



# Rainbow Newsletter

from the Rainbow Service Organization RSO  
[www.rainbowservice.org](http://www.rainbowservice.org)

Summer 2009

---

## Rainbow Service Organization - Annual General Meeting

Friday July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 7-9 pm

Artspace, 378 Aylmer Street North, Peterborough

- Business Meeting and social 7- 8pm
- Guest Speaker 8 - 9pm:

**Spencer J. Harrison**, accomplished artist, activist, and educator

**When They Called Me Freak-Show in High School,  
What Did They Really Mean?**



An exhibit of Spencer's art work will be in place at Artspace during the AGM and on Saturday July 4th

Snacks and refreshment will be served. Details at <http://www.rainbowservice.org/archives/000284.html>

---

**Other Upcoming Events:** (event listing [www.rainbowservice.org](http://www.rainbowservice.org) to add events email [rso@rainbowservice.org](mailto:rso@rainbowservice.org))

**June 25<sup>th</sup> 5pm – PARN – Your community AIDS Resource Network AGM and appreciation BBQ**  
AGM at 5pm, Mark Street United Church, 90 Hunter St. East.  
BBQ at 6pm, Lions Community Centre, 347 Burnham St. East (rsvp to [getinformed@parn.ca](mailto:getinformed@parn.ca))

**June 19<sup>th</sup> through 28<sup>th</sup> - Toronto Pride Week** - details at <http://www.pridetoronto.com>

**September 20<sup>th</sup> – Scotiabank AIDS Walk for Life** - details <http://www.aidswalkforlife.ca/Peterborough.htm>

**September 20<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> - Peterborough Pride Week – 7<sup>th</sup> year and more activities than ever!**  
Keep checking our new website at [www.peterboroughpride.ca](http://www.peterboroughpride.ca) for the most up-to-date information

**October 31<sup>st</sup> – RSO Hosts a Halloween Bash at Market Hall** - Details to come!

---

### News in Brief:

**Talk and exhibit by Spencer J. Harrison** - July 3rd, 8pm at ArtSpace, 378 Aylmer St. N.

Following the business portion of RSO's Annual General Meeting we will welcome our special guest speaker, Spencer J. Harrison, accomplished artist, activist, and educator. A former Peterborough resident, Spencer is presently completing his PhD at OISE/ University of Toronto, focusing his research around growing up gay in rural Ontario.

Spencer has been involved in queer activism in Peterborough and elsewhere for quite some time. As a social justice activist he has successfully challenged individuals, institutions, schools, churches, and police services to examine heterosexual biases, personal and institutionalized homophobic practices and beliefs, and then commit to creating safe, inclusive and responsive spaces, policies and practices.

Spencer's talk, "When They Called Me Freak-Show in High School, What Did They Really Mean?" will give you some insight into the research he is doing and the unusual methods of presenting his results.

In addition to his talk, Spencer will be giving us a sneak peek into the beginning stages of his research through part of an exhibit slated for the Peterborough Art Gallery at the completion of his PhD work. The exhibit will be on display during the AGM and also on Saturday July 4th from noon until 4pm at Artspace.

## **Peterborough Pride Week 2009 – September 20<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup>**

7<sup>th</sup> Edition - New logo – New website layout and more events than ever! Keep checking the website (still [www.peterboroughpride.ca](http://www.peterboroughpride.ca)) as details come together over the summer. RSO is again heavily involved and we hope that you join us and the other organizations to help make this another great part of the community social calendar! To volunteer or get more info send an email to [peterboroughpride@yahoo.ca](mailto:peterboroughpride@yahoo.ca)



## **Police Liaison Program continues to need your support**

Peterborough Lakefield Community Police Liaison Program for the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Communities is as busy as ever. To learn more about the committee and their terms of reference go to: [http://www1.peterboroughpolice.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=blogcategory&id=75&Itemid=98](http://www1.peterboroughpolice.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=blogcategory&id=75&Itemid=98)

You can find the results of the very interesting Queer Town Hall the committee hosted last November on their Facebook page "GLBT and Police Liaison Committee" or email for it at [glbt.policeliason@gmail.com](mailto:glbt.policeliason@gmail.com)

They continue to seek volunteers to form working groups to complete the identified goals and to fill vacant seats on the Liaison Committee. The committee meets monthly in Peterborough. If you have an interest in volunteering to assist the committee, email Kevin at [kevin\\_forrest@nexicom.net](mailto:kevin_forrest@nexicom.net) (underscore after kevin).

## **RSO Continues to Seek Volunteers and Members - Rick Lambert, RSO Chair**

I hope everyone is enjoying the start of summer (finally)! Best wishes to all those heading to Toronto Pride next weekend. It is always great to run into local folks there and then again at Peterborough Pride in September. We also hope to see you out at our AGM on Friday July 3<sup>rd</sup> at Artspace (details above).

We are always seeking volunteers for our working committees and Board of Directors to help with public relations, advocacy, fundraising, and organizing events. Come help us improve the quality of life in your community. For more on volunteering opportunities email us at [rso@rainbowservice.org](mailto:rso@rainbowservice.org).

In addition to volunteering, support of RSO through membership is an important investment in the organization and community. For more about RSO or to apply for membership go to our website or click this link to download our pamphlet: [http://www.rainbowservice.org/archives/RSO\\_Pamphlet.pdf](http://www.rainbowservice.org/archives/RSO_Pamphlet.pdf)

## **Great website! - Think Before You Speak: [www.thinkb4youspeak.com](http://www.thinkb4youspeak.com)**

Created by GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian and Straight Educators' Network), this website features information, educational materials and videos aimed at reducing/preventing the use of homophobic language and creating positive environments for LGBT teens.

---

The **Rainbow Service Organization (RSO)** is committed to promoting, advocating, and celebrating the interests of the Queer, Questioning, Lesbian, Bisexual, Two-Spirited, Transgender, and Gay community. **RSO** is a volunteer-run, non-profit community organization based in Peterborough, Ontario since 1993. For more information go to [www.rainbowservice.org](http://www.rainbowservice.org)