

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@torontohivaidnetwork.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>

- **"Can't Pass It On" and talking about U=U.** Come out to hear Ian Green and Michael Brady of the UK's **Terrence Higgins Trust** talk about their anti-HIV stigma campaign "Can't Pass It On". Ian and Michael will be joined by a panel of community members to talk about the impact the Can't Pass It On message could have here in Ontario. A **Toronto to Zero/OHN/ACT** community forum to be held on **Tuesday, December 4, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** Location: Casey House, 119 Isabella Street, Toronto. [This is a free event but please click here to register](#)

Community News and Information

- **HIV and AIDS Legal Clinic Ontario (HALCO)** have published an update to HIV and Criminal Law for both Canada wide and Ontario. [Please see the 2 attachments for more information.] To view The Attorney General of Canada Statement, [please click here](#)
- From **HALCO and PWA**, On November 22, 2018, the province of Ontario announced a new direction for social assistance in Ontario. While the government provided few details, and while we welcome additional employment and other supports that were included in the announcement, we have serious concerns with the government's approach. Please see the attached update that highlights three particular areas of concern for people living with HIV and other disabilities, or [view the update here](#).
- **Ontario HIV Epidemiology and Surveillance Initiative (OHESI)** have released a new factsheet with 2017 testing and diagnosis data. [Please click here to view](#)
- **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](#) the deadline for completion of the survey is **December 7th, 2018**.

- **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](#).

Community Events, Programs and Seminars

- **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](#)
- **Teresa Group and CPARG** in conjunction with HIV Endgame 3: Breakthrough Initiatives is *Sharing Canadian Pediatric HIV Research Results* on **Wednesday, December 5, 2018 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** Location: Casey House, 119 Isabella Street. [Please click here to register](#) [Please see the attached flyer for more information.]
- **The PEAK Project** is an initiative of **Planned Parenthood Toronto (PPT)** that aims to educate and inform youth about HIV/AIDS through interactive peer led workshops. Trained youth volunteers facilitate activities that will engage participants in conversations about HIV, prevention and stigma. A broader workshop on STI's that is helpful for a younger audience navigating their sexual health. HIV education, prevention and anti-stigma workshops to youth in after school programs, youth groups, and alternative schools. Looking for youth groups, ages 13-29, to facilitate FREE HIV education and anti-stigma workshops to as well as FREE STI education and anti-stigma workshops across the GTA. The workshop is designed for youth, by youth, and approximately 90 minutes in length. Two workshops coming up, hosted at Planned Parenthood Toronto: **Saturday December 8th from 1 – 2:30 pm (STI), Monday December 10th from 6 – 7:30 pm (HIV)** to attend the workshops or to book a free HIV/STI education workshop for youth at your location you may contact Lea at lsebastianis@ppt.on.ca.

- **Casey House Mental Health Series** on 'Indigenous Perspectives on Harm Reduction' with Les Harper and Tasunke Pejuta being held on **Thursday December 13th – Part 1 and Thursday January 10th – Part 2 from 1:00 – 2:15 p.m.** Location: Casey House, 119 Isabella Street, Conference Room [Please see the attached flyer for more information.]

PHA and Peer Programming

- The Women's Program Calendar for **December 2018** is available. Events include Coffee nights, Nursing Clinics, Community Kitchen, etc. [Please see the attached flyer for more information.]
- **Ontario Positive Asian (OPA+) and Intercultural Exchange Series (IES)** present **From Lao Tze to Rumi--Applying Ancient Asian Philosophies in Life**. The event will be held on **Wednesday, December 12, 2018 from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm** Location: Casey House, 119 Isabella Street. Dinner and tokens will be provided. Spaces are limited. [Please see the attached poster for more information.]
- **HIV+ Women - Health Promotion/Nursing Clinic – Wellness and Connection. The Hassle Free Clinic**, in collaboration with the **Toronto People With AIDS Foundation & Casey House**, is offering this clinic on **Wednesday, December 4th – 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.** Location: Toronto People With AIDS Foundation, 200 Gerrard Street East, 2nd floor [Please see the attached flyer for more information.]
- **AIDS Committee of Toronto (ACT) is** hosting a weekly Meet n Eat lunch program Friday from 11am – 1pm. [Please see the attached flyer for more information.]
- "HIV-Positive Backup Singers Needed for The Southern Time Band" Have you ever wanted to make a positive difference in ending HIV-stigma by sharing your positive story through song? This is the opportunity the Southern Time Band is presenting to 3 openly HIV-positive backup singers in 2019. We are looking for people, ideally, under 30, who can SING, have a good work ethic, have overcome (inner) HIV stigma and are now living life to the fullest, regardless of gender, race or sexual orientation. Must live in the GTA or are willing to relocate. Rehearsals will begin in February. To find out more, and fill out our audition form, [please click here](#)

Save the Date Conferences

- 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**.

- The 10th IAS Conference on HIV Science (IAS 2019) is taking place in Mexico City, Mexico, from **21-24 July 2019**. Register now and join in the IAS 2019 movement. [Please click here to register and for more information](#)

Surveys, Studies and Focus Group

- **Fife House** is conducting a Youth and HIV study. The purpose of asking you to participate in this study is to better understand the housing challenges, barriers to support and health care, and issues of stigma and discrimination experienced by young people living with HIV, who are unstably housed. **Compensation:** \$20.00, plus TTC tokens. [*Please see the attached poster for more information.*]
- **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

- **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]*
- **The Board of Health** is public member and one for the designated education representative (1-year term). Application Deadline: **Wednesday, December 12, 2018** [\[please click here for more information\]](#)
- **PASAN** is seeking an Art to Power Project Coordinator (part time, contract). Application Deadline: **Friday, December 14, 2018** [\[please click here for more information\]](#)
- **Fife House** is seeking a Manager Community Programs, Peer Engagement, and Volunteers (fulltime) Application Deadline: **Friday, January 4, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.** *[please see the attached job posting for more information]*
- **Rainbow Health** is seeking a Trans Health Information Specialist (fulltime). Application Deadline: Open till filled [\[please click here for more information\]](#)

Newsletter of Note

Ontario HIV Treatment Network (OHTN) has released their Endgame 3 newsletter. [Please click here to view](#)

Sherbourne Health Centre has issued their Fall newsletter. [Please click here to view](#)