



REPORT

From the office of the...

Queer Students Community Centre

TO: Members of the Executive Board
FROM: Emily Smith , QSCC Coordinator
SUBJECT: Queer Students Community Centre Report 3
DATE: November 12, 2015

UPDATE

The greatest update the QSCC has to share is our recent MacPride events. We managed to run 15 events in five days, including a massive Pride march with an estimated 300 in attendance. The weekend prior to MacPride the social space experienced an overhaul including paint, a new furniture and television. Service attendance has increased recently due to the hype around MacPride, and a large portion of our budget has been spent. We now look forward to a quieter the rest of the semester.

SERVICE USAGE

Space:

We continue to have upwards of 8-10 people accessing the space on a regular basis. New furniture and Pride hype have increased this number which is likely temporary.

Events:

Video Games: 15	Let's Talk Queer Sex: 35	Keynote: 25
Social: 16-20	MacPride March: ~300	Body +ve: 15
LTQ Relationships: 20-25	LTQ Work: 10-15	Drag Show: 90-100
Trans Workshop: 12-15	Boardgames: 20-25	

We would have liked to see a bigger attendance for our smaller events, but recognize that workshops and facilitated discussion may not appeal to individuals as much as our social events.

Library:

No update on how many individuals access the library service.

PAST EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

MacPride was a great success. In the past three weeks the executive team planned and executed 15 events. Our most popular was the Pride March and Drag Show, but our ability to connect with the Engiqueers and SHEC for three collaborative events represents the important connections of our services and our ability to work together and garner a decent sized crowd. Our Let's Talk Queer series seemed to be an attractive series and we hope to keep this ongoing with similar and new topics next year. We had some wonderful feedback from both volunteers, attendees on facilitators of how to start/stop/continue preparing for next year. Our connections throughout the McMaster community in making MacPride happen were amazing. Our facilitators came from HRES and the SSC, as well

as community facilitators and our keynote from the US. We reached out to as many campus connections as possible for Pride, including but not limited to, SGS, MAPS, SSC, HRES, Ath and Rec, ResLife, Faculties and faculty reps, OPIRG, all MSU services, Clubs, MMB. We were able to provide some training, workshops, and alternative programming so there was something for everyone. We were able to paint our space, order new furniture, and get rid of a great deal of clutter. This process is still ongoing. We have been planning for the Trans Day of Remembrance with WGEN and making headway on this.

UPCOMING EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

Upcoming events include the Trans Day of Remembrance. Dodgeball continues to be ongoing with the final matches upcoming at the end of November. Throughout November we hope to see another installment of our media club as our For Today I Am A Boy book club has ended. We have a follow up workshop on work that the SSC has offered to provide for us, and hope to find time for another social event in December. We likely have stressbusters planned through out health and wellness executive in December.

A large upcoming goal will be to see are multiple upcoming workshops for our entire volunteer team. With approximately 45 general volunteers, 6 executives and 8 specialized volunteers in peer support and newcomers facilitating and myself we would have a total of 60 people who would need to be trained. We would like to work with a local trans educator in the community to do trans inclusive training, as well as provide concrete recommendations to making our space more inclusive. We would also like to contract out an educator at McMaster who specializes in training around non-violent conflict resolution. We expect this to be ready to go in the new year, and that it will take a chunk from our funding to make this happen.

BUDGET

Below is a very close estimate to the costs of running MacPride. Our annual Campaigns Budget (for reference) is \$2500 and this year the MSU increased our budget by \$1000 to accommodate the increasing costs associated with running MacPride. Our spending budet on furniture is not attached, but was approximately \$1000 under budget as our capital expenses were not as high as anticipated.

OVERALL COSTS	
Event Detail	Cost Attached
Banner/Face	\$50
Rally AV Equip	\$110
Keynote Speakers	\$1,000
Keynote Location	\$30
Thank yous	\$75
Drag Show	\$904
MUSC/Mills	\$30
LTQR Location	\$30
Tourny Prizes	\$50
Paradise Catering	\$100
TOTAL:	\$2,479

BUDGET LINE BREAKDOWN	
Resource	\$50
Advertising & Promo	\$110
Community Outreach	\$125
Annual Campaigns	\$2,094
TOTAL:	\$2,479

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers have been instrumental in planning MacPride. They have supported us in running events, advertising, and keeping the space staffed all week regardless of events. Coming in the next semester we would like to see our volunteers undergo more training, and have more frequent team meetings to ensure everyone is more connected – ie: at least one mid-way meeting during the middle of the semester.

CURRENT CHALLENGES

The QSCC has been under heavy critique recently for providing inadequate training, and our volunteer conduct. We hope to respond to this by encouraging more training for all levels of involvement, as well as reaching out to marginalized communities within the queer umbrella for recommendations on moving forward.

We are beginning to navigate losing a member of our executive team and some of our volunteers. We look forward to how the rest of the year will run but are anticipating set backs due to man power.

SUCSESSES

MacPride! Our biggest Pride week yet, and not even remotely accurate in reflecting the amount of queer people at McMaster. We hope to keep growing!

We have been keeping very clear track of how much money is being spent as we hope to see a permanent increase in our budget. We also have been keeping track of details to provide to the next coordinator to ensure MacPride planning can go as smooth as possible. We have tried to keep accurate and concise records.

OTHER

There's been a lot of talk lately about how our space has become more social and less political which I hope to change in the upcoming semester. I haven't seen the QSCC run any sort of campaign in recent years – last year the discussion was around a campaign for national coming out day which was never completely – and would like to see that change later in the year.