

# Grand River Rainbow Historical Project

[www.grandriver-rainbowhistory.ca/](http://www.grandriver-rainbowhistory.ca/)

*celebrating the lives and times of rainbow folk in Grand River country*

## *Guelph Gay Equality Newsletter → Guelph Gay & Lesbian Equality Newsletter → Guelph Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Equality Newsletter*

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# guelph gay equality

## newsletter

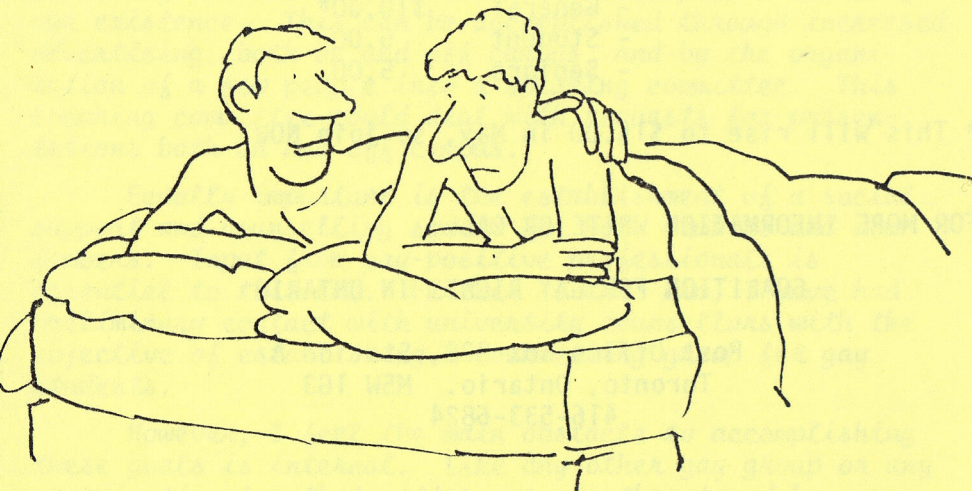
MARCH 1982

### THE NEW CONSTITUTION

ON TUESDAY, MARCH 16, WE WILL DISCUSS AND VOTE ON THE PROPOSED CONSTITUTION. ALL MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING ARE ENTITLED TO VOTE. THE MAIN DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE OLD AND NEW CONSTITUTION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

	<u>OLD</u>	<u>NEW</u>
EXECUTIVE	PRESIDENT SECRETARY TREASURER	6 MEMBER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
ELECTIONS	EVERY YEAR	3 MEMBERS EACH YEAR
BUSINESS	DEALT WITH AT WEEKLY MEETINGS	6 GENERAL BUSINESS MEETINGS PER YEAR

IF YOU ARE A MEMBER, PLEASE COME OUT ON MARCH 16 TO REGISTER YOUR COMMENTS AND TO VOTE, OR SEND IN THE BALLOT ENCLOSED.



*"Yes, indeed, that was good. It was not, however, limerance."*

## COALITION FOR GAY RIGHTS IN ONTARIO

What is CGRO?: CGRO is an organization of Ontario citizens working for full equality for lesbians and gay men.

Who is CGRO?: CGRO is several hundred women and men, and over 30 gay organizations across this province WHO CARE! GGE is a membership group.

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE IN CGRO.

### WHY YOU SHOULD JOIN CGRO:

- CGRO needs your voice to make sure that politicians listen to the concerns of our community.
- CGRO needs your spare time and skills.
- CGRO needs financial support to help fund programs to educate society, to organize ourselves in towns and cities and to let politicians know we are everywhere.

HELP GIVE US A STRONG VOICE  
JOIN CGRO TODAY!

### INDIVIDUAL CGRO MEMBERSHIPS:

- General \$10.00\*
- Student 5.00
- Seniors 5.00

\* This will rise to \$15.00 in May, so join NOW.

FOR MORE INFORMATION WRITE OR CALL:

COALITION FOR GAY RIGHTS IN ONTARIO

Post Office Box 822, Station A  
Toronto, Ontario. M5W 1G3  
416-533-6824

## TOWARDS A FUTURE

As this will probably be my last message to you as president, I wish to use this opportunity to reflect a bit upon the past year and express my concerns for the future. During 1981, Guelph Gay Equality had one of its most significant happenings since its founding, the granting of community service status. This new status is an important recognition by the Central Students' Association of the University of Guelph, that our activities extend beyond those of a campus club and that Guelph Gay Equality is dedicated to serving the gay community of Guelph and the surrounding area. The granting of this status also required major re-organization of our executive, as reflected, in part, in the proposed changes to our constitution which I hope you will read and consider supporting on the attached ballot. Any comments or proposed amendments should be brought to the Constitution Night on Tues. March 16 for discussion. Otherwise, your ballot should be returned before March 14 to P.O. Box 773, Guelph, Ontario.

Guelph Gay Equality has a positive spirit afloat as evidenced by our well-attended meetings and packed dances. Special thanks to all those people involved with the organization and the staffing of the dances.

What are the concerns for the future? I feel our priority should be to reach out into the University community and the City of Guelph to make people aware of our existence. This can be accomplished through increased advertising, both on and off campus, and by the organization of a few people into a speaking committee. This speaking committee could deal with requests for presentations both on and off campus.

Equally important is the establishment of a social support and counselling system for both members and non-members. Input from gay-positive professionals is essential to this end. Further to this aim, I have had preliminary contact with university counsellors with the objective of establishing a counselling group for gay students.

However, I feel the main obstacle to accomplishing these goals is internal. Like any other gay group or any organization for that matter, we are threatened by disunity. Misunderstandings, character conflicts and resentments are inevitable in any group, but they must

not lead to the formation of opposing factions or cliques. We must discuss our concerns about our group openly and settle personal problems between members privately. WE HAVE A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT TO LOSE IF GUELPH GAY EQUALITY DOES NOT STAND UNITED.

As gay and lesbian individuals, we share many common problems, many similar experiences and a goal - constructing a more loving and accepting society. Our power is increased enormously when we act together and the goals of the future become attainable. I am urging you to become involved in Guelph Gay Equality and attend our elections on Tuesday, April 6. Remember GUELPH GAY EQUALITY is YOU!

At this point, I wish to say good-bye to the many friends I have made in Guelph, as I will be pursuing graduate studies in clinical psychology next year. My year as president of Guelph Gay Equality has been a valuable experience in personal growth and learning. It is an experience I treasure and shall never forget.

Sincerely,  
Roy

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COMING EVENTS

- Tues. Mar.9 - Guest Speaker-Discussion on Sado-Masochistic Sex-8 PM, 9th fl. Arts
- Sat. Mar.13 - Dance - Polish Hall - 5 Empire St. Guelph - 8 PM
- Tue. Mar.16 - Constitution Night - Discuss & vote on proposed constitution - 9th fl.lounge
- Tue. Mar.23 - Nominations for new executive and discussions on gay relationships - 9th fl. lounge Arts.
- Fri. Mar.26 - Dance at Schoolhouse - 9 PM  
611 Silvercreek Parkway, Guelph.
- Tue. Mar.30 - Women's Night. Question: - Is Gay Liberation Male Dominated?  
Guest Speaker - 9th Fl. Lounge Arts
- Tue. Apr. 6 - Election Night - Movie Shorts -  
Wine & Cheese served - 9th Fl. Arts

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the gayline 836-4550

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PROPOSED CONSTITUTION FOR GUELPH GAY EQUALITY

ARTICLE I: NAME: The name of the organization shall be Guelph Gay Equality.

ARTICLE II: PREAMBLE: Recognizing that sexual orientation is but one facet of the complex human makeup, and affirming that such orientation cannot reasonably be used as a basis for persecution, exclusion, or discrimination any more than can race, religion, national origin or sex, we hereby organize and constitute Guelph Gay Equality. In so doing, we claim the right to our own feelings, the right to love whom we choose and the right to express this love, the right to be persons, to express our individual consciences and to be the bearers of legal rights grounded in the laws of Canada and in the fact of our common humanity.

ARTICLE III: OBJECTIVES  
(a) To present as complete a view as possible of all facets of sexuality, specifically homosexuality, thus working to combat stereotypes and to replace myths and fears with knowledge and understanding, through a variety of educational projects, through distribution of pertinent information, and through involvement in the University and community as a whole.  
(b) To explore the common basis of the oppression of women and the oppression of homosexuals, and to actively strive for the elimination of both.  
(c) To foster a sense of community among the lesbians and gay men of the University of Guelph and surrounding area by providing opportunities for people to meet with dignity and without fear, and by organizing social activities which no longer relegate homosexuality to an invisible subculture.  
(d) To maintain communication with similar organizations and to collect periodicals and other literature pertaining to human sexuality and human rights.  
(e) Where possible, to provide assistance to those who are having personal, academic, social, legal, or religious difficulties because of their sexual orientation.

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP:  
(a) Membership shall be open to anyone connected with the University of Guelph, the community of Guelph and surrounding areas, regardless of sexual orientation, with the sole proviso that the person be in general agreement with the purposes of the association as set forth in Article II.  
(b) Annual dues shall be decided upon, and altered when warranted, by the vote of a simple majority of members present at a general meeting, based on financial information presented to the members by the executive.

ARTICLE V: STRUCTURE: The Executive Committee shall consist of six members. Within the Executive Committee the following positions will be assigned by mutual agreement of the six members: (i) Executive Director; (ii) Financial Director; (iii) Education Director; (iv) Activities Director; (v) Dance Director; (vi) Publicity Director. Specific functions of the members of the Executive Committee shall be as outlined in Article VI, Responsibilities.

ARTICLE VI: RESPONSIBILITIES:  
(a) Executive Director:  
(i) will prepare agenda for, schedule, and chair executive and general meetings.  
(ii) will vote only to break a tie at executive and general meetings.

ARTICLE VI: (a) (iii) will ensure that accurate minutes are kept at all executive and general meetings.  
(iv) will promote communication and maintain harmony within the organization.  
(v) will act as official spokesperson and/or official representative for Guelph Gay Equality at all functions of interest to the organization, or will designate, upon consultation with the executive committee, a member to act in the above capacity.

(b) Financial Director:  
(i) shall keep a detailed record and accounting of all financial transactions of the organization.  
(ii) shall prepare a budget and financial statement annually or as required by funding agencies.  
(iii) shall be responsible for the day-to-day financial matters of the organization.  
(iv) shall report a general accounting of financial status at all executive and general meetings.

(c) Education Director:  
(i) shall direct the various education committees, such as the Gayline committee, public speaking committee, etcl, and initiate other educational projects.  
(ii) shall maintain liaison with the Activities Director and Publicity Director to plan educational events for the meetings and other activities.  
(iii) shall coordinate and update educational literature on the organization and its objectives, including regular contributions to the Newsletter.  
(iv) shall coordinate the operation of the library, including maintaining the existing collection, and planning future acquisitions.  
(v) shall prepare a budget for the education program.

(d) Activities Director:  
(i) shall coordinate the planning and operation of activities of a social, educational, or political nature.  
(ii) shall maintain liaison with the Education Director to plan educational events for meetings and other activities.  
(iii) shall consult with the Publicity Director for advertising of activities.  
(iv) shall plan and conduct regular weekly meetings.  
(v) shall initiate a program of regular parties, dinners, outings, trips, film nights, etc., in consultation with the other Directors.  
(vi) shall prepare a budget for the activities program.

(e) Dance Director:  
(i) shall prepare a schedule of future dances.  
(ii) shall coordinate preparations for dances, ensuring that halls are booked, liquor licences are applied for, dance supplies purchased, transportation arranged, dance staff engaged.  
(iii) shall consult with the Financial Director in regards to cheques, deposits, and dance reports.  
(iv) shall ensure that liquor laws are observed.  
(v) shall prepare a budget for the dance program.

(f) Publicity Director:  
(i) shall coordinate the publicizing of events.  
(ii) shall coordinate the newsletter committee to ensure that deadlines are met.

(OVER)

ARTICLE VI: (f) (iii) shall coordinate a poster committee, to prepare and distribute advertising material.  
 (iv) shall coordinate radio, television, and newspaper publicity.  
 (v) shall prepare a budget for the publicity program.

ARTICLE VII: ELECTIONS AND TERMS OF OFFICE:

(a) At the first election under this constitution, three Directors will be elected for a period of one year; the remaining three Directors will be elected for a period of two years. Thereafter, elections will take place each year, at which time those three positions which become vacant will be filled by three persons elected for a period of two years.  
 (b) Elections will take place once per year at the General Meeting during the first week of April.  
 (c) Notice of the election will be given at the General Meeting during the first week of February. Nominations in writing will be accepted four weeks prior to the election, up to and including the day of the election.  
 (d) Nominations to the vacant positions of the Executive Committee will be made by members in good standing of Guelph Gay Equality.  
 (e) Noninees must be members in good standing of Guelph Gay Equality a minimum of four weeks prior to the election.  
 (g) All members who have been in good standing a minimum of four weeks prior to the election may cast a vote.  
 (g) Voting will be done by secret ballot.  
 (h) All vacant positions on the Executive Committee will be filled by the candidates drawing the largest number of votes.  
 (i) Voting privileges for elected individuals will become effective at the first meeting of the Executive Committee following the elections.  
 (j) In the case of the resignation of a member of the Executive Committee during his/her term, the remaining members of the Executive Committee shall appoint a member to complete the term of the vacant position.  
 (k) Any member of the Executive Committee may be dismissed from the Executive Committee with a 2/3 majority vote at a General Meeting, where there is evidence that he/she: (i) has missed three consecutive executive meetings; or (ii) has been operating at purposes counter to those of Guelph Gay Equality, or (iii) is deemed responsible for an act, an activity, or words that violate the provisions of this constitution.

ARTICLE VIII: MEETINGS:

(a) Regular Meetings will be held once weekly, or less frequently, to be decided by a majority vote. Regular Meetings will be essentially social or educational in nature.  
 (b) General Meetings will be held six times per year, during the first week of April, June, August, October, December, and February. At General Meetings the Executive Committee shall report to and present new business to the members, and entertain motions from the members.  
 (c) At General Meetings all votes, unless otherwise specified, shall be decided by a simple majority of members present. Votes shall be by show of hands, unless at least 1/3 of the members present request a secret ballot.  
 (d) All members shall be given notice of upcoming General Meetings by means of the Newsletter, at least four weeks prior to the date of the General Meeting.

ARTICLE VIII: (e) Executive Meetings will take place at least once per month. All votes at Executive Meetings shall be decided by simple majority. The Executive Director shall not vote, except in the case of a tie.

ARTICLE IX: CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS:

(a) Motions to amend or delete any part of this constitution must be moved and seconded at any General Meeting, publicised by means of the Newsletter, and voted upon at the next following General Meeting.  
 (b) Such motions to amend or delete shall require the vote of 2/3 of the members present at the General Meeting.