gross indecency during the April 23, 1980, police raid on the Sauna David had the charges against them withdrawn or dismissed.


November 7–9 * Halifax * “Growing!,” the third Atlantic community conference of lesbians and gay men, was held at the Turret Gay Community Centre. Fifty-two people attended the conference, which was sponsored by GAE.


November 10 * Tecumseh, Ont. * Cam Frye, the reeve of Tecumseh, lost in an attempt to be elected mayor of the town. In 1977, Frye had pleaded guilty to committing an indecent act likely to make a male child a juvenile delinquent, and was granted a conditional discharge. Frye subsequently won re-election as reeve. His campaign to unseat the incumbent mayor, Don Lappan, was marked by the distribution of hate literature that claimed Frye would promote “a gay lifestyle” and would lead the town into “moral decay.” Lappan was returned to office by a vote of 1,954 to 1,164. One week after the election, Frye made an impassioned speech before the Tecumseh town council, declaring his homosexuality but also admitting that he was not proud to be gay and hoped to be cured. The negative tone of the remarks upset members of
WGU, whose phone line was soon besieged by crank calls from teenagers asking for Cam Frye, or asking if there was a cure for homosexuality and how much it would cost.


**November 10** * Toronto * George Hislop (with 7,386 votes), the first openly gay candidate to run for municipal office in Canada, was defeated by Gordon Chong (9,640 votes) and Dan Heap (9,344 votes) in his bid to win an aldermanic seat in Ward Six in the Toronto municipal election. Art Eggleton (with 88,953 votes), an alderman who had raised the fear of “gay party politics” during the campaign, defeated John Sewell (86,919 votes), the gay-positive incumbent mayor. The “gay issue” featured prominently in the campaign and brought out much anti-gay literature from groups like the League against Homosexuals, PPO, and Renaissance Canada. (See also November 27, 1980.)


**November 11** *Halifax* * For the second year in a row, representatives of GAE placed a wreath on the cenotaph during Remembrance Day ceremonies. The wreath, “For the gay dead of all the wars,” had been laid at the invitation of the Royal Canadian Legion.

November 12 * Montréal * At the annual meeting of the Montreal Metropolitan Social Services Centre/Centre de services sociaux du Montréal Métropolitain (MMSSC/CSSMM), which served eastern Montréal, the agency committed itself to hiring five people specifically to serve the lesbian and gay communities. More than one hundred lesbians and gays attended the meeting, making up the majority in the audience. Several gay organizations had asked people to attend because they had been lobbying unsuccessfully for five years to have such positions created. The Ville Marie Social Services Centre, which served western Montréal, had offered a variety of services to lesbians and gays for more than five years, and had a gay man and a lesbian on staff. The November 12 meeting also approved the creation of an advisory committee composed of representatives of the lesbian and gay communities.


November 13 * North Bay, Ont. * Twenty-one people attended the inaugural meeting of the Caring Homosexual Association of North Bay (CHANB), held at the Women’s Centre. The group was formed by Val Fournier and Cate Lazarov. CHANB held regular meetings, and by August 1981 had established a gay phone line.


November 14 * Toronto * “Bob” [Don Franco] appeared in court on charges of keeping a common bawdy house in his private residence; his
trial was adjourned until December 15, 1980. (See December 15, 1980.)


**November 15** *Vancouver* *Michael Harcourt, an alderman consistently supportive of the gay community, defeated incumbent mayor Jack Volrich in the civic election. A group called Gay People to Elect Mike Harcourt had campaigned actively in the gay community.


**November 17** *Ottawa* *Three justices of the Supreme Court of Canada refused the application of the five men charged as keeping the Barracks as a common bawdy house to appeal their case to the Supreme Court. Justices Julien Chouinard, Willard Estey, and Ronald Martland dismissed the application after listening to arguments put forward by defence counsel Morris Manning.


**November 17** *Toronto* *Rodney Polich won the Mr. Blueboy Canada title in a contest held at Katrina’s disco, 5 St. Joseph Street.

November 17 * Toronto * Provincial Court Judge Charles Scullion gave absolute discharges to men charged with committing indecent acts and gross indecency in David Balfour Park on August 26, 1980.  

November 18 * Vancouver * Vancouver City Council approved a plan by the B.C. Ministry of Human Resources to convert the Senator Hotel, 1212 Granville Street, into a transition house for juvenile prostitutes, including males. The facility was strongly opposed by Granville Street merchants.  

November 20 * Toronto * A Toronto police officer called a telephone number appearing in a classified ad in the American gay publication *The Advocate*. The number belonged to an unidentified Toronto man, and after the officer pretended to be gay he was invited over to the man’s apartment. Shortly after the police officer arrived at the apartment, the occupant was charged with being the keeper of a common bawdy house (in his own home), being the inmate of a common bawdy house, and permitting the premises to be used as a common bawdy house. This was the second time in two years that the Toronto police had used a classified ad to entrap a gay man and to lay these charges. The Crown later withdrew the charges due to lack of evidence. (See also November 4, 1981.)  

November 20–December 6 * Toronto * Wayne Carley’s play *The Heart of Rosedale*, about four older gay men who share a household, was performed at the Alumnae Theatre.
November 21 * Montréal * The Quebec Press Council censured Montreal Gazette columnist Ted Blackman for his reference to the club L’une et L’autre as a “lesbian bar” in his December 11, 1979, Gazette column.


November 21, 28 * Saskatoon, Regina * At public hearings sponsored by the Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission, representatives of groups such as GAU, One Loaf, SGC, and SAHR made strong presentations demanding that protection from discrimination based on sexual orientation be added to the Saskatchewan Human Rights Code.


November 25 * Toronto * Labour Minister Robert Elgie introduced Bill 209, an Act to Amend the Ontario Human Rights Code, in the Ontario Legislature. The bill did not include sexual orientation as a prohibited ground of discrimination. (See also December 9–10, 1980, and April 24, 1981.)


**November 26** *Toronto* *The Convention and Tourist Bureau of Metropolitan Toronto rejected the application for membership of LBC, fearing controversy and bad publicity.*


**November 27** *Toronto* *About sixty lesbians and gay men attended an organizing meeting to plan a response to the anti-gay activities of right-wing organizations in the weeks leading up to the Toronto municipal election on November 10, 1980.*


**November 30** *Halifax* *Reg Giles and John Pallas helped to organize Gay Artists, Musicians, and Entertainers Society (GAMES), which hoped to train and develop local gay talent.*


**December** *Toronto* *Lesbian/Lesbienne*, the first national lesbian newsmagazine in Canada, was published by the Lesbian/Lesbienne Collective and SOUL.


**December** * Toronto * The Lesbian and Gay History Project (later the Lesbian and Gay History Group of Toronto) was officially launched; early key figures included Joan Anderson, James Fraser, Michael Lynch, and Alan V. Miller. The project was closely linked to the CGA.


**December** * Toronto * The OHRC sent a letter to University of Toronto president James Ham complaining about the manner in which minorities, particularly women and gays, had been portrayed in issues of Toike Oike, a satirical student newspaper published by the University of Toronto’s Engineering Society. Ham and other officials at the university refused to ban the paper after it promised to improve its content.


**December 2** * East York, Ont. * Jim Quixley, a librarian at Glendon College, York University, and a member of the Writers’ Union of Canada, was scheduled to read from his children’s book Willie Won’t
Fly to a class of grade six students at William Burgess Public School. The reading was part of the Writers’ Union programme and was funded by the OAC. Quixley’s reading was cancelled, however, after the school’s principal discovered that Quixley was a member of the CLA’s Gay Interest Group. Quixley had given readings at several other schools without incident, and Willie Won’t Fly did not contain any gay content.


December 5 * Montréal * Two men arrested and charged with gross indecency during the April 23, 1980, raid on the Sauna David had the charges against them withdrawn after police witnesses failed to appear in court.


December 7 * Montréal * More than two hundred people attended a seminar on “the erotic experience of the female homosexual,” organized by students from UQAM. The event included lectures and workshops on topics ranging from sexual dysfunctions of lesbians to homosexuality among goddesses and witches.


December 7 * Toronto * George Hislop announced that he would again try to win an aldermanic seat in the 1982 municipal election. Hislop unveiled his plans during a campaign fundraising brunch held at Katrina’s.
[“George in ’82: Welcome to the Start of the 1982 Campaign!” 

December 8 * Toronto * At a conference on families sponsored by the Toronto and District Liberal Association, Grant Lowry, director of Central Toronto Youth Services, discussed political and legal roadblocks faced by social service agencies attempting to help gay youths.

December 9–10 * Toronto * The second reading of Bill 209, the proposed amendment of the Ontario Human Rights Code, was held in the Ontario Legislature. The bill was sent to the Social Development Committee for public hearings. Despite claiming for years that gay people should be protected in legislation, when asked by Claire Hoy of the Toronto Sun if his party would put forward a gay rights amendment to Bill 209 Ontario, NDP leader Michael Cassidy stated that the issue of gay rights was “not a priority at this time.” Some saw this as a cynical betrayal of the gay community, an attempt to downplay gay issues in preparation for a snap provincial election. On February 2, 1981, an election was called for March 19, 1981, and Bill 209 died. (See also March 19, 1981.)
December 11 * Ottawa * Representatives of CALGM appeared before the Joint Senate and House of Commons Committee on the Constitution to argue for the inclusion of sexual orientation protection in the proposed Canadian Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms. The five representatives (Chris Bearchell, Monique Bell, George Hislop, Peter Maloney, and Paul-François Sylvestre) based their presentation on a brief prepared by Anthony Sims and others, and answered questions from members of the Committee. This occurred the same day that Svend Robinson (NDP–Burnaby) announced that the federal NDP supported amending the government’s constitutional proposals in order to ban discrimination based on sexual orientation.


December 17 * Toronto * An unidentified man arrested outside the gay bar 18 East on suspicion of drunkenness claimed he was dragged and kicked by police, and called a “faggot.” The man later filed a complaint with the Citizen Complaint Bureau.


December 18 * North York, Ont. * Alderman Ron Summers attempted to pressure the North York Library Board to ban the Body Politic from North York’s public libraries, calling the magazine “smut” and stating that “the lifestyle it’s promoting is contrary to the moral fibre of our
society.” The Library Board refused to comply with the request, but did consider limiting children’s access to the magazine.


**December 18** * Toronto * The Ontario Court of Appeal upheld the acquittal of Werner Gruener in the slaying of Emanuel Jaques. At the same time, the Court upheld the life sentence for Josef Woods in the same case; Woods would be eligible for parole in eighteen years.


**December 19** * Ottawa * Federal Minister of Justice Jean Chrétien announced proposals to revise the Canadian Criminal Code to reduce the age of consent for homosexual sex from twenty-one to eighteen, and to make changes in legislation related to sexual offences, as part of an omnibus Criminal Code amendment act. Gay activists saw the proposed changes as a progressive step, but were disappointed that Section 157, concerning the crime of “gross indecency,” would not be repealed, and that the bawdy-house laws were left unchanged.

December 19 * Toronto * Provincial Court Judge Milton Cadsby found Charles Diamond and another man, arrested on August 25, 1980, while having sex in David Balfour Park, not guilty of the charge of “wilfully committing an indecent act in a public place, in the presence of one or more persons.” Cadsby dismissed the charge, ruling that the men had sought the privacy of a secluded area of the park to engage in homosexual activities, intending to carry out the activity privately and not in the presence of one or more persons. The Crown attorney proceeded to lay charges of gross indecency against the accused. (See also September 8, 1981.)


December 22 * Montréal * The Quebec Press Council/Conseil de presse du Québec reprimanded the newspaper *La Presse* for refusing to publish a display ad for the gay dating service Le Club Contact.

—— * Montréal * Amazons Then, Lesbians Now/Amazones d’hier, lesbiennes d’aujourd’hui, a one-hour-and-forty-five-minute video made for lesbians only and surveying the state of lesbian life in Montréal, was released by Video Amazone.


—— * Montréal * Alain Bouchard’s Le Guide gai du Québec 1982 was published by Éditions Homeureux.

[“Advertisement,” Le Berdache, no. 21 (1981), p. 61.]

—— * Montréal * Paul Chamberland’s collection Émergence de l’adultenfant: poésies et essais, edited by Jean Basile, was published by Jean Basile.


—— * Montréal * Reina Ha-Milton’s autobiography, Lettre d’amoureuse de femmes, was published by Éditions du remue-ménage.


—— * Montréal * Jovette Marchessault’s play La Saga des poules mouillées was published by Éditions de la pleine lune. An English edition translated by Linda Gabouriau, Saga of the Wet Hens, was published in Vancouver by Talonbooks in 1983.


—— * Montréal * The singer Brigitte Martel (formerly Jacques Bélanger) published her autobiography, *Né homme, comment je suis devenu femme*, with Québécor. This is thought to be the first autobiography by a transsexual published in Québec.


—— * Montréal * “Shutting the Gate: Gay Civil Rights in the Supreme Court of Canada,” by Jeff Richstone and J. Stuart Russell, was published in *McGill Law Journal*.


—— * Montréal * Jean Simoneau’s *Laissez venir à moi les petits gars* was published by Éditions Parti Pris.


—— * Montréal * Jacques Thériault’s *Homosexualité et vie à deux* was published by Éditions Leméac.


—— * Toronto * Don Garner’s book of poetry *Pretend You’re Still Alive* was published by Huron Path Press.

—— * Toronto * The magazine *Rag*, or *Toronto Rag*, began publication. Its unusually tall format and eye-catching collage design helped to make it an influential pioneer in the Toronto ’zine publishing scene.

[Ian Young, “Rags, Saints, One-night Stands” (review), *Body Politic*, no. 72 (1981), p. 36.]


—— * Vancouver * *Stepping Out of Line: A Workshop Manual and Resource Guide on Lesbianism/Feminism*, edited by Nym Hughes, Yvonne Johnson, and Yvette Perreault, was co-published by Press Gang Publishers and the Workshop Collective. In 1984 a revised and expanded version was published under the title *Stepping Out of Line: A Workbook on Lesbianism and Feminism*.


—— * Vancouver * Scott Watson’s book of stories *Platonic Love: Three Tales of Language and Desire* was published by New Star Books.

[Don Larventz, “The Fiction of Sexual Truth” (review), *Body Politic*, no. 78 (1981), p. 33; Don Officer, “Beyond the Point” (review),
January * Kingston, Ont. * The OFS voted to urge its members to support campus gay groups and for student leaders to approach MPPs of all three Ontario provincial parties to support an amendment to the Ontario Human Rights Code banning discrimination based on sexual orientation. The OFS Gay Caucus was formed shortly after, to “serve as an organ of communication and expertise for gay student organizations.” 
(See also June 12–14, 1981.)

January * Montréal * The trials of men charged in the April 23, 1980, Sauna David raid began. The trial of seven men charged as keepers of a bawdy house began on January 12 and continued for five days before being remanded until May 25, 1981. On January 15, two men were convicted of gross indecency and were fined $250 each and placed on two years’ probation. The men were convicted despite having no physical contact with each other; they appealed the decision to the Québec Court of Appeal. Of the other eleven men originally charged with gross indecency during the raid, five had already had the charges against them dismissed. (See also July 8, 1981.)

January * Ottawa * Justice Minister Jean Chrétien introduced
Bill C–53, which was the Liberal government’s response to the Law Reform Commission’s 1978 Report on Sexual Offences. Bill C–53 proposed several revisions to the Criminal Code, including allowing for consensual group sex in private for people over the age of eighteen, and the introduction of special offences and penalties for people convicted of producing, distributing, or selling sexually explicit material depicting people who are or appear to be under sixteen years old. The proposed legislation also revised the age-of-consent laws by reducing the age of consent from twenty-one to eighteen years for homosexual acts, and introducing the concept of “laddering” to allow sexual activity for people less than sixteen years old with someone less than three years older. The government received hundreds of petitions and letters opposing the changes, and on June 15, 1982, Chrétien withdrew the amendments, including those decriminalizing buggery and sexual acts between more than two consenting adults. A watered-down Bill C–127 replaced Bill C–53, and passed in the House of Commons in August 1982. Many proposed reforms had been shelved, including those relating to child pornography. Buggery remained an offence, as did sex between more than two consenting adults at a time. The age of consent for homosexual acts remained at twenty-one.


January * Québec, Qué. * The Centre pastoral et social du service d’Entraide humanitaire de Québec was opened at 245, rue St. Vallier Est, under the direction of Denise Goyette and several volunteers. It was
a drop-in centre for gays (and others) in crisis, and sponsored talk sessions and prayer meetings.


January * Saskatoon * Charlotte Rochon was granted employment leave as a lesbian parent from One Sky (the Saskatchewan Cross-Cultural Centre) under terms of the centre’s contract with CUPE Local 3012.

[“Saskatchewan Human Rights,” Gay Saskatchewan (Saskatoon), February–April 1981, p. (14).]

January * Toronto * The group Ryerson Gay Students (RGS) was formed at Ryerson Polytechnical Institute, with a constitution dated January 1, 1981. The group was renamed Ryerson Lesbians and Gay Men in September 1981. (See also March 5, 1981.)

[Ryerson Lesbians and Gay Men papers, accession 1997–102, Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto.]

January * Vancouver * A white paper of the British Columbia Human Rights Commission proposed sweeping reforms to the provincial Human Rights Code, including a specific provision banning discrimination based on sexual orientation.


January 7 * Montréal * L’Aide aux transsexuels du Québec Inc. (ATQ), the first meetings of which began in October 1980, was officially founded as a non-profit organization by Mlle. Marie-Marcelle Godbout (Mimi de Paris). The ATQ was active throughout 1981, holding press conferences and advocating for the rights of transsexuals.

[“L’Aide aux transsexuels du Québec Inc. (ATQ)” vertical file,
January 10 * Calgary * Mayor Ralph Klein made a brief appearance at the annual drag ball of the Imperial Court of the Chinook Arch, during which he made a speech praising the good work of GIRC, and announcing that “law-abiding gay people” were welcome in the city of Calgary. Klein received a three-minute standing ovation from the 500 people in attendance; he then left immediately for other official duties. Klein’s remarks caused an uproar in the pages of the Calgary Sun, where columnist Michael Shapcott, in particular, objected to Klein’s “providing encouragement to a group of people that most of us find, at best, to be morally offensive.” Klein later backtracked on his remarks. [“Cowtown Gays Have Klein’s OK,” Calgary Sun, 12 January 1981, p. 4; R. Hanlon, “ICCA Ball, Held on January 10, 1981, at the Glenmore Inn,” Reach (GIRC, Calgary), January 1981, pp. 8–9; Gerald Hannon, “Sun Puts Heat on Calgary Mayor after His Appearance at Gay Ball,” Body Politic, no. 71 (1981), p. 14; “Let Me Rephrase That: Klein Backtracks,” Edmonton Sun, 13 January 1981; “Mayor Klein and the Gays: The Calgary Sun’s Attempt to Create Controversy Falls Flat,” Alberta Report, 23 January 1981, p. 7; “Pink Herring” (editorial), Calgary Sun, 14 January 1981, p. 10; Michael Shapcott, “Klein’s Tainted His Political Hide” (column), Calgary Sun, 16 January 1981.]

January 11 * Toronto * CBC–TV broadcast the ninety-minute documentary Sharing the Secret: Selected Gay Stories, which had been
written by CBC producer John Kastner and his mother, Rose Kastner. The film examined the lives of six gay men and the parents of two of these men, and explored the themes of coming out, self-acceptance, parental reaction to gay children, and sexual lifestyles. Many people in the gay community panned the film for its superficiality and old-fashioned “plea for sympathy” approach. (See also March 2, 1981.)


**January 12** *Toronto* * A meeting was held at the 519 Church Street Community Centre to discuss the fate of a gay liaison committee that was to be set up with the Toronto Board of Education. The meeting was meant to clarify what the committee was intended to be, and to discuss how it had been misrepresented by anti-gay groups. Speakers included John Argue of the NDP Gay Caucus, Terry Phillips of the Association of Gay Teachers, and Bob Spencer, Ward Six trustee. (See also January 26, 1981.)


**January 13–14** *Winnipeg* *Prof. Louie Crew, editor of* *The Gay Academic*, founder of Integrity, and professor of English at the University of Wisconsin, delivered two public lectures on the religious and literary aspects of the gay movement. The lectures were held at the University Centre, University of Manitoba (January 13), and Centennial Hall, University of Winnipeg (January 14).

[“Visitor to Lecture on Homosexual Movement,” *University of Manitoba Bulletin*, 10 December 1980.]

**January 14** *Winnipeg* *David Dueck, a mathematics and film studies instructor at the University of Winnipeg, ordered student Greg Synenko
to leave a film studies class in order to “protect” a guest lecturer. Dueck said he did not want Synenko in the class because he was openly gay and this might make the class think that the guest lecturer was also homosexual. Synenko was the head of the newly formed University of Winnipeg’s Gay Students’ Association. Ironically, the guest lecturer was filmmaker David Demchuk, who was openly gay, and had been invited to speak to the class by Synenko. The incident was widely publicized in Canadian campus newspapers. Dueck resigned from his teaching position in February 1981.


January 23 * Ottawa * A fire caused extensive water and smoke damage to the Club Baths of Ottawa (1069 Wellington Street West) and led to its temporary closing, until May 15, 1981.


January 23 * Toronto * The GCAT successfully reached its goal of $19,000 during its first fundraising drive. More than 500 people attended “Casa Loma Bop,” a celebration sponsored by GCAT and featuring the band Mama Quilla II (with Lorraine Segato), held at Casa Loma. During the event, the Appeal awarded more than $11,500 in grants to representatives of fifteen gay groups and services.

January 26 * Toronto * Lynne Lake, the mother of two schoolchildren, reopened debate on sexual orientation bias at the Toronto Board of Education when she made an emotional plea to the schools programs committee. Lake demanded that the trustees rescind a motion passed September 18, 1980, which prohibited “bias on the basis of sex or sexual orientation,” and which specifically permitted “discussion of homosexuality” in schools. Lake also claimed that the NDP had been “exploiting the (gay) issue” and that gay activist John Argue, the chairman of the Metro Toronto NDP, had used political pressure to swing the vote in favour of the anti-discrimination motion. After some vigorous debate, the issue was referred to a special meeting of the full board of education to be held February 23, 1981. (See also February 23, 1981.)


January 29 * Ottawa * The Joint Senate/House of Commons Committee on the Constitution defeated, by a vote of twenty-two to two, an amendment to add protection from discrimination based on sexual orientation to the proposed Canadian Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms. The amendment had been sponsored by NDP justice critic Svend Robinson and had received little debate. Only Robinson (NDP–Burnaby) and Lorne Nystrom (NDP–Yorkton-Melville) supported the amendment. Robinson later claimed that the Canadian Armed Forces and the RCMP were the main opponents to including sexual orientation protection in the Charter.

[“Closing Words/Constitution,” Grassroots, Spring 1981, pp. 8, 11; “Constitutional Homecoming?” Gay Saskatchewan (Saskatoon), February–April 1981, pp. (8, 11); “Forces Rather Fight than Swish,” Gauntlet (Univ. of Calgary), 6 March 1981; David Garmaise, “Gays

**January 29** *Toronto* *Mayor Art Eggleton established a committee to deal with community and race relations in Toronto. The committee was composed of thirteen members, mostly representing the city’s Black, First Nations, and South Asian communities. Dr. Daniel Hill, former chairman of the OHRC, was hired as a special consultant to advise the committee. Hill said that a representative of the lesbian and gay communities might be added later in the year.*


**January 31** *Fredericton, N.B.* *The Atlantic Gay Association/Association des Gai(e)s de l’Atlantique (AGA) was formed at a regional conference hosted by FLAG, January 30–February 1, 1981. Other participating groups included GAE and Northern Lambda Nord (New Brunswick and Maine). The goals of the AGA included promoting social contacts among gay men and lesbians in the Atlantic region, providing counselling and social services for the gay community, and working to counter discrimination against gays and lesbians. The AGA also hoped to make a submission to the Kent Commission, which was investigating monopoly restrictions in the press, concerning the refusal of newspapers to publish gay advertising. (See also May 25, 1981.)* 

[“Atlantic Gay Association/Association des Gai(e)s de l’Atlantique” vertical file, Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto; “Atlantic

**January–February** *Ottawa* * Don Cherry (not the hockey pundit), the retiring president of the Central Canada Exhibition Association, referred to gays as “dicky lickers” during a public meeting of the association’s board. Cherry was discussing his unsuccessful attempt to bring Anita Bryant to Ottawa in 1979, saying that it would have been appropriate then because “that was the year the dicky lickers were having their convention,” a reference to the gay conference held in Ottawa that year. The incoming president of the association apologized for the remark.


**January–February** *Ottawa* * The Ottawa Children’s Aid Society (CAS) confirmed that it would consider placing children with homosexual foster parents, but only as a last resort. Preference was to be given to placing children in a “normalized setting,” with heterosexual parents. Roger Galipeau, president of GO, called the policy discriminatory and asked CAS to reconsider its position.


**January–February** *Vancouver* * The British Columbia Teachers’ Federation passed a resolution to eliminate discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation from the school system. The resolution was passed with almost no comment.


**February** *Ottawa* * Robert Bachman’s article “Homosexuality: The
Cost of Being Different” was published in *Canadian Nurse*.

**February** *Toronto* * Paul Delany’s article “The Homosexual Factor,” an examination of the rise of gays in Canadian society since 1969, was published in *Saturday Night*.

**February** *Toronto* * Marian Engel’s *Lunatic Villas* was published by McClelland & Stewart. It won the City of Toronto Book Award for 1981.

**February** *Toronto* * David Roche starred in his performance piece *Dirt Is My Profession*, shown at the Factory Theatre Lab.
February * Vancouver * The VGCC moved into three rooms on the second floor of a building at 337 Carrall Street. (See also August 30, 1981.)


February 4–5 * Montréal * Lesbian and Gay Friends of Concordia sponsored an information booth in the entrance hall to the main building on campus, providing information and brochures on local LGBT organizations.


February 5 * Toronto * MPP Margaret Campbell (Lib.–St. George) announced that she would not be a candidate in the upcoming Ontario provincial election (March 19, 1981). Campbell, who was supportive of gay rights, had represented the constituency of St. George, which included most of Toronto’s gay neighbourhood, for eight years. At the time, Campbell was the sole Liberal MPP in Metropolitan Toronto. (See also February 10, 1981.)


February 5 * Toronto * Almost 200 police officers carried out Operation Soap, a massive raid on the four major Toronto gay bathhouses (The Barracks, 56 Widmer Street; Club Baths Toronto, 231 Mutual Street; Richmond Street Health Emporium, 260 Richmond Street East; Romans II, 742 Bay Street). The police charged 286 men either as found-ins (266) or keepers (20) of a common bawdy house in the largest mass arrest in Canada since the War Measures Act was imposed during the October Crisis of 1970. The men were humiliated and insulted. The city’s health department required the alleged keepers to undergo compulsory VD checks. In addition, the police caused more than
$35,000 in damage when they used crowbars and sledgehammers to break down doors, smash glass and mirrors, and destroy equipment. The Richmond Street Health Emporium was so badly damaged it closed permanently on February 17, 1981. In the weeks following the raids, there was also an increase in physical attacks on gay men within the gay village surrounding Yonge and Wellesley streets. There was much speculation concerning the reason behind the raids, and the timing of them. Although the police claimed that the raids came after six months of “investigation,” they coincidentally took place the same week that Ontario Premier Bill Davis called a provincial election for March 19, 1981. There was some speculation that the law-and-order Conservatives would use the raids to galvanize conservative voters to take back Toronto ridings held by the NDP. The bath raids were one of the most significant events in Toronto’s gay history, and are sometimes referred to as “Toronto’s Stonewall.” As of September 16, 1982, the cases of 261 men had been processed in the courts; 225 were found not guilty. Fifteen men pleaded guilty, and twenty pleaded not guilty but were found guilty (two of these were under appeal); the men found guilty received absolute or conditional discharges. The last remaining charge related to the February 5, 1981, raids was settled by plea bargain on February 7, 1985. The total cost of the raids to the taxpayers of Toronto and Ontario was estimated to be almost $10 million. In July 1982, a ninety-minute documentary that discusses the raids and reaction to them, premiered. Track Two, by Harry Sutherland, Jack Lemmon, and Gordon Keith, remains one of the most important documents of the entire affair; it was restored by PTP and re-released in 2011, to mark the thirtieth anniversary of the raids. (See also numerous entries throughout the rest of 1981, especially February 6, 1981; February 10, 1981; February 11, 1981; February 12, 1981; February 17, 1981; February 19, 1981; February 20, 1981; February 24, 1981; February 26, 1981; March 12, 1981; April 22, 1981; April 23, 1981; May 14, 1981; June 16, 1981; June 20, 1981; July 13, 1981; September 24, 1981; November 2, 1981; November 19, 1981; November 20, 1981; November 23–27, 1981; and December 11, 1981.)

[“20 Accused Face VD Tests,” Toronto Sun, 12 February 1981, p. 65;

February 6 * Toronto * “No more shit!” and “Stop the cops!” became the rallying cries as more than 3,000 angry demonstrators marched on 52 Division of the Toronto police and on the Ontario Legislature at Queen’s Park to protest the bath raids of February 5. The demonstrators damaged police cars blockading Yonge Street to stop the march and fought with straight hecklers (who were rescued by the police). Eleven people were arrested, with charges ranging from assaulting a police officer to damage to public property to breach of the peace.

Demo,” *Broadsie*, 2, no. 5 (March 1981): 9.]

**February 6–13** *Toronto* *All three Toronto daily newspapers agreed not to publish the names of the men arrested in the February 5 bathhouse raids, although the *Toronto Star* and *Toronto Sun* did publish the names and ages of the men charged with keeping a common bawdy house.*


**February 7** *Toronto* *Gay activist Peter Maloney claimed in an interview with a reporter from the *Globe and Mail* that he believed that Metropolitan Toronto police had been intercepting and opening his personal mail, which was illegal. Maloney had been tipped off in October 1980 by an anonymous postal clerk. Representatives of the police denied that they interfered with the mail, and Maloney’s complaints to the office of Canada’s Solicitor General Robert Kaplan were ineffective. In 2007 it was confirmed that both Maloney and fellow activist George Hislop were under police surveillance for years.*


**February 7** *Toronto* *Five gay male couples attended the Trinity College formal, the Conversat, at the University of Toronto, causing a scene by waltzing together. They wore tuxedos and, to protest the recent bath raids, sported Oscar Wilde–inspired green carnations with attached strips of white cloth that resembled bath towels. Many of the men were members of either GAUT or HOT.*
February 7–8 * Vancouver * Dael Kegler, a leading promoter and activist for unity and cooperation within the gay community, committed suicide; his loss was a blow to gay activism in Vancouver.


February 8 * Toronto * CGRO sponsored a fundraising brunch honouring John Damien, held at Katrina’s, 5 St. Joseph Street.


February 9 * Toronto * Dan Leckie, former Toronto School Board chairman and one-time assistant to former mayor John Sewell, won the NDP St. George riding nomination for the March 19 Ontario provincial election by a vote of 130 to 106. Leckie had delivered a speech condemning the February 5 bathhouse raids and the NDP’s own flip-flop on the question of gay rights. His opponent for the nomination, gay activist John Argue, was a member of the St. George NDP executive and NDP Metro chairman, and was more moderate. On February 10, Ontario NDP leader Michael Cassidy stated that gay rights were not an immediate priority for the NDP caucus.


**February 9** *Toronto* *Phil Stein, a heterosexual businessman, officially closed the Fly-by-Night Lounge, a lesbian bar located since 1979 at the Stage 212 Hotel (212 Dundas Street East). Stein had purchased the building six weeks before and had a disagreement with the lesbians running the Fly, particularly manager Pat Murphy. Stein also owned the Quest, a male-oriented gay bar and disco located at 665 Yonge Street. After the Fly-by-Night was forced to close, some members of the gay community organized an informal boycott of the Quest, which affected the bar’s business.

February 9–14 * Vancouver * Gay People of UBC sponsored the second annual Gay Week at the University of British Columbia. Highlights included a luncheon and dinner, lectures, films, a talk by Svend Robinson (NDP–Burnaby), and a performance by comedian Robin Tyler.


February 10 * Toronto * Alderman Gordon Cressy released a statement calling for “some speedy explanations” of police actions during the February 5 bath raids, and extending “deepest concern” to the men affected in the raids. The statement was endorsed by twenty-five city aldermen, writers, and civil libertarians, including Margaret Atwood, June Callwood, MPP Margaret Campbell (Lib.–St. George), Rev. Clifford Elliott, Robert Fulford, Scarborough mayor Gus Harris, former NDP leader Stephen Lewis, and lawyer Morris Manning.


February 10 * Toronto * More than 1,000 people gathered at the auditorium of Jarvis Collegiate (495 Jarvis Street) to plan further community action in response to the bath raids of February 5. The group agreed that a larger demonstration was called for, and formed subcommittees to coordinate fundraising and counselling for the raid found-ins. Although most of the people in the crowd were gay, vigorous statements of solidarity were delivered by straight speakers, including Fran Endicott, a Black Toronto school board trustee, who spoke on the need for cooperation with all minorities, and Menno Vorster, president of the Toronto Teachers’ Federation.
February 10 * Toronto * Former United Church moderator and Ontario Human Rights Commissioner Bruce McLeod defeated openly gay candidate Peter Maloney, vice-president of the Toronto and District Liberal Association and coordinator of CGRO, for the Liberal nomination in St. George riding for the March 19 Ontario provincial election. After his defeat, Maloney resigned his membership in the Liberal party, saying that he was ashamed of the party’s record on gay rights. Maloney threw his support behind gay independent candidate George Hislop. (See also February 11, 1981, and February 13, 1981.)


February 10 * Toronto * At a meeting of Metro Council, Metro Chairman Paul Godfrey claimed that critics of the February 5 raids on gay steambaths were “undermining” Police Chief Jack Ackroyd. (See also February 17, 1981.)

[Alan Christie, “Godfrey Backs Police in Raids,” Toronto Star, four

**February 11** *Toronto* *One of the bath-raid found-ins was arrested in his own home on a drug charge. In a telephone call to the *Body Politic*, the unidentified man claimed the police told him, “These demonstrations just antagonize us. If you people keep it up, we’ll make it tough for you.”


**February 11** *Toronto* *Gay activist George Hislop announced his protest candidacy as an independent candidate running in the St. George riding in the March 19 Ontario provincial election. Hislop railed against the recent bath raids, and said that he had decided to run because the NDP and Liberals had both failed to nominate a gay candidate. During the campaign Hislop was denounced by some as a “spoiler” and as a “single-issue candidate.” (See also March 19, 1981.)

February 12 * Ontario * Bruce Glawson’s short docudrama *Michael, A Gay Son* (1980) was broadcast on TVO, followed by an hour-long phone-in discussion. It was also shown at film festivals in Montréal, San Francisco, and Toronto, and won the Best Documentary award at the sixteenth Yorkton International Film Festival. On June 5, 1981, *Michael, A Gay Son* was named best film in the Human Sexuality category at the American Film Festival in New York.


February 12 * Toronto * More than a hundred people attended a heated and acrimonious meeting of the Metropolitan Toronto Board of Police Commissioners, held one week after the Toronto bath raids. Numerous prominent speakers demanded an independent inquiry into the raids, including Alan Borovoy of the CCLA, journalist June Callwood, MPP Margaret Campbell (Lib.–St. George), Alderman Gordon Cressy, and Jack Layton from the Working Group on Minority-Police Relations. Gay speakers included George Hislop and Rev. Brent Hawkes of MCC Toronto. Plainclothes police officers were spotted sitting among the spectators. Protesters outside the meeting, facing a wall of police security, chanted, “Sack Jack, Dump Phil,” in reference to Police Chief Jack Ackroyd and Police Commission Chairman Phil Givens. The meeting ended in hoots and jeers from the crowd as Givens announced, “We deny any allegations of police harassment,” and added that there was no need for an inquiry. On February 15, Rev. Brent Hawkes began a hunger strike (which lasted twenty-five days) to demand an independent inquiry into the raids. (See also March 12, 1981.)

[“Anti-homosexuals Back Police Raids,” *Toronto Star*, Saturday ed.,
February 12 * Toronto * Right-wing Toronto Board of Education trustees failed in a bid to censure Tony Souza, the board’s race relations adviser, for speaking out against the February 5 bath raids.


February 13 * Toronto * During a campaign stop related to the March 19 provincial election, Ontario Liberal Party leader Stuart Smith remarked that he was disturbed by allegations that some members of the
Metro Toronto Police had used excessive force during the Toronto bath raids. This was the first time that Smith had commented publicly on the raids, which had occurred more than a week before.


**February 13–15** *Guelph, Ont.* *More than seventy lesbians and gay men attended Experience ’81: A Resources-sharing Weekend for Lesbians and Gay Men, held at the University of Guelph. The event included a series of workshops on organizing gay social services for small towns and rural areas in Ontario, plus a dance, and was sponsored by GGE.*


**February 17** *Toronto* *Members of Metro Council voted twenty-eight to seven against a request to establish an independent inquiry into the February 5 bath raids. The debates of council were interrupted by jeers and hissing from gays and their supporters in the gallery. At the same meeting, council unanimously supported the appointment of a commissioner with authority to deal with citizen complaints against Metropolitan Toronto Police.*

[ Alden Baker, “Police-complaint Commissioner Is Supported by

**February 18** *East York, Ont.* * In a talk before students at East York Collegiate, Metropolitan Toronto Police Chief Jack Ackroyd declared that, in reference to the recent bath raids, the police were not picking on homosexuals and that his department was open to discussing matters of concern to them. Ackroyd had earlier suggested that relations between gays and the police might improve if several homosexual officers could be found to act as a liaison.


**February 18** *Toronto* * The city’s medical officer of health Dr. George Moss suspended Dr. Randall Coates, a member of the Gay Health Care Workers Group, from his residency program after Coates questioned the judgement of ordering that VD tests be performed on keepers arrested in the February 5 bath raids. Coates’s suspension was rescinded the next day.

February 19 * Toronto * Rev. Brent Hawkes of MCC Toronto made a personal appeal to Mayor Art Eggleton to try to persuade him to use his influence to ask Ontario Attorney General Roy McMurtry to call a public inquiry into the February 5 bath raids. As an alternative, Hawkes urged Eggleton to ask Toronto City Council to appoint a suitable individual to conduct an inquiry and to issue a public report. (See also March 12, 1981.)


February 20 * Toronto * More than 2,000 gays and their supporters rallied at Queen’s Park to protest the February 5 bath raids and marched to 52 Division police headquarters. Six people were arrested. The protesters demanded that an independent inquiry be held into the raids. Four men carrying the lead banner in the protest were later identified as undercover policemen when photographs of the event, taken by Ted Hebbes of the *Toronto Clarion*, were examined. (See also March 16, 1981; March 23, 1981; May 22, 1981; and July 29–30, 1981.)


**February 22** *Canada* *Running Man*, directed by Donald Brittain and starring Chuck Shamata and Don Scanlon, was broadcast on CBC television. The story of a married, closeted gay high school teacher was part of the “For the Record” series of social issue dramas.


**February 23** *Toronto* *Three weeks of public hearings on Bill 209, an Act to Amend the Ontario Human Rights Code, were slated to begin before the Social Development Committee of the Ontario Legislature.*

February 23 * Toronto * The Toronto Board of Education overturned two resolutions to ban discrimination against gays it had instituted in September 1980, by a vote of fourteen to twelve, and replaced them with more conservative ones. Thirty-eight speakers addressed the full board meeting, which lasted more than seven hours. The trustees voted twenty-two to four to outlaw discrimination against gays in the board’s employment practices only, and also agreed to allow discussion of homosexuality in schools but only under strict guidelines, “when conducted by teachers and appropriate board staff as (the topic) arises out of curriculum.”


February 23–28 * Toronto * Gay groups at the University of Toronto (GAU, Gays at OISE, GAUT, and HOT) sponsored “Gay Awareness Week.” February 26 was proclaimed “Gay Jeans Day,” when gays and their supporters were to show their solidarity by dressing in blue jeans; this provoked vandalism and a jean-burning display by engineering students.

[“Awareness Aborted” (editorial), Varsity (Univ. of Toronto), 27 February 1981, p. 4; Arn Gabel, “Gay Awareness Week,” Body Politic, no. 71 (1981), p. 16; “Gay Awareness Week at the University
February 24 * Rome, Italy * Two Italian men, Enzo Francone and Giovanni Minerba, who were members of the gay group Fuori, chained themselves to a gate inside the Canadian Embassy to protest the mistreatment of homosexuals in Canada, and particularly the recent bathhouse raids in Toronto. The men were taken away by police and were later released.


February 24 * Toronto * Metropolitan Toronto Police Chief Jack Ackroyd delivered a report on the February 5 bathhouse raids to Mayor Art Eggleton stating that the police had not used excessive force in the raids. Eggleton accepted the report, and did not call for a public inquiry. Representatives of the gay community called the report a “whitewash”; George Hislop stated that Mayor Eggleton was “playing hand in glove with the police.” (See also February 26, 1981.)

February 26 * Toronto * Aldermen David White and Pat Sheppard submitted the thirty-two-page “Report on Police Raids on Gay Steambaths” concerning events surrounding the February 5 bath raids to Toronto City Council. The report included almost seventy-five excerpts from statements made by gay men who were swept up in the raids, as well as photographs of the damage caused in the raids. The report concluded by recommending that “the Attorney General initiate an impartial public inquiry as soon as possible.” Toronto City Council passed the motion by a vote of eleven to nine, but Metro Council refused to support it. Metro Chairman Paul Godfrey stated bluntly that he supported the police’s position.

February (late) * Toronto * Caryn Miller, a clinical social worker in private practice, founded the support and therapy group Spouses of Gays after receiving more than 600 telephone calls from distraught wives after the February 5 bath raids.


March * Halifax * The question of ordination for homosexuals was raised during the annual meeting of the Canadian Theological Students’ Conference, held at the Atlantic School of Theology. Three unnamed gay theological students called for a re-examination of homosexuality within the church; they were supported by a group of feminist students.


March * Harrow, Ont. * The first issue of *International Justice Monthly* was published.


March * Montréal * Homosexuality was to be treated as normal in a sexual education course proposed for Québec schools, which would start at grade one. Guy Beaulac was one of the programme’s initiators. The plan was controversial, particularly with religious conservatives.


March * Ontario * Artist David Buchan began to receive considerable
attention for his work, which was displayed at the YYZ Gallery and the Mercer Union Gallery in Toronto; included in a major photography show at the Macintosh Gallery in London, Ontario; and published in the tenth-anniversary issue of *Impulse*, an art magazine.


**March** *Ottawa* In its annual report for 1980, the CHRC once again recommended that Parliament amend the Canadian Human Rights Act to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation.


**March** *Ottawa* The Letter Carriers Union of Canada was able to negotiate an anti-discrimination and anti-harassment clause on behalf of its lesbian and gay members in its 1981 contract, without opposition from management.


**March** *Québec, Qué.* The Quebec Human Rights Commission/La Commission des droits de la personne du Québec reported that only twenty-six out of the 1,377 cases it handled in 1980, or 2 percent, concerned sexual orientation.


**March** *Québec, Qué.* The group Unigai was formed to provide an informational telephone service (Telegai 522-2555) and to publish the newsletter *Sociegai*.

March * Toronto * Michael Lynch, professor of English at the University of Toronto, assumed the editorship of the *Gay Studies Newsletter* (GSN), beginning with volume 8, number 1 (March 1981). GSN was published by the Gay Caucus for the Modern Languages, an allied organization of the Modern Language Association (MLA). Lynch edited GSN until 1990.


March * Toronto * The founding meetings of the Toronto Gay Community Council (TGCC), the first city-wide coordinating organization of gay and lesbian groups in Canada, were held.


March 1 * Toronto * The body of Marlon McRae was found in a pool of blood in the underground parking garage of the expensive apartment building where he lived. He had been murdered after picking someone up at Buddy’s Backroom Bar (370 Church Street). At the time, McRae’s death was one of a string of unsolved murders of gay man in Toronto since 1975. Most of the deaths shared common elements: the victims had picked someone up at a gay bar (three were linked to the St. Charles Tavern, 488 Yonge Street), and they had been stabbed many times. Police later offered a reward of $10,000 for information leading to a conviction in the McRae case. On September 18, 1981, Andrew Guy Ritchie, twenty-two, was arrested and charged with first-degree murder in McRae’s slaying. Ritchie was found guilty of second-degree murder and sentenced to eighteen years in prison on February 11, 1983. (See also June 29, 1981.)

   [Mark Bonokoski, “‘The Closet’ May Guard 3 Killers: Cops Delve into a Closed World,” *Toronto Sun*, 26 April 1981, p. 28; “Did the

**March 1** *Toronto* * About 250 Metro police officers attending an annual communion breakfast, held at St. Michael’s Cathedral, laughed and applauded after Emmett Cardinal Carter, Archbishop of Toronto, made oblique references to homosexuals and the recent police raids on gay bathhouses. Carter later apologized for his remarks.


**March 1** *Toronto* * A fire set by an arsonist gutted the new lesbian bar Sappho (457 Church Street). The restaurant/bar had been open only three weeks, and had replaced the gay bar Tanks. Sappho was owned by Janko Naglic, owner of the gay bars the Barn and Les Cavaliers.


**March 2** *Vancouver* * Gayblevision TV presented a parody of CBC’s *Sharing the Secret* entitled *Sharing the Obvious: Selected Heterosexual Stories*, about the very sad lives that today’s quiet heterossexuals endure.
March 4–5 * Toronto * The Ontario Court of Appeal refused to hear contempt of court charges brought by PTP against Ontario Attorney General Roy McMurtry and the *Toronto Sun* for comments by McMurtry made in print March 3, 1981. McMurtry’s remarks, published the day before the court was to hear the appeal of County Court Judge George Ferguson’s February 1980 ruling ordering a retrial of PTP and the *Body Politic* on immorality and indecency charges, were seen by the defence as an attempt to interfere in the case. The Court of Appeal rejected the unprecedented attempt to have an Attorney General cited for contempt, and ordered PTP to pay court costs. On March 5, the court reserved judgement on the appeal of Judge Ferguson’s ruling. (See also March 18, 1981.)

March 5 * Montréal * A coalition of gay and progressive groups met with Québec Justice Minister Marc-André Bédard to demand the repeal of section 97 of the Québec Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Section 97 allowed for discrimination on the basis of gender, sexual orientation, and
handicap in the administration of pension plans, insurance policies, and other social insurance plans. Bédard opposed change at that time, and suggested waiting until the Québec Human Rights Commission presented its “affirmative action” programmes to a parliamentary commission.


**March 5** * Toronto * An article in *The Eyeopener*, a student newspaper at Ryerson Polytechnical Institute, claimed that the institute’s women’s centre was perceived as a “club for lesbians.” At about the same time, the office of the newly formed RGS was vandalized.


**March 6** * Toronto * Twelve hundred people attended a Gay Freedom Rally held at St. Lawrence Market North to hear a variety of high-profile speakers, including writer Margaret Atwood, George Hislop, broadcaster Laurier Lapierre, and MP Svend Robinson (NDP–Burnaby), denounce the February 5 bath raids and the failure of the Ontario provincial government to extend human rights protection to lesbians and gays. The event, sponsored by CGRO, included entertainment by folksinger Paul Brown and the quartet the Nylons, as well as a dance.

March 6–8 * Halifax * James MacSwain’s play *Survivors* was performed at the Public Archives of Nova Scotia. Rosemary Gilbert directed the production.


March 7 * Toronto * A feminist and gay picket was organized to protest the right-wing “Canada in Crisis” rally, organized by the Pro-Family Coalition (which was coordinated by Renaissance Canada) and held at Massey Hall. Plainclothes police officers observed the protesters. (See also April 4, 1981.)


March 7 * Toronto * Five thousand women and men demonstrated in a march through downtown to mark International Women’s Day. Lesbians and gay men marched under the banners of the RTPC and Gays and Lesbians against the Right Everywhere (GLARE). This was one of the first actions supported by GLARE. In June 1981 GLARE changed its name to Gay Liberation against the Right Everywhere (GLARE) after lesbians left the group to form Lesbians against the Right (LAR). (See also May 9, 1981.)

March 9 * Ottawa * During an all-candidates meeting held in Ottawa Centre, Ontario provincial NDP leader Michael Cassidy declared that he was in favour of adding protection based on sexual orientation to the Ontario Human Rights Code, but that NDP party support for the issue would depend on a decision of his caucus.


March 9–11 * Toronto * FUSE magazine planned the showing of “Less Medium, More Message,” an exhibit of recent community-based video documentaries. One of the videos was a British production, Nothing Personal, about the lives of six gay men. When the Ontario Censor Board threatened legal action if the videos were publicly exhibited, the magazine took the board to court to determine what constituted a public showing. The event was postponed; later, rather than be bogged down in court, FUSE decided to show the films at a private exhibition, by invitation only.


March 10 * Toronto * AGE sponsored an all-candidates meeting for the March 19 Ontario provincial election. Susan Fish, running for the PCs in the riding of St. George, surprised everyone by supporting an independent inquiry into the bath raids and by also declaring her support for the addition of a gay rights amendment to the Ontario Human Rights Code, which went against her party’s platform. (See also March 19,
March 11 * Toronto * More than seventy United Church ministers and lay readers signed an open letter to Ontario Attorney General Roy McMurtry, asking him to reconsider his decision not to permit an independent inquiry into the February 5 bathhouse raids. (See also March 14, 1981.)


March 12 * Toronto * Rev. Brent Hawkes of MCC Toronto ended a twenty-five-day protest fast after Toronto City Council voted unanimously to ask Dr. Daniel Hill, the mayor’s adviser on community and race relations, to investigate and report publicly on ways to improve relations between gays and Toronto police. (Hill deliberated for two months before finally backing out of the position, claiming that he was too busy.) Hawkes had begun the fast to lobby for an independent inquiry into the February 5 bath raids. Hawkes broke the fast by taking communion from Rev. Troy Perry, founder of the Universal Fellowship of MCC, during a ten-minute service conducted in Nathan Phillips Square. (See also July 13, 1981.)


**March 14** *Toronto* *In a column published in the* *Toronto Star*, Rev. Clifford Elliott of Bloor Street United Church strongly supported the establishment of an independent inquiry into the February 5 bath raids.


**March 15** *Toronto* *The support group Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (FFLAG) was formed. FFLAG held monthly meetings at the 519 Church Street Community Centre. By October 1981 the group Parents of Gays (POG) had amalgamated with FFLAG.*


**March 16** *Toronto* *Andy Fabo, George Hislop, and Rick Stenhouse appeared in Provincial Court to face trial after being charged on December 9, 1978, as being keepers of a common bawdy house, the Barracks baths. Two other men were also accused: Jerry Levy, who was remanded to March 30, 1981, and Paul Gaudet. The trial began on March 30, 1981. (See also March 30–April 21, 1981.)*


**March 16** *Toronto* *Superintendent David Sproule, head of 52
Division of the Toronto Police Services, held a press conference to defend the four plainclothes officers who had helped to lead the February 20, 1981, gay protest march, claiming that it was an accident. The chairman of the Metro Toronto Board of Police Commissioners Phil Givens, however, called for an informal investigation into the incident. Police Chief Jack Ackroyd conducted an investigation but did not discipline the officers, because “we can’t find any offence.”

March 17–May 3 * Toronto * Martin Sherman’s play *Bent*, starring Richard Monette and Brent Carver, was performed at the Bathurst Street Theatre. This was one of several Canadian productions of the play mounted during 1981.


March 18 * Toronto * Justice Thomas Zuber of the Ontario Court of Appeal, Ontario’s highest court, announced that he and four other judges had heard PTP’s appeal of the decision of Judge George Ferguson to order a new trial of PTP. The case involved charges of using the mail to transmit immoral and indecent material relating to the publication of “Men Loving Boys Loving Men” in the *Body Politic*. The court upheld Judge Ferguson’s ruling. PTP decided to seek permission to appeal the decision to the Supreme Court of Canada. (See also June 15, 1981.)
March 19 * Ontario * The PCs were returned to power in the Ontario provincial election with a majority government; they had held power since 1943. The NDP did poorly, losing twelve seats, and many lesbians and gays thought the party had stumbled in handling the “gay issue.” PC candidate Susan Fish won in the Toronto riding of St. George with more than 12,000 votes, defeating Liberal candidate Bruce McLeod (7,600 votes), the NDP’s Dan Leckie (4,600 votes), and gay independent candidate George Hislop (2,600 votes). The Pro-Family Coalition had been active during the election campaign in promoting anti-feminist and anti-gay positions and candidates. Positive Parents distributed thousands of flyers saying that support for the NDP “is a vote for more homosexual power.” CGRO, on the other hand, had urged gays and lesbians not to support any of the three major political parties in the election. (See also March 28, 1981.)

**March 19** * Sherbrooke, Qué. * Québec Liberal leader Claude Ryan stated that although he did not condone homosexuality, he supported laws to protect against discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. The comment was in reply to a question made during a campaign stop, leading up to the Québec provincial election on April 13, 1981. (See also April 13, 1981.)

March 20 * Toronto * Lesbian singer Holly Near performed at Convocation Hall, University of Toronto, in a concert produced by Womynly Ways Productions to promote her new album, *Fire in the Rain*.


March 20 * Toronto * A police search warrant was executed at the offices of RLS Management, the company that managed the Club and Barracks baths, to find material to support a charge of conspiracy to keep a common bawdy house. The warrant named George Hislop, Jerry Levy, and Rick Stenhouse—all defendants presently on trial in the Barracks case—as well as Jack Campbell, president of the Florida-based Club Bath chain. (See also April 22, 1981.)


March 21 * Fredericton * After spending months ignoring the existence of FLAG and other gay and lesbian groups in New Brunswick, the *Fredericton Daily Gleaner* published a negative editorial, “How Gay Is Gay?” Five responses to the editorial, both positive and negative, were published in the following weeks; two were from members of FLAG.


March 23 * Toronto * RTPC held a press conference to demand a public inquiry into the role of undercover police officers at gay demonstrations. George Smith, chairperson of RTPC, introduced photographs, a film clip, and sworn affidavits by organizers and marchers concerning the infiltration and “dirty tricks” of undercover police officers at the February 20, 1981, community demonstration against the bath raids. The materials were later turned over to the
police’s Citizens’ Complaints Bureau.


March 26 * Montréal * The McGill Daily published a twelve-page Gay Supplement, featuring articles on a wide range of topics, from the recent Toronto bath raids to gay athletes to gays in politics.


March 26 * Toronto * In a letter published in the Canadian Jewish News, twelve Reform rabbis urged the establishment of an independent inquiry into the February 5 bath raids “as quickly as possible.”


March 26–28 * Toronto * As the upcoming host for the 1981 Gay Softball World Series, CGSL hosted the spring meeting of the North American Gay Amateur Athletic Alliance (NAGAAA). About thirty delegates representing member leagues from across the United States attended. (See also August 30–September 5, 1981.)

[“CGSL Hosts NAGAAA Spring Conference,” CGSL Diamond Dust (Toronto), no. 2 (1981), p. (1).]
March 26–April 5 * Toronto* The Buddies in Bad Times Theatre production of *The Piano of Death, or The Perversity of Love*, directed by Sky Gilbert, was performed at the Theatre Centre, 95 Danforth Avenue.

March 27 * Vancouver * LIL sought funding for a slide and tape educational program aimed at dispelling prejudice against lesbians. Initial promises of support from the Secretary of State’s office and the British Columbia Human Rights Commission collapsed. On March 27, 1981, the commission passed a motion to support the project for the entire budget ($7,500) but was unable to get final approval from the minister before March 31, 1981, the end of the fiscal year; the new budget did not include funds to support the project.

March 28 * Toronto * The Gay Community Dance Committee (GCDC), chaired by Bob Stout, attracted 125 people to its first fundraising dance. Profits from the event were divided among the six non-profit gay community groups that participated in sponsoring the dance. GCDC’s dances became popular and were a major fundraising tool for non-profit gay community groups during the 1980s and 1990s.

March 28 * Toronto * The right-wing group Renaissance Ontario published a full-page advertisement in the *Toronto Star*, congratulating Premier Bill Davis and the PC party for their victory in the March 19, 1981, Ontario provincial election, and expressing gratitude “for the turning of the tide of permissiveness.” Renaissance also appealed to the Ontario Tories to maintain their traditional opposition to abortion and homosexuality during debate on the proposed Constitution Act and the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Renaissance was later denounced in the
March 28–29 * Montréal * More than 425 people participated in the second Québec Symposium on Homosexuality, sponsored by SECH and held at CEGEP Maisonneuve, 3800, rue Sherbrooke Est. The workshops and discussion on the theme “Views and Experiences on Homosexualities” attracted professionals in the fields of psychology, medicine, social work, criminology, and law. Speakers included Francine Fournier, acting president of the Quebec Human Rights Commission, and Jean Baillargeon, president of the Quebec Press Council.


March (late) * Toronto * The Ontario Court of Appeal upheld the conviction of Neil Davies as being a keeper of a common bawdy house in relation to the Hot Tub Club, raided in October 1979. Davies had appealed his September 1980 conviction, which brought a $2,000 fine, on the grounds that much of the evidence that led to the conviction was obtained through wiretaps, which Davies claimed were used unlawfully. The appeal court ruled that there was no evidence to support Davies’s
contention.


March 30–April 21 * Toronto * After having exhausted all avenues of appeal on constitutional issues, the five men (Andy Fabo, Paul Gaudet, George Hislop, Jerry Levy, and Rick Stenhouse) charged as keepers of a common bawdy house after the December 9, 1978, raid of the Barracks steam bath, appeared before Ontario Provincial Court Judge Harold Rice in Courtroom 42 of Old City Hall. All five defendants pleaded not guilty. Evidence presented at the trial included boxes full of S&M items, as well as eyewitness testimony of events witnessed at the Barracks by undercover policemen. On April 21, 1981, Judge Rice ruled that the prosecution had presented sufficient evidence to establish a case, and it was up to the defence to determine whether they would respond with testimony in the case. The trial was adjourned to May 4, 1981. (See also April 2, 1981; April 22, 1981; and May 4, 1981.)


March–April * Toronto * FUSE magazine devoted some of its March–April 1981 issue to gay liberation, with articles by John Greyson, George Smith, and reports on the recent bath raids.


March–April * Toronto * The widow of a homosexual who was slain by a male youth was denied compensation by the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board. The board ruled that Donald Rochester, who was shot in February 1978 with his own gun by Leon Savage after an argument during which Rochester threatened the youth for refusing to perform certain sexual acts, had contributed to his own death by his illegal behaviour.

Spring * Halifax * The first issue of Making Waves: An Atlantic Quarterly for Lesbians and Gay Men was published. Robin Metcalfe edited the magazine.


Spring * Montréal * Serge Sirois’s play Les Pommiers en fleurs, based on the life of Chicago mass murderer John Wayne Gacy, was performed at Théâtre de Quat’sous.


Spring * Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue, Qué. * Students at John Abbott College began to organize a gay group on campus.


Spring * Sherbrooke, Qué. * A group of gay students, including Sylvain Dodier and Alain Laroche, formed a gay discussion group, Le Gaitelier, at the Collège de Sherbrooke.


Spring * Tallahassee, Fla. * Jane Rule’s collection of stories and columns from the Body Politic, Outlander: Short Stories and Essays, was published by Naiad Press.


**Spring** * Toronto * Frances Duncan’s novel *Dragonhunt* was published by Women’s Press.


**Spring** * Toronto * The lesbian rock band Mama Quilla II (featuring Lorraine Segato) won the Great Ontario Talent Search contest, sponsored by CFNY-Radio.


**Spring** * Trumansburg, N.Y. * *On the Line: New Gay Fiction*, an anthology edited by Ian Young, was published by the Crossing Press. A second edition was published in 1982.


**April** * Edmonton * The AHRC refused to proceed with an inquiry into job discrimination based on sexual orientation because sexual orientation was not included in Alberta’s Individual’s Rights Protection
Act. Bob Shumaker had lodged a complaint with the commission after he quit his job in August 1980 at Celanese of Canada, an Edmonton chemical company, following continual harassment by co-workers who discovered he was gay.


April * Ottawa * Several violent gang attacks against gay men occurred in gay cruising areas, particularly Strathcona Park and Nepean Point. GO distributed pamphlets in the community to warn of increasing violence against gays. Ottawa police were cooperative in searching for the attackers.


April * Toronto * Eric Bentley’s play *Lord Alfred’s Lover* was published by Personal Library.


April * Toronto * An exhibition of Toronto hate literature from the 1870s to present, organized by Douglas Chambers, was displayed at the Market Gallery. The exhibition included recently published, anti-gay material written by Claire Hoy of the *Toronto Sun*, as well as material from University of Toronto student publications such as *Salterrae* and *Toike-Oike*. Chambers, a professor at Trinity College, University of Toronto, had previously shown the material there during “Gay Awareness Week,” February 23–28, 1981; that exhibition had been attacked by a group of students and showered in confetti.

April * Toronto * A new feature section, “Out in the City,” debuted in the April 1981 issue of the *Body Politic*. The popular, ongoing section included notices for Toronto’s current theatrical productions, music, art, and cinema, as well as listings for nightlife, community resources, and events that might be of interest to lesbians or gay men.


April 1 * Halifax * The Gay Youth Society of Halifax was formed to organize social events and work towards establishing a meeting place for gay youth in the city.


April 2 * Toronto * More than 200 people attended an evening of entertainment in a show of solidarity for the defendants in the Barracks case. The performers included John Greyson and David Roche.

[“Focus on The Barracks,” *Body Politic*, no. 73 (1981), p. 15.]

April 4 * Ottawa * Management of Pick’s Place, the downstairs tavern at the Lord Elgin Hotel, 100 Elgin Boulevard, which had attracted a largely gay male clientele since at least the Second World War, decided to close the tavern at 3 p.m. every day; the space was to be reserved for receptions in the evening. This move was seen as a conscious decision to attempt to rid the premises of gays.


April 4 * Toronto * “Fight the Right: A Day of Lesbian and Gay Pride, Culture and Information” was sponsored by GLARE. About 125 attendees heard speakers including Scott Tucker, a member of the American group Lavender Left Network. Lesbians were very active at
the event. The play *Pink Triangle Tears*, about recent attacks on Toronto’s gay community, was written and performed by Gay Bell and Marcia Cannon. The Red Berets, a feminist singing group, performed, as did singer Kathy Arnup. Numerous workshops were also held.


**April 6** *Toronto* * County Court Judge George Ferguson was urged to reopen the case of Roy Stanley Williams and Bruce Joseph Tearse, convicted in February 1981 of indecently assaulting and forcibly confining a sixteen-year-old youth. New witnesses had come forward to claim that the victim was in fact a “street hustler” and may have consented to entering the apartment where the assaults allegedly took place. A third man, Bazil Madden, had pleaded guilty to charges arising from the same incident and been sentenced to six years in prison. (See also May 6, 1981.)


**April 7** *Victoria, B.C.* * The Society for Homosexual Awareness, Research and Education (SHARE) was formed to provide social support services and to build a fund for a gay community centre. SHARE held an inaugural banquet on November 22, 1981, at the Harbour Ballroom, Harbour Towers, during which Barry Goddard was elected chairperson.


April 10 * St. Catharines, Ont. * The preliminary hearing began in the trial of OPP officer Paul Head, who had been accused of indecently assaulting a male acquaintance at a private house party. (See also October 14, 1981.)


April 10 * Toronto * Police charged the organizers of a Toronto Rape Crisis Centre dance with the offence of “failing to clear” after a few women were found with partially full bottles of alcohol after 1 a.m. The charges were later dropped because of a technical error. At least four plainclothes officers monitored the dance; two were positioned close to the bar all evening. The obvious police presence at the event was seen as an attempt to intimidate the large number of lesbians and gay men in attendance.


April 11–13 * Toronto * The renowned British theologian Rev. Norman Pittenger was the featured speaker at workshops on human sexuality and homosexuality, held at Holy Trinity Anglican Church. The workshop was sponsored by the Centre of Affirmation and Dialogue, Toronto.


April 13 * Québec * Lesbians and gays welcomed the victory of the socially progressive PQ in the Québec provincial election, seeing it as a sign that at least some human rights for lesbians and gay men would remain in Québec for the next four years, even if gay rights were a low
priority. In December 1977, a PQ government was the first in Canada to pass an amendment to a provincial human rights code prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation.


April 14 * Agincourt, Ont. * Roy Montgomery, proprietor of Montgomery Leathers, sold leather gear out of his apartment. Police raided the apartment and charged Montgomery with multiple separate charges, ranging from selling obscene matter to keeping a common bawdy house. Police confiscated Montgomery’s photo album to use the photographs as evidence in his trial. An unnamed roommate of Montgomery’s was also charged with keeping a common bawdy house and making obscene photographs; the charges against him were dropped on June 4, 1981. Gay community activists were suspicious of the charges against Montgomery, since he had sold materials to the Barracks, and the Barracks case was still before the courts. (See also September 2, 1981.)


April 16 * Toronto * On the night of the benefit at Stages disco (530 Yonge Street) for the RTPC, police charged the owners of Dudes bar (10 Breadalbane Street) with overcrowding; the maximum penalty for the charge was a $2,000 fine. This was seen as part of an ongoing police crackdown on establishments in the gay community. (See also May 9, 1981.)
April 17–20 * Edmonton * More than a hundred lesbians and gay men from the four western provinces attended the Prairie Gay Conference. Events included workshops, a gay roller-skating party, an Imperial Court drag show, and a large dance. Edmonton’s four gay groups (Dignity, GATE, the Imperial Court of the Wild Rose, and MCC) sponsored the conference.


April 22 * Toronto * One day after the Barracks trial adjourned, George Hislop, Jerry Levy, Peter Maloney, Rick Stenhouse, Raymond Diemer (an American investor and co-owner of the Club Baths chain), and Jack Campbell (president of the Club Baths chain in the United States) were charged with conspiracy to possess proceeds obtained by crime, and other charges. The charges stemmed from the February 5 bath raids and were seen as a continuation of police pressure placed on the gay community since the raids. (See also April 23, 1981; May 4, 1981; June 12, 1981; November 20, 1981; and December 11, 1981.)

April 22 * Toronto * Singer Cris Williamson performed a concert at Mariposa Mainland.

[Marcia Cannon, “Success Gone Sour” (review), Body Politic, no. 74 (1981), p. 31.]

April 22–25 * Toronto * Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo (“The Trocks”), an all-male company of ballet dancers, performed at the Ryerson Theatre.


April 23 * Toronto * Representatives from a coalition of twenty-three Toronto gay and lesbian organizations held a press conference at Toronto City Hall to reject the suggestion that the conspiracy charges brought against the community leaders and businessmen on April 22, 1981, suggested that the gay community itself was criminal. Rev. Brent Hawkes called on gays to protest continuing police harassment of the community. A rally in defence of the community was called for April 29, 1981, to be held at the 519 Community Centre. (See also May 2, 1981.)


April 24 * Toronto * Ontario Labour Minister Robert Elgie reintroduced in the Ontario Legislature an act to revise the Ontario Human Rights Code. The original bill, Bill 209, an Act to Amend the Ontario Human Rights Code, had first been introduced in November 1980 but died on the order paper because of the Ontario provincial election of March 19,
1981. Now known as Bill 7, the reintroduced bill once again omitted any human rights protections based on sexual orientation. Both the NDP caucus and a majority of the Liberal caucus appeared willing to introduce a sexual orientation amendment to the bill when it went to committee. (See also May 14, 1981; June 2, 1981; October 1, 1981; October 28, 1981; November 4, 1981; and December 1, 1981.)


**April 24–25** * Toronto * Singer Heather Bishop performed at the Innis College Town Hall, sponsored by Womynly Way Productions.


**May** * Birmingham, England * Michel Tremblay’s play *Hosanna* (in the English translation by John Van Burek and Bill Glassco) made its British premiere in a production mounted by the Birmingham Repertory Theatre. The production later moved to the New Half Moon Theatre in London, where it had a three-week run ending November 14, 1981, and received mixed reviews.


**May** * Halifax * Verbal and physical attacks against gay men, including stabbings, beatings, and robberies, increased on Citadel Hill, a popular nighttime gay cruising spot.

May * Toronto * Jerry Levy and Rick Stenhouse filed a libel suit against the *Toronto Sun* and columnist Mark Bonokoski for a column Bonokoski wrote deploring the outrageous and shocking conditions at the Barracks bathhouse; Bonokoski had based his article entirely on police descriptions of the place.


May * Toronto * “Onstage ’81: The Toronto Theatre Festival” featured several new works with gay or lesbian characters, including George Walker’s *Theatre of the Film Noir*, Sky Gilbert’s *Art/Rat*, and the musical *Hogtown*, starring Craig Russell.


May * Toronto * RTPC developed a “Boycott Ontario” advertisement, focusing on the bath raids, in an attempt to deter gay tourists and conventions from visiting Toronto “until the Government sees fit to endorse basic civil rights for gays.” The ad was distributed widely; *Travel Agent*, *Travel Weekly*, and the *New York Times* Travel Section refused to print it, but it was published in *Christopher Street*.


May * Toronto * Robert Taylor, owner of the Romans II Sauna (742 Bay Street), filed suit against sixty-nine police officers, as well as Chief Jack Ackroyd and Inspector Don Banks of the Police Intelligence section, for damages incurred during the February 5 raid on the Romans.
Taylor claimed that officers did about $10,000 damage to about a hundred of the 174 rooms at the sauna. Jerry Levy and Rick Stenhouse, directors of the Club Baths, also filed damage claims in small claims court for damage sustained by the Club Baths during the bath raids.


**May**

* Vancouver * VGCC was officially incorporated as a registered non-profit society.

[David Myers, “VGCC Is Incorporated!” *VGCC News*, 2, no. 6 (June 1981): 3.]

**May 1**

* Fredericton, N.B. * FLAG made a formal complaint to the New Brunswick Human Rights Commission after the Centre communitaire Sainte-Anne refused to rent them facilities to conduct occasional social functions. The commission asked the centre to reconsider, but was rebuffed. The commission replied to FLAG that it had no jurisdiction to take formal action as sexual orientation was not covered in the provincial human rights code.


**May 1**

* Toronto * Lesbian writers Nicole Brossard and Adrienne Rich read and conversed onstage at the OISE Auditorium in an event entitled “Writers in Dialogue,” sponsored by the Toronto Women’s Bookstore and the Women’s Writing Collective.


**May 2**

* Toronto * One hundred fifty people picketed Toronto police headquarters to protest the conspiracy charges brought against the six
community leaders and businessmen on April 22. Speakers at the
demonstration included Rev. Brent Hawkes of MCC Toronto and Tim
McCaskell of the *Body Politic*.

[Gerald Hannon, “Putting on the Pressure,” *Body Politic*, no. 74
and Mail*, metro ed., 4 May 1981, p. 5; “Police Homosexuals Fear
Being Unmasked, Rally Told,” *Toronto Star*, Sunday ed., 3 May
May 1981, p. 4.]

**May 4** *Toronto* * Defence lawyer Morris Manning called for a mistrial
in the Barracks keepers case, saying that the new charges laid against
some of the defendants on April 22 would prejudice the original case.
Judge Harold Rice denied the motion, and the trial continued. (See also
June 12, 1981.)

[“Barracks’ Judgment Reserved Until May 25,” *Toronto Star*, four
Charges ‘Prejudicial,’” *Toronto Sun*, 5 May 1981, p. 35; Vianney
Carriere, “Bathhouse Was Built Specifically for Sex, Bawdy-house
Carriere, “Bid for Mistrial Lost in Morals Case: New Charges Called
“Crown’s Case Collapses: Barracks Verdict Due Soon,” *Body Politic*,
no. 74 (1981), p. 10; “Indecency Not Defined in Law Barracks’ Trial

**May 4–9** *Lethbridge, Alta.* * The annual conference of the National
Union of Students voted to condemn the Toronto bath raids of February
5 and called for an independent public inquiry into the affair. The
motion was sponsored by the Dalhousie University Student Union.

(Halifax), no. 2 (1981), p. 6; Brenda Steiger, “More Groups Demand
**May 5** *New York, N.Y.* Philip Fotheringham, a gay man from Toronto, was denied entry into the United States at Kennedy International Airport because of his sexual orientation. United States INS officials made it clear that Fotheringham was deported solely for being gay; they had discovered his sexual orientation after reading personal correspondence during a baggage search. The deportation clearly violated INS’s new policy concerning homosexual visitors. Demonstrations against the deportation were held May 29, 1981, in London, San Francisco, and Washington, D.C. (See also June 25, 1981, and September 26, 1981.)


**May 6** *Toronto* County Court Judge George Ferguson decided to reopen the case of Roy Stanley Williams and Bruce Tearse, convicted in February 1981 of the sexual assault and confinement of a sixteen-year-old youth. Williams and Tearse, who had been in jail since their arrest in September 1980, were released on bail. (See also June 17, 1981.)


**May 7** *Toronto* Almost 400 people attended a meeting organized by the International Women’s Day Committee (IWDC) to discuss the growth of right-wing groups in Canada, including Campaign Life, the Ku Klux Klan (KKK), and Renaissance Canada. A panel featured Hugh English from GLARE, Deirdre Gallagher and Maureen Hynes from IWDC, and Tania Das Gupta from the Indian People’s Association in North America.

May 8 * Toronto * Mama Quilla II (featuring Lorraine Segato) hosted a benefit dance for the Gay Counselling Centre of Toronto (GCCT), held at the Maple Leaf Ballroom. The GCCT, a non-profit, volunteer organization providing counselling services to lesbians and gays in Toronto and the surrounding area, began operation in May 1981 at 105 Carlton Street.


May 8–10 * Montréal * ADGQ held its ninth congress, attended by sixty delegates. The ADGQ adopted a revised constitution and held committee meetings, planning sessions, and social events. The congress sparked the formation of a lesbian committee of ADGQ.


May 9 * Toronto * “Lesbian Images in Photography: 1850–1980,” a slide-talk presentation by J.E.B. (Joan E. Biren) of more than 300 images, was shown in Canada (at the Bathurst Street Theatre) for the first time; it had already appeared in fifty American cities.


May 9 * Toronto * About a hundred lesbians met informally at the 519 Church Street Community Centre to have brunch and hear a five-woman panel (Kathy Arnup, Amy Gottlieb, Vicki Kelman, Judy Liefschultz, and MariRuth Morton) discuss the possibility of forming a new lesbian group in Toronto. Lorna Weir was one of the organizers of the event, which was an attempt to set the groundwork for the establishment of a new lesbian political and social organization in the wake of the closing
of the Fly-by-Night and the dissolution of LOOT. On June 17, 1981, LAR was launched.


**May 9** *Toronto* *Police charged the owners of Dudes bar (10 Breadalbane Street) with overcrowding. This was the second time this charge was laid at Dudes in less than a month, and was seen as part of an on-going police crackdown on establishments in the gay community. (See also May 10, 1981.)


**May 9** *Toronto* *RTPC sponsored the discussion “Being Gay in Toronto Now,” which explored ways to develop social organizations other than bars, baths, demonstrations, and meetings, to strengthen a real sense of community.


**May 10** *Montréal* *One hundred and thirty people were arrested when the Montréal Urban Community Police morality squad raided a party of the heterosexual Club Eurotheque, held at the Hôtel de la Salle (1240, rue Drummond).

May 10 * Toronto * Police charged the owners and bartenders of 18 East bar (18 Eastern Avenue) with overcrowding and allowing liquor to be consumed off the premises. This was seen as part of an ongoing police crackdown on establishments in the gay community. (See also August 1, 1981, and November 26, 1981.)


May 12 * North Bay, Ont. * Cate Lazarov, an open lesbian working for Telecare Ministries, a province-wide chain of Christian phone counselling lines, was asked to resign from her position after she complained to the board of directors about Telecare’s treatment of homosexual callers. Lazarov appealed the case to the Northern Regional office of the OHRC in Sudbury. The OHRC investigated the situation and supported Telecare in the matter. Lazarov was the co-founder of CHANB.


May 12–13 * Edmonton * Elaine Kuresh, a thirty-nine-year-old high school teacher and counsellor, committed suicide after being charged with gross indecency and three counts of contributing to the delinquency of a minor. The allegations of misconduct involved a sixteen-year-old female student who had lived with Kuresh and her husband. The resulting scandal was played up by reporter Eddie Keen in the *Edmonton Sun*, starting May 1, 1981, and also by articles in the *Edmonton Journal*, which may have contributed to Kuresh’s death.


May 14 * Toronto * About 300 demonstrators stood in the rain outside the Ontario Legislature to protest the exclusion of sexual orientation from the proposed Bill 7. The rally was held on the eve of the second reading of the bill. Susan Fish (PC–St. George) and Liberal Party leader Stuart Smith addressed the crowd, and pledged their “personal support” for the introduction of a sexual orientation amendment. The skeptical crowd repeatedly heckled them. The NDP was seen by some demonstrators as “cowardly” for failing to send an official representative to the rally, which had been organized by CGRO. (See also May 15, 1981.)


May 14 * Toronto * Attorney General Roy McMurtry stated in the Ontario Provincial Parliament that no one in the Attorney General’s office knew in advance about the raid on Toronto bathhouses on February 5. He made the statement in response to questions raised by NDP and Liberal members of the Opposition.

May 14 * Toronto * RTPC announced the formation of a Gay Street Patrol to prevent assaults against gay people in downtown Toronto. It was felt that the gay community’s declining trust in police, combined with eleven documented street attacks between February 20 and April 10, 1981, and the unresolved murders of gay men in Toronto in recent years, made the patrol necessary. Dennis Findlay was the spokesperson for the group.


May 15 * Toronto * In her inaugural speech to the Ontario Legislature as labour critic, Sheila Copps (Lib–Hamilton Centre) surprised everyone by vowing to personally move the sexual orientation amendment to Bill 7 in committee, and if defeated there she would also move it at third reading. Columnist Claire Hoy of the *Toronto Sun* dismissed Copps as “the new champion of depravity.” On May 19, 1981, the amendment was actually moved by Richard Johnston (NDP–Scarborough West) during the second reading of the bill, and Bill 7 was sent to the Standing
Committee on Resources Development for detailed debate before a final vote. (See also June 2, 1981; June 19, 1981; October 28–November 4, 1981; and December 1, 1981.)


May 15 * Toronto * Ontario’s PC government introduced the Metropolitan Police Force Complaints Project Act, 1981 (Bill 68), sponsored by Solicitor General Roy McMurtry. The bill called for the establishment of a Public Complaints Investigation Bureau to replace the current Citizens’ Complaint Bureau. The proposed bill was criticized because it allowed police thirty days to conduct an internal investigation themselves before other measures would be taken, and because a finding of misconduct against a police officer required “proof beyond a reasonable doubt.” The bill passed third reading on November 17, 1981. (See also June 2, 1981; July 13, 1981; and September 24, 1981.)


**May 16–18** *Vancouver* *More than 500 women participated in the fifth Bi-national Lesbian Conference, held at Langara College. The event drew women from across Canada to discuss priorities such as childcare, fighting the Right, and the formation of a national lesbian organization. There were plenary sessions, workshops, an art display (“Woman to Woman,” at the Women in Focus Gallery), and a dance featuring the lesbian rock band Mama Quilla II (with Lorraine Segato). More than 200 women marched in Canada’s first lesbian pride march, from Robson Square through downtown Vancouver to the WECC. A final report, *Lesbian Power: Organizing for the 80s*, was published after the conference.


May 17 * Houlton, Me. * A meeting of AGA was held, with about twenty delegates present. Discussion focused on activities of member organizations, and planning for the AGA conference in Fredericton, October 16–18, 1981. (See also October 16–18, 1981.) [Carol Millett, “Houlton,” Making Waves (Halifax), no. 2 (1981), p. 5; Glen Pelshea, “AGA Meets,” Fredericton FLAGMAG, no. 4 (1981), p. 15.]

May 22 * Toronto * The Ontario branch of CUPE adopted a resolution condemning the February 5 bath raids and calling for an independent inquiry into the police action. The resolution was sponsored by Local 1996 (Toronto Public Library Workers).


May 22 * Toronto * The trial of demonstrator James Chemerika, charged with common assault against an officer during the February 20 protest against the bath raids, turned into an inquiry into dirty tricks played by plainclothes officers during the protest. (See also July 29–30, 1981, and September 30, 1981.)


May 22 * Toronto * In an address to the annual meeting of the Municipal Police Authorities, Rev. Brent Hawkes of MCC Toronto warned that failure on the part of police to stop treating some sections of minority groups in the community in a different way could lead to rioting.


May 23 * Naramata, B.C. * At the annual meeting of the B.C. United
Church Conference, Rev. David Cline, the conference’s newly installed president, declared that the ordination of homosexuals was something The United Church of Canada was not prepared to face now, or in the near future. Rev. Cline said, “To ordain a homosexual would be to put the church’s stamp of approval on homosexuality as an alternative lifestyle, and I don’t think the majority of the United Church is ready to do that.” (See also May 30, 1981.)


May 25 * Ottawa * In a submission to the Kent Royal Commission on Newspapers, AGA charged that the Irving newspaper chain had systematically refused to publish ads of gay organizations. The Irving family owned all five daily newspapers in New Brunswick. AGA also urged the commission to recommend the establishment of an independent press council in New Brunswick.


May 25 * Toronto * Two candidates targeted by anti-gay crusader Stu Newton’s Positive Parents of Ontario group and its “Homosexuality Fact Sheet” flyer won landslide victories in municipal by-elections. Sheila Meagher won a seat as a school trustee, while Frank Flaubert was elected alderman in Scarborough.

[Roger Spalding, “Hate Sheets’ Fail to Defeat Candidates,” Body Politic, no. 75 (1981), p. 9.]

May 28 * Alma, Qué. * Police raided the Bar aux maîtres (120, boulevard DeQuen Nord), popular with gay men, and charged two of the proprietors with possession of a small amount of marijuana.

May 30 * Calgary * The Alberta conference of The United Church of Canada, attended by about 500 delegates, passed three positive resolutions relating to gay rights and the ordination of gays. The first resolution called for congregations to study In God’s Image ... Male and Female, the progressive document prepared in 1980 by the Church’s Task Force on Human Sexuality. The second resolution called on the Alberta government to include a sexual orientation amendment in the provincial human rights code. The third asked that the Church study the issue of the ordination of homosexuals and present guidelines to the next annual conference. The issue of gay clergy caused a substantial media furor in Alberta when the local press mistakenly reported that the conference had actually approved the ordination of gay ministers.

May 30 * Edmonton * Police raided the Pisces Health Spa, 10508 109th Street, and eventually charged six men with being keepers of a common bawdy house, and fifty-six men with being found-ins. The 2,000-name membership list of the club was also seized. A total of forty Edmonton police officers, six members of the RCMP, and two Crown Attorneys participated in the raid, which was also videotaped by the police. The accused were questioned under an obscure section of the Criminal Code (Section 183) during a specially arranged 5 a.m. courtroom session; the arrested men later claimed that they were not allowed to contact lawyers during this questioning. On June 4, 1981, an article in the *Edmonton Journal* revealed that the entire police operation had been instigated by a complaint from a gay man (later identified as Fred Griffis) who, although he had never visited the Pisces, thought the activities that occurred there were immoral and should be stopped. This complaint resulted in a three-month investigation that included surveillance of the premises and the photographing of people entering and leaving the Pisces. Police Chief Robert Lunney admitted that the Edmonton force had consulted with Toronto police for advice on planning and conducting the raid. Local gay groups Dignity, GATE Edmonton, and MCC were active in protesting the raid from the beginning, by distributing leaflets, attending meetings and protests, and by providing counselling and support for the men charged. The local gay community also established a Gay Heritage Fund and (on June 1, 1981) a Privacy Defence Committee to help cover the legal fees of the men charged; more than $18,000 was raised in the first three days. (See also June 3, 1981; June 4, 1981; June 8, 1981; June 10, 1981; July 1981; August 1, 1981; August 24, 1981; September–October 1981; and October 29, 1981.)

May 31 * Toronto * Five hundred people, including lesbians and gays, marched in Greenwood Park in solidarity against the KKK. After speeches from various groups, the crowd marched past the KKK’s headquarters on Dundas Street. Four fully costumed Klansmen and a vocal female supporter greeted the marchers with Nazi salutes and catcalls. The demonstration was organized by the Riverdale Action Committee against Racism (RACAR).


May 31–June 1 * Toronto * William S. Burroughs promoted his new novel Cities of the Red Night by appearing at Glad Day Bookshop and This Ain’t the Rosedale Library, and reading at the Edge.


May–June * Halifax * Emerald Gibson, owner of the Alternate Bookstore, successfully appealed the seizure by Canada Customs of copies of two gay magazines, Blueboy and Honcho. Appeals for the release of seized copies of the magazines Hotline and Video X, however,
were unsuccessful.


**May–June** *Ottawa* * Hugh Curry, a Toronto magazine distributor, was fined $500 for distributing obscene material—the June 1980 issue of *Penthouse*, which contained a series of lesbian sex photos.


**May–July** *Toronto* * At least four Toronto men fell victim to the “Barbiturate Bandit,” also known as the “Mickey Finn robber.” Saban Dreas, thirty-four, a Yugoslav immigrant to the United States, went on a crime spree throughout North America for much of 1981. Good-looking and friendly, Dreas would approach gay men on the street and talk his way into their home. After drugging them with a combination of Pyribenzamine (an antihistamine), and chloral hydrate (a sedative), he stripped their homes of cash, jewellery, and other valuables. Dreas was captured by police in San Francisco on January 28, 1982.


**June** *Hamilton, Ont.* * Positive Parents of Ontario distributed copies of their anti-homosexual “fact sheet.” MPP Sheila Copps (Lib–Hamilton-Centre) dismissed the literature as a “truth-destroying scandal-mongering sheet of rubbish.”


**June** *Ottawa* * A poll conducted by CHRC indicated that only a minority of Canadians favoured including sexual orientation in the proposed constitutional Charter of Rights. Of 1,960 adults surveyed, only 32 percent favoured specific protection for lesbians and gays in the charter; 60 percent were opposed, 7 percent were unsure, and 1 percent refused to comment.

[C.P. (Craig Patterson), “East Beats West in Commission Poll,” *Body
June * Toronto * The Citizens’ Complaint Bureau of Metropolitan Toronto Police declared that only two of the sixty-eight complaints received in June 1981 were wholly or partially substantiated. The other complaints were dismissed.


June * Toronto * Ian Young: A Bibliography, 1962–1980, was published by PTP and CGA as number three in the CGA’s publication series.


June * Toronto * Lesbian Periodical Holdings in the Canadian Gay Archives as of June 1981, compiled by Alan V. Miller, was published by PTP and CGA as number four in the CGA’s publication series.


June * Toronto * A letter by Fo Niemi published in the Body Politic noted that although 1981 was the International Year of the Handicapped, there was still not a single organization in Canada devoted to the welfare of physically or mentally disabled gays and lesbians.


June * Toronto * “Skinscapes: The Human Form in Mixed Media,” an exhibition of photographs by Norman Hatton, was shown at Graphics International.


June * Vancouver * The Unity Guild of British Columbia (UGBC) was formed. It was the second gay business association in Canada, after Toronto’s LBC. UGBC had twelve members and operated as a resource
centre for gay professionals and businesspeople.


**June** *Victoria, B.C.* *The British Columbia Human Rights Commission recommended that sexual orientation be added to the B.C. Human Rights Code, banning discrimination in: employment, access to public facilities, membership in any occupational association, and tenancy. B.C. Labour Minister Jack Heinrich did not respond to any of the recommendations. (See also June 29, 1981.)


**June 2** *Toronto* *Representatives of forty Metro Toronto minority organizations, including the Urban Alliance on Race Relations (UARR) and RTPC, held a press conference to denounce the inadequacies of the police complaints bill introduced into the Ontario legislature on May 15. The groups believed that the Ontario government had failed to produce an acceptable mechanism for resolving problems between the police and minority communities. This frustration in turn led to a meeting at City Hall on June 9 to discuss the establishment of a Citizens’ Independent Review of Police Actions (CIRPA). (See also July 13, 1981.)


**June 2** *Toronto* *Twenty-five people participated in a Boycott the Census Rally outside the Statistics Canada office, 25 St. Clair Avenue East. The protesters denounced the failure of the Ontario and Canadian governments to offer human rights protection for gays and lesbians.


**June 2** *Toronto* *GLU began to sponsor self-defence classes for lesbians and gay men, held at the 519 Church Street Community Centre.

June 2 * Toronto * The Standing Committee on Resources Development of the Ontario Legislature began hearing public submissions on Bill 7, an act to amend the Ontario Human Rights Code. The committee was chaired by rookie MPP Mike Harris (PC–Nipissing) (later, premier of Ontario). Civil liberties lawyer Clayton Ruby and representatives of CGRO made forceful submissions concerning the government’s failure to include sexual orientation in the extended code. Labour Minister Robert Elgie was present during CGRO’s submission, and was pressed to defend the Tory government’s stand on the issue. He replied, “Sexual preference is not a matter that this government feels should be defined specifically within human rights legislation. The government does not feel it should be enshrined as a normal or acceptable lifestyle.” (See also September 8, 1981, and October 28–November 4, 1981.)


June 3 * Edmonton * A heterosexual couple, civil libertarians Ken Bolton and Kathy Rankin, started a group called Straights against Discrimination (SAD), and organized a demonstration in front of Edmonton’s city hall to protest the Pisces Spa raid. More than a hundred people attended, to hear representatives of labour, church, and gay community groups condemn the raid.


June 3, 8 * Québec, Qué. * The Quebec Press Council ruled that the Montreal Gazette and La Tribune (Sherbrooke) had published inappropriate headlines that denigrated homosexuals.
June 4 * Edmonton * Less than a week after the Pisces Spa was raided by police, Dr. Henry Toupin and Eric Stein; co-owners of the Pisces; manager John Kerr; and five men charged as found-ins, unexpectedly pleaded guilty before Provincial Court Judge C.H. Rolf during a hastily arranged late-afternoon court session. This action was undertaken without consultation with the other men who were charged, and was done after several community meetings during which many of the found-ins indicated that they were willing to fight the charges in open court. Judge Rolf sentenced Dr. Toupin and John Kerr each to a fine of $10,000 or a year in jail. The Pisces Spa itself was fined $20,000, and co-owner Eric Stein received a fine of $5,000 or six months in jail. The found-ins were sentenced to fines of $250 each or thirty days in jail. Toupin’s lawyer Robbie Davidson appealed the sentence to the Alberta Court of Appeal, arguing that the fine was excessive. Soon after the trial, the Alberta College of Physicians and Surgeons suspended the medical licence of Dr. Toupin, a neurologist, for six months for “unbecoming conduct”; after a review, this decision was upheld on September 11, 1981. (See also June 10, 1981; July 28–August 1981; and September 9, 1981.)

June 5 * Atlanta, Ga. * The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) reported that five gay men in Los Angeles had been diagnosed with pneumocystis pneumonia, which was rare and frequently fatal. This was the first official report from the CDC concerning the health crisis that would later become known as the AIDS pandemic. (See also July 3, 1981.)


June 5 * Toronto * The trial of “Bob” (Don Franco) began at Old City Hall before Ontario Provincial Court Judge Maurice Charles. Franco had been charged with keeping a common bawdy house in his own home after a raid on his home, June 6, 1979. Defense lawyer Clayton Ruby stated that the statements made by the Crown were all true, but that Franco’s actions were not unlawful. (See also July 15, 1981, and September 24, 1981.)


June 8 * Edmonton * Twenty-five people met publicly to officially form the Privacy Defence Committee of Edmonton (PDCE), modelled on RTPC in Toronto, and began fundraising to help with the legal defence of those men charged as found-ins during the Pisces Spa raid who
wished to fight the charges. (See also June 11, 1981.)


June 9 * Toronto * The Gay Community Choir, conducted by Peter Schaffter, performed its second public concert, “Spring Festival of Song,” at Trinity United Church.


June 9 * Toronto * Two men accused of being found-ins at the Romans II spa during the February 5 bath raids had the charges against them dropped. The Crown refused to give any explanation for the withdrawal; this was seen by some as an attempt to protect undercover evidence at that time.


June 10 * Edmonton * After plea bargaining with the Crown, the remaining three employees of the Pisces Spa, originally charged as keepers of a common bawdy house, pleaded guilty to the lesser charge of being found-ins. Each was fined $250 or thirty days in jail.


June 11 * Calgary * A branch of RTPC was formed in response to the May 30 Pisces Spa raid in Edmonton. The group focused on community education.


June 12 * Toronto * In the trial of the Barracks defendants, Provincial Court Judge Harold Rice ruled that buggery, fellatio, and other gay sex acts are not in themselves indecent, but that when such acts are performed so that others may see them they are not within the community standards of tolerance. Rice found Barracks employees Andy Fabo and Paul Gaudet guilty of being keepers of a common bawdy house, because they worked on the premises and would have known what was going on there. To the surprise of many, the owners of the Barracks (George Hislop, Jerry Levy, and Rick Stenhouse) were acquitted on grounds of reasonable doubt of their guilt. On the night of the verdict, RTPC organized a demonstration of 2,000 people at the corner of Yonge and Wellesley streets to protest the verdict, and to express solidarity for the men arrested in the Pisces Spa raid in Edmonton. (See also June 23, 1981, and October 15, 1981.)

June 12 * Toronto * Robert MacKenzie and Daniel Racine were arrested and charged with eighteen offences, including living off the avails of prostitution, procuring a person to commit gross indecency, and procuring a person to commit buggery. Four other men, aged seventeen to nineteen, were also charged. MacKenzie and Racine claimed that they had been entrapped by the police.


June 12–14 * Guelph, Ont. * A Gay Issues Workshop was held during the conference of OFS at the University of Guelph. The workshop was conducted by the OFS Gay Caucus.

[“Gay Students Organize,” Body Politic, no. 75 (1981), p. 12.]

June 14 * British Columbia * The Provincial Council of the B.C. NDP voted to establish a permanent policy subcommittee on lesbian and gay issues. Jon Gates, a student activist, had spearheaded the initiative and saw it through, but not without some opposition from NDP members.


June 15 * Hamilton, Ont. * James Fraser of CGA addressed the first official meeting of the Gay Interest Group of CLA, held at the CLA’s annual convention. One of the group’s first publications was a checklist entitled A Brief Guide to Recommended Reading Matter on Homosexuality.


June 15 * Ottawa * Lawyer Clayton Ruby, representing PTP, asked for leave to appeal to the full Supreme Court of Canada the order of the Ontario Court of Appeal to send the Body Politic defendants back to trial. A panel of three Supreme Court judges (Hon. R.G.B. Dickson, Rt. Hon. Bora Laskin, and Hon. W.R. McIntyre) reserved judgement on the request. (See also October 6, 1981.)

[“Appeal Sought in Body Politic Case,” Toronto Star, four star ed., 23

**June 16** *Ottawa* *GO* representative John Duggan and Club Ottawa manager John Harnick met with police representatives to discuss community fears that the Club Ottawa would be raided. Ongoing raids of bathhouses in Toronto and elsewhere had led to rumours that Club Ottawa might be targeted as well. The police noted that they had no particular concerns with the club at that time, and that if it continued to be operated in the same manner there would be no need for them to investigate.


**June 16** *Toronto* Twenty-three plainclothes officers from Metro Toronto Police conducted simultaneous afternoon raids on two bathhouses. They raided the International Steam Bath, 458 Spadina Avenue, and charged the attendant, Joseph Soucy, with keeping a common bawdy house; owner Michael Woszczyna was charged later (his trial began February 1, 1982). Ten men were charged as found-ins. Police also arrested eleven men (three as keepers, eight as found-ins) in a raid of the Back Door Gym and Sauna, 12½ Elm Street. Police admitted the bathhouses had been under surveillance since August 1980. On March 26, 1982, a Provincial court judge found Alan Fetterly, the owner of the Back Door, guilty of keeping a common bawdy house and fined him $3,000. Two other men were given conditional discharges. (See also June 20, 1981.)

June 17 * Toronto * County Court Judge George Ferguson found Roy Stanley Williams and Bruce Joseph Tearse guilty of confining and sexually assaulting a sixteen-year-old youth and sentenced them to reformatory, Williams for two years less a day, and Tearse to one year. Judge Ferguson agreed that the men had not been the principal participants in the crime; Bazil Madden had previously pleaded guilty to unlawful confinement and indecent assault, and been sentenced to six years.


June 18 * Hamilton, Ont. * The Ontario Supreme Court struck down the provisions undertaken in a 1979 Hamilton city by-law to regulate the sale of adult magazines as “vague and discriminatory.” The by-law had forced all grocery, variety, and drugstores selling adult magazines such as Playboy and Playgirl to obtain a licence as an “adult entertainment parlour.” Only the titles of the magazines were to be displayed, and they were to be stored at least five feet, six inches off the floor.


June 18 * Toronto * John Bodis and Bob Gallagher, representing RTPC, made a presentation before the Metropolitan Toronto Board of Police Commissioners, complaining of ongoing police persecution of the gay community and demanding a concrete response from the police to help improve relations. Police Chief Jack Ackroyd offered a terse “no comment” when asked if he wanted to respond to recommendations presented by RTPC; the meeting ended shortly after.
June 19 * Ottawa * A private member’s bill to amend the Canadian Human Rights Act to include sexual orientation failed to survive a second reading in the House of Commons. The bill had been sponsored by Pat Carney (PC–Vancouver Centre).


June 20 * Toronto * LMDF and GYT sponsored the “Spring into Summer” dance and buffet at the 519 Church Street Community Centre.


June 20 * Toronto * The Provincial Council of the Ontario NDP approved a report that concluded that the NDP Caucus had “simply copped out” on gay rights and was not sticking by its principles on the issue.


June 20 * Toronto * A demonstration and march organized by RTPC was held to protest the June 16 bathhouse raids. As they were leaving the peaceful protest of about 1,000 people, a large crowd of gay men and lesbians was attacked at Church and Charles streets by a group of anti-gay thugs wielding boards. When the crowd fought back, police rescued the gay bashers and then turned on the angry crowd with nightsticks. In
the ensuing melee, involving dozens of people in the middle of Church Street, half a dozen people were injured and six people were arrested. The affair later became known as “The Battle of Church Street.” Rev. Brent Hawkes of MCC Toronto was held and punched by a police officer. Ken Popert of the *Body Politic*, a rally marshal, was struck by a police car. Both Hawkes and Popert failed in their attempt to press charges. (See also October 1, 1981.)


**June 20–28** * Montréal * Almost 15,000 lesbians, gay men, and their supporters celebrated the third annual Gay Pride Week (called “Gai-e-lon la”), which coincided with the Québec Fête nationale held June 24, 1981. Events were held at Dominion Square and featured many social activities, an open-air dance, and a gay pride march on June 27. The events were organized by ADGQ; the Corporation de la fête nationale granted $8,125 to help pay for the festivities.


**June 21–27** * Victoria, B.C. * The Queen’s Head and *Gayzette* coordinated a series of events to celebrate Gay Pride Week, the first time this was held in Victoria. Events included a buffet dinner, speeches, readings, a film night, and a party.


**June 23** * Toronto * Rev. Brent Hawkes, George Hislop, and Morris Manning held a press conference at Toronto City Hall to request a meeting between representatives of Toronto’s gay community and local
police and political leaders, including Attorney General Roy McMurtry, for an open discussion of the “polarization of the police and homosexual communities in Metro.” The proposed meeting was rejected. (See also July 13, 1981.)


June 23 * Toronto * Ontario Provincial Court Judge Harold Rice granted conditional discharges to Andy Fabo and Paul Gaudet, the two employees of the Barracks found guilty on June 12 of being keepers of a common bawdy house. They were placed on probation and forbidden to work in any type of bathhouse for two years.


June 25 * San Francisco, Calif. * District Court Judge Robert Aguilar granted a temporary injunction, overturning a rule that had barred self-declared homosexuals from entering the United States. The INS had for years barred homosexuals from entering the country. The decision was made after the Lesbian-Gay Freedom Day Committee complained that the rule threatened their constitutional rights, and would affect many international visitors to the annual July 28 Gay Freedom Day. (See also September 26, 1981.)


[“Labor (sic) Council Approached,” Thunder Gay (Thunder Bay,
June 25 * Toronto * The Toronto Marxist Institute sponsored the public forum “Strange Bedfellows: Lesbians, Gays, and the Left” at the 519 Church Street Community Centre. The speakers were Amy Gottlieb, Gary Kinsman, and Tim McCaskell.

[“Marxist Institute” vertical file, Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto.]

June 27 * Toronto * GCDC sponsored the “Summer Days Gay Dance,” held at the St. Lawrence Market North.


June 27–28 * Toronto * The sixth annual provincial conference of CGRO was held at Trinity College, University of Toronto. The conference was well-attended, and focused on grassroots organizing and technical and human resources. GO received a special award for “outstanding service to its lesbian and gay community.”


June 28 * Toronto * About 2,000 people celebrated Lesbian and Gay Pride Day, enjoying entertainers in Grange Park and marching through the streets of Toronto (led by the Amazon Motorcycle Club). This occasion also marked the first appearance in Toronto of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence. This celebration, organized by GLARE and the Lesbian and Gay Pride Day Committee, was the first of the modern, annual Gay Pride celebrations held in Toronto.


June 29 * Toronto * The body of David Murphy, sixty-one, was found in his apartment at the Brimley Acres seniors’ residence, 2950 Lawrence Avenue East. He had been bludgeoned and strangled. At the time, Murphy’s death was part of a series of unsolved murders of gay men in Toronto between 1975 and 1981. Dale Clarence Thompson, thirty-one, was charged with Murphy’s murder on October 2, 1981. On November 19, 1981, Lloyd Edward Wilson, thirty-two, turned himself in to police; he was also charged with first-degree murder in the case. On July 28, 1982, they were found guilty of second-degree murder by an Ontario Supreme Court jury, and Madame Justice Janet Boland sentenced them to life in prison.


**June 29** *Victoria, B.C.* * The British Columbia Civil Rights Protection Act passed. Although the act made it illegal to promote hatred of minority groups based on “race, religion, ethnic origin or place of origin,” sexual orientation was not included.


**June 30** *Moncton, N.B.* * Fearing a large influx of gays and lesbians into the city for a planned gay picnic on July 1 and the public backlash this might produce, Moncton City Council passed a by-law amendment forbidding organized groups of more than forty people from assembling in Centennial Park. The picnic had been planned by Don Cormier and others, and was to be the first public event for gay people in Moncton. At that time, Moncton was a conservative community with no gay organization. Despite the new by-law, one hundred gay men and lesbians held a picnic in Centennial Park on July 1 in the presence of a large number of policemen. (See also August 1981.)

June–July * Canada * The national gay and lesbian conference was cancelled, even though a founding conference for CALGM had been envisioned since CALGM’s inauguration at the end of the national conference held in Calgary in June–July 1980.


Summer * London, Ont. * At least forty-seven men were arrested for sexual offences after vice squad officers started patrolling Victoria Park beginning in July 1981.


Summer * Toronto * Plans were under way to form a Toronto branch of the gay interracial organization Black and White Men Together.


Summer * Toronto * A lesbian mother who had been arrested and charged with theft claimed that a policeman had beaten her at 51 Division headquarters.


Summer * Toronto * Residents of apartments on St. Joseph Street sent numerous letters to Alderman Gordon Chong and Toronto City Council demanding that they take action to control the loud and disruptive behaviour of patrons outside several clubs on the street, particularly Club Manatee (11A St. Joseph Street), a popular gay disco.

**Summer** * Vancouver * The group Lesbian Resistance was formed to organize against right-wing oppression. (See also October 18, 1981.)


**July** * Edmonton * PDCE and GATE sponsored a pink triangle raft in the annual Klondike Days raft race on the North Saskatchewan River. The “S.S. Pisces II” was named after the Pisces Spa, raided by the Edmonton police on May 30.


**July** * Pointe-au-Pic, Qué. * A production of Michel Tremblay’s play *La Duchesse de Langeais* was withdrawn from the summer theatre program at the Manoir Richelieu resort after guests expressed shock at “certain gestures and expressions” in the work. The play featured a lovelorn, aging homosexual recounting his amorous adventures.


**July** * Regina * GCR held the first Miss Rumours drag pageant; club drag competitions continued into the twenty-first century, with winners receiving the titles Miss and Mr. Gay Regina.


**July** * Toronto * Stevie Cameron’s article “When Someone in Your Family Is Gay” was published in *Chatelaine*. It discussed examples of
how families “survive the initial disappointment and grief, and come to terms with the homosexual in their midst.”


**July** * Toronto * The contents of eight folders of clippings on homosexuality, covering a period of seventeen years, were stolen from the Metropolitan Toronto Reference Library. The library tried to replace the material by copying items at the CGA.


**July** * Toronto * Stu Newton’s Positive Parents group launched a smear campaign against Toronto alderman David White, during which hundreds of leaflets were distributed throughout White’s Ward One area. The leaflets contained the caption “Did you vote David White into office to support people like this?” above a photograph of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence celebrating on Lesbian and Gay Pride Day. White had earlier supported gay demonstrators who marched on police headquarters.


**July** * Winnipeg * Provincial Court Judge Scott Wright ruled that indecent assault provisions in section 156 of the Canadian Criminal Code contravened the Canadian Bill of Rights as the section discriminated based on sex. The Crown appealed the decision to the Manitoba Court of Appeal. (See also November 25, 1981.)


**July 1** * Toronto * Metro Toronto Police laid bawdy house charges against five people after a raid on the Relaxation Plus massage parlour on Elm Street.

July 3 * New York, N.Y. * The *New York Times* published an article by Lawrence K. Altman entitled “Rare Cancer Seen in 41 Homosexuals,” which was subsequently distributed internationally by the New York Times News Service. This was the first major mainstream newspaper article to discuss the health crisis that would eventually become known as the AIDS pandemic. An unnamed *Body Politic* reporter (likely Randy Coates and/or Bill Lewis) dismissed the report as being biased and riddled with errors.


July 3 * Vancouver * The federal convention of the NDP endorsed a resolution calling for changes to the Canadian Criminal Code to ensure that, where violence is not a factor, “in acts of consensual sexual activity, the right of privacy is supreme.” This was a clear statement of policy concerning the February 5 bathhouse raids and the use of bawdy house charges in ongoing raids across Canada.


July 8 * Montréal * Municipal Court Judge Roger Pigeon found Albert Vandal, co-owner of the Sauna David, guilty of keeping a common bawdy house. The charge stemmed from a police raid on the bathhouse on April 23, 1980. Vandal’s lawyer appealed the verdict to the Québec Court of Appeal.

**July 9** *Montreal* * The *Gazette* published a sensational “special report” on teenage prostitution, claiming that up to 5,000 male and female juvenile prostitutes worked in the city. The article was sparked by a report prepared by the Québec Ministry of Justice; it had hired Charles Roy, a social worker, to go undercover for five months to investigate juvenile prostitution in Montréal.


**July 11** *Montreal* * Windi Earthworm (pseud. of John Windi), a cross-dressing gay troubadour and street performer, was arrested for causing a disturbance in a public place (on rue Saint-Denis).


**July 13** *Toronto* * Five months after the February 5 bath raids, Toronto City Council voted eighteen to three to appoint articling law student and former *Globe and Mail* reporter Arnold Bruner to conduct a study of police-gay community relations in Toronto. Bruner was expected to interview members of the gay community and the police department and produce a report by September 1981. Members of the Metropolitan Toronto Police Association as well as gays expressed doubts as to whether Bruner could produce a meaningful report that would lead to positive change in local police-gay community relations. (See also August 18, 1981; September 24, 1981; and November 3, 1981.)

July 13 * Toronto * A coalition of more than a dozen minority and community groups, including RTPC, announced the formation of the Citizens’ Independent Review of Police Actions (CIRPA). CIRPA would advise citizens with complaints about the police to take them before the Police Commission or to sue officers in small claims court, rather than use the police’s own Complaints Bureau. Metro Toronto Police Chief Jack Ackroyd dismissed CIRPA, saying there was no need for the group. Attorney General Roy McMurtry reacted almost immediately by setting up a new review system and appointing lawyer Sidney Linden to head it as Public Complaints Commissioner, without the approval of the Ontario Legislature or Cabinet. McMurtry’s move was heavily criticized, since Bill 68, the Metropolitan Police Force Complaints Project Act, 1981, had not yet been passed in the Ontario Legislature. (See also September 16, 1981.)


**July 15** *Toronto* * During the last day of the Don Franco trial, Crown Attorney Paul Culver argued that Franco’s home could be considered a public place. Provincial Court Judge Maurice Charles was incredulous. (See also September 24, 1981.)


**July 26** *Flamborough Township, Ont.* * Fifty Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police officers raided Ramblewood, a heterosexual “sexual swing club for consenting adult couples” located in a circus tent in Flamborough Township, near Hamilton. About a hundred people were charged with a total of more than 300 offences. The operation was compared to the raids on Toronto gay bathhouses earlier in 1981.


**July 28–August** *Edmonton* * Trials were held for men charged as found-ins during the May 30, 1981, raid on the Pisces Spa. Nineteen men pleaded guilty, while thirty-four others decided to fight the charges. (See also August 1, 1981, and September 9, 1981.)


**July 31** * Toronto * Two men charged with gross indecency in High Park were threatened by a gun-toting plainclothes police officer.


**August** * Hamilton, Ont. * The Big Brothers Association of Hamilton confirmed that gay men could become Big Brothers if they passed a series of screening tests, despite two recent indecent assault convictions
involving Hamilton Big Brothers and their Little Brothers.

**August** * Moncton, N.B. * Don Cormier helped to found Moncton’s first gay organization, which was not named at first. The group was formed to support local lesbians and gay men in response to the reaction of Moncton City Council members, as well as the general public, to the gay picnic that had been held in Centennial Park on July 1.

**August** * Toronto * Of 64 complaints lodged with the Police Complaints Bureau during August 1981, none had been substantiated by late September.

**August 1** * Edmonton * The Biltmore Club opened on the old premises of the Pisces Spa, 10508 109th Street, describing itself as a “private athletic club” with an emphasis on bodybuilding.

**August 1** * Toronto * Police harassment of the gay community continued when the bar 18 East (18 Eastern Avenue) was charged with overcrowding a day after it had entered a “cooperative” guilty plea to earlier charges of overcrowding and been fined $400. (See also November 26, 1981.)

**August 1–7** * Vancouver * Mayor Mike Harcourt fulfilled an election promise by proclaiming “Gay Unity Week ’81.” Events were planned and organized by the newly formed Gay Festival Society. More than 1,500 people marched in a parade, the first held as part of this celebration. There were also cultural events (including Pat Bond’s two performances of *Gerty, Gerty, Gerty*), displays, workshops, and a dance.
Anti-gay hate literature likely made by a Vancouver branch of the KKK was distributed in Vancouver’s suburbs during the week.


August 5 * Houston, Tex. * John Cowen Kellerman, a Canadian, received a special citation for “outstanding efforts in advocacy for the human rights of disabled persons,” by Rev. Troy Perry, moderator of the Board of Elders of the MCC, at the MCC’s conference. Kellerman had cerebral palsy and had been active in the fight for disabled rights for fourteen years; he also worked for gay rights. His life story was detailed in the documentary feature film A Fine Line (1981).

**August 7** * Calgary * Henry Berg, Bob Harris, and Andrew Wallace, members of GIRC, were harassed by police when crossing Central Park at night. The three men had gone to the park, a well-known cruising area, to investigate reports that policemen were harassing gay men by systematically detaining pedestrians in the park and asking for identification. The three men were stopped, but refused to cooperate with the policemen. Berg was thrown in jail for the evening, although no charges were laid. Harris later filed a complaint with the Calgary Police Commission. Harris’s complaint against one policeman, Constable Boyle, was upheld after an internal police investigation concluded that Boyle had displayed “unnecessary use of authority.” Boyle was reprimanded, but complaints against three other officers were rejected.


**August 8** * North Bay, Ont. * Management at the Ramada Inn, 700 Lakeshore Drive, barred eight gay people from the Gemini Room lounge because they were engaging in same-sex dancing. All were members of CHANB. The eight later filed an informal complaint with the Northern Regional office of the OHRC in Sudbury.


**August 10** * Toronto * Toronto City Council unanimously supported a report that called for an amendment to the Ontario Human Rights Code that would outlaw discrimination based on sexual orientation. (See also
September 8, 1981.

August 15 * Toronto * Bawdy house charges were laid against nine people after police raided the Executive Motor Hotel, 621 King Street West.

August 17 * Edmonton * Robert Blanchette was sentenced to two and a half years in prison after pleading guilty to four charges of buggery. He had hired four teenage boys to make a sexually explicit film.

August 17 * Toronto * NDP candidate Dan Heap won the Spadina riding in a federal by-election. The win was a surprise, as it was expected that James Coutts, principal adviser to Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, would win the safe Liberal seat. Heap, who had represented the downtown Ward Six on Toronto City Council for nine years, had in the past spoken in favour of gay rights initiatives. Heap’s win triggered a by-election for the junior Ward Six council seat, held October 19, 1981. Former Toronto alderman and mayor John Sewell soon became a favourite to win the seat. (See also October 19, 1981.)
August 18 * Toronto * TGCC organized a public hearing in order that Arnold Bruner, charged by Toronto City Council with reporting on “the disagreement and difficulties surrounding the Police and the Homosexual Community,” could hear directly from concerned individuals and organizations. The event, held at Jarvis Collegiate (495 Jarvis Street), included bitter testimony of police harassment from individuals, and briefs and recommendations from nine gay, lesbian, and feminist organizations. For example, James Fraser of the Lesbian and Gay History Group presented a brief outlining the historical evolution of poor relationships between police and gay people in Toronto (later published as the booklet *A Gay View of Gay/Police Relations*). RTPC presented twenty-six recommendations. (See also August 28, 1981, and September 24, 1981.)


August 24 * Edmonton * During the trial of a Fort McMurray man who was charged as a found-in during the Pisces Spa raid, the defence drew evidence from expert witnesses Dr. Neil Lindquist, a research officer with the AHRC, and Robert Brownlee, a Unitarian minister. Both men insisted that, although they exist for sexual contact, the baths could also be seen as a positive meeting place and community support centre for gays. Their testimony was discounted because neither of them had ever gone to the Pisces Spa. The man was found guilty of being a found-in and was fined $250.

August 25 * Ottawa * The report of the Royal Commission on Inquiry into Certain Activities of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (the McDonald Commission) was released after four years of hearings and research. The report revealed the RCMP Security Service had a long-established programme for collecting information on homosexuals. A special team had even been established in 1960 to investigate all homosexuals who lived in Ottawa, not just those employed by the government. Reporting activities were carried on even after the amendments to the Criminal Code in 1969 changed the legal status of homosexual activities. One of the report’s 285 recommendations was that “existing Security Service files on homosexuals be reviewed and that those which do not fall within the guidelines for opening and maintaining files be destroyed.” Canada’s Solicitor General Robert Kaplan promised that the files would not be retained.


**August 28** * Toronto * Paul Walter, president of the Metro Toronto Police Association, stated in an interview that “the majority of the members of the Metro Toronto Police Association have grave concerns about recognizing homosexuals as a legitimate minority with status under human rights legislation.”


**August 30** * Vancouver * The VGCC moved to 1244 Seymour Street, into a building shared with MCC Vancouver, SEARCH, and Top Man Leather. This was another step toward the formation of a true gay community centre for Vancouver.


**August 30–September 5** * Toronto * CGSL hosted the fifth annual Gay Softball World Series. Almost 300 players from eleven cities in Canada and the United States participated. Events included two dances, a corn roast, a boat cruise on Lake Ontario, and an awards banquet. On September 5, 1981, the Los Angeles Griffins won the series by defeating the Milwaukee Wreckroom 4 to 0. The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence performed as cheerleaders during the final game. The series was mentioned in mainstream media, including three Toronto daily newspapers, *Maclean’s* magazine, and local television stations.


**August 31** *Toronto* * The Crown withdrew found-in charges against three Richmond Street Health Emporium customers arrested during the February 5 bath raids. Crown Prosecutor Mary Hall asked that the charges be withdrawn. She argued that the alleged keepers had not yet been tried, and it would be seen as unfair if the found-ins were convicted while the keepers could potentially be acquitted. This was seen as a ploy to protect the evidence against the keepers until they came to trial. (See also November 23–27, 1981.)


**August 31** *Vancouver* * Rev. Dave Gunton resigned from the pulpit of MCC Vancouver to move to Richmond, Virginia; Rev. Ernie Lacasse was appointed interim pastor.


**August–September** ? *Calgary* * City council passed a by-law giving the chief of police broad powers to restrict the issuing of parade permits. Guidelines for the by-law were prepared after Chief Brian Sawyer refused in June 1980 to issue a parade permit to the 1980 Lesbian and Gay Rights Conference. The by-law was opposed by Mayor Ralph Klein and two aldermen.


**September** *Edmonton* * Gay men who cruised for sex in a downtown
area known as the Hill (McDougall Drive, near the Chateau Lacombe, and several lanes around Alberta College) began to carry concealed weapons after a series of men were attacked there in the past month.


**September** * Edmonton * Eight women organized a dance for lesbians. Subsequent dances were held, eventually leading to the establishment of Womonspace, a non-profit social and recreational organization for lesbians in Edmonton.

[“Womonspace,”” Roughnecks (Edmonton), 3, no. 3 (25 July 1982): 8.]

**September** * Toronto * The ChromaZone/Chromatique art collective held its inaugural show, “Mondo Chroma,” at 320 Spadina Avenue, second floor.

[“ChromaZone,” CCCA Canadian Art Database (ccca.concordia.ca/chromazone), accessed 20 October 2013; “ChromaZone” vertical file, Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto.]

**September** * Toronto * Gay Fathers: Some of Their Stories, Experience, and Advice was published by GFT.


**September** * Toronto * Edward O. Phillips’s Sunday’s Child: A Novel was published by McClelland & Stewart. This was the first in a series of mystery novels featuring the gay character Geoffry Chadwick.


**September** *Washington, D.C.* * The *American Journal of Public Health* reported a 1977 survey of gays in every state of the United States and in eight Canadian provinces that showed that more than 60 percent of gay men reported having had some form of venereal disease.


**September** *Winnipeg* * The federal office of the Secretary of State declared it could not fund a gay public education project, Project Understanding, even though the project had been approved by the local branch of the Secretary of State in January 1981, and $4,500 had been set aside pending approval from the federal level. The proposal, submitted by GFE, was designed to fund several educational activities, including a local cable television project and educational packets.


**September 1** *Toronto* * Twenty waiters and bartenders at Toronto’s two oldest gay bars, the Parkside Tavern (530 Yonge Street) and the St. Charles Tavern (488 Yonge Street) were locked out by management after a strike was called. The taverns were both owned by Norman Bolter and family, and were members of the Hotel Association of
Metropolitan Toronto. Members of Local 280 of the International Beverage Dispensers and Bartenders Union had voted to strike on August 30. When employees at the Parkside and St. Charles arrived at work on September 1, they were asked to sign a paper to resign from the union or to leave. When they refused to sign, the lockout began. Many of the employees had many years of service, and most were heterosexual. They began to picket the taverns. When the taverns hired replacement waiters (mostly gay) to try to break the strike, gay customers supported the original staff by distributing flyers urging customers to drink at other bars while the strike was on. A settlement was ratified on September 18, 1981; it called for an 18 percent wage increase over two years.


September 2 * Toronto * The Crown dropped the bawdy house charge against Roy Montgomery in bargaining with defence lawyer Dianne Martin. The only charges that remained related to obscenity (his mail-order catalogue) and one weapons charge. (See also November 3–4, 1981.)


September 3 * Montréal * The CBC bargaining unit of the National Association of Broadcast Employees and Technicians (NABET) signed a new contract that included protection from discrimination based on sexual orientation.


September 4 * Toronto * GCDC sponsored “Feverpitch,” a dance held at the Concert Hall, 888 Yonge Street.

[“Feverpitch” (advertisement), Body Politic, no. 76 (1981), p. 5.]

September 8 * Toronto * The first day of resumed public hearings on
Bill 7, an act to revise and extend the Ontario Human Rights Code, drew many pro-gay briefs. For example, Mayor Art Eggleton, representing Toronto City Council, spoke in favour of a sexual orientation amendment to the code (although clarifying his own personal reservations). The hearings were conducted by the Standing Committee on Resources Development, and examined briefs submitted from concerned citizens and groups, including GLARE and the RTPC. At least one PC MPP, Jim Taylor (Prince Edward-Lennox), attacked Bill 7, saying that it was “more than social policy. It is socialist dogma.”


**September 8** * Toronto * The unnamed co-accused of Charles Diamond pleaded guilty to gross indecency, even though both men had been acquitted of the lesser charge of committing an indecent act in December 1980. They had been arrested during a police sweep of David Balfour Park on August 25, 1980. Diamond was determined to fight the police tactic of laying two charges, aimed at forcing defendants to plead guilty
to one charge in return for having the other withdrawn. Diamond appeared in court January 25, 1982, charged with gross indecency. Defending himself, Diamond raised the issue of double jeopardy (prosecuting twice for one alleged offence). County Court Judge W.F.B. Rogers agreed that it was a case of double jeopardy, and dismissed the charge.


**September 9** * Edmonton * The Alberta Court of Appeal reduced fines against the Pisces Spa and the convicted keepers, agreeing that the original fines were excessive. The fine against the spa was reduced from $20,000 to $6,000, and fines against co-owner Dr. Henry Toupin and manager John Kerr were reduced from $10,000 to $4,000. The fine against co-owner Eric Stein was reduced from $5,000 to $1,500. (See also September–October 1981.)


**September 9** * Toronto * Vito Russo delivered a film presentation and lecture on gay images in Hollywood films, based on his book *The Celluloid Closet: Homosexuality in the Movies*. More than 500 people attended the benefit event, held at the Festival Theatre, in support of the Body Politic.


**September 10–12** * Toronto * The revue *Ripe Tomatoes*, billed as “a musical celebration of gay and lesbian spirit,” was performed. The show was directed by Jim Saar.

[Advertisement, Body Politic, no. 75 (1981), p. 6.]
September 10–19 * Ottawa * GO celebrated its tenth anniversary with a number of social, cultural, and political activities. Michael Cassidy (leader of the Ontario NDP), Marion Dewar (mayor of Ottawa), Gordon Fairweather (head of the CHRC), and Borden Purcell (OHRC) attended the opening of the gay community centre, 175 Lisgar Street, on September 10.


September 11 * Toronto * The documentary P4W: Prison for Women, by Janice Cole and Holly Dale, was shown at the Toronto Festival of Festivals. It detailed the lives of women doing time at the Kingston Penitentiary, the only prison for women in Canada. Two of the women were lovers, preparing for separation.


September 12 * Montréal * The first Congrès AA Gai au Québec was held, at 7060, rue Bloomfield.
September 15 * Calgary * Rev. Lloyd Greenway of MCC was invited to be the after-dinner speaker at the Knights of the Round Table, a private-club luncheon held at the Calgary Chamber of Commerce dining room. During question period, prominent historian James H. Gray stood up and asked Greenway, “Do you sodomize?” Greenway replied, “I’m a Calgarian, not a sodomite.” Gray pressed on: “Do you do buggery?” Greenway refused to answer. R.E. Wolf, chairman of the speaker’s committee, resigned in protest over the incident.

[“AA Gai au Québec” vertical file, Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto.]

September 16 * Toronto * CIRPA, set up to assist with public complaints of police misconduct, held a press conference to announce that it was open for business, with a twenty-four-hour phone line.


September 22 * North York, Ont. * Richard Geggie, principal of Faywood Public School, rescinded an offer of temporary employment to artist Lonny Stekiewicz after discovering that the artist was gay. Geggie said that he made the decision in consideration of the conservative values of the parents of the school’s pupils. The temporary position was part of the OAC’s Artists in the Schools programme.


September 24 * Toronto * Arnold Bruner’s report Out of the Closet: Study of Relations between the Homosexual Community and the Police (commonly known as The Bruner Report), commissioned by Toronto City Council, was released. The 188-page report made sixteen recommendations. It called for recognition of the gay community as a
legitimate minority community entitled to legal protection against
discrimination, for the establishment of a permanent police-gay dialogue
committee, and for an end to police entrapment and hidden undercover
surveillance of gays. Reaction to the report in the gay community was
cautiously optimistic; other reactions were mixed. Mayor Art Eggleton
worried that the recommendations would “give special status or suggest
special status to the gay community.” (See also November 3, 1981, and
December 10–11, 1981.)

[“Arnold’s Folly” (editorial), Toronto Sun, 28 September 1981, p. 10; Lis Ben, “Legitimate at Last?” Gay Niagara News, 3, no. 1 (January
1982): 7–9; Lara Bradley, “The ‘Final Solution’ to the Gay Problem:
Lawyer Arnold Bruner Blew the Lid off Slimy Police Tactics,” Xtra!,
no. 375 (1999), p. 11; Arnold Bruner papers, accession 1998–050,
Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto; Doug Chin, “Social
Carnage” (letter), Body Politic, no. 79 (1981), p. 4; “Dialogue and
Beyond” (editorial), Body Politic, no. 81 (1982), p. 8; John Downing,
“A Sop to Homosexuals” (column), Toronto Sun, 25 September 1981,
p. 4; “Eggleton against Hiring Gay Cops,” Toronto Sun, 25
September 1981, p. 4; John Ferri, “Author Defends Homosexual
Claire Hoy, “Gay Study Is Plain Sad” (column), Toronto Sun, 27
September 1981, p. 13; Ed Jackson, “Police and Gays: Study Calls for
Dialogue,” Body Politic, no. 78 (1981), pp. 10–11; Ross Laver,
“Remarks on Gays Intended as Joke, Police Leader Says,” Globe and
Mail, metro ed., 7 October 1981, p. 5; Ross Laver, “Stop Picking on
Homosexuals, Hire Gay Officers, Police Urged,” Globe and Mail,
15; “Not Very Helpful” (editorial), Globe and Mail, weekend ed., 26
September 1981, p. 6; Maggie Siggins, “A Little Paper Is a
Dangerous Thing: It’s Easy to Laugh at the Sun—Unless, Like the
Gays, You’re the One Who Gets Burned,” Toronto Life, February
1982, pp. 15–19; Dave Todd, “Gap between Gays, Police Growing,”
Ottawa Citizen, 30 September 1981, p. 73; “War or Peace?”}
September 24 * Toronto * Judge Maurice Charles acquitted Don Franco of the charge of keeping a common bawdy house in his own home. The Crown served notice of its intention to appeal the verdict. On September 25, 1981, 800 people celebrated Franco’s acquittal by staging a victory march from Yonge and Wellesley streets to police headquarters on Jarvis Street. The victory march (complete with balloons, noisemakers, disco music, and nine members of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence) was organized by RTPC.

September 25 * Toronto * The band Rough Trade, with Carole Pope, performed to a sold-out crowd at Massey Hall. They were promoting their new album, *For Those Who Think Young*.


September 25–26 * Toronto * MCC sponsored the third annual Festival of Love, which included a dinner/cabaret on September 26. Bruce McLeod, former moderator of The United Church of Canada, was presented with a certificate of appreciation in recognition of his continuing work for human rights. Chris Bearchell was awarded a certificate of appreciation for her civil rights work.


September 26 * Toronto * More than one hundred people demonstrated outside the Yonge-Eglinton Centre, the site of a jewellery store operated by Positive Parents’ organizer Stu Newton. The protest was organized by GLARE. Positive Parents had distributed massive amounts of anti-gay literature during recent municipal and provincial elections.


September 26 * Toronto * Sixty-five people picketed for an hour outside the United States Consulate on University Avenue as part of an international day of protest (held in twelve countries) against American immigration policy that continued to exclude gay non-residents. The local protest related to the case of Philip Fotheringham, a Toronto resident, who was denied entry to the United States at Kennedy International Airport on May 5, 1981, because of his sexual orientation. Officials had denied him entry after examining his personal
correspondence and diaries.


**September 30** * Toronto * Provincial Court Judge June Bernhard acquitted James Chemerika of assaulting a policeman during the February 20 protest against the bath raids. She also called for an investigation of police conduct during the protest.


**September–October** * Edmonton * Many of the fifty-six men charged with being found-ins during the May 30 raid on the Pisces Spa pleaded guilty and were given fines ranging from $150 to $250. Some of the cases carried on into 1982. As of May 30, 1982, the one-year anniversary of the raid, only one found-in had been acquitted, two warrants were still outstanding, six men had been convicted after pleading not guilty, and forty-seven men had pleaded guilty. (See also October 29, 1981.)


**September–October** * Toronto * The police Complaints Bureau processed eighty-five complaints in September, eight of which were substantiated in part or in whole, and seventy-nine complaints in October, six of which were substantiated in part or in whole.

**Autumn** * Toronto * Organizers of a joint conference of the Film Studies Association of Canada, the Society for Cinema Studies, and the University Film Association cancelled plans to hold a major convention in Toronto in 1982 in response to the RTPC’s “Boycott Ontario” campaign, and due to the notorious policies of film censorship enforced by the Ontario Censorship Board.


**Autumn** * Toronto * The Right to Privacy Foundation was created to oversee the equitable distribution of funds raised by RTPC to help defend men charged as keepers or found-ins during the bath raids. The RTPC raised more than $80,000 in the year following the raids through direct mail campaigns, dances, and special events. The foundation’s original board had five members: three from the RTPC executive, and two independent members (a chartered accountant and a lawyer).


**Autumn** * Vancouver * Mary Meigs’s autobiography, *Lily Briscoe: A Self-portrait*, was published by Talonbooks. It was published in French translation as *Lily Briscoe, un autoportrait* by Éditions Hurtubise HMH.


**Autumn** *Vancouver* *Vancouver* David Sereda’s first album, *Chivalry Lives*, was released by Rocky Wednesday Records.


**Autumn** *Windsor, Ont.* *The University of Windsor’s Student Council granted official recognition to the group Lesbian and Gay Students on Campus (LGSOC) despite attempts to block it.*


**October** *Canada* *The Canadian Penitentiary Service introduced a new policy to help transsexuals in Canadian federal prisons. It negotiated a contract with the Toronto-based Clarke Institute’s Gender Identity Clinic and the Philippe Pinel Institute in Montréal, under which doctors assessed, three inmates at a time, their need for therapy and hormone treatments. At that time there were fourteen transsexuals in Canadian federal prisons.*
October * San Francisco, Calif. * Dr. John Jameson, director of Toronto’s Therapy Behaviour Institute, presented a case study at the annual conference of the Phobic Society of America in which he had developed a successful therapy for a person who had been incapacitated by a fear of homosexuals.


October * Toronto * Robertson Davies’s novel *The Rebel Angels* was published by Macmillan of Canada. Set at a campus much like the University of Toronto, the story has a villain who is an unsympathetic homosexual professor named Parlabane.

October * Toronto * Timothy Findley’s novel *Famous Last Words* was published by Clarke, Irwin.


October 1 * Toronto * The trial of Suzanne O’Callaghan, arrested in the aftermath of the June 20 demonstration and charged with assaulting a police officer, began. She was acquitted by Judge Sydney Harris on March 1, 1982.


October 1 * Toronto * A full month of public hearings on proposed revisions to the Ontario Human Rights Code (Bill 7) ended; a sexual orientation amendment was unlikely to be included in any revision of the code. (See also October 28–November 4, 1981, and December 1, 1981.)

October 4 * Fort Frances, Ont. * Gays at Fort Frances (GAFF) held its organizational meeting. Two members of GTB attended to support the new group.


October 5 * Toronto * Metro Chairman Paul Godfrey slammed members of CIRPA as “vigilantes” who were “misguided and may not know what they’ve got themselves into.” The remarks were made in front of an Ontario Legislature committee hearing. Godfrey was in turn attacked by MPP Ed Philip (NDP–Etobicoke), who accused him of “smearing” reputable community groups. Later, Philip Givens, chairman of the Metro Board of Police Commissioners, also denounced CIRPA.


October 5 * Toronto * Paul Seidler, a gay liaison officer for the San Francisco Police Department, spoke at the “Hiring of Minorities” workshop, part of a larger conference sponsored by the Foundation for Police Community Relations and the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews. At that time, Seidler was the only gay liaison police officer in North America.


October 5, 9 * Toronto * “The Gay Experience: A Tale of Two Cities” was broadcast by City-TV as part of its Close-Up series. Reporter Kevin Evans travelled to San Francisco to interview people about the gay experience there, and compared this to recent developments in Toronto,
which some people had labelled “San Francisco North.”
[“City-TV” vertical file, Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto.]

October 6 * Ottawa * Three justices of the Supreme Court of Canada (Hon. R.G.B. Dickson, Rt. Hon. Bora Laskin, and Hon. W.R. McIntyre) ruled that the full court would not hear the appeal of PTP, which had asked the court to uphold Provincial Court Judge Sydney Harris’s 1979 acquittal of the Body Politic on charges of “using the mails to transmit indecent, immoral or scurrilous matter.” This was the last resort of appeal, and the Body Politic was sent back to retrial. (See also December 21, 1981.)

October 7 * Québec, Qué. * Diane Poliquin presented a brief on behalf of ADGQ to the Quebec parliamentary commission reviewing the Quebec Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms, making eight recommendations for reform. These included the removal of two clauses (sections 20 and 97) because they allowed for limited discrimination based on sexual orientation.

October 9–12 * Saskatoon, Sask. * Almost 300 people attended Metamorphosis, the fourth Prairie festival of lesbian and gay Saskatchewan. The festival was sponsored by Gay Saskatchewan, the GCR, and SGCC. It included social, cultural, and political displays, performances, and events, and a march of seventy people through the

**October 14* *Toronto* *Police called a meeting with representatives of the gay community to discuss crowd control on Yonge Street during the upcoming Halloween celebrations. (See also October 31, 1981.)


**October 14* *Toronto* *Justice Thomas Zuber and two other justices of the Ontario Court of Appeal overturned the reinstatement of gay OPP officer Paul Head, stating that Head had failed to prove that his resignation in March 1978 was made under duress and coercion and was not truly voluntary. Head appealed the decision to the Supreme Court of Canada, which heard the case on April 29, 1985, and ruled to dismiss it on May 9, 1985, stating there was no basis for judicial review. (See also December 9, 1981.)

October 15 * Toronto * The last three men charged as being found-ins at the Barracks on December 9, 1978, appeared in court. Two pleaded guilty; the third charge was dismissed on a technicality. All guilty found-ins in the case had received absolute discharges.


October 15–November 8 * Toronto * Walter Bruno’s play *Shouting for Joy!* was performed at Toronto Workshop Productions.


October 16–18 * Fredericton, N.B. * Eighty people attended the fourth Atlantic Community Conference of Lesbians and Gay Men, sponsored by AGA. The guest speaker was Dr. Don Clark, author of *Loving Someone Gay* (1977). A reception and workshops were held, and a dance attracted 165 people. This was the largest assembly of gays to date in New Brunswick.


October 17 * Toronto * LAR sponsored “Dykes in the Streets,” a day of lesbian pride, power, and visibility. Three hundred and fifty women participated in a march from the 519 Community Centre on Church Street to Old City Hall; this was the first lesbian pride march held in Toronto. Other events included a cabaret and dance party held at Scadding Court.


**October 18** *Vancouver* * The group Lesbian Resistance sponsored the Great Lesbian Dinner. 

**October 19** *Toronto* * Former mayor John Sewell won the junior aldermanic seat in the Ward Six by-election by a landslide; Sewell took 7,278 votes, compared to Gus Yeung, his nearest opponent, at 1,741 votes. The seat became vacant after Dan Heap resigned to become the MP for the federal riding of Spadina. Sewell’s support for gays did not play much of a role in the election.


**October 21** *Guelph, Ont.* * GGE was granted approval by the Central Students’ Association of the University of Guelph to change its status from a club to a community service organization.


**October 22** *Toronto* * A deputation from CIRPA was refused a place on the agenda of the October 22 meeting of the Metro Toronto Police Commission. Chairman Phil Givens refused the request, stating the agenda for that date was “overloaded with items of importance.” Nevertheless, members of CIRPA and a lawyers’ group stormed the
meeting and presented sworn statements and letters detailing thirty-six allegations of torture and abuse by some units of Metro Toronto Police. The commission agreed to appoint three senior officers to investigate the allegations. (See also November 5, 1981, and December 10, 1981.)


October 22–November 8 * Toronto * Sky Gilbert’s play Cavafy, or The Veils of Desire, a fantasy based on the life and works of gay poet Constantine P. Cavafy, was staged by Buddies in Bad Times Theatre at the Theatre Centre, 666 King Street West.


October 23 * Saskatoon * The first official meeting of the social group U. of S. Gays was held at the University of Saskatchewan.

[“New Gay Group,” Sheaf (Univ. of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon), 15 October 1981, p. 4.]

October 24 * Montréal * Police raided a home at 3460, rue Saint-Hubert during a private gay party and charged two owners with selling alcohol without a licence, and 150 guests with being present in an establishment where alcohol was being sold illegally. The Journal de Montréal, a local tabloid, printed three sensational articles about the raid, complete with photographs, and made unfounded allegations that a torture chamber had been found at the party. ADGQ later filed a complaint against the newspaper with the Quebec Press Council. In June 1982, the council ruled that the articles had been sensational, unfair, and misleading, and criticized the Journal de Montréal.

**October 26** *Toronto* * Ontario* Minister of Community and Social Services Frank Drea confirmed that the Ontario government was not prepared to implement gay youth homes to alleviate the problems faced by gay street youth. (See also November 19, 1981.)


**October 27** *Vancouver* * A four-city tour of Western Canada by female impersonator Craig Russell was cancelled after Russell showed up late for a performance and did not do his usual show. He went directly onstage with his head shaved, wearing a kimono, and carrying a parasol. At the end of a brief performance, Russell threw jewellery, wigs, and clothing into the audience. About 200 people asked for refunds. The promoter for the tour, Hugh Pickett of Famous Artists, later remarked that, “It was the most disgusting, disgraceful, terrifying night I’ve spent in the theatre in thirty-five years.”

October 28–November 4 * Toronto * The Standing Committee on Resources Development’s clause-by-clause consideration of the proposed Bill 7, to amend the Ontario Human Rights Code, rejected MPP Sheila Copps’s gay rights amendment by a margin of seven to four. (See also December 1, 1981.)


October 29 * Edmonton * Pisces Spa found-in Garnet Plum claimed at his trial that the baths were no offense to the community. Provincial Court Judge R.E. Hyde ruled that community standards did not apply to the case. Plum was found guilty of being found in a common bawdy house and was fined $250.


October 31 * Toronto * Improved crowd control and increased police cooperation made for a successful Halloween celebration on Yonge Street. There were no homophobic incidents at the gay St. Charles Tavern, and no arrests.

[David Kendall, “Homosexual Halloween: Queen for a Night—What a Drag!” Toronto Sun, 1 November 1981, p. 5.]

October–November * Toronto * A dozen convicted sex offenders were
found to be using a potentially carcinogenic drug, the synthetic hormone Provera, to curb their sexual urges. Most of the men were taking the drug under court order.


**October–December** * Vancouver * A non-credit, continuing education course entitled “The Gay and Lesbian Experience: Contemporary Issues and Options” was offered at Capilano College. Penny Goldsmith was the course coordinator.


**October 1981–April 1982** * Winnipeg * A series of lectures and readings called “The Gay Experience,” sponsored by GFE and funded by the Canada Council, was held at the University of Manitoba and the Centennial Library. Highlights included a talk entitled “Homosexuality in Politics” by George Hislop (October 9) and readings by poet Ian Young (October 18).


**November** * Toronto * The Ministry, Personnel, and Education Committee of The United Church of Canada’s Toronto Conference proposed that sexual orientation should not be a factor in deciding whether to admit a candidate to the ministry.


**November** * Toronto * RTPC began to coordinate a national effort to
raise support and funding for a full-page advertisement in the national edition of the Globe and Mail to demand the repeal of the bawdy house laws. The ad, listing hundreds of supporters, was published June 2, 1982.


November 2 * Toronto * In the first keeper trial after the February 5 bath raids, Romans II Sauna employee Stephen Briggs pleaded guilty to keeping a common bawdy house and received an absolute discharge. Five other accused keepers had the charges against them withdrawn in plea bargaining. Due to this verdict, the legal status of the alleged found- 
ins awaiting trial was ambiguous.


November 3 * Toronto * The Neighbourhoods Committee, a standing committee of Toronto City Council, heard public deputations on the Bruner Report. Presentations were made by representatives of LBC, TGCC, and RTPC, as well as by MPP Sheila Copps (Lib–Hamilton-Centre). Some presenters opposed the Bruner Report, including Stu Newton of Positive Parents. The committee recommended that only two points be acted on by the police as an indication of good faith before the rest of the report would be considered. These points were that Toronto’s police chief Jack Ackroyd publicly recognize the legitimacy of the gay community and that he establish a gay awareness programme for police recruits. The recommendations were considered by Toronto City
Council on November 19, 1981. The Neighbourhoods Committee considered the remainder of the Bruner Report at its meeting of January 12, 1982. (See also November 19, 1981, and December 10–11, 1981.)


**November 3–4** *Toronto* A central issue of the Roy Montgomery trial was the question of whether sex toys and leather apparel were obscene. Montgomery had been charged with distributing obscene matter through a small mail-order business that he ran out of his apartment. On February 5, 1982, Provincial Court Judge Charles Purvis found Montgomery guilty, ruling that some of the materials distributed by Montgomery Leathers (such as bondage harnesses, restraints, and clamps) were obscene because they “exploited sex, cruelty and violence to a degree which surpasses contemporary Canadian standards of tolerance.” Montgomery received a conditional discharge and one year’s probation. He was also forbidden to distribute obscene material during his probation.


**November 4** *Edmonton* Michael Phair, chairman of PDCE for the men charged as found-ins in the Pisces bath raid, was found guilty of being a found-in; he was fined $250 on November 16. Phair later became a leading gay activist in Alberta, and served as a member of Edmonton’s city council from 1992 to 2007. He was the first openly gay man elected to public office in Alberta.

November 4 * Toronto * A man entrapped by an undercover police officer through an advertisement placed in the classified section of the American gay magazine *The Advocate* was acquitted of keeping a bawdy house in his own home.


November 4 * Toronto * The Criminal Lawyers’ Association of Ontario, representing 600 members, called on Ontario’s Solicitor General Roy McMurtry to order a judicial inquiry into allegations of police brutality and abuse against lesbians and gay men, citing twenty-five cases. McMurtry, who was also Ontario’s Attorney General at the time, replied that a judicial inquiry would be “premature.” (See also November 5, 1981.)


November 4–December 6 * Montréal * Michel Tremblay’s play *Les anciennes odeurs* was performed at the Théâtre de Quat’Sous. It was published in French in Montréal by Éditions Leméac in 1981, and in an English-language translation by John Stowe, *Remember Me*, in Vancouver by Talonbooks, in 1984.


November 5 * Toronto * Members of CIRPA presented new allegations of gross police misconduct at a meeting of the Toronto Police Commission, and said that a public inquiry should be called to investigate them. The commission refused to hear details of the
allegations, and said that it had no authority to call an inquiry.

November 5–8 * Toronto * David Roche’s one-man show David Roche Talks to You about Love was performed at the Theatre Centre, 666 King Street West, as part of the Rhubarb! festival of new works.

November 9 * Edmonton * CBC Edmonton (CBX–TV) broadcast a documentary on gay life in Edmonton entitled The Gay Straight Jacket. Public response to the program was mostly favourable.

November 14 * Toronto * “Carnival in Rio,” a dance sponsored by GCDC, was held at the Concert Hall, 888 Yonge Street.
[“Carnival in Rio: A Dance” (advertisement), Body Politic, no. 78 (1981), p. 21.]

November 15 * Saskatoon * Gay and Lesbian Support Services (GLSS) opened at 217–116 Third Avenue South as an organization of gay people providing services to the gay community, including programs such as Gayline and support groups for couples, people with dependencies, and gay professionals.

November 16 * Toronto * John Henry Martin, thirty-three, was found stabbed to death in his apartment on Jarvis Street. This was another case in an ongoing string of murders of gay men in Toronto. On January 21, 1982, Edward Michael Holness, twenty-three, was charged with first-degree murder in the case.
[“Cops Ask for Public’s Help in 2 Murders,” Toronto Sun, 19

November 18 * Ottawa * After a twenty-month battle, the CGA won an appeal with Revenue Canada to obtain recognition as a registered charitable organization. Its application for charitable status had been refused in August 1980 after Revenue Canada described it as an organization “formed by a group of individuals primarily for the promotion, advocacy, or performance of a purpose peculiar to them.” The CGA appealed the decision, offering letters of support from journalists, government departments, and academics, establishing the benefit of the collection to the entire community.


November 19 * Toronto * The Bloor-Spadina Inner City Church Council admitted MCC Toronto to its membership. Eight of nine Protestant churches in the downtown Toronto neighbourhood voted to include MCC; only the Baptists were opposed.


November 19 * Toronto * Judge George Thomson, Ontario’s associate deputy minister of Community and Social Services, told a meeting of GAU that the ministry was struggling to develop policy concerning social services for gay youth.

November 19 * Toronto * Toronto City Council voted to accept two compromise resolutions relating to the Bruner Report, which were to be acted on immediately. The first called on Chief of Police Jack Ackroyd to make a public statement to the police department to clarify that “the gay community is not to be singled out for special attention” and “constitutes a legitimate community within Toronto which is entitled to the same rights as other minority communities and whose individual members are entitled to the same respect, service, and protection as all law-abiding citizens.” The motion passed by a vote of seventeen to five. There was also to be a clear policy statement on non-discrimination in hiring and promotion. The second resolution, as modified and proposed by Alderman Gordon Chong, called for “a gay awareness programme to be established and incorporated into a general Community Awareness Programme” which would “sensitize and maintain the sensitivity of members of the Metro Toronto Police Force and its recruits to the various minority groups which make up Metro Toronto.” The motion passed twenty to two. The resolutions were opposed by Mayor Art Eggleton (who feared they suggested “special status” for the gay community), and Alderman Tony O’Donohue. (See also December 10–11, 1981.)


November 20 * Toronto * Cleveland-based businessman Jack Campbell, founder of the Club Baths chain, made a surprise guilty plea to charges of conspiracy relating to the February 5 bath raids. Campbell was a director and shareholder of the Club Toronto and the Barracks, both of which had been raided. Campbell was fined $40,000, which he arranged to pay off in yearly instalments of $10,000, and left Toronto directly after his court appearance. His co-accused (Raymond Diemer, George Hislop, Jerry Levy, Peter Maloney, and Rick Stenhouse) were unaware of Campbell’s plea bargain until they saw the report on the evening news. (See also December 11, 1981.)

November 21 * British Columbia * Jim Egan was elected as a regional director for Electoral Area B of the Regional District of Comox-Strathcona. Egan was the first openly gay man living in an openly gay relationship (since 1949, with Jack Nesbit) to be elected to public office in Canada. He was re-elected twice and served from 1981 until 1993 when he decided not to stand for re-election. Egan’s initial election was not covered in the gay press.


November 23–27 * Toronto * Six men charged with being keepers of the Richmond Street Health Emporium pleaded not guilty before Provincial Court Judge F.J. McMahon. Testimony from undercover policemen during the trial revealed the existence of “Operation Soap,” a large-scale police investigation into “criminal activity in the gay community.” Trials of men arrested on bawdy house offences continued through December 1981, and later. One after the other, the alleged found-ins and keepers of common bawdy houses entered not-guilty pleas. In one trial, on December 11, 1981, Provincial Court Judge C.H. Paris asked Crown Attorney Stan Berger to consider dropping charges against found-ins from the February 5 bath raids, as the cases relating to not-guilty pleas were beginning to clog the courts. On January 11, 1982, Brian Rhodes, the former manager of the Richmond Street Health Emporium, pleaded guilty to being a keeper of a common bawdy house.
His plea was linked to a plea bargaining deal, and charges against the five other men charged as keepers were dropped. On March 4, 1982, Provincial Court Judge McMahon sentenced Rhodes to a fine of $2,000 or six months in jail.


November 24 * London, Ont. * Representatives of London’s gay community organizations were invited by Paul Wollaston to attend a meeting at the Diner (209 Dundas Street) to discuss the formation of an umbrella organization for the local community. Twenty-one people attended the meeting; there was a follow-up meeting on December 17. Disagreements between organizations led to a collapse of talks on April 22, 1982.


November 24 * Toronto * PTP officers Gerald Hannon, Ed Jackson, and Ken Popert were summoned to appear in Ontario Provincial Court on December 21, 1981, to set a new trial date for indecency and
immorality charges stemming from the publication of Hannon’s article “Men Loving Boys Loving Men” in issue 39 of the *Body Politic*. (See also December 21, 1981.)


**November 25** * Winnipeg * The Manitoba Court of Appeal rejected Provincial Court Judge Scott Wright’s ruling that section 156 of the Canadian Criminal Code concerning indecent assault was inoperative because it contravened the Canadian Bill of Rights.


**November 26** * Toronto * 18 East bar co-owners David Davies and George Pratt appeared in court at Old City Hall to face seven charges of overcrowding. (See also December 17, 1981.)


**November 27** * Toronto * Anti-gay crusader Stu Newton of Positive Parents held a press conference to allege that a teenager had been lured from home by telephone conversations with a well-known, unnamed, gay activist. The youngster’s parents had taped the conversations; they rejected him and the youth ended up in foster care.


**November 28** * Ottawa * Sixty-five people met for the annual meeting of GO. Lesbians were becoming more active in GO, and by 1981 half of the seats on the board of directors were held by women.

December * Edmonton * The Gay Fathers group was founded, under the auspices of GATE.

December * Halifax * The Turret gay community centre refused a request to shoot part of a feature film on its premises. The film, *Siege*, directed by Michael Donovan, included excessive violence, including a raid on a gay bar by a gang of thugs.
   [“Canadian Film Features Raid,” *Body Politic*, no. 80 (1982), p. 15.]

December * Montréal * Members of the gay community presented a 165-name petition to Ville Marie chairman Robert Keaton after one of two social worker positions dedicated to social counselling for the gay community was lost due to budgetary cutbacks.

December * Montréal * Jovette Marchessault’s play *La terre est trop courte, Violette Leduc*, based on the life of French writer Violette Leduc, was performed at the Théâtre Expérimental des femmes.

December * Toronto * Rupert Raj established Metamorphosis: Gender Counselling-Educational Services. Raj was a transsexual who had transitioned in 1970, earned a B.A. in psychology in 1975, and had been counselling transsexual peers throughout Canada and the United States. *Metamorphosis*, a journal edited by Raj, began publication in 1982. Raj
also created the non-profit Metamorphosis Medical Research Foundation, which served transsexuals, in January 1983.

[Rupert Raj papers, accession 2006–167, and “Rupert Raj” vertical file, Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto.]

**December** * Vancouver * Passacaglia Books, a gay bookstore, ticket office, and drop-in centre located at 1230 Davie Street, closed after more than two years in business. The store failed after the owner, Grace Flesher, moved away.


**December 1** * Toronto * The pre-recorded telephone line 530–GAYS began to give information and support to young lesbians and gays. The project was organized by Gay Friends.


**December 1** * Toronto * The Ontario Legislature defeated NDP member James Renwick’s amendment to Bill 7 to include protection from discrimination based on sexual orientation in the Ontario Human Rights Code by a vote of sixty-nine to twenty-three. After the defeat was announced, several non-violent gay protesters (including Rev. Brent Hawkes, Del Mansell, and Paul Murphy) handcuffed themselves to railings in the Legislature’s spectators’ gallery, and the Legislature was disrupted briefly. The protesters were removed, but were not arrested. A decade of gay protest and lobbying in support of the amendment had ended in failure, and the bill passed third reading on December 7, 1981, and was proclaimed on June 15, 1982. Sexual orientation protection would eventually be granted under (another) Bill 7, which passed into law in December 1986.


December 2 * Montréal * The Capables!, a support group for bisexual men, held its inaugural meeting at 4018, rue Ste. Catherine Ouest.
[“The Capables!” vertical file, Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto.]

December 9 * St. Catharines, Ont. * A jury acquitted fired OPP constable Paul Head of indecent assault on a male. The charge had been laid by police on April 29, 1980, about a month after Divisional Court had ordered that Head be reinstated to the OPP. This charge was seen as an attempt to further discredit Head.
December 10 * Toronto * Staff Superintendent John Reid declared that, after a brief investigation, he and two other senior officers had found no evidence to substantiate allegations of police assault and torture made by CIRPA before a meeting of the Metro Toronto Police Commission on October 22, 1981.


December 10–11 * Toronto * Alderman Gordon Chong, acting as a liaison for the gay community, attended a meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Police on December 10, 1981, to discuss their reaction to the two good faith resolutions approved by city council on November 19. (The board discussed the additional Bruner Report recommendations on January 14, 1982.) On December 11, 1981, representatives of the TGCC (Bob Gallagher, Rev. Brent Hawkes, John Higgins, and Tom Warner) met with Police Chief Jack Ackroyd to discuss the resolutions. Chief Ackroyd delivered his statement to the force on January 20, 1982. He stated, “I support the general intent of the two recommendations,” which he quoted in full. He continued by stating that “all of the people in the Metropolitan Toronto community, including the homosexual segment of the community (gay/lesbian), are entitled to the same rights, respect, service and protection as all citizens. Being homosexual is not a reason to deny anyone the right to be recognized as a legitimate member of the community.”


December 11 * Toronto * Raymond Diemer, Georgia-based co-owner
of the Club Baths chain, surrendered at 52 Division and was charged with conspiring to keep a common bawdy house, conspiring to possess property obtained by crime, and selling obscene material. The charges stemmed from the February 5 raids on the Barracks and Club Toronto bathhouses. Diemer had originally been charged on April 22, 1981, but was out of the country; he was released on his own recognizance and given a court date. On September 24, 1984, during a preliminary hearing for the conspiracy charges, the Crown decided not to proceed, offering the defendants plea bargaining opportunities. All charges against George Hislop and Peter Maloney were dropped in return for an agreement that they would not sue for malicious prosecution. The charges against the others were dropped in exchange for guilty pleas to one charge each. Raymond Diemer pleaded guilty to keeping a common bawdy house, the Barracks, and was fined $30,000. Jerry Levy pleaded guilty to keeping a common bawdy house, the Club Baths, and was fined $8,000. Rick Stenhouse pleaded guilty to possessing obscene material for distribution, and was fined $2,000.


December 11 * Winnipeg * Police Constable James Hanson, former president of the Winnipeg Police Association, was acquitted of two charges of gross indecency involving eighteen-year-old Hans John Taenzer, and was reinstated to his job.


**December 14** * Toronto * The Salvation Army Gay Association (SAGA) was formed after a group of Salvationists attended a Salvation Army service and later discussed the need to form a support group for lesbian and gay Salvationists.

[“SPIRIT” vertical file, Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto.]

**December 16** * Toronto * TGCC established a task force to study the policies and services of existing social service agencies and to make recommendations for improving services for lesbians and gay men. The task force was proposed by Rev. Eilert Frerichs, president of the Social Planning Council of Toronto.


**December 17** * Toronto * David Davies and George Platt, co-owners of the 18 East bar, were found guilty of four counts of overcrowding and were fined $2,300. Three similar charges were to be heard on April 16, 1982.
December 17–30 * Toronto * The production *Oliver Button Is a Sissy*, about the dreams of a boy to become a great tap dancer, was staged by the National Tap Dance Company of Canada at the Town Hall, St. Lawrence Centre.


December 21 * Montréal * A coroner’s inquest began to probe “Operation Rockbottom,” in which retired diplomat John Watkins died of a heart attack during RCMP interrogation in 1964. Watkins, Canada’s ambassador to the U.S.S.R. from 1954 to 1956, had been identified as a homosexual.


December 21 * Toronto * The new trial date for PTP/*Body Politic* was set for May 31, 1982. On that date the *Body Politic* and three officers of PTP (Gerald Hannon, Ed Jackson, and Ken Popert) went to trial a second time to face charges of using the mails to transmit immoral and indecent material. On June 3, 1982, Provincial Court Judge Thomas Mercer acquitted the publication’s three officers, ruling that the appearance of their names in the masthead did not prove their personal involvement, and on June 15, 1982, acquitted PTP of the charges. Mercer ruled that “Men Loving Boys Loving Men” “does, in fact, advocate pedophilia” but would be tolerated by the Canadian community. The Ontario Attorney General’s ministry appealed the June 15 decision on July 13, 1982, asking that the court substitute a conviction on the charge of mailing indecent, immoral, or scurrilous
material. On September 15, 1983, Ontario County Court Judge Patricia German heard the Crown’s appeal of the June 15, 1982, acquittal. She ruled that Judge Mercer had not erred in the law in dismissing the charges, and upheld the acquittal. The Crown did not appeal the case, and as the Body Politic concluded in its November 1983 issue, “After almost six years, two provincial court trials, three other separate court actions, six appeals, two trips to the Supreme Court of Canada, and more than $100,000 in legal bills, it was finally over.”


**December 29** * New York, N.Y. * Professor Michael Lynch of the University of Toronto was awarded the first Crompton-Noll Award in Gay Studies for his unpublished essay “Here Is Adhesiveness: From Friendship to Homosexuality.” The award was sponsored by the Gay Caucus for the Modern Languages, an allied organization of the MLA, and was presented at the caucus’s first annual awards banquet, held during the 1981 MLA Convention.

[“Lynch Receives Crompton-Noll Award,” *Gay Studies Newsletter* (Toronto), 9, no. 1 (March 1982): 1–2.]

**December 31** * Toronto * A benefit dinner and dance was held for *Broadside* (a feminist newspaper), Womynly Way Productions, and Mama Quilla II at the Toronto Dance Theatre. The event became controversial after a group of lesbian separatists took control and forced a woman-only policy on the celebration. Men were turned away at the door, including those who had already purchased tickets.


NOTE: This list concentrates on LGBT homophile and liberation groups. It has been compiled with the following limitations:

- Listings are alphabetical by place, west to east across the country by geographical longitude, and within that, alphabetical by group name; national groups are at the end.
- Commercial establishments, bars, and clubs have been excluded. For a listing of Canadian LGBT periodicals, see Appendix Two; for bars and clubs, see Appendix Three.
- I have listed groups active sometime during the period 1976 through 1981 only, including those groups founded earlier but also active during this period. The years of activity during this period have been calculated using many sources, but mostly articles and listings in Canadian lesbian and gay periodicals; Canadian vertical files held at the Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, Toronto; and, in some cases, the papers of the organizations themselves. The notations – and + denote that the group was also active before (−) or after (+) the date(s) listed.

**Prince Rupert, B.C.**
Prince Rupert Gay Group (− 1980–81 +)

**Port Alberni, B.C.**
Gay Men’s Action Group (late 1970s)

**Victoria, B.C.**
Feminist Lesbian Action Group (FLAG) (1977–81 +)
Gay Focus Club, University of Victoria (1978–81 +)
Gay Men’s Discussion Group (− 1978–81 +)
Gay People’s Task Force (− 1980 +)
Island Gay Community Centre Society (IGCCS) (1981 +)
Lesbian Drop-In, Victoria Women’s Centre (− 1976 +)
Live and Let Live (gay alcoholics) (– 1980–81 +)
Parents and Friends of Gays (PFOG) (– 1980 +)
Rights of Lesbians Subcommittee, WAVES (1978–81 +)
Royal Thunderbird Court (1972–78 +)
Society for Homosexual Awareness, Research, and Education (SHARE)
  (from 1981: the Island Gay Community Centre Society [IGCCS])
  (1979–81)

Vancouver, B.C.
Archives Collective (1976–81 +)
Bisexual Women’s Group (1981 +)
Border Riders Motorcycle Club (1971–81 +)
Coalition against Discrimination (CAD) (1978–79 +)
Coming Out Radio Collective, CFRO Radio 102.7 FM (1978–81 +)
Dignity/Vancouver (Roman Catholic) (1976–81 +)
Disabled Lesbians (– 1981 +)
Dogwood Chapter, Knights of Malta (leather-Levi’s club) (– 1973 +,
  1980–81 +)
Dogwood Monarchist Society and Imperial Dogwood Court (1971–81+
  +)
Dogwood Monarchist Society Bowling League (1978–81 +)
Feminist Lesbian Action Group (FLAG) (– 1980–81 +)
Foundation for the Advancement of Canadian Transsexuals (FACT)
  Vancouver (1981 +)
Free Spirit (women’s motorcycle club) (– 1981 +)
Front Runners Group (gay alcoholics) (– 1980–81 +)
Gay Alcoholics Anonymous (GAA) (– 1977–81 +)
Gay Alliance toward Equality (GATE) (Vancouver) (1971–80)
Gay Bridge Club (– 1980–81 +)
Gay Community Sports Council (1981 +)
Gay Cycling Club (1980 +)
Gay Fellowship (– 1977–79 +)
Gay Interfaith Exchange (GIE) (– 1981 +)
Gay Leisure Link (GLL) (1980–81 +)
Gay and Lesbian Caucus, New Democratic Party of British Columbia
(– 1981 +)
Gay and Lesbian Law Association, University of British Columbia
(UBC) (– 1981 +)
Gay Married Men’s Support Group, Metropolitan Community Church
(MCC) (1980–81 +)
Gay Men’s Study Group (1976–78 +)
Gay Men’s Support Group (1976–77 +)
Gay Native Peoples Council (– 1978 +)
Gay People for a Better City (1980)
Gay People for a United Community (later, became the Vancouver Gay
Community Centre Society) (1977 +)
Gay People of UBC (University of British Columbia) (previously, Gay
People’s Alliance, 1971–72; in 1981, renamed Gays and Lesbians
of UBC) (1972–81 +)
Gay People to Elect Mike Harcourt (1980)
Gay People Together (1972–76 +)
Gay People Under 21, Gordon House (– 1980–81 +)
Gay/Police Dialogue (1979 +)
Gay Therapy Workshops, Weaver Institute (1980–81 +)
Gay Workers’ Support Group, Vancouver Resources Board (VRB)
(– 1977 +)
Gay Youth of Vancouver (– 1980 +)
Gayblevision Cable 10 (gay TV) (1980–81 +)
Gays and Lesbians of the United Church in B.C. (– 1981 +)
Gays Over 40 (– 1981 +)
Gazebo Connection (lesbian professionals) (1980–81 +)
Greater Vancouver Business Guild (later, the Unity Guild of British
Columbia [UGBC]) (– 1973–81 +)
Hachug (Jewish group) (1980–81 +)
Hatikvoh (Jewish group) (– 1979 +)
Have a Gay Stay Transient Housing and Gay Information Service
(1974–76 +)
Integrity/Vancouver (Anglican) (1980–81 +)
Lambda (gay alcoholics) (– 1981 +)
Lesbian and Feminist Mothers’ Political Action Group (LAFMPAG) (1979–81 +)
Lesbian and Gay Health Sciences Association, University of British Columbia (UBC) (– 1981 +)
Lesbian Drop-In, University of British Columbia (UBC) (– 1976–79 +)
Lesbian Drop-In, Women’s Bookstore (– 1976–81 +)
Lesbian Feminists of Vancouver, B.C. Federation of Women (1978 +)
Lesbian Literary Collective (LLC) (1979–81 +)
Lesbian Literary Society (ca. 1976–78)
Lesbian Mothers’ Defence Fund (Vancouver) (1981 +)
Lesbian Mothers’ Drop-In, Women’s Bookstore (1979–81 +)
Lesbian Rap Group (1981 +)
Lesbian Resistance (1981 +)
Lesbian Show Collective, CFRO Radio 102.7 FM (– 1979–81 +)
Lesbians at War (1978 +)
Lesbians Over 40 (– 1980–81 +)
Live and Let Live Group (gay alcoholics) (1980–81 +)
Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) Vancouver (1977–81 +)
New Dimensions Gay AA Group (– 1980–81 +)
Parents and Friends of Gays (PFOG) (1980–81 +)
Rights of Lesbians Subcommittee, B.C. Federation of Women (1974–81 +)
Sha’ar Hayam (Jewish group) (– 1981 +)
Sherwood Forest (non-profit gay introduction service) (– 1976–81 +)
Society for Education, Action, Research, and Counselling on Homosexuality (SEARCH) Youth Group (1978 +)
Society for Political Action for Gay People (later, Society for Political Action by Gays) (SPAG) (1978–81 +)
Stage Door Jonnies (gay theatre group) (– 1980+)
Transsexual Support Group (– 1979–81+)
Unity Guild of British Columbia (UGBC) (1981+)
Vancouver Gay Community Centre Society (VGCC) (1979–81+)
Vancouver Gay Festival Society (1981+)
Vancouver Gay Information Service (Van-Gay) (1974–76+)
Vancouver Island Lesbian Newsletter Collective (VILNC) (– 1981+)
Vancouver Men’s Chorus (1981+)
West End Football Association (1981+)
West End Softball Association (1979–81+)
West End Volleyball Association (1979–81+)
Wives of Gay Men, Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) (1980–81+)
Women and Sobriety (lesbian alcoholics) (1978–81+)
Women in Focus (– 1980–81+)
Women’s Caucus, Vancouver Gay Community Centre Society (VGCC) (– 1980+)
Young Gay People’s Organization (– 1979–81+)
Young Lesbian Drop-In (1980–81+)
Younger Lesbians Association (YLA) (1980–81+)
Zodiac Fraternal Society (1973–81+)

**Burnaby, B.C.**
Gay Academic Union (GAU), Simon Fraser University (SFU) (1976+)
Gay People of SFU (Simon Fraser University) (1974–81+)
Lesbian Drop-In, B.C. Institute of Technology (BCIT) (– 1978–81+)
Lesbian Drop-In, Simon Fraser University (SFU) Women’s Centre (– 1976–80+)

**Prince George, B.C.**
Gay People of Prince George (Aware North) (1977–81+)

**Ruskin, B.C.**
Rural Lesbian Association (RLA) (1980–81+)
Kamloops, B.C.
Thompson Area Gay Group (TAGG) (– 1980–81+)

Kelowna, B.C.
Okanagan Gay Organization (– 1981+)

Revelstoke, B.C.
Lothlórien (– late 1970s–1981+)

Nelson, B.C.
Woodland (– 1979–81+)

Calgary, Alta.
Apollo (recreation) (1981+)
Camp 181 Association (1978–81+)
Christian Community Association (– 1981+)
Coalition for the Advancement of Lesbian and Gay Rights (CALGR) (1978–79+)
Dignity/Calgary (Roman Catholic) (1976–81+)
Foundation for the Advancement of Canadian Transsexuals (FACT) Calgary (1978–79)
Front Runners (gay alcoholics) (– 1977–81+)
Gay Academic Union (GAU), University of Calgary (1977–81+)
Gay Fathers (– 1981+)
Gay Information and Resources Calgary (GIRC) (1975–81+)
Gay Men’s Rap Group (1978+)
Gay Parents’ Defence Fund (1979+)
Gay TV (television) (1979+)
Gay Youth Calgary (GYC) (1978–81+)
Gayle Bezaire Defence Committee (1979–80)
Imperial Court of the Chinook Arch (ICCA) (1976–81+)
Integrity/Calgary (Anglican) (1980–81+)
Lesbian and Gay Friends at the University of Calgary (– 1981+)
Lesbian Centre (– 1976–79)
Lesbian Drop-In (– 1976+)
Lesbian Friendship (1979–81 +)
Lesbian Information Line (403-265-9458) (1979–81+)
Lesbian Mothers’ Defence Fund (Calgary) (1981+)
Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) Calgary (1977–81+)
Parents of Gays (POG) (1978–81+)
Right to Privacy Committee (RTPC)—Calgary (1981+)
Scarth Street Society (1970–78+)
TASK (social group) (1979–80+)
Womyn’s Collective (1975–81+)

Red Deer, Alta.
Gay Association of Red Deer (GARD) (1979–81+)

Edmonton, Alta.
Alberta Lesbian and Gay Rights Association (ALGRA) (1979–81+)
Coalition to Answer Anita Bryant (CAAB) (1978+)
Concern (– 1978+)
Dignity/Edmonton (Roman Catholic) (1978–81+)
Edmonton Community of Gay Christians (ECGC) (1976–79+)
Edmonton Lesbian and Gay Rights Organization (ELGRO) (1978–80+)
Edmonton Roughnecks Recreation Association (1980–81+)
Gay Alcoholics Anonymous (– 1981+)
Gay Alliance toward Equality (GATE) (Edmonton) (1971–81+)
GATE Gay Fathers’ Group (1981+)
GATE Legal Defence Fund (1981+)
Gay Associations of Edmonton (GAE) (1975–76+)
Gay Heritage Fund (1981+)
Holowaty/Solomany Defence Fund (1976–77)
Imperial Court of the Wild Rose (1975–81+)
Lesbian Mothers (– 1981+)
Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) Edmonton (1978–81+)
Northern Lights of Edmonton (– 1981+)
Office of Gay Affairs, Unitarian Church (1973–76+)
Parents of Gays (POG) (1977+)
Privacy Defence Committee of Edmonton (PDCE) (1981+)
Womonspace (1981 +)

**Lethbridge, Alta.**
Gay Community Centre of Lethbridge (GCCL) (later, renamed Gay Alliance of Lethbridge Alberta [GALA]) (1979–81 +)

**Medicine Hat, Alta.**
Medicine Hat Gay Group (1979–81 +)

**Kindersley, Sask.**
West Central Gays (Kindersley, Eston, Rosetown) (1978–81 +)

**North Battleford, Sask.**
Battlefords Gay Community (1980–81 +)

**Saskatoon, Sask.**
Coalition to Answer Anita Bryant (CAAB) (1978)
Committee to Defend Doug Wilson (1975–76)
Fight Back Defence Fund (for Donald Jones) (1979–80)
Gay Academic Union (GAU), University of Saskatchewan (1976–81 +)
Gay Association of Youth (GAY) (1976–81 +)
Gay (later, and Lesbian) Community Centre of Saskatoon (G/LCCS) (previously, Saskatoon Gay Action, 1972–75) (1975–81 +)
Gay Education Workers Group (1979 +)
GAYMATES (pen-pal service) (– 1976–81 +)
Grapevine (gay religious support group) (1977–81 +)
Lesbian and Gay Saskatchewan, Inc. (1981 +)
Lesbian Caucus, Saskatoon Women’s Liberation (– 1978–81 +)
Lesbian Organization of Saskatoon (LOOS) (1979–81 +)
Lesbian Resource Centre, Women’s Centre (– 1976 +)
Lutherans Concerned (1980–81 +)
Native Gay Group (1979–81 +)
One Loaf (United Church of Canada) (1980–81 +)
Our History Collective Gay History Project (1979–81 +)
Saskatchewan Gay Coalition (SGC) (later, Lesbian and Gay Saskatchewan, Inc.) (1977–81)
Saskatoon Lesbian Society (1978–79)
University of Saskatchewan Gays (1981+)
Women against Violence against Women (WAVAW) (Saskatoon) (– 1981+)

**Prince Albert, Sask.**
Prince Albert Gay Community Centre (1978–81+)

**Moose Jaw, Sask.**
Moose Jaw Gay Community Centre (MJGCC) (1978–81+)

**Regina, Sask.**
Atropos Friendship/Fellowship Society (later, Gay Community of Regina) (1972–77)
Gay Community of Regina (GCR) (1977–81+)
Gay Regina (1978–80)
One Loaf (United Church of Canada) (late 1970s–81+)
Regina Chapter, Saskatchewan Gay Coalition (SGC) (1979+)
Regina Gay Community Centre (1977–81+)
Regina Wages for Housework Group (– 1977+)
Regina Zephyrs Sports Club (volleyball) (– 1981+)
Subcommittee on Gay Rights, Saskatchewan Association on Human Rights (SAHR), (1977–81+)
University of Regina Homophile Association (previously, University of Saskatchewan Homophile Association [USHA], 1973–74) (1974–76+)

**Fort Qu’Appelle, Sask.**
Dignity for Gay Catholics and Friends (Roman Catholic) (– 1978–81+)

**Carrot River, Sask.**
Carrot River Valley Gays (Melfort, Tisdale) (1979–81+)
Weyburn, Sask.
Gay Advice Line (1980 +)

Brandon, Man.
Gay Friends of Brandon (GFB) (1976, 1977–81 +)

Thompson, Man.
Gay Friends of Thompson (1976–81 +)

Winnipeg, Man.
40/60 Club (middle-aged gay men) (– 1977–79 +)
Alcoholics Anonymous for Lesbians and Gay Men (– 1978 +)
Coalition to Answer Anita Bryant (CAAB) (1978)
Dignity Winnipeg Dignité (Roman Catholic) (1976–81 +)
Families of Gays (FOG) (1980–81 +)
Foundation for the Advancement of Canadian Transsexuals (FACT)
Winnipeg (1981 +)
Gay AL-ANON (1981 +)
Gay Academic Union (GAU) (– 1981 +)
Gay Community Centre Project (– 1978–81 +)
Gay Counselling Unit, Gays for Equality (GFE) (– 1976–77 +)
Gay Health Workers Caucus (– 1977–78 +)
Gay Parents Group (1981 +)
Gay Students’ Association, University of Winnipeg (1981 +)
Gays for Equality (GFE) (previously, Campus Gay Club, University of Manitoba, 1972–73) (1973–81 +)
Imperial Court of Winnipeg (1978 +)
Lesbian Alcoholics Group (– 1978 +)
Lesbian Drop-In (− 1981 +)
Lesbian Mothers’ Defence Fund (LMDF) (1978 +)
Lesbian Resource Centre, Women’s Place (− 1976–81 +)
Manitoba Gay Coalition (MGC) (1977–81 +)
Manitoba Physicians for Homosexual Understanding (1978–81 +)
Ms. Purdy’s (lesbian social club) (− 1979–81 +)
Mutual Friendship Society (MFS) (1971–81 +)
New Democratic Party (NDP) Gay Caucus (− 1977 +)
North American Transsexualism Society, Inc. (NATS) (− 1979 +)
Oscar Wilde Memorial Society (1980–81 +)
Project Lambda, Inc. (1977–81 +)
Wages Due Lesbians (WDL) (Winnipeg) (− 1977–80 +)
Winnipeg Gay Bridge Players Association (1978 +)
Winnipeg Gay Community Centre Project (− 1979 +)
Winnipeg Gay Media Collective (WGMC) (1980–81 +)
Winnipeg Gay Youth (1977–81 +)
Winnipeg Lesbian Society (1976–81 +)
Women’s Line (− 1981 +)

**Fort Frances, Ont.**
Gays at Fort Frances (GAFF) (1981 +)

**Thunder Bay, Ont.**
Gay Youth Thunder Bay (GYTB) (1981 +)
Gays of Thunder Bay (GTB) (1980–81 +)

**Windsor, Ont.**
Gay Counselling Line (− 1976–78 +)
Gay Information Line (1981 +)
Gay Youth Group (1977)
Integrity/Windsor (Anglican) (1981 +)
Lesbian and Gay Students on Campus, University of Windsor (− 1979–81 +)

775
Women’s Caucus, Windsor Gay Unity (WGU) (1977 +)

Chatham (now Chatham-Kent), Ont.
Chatham Gay Unity (CGU) (1979 +)

London, Ont.
Coalition to Answer Anita Bryant (CAAB) (1978)
Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (FFLAG) (1981 +)
Gay Action Group for Equality (GAGE) (1978)
Gay Activist League of London (GALL) (1977)
Gay Christian Association (– 1978 +)
Gay Youth London (1981 +)
Holy Fellowship Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) London (1979–81 +)
Lesbian Anthology Collective (LAC) (1978 +)
Western Gay Association (WGA), University of Western Ontario (UWO) (1978–81 +)
Western Gay Association (WGA) Gayline, University of Western Ontario (UWO) (1978–81 +)

Sudbury, Ont.
Gay Association of Sudbury/Association des gais de Sudbury (1980–81 +)

Kitchener–Waterloo, Ont.
Gay Liberation of Waterloo (GLOW) (– 1980–81 +)
Gay Media Collective (1978 +)
Gay Rights of Waterloo (GROW) (1978–80 +)
Gays of Wilfrid Laurier University (1981 +)
Kitchener-Waterloo Gay Media Collective (1978–81 +)
Lesbian Collective, Women’s Place (– 1976 +)
Lesbian Organization of Kitchener (LOOK) (1978–81 +)
Southern Ontario Union of Lesbians (SOUL) (1978–79 +)
Waterloo Lesbian Collective (1974–76 +)
Waterloo Universities’ Gay Liberation Movement (Waterloo GLM)
   (University of Waterloo and Wilfrid Laurier University)
   (1971–80 +)

**Guelph, Ont.**
Gay Youth Guelph (GYG) (1978–80 +)
Gayline (519-836-4550) (– 1976–81 +)
Guelph Gay Equality (GGE) (previously, University of Guelph Homophile Association [UGHA], 1971, 1973–75) (1975–81 +)
Lesbian Drop-In, University of Guelph (– 1976–78 +)
Lesbian Newsletter Coalition (1978)
Parents of Gays (POG) (– 1979 +)

**Collingwood, Ont.**
Gay Information Centre (1979–80)

**Georgetown, Ont.**
Georgetown Gay Friends (1980–81 +)

**Hamilton, Ont.**
Bisexuals of Hamilton (– 1978 +)
Gay Fathers of Hamilton (1980–81 +)
Gay Women’s Collective (– 1980–81 +)
GAYLINE (– 1976–81 +)
Hamilton Gay Association (1977 +)
Hamilton-McMaster Gay Liberation Movement (GLM; in January 1976, renamed the McMaster Homophile Association [MHA]) (1973–76)
Hamilton United Gay Societies (HUGS) (– 1980–81 +)
Hamilton-Wentworth Gay Archives/History Project (– 1981 +)
Lambda Gay Youth of Hamilton (– 1980–81 +)
McMaster Homophile Association (MHA) (1976–80 +)
Mississauga, Ont.
Gay Equality Mississauga (GEM) (1976–81 +)
Gay Married Men’s Group (1978–79 +)
Gays of Mississauga (1975–76) (from 1976, renamed Gay Equality Mississauga [GEM])
Gayline West (905-453-GGCO) (1978–81 +)
West End Boys (1977 +)

North Bay, Ont.
Caring Homosexual Association of North Bay (CHANB) (1980–81 +)

Toronto, Ont.
3 of Cups Coffeehouse Collective (1975–79)
519 Church Street Community Centre (1978–81 +)
530-GAYS, Gay Friends (1981 +)
Ad Hoc Coalition to Defend the Body Politic (1978 +)
Ad Hoc Coalition to Stop Anita Bryant (later, Southern Ontario Coalition to Stop Anita Bryant [CSAB]) (1977–78)
Ad Hoc Committee of Gays to Bring Light into the Clarkeness (1977)
Affirm (United Church of Canada) (1980–81 +)
After You’re Out, Toronto Area Gays (TAG) (1981 +)
Amazons Motorcycle Club (1978–81 +)
Amethyst (lesbian alcoholics) (1978–79)
ANIK (1973–78 +)
Association of Gay Electors (AGE) (1979–81 +)
Association of Gay Social Service Workers (1978–81 +)
Association of Gay Teachers (1981 +)
Association of Gays in the Media (– 1980–81 +)
Black and White Men Together (1981 +)
Body Politic Free the Press Fund (BPFPF) (1978–81 +)
Cabbagetown Group Softball League (CGSL) (1976–81 +)
Came Out Decades Ago (CODA) (1980–81 +)
Centre of Affirmation and Dialogue (Roman Catholic) (1979–81 +)
Chatsworth Charitable Foundation (– 1977–79 +)
LESBIAN AND GAY LIBERATION IN CANADA, 1976–1981

Chutzpah (Jewish group) (1981 +)
Clansmen MSC (motorcycle club) (1981 +)
Coalition for Gay Rights in Ontario (CGRO) (1975–81 +)
Coalition for Life Together (CLT) (1979 +)
Coalition to Stop Anita Bryant (CSAB) (1977–78)
Committee for Media Fairness to Gays (1974–76 +)
Committee to Defend John Damien (1975–81 +)
Committee to Elect Dean Haynes (1978)
Community Homophile Association of Toronto (CHAT) (1970–80)
Congregation B’nai Kehillah (Jewish group) (1978–80)
December 9th Defence Fund (the Barracks case) (1978–79)
Dignity/Toronto (Roman Catholic) (1974–81 +)
Disabled Gay Group (1979 +)
Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (FFLAG) (1981 +); see also Parents of Gays (POG) (1978–81)
Fat Lesbians (– 1981 +)
Fist Fuckers of America (FFA) (Toronto) (1977 +)
Foundation for the Advancement of Canadian Transsexuals (FACT)
Four Star MSC (motorcycle club) (1978–79 +)
Free Lesbians and Gays (FLAG) (1977–79 +)
Front Runners Toronto (1981 +)
FYI Co-op Mailing Service (1980–81 +)
Gay Academic Union (GAU), University of Toronto (1975–81 +)
Gay Alcoholics Anonymous (– 1976–81 +)
Gay Alliance at York (Gays at York) (GAY) (previously, York University Homophile Association [YUHA], 1970–75)
Gay Alliance toward Equality (GATE) (Toronto) (1973–80 +)
Gay Anarchists (– 1978–79 +)
Gay and Lesbian Artists (GALA) (1978 +)
Gay Asians of Toronto (GAT) (1980–81 +)
Gay Care Toronto (– 1981 +)
Gay Community Appeal of Toronto (GCAT) (1979–81 +)
Gay Community Calendar (GCC) (416-923-GAYS) (1977–81 +)
Gay Community Dance Committee (GCDC) (1981 +)
Gay Counselling Centre of Toronto (GCCT) (1981 +)
Gay Curling (– 1964–81+)
Gay Fathers of Toronto (GFT) (1978–81+)
Gay Information Centre (– 1979–80+)
Gay Jews for Gay Rights (later, Ha Mishpacha) (1976)
Gay Liberation against the Right Everywhere (GLARE) (1981 +)
Gay Liberation Union (GLU) (1979–81+)
Gay Lobby (1978+)
Gay Media Group (1974–76+)
Gay Offensive Collective (GOC) (1978)
Gay SIG (MENSA) (– 1981+)
Gay Social Workers (1979+)
Gay TV (gay television collective) (1977–78+)
Gay Weight Watchers (– 1978+)
Gay Widowers (– 1978+)
Gay Women Unlimited (GWU) (1976+)
Gay Youth Toronto (GYT) (previously, Gay Youth Toronto, 1972–76; later, Lesbian and Gay Youth Toronto) (1977–81+)
Gays against the Movie Cruising (GATMC) (1980)
Gays and Lesbians against the Right Everywhere (GLARE) (1981+)
Gays at Ryerson (GAR) (previously, Ryerson Homophile Foundation, 1977; later, Ryerson Gay Students) (1977–80)
Gays at the University of Toronto (GAUT) (1976–81+)
Gays in Health Care (1980–81+)
George Hislop Campaign Committee (1981)
Ha Mishpacha (Jewish group) (1976–78)
Harbinger Gay Men’s Drop-In (– 1978–79+)
Harbinger Lesbian Drop-In (– 1976–78+)
Harmony (lesbians) (1978+)
Hassle Free Clinic (VD) (1973–81+)
Homophiles of Trinity (HOT) (Trinity College, Univ. of Toronto) (– 1981+)
ISBA (gay contact club) (– 1977+)
Integrity/Toronto (Anglican) (1975–81+)
JAC (John Grube, Alex Liros, Clarence Barnes; gay art collective) (1980–81 +)
John Damien Foundation (1977–81 +)
Judy Garland Memorial Bowling League (1972–81 +)
Labyris Collective (1974–77 +)
Lanyards Motorcycle Club (1974–81 +)
Lavender Left (1980–81 +)
Lesbian and Gay History Project (later, Lesbian and Gay History Group of Toronto) (1980–81 +)
Lesbian and Gay Peer Counsellors Association (1979 +)
Lesbian and Gay Pride Day Committee (1981 +)
Lesbian and Gay Trade Union Group (1978–79 +)
Lesbian Caucus, Gay Alliance toward Equality (GATE) (Toronto) (1976–80 +)
Lesbian Drop-In, York University Women’s Centre (– 1976 +)
Lesbian Mothers’ Defence Fund (LMDF) (1978–81 +)
Lesbian Mothers’ Group (1977 +)
Lesbian Organization of Toronto (LOOT) (1976–81)
Lesbian Phoneline (416-960-3249), Lesbian Organization of Toronto (LOOT) (1977–81)
Lesbian Speakers’ Bureau (– 1981 +)
Lesbians against the Right (LAR) (1981 +)
Lesbians to Stop Anita Bryant (1977–78)
Liberated Energy (1978)
Lutherans Concerned (1981 +)
Men against Sexism (1980 +)
Metamorphosis: Gender Counselling-Educational Services (1981 +)
Metro Council of Gay Churches and Synagogues (also known as Metro Inter-faith Gay Council) (1978 +)
Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) (1973–81 +)
Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) Gay Community Services Centre (1976–81 +)
New Democratic Party (NDP) Gay Caucus (Ontario) (1976–81 +)
NOVA (Non-violent Direct Action) (1981 +)
North American Man/Boy Love Association (NAMBLA)—Toronto Chapter (1981 +)
Older Lesbians’ and Gays’ Association (OLGA) (1980 +)
Ontario Federation of Students (OFS) Gay Caucus (1981 +)
Ontario Gay Teachers’ Caucus (OGTC) (1977–81 +)
Operation Jack O’Lantern (Halloween gay patrol) (1977–79)
Osgoode Gay Caucus (Osgoode Hall Law School, York Univ.) (– 1978–81 +)
Out and Out Club (1980–81 +)
Parents of Gays (POG) (in 1981, merged with Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays [FFLAG] to form Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays [PFLAG]) (1978–81 +)
Peter Maloney Defence Fund (1977)
Pink Triangle Press (PTP) (1975–81 +)
PinkType Typesetting Collective (1978–81 +)
Political Lesbians of Toronto (PLOT) (1979 +)
Political Lesbians United about the Media (PLUM) (– 1980 +)
Potluck Suppers (lesbian social group) (1979–81 +)
Revolutionary Workers League/Ligue ouvrière révolutionnaire Lesbians and Gays (1977–81 +)
Right to Privacy Committee (RTPC) (1979–81 +)
Right to Privacy Committee (RTPC) Gay Street Patrol (1981 +)
Right to Privacy Committee (RTPC) Support Group (– 1981 +)
Right to Privacy Foundation (1981 +)
Riverdale Softball League (RSL) (1979–81 +)
Ryerson Gay Students (previously, Gays at Ryerson [GAR]; in September 1981, renamed Ryerson Lesbians and Gay Men [RLGM]) (1981 +)
Ryerson Homophile Foundation (RHF) (later, Gays at Ryerson [GAR]) (1977)
St. Andrew’s Gay Association (SAGA) (1980–81 +)
Salvation Army Gay Association (SAGA) (1981 +)
Sappho Sound Collective (1977–78 +)
Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence (OPI) (– 1981 +)
Spearhead (1970–81 +)
Spearhead, Lanyards, Yorktown, Independents (SLYI) Bowling League (1975–78 +)
Street Homosexuals in Toronto (SHIT) (1981 +)
Telephone Tree (1979 +)
Threshold (transsexuals) (mid–1970s)
Toronto Area Gays (TAG) (416-964-6600) (1975–81 +)
Toronto Gay Community Choir (1980–81 +)
Toronto Gay Community Council (TGCC) (1981 +)
Toronto Gay Patrol (TGP) (1981 +)
Toronto Gay Press Club (1979 +)
Toronto Lambda Business Council (TLBC) (1977–81 +)
Toronto Lesbian and Gay History Project (1980–81 +)
Toronto Motorcycle Riders (TMR) (1978–79 +)
Toronto Organization of United Church Homosexuals (TOUCH) (1980–81 +)
Transsexual Counselling Services (1979 +)
Transvestites in Toronto (TIT) (1977–81 +)
Tri-Aid Charitable Foundation (1977–81 +)
Trident MC (motorcycle club) (– 1981 +)
Trojans MC (motorcycle club) (– 1978–79 +)
Twelfth Tradition (gay alcoholics) (– 1977–78 +)
Unitarian Universalist Gay Caucus (Toronto) (– 1976–80 +)
WagesDueLesbians(WDL)(Toronto)(1974–80+)
AWayOut(phone line; 416-530-GAYS) (– 1981 +)
Women against Violence against Women (WAVAW) (1977–81 +)
Women’sCaucus,CommunityHomophileAssociationofToronto(CHAT)(–1976–80)
Women’s Group (lesbians) (1981 +)
York Rainbow Society of the Deaf (1977–81 +)
Yorktown Leather and Denim Club (– 1975–77 +)
YoungDykesforaNewAge(later,YoungLesbiansToronto[YLT])(1978 +)
**Port Colborne, Ont.**
Gay Youth Port Colborne (1979–80 +)

**Niagara Falls, Ont.**
Gay-Line Niagara (1979–81 +)
Gay Trails (1981 +)
Gay Unity Niagara (GUN) (1979–81 +)
Gay Youth Niagara (GYN) (1979–81 +)
Niagara Homophile Association (1978)

**Fort Erie, Ont.**
Parents of Gays (POG) (– 1980 +)

**Peterborough, Ont.**
Committee against Racism and Tackiness (CARAT) (1980)
Gays of Trent and Peterborough (1980–81 +)
“Women,” Trent University (1975–76)

**Abitibi, Qué.**
Association gaie de l’Abitibi (– 1977–78 +)

**Campbellford (now Trent Hills), Ont.**
Unit One Pioneers, Warkworth Institution (1976–79 +)

**Kingston, Ont.**
Lesbian Rap Group, Kingston Women’s Centre (– 1976–79 +)
Queen’s Homophile Association (QHA), Queen’s University  
(previously, Queen’s University Homophile Association, 1973–75)  
(1975–81 +)

**Ottawa, Ont.**
Coalition to Fight Sexism and Sexual Repression/Coalition pour  
combattre le sexisme et la répression sexuelle (1978)
Dignity Ottawa Dignité (Roman Catholic) (1977–81 +)
Equal Rights for Lesbians Fund (1976 +)
Gay Caucus, Unitarian Church (1973–76 +)
Gay Community Centre/Centre communautaire gai (1981 +)
Gay Men’s Community Softball League (– 1980 +)
Gay People of Carleton (GPC), Carleton University (previously, Gay Club, Carleton University, 1972–76) (1976 +)
Gay Youth Ottawa-Hull/Jeunesse gaie (– 1978–81 +)
Gayline/Télégai (613-238-1717) (– 1976–81 +)
Gays of Ottawa/Gays d’Ottawa/Gais de l’Outaouais (GO) (1971–81 +)
Integrity/Ottawa (Anglican) (1979–81 +)
Lesbian and Gay Students of Ottawa (LGSO) (later, Lesbians and Gays on Campus, University of Ottawa/Lesbiennes et hommes gais du campus, Université d’Ottawa) (1979–81 +)
Lesbian Caucus Lesbian (– 1979–80 +)
Lesbian Drop-In, Ottawa Women’s Centre (– 1976–79 +)
Lesbians of Ottawa Now (LOON) (1976–79)
Male Homophiles Anonymous (– 1978 +)
Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) (Ottawa) (1974–81 +)
Ottawa Knights (1975–81 +)
Parents of Gays (POG) (1980–81 +)
Warren Zufelt Memorial Defence Fund (1975–76 +)

Hull (now Gatineau), Qué.
Association gaie de l’Ouest Québécois (AGOQ) (1978–81 +)

Vaudreuil (now Vaudreuil-Dorion), Qué.
Fédération canadienne des transsexuels pour le Québec (FCT) (– 1979–81 +)

St-Jérôme, Qué.
Association des gai(e)s des Laurentides (AGL) (1978–79 +)

Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue, Qué.
Gay Group, John Abbott College (1981 +)
LESBIAN AND GAY LIBERATION IN CANADA, 1976–1981

Dorval, Qué.
Gai(e)s en général/Gays in General (Gi/eG) (– 1980–81 +)

Montréal, Qué.
Aide aux travestis et transsexuels du Québec (AT&TQ) (by 1980, renamed Aide aux transsexuels du Québec, Inc. [ATQ]) (1979–81 +)
Alpha Kira Fraternity (1976–81 +)
Alternatives (Narcotics Anonymous) (– 1981 +)
Association communautaire homosexuelle à l’Université de Montréal (ACHUM) (1976–81 +)
Association des bons gens sourds (gay deaf people) (1979–81 +)
Association homophile de Montréal/Gay Montreal Association (AHM/GMA) (1973–76)
Association pour les droits des gai(e)s (from April 1979, de la communauté gaie) du Québec (ADGQ) (1976–81 +)
Bisexual Discussion Group (– 1979 +)
The Capables/Les Capables (bisexuals) (1981 +)
Centre d’accueil homophile/Gay Community Centre (1973–77 +)
Centre homophile urbain de Montréal (CHUM) (1974–76)
La Clé (– 1978 +)
Club Contact (– 1977–81 +)
Coalition ad hoc du 17 juin (1978)
Collectif des Productions 88 (1978–81 +)
Collectif du triangle rose (– 1981 +)
Collectif gai pour le 8 mars (– 1981 +)
Comité d’auto-défense gai (GADG) (– 1981 +)
Comité de défense des arrêts du Sauna David (1980–81 +)
Comité de soutien aux accusés du Truxx (1977–81 +)
Comité des Berdaches pour le OUI (1980 +)
Comité gai(e) CEGEP Vieux-Montréal (– 1981 +)
Comité homosexuel anti-repression/Gay Coalition against Repression (CHAR/GCAR) (1976)
Communauté homophile chrétienne (Roman Catholic) (– 1979–81 +)
Contac-t-nous (VD) (– 1979–81 +)
Coop-Femmes (1976–79)
Dignity Montréal Dignité (Roman Catholic) (– 1977–81 +)
Drop-In Gay, Gay Social Services Project (1977–78)
Égaylity, Loyola College (1973–76 +)
Église communautaire de Montréal/Montreal Community Church (ECM/MCC) (1973–81 +)
Église du disciple bien-aimé (by 1980, Pro-cathédrale du disciple bien-aimé) (1976–81 +)
Église Emmanuel métropolitaine communautaire/Emmanuel Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) (– 1977–78 +)
Église métropolitaine communautaire St-Jean-Baptiste/St. John the Baptist Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) (1973–81 +)
L’Envol identification (lesbian alcoholics) (– 1981 +)
Families of Gays, Gay Social Services Project (– 1978 +)
Faucon MC (motorcycle club) (– 1978–81 +)
Fédération Canadienne des Transsexuels (FCT) (– 1979 +)
Fédération sportive gaie du Québec (– 1979–80 +)
Feminist Counselling for Gay Women Using Gestalt Methods (– 1976 +)
Fraternité HALTE, Inc. (1978–81 +)
Friends Leather and Denim Club of Montreal (– 1977–80 +)
Gai-écoute (514-937-1447), Gai-écoute/femmes (514-933-5789), Gay Social Services Project (1980–81 +)
Gai(e)s de l’Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM) (1978–80)
Gay Academic Union (GAU) (– 1976 +)
Gay Alcoholics Group, Gay Social Services Project (– 1976–81 +)
Gay Dawson, Dawson College (– 1974–76 +)
Gay Exchange (1976)
Gay Fathers of Montréal/Association des pères gais de Montréal (– 1981 +)
Gay Friends of Concordia (GFC; later, Lesbian and Gay Friends of Concordia) (1977–81 +)
Gay Info (1976–81 +)
Gay Male Couples Group, Gay Social Services Project (1976–81 +)
Gay McGill (later, Gay People of McGill) (1972–81 +)
Gay Men’s Discussion Group, Gay Info (1977–81 +)
Gay Montreal Association/Association homophile de Montréal
   (GMA/AHM, Inc.) (1974–76)
Gay Physicians Group (– 1981 +)
Gay Prisoners Project, Gay Info (1977–79 +)
Gay Social Services Project, Family Services Association, Ville
   Marie Social Service Centre (1975–81 +)
Gay Speakers’ Bureau, Gay Social Services Project (– 1976 +)
Gay Women of McGill (1978–81 +)
Gay Women of Montreal (GWM) (1976)
Gay Women’s Information Line (Anglophone lesbians, 514-931-5330),
   Gay Social Services Project (1976–81 +)
Gayline (Anglophone gay men, 514-931-8668), Gay Social Services
   Project (1976–81 +)
Globe Montréal (motorcycle club) (– 1978–79 +)
Groupe Cartierville (– 1981 +)
Groupe de pression pour des services à la communauté homosexuelle
   (– 1978 +)
Groupe de recontre (– 1980–81 +)
Groupe homosexuel d’action politique (GHAP) (1975–76 +)
Groupe réalité (lesbian alcoholics) (– 1977 +)
Groupes des AA gais (including Aime-toi, Le Goéland, Liberté, Longue
   vie, and Vivre gai) (– 1981 +)
Groupes thématiques (therapy for lesbians) (– 1981 +)
Handicapped Gay Group, Gay Info (1979–80 +)
Integrity/Montreal (Anglican) (1978–81 +)
Iron Cross Motorcycle Club (1972–81 +)
Jeunesse gaie de Montréal/Gay Youth of Montreal (JGM/GYM)
   (1978–79 +)
Jeunesse Lambda Youth/Gay Youth Group, Gay Social Services Project
   (1976–81 +)
Kemo Motorcycle Club (1970–81)
Lesbian Discussion Group/Groupe de discussion pour lesbiennes, Gay
   Social Services Project (– 1978–81 +)
Lesbian Feminists of Montreal/Féministes lesbiennes de Montréal
(previously, the Montreal Lesbian Organization) (1977–78 +)
Lesbian Mothers’ Group, Gay Social Services Project (– 1976 +)
Lesbiennes à l’écoute (1981 +)
Ligue Lambda (bowling, volleyball) (– 1976–81 +)
Ligue Mardi-Gais Québec (– 1980–81 +)
Maladies vénériennes et médecine générale pour gai(e)s (– 1978–79 +)
Married Gays Discussion Group, Gay Info (1978 +)
Messieurs, Mes Amours (– 1978 +)
Montreal Lesbian Organization (1976–77)
Montreal Lesbian Women (1976–77)
Northern Lights Motorcycle Club (1973–81 +)
Over-50 Gay Men’s Group, Gay Social Services Project (1979–81 +)
Pairs (gay penpals) (– 1976 +)
Parents of Gays (POG)/Parents de gai(e)s (1977–81 +)
Personal Growth/Consciousness Raising Group for Gay Males, Gay Social Services Project (– 1976–78 +)
Regroupement national des lesbiennes et gais du Québec (RNLGQ) (1978–80)
Sanctuaire du curé d’Ars (– 1981 +)
Satan’s Victims Motorcycle Club (– 1979 +)
Service d’éducation et de consultation sur l’homosexualité (SECH) (– 1978–81 +)
Services communautaires pour lesbiennes et gais, Centre des services sociaux Ville-Marie (1980–81 +)
Slightly Older Gays (over 50) (1979–80 +)
Slightly Older Lesbians (SOL) (1975–76 +)
Sortir (1980–81 +)
Les Sourcières (1980–81 +)
Survivors (English-language gay and lesbian alcoholics) (– 1981 +)
Table de concertation sur l’homosexualité et sur la prostitution homosexuelle des mineurs (1980–81 +)
Terry Viau Associates (transsexuals) (– 1976 +)
Toujours gai (gay men over 50) (– 1981 +)
Transvestite Discussion Group, Gay Info (1978 +)
Transvestites/Travesties à Montréal (TAM) (transsexuals) (1979–81 +)
Trident Motorcycle Club (1973–81 +)
Women of Montréal en Neuf/Men of Montréal en Neuf (transsexuals) (1980–81)
Women’s Homophile Association of Montreal (WHAM) (1979 +)

**Verdun (now part of Montréal), Qué.**
Le Club Chasseurs/Chasers Club (1976–81 +)

**Cowansville, Qué.**
l’Énigme, Cowansville Institution (1976–81 +)

**Sherbrooke, Qué.**
Centre homophile d’aide et de libération (CHAL)-Estrie (later, L’Association gaie de l’Estrie [AGE], and then L’Association pour l’épanouissement de la communauté gaie de l’Estrie [ACGE]) (– 1978–81 +)
Le Gaitelier, Collège de Sherbrooke (1981 +)

**Lennoxville (now part of Sherbrooke), Qué.**
Alliance des étudiant(e)s gaï(e)s de l’Université Bishop’s/Gay Students’ Alliance at Bishop’s University (1979–81 +)
Bishop’s-Champlain Gay Students’ Alliance, Bishop’s University and Champlain College (1980 +)

**Québec, Qué.**
Association fraternelle des gai(e)s du Québec (AFGQ) (1979–81)
Centre humanitaire/homophile d’aide et de libération (CHAL) (1972–81 +)
Groupe gai de l’Université Laval (GGUL) (1978–81 +)
Groupe Unigai (Telegai 418-522-2555) (1980–81 +)
Ligue Mardi-Gai Québec (– 1981 +)
Paroisse St-Robert (Roman Catholic) (– 1978–81 +)
LESBIAN AND GAY LIBERATION IN CANADA, 1976–1981


Charlevoix, Qué.
Association des droits des gais de Charlevoix (ADGC) (1980–81 +)

Western New Brunswick/Maine
Northern Lambda Nord (1980–81 +)

Fredericton, N.B.
Atlantic Gay Association/Association des gai(e)s de l’Atlantique (AGA) (1981 +)
Fredericton Lesbians and Gays (FLAG) (1979–81 +)
Gayline (506-454-8130) (– 1980 +)

Moncton, N.B.
Moncton Area Gays (MAG) (1981 +)

Halifax, N.S.
Atlantic Gay Association/Association des gai(e)s de l’Atlantique (AGA) (1981 +)
Atlantic Provinces Political Lesbians for Equality (APPLE) (– 1976–81 +)
Gay Alcoholics Anonymous, Live and Let Live (– 1980–81 +)
Gay Artists, Musicians, and Entertainers Society (GAMES) (1980–81 +)
Gays and Lesbians at Dalhousie (GLAD) (1978–81 +)
Gays and Lesbians on the Wagon (GLOW) (1978 +)
Homophiles Option-Positive Experiences (HOPE) (1978 +)
Lesbian Drop-In, Halifax Women’s Centre (– 1976–81 +)
Lesbian Phone Line (902-429-4068) (– 1981 +)
Sparrow Community (gay Christians) (1978–81 +)
Charlottetown, P.E.I.
Prince Edward Island Lesbians and Gays (1980)

Corner Brook, Nfld.
Community Homophile Association of Newfoundland (CHAN) (1976–81 +)
Gay Organization of the Women of Newfoundland (GOWN) (1977 +)

St. John’s, Nfld.
Community Homophile Association of Newfoundland (CHAN) (1974–81 +)
Dignity St. John’s (Roman Catholic) (1980–81 +)

National
Association for Canadian Transsexuals (ACT) (– 1976–78)
Bi-National Gay Youth Coalition (Toronto)/ Coalition binationale pour la jeunesse gaie (Montréal) (1978–81 +)
Canadian Association of Lesbians and Gay Men (CALGM) (1980–81 +)
Canadian Gay Archives (CGA) (previously, the Canadian Gay Liberation Movement Archives) (1973–81 +)
Canadian Lesbian and Gay Rights Coalition/Coalition canadienne pour les droits des lesbiennes et des gais (CLGRC/CCDLG) (1978–80)
Dignity Canada Dignité (Roman Catholic) (1978–81 +)
Foundation for the Advancement of Canadian Transsexuals (FACT) (1978–81 +)
Gay and Lesbian Liberals (GALL), Liberal Party of Canada (1980–81 +)
Gay Caucus, New Democratic Party (NDP) of Canada (1975–81 +)
Gay Caucus, Social Credit Party of Canada (– 1976 +)
Gay Interest Group, Canadian Library Association (1980–81 +)
Integrity/Canada (Anglican) (– 1978 +)
Lesbian Caucus, Canadian Association of Sexual Assault Centres (CASAC) (1981 +)
Libertarian Committee on Gay Rights, Libertarian Party of Canada (1979–80 +)
Libertarians for Gay Rights (LGR) (1976–78 +)
Lutherans Concerned—Canada (1980 +)
National Gay Rights Coalition/Coalition nationale pour les droits des homosexuels (NGRC/CNDH) (1975–78)
Task Force on the Status of Lesbian and Gay Male Psychologists, Canadian Psychological Association (1978–81 +)

I have attempted to examine every issue of all known lesbian, gay, or transsexual periodicals published in Canada between 1976 and 1981. To ensure that news material relating to the latter part of 1981 was not missed, I also examined issues of selected periodicals for early 1982.

For the purposes of this project I defined an LGT periodical as a publication issued serially by self-declared lesbians, gay men, or transsexuals and intended for an audience of like-minded people. This definition includes a wide variety of works: from the *Body Politic*, a newsmagazine of national scope, to the most obscure newsletters published by individuals or private clubs. Numerous publications with incidental lesbian, gay, or transsexual material have been excluded on the grounds that they were not produced primarily for a lesbian, gay, or transsexual audience. Thus, crime and scandal tabloid publications such as *Allo Police* and feminist or women’s publications such as *Everywoman’s Almanac* and the *Other Woman*, although containing some material of interest to lesbians or gay men, have been excluded.

The following list details the known Canadian LGT periodicals for the period. Each entry includes:

- the title of the publication
- the sponsoring group (if any, or if known)
- the address of the publication listed on the latest issue examined
- the number and date of the earliest issue examined
- the number and date of the latest issue examined
- the total number of issues examined, and whether this represents a complete run of the publication for the time period under consideration (1976–81)
- miscellaneous notes, including changes in title and notes on locations of copies

The periodical collection at the Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives (CLGA) in Toronto was the core collection examined, and
Alan V. Miller’s *Our Own Voices: A Directory of Lesbian and Gay Periodicals, 1890–1990, Including the Complete Holdings of the Canadian Gay Archives* (1991), and subsequent updates to the CLGA’s public serials database (see www.clga.ca) as well as its internal database, were useful in compiling the basic list. All of the titles listed here are located at the CLGA unless otherwise noted. The CLGA collection is incomplete, and numerous other collections were consulted also. There are several periodicals for which I was unable to locate any copies, and so I have given the source of information about them.

Titles preceded by an asterisk are included in the microfilm set *International Periodicals and Newsletters from the Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives. Filmed from the Holdings of the Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives*. Series 11 (Woodbridge, Conn.: Primary Source Microfilm, 2006). In 2016 these titles were included in the digital collection *Archives of Sexuality and Gender (Part I: LGBTQ History and Culture since 1940)*, published by Gale Cengage Learning (see http://learn.cengage.com/LGBTform?iba=W16018575).

* 3 of Cups / Three of Cups
3 of Cups Collective
342 Jarvis Street, Toronto, Ont. M4Y 3C1
Earliest: February 1976
Latest: December 1977
• seven issues examined (incomplete run)

*ATQ: La Transexualité, retrouver son identité*
Aide aux Transsexuels du Québec (ATQ)
C.P. 363, Succ. C, Montréal, Qué. H2L 4K3
Earliest and latest: [1981]: [1]
• one issue examined (incomplete run?)

*Aboutface*
Community Homophile Association of Newfoundland (CHAN)
Box 613, GPO, St. John’s, Nfld. A1C 5K8
Earliest: vol. 2, no. 3 (April 1976)
Latest: vol. 3, no. 2 (September 1977)
• four issues examined (incomplete run)

*Action*
Right to Privacy Committee (RTPC)
730 Bathurst Street, Toronto, Ont. M5S 2R4
Earliest: December 1979
Latest: February 1985
• twenty-eight issues examined (complete run)
• title varies: also called *Action Bulletin, Action Newsbreak*, and *Newsbreak*

*L’Actualité-Gaie*
C.P. 424, Succ. N, Montréal, Qué. H2X 3N3
Earliest and latest: vol. 1, no. 1 (1980)
• one issue examined (incomplete run?)

*Advert*
134–34 Carlton Street, Toronto, Ont. M5A 2K1
Earliest and latest: September 1980
• one issue examined (incomplete run?)

*After Stonewall*
Box 7763, Saskatoon, Sask. S7K 4R5
Earliest: no. 1 (Spring 1977)
Latest: no. 11 (Fall 1980)
• eleven issues examined (complete run)
• The first eight issues were published in Winnipeg, at Box 2051, 266 Graham, Winnipeg, Man., before the publication moved to Saskatoon.

*Agenda gai 1980*
Les Éditions Homeureux Engr.,
C.P. 245, Succ. N, Montréal, Qué. H2X 3M4
Earliest and latest: no. 1 (1979)
• one issue examined (complete run?)
• edited by Paul-François Sylvestre
• annual

*Alexander Magazine*
Alexander Tours
231–501 Yonge Street, Toronto, Ont. M4Y 1Y4
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 17 (August 1979)
Latest: vol. 1, no. 26 (November 1979)
• nine issues examined (incomplete run)
• continues *This Week with Alexander*

*Alpha Kira Fraternity Newsletter*
Alpha Kira Fraternity
Box 153, Victoria Station, Westmount, Qué. H3Z 2V5
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (February 1977)
Latest: Autumn 1981
• twelve issues examined (incomplete run)
• edited by Eric Hill
• some issues called *Alpha Kira Newsletter*

*Alternate Magazine*
210–100 Gloucester Street, Toronto, Ont. M4Y 1M1
Latest: no. 6 (1981)
• six issues examined (complete run?)

*Anal Newsletter*
Dennis Findlay / Housewives for Heroin
Toronto, Ont.
Earliest and latest: July 1979
• no issues examined; CLGA issue missing (complete run?)
• a private house newsletter
• see also *Housewives for Heroin*
**Attitude: Le guide de l’homme de nuit**
Productions Maxi-Vedettes
C.P. 115, Succ. H, Montréal, Qué. H3G 2K5
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (1978)
Latest: no. 8 (1982)
• ten issues examined (incomplete run)
• some issues have masthead title *Magazine Attitude*

**Attitude + plus**
Les Éditions Attitude
C.P. 115, Succ. H, Montréal, Qué. H3G 2K5
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 2 (1981)
Latest: vol. 1, no. 4 (1981)
• three issues examined (incomplete run)

**B.C. Gay Resources Guide**
Society for Education, Action, Research and Counselling on Homosexuality (SEARCH)
Box 48903, Bentall Centre, Vancouver, B.C. V7X 1A8
Earliest: Summer 1980
Latest: [1982]
• three issues examined (complete run?)
• the issues for Summer 1981 and [1982] are located at the B.C. Lesbian and Gay Archives, Vancouver

**Back Chat Newsletter**
Community Homophile Association of Toronto (CHAT)
223 Church Street, Toronto, Ont. M5B 1Z1
Earliest: April 1976
Latest: May 1976
• three issues examined (incomplete run?)
• continued by *CHAT Newsletter*

**Le Berdache**
L’Association pour les droits de la communauté gaie du Québec
C.P. 36, Succ. C, Montréal, Qué. H2L 4J7
Earliest: no. 1 (June 1979)
Latest: no. 33 (September 1982)
• thirty-two issues examined (complete run)
• issue 32 was never published
• continues Gai(e)s du Québec: Journal de l’Association pour les Droits des Gai(e)s du Québec

* BiLine
Ron Langen, 2035 Enterprises
2–1105 Granville Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6C 3T3
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (October 1978)
Latest: vol. 2, no. 3 (1980)
• ten issues examined (complete run)

The Body Politic
Pink Triangle Press
Box 7289, Station A, Toronto, Ont. M5W 1X9
Earliest: no. 22 (1976)
Latest: no. 89 (1982)
• sixty-eight issues examined (complete run)

Boonies: *A Voice for Rural Gays*
Boonies
R.R. 1, Paradise, N.S. B0S 1R0
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (1979)
• three issues examined (complete run?)

Box 1313 Catalogue
Box 1313, Station A, Toronto, Ont. M5W 1G7
Earliest and latest: no. 14 (1976)
• no issue examined; CLGA copy is missing (incomplete run)
• catalogue
Bulletin
Box 4276, Station A, Victoria, B.C. V8X 3X4
• eight issues examined (incomplete run)
• some issues have title Bulletin Victorian
• merged with The Gayzette and continued by Network Victoria, January 1982

CGRO Annual Report
Coalition for Gay Rights in Ontario (CGRO)
Box 822, Station A, Toronto, Ont. M5W 1G3
Earliest and latest: 1981–82
• one issue examined (complete run?)
• annual

* CGRO News / Newsletter
Coalition for Gay Rights in Ontario (CGRO)
Box 156, Station P, Toronto, Ont. M5S 2S7
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (August 1978)
Latest: April 1982
• two issues examined (incomplete run?)
• cover title varies
• continued by It’s Your Move (1979–82); then reverted back to the title CGRO [News] / Newsletter

CGSL Diamond Dust
Cabbagetown Group Softball League (CGSL)
Toronto, Ont.
Latest: no. 3 (1982)
• nine issues examined (incomplete run)
• continues CGSL Newsletter
**CGSL Newsletter**  
Cabbagetown Group Softball League (CGSL)  
Toronto, Ont.  
Earliest: no. 3 (1978)  
Latest: 7 October 1980  
• eight issues examined (incomplete run)  
• continued by *CGSL Diamond Dust*

**CHANB Bulletin**  
Caring Homosexual Association of North Bay (CHANB)  
Box 649, Callander, Ont.  
Latest: May 1982  
• five issues examined (incomplete run)

* **CHAT Newsletter**  
Community Homophile Association of Toronto (CHAT)  
199 Church Street, Toronto, Ont. M5B 1Z1  
Earliest: December 1976  
Latest: August 1977  
• nine issues examined (complete run?)  
• continues *Back Chat Newsletter*

**CIHQ Calendrier des activités**  
Comité d’Information Homophile de Québec (CIHQ)  
C.P. 2113, Terminus Postal, Québec, Qué. G1K 7M9  
Earliest and latest: January–June 1977  
• one issue examined (incomplete run?)  
• biannual

**Calendar of Events for Hamilton**  
Gay Monitors Committee, Gay Community Planning Committee of Hamilton  
Hamilton, Ont.  
Earliest: October 1980
Latest: December 1980
• two issues examined (incomplete run?)

_Calendrier 1981_
Le Groupe Sortir
C.P. 550, Succ. C, Montréal, Qué. H2L 4K4
Earliest and latest: 1981
• one issue examined (incomplete run?)
• annual calendar

_Canadian Male Newsletter_
c/o Hassle Free Clinic, 201 Church Street, Toronto, Ont. M5E 1Y6
Earliest: February 1976
Latest: July 1976
• two issues examined (complete run?)

_Catalyst 76_
Catalyst Press
305 Blantyre Avenue, Scarborough, Ont. M1N 2S6
Earliest and latest: 1976 [printed in 1975]
• one issue examined (complete run?)
• publisher’s catalogue

_Centre for Human Freedom and Sexuality Newsletter_
406–360 Bloor Street W., Toronto, Ont. M5S 1X1
Earliest: no. 2 (1979)
Latest: [January] 1982
• nine issues examined (incomplete run)

_Centre of Affirmation and Dialogue News_
Centre of Affirmation and Dialogue
507 Queen Street E., Toronto, Ont. M5A 1V1
• three issues examined (complete run?)
• continued by *Dialogue*?

**Changes**
Gay Community of Regina
2242 Smith Street, Regina, Sask.
Earliest and latest: vol. 1, no. 1 (1977)
• one issue examined (incomplete run?)

**Le Charl-Gai**
Association des droits des gais de Charlevoix (ADGC)
C.P. 724, Clermont, Charlevoix, Qué. G0T 1C0
Earliest: no. 1 (October 1980)
• two issues examined (latest issue at AGQ; incomplete run)

**Chasers Club**
Chasers Club
Box 423, Verdun, Qué. H3G 3G1
Earliest: vol. 2, no. 21 (1978)
• thirteen issues examined (incomplete run)
• cover title *Club Chasers Club*

**Chat Travel Newsletter**
3–465 King Street E., Toronto, Ont. M5A 1L6
Earliest and latest: Spring 1981
• one issue examined (incomplete run?)

**Club Contact**
Club Contact
C.P. 245, Succ. N, Montréal, Qué. H2X 3M4
Earliest: February 1978
Latest: no. 30 (1981)
• seventeen issues examined (twelve at CLGA, five at AGQ; incomplete run)
*Club ’70 News / Newsletter*
Club 70
Box 1716, M.P.O., Edmonton, Alta. T5J 2P1
Earliest and latest: February 1976
• one issue examined (incomplete run?)

**Coalition for Gay Rights in Ontario Annual Report**
Coalition for Gay Rights in Ontario (CGRO)
Box 822, Station A, Toronto, Ont. M5W 1G3
Earliest: 1980
Latest: 1981–82
• two issues examined (complete run?)
• annual

**Committee to Defend John Damien Bulletin**
Committee to Defend John Damien
Box 117, Station V, Toronto, Ont.
Earliest and latest: March–April 1976
• one issue examined (complete run?)
• continued by *Update Newsletter (Committee to Defend John Damien)*

*Committee to Defend John Damien Newsletter*
Committee to Defend John Damien
Box 608, Station K, Toronto, Ont. M4P 2H1
Earliest: no. 1 (25 September 1978)
Latest: no. 8 (28 September 1980)
• eight issues examined (complete run)
• continues *Update Newsletter (Committee to Defend John Damien)*

**Communigay**
Gay Alliance toward Equality (GATE)
Box 1852, Edmonton, Alta. T5J 2P2
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (1978)
Latest: vol. 1, no. 4 (1979)
• four issues examined (complete run)
• continued by Newsletter

Community
Christian Community Association
Box 1492, Station T, Calgary, Alta. T2H 2H7
Earliest: Winter 1981
Latest: Spring 1982
• two issues examined (incomplete run?)

Community
Vancouver Gay Community Centre Society (VGCC)
Box 2259, M.P.O., Vancouver, B.C. V6B 3W2
Earliest and latest: February 1980
• one issue examined (complete run?)
• continued by VGCC News

* Congregation B’nai Kehillah of Toronto Newsletter
Congregation B’nai Kehillah of Toronto
c/o Blankstein Design, 200 Adelaide Street W., Toronto, Ont.
M5H 1W7
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (April 1978)
Latest: vol. 1, no. 11 (June–July 1979)
• nine issues examined (incomplete run)

Croque-Monsieur
Informacom Enr.
Québec, Qué.
Earliest and latest: November 1980
• one issue examined (at AGQ; incomplete run?)

Crossroads
Iron Cross Motor Club
Box 1721, Station A, Montréal, Qué.
Earliest and latest: vol. 5, no. 3 (1976)
• one issue examined (incomplete run)

*Dancing in the Moonlight*

3D Grosvenor Street, Toronto, Ont. M4Y 1A9
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (1977)
Latest: vol. 1, no. 5 (1977)
• five issues examined (complete run?)

*Dialogue*

Centre of Affirmation and Dialogue
507 Queen Street E., Toronto, Ont. M5A 1V1
Earliest and latest: no. 1 (Autumn 1980)
• one issue examined (incomplete run?)
• preceded by *Centre of Affirmation and Dialogue News*?

* *Dialogue*

McMaster Homophile Association
Box 44, Station B, Hamilton, Ont. L8L 7T7
Earliest: January 1976
Latest: March 1977
• thirteen issues examined (incomplete run?)
• continued by *McMaster Homophile Association Newsletter*

*Digest on Gay Rights*

Gays for Equality (GFE)
Box 27, UMSU, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Man. R3T 2N2
Earliest: no. 1 (1979)
Latest: no. 15 (October 1981)
• seven issues examined (incomplete run)

*Dignity Alberta*

Dignity Alberta
Box 53, Edmonton, Alta. T5J 2G9
Box 1492, Calgary, Alta. T2H 2H7
Earliest and latest: September 1978
• one issue examined (incomplete run?)
• continues *Dignity Calgary*

*Dignity Calgary*
Dignity Alberta
Box 1492, Station T, Calgary, Alta. T2H 2H7
Earliest: October 1976
Latest: March 1978
• thirteen issues examined (incomplete run)
• continued by *Dignity Alberta*

*Dignity Canada Dignité*
Dignity Canada Dignité
Box 1912, Winnipeg, Man. R3C 3R2
Earliest: April 1978
Latest: May 1982
• twenty-nine issues examined (incomplete run)

*Dignity Montréal Dignité*
Dignity Montréal Dignité
3484, rue Peel, Montréal, Qué. H3A 1W8
Earliest: November 1978
Latest: December 1980
• fourteen issues examined (incomplete run)

*Dignity Ottawa Dignité*
Dignity Ottawa Dignité
Box 2102, Station D, Ottawa, Ont. K1P 5W3
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 2 (December 1977)
Latest: February 1982
• eighteen issues examined (incomplete run)

*Dignity Toronto Newsletter*
Dignity Toronto
Box 249, Station E, Toronto, Ont. M6H 4E2
Earliest: August 1976
Latest: May 1982
• forty-six issues examined (incomplete run)

* Dignity Vancouver
Dignity Vancouver
Box 3016, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 3X5
Earliest: vol. 2, no. 6 (1977)
Latest: May 1982
• twenty-four issues examined (incomplete run)

* Directions: A Canadian Publication for Gay Men
George Hislop / Tatmar Marketing
744 Dundas Street E., Toronto, Ont. M5A 2C3
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (1977)
Latest: vol. 1, no. 5 (December 1977–January 1978)
• five issues examined (complete run)
• edited by Steven Hiller

Directory of Gay Jewish Organizations
Naches
Box 298, Station H, Montréal, Qué. H3G 2K8
Earliest and latest: Spring 1979
• one issue examined (incomplete run?)

Domaine ... Plein Vent
Domaine Plein Vent
C.P. 101, Acton Vale, Qué. J0H 1A0
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 2 (13 May 1978)
Latest: vol. 1, no. 8 (21 July 1978)
• two issues examined (AGQ; incomplete run)

Drop In Gay Newsletter
Drop In Gay: Centre for Gay Men and Women
3419 Simpson Street, Montréal, Qué. H3G 2J6
Earliest and latest: vol. 1, no. 2 (1977)  
• one issue examined (incomplete run)

**Dyke Daily: Newsletter of the Bi-national Lesbian Conference**  
Bi-national Lesbian Conference, Toronto, Ont.  
Earliest and latest: vol. 1, no. 1 (1979)  
• one issue examined (complete run?)

**Edmonton Community of Gay Christians Newsletter**  
Edmonton Community of Gay Christians  
Box 2918, Station A, Edmonton, Alta. T5J 0W0  
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (1977)  
Latest: vol. 1, no. 2 (1977)  
• two issues examined (complete run)  
• continued by *Gay Christian Sower*

**The Empty Closet**  
Gay Friends of Brandon (GFB)  
Brandon, Man.  
Earliest and latest: January–February 1979  
• one issue examined (incomplete run?)  
• continues *Gay Friends of Brandon Newsletter*

**L’Entraide: Journal officiel du Service d’Entraide Homophile du Québec et de la Mauricie**  
Service d’Entraide Homophile du Québec (SEHQ)  
260, rue des Franciscains, Québec, Qué. G1R 1J1  
Earliest and latest: vol. 1, no. 7–8 (1978)  
• one issue examined (incomplete run)

* **Esprit: The Positive Perspective**  
105 Carlton Street, Toronto, Ont. M5B 1M2  
Earliest and latest: vol. 2, no. 1 (January 1976)  
• one issue examined (complete run)
**FACT Sheet**
Foundation for the Advancement of Canadian Transsexuals
618–2757 Kipling Avenue, Rexdale, Ont. N9V 4C4
Earliest and latest: no. 1 (1978?)
• one issue examined (incomplete run?)

**FLAG Mag**
Fredericton Lesbians and Gay Men (FLAG)
Box 1556, Station A, Fredericton, N.B. E3B 5G2
Earliest: no. 1 (1980)
Latest: no. 7 (1982)
• seven issues examined (complete run)
• title changed to The Fredericton FLAGmag with issue 2 (1981)

**FLAG Newsletter**
Feminist Lesbian Action Group (FLAG) of Victoria
Box 1604, Station E, Victoria, B.C.
Earliest and latest: May 1981
• no issue examined; CLGA issue missing. Not at the B.C. Lesbian and Gay Archives, Vancouver

**Fags and Faggotry (F&F): A Magazine of Searing Anarcho-Faggotry**
Heart-War-Fuckzine
4–119A Dundas Street, London, Ont. N6A 1E8
Earliest and latest: August 1981
• one issue examined (incomplete run)

* **Fathers’ Clarion and Tattler**
Gay Fathers of Toronto (GFT)
Box 187, Station F, Toronto, Ont. M4Y 2L5
Earliest and latest: vol. 3, no. 3 (April 1982)
• one issue examined (incomplete run)
• continues GFT News / Newsletter
Flagrant
Vancouver Island Lesbian Newsletter Collective (VILNC)
Box 1604, Station E, Vancouver, B.C.
Earliest and latest: January [1982]
• one issue examined (incomplete run?)

Flash: The International Guide to Gay Living
Big Brother Communications
219–5871 Victoria Ave., Montréal, Qué. H3W 2R7
Earliest: vol. 40, no. 2 (24 February 1976)
• nine issues examined (incomplete run)
• Big Brother Communications also had an office at 313 W. 53 Street, New York, NY
• printed in Canada, but content is mostly American

Canadian Lesbian and Gay Rights Coalition (CLGRC) / Coalition Canadienne pour les droits des lesbiennes et des gais (CCDLG)
C.P. 36, Succ. C, Montréal, Qué. H2L 4J7
• Earliest: vol. 3, no. 3 (Summer 1978)
• Latest: vol. 4, no. 2 (Spring 1979)
• four issues examined (complete run)
• full text in both English and French
• continues NGRC Forum

La Fricassée
Lac Mégantic, Qué.
Earliest and latest: ca. 1977–78
• not examined; no issues located
• mentioned in AGQ bibliography, p. 54

GAE Newsletter
Gay Alliance for Equality (GFE)
Box 3611, Halifax, N.S.
Earliest and latest: 23 June–13 July 1978
• one issue examined (incomplete run)

**GAGE**
Gay Action Group for Equality (GAGE)
Box 4341, Station C, London, Ont.
Earliest: [July] 1978
Latest: December 1978
• three issues examined (incomplete run)

**GALL**
Gay Activist League of London (GALL)
London, Ont.
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (June 1977)
Latest: vol. 1, no. 2 (Summer 1977)
• two issues examined (complete run?)
• vol. 1, no. 1, cover title: “Now We’ve Got GALL”
• vol. 1, no. 2, cover title: *Alternative Child: A Gay Liberation Journal*

* **GARD Newsletter**
Gay Association of Red Deer (GARD)
Box 356, Red Deer, Alta.
Earliest: February 1979
Latest: June 1979
• five issues examined (incomplete run?)

**GEM Gay Community Outreach Journal**
Gay Equality Mississauga (GEM)
Box 62, Brampton, Ont. L6V 2K7
Earliest: October 1980
Latest: June–July 1982
• eighteen issues examined (complete run)
• continues *GEM Newsnotes*
* **GEM Newsnotes**  
Gay Equality Mississauga (GEM)  
Box 62, Brampton, Ont. L6V 2K7  
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (April 1976)  
Latest: September 1980  
• thirty-three issues examined (incomplete run)  
• published from Box 193, Station A, Mississauga, Ont. L5A 2Z7, until 1979, when it moved to the Brampton address during 1979–80  
• continued by *GEM Gay Community Outreach Journal*  

**GFE News**  
Gays for Equality (GFE)  
Box 27, UMSU, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Man. R3T 2N2  
Earliest: December 1979  
Latest: September 1981  
• one issue examined; three CLGA issues missing (incomplete run)  

* **GFT News / Newsletter**  
Gay Fathers of Toronto (GFT)  
Box 187, Station F, Toronto, Ont. M4Y 2L5  
Earliest: September 1980  
Latest: vol. 3, no. 4 (June 1982)  
• eighteen issues examined (incomplete run)  
• continued by *Fathers’ Clarion and Tattler*  

* **GLOW News**  
Gay Liberation of Waterloo (GLOW)  
c/o Federation of Students, University of Waterloo, Kitchener, Ont.  
Earliest and latest: no. 1 (December 1982)  
• one issue examined (incomplete run?)
* **GO Info**  
Gays of Ottawa (GO), Media Committee  
Box 2919, Station D, Ottawa, Ont. K1P 5W9  
Earliest: vol. 3, no. 1 (February–March 1976)  
Latest: vol. 9, no. 1 (May 1982)  
• thirty-one issues examined (incomplete run)

**GO Update / En bref**  
Gays of Ottawa (GO), Media Committee  
Box 2919, Station D, Ottawa, Ont. K1P 5W9  
Earliest: April 1977  
Latest: December 1981  
• eight issues examined (incomplete run)

**GROW Newsletter**  
Gay Rights Organization of Waterloo (GROW)  
Box 2782, Station B, Kitchener, Ont. N2H 6N3  
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 2 (1978)  
Latest: January 1980  
• six issues examined (incomplete run)

**Gag Rag**  
Gay People of Prince George  
Prince George, B.C.  
Earliest and latest: no. 2 (March 1978)  
• one issue examined (incomplete)

* **Le Gaibécois: Bulletin d’information du CHAL**  
Centre Homophile d’Aide et de Libération (CHAL)  
176, rue Prince-Édouard, Québec, Qué.  
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (August 1977)  
Latest: vol. 5, no. 8 (February 1982)  
• sixty-one issues examined (twelve at CLGA, forty-nine at AGQ; complete run?)
Gai(e)s du Québec: Bulletin d’information de l’ADGQ
Association pour les droits des gai(e)s du Québec (ADGQ)
C.P. 36, Succ. C, Montréal, Qué. H2L 4J7
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (July 1977)
Latest: vol. 2, no. 5 (June 1978)
• eleven issues examined (complete run)
• continued by Gai(e)s du Québec: Journal de l’Association pour les Droits des Gai(e)s du Québec

Gai(e)s du Québec: Journal de l’Association pour les Droits des Gai(e)s du Québec
C.P. 36, Succ. C, Montréal, Qué. H2L 4J7
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (July–August 1978)
Latest: vol. 1, no. 6 (April–May 1979)
• six issues examined (complete run)
• continues Gai(e)s du Québec: Bulletin d’information de l’ADGQ
• continued by Le Berdache

Gaillard: Le Magazine erotique gai
Éditions Gaillard
C.P. 500, Succ. C, Montréal, Qué. H2L 4K4
Earliest and latest: vol. 1, no. 1 (1980)
• one issue examined (incomplete run?)

Gay and Lesbian Support Services Newsletter
Gay and Lesbian Support Services (GLSS)
217–116 Third Avenue S., Saskatoon, Sask. S7K 1L9
Earliest: October 1981
Latest: February 1982
• two issues examined (incomplete run?)

Gay Archivist: Newsletter of the Canadian Gay Archives
Canadian Gay Archives
Box 639, Station A, Toronto, Ont. M5W 1G2
Earliest: no. 1 (1977)
LESBIAN AND GAY LIBERATION IN CANADA, 1976–1981

Latest: no. 4 (1981)
• four issues examined (complete run)

* Gay Blade
Gay Community Centre Saskatoon
Box 1662, Saskatoon, Sask. S7K 3R8
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (May 1977)
Latest: April 1978
• ten issues examined (complete run)
• continues Gay Community Centre of Saskatoon Newsletter
• continued by Gaze

Gay Calgary
Gay Information and Resources Calgary (GIRC)
Box 2715, Station M, Calgary, Alta. T2P 3C1
Earliest: vol. 2, no. 1 (1978)
Latest: October–December 1982
• fourteen issues examined (incomplete run)
• continues Gay Moods
• continued by Gay Horizons

Gay Christian Sower
Edmonton Community of Gay Christians
Box 2918, Station A, Edmonton, Alta. T5J 0W0
Earliest and latest: vol. 1, no. 3 (1977)
• one issue examined (incomplete run)
• continues Edmonton Community of Gay Christians Newsletter

Gay Christian Witness
Council on Homosexuality and Religion
Box 1912, Winnipeg, Man. R3C 3R2
Earliest: no. 1 (1980)
Latest: no. 3 (1982)
• three issues examined (complete run?)
Gay Community Appeal of Toronto Newsletter
Gay Community Appeal of Toronto
Box 2212, Station P, Toronto, Ont. M5F 2T2
Earliest and latest: vol. 1, no. 1 (1980)
• one issue examined (incomplete run?)

* Gay Community Centre of Saskatoon Newsletter
Gay Community Centre of Saskatoon (GCCS)
Box 1662, Saskatoon, Sask. S7K 3R8
Earliest: November 1976
Latest: March 1977
• five issues examined (incomplete run)
• continues Zodiac Friendship Society Newsletter
• continued by Gay Blade

Gay Friends of Brandon Newsletter
Gay Friends of Brandon (GFB)
Box 492, Brandon, Man.
Earliest and latest: October 1978
• one issue examined (incomplete run?)
• continued by The Empty Closet

Gay Friends of Concordia Newsletter
Gay Friends of Concordia (GFC)
Concordia University, Montréal, Qué.
Earliest and latest: 20 October 1978
• one issue examined (incomplete run)

Gay Gleaner
Gay Alliance toward Equality (GATE) ?
Box 1852, Edmonton, Alta. T5J 2P2
Earliest: December 1981
Latest: May 1982
• four issues examined (incomplete run)
• continues Newsletter
Gay Horizons: A Western Publication for Lesbians and Gay Men
Alberta Lesbian and Gay Rights Association (ALGRA)
Box 2715, Station M, Calgary, Alta. T2P 3C1
Earliest: no. 14 (1979)
Latest: no. 16 (1980)
• three issues examined (incomplete run?)
• continues Gay Calgary
• continued by Reach

* Gay Info
Gay Montréal Association (GMA/AHM)
C.P. 610, Succ. N.D.G., Montréal, Qué. H4A 3R1
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (April–May 1977)
Latest: October 1981
• nine issues examined (incomplete run?)

Gay Information Calgary
Gay Information and Resources Calgary (GIRC)
Box 2715, Station M, Calgary, Alta. T2P 3C1
Earliest: September 1981
Latest: January 1982
• four issues examined (incomplete?)
• continues Reach

Gay Leisure Link Newsletter
Box 4662, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 4A1
Earliest: March 1981
Latest: August 1982
• ten issues examined (incomplete)
• the following issues (not at the CLGA) were seen at the B.C.
Lesbian and Gay Archives, Vancouver: 1–7 August 1981; 1 January
1982; 1 March 1982

Gay Lines
Gay Social Services Project, Family Service Association
4515, rue Sainte-Catherine O., Montréal, Qué. H3Z 1R9
Earliest and latest: [June 1976]
• one issue examined (incomplete run)

**Gay Literature: Passacaglia Books**
Passacaglia Books
1238 Davie Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6E 1N3
Earliest and latest: Spring 1980
• no issues examined; CLGA issue missing. No copies at the B.C. Lesbian and Gay Archives, Vancouver

**Gay Men’s Discussion Group Bulletin**
c/o Art Corry, 404–1220 Pandora Avenue, Victoria, B.C. V8V 3R4
• eight issues examined (incomplete run?)

* **Gay Montréal**
C.P. 568, Succ. Youville, Montréal, Qué. H2P 2W1
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (27 April 1976)
Latest: vol. 1, no. 25 (22 March 1977)
• twenty-five issues examined (first four issues at AGQ; complete run)

**Gay Moods**
Gay Information and Resources Calgary (GIRC)
312–223 Twelfth Avenue S.W., Calgary, Alta. T2R 0G9
Earliest: February 1977
Latest: vol. 1, no. 5 (23 November 1977)
• four issues examined (incomplete run?)
• continued by *Gay Calgary*

* **Gay Niagara News**
Gay Unity Niagara (GUN)
Box 692, Niagara Falls, Ont. L2E 6V5

Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (January 1980)
Latest: vol. 3, no. 5 (May 1982)
• seventeen issues examined (incomplete)

* Gay Rising
Gay Alliance toward Equality (GATE)
Box 156, Station P, Toronto, Ont. M5J 2S7
Latest: 18 November 1978
• twenty-two issues examined (incomplete run)

* Gay Saskatchewan
Saskatchewan Gay Coalition
Box 7508, Saskatoon, Sask.
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (March 1978)
Latest: Spring 1981
• thirty-one issues examined (complete run?)
• continued by *Grassroots*

*Gay Social Services Project Annual Report*
Gay Social Services Project
Montréal, Qué.
Earliest and latest: April 1978
• one issue examined (incomplete run?)

*Gay Softball World Series Program*
c/o Cabbagetown Group Softball League (CGSL)
Box 110, 684 Yonge Street, Toronto, Ont. M4Y 2B2
Earliest and latest: no. 5 (1981)
• one issue examined (complete for those published in Toronto)
• annual

*Gay Studies Newsletter (GSN)*
Gay Caucus of the Modern Languages Association, Department of English, University of Toronto, 7 King’s College Circle, Toronto, Ont. M5S 1A1
Latest: vol. 9, no. 2 (November 1982)
• seventeen issues examined (complete run)

*Gay Tide*
Gay Alliance toward Equality (GATE)
Box 1463, Station A, Vancouver, B.C. V6C 2P7
Earliest: vol. 3, no. 2 (April 1976)
Latest: no. 24 (February–March 1980)
• thirteen issues examined (complete run)

* *Gay Times*
C.P. 36, Succ. C, Montréal, Qué.
Earliest and latest: vol. 2, no. 1 (Spring 1976)
• one issue examined (complete run?)
Gay Toronto
Robert Slee
14A–501 Yonge Street, Toronto, Ont. M4Y 1Y4
Earliest and latest: no. 1 (1979)
• one issue examined (complete run?)

Gaymates: Bringing Gay Men Together
Gay Services International
Box 3043, Saskatoon, Sask. S7K 3S9
Earliest: no. 1 (1976)
Latest: no. 28 (1982)
• twenty-eight issues examined (complete run)

Gays in Health Care (GHC) Newsletter
Gays in Health Care (GHC)
Box 5712, Station A, Toronto, Ont. M5W 1N8
Earliest: no. 2 (1982)
Latest: no. 7 (1982)
• six issues examined (incomplete run)

Gays of Mississauga Newsletter
Gay Equality Mississauga (GEM)
Box 193, Station A, Mississauga, Ont.
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (April 1976)
Latest: vol. 1, no. 2 (May 1976)
• two issues examined (complete run)
• continued by Outcome

GAYtuk
South of Tuk International
Box 1267, Station A, Toronto, Ont. M5W 1G7
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 4 (1976)
Latest: vol. 1, no. 7 (1976)
• four issues examined (complete run)
• continued by GAYtuk Bulletin
**GAYtuk Bulletin**
South of Tuk International
Box 1267, Station A, Toronto, Ont. M5W 1G7
Earliest: no. 1 (1976)
Latest: no. 2 (1976)
- two issues examined (complete run)
- continues *GAYtuk*
- continued by *South of Tuk International*

**Gayzen**
Homophile Association of London Ontario (HALO)
649 Colborne Street, London, Ont. N6A 3Z2
- Earliest: March 1978
- Latest: April 1978
- two issues examined (complete run?)
- continued by *HALO Newsletter*

**Gayzette**
Stephen G Productions
c/o 900 Carlton Terrace, Victoria, B.C. V9A 5A5
Latest: vol. 1, no. 9 (1981)
- nine issues examined
- cover title on issues 8 and 9: *Victoria’s Gayzette*
- merged with *Bulletin* to become *Network Victoria*, January 1982

**Gaze**
University of Victoria Gay Focus Club
Box 1700, University of Victoria, Victoria, B.C. V8W 2Y2
Earliest and latest: vol. 1, no. 2 (1980)
- one issue examined; most of CLGA’s copies are missing; no additional copies at the B.C. Lesbian and Gay Archives, Vancouver

* *Gaze*
Gay and Lesbian Community Centre of Saskatoon (G/LCCS)
Box 1662, Saskatoon, Sask. S7K 3R8
Earliest: May 1978
Latest: June 1982
• thirty-three issues examined (incomplete run)
• continues Gay Blade

Gaze Board Flashes
Gay and Lesbian Community Centre of Saskatoon (G/LCCS)
Box 1662, Saskatoon, Sask. S7K 3R8
Earliest: February 1982
Latest: June 1982
• five issues examined (complete run)

* Gender Review: The FACTual Newsletter / Journal
Foundation for the Advancement of Canadian Transsexuals (FACT)
Box 291, Station A, Hamilton, Ont. L8N 3C8
Earliest: no. 1 (June 1978)
Latest: vol. 2, no. 2 (November 1982)
• twelve issues examined (incomplete run)

Gênos: A Gender-Genocide
Project Lambda
Box 3742, Station B, Winnipeg, Man. R2W 3R6
Earliest and latest: 1978
• no issues examined; one location in WorldCat: Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa
• advertised in Gay Calgary, 2, no. 4 (December 1978): 7

Georgetown Gay Friends Newsletter
Georgetown Gay Friends
Box 223, Georgetown, Ont.
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 2 (1980)
Latest: November–December 1980
• two issues examined (incomplete run)
**Glad Day Bookshop**
Glad Day Bookshop
648A Yonge Street, Toronto, Ont. M4Y 2A6
Latest: Fall 1981
• three issues examined (complete run?)
• title varies: *Glad Day Books* or *Glad Day Bookshop Gay Literature*
• catalogue

**Glad Rag: Dalhousie’s Alternative Publication**
Gays and Lesbians at Dalhousie University (GLAD)
c/o Information Desk, Student Union Building, Dalhousie
  University, Halifax, N.S. B3H 4J2
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (1979)
Latest: vol. 1, no. 4 (1980)
• four issues examined (incomplete)

**Grapevine: Newsletter of the Lesbian Mothers’ Defence Fund**
Lesbian Mothers’ Defence Fund
Box 38, Station E, Toronto, Ont. M6H 4E1
Earliest: Summer 1979
Latest: Summer 1982
• six issues examined (complete?)

**Grassroots**
Lesbian and Gay Saskatchewan
Box 7508, Saskatoon, Sask.
Earliest: Spring 1981
Latest: Winter 1981–82
• three issues examined (complete run)
• continues *Gay Saskatchewan*

* **Guelph Gay Equality Newsletter**
Guelph Gay Equality
Box 733, Guelph, Ont. N1H 6L8
Earliest: May 1977
Latest: April 1982
• fifty issues examined (complete run?)

Le Guide gai du Québec
Éditions Homeureux Enr.
C.P. 245, Succ. N, Montréal, Qué. H2X 3M4
Earliest: (1979)
Latest: 1982
• two issues examined (complete run)
• directory, edited by Alain Bouchard

HALO Grapevine
Homophile Association of London Ontario (HALO)
649 Colborne Street, London, Ont. N6A 3Z2
Earliest: February–March 1976
Latest: Fall 1980
• one issue examined; two of CLGA’s issues are missing (incomplete run)
• continues Homophile Association of London Ontario Newsletter
• continued by HALO Newsletter

* HALO Newsletter: A Monthly Newsletter by the Homophile Association of London Ontario
Homophile Association of London Ontario (HALO)
649 Colborne Street, London, Ont. N6A 3Z2
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 6 (March 1977)
Latest: 1 June 1982
• twenty issues examined (incomplete run)
• continues Gayzen and HALO Grapevine

* Ha Mishpacha Newsletter
Ha Mishpacha
Box 506, Station T, Toronto, Ont. M6B 4C2
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (May 1976)
Latest: February–March 1978
• twenty-two issues examined (incomplete run)
• first two issues titled *Ha Mispacha* [sic]

*Hamilton McMaster Homophile Association News/Newsletter*
Hamilton McMaster Homophile Association
Box 44, Station B, Hamilton, Ont.
Earliest: July 1976
Latest: January 1977
• six issues examined (incomplete run)
• continued by *McMaster Homophile Association Newsletter*

*Have You Heard?*
Gay Alliance for Equality (GAE)
Box 3611, South Station, Halifax, N.S. B3J 3K6
Earliest: September 1978
Latest: June 1981
• thirty-three issues examined (incomplete run)
• continues *Newsletter*

*Hom-info: Information sur la condition masculine*
Hom Info
1710, rue Amherst, Montréal, Qué. H2L 3L5
Earliest: vol. 3, no. 1 (Winter 1982)
Latest: vol. 3, no. 3 (August 1982)
• three issues examined (incomplete run)

*Homo mundo*
Les Publications Patricia
C.P. 294, Montréal-Nord, Montréal, Qué.
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (1976)
Latest: vol. 1, no. 3 (1976)
• two issues examined (AGQ; incomplete run)
Housewives for Heroin
[Dennis Findlay, Toronto, Ont.]
Earliest and latest: June–July 1979
• one issue examined (incomplete run)
• an in-house gossip letter
• see also Anal Newsletter

* Integrity / Montréal Newsletter
Integrity / Montréal
Box 562, Verdun, Qué. H4G 3E4
Earliest: March 1979
Latest: September–November 1982
• twenty-seven issues examined (incomplete run)

Integrity / Ottawa Newsletter
Integrity / Ottawa
c/o St. George’s Church, 152 Metcalfe Street, Ottawa, Ont. K2P 1N9
Earliest: Fall 1979
Latest: August 1981
• eight issues examined (incomplete run)

* Integrity / Toronto Bulletin
Integrity / Toronto
Box 873, Station F, Toronto, Ont. M4Y 2N9
Earliest: Summer 1980
Latest: 29 June 1982
• twenty-one issues examined (incomplete run)

* Integrity / Toronto Newsletter
Integrity / Toronto
Box 873, Station F, Toronto, Ont. M4Y 2N9
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (February 1979)
Latest: vol. 5, no. 2 (Spring 1982)
• eighteen issues examined (incomplete run)
* Integrity / Vancouver Newsletter
Integrity / Vancouver
Box 34161, Station D, Vancouver, B.C. V6J 4N1
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 3 (August 1980)
Latest: vol. 3, no. 3 (November 1982)
• six issues examined (incomplete run)

Inter Club
Montréal, Qué.
Earliest and latest: ca. 1980
• no issues located, no locations in WorldCat

* International Justice Monthly
R.R. 4, Harrow, Ont. N0R 1G0
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (March 1981)
Latest: vol. 2, no. 5 (May 1982)
• thirteen issues examined (incomplete run)

It’s Here
Eternal Network
31 Mercer Street, Toronto, Ont. M5V 1H2
• no issues examined; CLGA issue missing

It’s Your Move
Coalition for Gay Rights in Ontario (CGRO)
730 Bathurst Street, Toronto, Ont. M5S 2R4
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (March 1979)
Latest: vol. 6, no. 1 (January 1982)
• thirteen issues examined (complete run?)
• continues *CGRO News / Newsletter*
• continued by *CGRO [News] / Newsletter*
**Jean Jabber**
Congeniality Social Club
26 Wilson Street, Hamilton, Ont. L8R 1C5
Earliest and latest: March 1976
• one issue examined (incomplete run)
• some issues called *Gene Chatter*

**Knights Magazine**
1207–1933 Robson Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6G 1E7
Latest: vol. 1, no. 4 (1981)
• four issues examined (incomplete run)

**LOOT Newsletter**
Lesbian Organization of Toronto (LOOT)
342 Jarvis Street, Toronto, Ont. M4Y 3C1
Earliest: March 1977
Latest: July 1979
• twenty-two issues examined (incomplete run)
• continued by *Lesbian Perspective*

**Labyris News**
Labyris
3595, rue St-Urbain, Montréal, Qué.
Earliest and latest: May 1976
• one issue examined (incomplete run?)

* **Lambda News**
Toronto Lambda Business Council
Box 513, Adelaide Street Station, Toronto, Ont. M5C 2J6
Earliest: March 1980
Latest: vol. 4, no. 5 (June 1982)
• fourteen issues examined (incomplete run)
**Lanyard**
Lanyards Bike Club
Box 538, Station A, Toronto, Ont. M5W 1E4
Earliest: April 1979
Latest: July 1979
• two issues examined (incomplete run)
• continues *The Lanyard Newsletter*

**The Lanyard Newsletter**
Lanyards Bike Club
Box 538, Station A, Toronto, Ont. M5W 1E4
Earliest and latest: vol. 3, no. 6 (1976)
• one issue examined (incomplete run)
• continued by *Lanyard*

**Lavender Sheets**
Lesbian Organization of Toronto (LOOT)
Box 70, Station F, Toronto, Ont. M4X 2L4
Earliest: April 1980
Latest: Summer 1980
• three issues examined (complete run?)
• continues *Lesbian Perspective*

**Léo Gay Bar**
Léo Bouchard
64, rue des Forges, Trois-Rivières, Qué. G9A 2G5
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 6 (September 1980)
Latest: vol. 1, no. 12 (May 1982)
• five issues examined (at the AGQ; the CLGA has vol. 1, no. 8, only)

* **Lesbian Canada Lesbienne**
Atlantic Provinces Political Lesbians for Equality (APPLE)
c/o 44 Arlington Avenue, Halifax, N.S. B3N 2A1
Earliest and latest: no. 1 (1977)
• one issue examined (complete run?)

* **Lesbian Caucus of GATE Bulletin**
Gay Alliance toward Equality (GATE)
193 Carlton Street, Toronto, Ont. M5A 2K7
Earliest and latest: November–December 1976
• one issue examined (incomplete run?)

* **Lesbian Feminists of Montreal Newsletter**
Lesbian Feminists of Montreal
3585, rue St-Urbain, Montréal, Qué.
Earliest: June 1977
Latest: July 1977
• two issues examined (incomplete run?)

**Lesbian / Lesbienne**
Box 70, Station F, Toronto, Ont.
• four issues examined (complete run)

**Lesbian Perspective**
Lesbian Organization of Toronto (LOOT)
342 Jarvis Street, Toronto, Ont. M4Y 3C1
Earliest: August 1979
Latest: March 1980
• seven issues examined (complete run)
• continues **LOOT Newsletter**
• continued by **Lavender Sheets**

**Lesbians Organize**
Wages Due Lesbians, Wages for Housework Campaign
Box 38, Station E, Toronto, Ont.
Earliest and latest: 1977
• one issue examined (complete run?)
• includes “How to Organize” packet; some material dated 1977

**Liaison**
Box 6442, Station C, Victoria, B.C.
Earliest and latest: ca. 1979
• no issues located; described as a magazine for gay women plus a confidential introduction service; *Liaison* was advertised in *Waves: Feminist Lesbian Magazine*, vol. 1, no. 5 (1979): 3

**Librairie l’Androgyne Bookstore**
Librairie l’Androgyne / Androgyny Bookstore
1217, rue Crescent, Montréal, Qué. H3G 2B1
Earliest: June 1979
Latest: August 1981
• four issues examined (incomplete run)
• catalogue

*London Lesbian Collective News / Newsletter*
London Lesbian Collective (LCC)
Box 4724, Station C, London, Ont.
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 4 (August 1977)
Latest: vol. 3, no. 3 (October 1978)
• eleven issues examined (incomplete run)

**Long Time Coming**
Montreal Gay Women
3595, rue St-Urbain, Montréal, Qué.
• one issue examined (complete run)

**Lui et lui: Plaisirs interdits entre hommes**
Les Éditions de l’Orée
C.P. 568, Station Youville, Montréal, Qué. H2P 2W1
Earliest and latest: vol. 1, no. 1 (1980)
• one issue examined (AGQ; incomplete run?)
Lutherans Concerned Canada Newsletter
Lutherans Concerned Canada
Box 8187, Saskatoon, Sask. S7K 6C5
Earliest and latest: no. 2 (1981)
• one issue examined (incomplete run)

MCC West
Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) Vancouver
Box 5178, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 4B2
Earliest: no. 23 (19 October 1978)
Latest: November 1982
• fifteen issues examined (incomplete run)
• continues MCN West
• the B.C. Lesbian and Gay Archives, Vancouver, has the most complete collection (fifteen issues); the CLGA has eight issues

MCN West
Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) Vancouver
Box 5178, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 4B2
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (23 March 1977)
Latest: no. 19 (8 March 1978)
• sixteen issues examined (incomplete run)
• continued by MCC West
• the B.C. Lesbian and Gay Archives, Vancouver, has the most complete collection (sixteen issues); the CLGA has four issues

McMaster Homophile Association Newsletter
McMaster University, Hamilton, Ont.
Earliest and latest: May 1977
• one issue examined (incomplete run?)
• continues Dialogue

Making Waves
Box 8953, Station A, Halifax, N.S. B3K 5M6
Latest: no. 3 (July 1982)
• three issues examined (complete run?)

**Malus**
Éditions Zénith
C.P. 703, Station Jean-Talon, Montréal, Québec, H1S 2Z5
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 2 (September–October 1979)
Latest: vol. 2, no. 4 (February 1982)
• nine issues examined (AGQ; incomplete run)

**Manitoba Gay Directory**
Gays for Equality (GFE)?
Winnipeg, Man.
Earliest and latest: 1977
• one issue examined (incomplete run?)
• directory

**Messieurs, mes amours**
Les Entreprises Normand Vaughan [pseud. of Normand-Roger Thibodeau]
C.P. 274, Succ. M, Montréal, Québec, H1V 3M3
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (1978)
Latest: vol. 1, no. 5 (1978)
• four issues examined (vol. 1, no 3 at AGQ; incomplete run)

* **Metro Community News**
Metro Community Church (MCC) of Toronto
730 Bathurst Street, Toronto, Ontario, M5S 2R4
Earliest: vol. 3, no. 3 (2 January 1976)
Latest: vol. 8, no. 4 (March 1981)
• fifty-two issues examined (incomplete run)

**Metropolitan Community Church of Edmonton News and Views**
Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) Edmonton
Box 1312, Edmonton, Alberta, T5J 2M8
Earliest and latest: vol. 1, no. 8 (1981)
  • one issue examined (incomplete run)

**Montgomery Leathers**
Montgomery Leathers
Box 161, Agincourt, Ont. M1S 3B6
Earliest: [1977–78]
Latest: [1980]
  • two issues examined (incomplete run?)
  • catalogue

**Montreal Gay Times**
Box 36, Station G, Montréal, Qué.
Earliest and latest: vol. 2, no. 1 (Spring 1976)
  • one issue examined (complete run?)

**Montrealites**
Montreal Community Church / Église Communautaire de Montréal
Box 610, Station N.D.G., Montréal, Qué. H4A 3R1
Earliest: vol. 2, no. 1 (January 1976)
Latest: vol. 3, no. 2 (1977)
  • four issues examined (incomplete run)

**NDP Gay Caucus Newsletter**
New Democratic Party (NDP) Gay Caucus
Box 792, Station F, Toronto, Ont. M4Y 2N7
Earliest and latest: October 1979
  • one issue examined (incomplete run)

**NGRC Forum / Forum de la CNDH**
National Gay Rights Coalition (NGRC) / Coalition nationale pour les droits des homosexuels (CNDH)
C.P. 36, Succ. C, Montréal, Qué. H2L 4J7
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (Spring 1976)
Latest: vol. 3, no. 2 (Spring 1978)
• eight issues examined (incomplete run?)
• bilingual, English and French
• continued by *Forum: News and Views Bulletin of the Canadian Lesbian and Gay Rights Coalition*

*Naches Notes*
Naches: Montreal’s Gay Jewish Group
C.P. 298, Succ. H, Montréal, Qué. H3G 2K8
Earliest: April 1978
Latest: vol. 2, no. 7 (October 1980)
• sixteen issues examined (incomplete run)
• continued by *Newsletter*

*Network Victoria*
Dept. 7, Box 4276, Station A, Victoria, B.C. V8X 3X4
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (January 1982)
Latest: vol. 1, no. 6 (August–September 1982)
• six issues examined (complete run)
• a merger of *Bulletin* and *The Gayzette*

*New Beginnings*
Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) of Ottawa
Box 868, Station B, Ottawa, Ont. K1P 5P9
Earliest: vol. 2, no. 2 (1976)
Latest: vol. 7, no. 8 (1981)
• thirty-six issues examined (incomplete run)

*New Wine*
Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) Calgary
Box 6945, Station D, Calgary, Alta. T2P 2G2
Earliest and latest: March 1980
• one issue examined (incomplete run)
Newsletter
Gay Alliance for Equality (GAE)
Box 3611, Halifax South Station, Halifax, N.S.
Earliest: no. 2 (21 April–4 May 1978)
Latest: 4 October 1978
• nine issues examined (incomplete run)
• continued by Have You Heard?

Newsletter
Gay Alliance toward Equality (GATE)
10173 104th Street N.W., Edmonton, Alta. T5J 0Z9
Earliest and latest: vol. 1, no. 1 (June 1981)
• one issue examined (incomplete run?)
• continues Communigay
• continued by Gay Gleaner

* Newsletter
Naches
C.P. 298, Succ. H, Montréal, Qué. H3G 2K8
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (January 1981)
Latest: vol. 2, no. 6 (November–December 1982)
• ten issues examined (incomplete run)
• continues Naches Notes

NewsNotes
Gay Information and Resources Calgary (GIRC)
Box 2715, Station M, Calgary, Alta. T2P 3C1
Earliest and latest: ca. 1978–79
• no issues located; no locations in WorldCat
• a private newsletter for members of GIRC only

Newsnotes
Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) Vancouver
Box 5178, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 4B2
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (July 1979)
Latest: 24 August 1982
• seventeen issues examined (incomplete run)
• the B.C. Lesbian and Gay Archives, Vancouver, has the most complete collection (seventeen issues); the CLGA has twelve issues

Night Times Magazine
Ran-Gra Enterprises
820 Eglinton Avenue E., Toronto, Ont. M4G 2L1
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (1978)
Latest: vol. 1, no. 2 (March 1978)
• two issues examined (complete run?)

[Norman Hatton Calendar]
Norman Hatton
Toronto, Ont.
Earliest and latest: 1980
• one issue examined (incomplete run?)
• annual calendar

Northern Light
Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) Edmonton
Box 1312, Edmonton, Alta. T5J 2M8
Earliest and latest: November 1978
• one issue examined (incomplete run)

Omnimag
Les Éditions Héros, Inc.
C.P. 294, Montréal-Nord, Qué.
Earliest: vol. 5, no. 12 [1976]
Latest: vol. 6, no. 8 (1977?)
• ten issues examined (AGQ; incomplete run)

Ontario Gay Teachers’ Caucus Newsletter
Ontario Gay Teachers’ Caucus
Toronto, Ont. ?
Earliest and latest: ca. 1978
• no issues located; no locations in WorldCat

*Our Image: The BP Review Supplement*
Pink Triangle Press
Box 7289, Station A, Toronto, Ont. M5W 1X9
Earliest: no. 3 (1976)
Latest: no. 7 (1977)
• four issues examined (incomplete run)
• a literary insert to the *Body Politic*; pages are numbered separately

*Our Toronto*
Gold Bar Enterprises
2612–33 Isabella Street, Toronto, Ont. M4Y 2P7
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (January 1980)
Latest: vol. 1, no. 8 (23 February–6 March 1980)
• eight issues examined (incomplete run)

*OUT!*
Kitchener-Waterloo Gay Media Collective
Box 2741, Station B, Kitchener, Ont. N2H 6N3
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (November 1978)
Latest: vol. 1, no. 7 (June 1979)
• seven issues examined (complete run?)

*Out & About*
Project Lambda
Box 3911, Station B, Winnipeg, Man. R2W 5H9
Earliest: no. 1 (February 1978)
Latest: July 1982
• forty-four issues examined (incomplete run)
• issue for January 1979 is titled *Project Lambda Newsletter*
• merged with *What’s Happening* and *Wilde Times*
Out and Out Activities Calendar / Newsletter
Out and Out Club
Drawer C322, Body Politic, Box 7289, Station A, Toronto, Ont. M5W 1X9
Earliest: December 1980–March 1981
Latest: June–August 1982
• seven issues examined (complete run)

* Outcome
Gays of Mississauga
Box 193, Station A, Mississauga, Ont. L5A 2Z7
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 3 (June 1976)
Latest: vol. 1, no. 8 (December 1976)
• six issues examined (incomplete run)
• continues Gays of Mississauga Newsletter
• continued by Outward Bound

* Outward Bound
Gay Equality Mississauga (GEM)
Box 193, Station A, Mississauga, Ont. L5A 2Z7
Earliest and latest: vol. 2, no. 1 (1977)
• one issue examined (complete run?)
• continues Outcome
• continued by GEM Newsnotes?

Page Guide to Vancouver’s Gay Community
Sunshine Mail Services
Box 34129, Vancouver, B.C. V6J 4M1
Earliest: August 1977
Latest: February 1978
• two issues examined (incomplete run?)
• directory
• The February 1978 issue is at the B.C. Lesbian and Gay Archives, Vancouver.
Page One
Ron Langen
6–1091 Broughton Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6G 2A9
Latest: no. 4 (1981)
• three issues examined (incomplete run)

Parents of Gays
Parents of Gays (POG)
C.P. 610, Succ. N.D.G., Montréal, Qué. H4A 3R1
Earliest and latest: vol. 2, no. 2 (1978)
• no issues examined; CLGA issue is missing

Parents of Gays National Newsletter
Parents of Gays (POG)
Box 153, Stn. Victoria, Montréal, Qué. H3Z 2V5
Earliest and latest: no. 1 (April 1980)
• one issue examined (incomplete run?)

Parents of Gays National Newsletter
Parents of Gays (POG) Ottawa
Box 9094, Ottawa, Ont. K1G 3T8
Earliest and latest: no. 1 (1980)
• one issue examined (incomplete run?)

Perspectives
Box 1801, Winnipeg, Man. R3C 3R1
• no issues examined; CLGA issues are missing

Phalia
Spearhead
Box 1000, Station F, Toronto, Ont. M4Y 2N9
Earliest: no. 29 (1976)
LESBIAN AND GAY LIBERATION IN CANADA, 1976–1981

Latest: no. 59 (September 1981)
• twenty-three issues examined (incomplete run)

**QHA News**
Queen’s Homophile Association (QHA)
51 Queen’s Crescent, Kingston, Ont. K7I 2S7
Earliest: February 1976
Latest: vol. 1, no. 4 (June 1977)
• five issues examined (incomplete run?)
• continues *Queen’s University Homophile Association Newsletter*

**The RS News**
Richmond Street Health Emporium
260 Richmond Street E., Toronto, Ont. M5A 1P4
Earliest and latest: March 1977
• one issue examined (incomplete run?)
• continues *Richmond Street Newsletter*

**RTPC / TBP Newsbreak**
Right to Privacy Committee (RTPC) / *The Body Politic* (TBP)
Box 7289, Station A, Toronto, Ont. M5W 1X9
Earliest: November 1979
Latest: May 1982
• three issues examined (complete run?)

**Radical Reviewer: A Feminist Journal of Critical and Creative Work**
Box 24953, Station C, Vancouver, B.C. V5T 4G3
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (June 1980)
Latest: vol. 1, no. 7–8 (1982)
• seven issues examined (complete run?)

**Reach**
Gay Information and Resources Calgary (GIRC)
321–223 Twelfth Avenue S.W., Calgary, Alta. T2R 0G9
Earliest: January 1981
Latest: June–July 1981
• four issues examined (incomplete run?)
• continues Gay Horizons
• continued by Gay Information Calgary

La Revue sociégai
Groupe Unigai
Québec, Qué.
Earliest and latest: vol. 1, no. 1 (March 1981)
• no issues located; no locations in WorldCat
• listed in Catalogue Iris, Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec, but no issues at BANQ or AGQ
• listed in Our Own Voices, but for later years

Richmond Street Newsletter
Richmond Street Health Emporium
260 Richmond Street E., Toronto, Ont. M5A 1P4
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (1976)
Latest: vol. 1, no. 4 (1976)
• three issues examined (incomplete run)
• continued by RS News

Roughnecks
Edmonton Roughnecks Recreation Association
c/o 404–9745 106th Street, Edmonton, Alta. T5K 1B4
Earliest: vol. 3, no. 1 (23 May 1982)
Latest: vol. 3, no. 6 (3 December 1982)
• six issues examined (incomplete run)

* SEARCH News / Newsletter
Society for Education, Action, Research and Counselling on Homosexuality (SEARCH)
Box 48903 Bentall Centre, Vancouver, B.C. V7X 1A8
Earliest: October 1976
Latest: vol. 3, no. 2 (March 1980)
• seventeen issues examined (incomplete run)
• the issue for October 1976 is at the B.C. Lesbian and Gay Archives, Vancouver
• continued by *Searchlight* in 1982

* **SPAG News**
Society for Political Action for Gay People (SPAG)
Box 2631, M.P.O., Vancouver, B.C. V6B 3W8
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (October 1978)
Latest: vol. 2, no. 1 (1 October 1980)
• thirteen issues examined (incomplete run)

**Saskgaytoon**
Gay Community Centre of Saskatoon (GCCS)
Box 1662, Saskatoon, Sask. S7K 3R8
Earliest and latest: vol. 1, no. 1 (April 1977)
• no copies examined; copy at the Saskatchewan Archives Board, Saskatoon
• continued by *Gay Blade*

**Semaine du cinéma gai programme**
Semaine du cinéma gai / Groupe Sortir
Montréal, Qué.
Earliest and latest: 26 June–2 July 1980
• one issue examined (complete run)
• film festival programme

**Sequel Magazine**
Tuk-METAphor Press
Box 1267, Station A, Toronto, Ont. M5W 1G7
Earliest and latest: vol. 1, no. 3 (17 October 1980)
• one issue examined (incomplete run)
**The Sisters’ Lightship**  
Atlantic Provinces Political Lesbians for Equality (APPLE)  
Box 3611, Halifax South Station, Halifax, N.S. B3J 3K6  
Earliest and latest: vol. 1, no. 1 (December 1978)  
• one issue examined (incomplete run?)

**Skirting the Issue**  
Transvestites in Toronto (TIT)  
Box 873, Station A, Toronto, Ont. M5W 1G3  
Earliest and latest: vol. 1, no. 1 (1979)  
• one issue examined (complete run)  
• a second issue was prepared but never published

**Les Sorcières: En queste de nos énergies–femmes**  
C.P. 384, Succ. La Cité, Montréal, Qué. H2W 2N9  
Attn. Marie-Michèle  
Earliest: no. 1 (beltane 9980; printemps 1980)  
Latest: no. 9 (beltane 9982; Spring 1982)  
• nine issues examined (AGQ; complete run)

* **Sortie: Le Journal gai**  
C.P. 232, Succ. C, Montréal, Qué. H2L 4K1  
Earliest: no. 1 (October 1982)  
Latest: no. 2 (November 1982)  
• two issues examined (complete run)

**South of Tuk International**  
Karl von Harten  
Box 1267, Station A, Toronto, Ont. M5W 1G7  
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (September–October 1976)  
Latest: vol. 6, no. 2 [sic] (April 1977)  
• two issues examined (incomplete run)  
• numbering of issues is irregular  
• continues **GAYtuk Bulletin**
**Sparrow**  
Gay Christians of Atlantic Canada  
Box 3611, South Station, Halifax, N.S. B3J 3K6  
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (September 1979)  
Latest: vol. 1, no. 2 (February 1980)  
• two issues examined (incomplete run?)

**Spécial gay**  
Éditions Zénith  
C.P. 122, Station Jean-Talon, Montréal, Qué. H1S 2Z1  
Latest: vol. 3, no. 3 (Autumn 1981)  
• twelve issues examined (AGQ; incomplete run)

**Standout**  
Outstand Co.  
Box 5071, Station A, Toronto, Ont. M5W 1N4  
Earliest: August 1978  
Latest: vol. 2, no. 4 (1979)  
• six issues examined (incomplete run?)

**The Strip As It Is**  
7–125 Vaughan Road, Toronto, Ont. M6C 2L9  
Earliest and latest: vol. 1, no. 1 (October 1977)  
• one issue examined (incomplete run?)  
• gay publication?

**TAG News**  
Thompson Area Gays (TAG)  
Box 3343, Kamloops, B.C. V2C 6B9  
Earliest and latest: vol. 1, no. 1 (June 1981)  
• one issue examined (incomplete run?); located at the B.C. Lesbian and Gay Archives, Vancouver
**TAMS & Tissues**  
Transvestites à Montréal (TAMS)  
Box 153, Victoria Stn., Montréal, Qué. H3Z 2V5  
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (October 1979)  
Latest: 10 March 1982  
• eight issues examined (incomplete run?)

* **This Week with Alexander**  
231–501 Yonge Street, Toronto, Ont. M4Y 1Y4  
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 2 (May 1979)  
Latest: vol. 1, no. 15 (17 August 1979)  
• thirteen issues examined (incomplete run)  
• continued by *Alexander Magazine*

* **Thunder Gay**  
Gays of Thunder Bay  
Box 2155, Thunder Bay, Ont. P7B 5E8  
Earliest: March 1979  
Latest: April–May 1982  
• fifteen issues examined (incomplete run)

**Toronto Lambda Business Council: Gay Business Directory**  
Toronto Lambda Business Council  
Box 513, Adelaide Street Station, Toronto, Ont. M5C 2J6  
Earliest: November 1978  
Latest: no. 7 (1982)  
• seven issues examined (complete run?)  
• directory

**Toronto Rag**  
Underground Interests! [? Bill Eldorado or David Seville]  
Box 15, Adelaide Street Station, Toronto, Ont. M5C 1J0  
Earliest: introductory issue (?) (1980)  
Latest: no. 6 (1981)  
• seven issues examined, plus variants
• issues had variant covers: issue 2 (three variants seen); issue 4 (two variants seen); issue 5 (two variants seen)
• an early ’zine

**Ultimim gai mag**
Éditions Nue-velles
C.P. 34, Succ. St-Michel, Montréal, Qué. H3A 3B0
Earliest and latest: vol. 1, no. 3 (December 1976)
• one issue examined (AGQ; incomplete run)

**Undercurrent**
Trent Homophile Association
203–262 Rubidge Street, Peterborough, Ont.
Earliest: June 1977
Latest: August 1977
• two issues examined (incomplete run)

**Update**
*Body Politic* Free the Press Fund
Box 7289, Station A, Toronto, Ont. M5W 1X8
Earliest and latest: June 1980
• one issue examined (complete run?)

*Update Newsletter (Committee to Defend John Damien)*
Committee to Defend John Damien
Box 117, Station V, Toronto, Ont. M6R 3A4
Earliest and latest: 25 November 1976
• one issue examined (complete run?)
• continues *Committee to Defend John Damien Bulletin*
• continued by *Committee to Defend John Damien Newsletter*

*VGCC News*
Vancouver Gay Community Centre Society (VGCC)
Box 2259, M.P.O., Vancouver, B.C. V6B 3W2
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 2 (March 1980)
Latest: vol. 3, no. 4 (May 1982)
• twenty-six issues examined (complete run)
• continues Community

**Vancouver Gay Resources Guide 1979**
Society for Education, Action, Research and Counselling on Homosexuality (SEARCH)
Box 48903, Bentall Centre, Vancouver, B.C. V7X 1A8
Earliest and latest: June 1979
• one issue examined (complete run)
• directory
• supplement to the June–July 1979 issue of SEARCH Newsletter

**The Voice**
Gay Alliance for Equality (GAE)
Box 3611, Halifax South Station, Halifax, N.S. B3J 3K6
Earliest: July 1976
Latest: April 1977
• two issues examined (incomplete run)

**Voices: A Survival Manual for Women**
c/o I. Andrews, R.R. 2, Kenora, Ont. P9N 3W8
Earliest: no. 1 (1980)
Latest: no. 7 (1982)
• no issues examined; CLGA copies missing

**Voices and Whispers**
7–125 Vaughan Road, Toronto, Ont. M6C 2L9
Earliest and latest: vol. 1, no. 1 (March 1980)
• one issue examined (incomplete run?)

**Voices of Integrity**
Integrity / Calgary
Box 34, Station G, Calgary, Alta. T3A 2G1
Earliest and latest: Fall 1980
• one issue examined (incomplete run?)

_Wages Due Lesbians_
Wages Due Lesbians
Toronto, Ont.
Earliest: June 1977
Latest: February 1978
• no issues examined; CLGA issues missing

_Waves: A Lesbian Feminist Newsletter / Magazine_
Box 237, Station E, Victoria, B.C. V8W 2N1
Earliest: vol. 1, no. 1 (1978)
Latest: vol. 1, no. 5 (1979)
• five issues examined (complete run?)

_What’s Happening: Happenings Club Newsletter_
Happenings Social Club, Mutual Friendship Society
Box 3941, Station B, Winnipeg, Man. R2W 5H9
Earliest: November 1980
Latest: December 1980
• two issues examined (incomplete run)
• merged into Out & About

_Wilde Times_
Oscar Wilde Memorial Society
Box 2221, Winnipeg, Man. R3C 3R5
Earliest: October 1980
Latest: June 1982
• eleven issues examined (incomplete run)
• merged into Out & About

* _Windsor Gay Unity Newsletter_
Windsor Gay Unity
Box 7002, Sandwich Station, Windsor, Ont. N9C 3Y6
Latest: November 1979
• thirteen issues examined (incomplete run)

NOTE: Three questions arise in any attempt to compile a checklist of lesbian and gay bars and clubs in Canada. First: What qualifies as a lesbian and/or gay bar? Undoubtedly almost every bar and club in the land has been visited by at least one lesbian or gay man. Second: Is it possible to be entirely accurate in recording the addresses of these establishments, in light of sometimes unreliable or conflicting sources? The third problem is a related one: Is it possible to establish the years when these places were frequented by lesbians and/or gays? With these questions in mind, I have attempted to compile as complete a checklist as possible, but must qualify it as a “preliminary” listing. There may be errors and omissions. In addition, it has been compiled with the following limitations:

- The focus is on establishments in Canadian metropolitan areas with the most active lesbian and gay communities during the period, arranged by longitude. Establishments in smaller communities have been added where possible.

- Many of the bars, beverage rooms, and clubs listed here had a mixed lesbian, gay, and straight clientele. These were the places where lesbians and gays would typically meet in the days before communities developed exclusively lesbian- and gay-oriented bars and clubs. Although lesbians and gays would meet there, many of these places could not be described as gay bars; in some cases the gay presence was very discreet. Establishments that were most popular with lesbians or gays have been marked L and/or G; all others were mixed.

- I have attempted to list complete street addresses. These are mostly based on advertisements and notices from Canadian lesbian and gay periodicals (see Appendix Two) and from the extensive vertical files at the Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives. They
have been checked when possible against the appropriate city directories or telephone books.

- The dates listed refer only to the period between 1976 and 1981 when the establishments were active as lesbian/gay meeting places. Some of the dates are approximate, and have been calculated using ads and articles from Canadian lesbian and gay periodicals (see Appendix Two) as well as the sources listed below. The symbols – and + denote that the establishment was active before (–) or after (+) the date(s) listed.

- For a checklist of lesbian and gay bars and clubs active during 1964 to 1975 see Appendix Three of *Lesbian and Gay Liberation In Canada: A Selected Annotated Chronology, 1964–1975*, available online: https://tspace.library.utoronto.ca/handle/1807/4397

**Additional Sources:**


**Esquimalt, B.C.**
Queen’s Head. 900 Carlton Terrace. (L, G) (1976–81 +)

**Victoria, B.C.**
Bird Cage, Dominion Hall. Wharf St. (– 1976)
Churchill Hotel, Pub. 1140 Government St. (downstairs) (– 1976–81 +)
Empress Hotel, Bengal Room. 721 Government St. (– 1976–81 +)
James Bay Inn, Boson’s Mug Pub. 270 Government St. (1976–81 +)
Pals. 1325 Government St. (G) (1981 +)
Sappho’s. 734 Fort St. (– 1976)
Strathcona Hotel, Old Forge Tavern. 919 Douglas St. (– 1976–81 +)
Tres Chic. 1325 Government St. (1979–80 +)

Vancouver, B.C.
616 Club. 616 Robson St. (L, G) (– 1976–78 +)
Abbotsford Hotel, Bar. 921 W. Pender St. (– 1970s +)
After Midnight. 823 Hornby St. (1978–79 +)
Ambassador Hotel, Pub. 773 Seymour St. (G) (– 1976–81 +)
August Club. 1042 Davie St. (– 1978 +)
B.J.’s Show Club. 339 W. Pender St. (downstairs) (L, G) (– 1976–81 +)
Basin Street. 163 E. Hastings St. (– 1980 +)
Billie’s Disco and Show Lounge. 616 Robson St. (G) (– 1977 +)
Boogie Man’s Rock Palace. 1066 Seymour St. (– 1976 +)
Boom Boom Room. 1018 Burnaby St. (G) (1980–81)
Buddies. 1018 Burnaby St. (G) (1981 +)
Club Upstares. 1018 Burnaby St. (upstairs) (G) (1980–81 +)
Copacabana. 642 Burrard St. (1978–79 +)
Cotton Club. 571 Seymour St. (1978–79 +)
Dance Machine. 887 Seymour St. (– 1976–79)
Devonshire Hotel, Tavern. 849 W. Georgia St. (downstairs) (– 1976 +)
Downbeat. 1055 Seymour St. (– 1976–79 +)
Dufferin Hotel, Streets Pub. 900 Seymour St. (1976–81 +)
Faces. 795 Seymour St. (L, G) (– 1976–81 +)
Fat Cat’s. 1337 Robson St. (G) (1980)
Gandydancer. 1222 Hamilton St. (G) (1976–81 +)
Georgia Hotel, Tavern. 801 W. Georgia St. (downstairs) (– 1976–81 +)
Jonathan’s. Granville St. (G) (1979 +)
Jonathan’s Club. 1055 Seymour St. (– 1977–81 +)
John Barley’s. 23 W. Cordova St. (G) (1981 +)
King’s Castle Hotel, Puss ’n Boots Pub. 750 Granville St. (G)
   (– 1976–81 +)
Lotus Hotel, Lounge. 455 Abbott St. (G) (– 1981 +)
Luv-A-Fair Cabaret. 1275 Seymour St. (L, G) (1976–81 +)
Moscow Nights. 50 Powell St. (1978)
Myrt’s Café. 1250 Davie St. (– 1978 +)
Neighbours. 1337 Robson St. (G) (1980–81+)
Numbers. 1042 Davie St. (G) (1980–81+)
The Office. 1589 Granville St. (– 1978+)
Parkside Tropicana. 1040 Davie St. (L, G) (– 1976–78+)
Play Pen Central. 856 Seymour St. (upstairs) (L, G) (– 1976–81+)
Play Pen North. 571 Seymour St. (G) (– 1976–78)
Play Pen South. 1369 Richards St. (G) (– 1976–81+)
Quadra Club. 1055 Homer St. (L) (1979–81)
Queenie’s Truck Stop. 1135 Howe St. (upstairs) (L) (– 1976–77+)
Rembrandt Hotel, Pub. 1160 Davie St. (– 1977–79+)
Shaggy Horse. 818 Richards St. (G) (1977–81+)
Sylvia Hotel, Bar. 1154 Gilford St. (– 1976–81+)
Thunderbird Club. 856 Seymour St. (G) (– 1976)
Thurlow’s (Studio 752). 752 Thurlow St. (G) (1979–80)
Vanport Hotel, Pub. 645 Main St. (L) (– 1976–81+)

Calgary, Alta.
Backlot. 815 7th St. S.W. (G) (1978–81+)
Carlton Hotel, Bar. 126 9th Ave. S.W. (– 1976–78)
Cecil Hotel, Bar. 401 4th Ave. S.E. (L) (– 1976–81+)
Chatterbox Disco. 3716 17th Ave. S.E. (downstairs) (L) (– 1977–78+)
Club 50/50. 704 14th St. N.W. (L) (1979–80)
Club Carousel. 1025 9th Ave. S.E. (upstairs) (L, G) (– 1976–79+)
Club Marquis. 815 8th Ave. S.W. (– 1976+)
Empress Hotel, Tavern. 217 6th Ave. S.W. (– 1978–81+)
Holiday Inn, Red Fox Pub. 708 8th Ave. S.W. (– 1976–81+)
Myrt’s Beauty Parlour. 808 9th Ave. S.W. (G) (1976–81)
Palliser Hotel, King’s Arms Pub (“The Pit”). 133 9th Ave. S.W.
(downstairs) (– 1976–81+)
Parkside Continental. 1302 4th St. S.W. (L, G) (– 1976–81+)
Sheraton-Summit Hotel, Summit Lounge. 202 4th Ave. S.W.
(– 1976–81+)
Westward Inn, Tavern. 119 12th Ave. S.W. (– 1978+)

Red Deer, Alta.
Granada Inn, Valencia Lounge. 4707 50th St. (– 1979 +)

Edmonton, Alta.
Boots ’n Saddle. 10242 106th St. N.W. (G) (1980–81 +)
Cha Cha Palace. 10242 106th St. N.W. (1979–80)
Club ’70. 10242 106th St. N.W. (L, G) (– 1976–81 +)
Corona Hotel, Bar. 10625 Jasper Ave. N.W. (– 1976–78 +)
Flashback Social Club. 10330 104th St. N.W. (downstairs) (G)
   (– 1976–81 +)
King Edward Hotel, Tavern. 10180 101st St. N.W. (– 1976–79 +)
Macdonald Hotel, Bar. 10065 100th St. N.W. (– 1976–81 +)
Mayfair Hotel, Tavern. 10815 Jasper Ave. N.W. (– 1976–79 +)
The Roost: A Man’s Club. 10345 104th St. N.W. (G) (1977–81 +)
Vaga Hotel, Bar and Pub. 10815 Jasper Ave. N.W. (– 1981 +)

Mirror, Alta.
Inn 22 Hotel, Bar. (– 1980–81 +)

Lethbridge, Alta.
Marquis Hotel, Red Coach Lounge. 618 4th Ave. S. (– 1979–80 +)

Saskatoon, Sask.
After Midnight. 102 Ave. B S. (G) (1980–81 +)
King George Motor Hotel, Cove Lounge. 157 2nd Ave. N.
   (– 1976–81 +)
Ritz Hotel, Apollo Room. 118 21st St. E. (– 1976–79 +)
Sheraton Cavalier Motor Inn, Bar. 612 Spadina Cres. E. (– 1976–81 +)

Cambridge Bay, N.W.T. (now Nunavut)
Ookpik Inn. (– 1979–81 +)
Regina, Sask.
Gold Night Club. 3970 Albert St. S. (– 1976–81 +)
Odyssey Club. 2242 Smith St. (L, G) (– 1976–80)
Rumours. 2069 Broad St. (L, G) (1980–81 +)
Saskatchewan Hotel, Coachroom Beverage Room. 2125 Victoria Ave.
(downstairs) (– 1976–80)

Winnipeg, Man.
Detour. 90 Albert St. (– 1976–81 +)
Happenings Social Club. 242 Manitoba Ave. (L, G) (– 1976–81 +)
Mardi Gras Restaurant, Bar. 287 Portage Ave. (upstairs) (L, G)
(– 1976 +)
Midnight Hours. 185 Bannatyne Ave. (– 1976 +)
Mount Royal Hotel, Bar. 186 Higgins Ave. (L, G) (– 1976–81+)
Northstar Inn, Silver Slipper Lounge. 288 Portage Ave. (– 1978–81+)
St. Regis Hotel, Bar. 285 Smith St. (L, G) (– 1976–81+)

Thunder Bay, Ont.
Back Street Athletic Club. 539 Simpson St. (upstairs) (L, G)
(– 1976–79 +)
Holiday Inn, Palisades Bar. 130 Brodie St. S. (– 1979–81 +)
Royal Edward Hotel, Dominican Room. 114 May St. S. (– 1976–77 +)

Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.
Empire Hotel, Bar. 320 Bay St. (– 1978–81 +)
Holiday Inn, Uncle’s Bar. 208 St. Mary’s River Rd. (– 1978–81+)

Windsor, Ont.
JP’s Disco. 623 Riverside Dr. W. (G) (1980–81 +)
Louie’s. 93 Riverside Dr. E. (G) (1980–81 +)
Ritz Hotel, Tavern. 88 Pitt St. E. (G) (– 1976–81 +)

Sarnia, Ont.
Drawbridge Inn, Tudor Room. 275 Christina St. (– 1976–81 +)
Chatham (now Chatham-Kent), Ont.
William Pitt Hotel, Mariner Room. 30 6th St. (– 1979–80)

London, Ont.
Bannisters. 209 Dundas St. (G) (1981 +)
HALO Club. 649 Colborne St. (L, G) (– 1976–81 +)
Holiday Inn, Flanagan’s Bar. 299 King St. (downstairs) (– 1976–81 +)
Upstairs Downstairs. 209 Dundas St. (G) (– 1977–81)

Sudbury, Ont.
Coulson Hotel, Bar. 68 Durham St. S. (– 1981 +)
Frontenac Hotel, Bar. 14 Durham St. N. (– 1979–81 +)
International Hotel, Eclipse Disco Lounge. 201 Kathleen St. W. (– 1981 +)
Nickel Range Hotel, Matador Room. 8–12 Elm St. W. (– 1976)
Ten Cedar. Bloor St. (G) (1978 +)

Stratford, Ont.
Avon Theatre, Bar. 99 Downie St. (downstairs) (– 1976–81 +)
Jester’s Arms. 107 Ontario St. (– 1981 +)

Kitchener, Ont.
Achilles Heel Disco. 30 Ontario St. S. (– 1978–79 +)
Walper Hotel, Men’s Pub and Hofbrau Room, 1 King St. W. (– 1976–81 +)

Brantford, Ont.
Alexander Graham Bell Hotel, Bar. 44–46 Dalhousie St. (– 1981 +)

Guelph, Ont.
Courtyard Tavern. 35 Macdonnell St. (1977)
Royal Hotel, August Club. 106 Carden St. (second floor) (L, G) (1976–77)
Royal Hotel, Rebel Room. 106 Carden St. (L, G) (– 1976–81 +)
Hamilton, Ont.
Cha Cha Palace. 2 Northcote St. (1976–77)
Congeniality Social Club/Eugene’s Disco. 110 Catherine St. N. [in 1976; later at 26 Wilson St.] (1976–77)
Holiday Inn, Wunderbar. 150 King St. E. (downstairs) (– 1979–81 +)
O’Hanrahan’s Tavern. 92 Barton St. E. (– 1978 +)
Running Pump. 180 King St. E. (– 1979–81 +)
Wentworth Arms Hotel, Red Lion. 30 Main St. E. (– 1976)
Windsor Hotel, Bar. 31 John St. N. (1976–77)
Windsor Hotel, Billy’s Disco. 31 John St. N. (upstairs) (1979–81 +)

Toronto, Ont.
18 East. 18 Eastern Ave. (G) (1979–81 +)
212 Side Action Lounge. 212 Dundas St. E. (L, G) (1979)
The Barn. 83 Granby St. (upstairs) (G) (1977–81 +)
Bimbo’s. 530 Yonge St. (upstairs) (G) (– 1976–77 +)
Blackbeard’s. 2087 Yonge St. (– 1976–77 +)
Bluejay Club [also known as Thee Clubbe, from 1978]. 336 Pape Ave. (L) (– 1976–79)
Bottoms Up Disco. 665 Yonge St. (upstairs) (1979–81 +)
Bubbles on the Avenue. 116 Avenue Rd. (1979–80)
Buddy’s Backroom Bar. 370 Church St. (downstairs) (G) (1978–81 +)
Cameo Club. 1130 Queen St. E. [later at 95 Trinity St. (downstairs)] (L) (– 1976–81 +)
Candy’s Disco. 116 Avenue Rd. (G) (1977 +)
Carriage House Motor Hotel, Bar. 306 Jarvis St. (L, G) (– 1976–79 +)
Les Cavaliers. 418 Church St. (G) (– 1976–81 +)
Charley O’s Keg. 572 Bay St. (upstairs) (– 1976)
Charley’s Disco. 488 Yonge St. (upstairs) (G) (1978–81 +)
Club 201 (CHAT). 201 Church St. (– 1977)
Club Manatee. 11A St. Joseph St. (G) (– 1976–81 +)
Club Triangle. 488 Yonge St. (upstairs) (G) (1977–79 +)
Colonial Tavern. 203 Yonge St. (downstairs) (– 1976 +)
David’s. 16 Phipps St. (G) (– 1976–77)
Dudes. 10 Breadalbane St. (G) (1977–81 +)
Eve’s. 793 Gerrard St. E. (third floor) [moved to 210 Main St. by April 1980] (L) (1978–81 +)
Fly-by-Night Lounge. 212 Dundas St. E. (L) (1979–81)
Garage Disco. 19 St. Joseph St. (G) (1977)
Gunar’s. 148 Yorkville Ave. (G) (1979–81 +)
Isabella Hotel, Bar. 556 Sherbourne St. (– 1976–77 +)
Isis. 1 Isabella St. (upstairs) (L, G) (1977)
Jo-Jo’s Bar and Disco. 83 Granby St. (upstairs) (G) (– 1976–77)
Katrina’s. 5 St. Joseph St. (G) (1978–81)
King Edward Hotel, Times Square Lounge and Pickwick Room.

37 King St. E. (– 1976–77 +)
Kit Kat Klub. 1 Howard Park Ave. (L) (– 1976 +)
L.A. Freek Disco. 116 Avenue Rd. (– 1979)
Lipstick. 580 Parliament St. (upstairs) (L) (1980–81 +)
London Tavern. 572 Bay St. (– 1977–78 +)
Malloney’s Studio Tavern. 66 [later, 85] Grenville St. (G) (– 1976–81 +)
Maygay Dance Club. 488 Yonge St. (upstairs) (G) (– 1976–77)
Mrs. Knight’s. 1 Isabella St. (upstairs) (L, G) (1976–77)
The Outpost. 5 St. Joseph St. (G) (1981 +)
Parkside Tavern. 530 Yonge St. (G) (– 1976–81 +)
Pimblett’s Queen’s Head Pub. 249 Gerrard St. E. (1979–81 +)
Pink Pussycat Club. 450 Spadina Ave. (L) (– 1976–77 +)
Quazimoto’s. 530 Yonge St. (upstairs) (G) (– 1976 +)
The Quest. 665 Yonge St. (L, G) (– 1976–81 +)
St. Charles Tavern. 488 Yonge St. (G) (– 1976–81 +)
Sanctuary. 83 St. Nicholas St. (– 1977 +)
Sappho. 457 Church St. (L) (1981)
Selby Hotel, Bar. 592 Sherbourne St. (G) (– 1976–81 +)
Selby Hotel, Boots. 592 Sherbourne St. (G) (1981 +)
Stage One. 9 Isabella St. (1980 +)
Stages. 530 Yonge St. (upstairs) (G) (1978–81 +)
Studio II. 72 Carlton St. (L, G) (1977–79)
Sugar’s Disco. 593 Yonge St. (upstairs) (– 1976–77)
Sutton Place Hotel, Royal Hunt Room and Stop 33 (thirty-third floor).  
   955 Bay St. (– 1976–77 +)
Tanks. 457 Church St. (G) (1980–81)
Tiverton’s. 580 Parliament St. (1980–81 +)
Together. 457 Church St. (L, G) (1981 +)
Tropicana Loveboat Disco. 563 King St. W. (1979 +)
Waldorf Astoria Apartments, Boots. 80 Charles St. E. (downstairs) (G)  
   (1980)
Westbury Hotel, Red Lion Room. 475 Yonge St. (– 1976–77 +)
Wonder Bar. 619 Yonge St. (1978–79)

**St. Catharines, Ont.**
Mansion House Tavern. 5 William St. (– 1976–79 +)
Twilight Villa Social Club. 117 Chetwood St. (L, G) (– 1976–80)
Welland House Hotel, Alibi Room. 30 Ontario St. (– 1976–79 +)

**Rouyn (now Rouyn-Noranda), Qué.**
Hôtel Albert, 84, av. Principale. (– 1979 +)

**Oshawa, Ont.**
Holiday Inn, Bar. 1011 Bloor St. E. (– 1977–81 +)

**Peterborough, Ont.**
Holiday Inn, Bar. 150 George St. (– 1977–81 +)
Queen’s Hotel, Grenadier Lounge. 179–81 Simcoe St. (– 1977–81 +)

**Kingston, Ont.**
Grand Public House, King’s Landing. 76 Princess St. (1970s)
Seaway Town House Motor Inn, Black Sheep Lounge. 686 Princess St.  
   (– 1976–81 +)

**Ottawa, Ont.**
Coral Reef. 30 Nicholas St. (L, G) (– 1976–81 +)

Embassy West Motor Hotel, Disco Reflections. 1400 Carling Ave.  
(– 1979–80 +)
Lord Elgin Hotel, Lounge (main floor) and Tavern (downstairs).  
100 Elgin Boul. (– 1976–81 +)
Shanty Town Tavern. 33 York St. (– 1981 +)
William Street Wine Bar. 47 William St. (1980–81 +)

Touraine (now part of Gatineau), Qué.
L’Intendant. 42, av. Gatineau. (G) (1978–80)

Hull (now part of Gatineau), Qué.
Charlot Night Club. 94, Promenade du Portage. (– 1980–81 +)
La Chatte. Place du Portage. (L, G) (1980)
Club 33. 66, rue Notre-Dame. (G) (1977–78 +)
Le Club Bar Salon. 77, rue Wellington. (G) (– 1979–81 +)
Le Domino Cruising Bar. 200, boul. Sacré-Coeur. (G) (1979–81 +)
Le Flirt. Chemin des Erables. (G) (1978–81 +)
Hôtel Chez Henri, Taverne (downstairs) and Salon d’Or. 179, rue  
Principale (later renamed Promenade du Portage). (G)  
(– 1976–81 +)
Hull Club. Place du Portage. (– 1976 +)
Phase III. Laurier-Maisonneuve. (L) (– 1980 +)
Sacs Disco Bar. 117, Promenade du Portage. (G) (1978–81 +)
Le Sophistiqué. Rue Laurier. (1979 +)
Spotlight Discotheque. 1, rue Victoria. (– 1976–78 +)
Terrace du Potage Club. 66, rue Notre-Dame. (– 1976–77)
Trixx. Place du Portage. (G) (1978)
Le Trou du Diable. 200, rue Victoria. (G) (1978–80)
Valentino’s. 106, rue Montcalm. (G) (– 1977–78)

Saint-Sauveur-des-Monts, Qué.
Hôtel Nymark, Hara Kiri 2 Disco Pub. Rue St. Denis. (– 1976 +)
St. Jérôme, Qué.
Hôtel Lapointe, Bar Copains. 255, rue Labelle. (– 1979 +)

Châteauguay, Qué.
Bar Salon Chez Clément. 208, rue St. Jean Baptiste. (G) (1981 +)
Bar Salon Chez Guy Bernard. 208, rue St. Jean Baptiste. (G)
(– 1980–81)

Laval, Qué.
Disco Maillet. 223, boul. des Laurentides. (G) (– 1976–81 +)

Montréal, Qué.
Au 1419. 1419, rue Drummond. (G) (– 1979–81 +)
L’Adonis, Centre d’achats Maisonneuve. (– 1978 +)
Alibi Disco. 1232, rue Bishop. (– 1978–79 +)
Annabelle. Rue Crescent. (– 1979 +)
Banco. 2153, rue Mackay. (1979–81 +)
Le Bandit. 2037, rue St. Denis. (1979 +)
Bar La Kébecoise. 50, rue St. Jacques O. (G) (– 1980 +)
Bar Labyris. 3896, rue St. Denis. (L) (1970s +)
Bar les 2 R. 1554, rue Ste. Catherine E. (G) (– 1981 +)
Bar Normandie. 1295, rue Amherst (G) (1981 +)
La Bâton Rouge. 1254, rue St. Denis. (L) (– 1976–79 +)
La Bâton Rouge. 2037, rue St. Denis. (L) (– 1978 +)
La Bâton Rouge. 3631, rue St. Denis. (L) (1978 +)
La Boîte en Haut. 1320, rue Alexandre de Sève. (G) (– 1976–81 +)
Bud’s Lounge. 1250, rue Stanley. (G) (– 1976–81 +)
Bud’s Tavern. 1426, rue Stanley. (G) (1979)
Cabaret. 1459, rue St. Alexandre. (G) (1981 +)
Cabaret Milord. 1224, rue Stanley. (upstairs) (G) (1976–79 +)
Cabaret des Trouspette. 3479, boul. St. Laurent. (1976–78 +)
Café Entretiens. 1577, av. Laurier E. (– 1979–81 +)
La Cage. 316, rue Ste. Catherine O. (– 1979–81 +)
Charlie Brown. 968, rue Ste. Catherine O. (G) (1979 +)
Chez Anita. 1258, rue Bélanger E. (L) (– 1981 +)
Chez Coco. 3767, rue Ste. Catherine E. (L) (1977–81 +)
Chez Jean-Pierre Bar. 2077, rue Victoria. (G) (– 1980–81 +)
Chez Jilly’s. 1426, rue Bishop. (L) (– 1976–81 +)
Chez Madame Arthur. 2170, rue Bishop. (L) (– 1976)
Chez Jilly’s. 1426, rue Bishop. (L) (– 1976–81 +)
Chez Madame Arthur. 2170, rue Bishop. (L) (– 1976)
Chez Madame Arthur. 2170, rue Bishop. (L) (– 1976–81 +)
Cléopâtre. 1230, boul. St. Laurent. (– 1979–81 +)
Club 1160. 1160, rue Sherbrooke E. (G) (– 1976–81 +)
Club des Légionnaires gai de Québec. 6262, boul. St. Laurent. (G) (1980 +)
Club Le Neuf. 1258, rue Stanley. (second floor) (G) (– 1981 +)
Club No. 1. 2077, rue Université. (– 1979 +)
Complexe Fébroni (Fébroni, Matombi, Salon “M,” Stars Dust, Toyo). 1419, rue Drummond. (G) (– 1981 +)
Corral. 1419, rue Drummond. (second floor) (G) (1977 +)
Le Cruiser 750. 1419, rue Drummond. (third floor) (– 1976–78 +)
Disco 1234. 1234, rue de la Montagne. (G) (– 1980–81 +)
Disco CO2. 1232, rue Bishop. (G) (1979–81 +)
Disco Dames. 291, av. Mont Royal O. (upstairs) (L) (– 1976 +)
L’Entre-Peau Disco. 5750, rue Fullum. (G) (– 1978–81 +)
L’Étoile de l’Est Disco. 4490, rue Ontario E. (– 1976 +)
Le Gant de Velours. 2077, rue Victoria. (upstairs) (G) (– 1976–81 +)
Le Gay Apollon. 1418, rue Guy. (G) (1980–81 +)
Le Grenier. 1021, rue Bleury. (G) (– 1981 +)
Hôtel de Province, Chez Fernand. 1484, boul. Dorchester O.  
(downstairs) [by 1978, 1086, rue Mackay] (– 1976–79 +)  
Le Jardin. 1258, rue Stanley. (G) (– 1976–81 +)  
Jonas Disco Bar. 207, rue de la Commune O. (upstairs) (G)  
(– 1979–81 +)  
Jonathan. 1419, rue Drummond. (G) (– 1979–81 +)  
Lime Light. 1254, rue Stanley. (upstairs) (– 1976–81 +)  
Lorelei. 1226, rue Stanley. (– 1976–79 +)  
La Marie du Port. 408, rue St. François Xavier. (G) (– 1981 +)  
Le Mystique. 1424, rue Stanley. (G) (– 1976–81 +)  
Newspace. 3738, rue St. Dominique. (L) (– 1976 +)  
Le Nouveau Hawaïen. 1258, rue Stanley. (upstairs) (G) (1980–81 +)  
La Nuit en Rose. 1433, rue Guy. (– 1979–81 +)  
L’Orient Express. 7505, boul. St. Laurent. (G) (1980 +)  
L’Oxygène. 1424, rue Stanley. (upstairs) (– 1978–81 +)  
Oz. 1433, rue Guy. (– 1980–81 +)  
Le Palais d’Or. 1226, rue Stanley. (– 1976–78 +)  
P.J.’s Tropical Room. 1422, rue Peel. (upstairs) (L, G) (– 1976–81 +)  
Les Ponts de Paris. 1276, rue St. André. (L, G) (– 1976–81 +)  
Le Réflexion. 1202, rue Ste. Catherine O. (G) (– 1979–81 +)  
Regent Apollo Club. 5116, av. du Parc. (– 1976 +)  
Rendez-vous Disco. 1112, rue Ste. Catherine O. (– 1978–81 +)  
Le Rocambole (Le Roc). 1426, rue Stanley. (G) (– 1976)  
La Rose Rouge. 2112, rue Ste. Catherine O. [from November 1979:  
1160, rue Mackay. (upstairs)] (L, G) (– 1976–81 +)  
Le Saguenay. 984, boul. St. Laurent. (L) (– 1976–79)  
San Juan Piano Bar Disco. 2112, rue Ste. Catherine O. (– 1979 +)  
Sheraton Mount Royal Hotel, Kon Tiki Bar. 1455, rue Peel.  
(– 1976–81 +)  
Sheraton Mount Royal Hotel, Metro Bar. 1455, rue Peel. (lobby)  
(– 1977–81 +)  
Station Gay Cruising Bar. 1418, rue Guy. (second floor) (G) (– 1981 +)  
Le Stork Club. 1433, rue Guy. (– 1976–78 +)  
Studio I. 968, rue Ste. Catherine O. (upstairs) (G) (– 1976–81 +)
Super Banco. 2025, rue Drummond. (1981 +)
Au Taureau d’Or. 1419, rue Drummond. (second floor) (G) (– 1976–77)
Taverne Bellevue. 151, rue Ste. Catherine E. (G) (– 1976–81 +)
Taverne Cartier. Rue Ontario and Wolfe. (– 1979 +)
Taverne Gambrinus. 1151, rue Ontario E. (– 1976–81 +)
Taverne Joe Beef. 207, rue de la Commune O. (G) (– 1979–81 +)
Taverne Lincoln. 4481, rue St. Denis. (three floors) (– 1976–81 +)
Taverne Monarch. 162, rue Ste. Catherine E. (G) (– 1976–81 +)
Taverne de Montréal. 1415, boul. St. Laurent. (G) (– 1976–81 +)
Taverne de la Paix. 330, rue Ste. Catherine E. (G) (– 1976–81 +)
Taverne Peters. 1214, boul. St. Laurent. (– 1979–81 +)
Taverne le Plateau. 71, rue Ste. Catherine E. (G) (– 1976–81 +)
Taverne Square Dominion. 1243, rue Metcalfe. (G) (– 1976–81 +)
Truxx. 1426, rue Stanley. (upstairs) (G) (1976–78)
L’une et L’autre. 2153, rue Mackay. (L) (1979)
Valentin Disco. 291, rue Mont-Royal O. (– 1976–78 +)

Longueuil, Qué.

Tracy (now Sorel-Tracy), Qué.
Le Luron. 5685, chemin St. Roch. (G) (1980–81 +)

Sorel (now Sorel-Tracy), Qué.
Brasserie Salon. 30, rue Augusta. (– 1978–81 +)
Brasserie Victoria. 14, rue Augusta. (– 1978–81 +)
Taverne la Buvette. Rue Elizabeth. (– 1978–81 +)
La Tuque, Qué.
Bar le Vénus. 342, rue St. Joseph. (G) (– 1980–81 +)

Granby, Qué.
Bar L’Entre 2. 430, rue Principale. (G) (– 1981 +)
Le David. 197, rue Principale. (G) (– 1980–81 +)
Hôtel Granby, El Sombrero Gay Bar. 37, rue Principale. (fifth floor) (G) (1976–77)
Hôtel Granby, Le Rendez-vous. 37, rue Principale. (L, G) (1977 +)

Grand-Mère, Qué.
Hôtel St. Maurice, Bar. (downstairs) (– 1979–81 +)

Trois-Rivières, Qué.
Brasserie le Houblon. 60, rue des Forges. (– 1978–81 +)
Hôtel St. Louis, Pub Taverne. 119, rue des Forges. (upstairs) (– 1976–79)
Hôtel St. Maurice, Fleur de Lys Room. (– 1976–78 +)
Léo Disco-Club. 1075, rue St. Maurice. (G) (1979–81 +)
La Maison Blanche. 1611, rue Royale. (upstairs) (G) (– 1976–79)
La Maison Blanche 2. 200, rue St. Georges. (G) (1979–81 +)
Taverne le Flambeau. 127, rue Radisson. (– 1978–81 +)
Le Verseau. 956, rue St. Maurice. (G) (1979–81 +)

Cap-de-la-Madeleine (now part of Trois-Rivières), Qué.
La Grange. Rue Brunelle. (– 1979 +)

Waterloo, Qué.
Hôtel Canada, Bar. (– 1978 +)

Drummondville, Qué.
Bar Paradiso. 2272, boul. Mercure. (G) (– 1980–81 +)
Le Bouquet. 485, rue Lindsay. (G) (– 1976–81 +)
Magog, Qué.
Disco 125. 125, rue Principale O. (1981 +)
Hôtel Nouveau Magog, Club 31. 612, rue Sherbrooke. (second floor)
(L, G) (– 1976–81 +)

Victoriaville, Qué.
Bar le Castille. Rue Notre Dame E. (– 1978–79 +)
Le Club 56. 56, rue St. Jean Baptiste. (G) (1976–79 +)

Sherbrooke, Qué.
Club 56. rue Bowen and King. (– 1980–81 +)
Club Frederick. 265, rue King O. (– 1980–81 +)
Gai Bar Tourbillon. 175, rue Wellington S. (G) (– 1981 +)
Hôtel Wellington, Flamingo Bar. 68, rue Wellington S. (– 1976–81 +)
Le Rencontre. 13, rue Bowen S. (1980–81 +)
Le Studio 13. 13, rue Bowen S. (– 1980–81 +)
Lunik Disco. 13, rue Bowen S. (G) (– 1979–81+)

Alma, Qué.
Bar aux Maîtres. 120, boul. Dequen N. (G) (– 1978–81+)

Saint-Nicolas (now part of Lévis), Qué.

Jonquières, Qué.
Le Pic. 141, rue St. Dominique. (– 1978–81 +)

Québec, Qué.
333 Disco. 333, boul. Charest E. (– 1979–81+)
Le 640. 640, rue St. Jean. (– 1979–81+)
L’Alouette. 1169, rue St. Jean. (upstairs) (L, G) (– 1976–78+)
Le Ballon Rouge. 811, rue St. Jean. (G) (– 1976–81+)
Brasserie Foyer. 1044, rue St. Jean. (– 1977+)
Brasserie O’Koin. 896, rue du Roi. (– 1976–81+)

Cercle des Amazones. (L) (– 1976 +)
Cirque Electrique. 27, Côte du Palais. (– 1976–77 +)
Le Dancing. Grande-Allée. (– 1979 +)
Dante Restaurant, Cave au Vin Piano Bar. 17, rue St. Stanislas.
(downtown) (– 1976 +)

Disco-Bar Vénus. 161, rue St. Jean. (G) (– 1976–81 +)
L’Emérillon. 1114, rue Cartier. (upstairs) (– 1981 +)

Le Gaulois, rue des Jardins. (– 1977–81 +)
La Gorgendiére. 13, place Royale. (G) (– 1976–81 +)
La Grande Hermine. 1114, rue Cartier. (G) (– 1976–80 +)

Hôtel Château View, Bar. 8, rue Laporte. (– 1976 +)
Hôtel Clarendon, Bar (downstairs) and Lounge. 57, rue Ste. Anne.
(– 1976–77 +)

L’Intendant. 13, place Royale. (G) (– 1976 +)
L’Intrigue. 811, rue St. Jean. (upstairs) (G) (– 1980–81 +)

L’Ostradamus. 29, rue Couillard. (G) (– 1976–81 +)
Le Pérougord. Rue St. Stanislas. (– 1976–77 +)

Restaurant Pompernik Saloon Bar [later Cabaret Pompernik]. 680–84,
Côte d’Abraham. (L) (– 1976–78)

Taverne Chez Baptiste. 815, rue St. Augustine. (– 1976–77 +)
Taverne Jean Caron. 1087, rue St. Jean. (– 1978–81 +)
Taverne Mâlette. 698, rue d’Aiguillon. (G) (1979–81 +)
Taverne du Quartier Latin. 1190, rue St. Jean. (– 1976–81 +)
Taverne Sélect. 925, Côte d’Abraham. (G) (– 1976–81 +)

Le Vagabond. 69, boul. Charest E. (upstairs) (– 1976 +)

Vendredi 13 Disco Bar. 1018, rue St. Jean. (– 1979–81 +)

Chicoutimi, Qué.

Le 305 Bar. 305, rue Racine E. (G) (– 1980–81 +)
Le Bistro. Rue Racine E. (– 1976–79 +)
L’Homogène “80” Bar. 1212, boul. Talbot. (G) (1980–81 +)
Hôtel Chicoutimi, Le Pilule. 460, rue Racine E. (downstairs)
(– 1976–81 +)

870
Hôtel du Pont, L’Entre-Deux. 169, rue Bossé O. (– 1979 +)
Hôtel Picardie, Bar. (– 1979–81+)

**Baie-St.-Paul, Qué.**
Hôtel Morin, Disco Chauve-Souris and Morino Bar. 130, rue St. Jean Baptiste. (downstairs) (– 1979 +)

**La Malbaie, Qué.**
Hôtel Hovington, Bar. 100, rue Main. (– 1979 +)

**Mont-Carmel, Qué.**
Motel Mont-Carmel, Samba Gai Bar. 4531, route 157 N. (second floor) (G) (– 1978–81 +)

**Rivière-du-Loup, Qué.**
Disco Jet. Rue Lafontaine. (– 1979–81 +)
Hôtel Plaza. Rue Lafontaine. (– 1979 +)

**Rimouski, Qué.**
Auberge des Gouverneurs, Bar Fleuve. 155, boul. René Lepage E. (– 1976 +)
Hôtel Normandie, Bar. 556, rue St. Germain (– 1978–79 +)
Scaramouche Disco, 45, rue St. Germain E. (– 1976–79 +)
Studio 166. 166, rue St. Jean Baptiste O. (– 1981 +)
Taverne du Parc, 38, rue de l’Évêché E. (– 1979 +)
Zodiac Disco. 135, rue des Gouverneurs. (– 1976–80)

**Matane, Qué.**
Hôtel Bernier, Disco. 335 av. St. Jérôme. (– 1976 +)
Hôtel les Mouettes, El Rancho Bar. 143, rue Fraser. (– 1976 +)
Fredericton, N.B.
Club 565. 565 Prospect St. W. (1980 –)
Cosmopolitan Club. 546 King St. (– 1976–81 +)
Diplomat Motel, Bar. 225 Woodstock Rd. (– 1979 +)
Lord Beaverbrook Hotel, River Room Bar. 659 Queen St. (– 1976–81 +)

Saint John, N.B.
Admiral Beatty Motor Hotel, Marco Polo Lounge. 14–22 King Sq. (L)
(– 1976–81 +)

Moncton, N.B.
La Cave de Papa. 100 Archibald St. (– 1981 +)
Club Cosmopolitan. 700 Main St. (– 1978–81 +)
Hotel Beausejour, Beau’s and Belle’s Bar. 750 Main St. (– 1981 +)
Uptown Connection. 337 St. George St. (– 1981 +)

Halifax, N.S.
Dresden Arms Motor Hotel, Fore and After Lounge. 5530 Artillery Pl.
(– 1976–79 +)
Heidelberg Restaurant and Lounge. 1479 Dresden Row. (L, G)
(– 1976–80)
Klub 777 [also known as Thee Klub]. 1585 Barrington St. (upstairs)
(L, G) (– 1976–79)
Lord Nelson Hotel, Victory Lounge and Tavern. 1515 S. Park St.
(– 1976–81 +)
Sea Horse Tavern. 1663 Argyle St. (– 1976–81 +)
Turret Gay Community Centre. 1588 Barrington St. (L, G) (1976–81 +)

Charlottetown, P.E.I.
Charlottetown Hotel, Tudor Lounge. 75 Kent St. (– 1979–81 +)

Sydney, N.S.
Holiday Inn, Lounge. 480 King’s Rd. (– 1978 +)
St. John’s, Nfld.
Friends Bar. 208 Water St. (1979–81 +)
Sea Breeze, Lounge. Clifts Bairds Cove. (– 1976 +)
Upper Deck, Lounge. 208 Water St. (1977–81 +)
Waterfront, Lounge. Water St. (– 1976 +)
A Note on the Author

Donald W. McLeod, MLS, is head, book and serials acquisitions, University of Toronto Libraries, as well as the Canadiana and gender studies selector. He has volunteered for many years as an archivist at the Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives. His publications include Lesbian and Gay Liberation in Canada: A Selected Annotated Chronology, 1964–1975 (1996), Challenging the Conspiracy of Silence: My Life as a Canadian Gay Activist (by Jim Egan, compiled and edited by Donald W. McLeod; 1998), and A Brief History of GAY, Canada’s First Gay Tabloid, 1964–1966 (2002). McLeod has considerable experience working as an academic editor, first as the managing editor of ECW Press for eight years, and since 2000 as the editor of the Devil’s Artisan: A Journal of the Printing Arts (published by The Porcupine’s Quill).
Currently, he is the secretary to the board of The Champlain Society, Canada’s premiere publisher of documentary history, and also serves as the chair of the Society’s Publications Committee.