



Toronto People With AIDS Foundation

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E-news - For Supporters and Friends

March 2012

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The Imperial Court of Toronto (TICOT) - Toonie Tuesdays

Support the TICOT reign of Reign XXV, Regent Empress XXV Candice Kelly-Roseland and Emperor XXV Ron DaMae Bouvier and their chosen charities for weekly Toonie Tuesdays at Crew and Tango (508 Church St.).

Dear Friends, Supporters and Community Partners,

2012 marks PWA's 25th anniversary of serving Toronto's HIV+ community. It would not have happened without PWA's donors, community partners and volunteers.

In 1987, when PWA was created by three courageous people living with HIV/AIDS, the agency offered peer and practical support such as financial assistance (hence the name 'Foundation'). Over the years, the needs of our clients have changed and so did the way we deliver services. PWA's Essentials Market, access to medication, financial assistance, complementary therapies, social programming - these are just some of the ways in which we have assisted over 8,000 men, women, transmen, transwomen and children since 1987.

Since those early days, PWA's philosophy has remained the same, 'People living with HIV/AIDS are PWA's heart and soul'. This led us to fully integrating our client volunteers into our service delivery. In 2009, thanks to a bequest from the estate of John Max Pembleton, PWA had the opportunity to move into a bigger space at 200 Gerrard Street East at Sherbourne across from Allan Gardens Conservatory. This positioned us for expansion and augmentation of our services.

Today, PWA engages people living with HIV/AIDS in enhancing their health and wellbeing through practical and therapeutic support services and broader social change, and we inspire them to live into their dreams and discoveries. Some new and exciting opportunities are opening up at PWA at 25.

Thank you for giving PWA the means to serve people living with HIV/AIDS in Toronto. **We could not do it without you.**

Friends For Life Bike Rally - First 2012 Training RIDE April 14th - 10am

The first training ride, open to anyone is: Saturday April 14th at 10 a.m. We will be departing from the Finch subway station. The meeting spot is on the west side of Yonge just north of the passenger drop-off. For updated information visit the bike rally calendar at: [Bike Rally Calendar](#).

For more information: www.bikerally.org

Sounds that Soothe - PWA's new integrated sound system

Tonight join your hosts
either Regent Empress
XXV Candice Kelly-
Roseland or Imperial
Crown Princess Nikki
Chin, at **9pm to
11:30pm**, for some early
week craziness and
**TONIGHT is Madame's
8th Annual Lovefest!**

[TICOT website](#)

WAR HORSE - Bike Rally Participant Fundraiser

This extraordinary show, winner of multiple TONY awards and now a motion picture directed by Steven Spielberg is a must-see theatrical event of the season.

Please join us for the special performance on **Thursday, April 12, 2012** and help raise money for the Friends for Life Bike Rally. **Through the extraordinary generosity of one of our riders, Harvey Malinsky, \$27 from each ticket for that performance will go directly to the Toronto People With AIDS Foundation, with a tax receipt provided to you.**

[Click here to purchase your tickets today!](#)

PWA would like to acknowledge a generous donation of sound equipment for PWA's board rooms which are utilized for clients' complimentary therapies, PWA and community partner meetings. The sound system has just been installed and we are now able to augment treatment sessions with gentle music to improve the restful and rejuvenating experience of clients by reducing ambient office noise. Clients have already reported that their experience in the improved treatment space is transformed. A 'Busy PWA office disappears' so that they can better enjoy a therapeutic and relaxing treatment.

The sound system has been installed in zones so that greater control is possible for when and where the music can play. This allows meetings divided by spacers to take place right next to **therapeutic sessions without disruption.**

Thanks to Ben and Mae Patey for their donation!

PWA Membership - Call to Action

You can now apply for 2012 PWA membership by completing a membership form and mailing it to our office:

200 Gerrard St. East
Toronto, ON
M5A 2E6

or by visiting us and completing it in person. We urge interested parties to renew or apply for membership well in advance of the Annual General Meeting.

For more information call 416-506-1400 ext. 120 or email info@pwatoronto.org.

PWA Recognized - Award of Excellence

The Canadian Working Group on HIV Rehabilitation (CWGHR) has chosen PWA as the recipient of an annual award of excellence in HIV rehabilitation. PWA will officially receive this award at CWGHR's June 15 annual general meeting. PWA is honoured to receive this award because it is recognition and strong validation of our current work and our recently completed strategic plan.

CWGHR and PWA started actively working together in 2007. Two of PWA's staff, Greg Downer and Shane Patey have both participated in CWGHR's rehabilitation mentor project, whereby community members mentor rehabilitation practitioners to advance their knowledge and understanding of HIV care and competencies.

As a key partner agency moving forward, PWA is honoured to accept this award.

ABOUT PWA

Mission - We engage people living with HIV/AIDS in enhancing their health and well-being through practical and therapeutic support services and broader social change, and we inspire them to live into their dreams and discoveries.

Vision - We live in affirming, sustaining communities where we find inspiration and support for our dreams, health, well-being and meaningful contributions.

These are based on our foundation philosophy, which resonates more than ever and remains unchanged:

People living with HIV/AIDS play a crucial role in the governance and operation of the Toronto People With AIDS Foundation, but, most importantly, are its heart and soul. Although PWA seeks supportive partnerships in support of fulfilling its Mission, its response to HIV/AIDS is, more than anything else, inspired by the voices and experience of people living with HIV/AIDS.

Thank you for your support and interest in Toronto People With AIDS

Foundation's work.

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