

# AIDS Vancouver island



**ANNUAL  
REPORT**  
.....  
**2013/2014**



## MISSION

AIDS Vancouver Island serves the needs of people infected and affected by HIV and hepatitis C. We take evidence-based action to prevent infection, provide support and reduce stigma.

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## VISION

Our Vision is of a world free of HIV and hepatitis C. Until that time, those most at risk in our community continue to be marginalized—not only by their disease, but also by stigma and discrimination, poverty and despair. As we fight these diseases, we join with those we serve to provide services based on consideration and respect and to provide visibility and a voice in the community.

# MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



A year has come and gone in the life of AVI and our annual report provides an opportunity to reflect on our accomplishments. There is much contained within the pages of this report about our work in the community preventing HIV and HCV, supporting those living with the diseases, challenging stigma and discrimination, advancing harm reduction just to name a few! We have also sought to evolve and improve how we provide services to ensure we continue to be responsive to the needs of our clients.

But what we do best is reach out and connect with people. Because, beyond our mission, beyond the amazing activities detailed in this report, at the heart of all of our work is the relationships we develop with those in need of our services. We work from the underlying belief that everyone has the capacity to experience health and well-being. That everyone can develop skills to support themselves and their community. It's that unwavering belief that keeps me coming to work each day. Yes, there are many things that as an organization we cannot change, there are struggles that seem only to result in change at a snail's pace. But we persevere, building health and wellness, one person at a time.

And it is thanks to the following people that we were able to make a difference in so many lives this year:

- To our funders and donors, your belief in our work and continuing support is the only way we can continue to accomplish all that we have.
- To our clients, we are simply privileged to serve you.
- To our staff, you are the true backbone of the organization; your dedication is an inspiration.
- To our community partners, we value your continuing efforts to support our work.
- To our volunteers, you are our ambassadors in the community for compassion and generosity.
- To our Board of Directors, you are a wonderful diverse mix of community members who bring passion and commitment to our cause.

Yours in health,

  
Katrina Jensen





## BOARD MEMBERS 2013-2014

- Lena Locher, Co-Chair
- Herb Neufeld, Co-Chair
- Andrew Beckerman, Past Chair
- Lisa Cowan, Secretary
- Mike Kalinka, Treasurer
- Charlene Anderson, Member-at-large
- Frank Buruma, Member-at-large
- Bob Clark, Member-at-large
- Dylan Collins, Member-at-large
- Brett Harper, Member-at-large
- Will Nikl, Member-at-large
- Charlotte Reading, Member-at-large
- Sherri Pooyak, Member-at-large

## FUNDERS FOR 2013

- VIHA
- PHAC
- Province of B.C.
- MAC AIDS Fund
- United Way of Greater Victoria
- United Way of Central North Vancouver Island

# FACTS ABOUT HIV & HCV

\*as reported by WHO, PHAC, and UNAIDS

## AROUND THE WORLD



**34.2 MILLION**

Around the world 34.2 million people have HIV

.....

**150 MILLION**

Around the world, 150 million people have hepatitis C

.....

In the western world, liver failure is now the leading cause of death of people with HIV

**53%**

In BC 53% of people with HIV also have hepatitis C

**40,000**

In BC, 40,000 people have hepatitis C and 13,000 have HIV

**25%**

It is estimated that 25%, or one quarter, of people living with HIV or hepatitis C in BC don't know they have it because they have never been tested

# AROUND THE ISLAND



## VICTORIA

- AVI in Victoria served 251 unique HIV and HCV positive clients, including 12 new intakes for HIV and 10 for hepatitis C.
- In total we have 368 registered HIV positive clients, 179 of which are co-infected with hepatitis C and an additional 76 registered hepatitis C clients.
- We provided dedicated case management services for over 50 clients living with HIV who have complex health needs and experience multiple barriers to accessing care..
- We were an active member of the Victoria STOP HIV collaborative providing support for more than 70 clients who are being followed by the collaborative.
- We hosted a weekly doctor's clinic on the 3rd floor through our nutrition program to ensure access to health care for clients who have trouble with appointments. More than 95 additional primary care visits were provided in the last year through this program.
- Over 170 individual HIV positive clients accessed our nutrition program over the last year with over 8000 meals being served.
- We participated in a CIHR-funded national food security study. Of the 59 HIV positive people interviewed on Vancouver Island, 70% were found to be food insecure with more than half being severely insecure.
- We provided over 1300 short and 300 long sessions of counselling for clients living with HIV and hepatitis C.
- We provided over 1244 referrals to health and social service organisations.
- Over 180 people attended group counselling and education sessions, targeting people living with HIV and HCV.
- We provided over 400 group education activities, more than 250 individual education sessions and responded to almost 400 email and telephone requests for information. We also educated more than 150 health and social service providers.
- Our AVI's Street College program held 90 classes over the last year with more than 82 individual participants.
- We ran a highly successful peer education workshop series with prisoners in the Vancouver Island Regional Correction Facility.
- We continued our successful 10-year partnership with Cowichan Valley's Hi'yeyuhL'elum House of Friendship and Tsewul-tun Health Centre running "Kwam Kwum Suli," an Aboriginal HIV/AIDS program.
- We reached over 700 youth in the South Island through educational programming, events and one-to one support.
- Facilitated an HCV Awareness training series for Greater Victoria Firefighters.



## NANAIMO

- The Nanaimo AVI Health Centre officially merged with AIDS Vancouver Island this year and is now considered a program within the Central Island Services. In the future they plan to co-locate to a larger space in the building they are already in.
- The Health Centre received some STOP HIV funding to increase their nursing hours so they are better able to provide intensive case management to clients living with HIV. Currently they provide care to 23 HIV+ patients and in addition have a physician-and-nurse-run clinic every Tuesday from 10am to 12pm which is open to anyone living with HIV. With this extra funding they have also been able to increase availability of the HIV Point of Care Tests to the public.
- PWP is continuing to offer support and counselling to Port Alberni residents who are HIV positive on the days that the Island Health doctor is there seeing patients, and the education team has been also been providing peer and 'train-the-trainer' opportunities in that community.
- Naloxone kits and overdose prevention workshops are now available at the Nanaimo office and have been well received.

## COURTENAY

- We helped organize (made chilli for 150 people the night before!) the 7th Annual Community Resource Fair and attended to serve and administer the gift cards that service users received. This is a very popular AHERO event where as many front line service providers as possible come to a local community centre and share information and resources for service users. We gave out 122 gift cards and every last drop of chilli.
- We participated in a short report at the Comox Valley Housing Forum for last year's Resource Fair as the chair of AHERO and participated in a presentation from the CV Community Capacity Collaborative.
- Our nurse practitioner has started weekly clinics at our office. This is a way for many of our clients who do not have a family physician to access medical care.
- We hosted the first Blood Blitz in Courtenay where 36 people attended and 30 people received a POC test—a very successful first year!



# AROUND THE ISLAND

## CAMPBELL RIVER

- We participated in Around The Kitchen Table, a training workshop for new mentors with Chee Mamuk.
- We provided education for participants at KDC (Cape Mudge) AIDS Awareness Day .
- We were offered a weekly space at Homolco Reserve for outreach and counselling.
- We hosted a Blood Blitz event with 39 attending. Of those, 30 people received a POC test, 4 people did regular blood draw tests and 5 people received primary care with 2 of the 5 needing to go to emergency immediately.

## PORT HARDY

- Robert Scot Youth group grew with an average of 15 youth per session. Our Public Health nurse attended weekly to provide sexual health-related info and supplies. Eke-Me-Xi Alternative School at G&N reserve has invited AVI to come back on a weekly basis.
- We've found a new supplier and crack pipes are rolling out again!
- Our lunch program is being well attended and is increasing in size.
- We're doing a weekly youth group in partnership with Youth Addiction Services and Public Health Nurses. An average of 20 youth show up every week.
- Our secondary needle exchange sites are continuing to see more activity—one of the new exchanges is at Fort Rupert Reserve.
- We worked with Public Health to start Point Of Care Testing.



# 20 YEARS WITH AVI



## Claire Dineen Celebrates 20 Years with AVI

Claire was first hired in March 1994 to be the Coordinator of Street Outreach Services, which at that time was housed in a tiny 600 square foot space on Johnson Street in Victoria. That first year of operation they broke a record by exchanging over 100,000 syringes! Fast forward via Commercial Alley, Cormorant Street, (including a short stint as the ED), to January 2001 when Claire joined the Nanaimo team as their Health Promotion Educator, a role she continues in today. **Congratulations to Claire for over 35,000 hours of service!**

# VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

For the 4<sup>th</sup> year, AVI held a successful volunteer appreciation party and dinner at Floyd's Diner. The space and staffing were donated by Floyd's, there was a great turnout by our wonderful volunteers, and a good time was had by all. AIDS Vancouver Island's volunteers put in over 10,000 hours of service with us last year. They are an essential part of everything we do and we are extremely grateful to them for their service.





## HARM REDUCTION TEAM

Victoria is now offering mobile harm reduction services in neighbourhoods outside of the downtown core, from Sooke to North Saanich, Oak Bay to Esquimalt.

# HARM REDUCTION

*AVI is proud to offer expanded harm reduction services in Victoria, including three new staff teams based at the Access Health Centre, and in the community through Mobile Services and the 713 Outreach team.*

Harm reduction information and supplies have always been available during office hours in Victoria and beginning in February 2014, these services were expanded thanks to a dedicated new team of harm reduction staff, including part-time Harm Reduction Workers who bring their lived experience to the job. These staff members play a significant role in the service by being familiar faces who welcome and provide listening ears to individuals who come through our doors. A drop-in for people who use drugs provides a welcome space every afternoon until 10pm where access to nursing care, peer support,

advocacy and referral, safer sex and safer drug use equipment, and a sense of community is offered. Between February and September 2014, close to 1200 individuals accessed the daily Harm Reduction Services drop-in at the Victoria office.

Additionally, Victoria is now offering mobile harm reduction services in neighbourhoods outside of the downtown core, from Sooke to North Saanich, Oak Bay to Esquimalt. The mobile team continues to make positive community connections with pharmacies, community



centres and health clinics to ensure that people across Greater Victoria have access to harm reduction services. The 713 Outreach Team, a partnership of AVI and the Island Health Authority, is an innovative case management team that works to support people in Greater Victoria through harm reduction practice. Along with Aboriginal Support Workers, Nursing and Social Work staff from Island Health, three full-time Support Workers from AVI, and three part-time Harm Reduction Workers work as a team to build relationships with people experiencing high levels of substance use to improve their access to health and social supports, reduce harms associated with substance use, promote health and support better

health outcomes, and coordinate and enhance the provision of housing and other community supports available to the people they work with. 713 Outreach follows new standards for Intensive Case Management and is only the second team of its kind in BC. As of September 2014, the 713 Outreach Team was supporting around 70 individuals between the ages of 19 and 65. Most people supported by the 713 Outreach Team are not housed. One of our top priorities is advocating for increased access to supported housing and low-barrier 'wet' housing, in addition to the need for supervised consumption services (including managed alcohol) and access to practical resources such as funding to obtain and replace missing identification.

# PALLIATIVE OUTREACH

The Palliative Outreach Resource Team is a multi-disciplinary collaborative that seeks to provide education and advocacy around end of life care issues for marginalized populations. PORT has members from AVI, CoolAid Community Health Clinic, Island Health, Victoria Hospice, Our Place, and Dandelion Society.

Through our work together, we seek to accomplish the following:

- To provide a venue for service providers to better coordinate services between agencies.
- To provide support and resources to community based service providers to increase their capacity to provide palliative and other end of life care supports to the clients they serve.
- To advocate for shifts in service provision within the health authority to better meet the needs of marginalized populations.
- To provide education and resource referral to community based service providers.

Under the research leadership of Dr. Kelli Stadjuhar, PORT has been successful in our application for research funding from the Canadian Institute of Health Research to begin a 3 year project examining the experiences of our clients in relation to access to palliative care in Victoria, BC. The research team has begun meeting to move the project forward. AVI will be a research site for this unique project. PORT members continue to work tirelessly to identify clients who are at end of life and would benefit from increased and focused care while they are dying.





# RESEARCH & LEARNING

*Research Projects that AVI staff or clients have been involved in over the last year:*

Project	Researcher
BCCDC Annual Drug Survey	Jane Buxton BCCDC
CARBC Adult Drug Use Survey	Kate Vallance
“At the Table” with People who Use(d) Illegal Drugs: A Critical Ethnography into Power Relations	Lynne Belle-Isle PhD Candidate, Social Dimensions of Health Program Centre for Addictions Research of BC University of Victoria.
“I get by with a little help from my friends” (Understanding Gay Men who are 60 years of age and over and their health and wellness needs)	Richard Ablenas
Building Capacity Among People Who Use Drugs	Bernie Pauly
CIHR Operating Grant: Research ethic, health and sex work: A qualitative study to improve health and advance ethical research engagement	Dr. Vicky Bungay (currently in the application stage.)
Canadian HIV Women’s Sexual and Reproductive Health Cohort Study (CHIWOS)	Dr. Angela Kaida

## UNITED WAY FUNDRAISING DRIVE

Every year AVI’s staff participate in the United Way fundraising drive, and this year based on the success of our campaign, AIDS Vancouver Island has been nominated for the Community Partners Spirit Award! Special thanks to Minda Richardson in the Victoria office for all of her efforts to get everyone involved and participating.



**United Way**  
OF GREATER VICTORIA



## CAFÉ SCIENTIFIQUES

Café scientifiques started in the late-20th century as an informal discussion about scientific subjects. They were never intended to be lectures, but more about interaction between the public and experts in a given field. AVI has partnered with Cana-

dian Institutes for Health Research, the Pacific AIDS Network and CATIE to host two events this year, drawing audiences to hear insights and information about structural and social determinants of health in the context of HIV/AIDS.

# MEN'S WELLNESS

This year has been one of change in the Men's Wellness Program. Not only do we have a new Men's Health & Wellness Coordinator (Samuel Salvati), but we have also added a new position to the program, a Men's Health & Wellness Support Coordinator (Jonathan Degenhardt)! Having these two guys on board has amped up our service provision for Gay/Bi/Trans men and MSM/Two Spirit male identified folks.

Men's Wellness presented the first ever Men'scapes Conference in Victoria BC, bringing together gay/bi/MSM/Two spirit men to connect and share over the experiences and communities of queer men on the island. As well, they have been very busy connecting with the queer community across the island, and have been taking their passion for men's health and wellness and using it to create new and innovative programming.

Men's Wellness hosted a "Don't Gamble with Your Health" travelling poker tour that brought guys together



to connect in a fun and social way to talk about men's health on Vancouver Island and the services available to them. In addition, our Men's Health & Wellness Coordinator has been working with various community partners to provide Queer Eye for the Service Provider trainings, and working to connect with clinicians in health and human services about how to best support the thriving population of queer men that live on Vancouver Island. One such project that is a shining example of this relationship building is the monthly MSM HIV/STI testing evening that has been developed in partnership with the Men's Wellness Program

and the Cool Aid Health Clinic. In Victoria, four new peer social/support groups have been rolled out: Men's Stitch 'n Bitch, Gender Variant Drop In, Queerly-Abled Victoria, and Men's Film Nights. Along with the group supports that have been created there has been an increase in providing short term, solution based support on an individual level for Gay/Bi/Trans men/MSM/ and Two Spirit male identified folks in the Greater Victoria region. This support is geared to help these folks explore the varying challenges in their lives which can be anything from coming out to navigating the health care system as a Queer identified male.

**Queer Disabilities Group**

Do you self identify as someone who falls under the queer umbrella living with a disability? If so come and join us!

**Tuesday March 25th, 2014**  
7pm-8:30pm  
3rd Floor, 713 Johnson St.

For more information contact:  
Jonathan Degenhardt 250-384-2388  
Jonathan.degenhardt@aids.org  
or  
Lorena Lathin 250-695-0388  
lathin@bcvictoria.com

MWP  
AIDS Vancouver

**Blood Blitz testing day**

Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup>  
1:00pm-4:00pm  
at 100-1000  
Community Office  
313 6<sup>th</sup> Street

Featuring:  
HIV/STI Testing  
Hepatitis B & C Testing  
Prone, Chlamydia, Gonorrhea & Syphilis Testing  
EVD/STI Testing

More info call 250-384-2388

**Trans\* Day of Remembrance 2013**  
Victoria, B.C.  
TDOR Memorial & Open-Mic Session

Saturday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, 1 – 3 pm  
AIDS Vancouver Island, 713 Johnson St, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor,  
Coast Salish Territories  
(Fully accessible, gender-neutral washrooms, counsellors present)

Remember, recognize & celebrate Trans\* identities, experiences, communities & resistance. Strong emphasis on providing a voice to the oppressed. Safer spaces policy applies.

Light snacks provided. May provide bus tickets, food items, or babysitting stipend if needed. Please contact VictoriaTDOR2013@gmail.com for details.

**Gender Variant Drop-In**

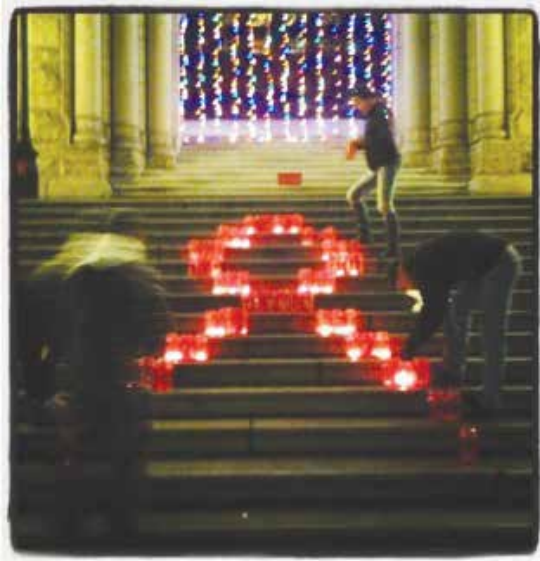
A drop-in program for men\*, gender variant, and two spirit individuals in the south island area. A safe space to come together, share, create, and support.

Drop-In Times:  
Thursdays 7:00pm-9:00pm  
Sundays 1:00pm-4:00pm  
Drop-In Location:  
AIDS Vancouver Island  
713 Johnson St, 3rd Floor  
Victoria, BC

AIDS Vancouver Island

# WORLDS AIDS DAY

## *Red Ribbon Candlelight Display for World AIDS Day*



“In 1991, a group of artists came together to create a meaningful symbol at the height of the AIDS crisis—to show support and compassion for those with AIDS and their caregivers. These artists were a part of the Visual AIDS Artists’ Caucus and what they created was titled “The Ribbon Project”, better known today simply as the Red Ribbon.” VisualAIDS.org

AVI continued our decade-long tradition of the “Red Ribbon Candlelight Display” for World AIDS Day on the steps of the Victoria Legislature building. Over the course of the early evening, downtown Victoria bore witness to a silent but beautiful reminder of the meaning of December 1st in the form of a candlelight display in the shape of a giant red ribbon, set up on the steps of the Legislature. Volunteers and supporters of the cause also gathered for a few words and a moment of silence, both to inspire our commitment and remember those we’ve lost in the fight against HIV/AIDS.



## **AIDS WALK FOR LIFE NANAIMO 2013**

Two fundraising events took place, the walk itself, as well as a Beer and Burger Night put on by the MAC Cosmetics team that included a silent auction and 50/50 draw. They raised \$7,000 which will be matched by MAC for a total of \$14,000. Unfortunately because of terrible weather the walk had to be cancelled at the last moment but regardless, the walkers raised \$1,200! Way to go Nanaimo!

## **COURTENAY SUBSTANCE USE PEER GROUP**

Courtenay AVI initiated a substance user peer group and has great attendance! There is considerable interest around this group as it is low barrier access for anyone who is or was affected by substance use. We are getting a very eclectic mix of people which encour-

ages informed conversation and adds to the community building piece. So far we have discussed group setup and meeting standards, intro to harm reduction/safer use of equipment, and an introduction to the Naloxone training that is becoming available.



# OVERDOSE PREVENTION & RESPONSE

A recent study\* on drug use in BC identified that a higher proportion of respondents from South Vancouver Island reported experiencing a drug overdose in the past 6 months compared to respondents from the rest of BC. The study identified the need to “train more people to prevent, recognize and respond to an opioid overdose by increasing the number of Take Home Naloxone sites in South Vancouver Island.” Given that many overdoses go unreported and that the survey only captures a segment of the population who are using opioids, these statistics are worrying.

In response, AVI is now a proud participant in the BC Take Home Naloxone (THN) Program through the Provincial Harm Reduction Program, Toward the Heart, at the BC Centre for Disease Control. The Victoria, Nanaimo, Courtenay/Comox and Campbell River offices offer overdose prevention and response training, including how to

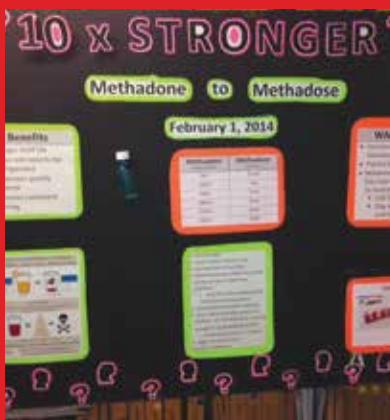
use naloxone, a medication that reverses the effect of opioid overdose. Thanks to partnering physicians in each community, prescriptions for naloxone are provided to eligible individuals and naloxone kits are provided at no cost by the provincial program. Our participation in this program continues to be a powerful opportunity to engage and support people who use drugs to access life-saving harm reduction tools and information.

Between the start of the BC THN program in 2012 and International Overdose Awareness Day (August 31) in 2014, the program helped to reverse 125 opioid drug overdoses in BC, a number which is believed to be under-reported. Also during that time, 1215 naloxone kits were distributed in 51 sites throughout BC and



over 2200 people were trained to prevent and respond to opioid overdose. AVI's Victoria office trained 136 people, distributed 44 naloxone kits and recorded 3 overdose reversals in the first 8 months of being a program participant (August 2013-March 2014). To date, AVI's Courtenay office has trained 30 people and distributed as many naloxone kits.

*\*BC Centre for Disease Control (Ishiguro, S., Buxton, J., Amlani, A.), 2014. Substance Use Trends in BC: A Survey of Harm Reduction Clients, 2013 (South Vancouver Island HSDA).*



# ROCK YOUR AWARENESS 2013

For six years running, Logan's Pub has donated staffing and space for us to raise funds and awareness for World AIDS Day. This year we went with a 'Country' theme, and a good time was had by all. Thank you to Logan's, to all the musicians, hostesses, info booth staff, and individuals and businesses who donate to our famously exciting raffle; your generosity, love, and kindness are so appreciated.



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## HCV VIDEO PROJECT

With the help of local activist and filmmaker Ellie Dion, the Hepatitis C Project in Victoria put together a short video about hepatitis C and posted it on YouTube. With participation from community members ranging from the Mayor to a local tattoo artist to our Poet Laureate we urged everyone to know their hepatitis C status and to get tested. Since it was posted, it has had over 500 views! See it at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Np8MfZWTJq4>





# POZITIVE PRIDE

## CELEBRATING VIBRANT COMMUNITY

We had a blast showing our pride on the streets of Victoria this year with Vancouver Island PWA Society & VARCS (Victoria AIDS Resources & Community Service Society). Celebrating the vibrancy of our communities and marching in the parade, and demonstrating against the criminalization of HIV non-disclosure in our communities!



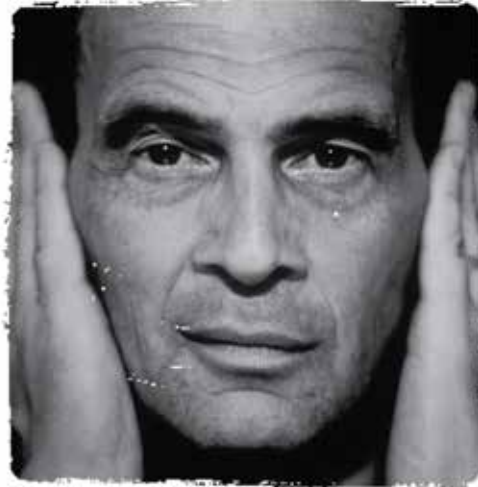


# LOVE YOUR LIVER

From Spirit Square in Campbell River to Centennial Square in Victoria and points in between, our staff, community partners and volunteers sought to raise awareness about hepatitis C. Knowing your status and getting tested is as important for hep C as it is for HIV. At AVI we are eager to continue the work with our partners to educate about hep C treatment, co-infection with HIV and access to testing information.



**Know it.  
Confront it.**



## This is **hepatitis...**

**Liver Health Fair & BBQ July 25th  
Spirit Square 11:30 -- 1:30**



# Dining Out For Life

*It's about*

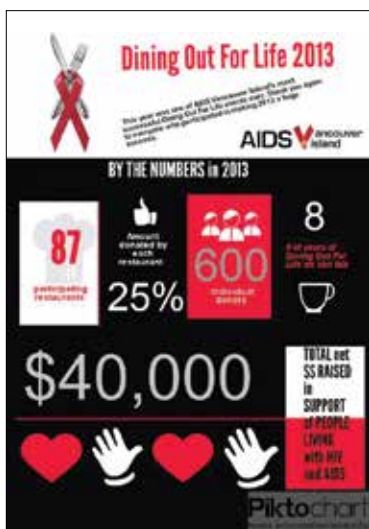
LOVE



Dining Out for Life unites restaurants and food lovers in raising much-needed funds.

Participating restaurants donate 25% of diners' food bills to AVI to benefit its programs across the island. The event, which has raised over \$200,000 for AVI since its inception, relies on a community of volunteers to do everything from information distribution to materials assembly.

One of the programs that directly benefits from Dining Out for Life is AVI Victoria's Positive Wellness Program, which offers nutritious lunches for those affected by HIV/AIDS and hepatitis C. Providing exceptional, made-with-love food to members helps them with medication adherence, provides structure to the day, and supports their connection with each other and the staff and volunteers here. Nutrition is a huge part of wellness!



Alex Stirling, a volunteer with AVI for the past 3 years and a Restaurant Ambassador for Dining Out for Life, is excited to take on the role again. "It's absolutely a blast, so much fun. You answer restaurant staff's questions about the event, chat with diners about what brought them out that night, tell them about the event, compliment the restaurant's generosity and let them know that if they want to make a donation, you're there to help with that."



# we are here.

## An Evening of Storytelling

### WE ARE HERE 2013

“We Are Here” is an anti-stigma project – an education initiative that invites local HIV+ people to share their stories with their communities.

For the second year in a row, we partnered with the Vancouver Island PWA Society and the Greater Victoria Public Library for another successful year of AIDS Awareness Week and World AIDS Day activities. “We Are Here” is an anti-stigma project—an education initiative that invites local HIV+ people to share their stories with their communities throughout the lower island region. Central to the project remains the extensive work that goes into creating storyboards, each unique and outlining the personal story of a different person living with HIV. This year, we had some new authors who joined the senior team, creating a fresh batch of storyboards that were displayed in 5 different library branches, all viewed by tens of thousands of people who frequent libraries for the weeks leading up to World AIDS Day on December

1st. Authors of each storyboard are active, engaged members of the Greater Victoria community, and were thrilled to also have the fantastic opportunity to share their stories

activism, love of dogs, art and family, overcoming addictions, the importance of community, facing down cancer, and triumphing over HIV stigma. The author



in-person at the first annual “We Are Here: An Evening of Storytelling” event, graciously hosted by The Belfry Theatre. The troupe of authors performed to an audience of over 60 people, exploring such life experiences as international development work, local and global HIV



team also piloted “Living Library” events at Spectrum Community School, giving over 150 high school students a chance to learn about HIV from an HIV+ author, one-on-one. Each event was a great success, and will fuel our energies for 2014.



# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WINS AWARD

*Executive Director of AIDS Vancouver Island Winner of National Canadian AIDS Society 2014 Leadership Award.*

AIDS Vancouver Island (AVI) is pleased to announce that its Executive Director, Katrina Jensen, has been named as the co-winner of the Canadian AIDS Society 2014 Leadership Award (Individual Category). Canadian AIDS Society recognizes people for their invaluable contributions and unwavering commitment to the HIV/AIDS movement.

AVI is a community-based AIDS Service Organization, which provides education, advocacy and support for clients. AVI provides education and prevention information to schools, the broader community and target populations. "Katrina is tenacious, dedicated, passionate – and an extremely

compassionate leader. She takes the time to consider and recognize the needs of others, and supports the HIV / AIDS community. She is a true inspiration to us all," said Albert McNutt, Chair of the CAS Board of Directors.

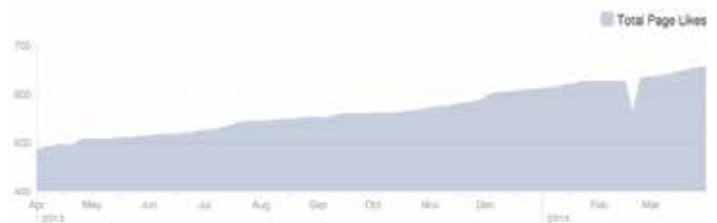
"It is an honour to have Katrina as a joint winner of this award, especially as she continues to give of herself, enriching the lives of people and communities living with and affected by HIV/AIDS. It is an acknowledgement of her community membership, compassionate leadership, significant achievements and contributions to the HIV/AIDS community in Canada. The Canadian AIDS Society team takes this opportunity to thank Katrina for the variety and depth of your contributions to the Canadian HIV/AIDS movement."

All of those at AIDS Vancouver Island recognize the dedication,

passion and value that Jensen brings to the organization and this very prestigious award acknowledges, on a National level, the work that Katrina does for not only for the communities on Vancouver Island, but with her work with the Pacific AIDS Network, for all British Columbians impacted by HIV/AIDS.

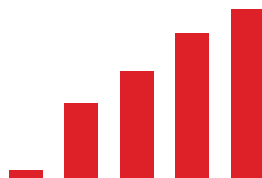
AIDS Vancouver Island, established as a society in 1986, serves the needs of people infected and affected by HIV and hepatitis C. The organization takes evidence-based action to prevent infection, provide support, and reduce stigma. AIDS Vancouver Island has offices in the communities of Greater Victoria, Nanaimo, the Comox Valley, and Campbell River, and also offers services in the Port Hardy area. Our catchment area includes all of the Gulf Islands. For more information about AIDS Vancouver Island, visit [www.avi.org](http://www.avi.org).

## SOCIAL MEDIA



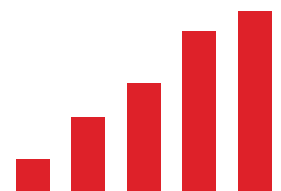
### Twitter:

April 2013: 1380 followers  
July 2013: 1529 followers  
October 2013: 1602 followers  
January 2014: 1688 followers  
March 2014: 1740 followers



### Facebook:

April 2013: 484 page likes  
July 2013: 526 page likes  
October 2013: 561 page likes  
January 2014: 614 page likes  
March 2014: 634 page likes





# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Statement of Financial Position March 31, 2014

### Assets

Cash	885,307
Accounts Receivable	76,920
Fixed Assets, Net	1,629,652
Other Assets	10,591
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>2,602,470</b>

### Liabilities and Net Assets

#### Liabilities

Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	179,070
Mortgages and Lines of Credit	78,848
Advances and Deferred	1,952,897
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>2,210,815</b>

#### Net Assets

Unrestricted	384,152
Restricted	7,503
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>391,655</b>

<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>2,602,470</b>
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## Statement of Activities April 1, 2013 through March 31, 2014

### Support and Revenue

Health Authority	1,632,324
Federal Government	285,650
United Way	188,550
Provincial Government	107,600
MAC AIDS Fund	75,000
Donations and Fundraising	90,485
Other	24,822
<b>Total Support and Revenue</b>	<b>2,404,431</b>

### Expenses

Salaries and Benefits	1,816,698
Rent and Office Expenses	240,612
Program Materials	178,535
Meetings, Honoraria and Travel	100,117
Amortization	7,008
Other	52,587
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>2,395,557</b>

	8,874
Net Operations from Joint Venture	1,312
<b>Excess of revenue over expenses</b>	<b>10,186</b>



## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the members of the Vancouver Island AIDS Society. We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Vancouver Island AIDS Society, which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2014, and the statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

### Qualified opinion

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the Basis for qualified opinion paragraph (available upon request), the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Vancouver Island AIDS Society as at March 31, 2014 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

July 15, 2014

*Grant Thornton LLP*  
Chartered accountants



island health



**United Way**  
OF GREATER VICTORIA



**BRITISH**  
**COLUMBIA**

**MAC**  
**AIDS FUND**



Public Health  
Agency of Canada

Agence de la santé  
publique du Canada



# CONTACT US

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AVI Health Centre  
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[www.avihealthcentre.org](http://www.avihealthcentre.org)

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## Victoria

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713 Johnson St, Victoria BC V8W 1M8  
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Toll free Infoline: 1-800-665-2437  
Harm Reduction Staff, 3-10pm daily, 250-889-0268  
Mobile Harm Reduction Services 250-896-AVIX (2849)  
Email: [info@avi.org](mailto:info@avi.org)

**avi.org**

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

AVI acknowledges the territories of the Kwakwaka'wakw, Nuu-chah-nulth, and Coast Salish peoples. Thank you to the Coast Salish peoples for having us as guests on their traditional territories.