

## **Toronto HIV/AIDS Network (THN) Update #18.34 – November 20, 2018**

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**THN Updates are sent to member organisations, working group members, and other community partners who have indicated they wish to receive them – please email [thn@torontohivaidsnetwork.org](mailto:thn@torontohivaidsnetwork.org) to be removed.**

**>> See attachments for additional item details; please post or forward as appropriate. If you are unable to open any individual types of attachments, please let us at THN know <<**

### **Toronto Fast Track Cities Initiative, Toronto to Zero**

The new Toronto to Zero website <http://torontotozero.ca>

### **World AIDS Day**

World AIDS Day is **Saturday, December 1<sup>st</sup>**. To have your organisation's event added to the list, kindly forward the information to [thn@torontohivaidsnetwork.org](mailto:thn@torontohivaidsnetwork.org). This year's events and notices include:

- **CATIE** has released new World AIDS Day infographics [Please click here to view and download](#)

- **Asian Community AIDS Services (ACAS)** special event for World AIDS Day is ***Remembering our History and Building our Future***, where they will be remembering those who we have lost but also focusing on building a stronger tomorrow. It will be held Monday, **November 26, 2018**. Space is limited [please click here for tickets](#) [please see the attached flyer for more information]
- Join **ACT** on World AIDS Day eve to acknowledge the people and organizations dedicated to preventing HIV, caring for and empowering people living with HIV, and the movement to end new HIV infections in Toronto at the Together Towards Zero Luncheon on **Friday November 30<sup>th</sup> 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.** **Location:** St. Regis Hotel, 325 Bay Street. **Tickets:** \$125.00 [Click here for tickets.](#)
- **AIDS Committee of Durham Region (ACDR)** is hosting a viewing of the film Strong Medicine. Strong Medicine is an educational video developed by the Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network and CATIE. It will be held on World AIDS Day, **Saturday, December 1<sup>st</sup>** Show times: 1:30 – 2:00 p.m. and 3:30 to 4:00 p.m. in the ACDR Community Room [please see the attached flyer for more information]
- **Women Empowering Positive Women (WEPW)** is celebrating the Creativity of Women living with HIV, **Wear Red Scarf**. Order Scarfs for your team for World AIDS Day [please see the attached flyer for more information]

## **Community News and Information**

- **HALCO** will be closed on **Tuesday, November 20**, and **Wednesday, November 21, 2018**, for staff to attend a legal training conference. Their office will re-open on **Thursday, November 22** at **9 a.m.** During this closure, their general voicemail box 0 will be monitored for emergencies only (416-340-7790 or toll-free 1-888-705-8889). Emergencies include matters such as imminent evictions, ODSP suspensions, arrests/detentions, and receipt of Public Health orders.
- **Canadian Coalition to Reform HIV Criminalization (CCRHC)** is seeking wide endorsement of **this statement by organizations** in Canada involved in human rights and the response to HIV. (Please note we are only gathering organizational endorsements.) This statement will be sent to the federal Justice Minister later this month, and then released publicly in the lead-up to World AIDS Day, to keep up the pressure for action to end the ongoing injustice of misguided, unscientific and stigmatizing prosecutions. **Please read and sign on to the statement on behalf of your organization by November 19<sup>th</sup>** using the link: [Endorse the CCRHC's statement to the federal Justice Minister on HIV criminalization](#) [please see the attached statement for more information]
- **Ontario AIDS Network (OAN)** Honour Roll nominations are open for individuals who have demonstrated outstanding leadership and achievement within the HIV/AIDS movement in Ontario. Three categories of awards which are accepting nominees: **The Person with HIV/AIDS Leadership Award; The Caring Hands Award; & The Community Partners Award.** Nominations close Monday, January 14, 2019 at 4:00pm. The award ceremony will take place

March 2, 2019 at Buddies in Bad Times Theatre in Toronto. For more information, please visit [OAN's website](#).

- **The Toronto Urban Health Fund (TUHF)** is now recruiting members for the 2019 Community Review Panel. The Review Panel is to bring subject matter expertise and lived experience to the review and allocation of funding for community-based projects in the areas of HIV prevention, harm reduction and child and youth resiliency. The Review Panel works with Toronto Public Health staff to review funding applications and make funding recommendations to the Board of Health for final approval. [Please click here to apply](#). Additional details can be found on [TUHF's website](#)
- **Toronto Public Health** wants to hear from you about your learning needs related to conducting community health assessments. A community health assessment is the collection and analysis of data to understand the various health issues and opportunities within a specific community. These assessments can help organizations and communities develop responsive strategies to address local health needs. Your responses will help inform our future capacity building efforts with community agencies, coalitions and networks. This short questionnaire will only take a few minutes to complete and your responses are anonymous. [Please click here to complete the survey](#).

### **Community Events, Programs and Seminars**

- **PYO** launch of their Our Sex Life website will be held on **Thursday November 22, 2018** from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Location: ACT 543 Yonge St – 4th Floor A fun, comprehensive, and interactive HIV website that will replace the former “My Sex Life” brochure that everyone can use for HIV related knowledge. This new resource will be both for people living with HIV and those allies that are negative. Come out and celebrate the launch [*Please see the attached flyer for more information.*]
- **Casey House** is working towards creating a patient declaration of values and are looking for community feedback for this project. It will be held on **Friday, November 23, 2018 from** 10 – 11:30 a.m. in the PWA –Boardroom 200 Gerrard St E -2nd floor or **2 –3:30 p.m.** at Casey House Conference Room –119 Isabella St. [*Please see the attached flyer for more information.*]
- **St. Michael's Hospital, Centre for Urban Health Solutions** is hosting a symposium and discussion on - **Ending the HIV Epidemic in Canada**. Please join speakers Ann Burchell, PhD (ESTIMATE Lab), Francisco Ibáñez-Carrasco, PhD ([www.uwow.ca](http://www.uwow.ca) - @UWWcanada), Andrew Pinto, MD, MSc (The Upstream Lab), Sean B. Rourke, PhD, FCAHS (CIHR Centre for REACH), LaRon E. Nelson, PhD, RN, FNP, FAAN (HiFi Interventions Labs). Moderator: Ron Rosenes, LLD, CM (Community Health Advocate) It will be held on **Wednesday, November 28** from **2:00 to 4:00 p.m.** Location: La Ki Shing, Auditorium, 209 Victoria Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. [*Please see the attached flyer for more information.*]

- **CATIE and Positive Living B.C** are presenting a webinar - *Peer health navigation: mental health implications of working as a peer*. The webinar will provide an orientation to the mental health implications of working as a peer health navigator, including aspects of boundary setting and self-care; and provide peers and program managers with an opportunity to learn about issues and challenges, as well as discuss real-world scenarios related to the delivery of peer services. The webinar will be held on **Wednesday, December 12, 2018 at 12:00 p.m.** [Please click here to register](#)

### **PHA and Peer Programming**

- **HIV+ Women - Health Promotion/Nursing Clinic – *Challenging the Comfort Zone***. The **Hassle Free Clinic**, in collaboration with the **Toronto People With AIDS Foundation & Casey House**, is offering this clinic on **Wednesday, November 21<sup>st</sup> – 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.** Location: Toronto People With AIDS Foundation, 200 Gerrard Street East, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor *[Please see the attached flyer for more information.]*
- **Ontario Positive Asian (OPA+) and Intercultural Exchange Series (IES)** present ***Caring for the Mind Body and Soul***. The event will be held on **Wednesday, November 21, 2018 from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm** Location: Casey House. Dinner and tokens will be provided. Spaces are limited. *[Please see the attached poster for more information.]*

### **Save the Date**

- **Action positive** l'assemblée générale annuelle aura ***lieu le jeudi 29 novembre 2018, de 18h à 20h***, au 543, rue Yonge, 4e étage, salle A. Veuillez confirmer votre présence auprès de Danny à [danny@actionpositive.ca](mailto:danny@actionpositive.ca)
- The 28th Annual Canadian Conference on HIV / AIDS Research (CAHR 2019) will be held **May 9-12th, 2019** in Saskatoon. Follow the CAHR Conference website as it becomes available. <https://www.cahr-acrv.ca/conference/>
- CAHR 2019: Saskatoon, SK Abstract submissions are now being accepted for the 28th Annual Canadian Conference on HIV/AIDS Research (CAHR 2019) The deadline for abstract submission is **Friday, January 4, 2019**.

### **Surveys, Studies and Focus Group**

- **Committee for Accessible AIDS Treatment, Alliance for South Asian AIDS Prevention, and Asian Community AIDS Services (CAAT-ASSAP-ACAS)** collaboration for International Student HIV (ISHIV) study is seeking volunteers for a study on what challenges may be encountered by HIV+ international students when accessing treatment and health services. **Eligibility criteria:**

16+ years or older; HIV+ person who holds (or has held) a student visa to Canada in the last 5 years; and who is able to communicate and provide consent in English. **Compensation:** \$50.00, plus TTC tokens. [*Please see the attached poster for more information.*]

- **HIV Stigma Index** is seeking participants to collect information about their experiences living with HIV related to stigma, discrimination, and human rights. **Eligibility criteria:** living with HIV. **Compensation:** \$50.00. Interview will last between 1 to 2 hours. [*Please see the attached poster for more information.*]
- **HIV Prevention Lab** is seeking individuals for **Project THRIVE+**. It is a 10 session individual cognitive behavioural therapy treatment to reduce trauma-related distress and increase antiretroviral treatment adherence and engagement in HIV care in gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men living with HIV. In this study, participants will be randomly assigned to receive 10 individual counselling sessions or 2 individual counselling sessions. Randomization will be stratified by the presence or absence of current post-traumatic stress disorder diagnosis. Participants will complete baseline assessments involving self-report questionnaires and clinician-administered interviews, as well as assessments 3, 6, and 9 months later. Medication adherence will be tracked through the use of Wisepill dispensers. Treatment adherence will also be assessed through self-report measures and by obtaining viral load and CD4 cell counts from participants' healthcare providers. **Compensation:** Individuals who get randomized to the Treatment group will get paid up to **\$375** and individuals randomized to the control group will get paid up to **\$230**. There is no waitlist. This study is led by Dr. Conall O'Cleirigh (the Fenway Institute, Massachusetts General Hospital, and Harvard Medical School) and Dr. Trevor Hart (HIV Prevention Lab Director, Ryerson University and the University of Toronto). [*Please see the attached poster for more information.*]

### **Employment, Volunteer, and Board Opportunities**

- **CATIE** is seeking an Associate Director, Education (fulltime). Application Deadline: **Friday, November 23, 2018** [*please see the attached job posting for more information*]
- **PASAN** is seeking 4- Peer Health Navigators (part-time). Application Deadline: **Friday, November 23, 2018 at 11:59 p.m.** [*please see the attached job posting for more information*]
- **Asian Community AIDS Services (ACAS)** is seeking a Sip of C.A.R.E Project Coordinator (short term, part time) Application Deadline: **Sunday, November 25, 2018** [*please see the attached job posting for more information*]
- **Ontario Aboriginal HIV/AIDS Strategy (OAHAS)** has issued a Request For Proposals (RFP) for Strategic Planning Consulting Services. (contract). Application Deadline: **Friday, December 7, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.** [*please see the attached request for proposals for more information*]

- **Rainbow Health** is seeking a Trans Health Information Specialist (fulltime). Application Deadline: Open till filled [\[please click here for more information\]](#)

### **Member Agency Fundraisers**

- **The Teresa Group** is holding their *Make a Kid's Day This Holiday Season* The gift program and winter party have become cherished events. To support the gift program, you can provide: Gift cards from Toys-R-Us, Indigo, Cineplex or SportCheck; Children's and young adult fiction books; Family board games. Please mail or drop off your items by **Friday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>**. If you prefer to make a donation, you can do so at <https://www.teresagroup.ca/Donate>
- Giving Tuesday is November 27<sup>th</sup>. Please support your local ASO on giving Tuesday
- **ACT** on the eve of **World AIDS Day** will acknowledge the people and organizations dedicated to preventing HIV, caring for and empowering people living with the virus, and the movement to end HIV in Toronto at the ***Together Towards Zero Luncheon***. This year's luncheon will be held on **Friday, November 30, 2018 from 11:45 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.** St. Regis Hotel Toronto, 325 Bay Street. [Please click here for more information](#)

### **Newsletter of Note**