

Agenda – AGM - March 8, 2015

1. **Call to Order:**
Annelies van Oers, Board Chair. Self introductions and sign in.
2. **Agenda:** Add new items as required, then accept a motion to adopt it.
Select a paid member, not on the board or running for office, to chair nominations and elections.
3. **Minutes of 2015 AGM:** Copies will be circulated, and corrections accepted from those who attended the 2014 meeting, then a motion to adopt the minutes.
4. **Questions:** Any questions arising from those minutes?
5. **Reports:**
Chairperson Report - Annelies van Oers
Financial Report – Wendy Osborne
Community QSA Report – Sean Derocher and Avery Follett
Trans Support Group Report – Thomas Clarke
Community Education Program Report – Tiff Semach
6. **Financial Audit:** We need to name two paid members tonight to verify 2015-16 statement with our treasurer.
7. **Nominations:** -- Open to all paid members, as of February 7, 2016. Nominate 9 Board Members as per our Bylaws. Names of board members willing to serve another term and accept nominations from floor -- Three calls for further nominations
8. **New Business:** From members and guests.
9. **Board Meeting:** Set time and date of first board meeting.
10. **Adjourn**



OUTreach Southern Alberta

March 26, 2015

Minutes: Annual General Meeting

held in the board room, Lethbridge HIV Connection

Attending: Charmaine Bonifacio, Robert Cey, Avery Follett, Sean Desrocher, Natasha Fairweather, Megan Fester, Reid Hollander, Lisa Lambert, Kristina Larkin, Suzanne Lenon, Dave Mabell, Wendy Osborne, Matt Story, Thomas Spence, Annelies van Oers, Const. Les Vonkeman + 2 more

Meeting opened about 7 p.m. with self-introductions

Special motions:

Voting: Moved by Dave Mabell, seconded by Suzanne Lenon: That we waive the 30-day prior membership requirement for voting at this annual meeting.

CARRIED

Legal name: M/S by Lisa Lambert/Suzanne Lenon: That we register our present name, Outreach Southern Alberta Society, and insert it as required in our bylaws.

CARRIED

Comments from continuing members: Annelies, Dave, Charmaine and Wendy sketched the history and achievements of Outreach, previously named the Gay and Lesbian Alliance of Lethbridge, Alberta (GALA/LA).

Financial update: Reid Hollander, our long-time auditor, outlined the society's favourable financial situation.

Election of board members: Reid explained the current number -- nine board members -- specified in our bylaws. He then asked who would be interested in serving on the board.

Nine people were ready to serve, and their names were placed in nomination: Charmaine Bonifacio, Robert Cey, Sean Desrocher, Megan Fester, Avery Follett, Dave Mabell, Wendy Osborne, Thomas Spence, Annelies Von Oers.

The nine were elected by acclamation. Their initial terms -- one year, two or three -- will be determined at a future meeting.

General discussion: Comments and ideas were shared informally. Les Vonkeman announced an awareness day barbecue, on April 22 at Galt Gardens, sponsored by the Lethbridge police service.

Upcoming events: Project Connect on March 28 at the Fritz Sick Centre

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Trans Awareness event on April 1 at City Hall
5th Anniversary Celebration as an Affirming Congregation, April 12
at McKillop United Church (two services, 10 and 11:30 a.m.)
ULSU Pride coffee nights, periodically at Mocha Cabana
Lethbridge PrideFest, June 27-July 4

Adjournment: M/S by Sean/Robert at 8 p.m.
CARRIED

Next board meeting: suggested for April 6, 2015 at 7 p.m.

Chair's Report

This year has been a busy and successful year for Outreach Southern Alberta.

Membership

OUTreach Southern Alberta has gained 53 new members this year. We occasionally email out a newsletter to our members via Mail Chimp to update our members on important issues and events in our community. Membership is an important source of revenue for OUTreach Southern Alberta.

Political Advocacy

City Hall: We worked with members of City Council and City Staff to ensure bathroom and washroom facilities at the new leisure centre on the West side meet the diverse needs of Lethbridge residents.

We are also working with the City to raise awareness about capturing census data that is inclusive of our diverse community. This work is still ongoing as council recently passed a motion for the City Clerk to come up with changes. Out of this came a request for OUTreach to provide training to City Council and top level City Administration on LGBTQ issues, which we will provide mid March.

MLA: We have met with both our MLA East and West on issues pertaining to our community. Our requests were:

- Gender Expression be added to the Human Rights Code. (We later met with the Minister of Justice and this work is now complete with the passage of Bill 7)
- Bill 10 and Bill 7 and School Board Policies. This work is ongoing and I'll touch on this further down in my report.
- Access to anonymous the sexual health clinic. We will start work on this together with Arches in this coming year.

Our Programs:

Youth: Separate report attached

Trans Support Group: Separate report attached

Education & Training: Separate report attached

Monthly Coffee House at Mocha Cabana is a great success with good attendance, averaging between 10-30 people.

Queer Parent Group: In partnership with the Family Centre this group is just starting and we had our first group March 7, 2016.

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Public Awareness/Community Work

School Boards: Out of Bill 10 (later strengthened with Bill 7) School Boards were mandated to provide safe and caring environment for all students in their division, and especially for Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) youth. OUTreach has worked tirelessly on this issue since the spring:

- We wrote an open letter to the School Boards that was endorsed by many community groups and organizations in Lethbridge. 2 weeks ago we received a response from District 51. We have not received a response from Palliser or Holy Spirit.
- We have made ourselves available to the school boards and requested a seat at the policy table.
- We have met with District 51 when their draft policy was released.
- We have met with our MLA's on the issue.
- We started an online letter writing campaign to our MLA's and Minister of Education in support of the Guidelines for Best Practices Document that the province released.
- We are working on the March 23 meeting that District 51 has set up so that we can have representation at this meeting and include members from our community in the 4 community members that will provide input into the policies.

Myth and Fact Sheets: Last year OUTreach was approached by CMARD to provide a myth and fact sheet for the City of Lethbridge. We spent the summer and fall of 2014 collecting data from both the local LGBTQ community and the Lethbridge community at large. Over the winter of 2015 a committee met to collate the data and out of these sessions came the Gender Identity Myth and Facts sheet and the Sexual Orientation Myth and Fact sheet. You can find these on our website <http://outreachsa.ca/myths-and-facts>

For the Sexual Orientation myth and fact sheet OUTreach would like to thank: Professor Paul Vasey, Adam Mann, Annelies van Oers, Lanna Petterson, Ryan Mallard and Jennifer Davis. For the Gender Identity myth and fact sheet OUTreach would like to thank: Adam Mann, Annelies van Oers, Jennifer Davis, Avery Follett and Thomas Spence.

Community Engagement

- Redesigned brand new website to provide updated information about the work we do, provide resources to the community and a calendar of our events.
- Sophie Labelle, Angela Reid and Dillon Hargreaves Panel discussion on Gender Expression.
- We met with Taber residents to brainstorm and support a Taber LGBTQ support group.
- We coordinated an online campaign and wrote a letter to the editor at the Lethbridge Herald for the International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia
- We partnered with the Lethbridge Regional Police and Alberta Hate Crimes Committee for the Hate Crime BBQ at the Galt Museum.
- We staff an OUTreach information table at many events around the city such as: Vagina Monologues, Pride Fest, Project Connect. Etc.

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- OUTreach co-hosted the book launch for *Disrupting Queer Inclusion: Canadian Homonationalism & the Politics of Belonging* (eds. Suzanne Lenon & OmiSoore H. Dryden).
- We partnered with other organization on events such as Dark Matter: It Gets Bitter Tour.
- Podcast with Hans Island Radio on LGBTQ communities in Lethbridge.
- Trans Day of Remembrance Vigil.

Fundraising

OUTreach was the fortunate beneficiary of a fundraising event initiated by Julianna, a 12 year old artist in our community. Julianna designed 9 LGTTQIAA dinosaur T-shirts. Over \$500 was raised for OUTreach – thank you Julianna!!

I would like to give a very special thanks to our board members for their tireless hard work and dedication to making Lethbridge a more queer friendly city: Thomas Spence, Wendy Osborne, Tiff Semach, Avery Follett, Sean Desrocher, Dillon Hargreaves, and Dave Mabell. I also want to extend a special thank you to our past board members: Megan Fester, Charmaine Bonifacio and Rob Cey.

Community QSA Report

Lethbridge's two community GSAs are run in partnership with The MAT (Boys & Girls Club) and the Public Library downtown. The MAT GSA will, at most, have 22 attendees and at least 9. The Library GSA will steadily have 6 attendees. The Gay Straight Alliance meetings provide youths from many ages with a safe place to converse, discuss their own identities, enjoy warm food and socialize in an environment that does not ostracize them or villainize them. The MAT GSA accepts members ages 14-18, while the Public Library GSA accepts members ages 16-21. They both meet once a month, The MAT GSA every 3rd Thursday and the Public Library GSA every last Tuesday of the month.

More information regarding this program and meeting times can be found on our website.

Trans Support Group Report

In early January 2016 OUTreach started a Trans Support Group. The group has now met several times with a small but steady turn out.

The purpose of the Trans Support Group is to provide peer led support, referrals to resources, and community, for individuals who are transgender, including gender non-conforming, non-

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binary, and other gender minorities. The group aims to provide a supportive environment for people to convey their gender expression in a closed space. In order to do so we require, confidentiality and respect for individuals, their choices, pronouns, names, and personal expression.

OUTreach kindly thanks McKillop United Church for their generosity in providing space. More information regarding this program and meeting times can be found on our website.

Community Education Program Report

The OUTreach Community Education Program aims to illuminate local LGBTQ issues and foster growth and understanding by providing a comprehensive inservice program for local organizations and businesses. Developed by members of the OUTreach Board of Directors, the Community Education Program has two main components; the first component focuses on LGBTQ terminology and language, clarifying terms and providing a space for discussion about sexual orientation and gender identity. The second component of the Community Education Program focuses on issues related to the LGBTQ community in Southern Alberta, and can be tailored to suit the needs of individual organizations. Topics covered in sessions presented to date include fostering inclusive workplaces, developing welcoming and inclusive family spaces, and establishing Gay Straight/Queer Straight Alliances in local schools and communities. The Board of Directors subcommittee will develop and present future sessions according to requests by community organizations and businesses.

A minimum of two members of the OUTreach Board of Directors facilitates each session, according to the requests and needs of each group. This activity is currently undertaken as a fundraising activity where possible; donations to OUTreach are requested from groups seeking a session, but are not required for a session to be held. In the future, donations may not be requested as the status of OUTreach funding changes; donations currently offset the cost of session materials and travel, as the program is offered to communities across Southern Alberta. To date, this program has brought in \$275.

Information on the Community Education Program is on the OUTreach website, including contact information for session booking, as well as the Facebook page and Twitter feed. Currently, the main method of advertisement for the Community Education Program are the sessions themselves; to date, each session facilitated has networked OUTreach with community members seeking sessions for additional organizations they are associated with. There are currently 7 community organizations that have expressed interest in future sessions.

01/19/16

OUTReach Southern Alberta Society
Balance Sheet Standard
As of December 31, 2015

	<u>Dec 31, '15</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
TD Bank	3,468.90
Total Checking/Savings	<u>3,468.90</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>3,468.90</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>3,468.90</u></u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
Opening Balance Equity	3,364.27
Net Income	104.63
Total Equity	<u>3,468.90</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQ...	<u><u>3,468.90</u></u>

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Profit and Loss Standard
January through December 2015

	<u>Jan - Dec '15</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Direct Public Support	
Donations	432.75
Donations Paypal	0.27
Total Direct Public Support	<u>433.02</u>
Other Types of Income	
Tshirt/Poster	573.63
Total Other Types of Income	<u>573.63</u>
Program Income	
Membership Dues	650.00
Membership Dues - Paypal	15.60
Total Program Income	<u>665.60</u>
Trans Group	203.70
Total Income	<u>1,875.95</u>
Expense	
Business Expenses	
Bank Fees	30.00
Total Business Expenses	<u>30.00</u>
Operations	
Printing and Copying	105.92
Supplies	138.72
Telephone, Telecommunicat...	170.00
Web Hosting	210.00
Total Operations	<u>624.64</u>
Other Types of Expenses	
Space Rental	66.68
Donation	100.00
Insurance - Liability, D and O	950.00
Total Other Types of Expenses	<u>1,116.68</u>
Total Expense	<u>1,771.32</u>

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Profit and Loss Standard
January through December 2015

	<u>Jan - Dec '15</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>104.63</u>
Net Income	<u><u>104.63</u></u>