



# Dr. Peter AIDS Foundation

## “Keeping You Informed”

Spring 2008



Hello Friends of the Dr. Peter AIDS Foundation!

Keeping you informed is important to us. Going forward, you will receive a spring and fall newsletter in addition to the Foundation's annual report. In the interest of saving money and saving trees, we would like to send most future communications via e-mail. Please go online at [www.drpetercentre.ca](http://www.drpetercentre.ca) and sign up. Thank you! If you do not have e-mail, we will continue to post.

On March 15<sup>th</sup>, the Globe & Mail published an article, “The Nearly Forgotten Plague”.

It provided extensive and insightful coverage of HIV/AIDS today in Vancouver. The Dr. Peter Centre is part of the story. We've included the article because it is the best way we could possibly share with you how HIV/AIDS is impacting lives and communities today.

The Dr. Peter AIDS Foundation's five to seven year directional interest is to establish an additional three Dr. Peter Centres in Metro Vancouver. Plans are already underway for a Dr. Peter Residence in the Downtown Eastside as part of a joint venture partnership with two aboriginal organizations. We are also interested in providing HIV/AIDS care in Fraser Health Authority which has the second largest HIV/AIDS population in the province. Some gay men who have had HIV/AIDS for many years are experiencing increasingly complex health conditions generally associated with aging. The Foundation is interested in an assisted living residence to support them. Until there is a cure... we need your support.

Maxine Davis  
Executive Director



### Dr. Peter Centre Day Health Clinical Team Wins Award!

**Congratulations** to the Dr. Peter Centre Day Health Clinical Team on winning the UBC College of Health Disciplines 2007 **J.F. McCreary Prize** for Interprofessional Teamwork.



Tony Cave, Counselling Coordinator; Barbe Pickering, Registered Nurse; Sabine Silberberg, Counsellor/ Expressive Arts Therapist, along with Maxine Davis, Executive Director, attended the ceremony to accept the award on behalf of the team. The presenter noted that this year's competition received exceptionally strong applications from across the province, making this year's win a special honour. The McCreary Prize is a tremendous recognition of the work of the day health clinical team and a testament to the model of care practices throughout the Dr. Peter Centre.

The award's \$1500 prize went to support the day health program which is made feasible in part, by annual donor revenue.

# Passions

A benefit for the Dr. Peter AIDS Foundation



## Join CBC's Gloria Macarenko for Passions Sunday, September 14, 2008 6-9pm

**Passions** is the Dr. Peter AIDS Foundation signature event held every September at the Dr. Peter Centre. Fourteen elite chefs come together for one night only and provide a delectable array of tapas to the 200 guests in attendance. It is truly a magical evening for every wine and food enthusiast.

Nathan Fong, Chair of the Passions Committee and winner of the 2007 AccolAIDS Philanthropy award, founded this event 4 years ago. Last year alone this event raised over \$75,000 for the Dr. Peter Centre.

Hosted by Gloria Macarenko, the event also includes both Live and Silent Auctions.

### 2008 Restaurants:

Chambar Belgian Restaurant • Crave on Main • Diva at the Met • Elixir • FigMint  
Fraiche • Hamilton Street Grill • La Terrazza Restaurant • O'Doul's • MIX the Bakery  
The Observatory • Provence Marinaside • So.Cial at Le Magasin • Tojo's



Tickets available in July from our website  
[www.drpetercentre.ca](http://www.drpetercentre.ca) or by calling 604.331.3452



### ***The Elf Project - Christmas in the Residence***

The Dr. Peter AIDS Foundation has been blessed for the past couple of years by the enthusiasm of two of our supporters James Bond and Brad Davis. They gather funding from family, friends and colleagues to ensure the residents at the Dr. Peter Centre wake up to stockings and presents under the tree on Christmas Morning; and enjoy a wonderful Christmas dinner with all the trimmings. All this is celebrated with invited guests. James and Brad know the importance of making the Dr. Peter Centre feel like home.

This year these Elves raised \$4,000. James and Brad asked the residents for three presents they wished to receive and then headed out to the stores to begin the shopping. Not only did they find what the residents ask for, but they personally gift wrapped each one, prepared stockings for each resident and delivered everything to the Centre in time for the big event!

The Project also allows residents to ring in the New Year with friends, family, musical entertainment and an abundance of food for the celebration. It brings a wonderful end to the year and a toast to the year ahead.

***"It may sound clichéd, but gathering the donations, buying & wrapping the presents, then delivering them to the Dr. Peter Centre is our reminder of what Christmas is all about."*** - James Bond & Brad Davis, Elves

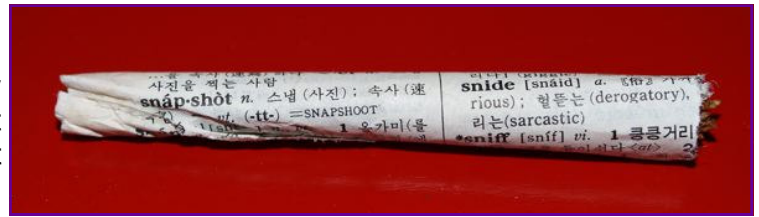
***"Christmas was warm and nice. I felt good, accepted and cared for."*** - Darren, Resident

***"Christmas was beautiful as both floors came together to share a Christmas Day dinner as a family and with their invited guests."*** - Marjorie, Staff



## **A Harm Reduction Approach with Art**

A small exhibit of seven photographs opened in the gallery hallway of the Day Health program. The artist: a participant who has been part of the Day Health Program for the past 6 years - Ray.



The photos show rolled cigarettes – with a twist: they are rolled with the thin paper of dictionaries and hotel bibles. Ray’s artist statements says “I read more since I started rolling my own. I smoked three bibles already in my life, in jail. That means I have read the bible three times not bad, eh? Recently I branched out into Asian dictionaries. I have thought about smoking Keats’ sonnets, but I decided not to smoke poetry – my step-brother is directly related to Keats, so that’s a no-no.” Other participants walk by the frames on the wall and “read” the photographs. They like them and share that with Ray.

How did the cigarettes make it into an exhibition? Well, one day I sat on the patio with Ray, and he showed me one of the cigarettes. We laughed about what it said, “snapshot, snide, sarcastic”; it was translated into an Asian language. The next step seemed obvious – I took a snapshot of his cigarette, enlarged and framed it. He liked seeing it on the wall, and more cigarettes made their way into my office over the next months. Saving cigarettes can be a demanding thing to do, especially when money is short and there isn’t even enough for cigarette paper!

Now, months after the exhibition, when asked what the experience was like for him, he says: “I didn’t want to be seen like doing whacko stuff, or not being taken seriously. And then - it was wild, seeing it. It was beautiful to see it all on the wall. It gave me an idea for my next stint. Now I have something else to focus on besides dope”.

This collaborative approach to finding art anywhere, seemed like a harm reduction approach to art-making. Harm reduction (one of our clinical models of care), in a nutshell, asks to “meet people where they are”, and through this, it makes acceptance, connection, and a “reframing of reality” the most important aspects of working together.



Written by Sabine Silberberg MA  
Counsellor/Expressive Arts Therapist  
Dr. Peter Centre



## **Our Breath of Sunshine Every week at the Centre!**

The Flower Ladies – 2008 AccolAIDS Awards Nominees!

Margaret Dennys and Celene Hurley - the Flower Ladies - as they are fondly called at the Dr. Peter Centre, have been nominated for a BCPA 2008 AccolAIDS Award!

No matter what the calendar says, spring comes to the Dr. Peter Centre every Tuesday morning. Margaret arrives with an armload of freshly cut flowers and Celene is ready to help her distribute them. A flower in a bud vase is delivered to each of the twenty four residents. Margaret and Celene know each resident’s preferences – one doesn’t like yellow! They understand when someone announces they do not want flowers — ever— and months later shyly ask for their own vase! Birthdays and anniversaries are marked with a special rose.



Celene Hurley & Margaret Dennys,  
our “**Flower Ladies**”

Appreciation for their caring is reflected in a song, ‘The Flower Ladies’ written and recorded by a day health program participant. Maxine Davis, Executive Director, says, “Africans have its grandmothers to children who are orphaned. Margaret and Celene are an inspiration for how the grandmothers’ generation in this country can bring love and comfort to individuals living with HIV/AIDS – individuals who struggle every moment of every day to find acceptance and support.”

**If you are interested in volunteering at the Dr. Peter Centre please call Carolyn Ryan, Volunteer Coordinator, at 604.608.1874 local 2235 or email [cryan@drpetercentre.ca](mailto:cryan@drpetercentre.ca)**

## Upcoming Events for the Dr. Peter AIDS Foundation

April 26, 2008	- AIM to AID Golf Tournament	<a href="http://www.aimbcit.com">www.aimbcit.com</a>	Westwood Plateau
August 2, 2008	- Vancouver Front Runners	<a href="http://www.vancouverfrontrunners.org">www.vancouverfrontrunners.org</a>	
August 2, 2008	- Biggs PRIDE Deck Party	<a href="http://www.pridedeckparty.com">www.pridedeckparty.com</a>	
September 14, 2008	- <b>Passions</b>	<a href="http://www.drpetercentre.ca">www.drpetercentre.ca</a>	



Cutting Edges Team at AIM to AID



Biggs PRIDE Deck Party



Passions

## Donor Applause



Opera Appassionata • Bank of Montreal • Vancouver Front Runners • Biggs Pride Deck Party • James Bond & Brad Davis •



### There are many ways to give...

- **Host an Event**—Corporations, community groups and individuals often look for ways to come together to support the Dr. Peter AIDS Foundation. Events are held with proceeds going to the Dr. Peter AIDS Foundation. Create an event and help **provide Comfort Care™ for people living with HIV/AIDS**. If you or your organization is interested in hosting a third-party event, please visit our website for more information or contact Leah Kruk, Development Manager, at 604.331.3452 or [lkruk@drpetercentre.ca](mailto:lkruk@drpetercentre.ca)
- **Donate Shoppers Points**—Donate your Shoppers Optimum Points to the Dr. Peter AIDS Foundation through Shoppers Drug Mart and assist us to purchase the products & supplies needed in the Dr. Peter day health program and residence. Visit [www.drpetercentre.ca](http://www.drpetercentre.ca) or [www.shoppersdrugmart.ca](http://www.shoppersdrugmart.ca) for more information.
- **Go Paperless - Donate online at [www.drpetercentre.ca](http://www.drpetercentre.ca)**

**Until there is a cure - please give generously**

### Dr. Peter AIDS Foundation

*providing Comfort Care™ for people living with HIV/AIDS*

1110 Comox Street Vancouver, BC V6E 1K5  
T: 604.608.1874 F: 604.608.4259

**Visit our website [www.drpetercentre.ca](http://www.drpetercentre.ca) and sign up today to receive our newsletters online**