



REPORT

From the office of the...

QSCC

TO: Members of the Executive Board
FROM: Jyssika Russell
SUBJECT: Queer Students Community Centre Report 1
DATE: October 4, 2013

UPDATE

The QSCC is off to an excellent start this year. Having now completed our welcoming events and premiered some new programs, we are currently looking ahead to MacPride in November, as well as our October Events.

SERVICE USAGE

We have participated in training over 150 individuals in LGBTQ+ service provision, including our own volunteers, those of SHEC and Peer Support Line, as well as the Women and Trans* Centre Committee. Having held one event per day from Sept 4-Sept 15, each event has attracted 4-20 participants, most being unique participants for each event. Our Newcomers meetings have been completely full, with 20-25 participants, and the centre has been physically full most of each day we have been officially open since the beginning of the term.

PAST EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

Because I was not in town in the summer, our events were limited to a board games day and some trips to Toronto Pride. We participated in outreach activities including Horizons Successfest, Welcome Day, Clubsfest, Graduate Resource Fair, and Mac Supports Take Back the Night.

Our welcome events included: Games Day, Movie Night, Billiards Night, Newcomers Night, and our Bayfront Picnic. We also coordinated group trips to Hamilton's Take Back the Night, Laffing My AIDS Out Comedy Night, and Supercrawl.

Most recently, we have premiered our book club "Between the Lines", which focuses on Queer intersectionality, reaching out to local book store Bryan Prince for a location.

We've also trained and hired all our volunteers for the semester, and have recently formalized our Peer Support Offerings, with a full day of specialized training for those volunteers. We have begun our test run of the Queer Convoy, which was outlined in our yearplan.

On Sept. 22, we participated in the AIDS Walk for Life; while we had a low turn out, our team raised over \$270 for the cause. Our Intramural teams have begun, with The Other team having 14 people show up for the inaugural dodgeball game, featuring SHEC volunteers. Finally, we have held our first trans*-friendly swim in cooperation with Ath & Rec

UPCOMING EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

For October, we will be participating in events including SWC's Mental Illness Awareness Week, International Coming Out Day, the Homecoming Festival, and Trick or Eat. We will be hosting our own events such as our annual Gayzer Tag and a Rocky Horror Picture Show Sing-a-long.

We will continue to plan MacPride, taking place in November 4-8. We are currently booking spaces and contacting campus partners to host events and fund certain projects.

BUDGET

We have used most of our training budget due to offering food for the longer, expanded volunteer training sessions, and the new Peer Support Training. We have also used some of our promotional budget because of our logo change over the summer.

We will be seeking some external funds to host MacPride this year, as the event has expanded significantly, and will need greater funds in the future to grow and be sustainable.

CURRENT CHALLENGES

Current challenges centre around space, specifically accessible space. We are seeking external locations outside MUSC to host our Newcomers Meetings, as well as searching for a larger space to accommodate a potential MacPride speaker.

SUCCESSSES

We have had the most successful welcome week in centre memory, with more events than ever. We have had several students reach out to us through email or other means to tell us personal stories of their positive experiences in the centre, which we consider a huge win and very encouraging.

OTHER

I'd like to thank the amazing QSCC Exec for being the driving force behind so many of our events, being innovative, providing new services, and being excellent role models within the centre. Our successes are because of their hard work and dedication.