



*Meeting the information needs of Consumer/Survivors in the Toronto Area*

# BULLETIN

**# 535 Mad Pride Issue 2015!**

Consumer/Survivor Information Resource Centre of Toronto, 1001 Queen St. West, Toronto M6J 1H4  
Phone Hours: M–F from 9–5 / Drop-in Hours: M–F from 9–4  
Tel: 416 595-2882 csinfo@camh.ca <http://www.csinfo.ca/>

## A Celebration of Madness Mad Pride Toronto 2015 From July 6 – 12

[madprideto2015.wordpress.com](http://madprideto2015.wordpress.com)

Mad Pride is an Art, Culture and Heritage Festival created by Psychiatric Survivors, Mad People, and Folks the world has labelled “mentally ill”. Our lives and contributions need celebration!

Mad Pride is about:  
remembering and participating in “Mad” history  
challenging discrimination  
advocating for rights  
affirming “Mad” identities  
having fun!

### Everyone Is Invited

Welcome, welcome, welcome! We’re delighted to admit new “Mad” people and those in solidarity with us supporting our movement. Come as you are, do as you do. This year Mad Pride Toronto is at Metro Hall. See our website for events details.

### Help Us Spread The Word!

Please share, post, forward announce and talk about the festival with your friends, family, students, teachers and peers!

Want to hear about future events and festivities? Stay connected to the mad community!

Subscribe to the Bulletin by calling the Consumer/Survivor Information Resource Center of Toronto at 416-595-2882 or email [csinfo@camh.ca](mailto:csinfo@camh.ca). The Bulletin is free, available by mail or email, and published on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of every month.

Mad Pride  
EVENTS SCHEDULE  
July 6 - 12 2015

Monday July 6th

Mad Movie Night  
Metro Hall Room 310  
4:00 – 5:00 p.m Mad Yoga Workshop – Anne Theriault  
5:00 – 7:00 p.m Refreshments: delicious food, hang out with old and new friends  
7:00 – 9:00 p.m More Movies

Tuesday July 7th

Metro Hall Room 310  
4:00 – 5:00 p.m Mad Yoga Workshop  
5:00 – 7:00 p.m Refreshments: delicious food, hand out with old and new friends  
7:00 – 9:00 p.m George Zancola and others: Readings from manuscripts and new published books

Wednesday July 8th

Event  
MetroHall Rooms 308 – 309  
4:00 – 5:00 p.m Mad Yoga Workshop  
5:00 – 6:00 p.m Refreshments: delicious food, hang out with old and new friends  
The Mad Think Tank  
7:00 – 9:00 p.m Talks and Presentation Series. Speakers include Brian McKinnon, Kevin Healey, Luba Senkiw

Thursday July 9th

MetroHall Rooms 308 – 309  
4:00 – 5:00 p.m Mad Yoga Workshop  
5:00 – 7:00 p.m Refreshments: delicious food, hang out with old and new friends  
7:00 – 9:00 p.m Showcase of Madness (Musicians & Poets)

Friday July 10

MetroHall Rooms 308 – 309  
4:00 – 5:00 p.m Mad Yoga Workshop  
5:00 – 7:00 p.m Refreshments: delicious food, hangout with old and new friends  
7:00 – 9:00 p.m Mad Comedy Night and Open Microphone

Saturday July 11th

Metro Hall Room 310  
11:00 – 5:00 p.m The Mad Market: Arts and Crafts by Mad Artists  
5:00 – 6:00 p.m Refreshments: delicious food, hang out with old and new friends  
7:00 – 9:00 p.m Encore Presentation of Mad Poets (Location TBA)

Sunday July 12th

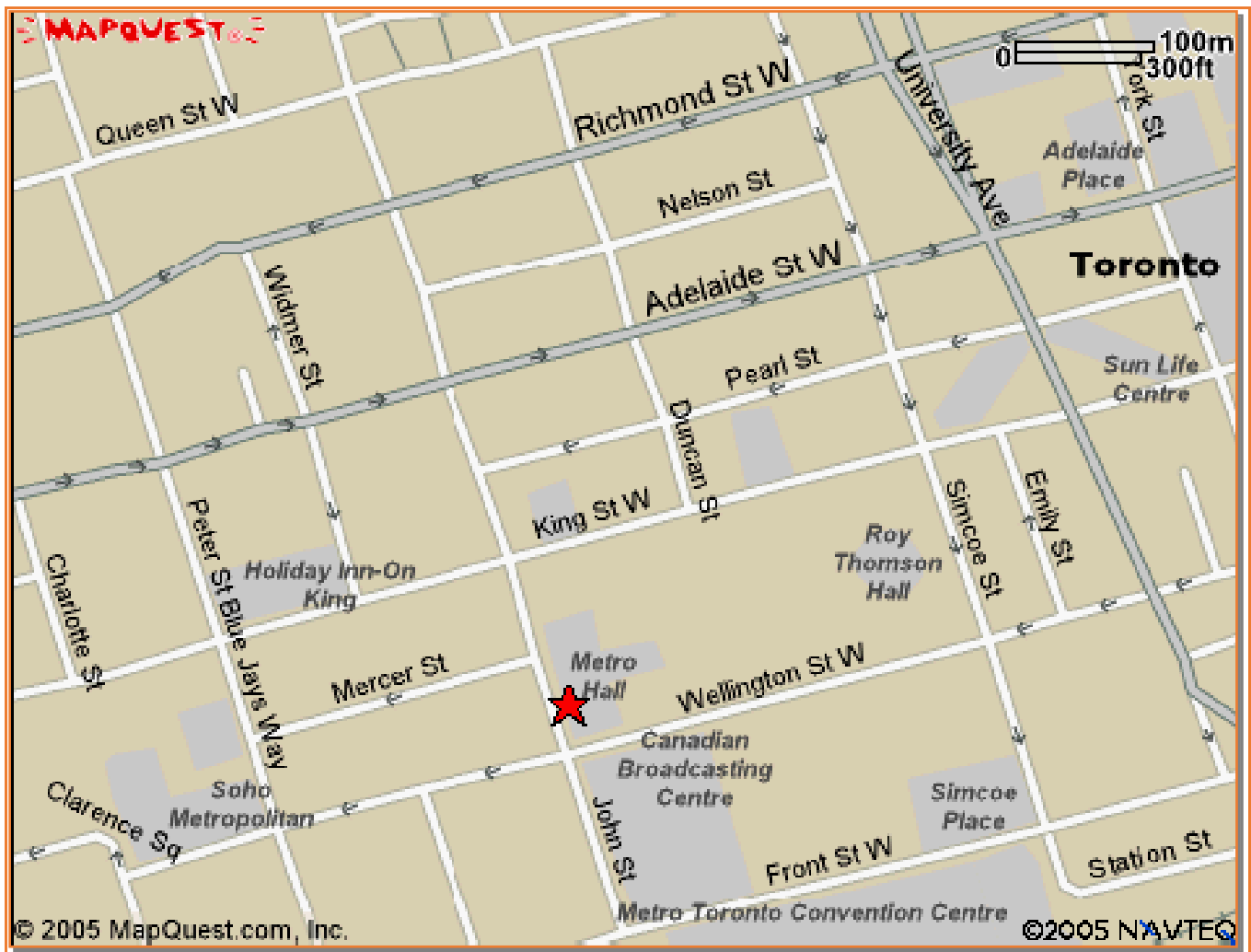
Join our Wild and Wonderful Annual  
Bed Push Parade  
Moving out of the hospitals and into the community  
Trinity Bellwoods Park  
11:30 a.m Assembly in front of Parkdale Public Library  
1303 Queen St W,  
12:00 noon Speeches  
12:30 p.m Parade begins, walking East on sidewalk along Queen St. to Trinity Bellwoods Park.

A Celebration of Madness

During Mad Pride Week from July 6 to 12 - an arts, cultural festival created by psychiatric consumers, mad people, and folks the world has labeled "mentally ill". Our lives and contributions are valuable and need celebration!

Visit [madpridetoronto2015.wordpress.com](http://madpridetoronto2015.wordpress.com) to find the events for you

## Metro Hall 55 John St.



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Disclaimer: The views expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the Toronto Central LHIN or the Government of Ontario, C/S Info Staff, Volunteers or Board Members. Mailing

Address: C/S Info Centre, c/o CAMH, The Mall, 1001 Queen Street West, Toronto, ON M6J 1H4. [www.csinfo.ca](http://www.csinfo.ca)



# Mad Pride in our Mad Culture

## Mad Culture . . . say what?

Is there such a thing as a Mad Culture? The famous anthropologist Clifford Geertz said that “culture must be seen as the webs of meaning within which people live, and encode meaning in symbolic forms (language, artifacts, etiquette, rituals). The Latin word “cultura” means to “to cultivate” so societies or groups of people “cultivate” the way they create meaning through rituals, rules, and a way of being.

“Madness” is an umbrella term for those of us that identify as “crazy, mentally ill, insane, psychiatric survivors, users, consumers or inmates”. Madness used to be a word used as a way to belittle people who had psychiatric experiences but these days “madness” is a word that has been reclaimed and re-possessioned by the people it originally hurt.

Historically there has been a dependence on identifying Mad people only with psychiatric diagnosis, which assumes that all Mad experiences are about biology as if there wasn't a whole wide world out there of mad people with a wide range of experiences, stories, history, meanings, codes and way of being with each other.

Consider some of these basics when thinking about Madness and Mad experiences:

- We have all kinds of organized groups (political or peer) both provincially and nationally
- We have produced tons and tons of stories and first person accounts of our experiences (see [www.psychiatric survivor archives.com/MadTitles.doc](http://www.psychiatric survivor archives.com/MadTitles.doc))
- We have courses about our Mad History. (see <http://www.atkinson.yorku.ca/cdis/courses.htm> and <http://www.ryerson.ca/calendar/2007-2008/pg1911.html>)
- We have groups of students who meet and talk about madness (see [www.madstudentsociety.com](http://www.madstudentsociety.com))
- We have all kinds of art which expresses meaning – sometimes about our madness (see <http://www.bonkersfest.com/>)
- We do music such the CD “ Nutters with Attitude”
- We have an archives which houses a collection of documents with our history (see <http://www.psychiatric survivor archives.com/index>)
- We have our own special brand of jokes and humour (see <http://www.standupformentalhealth.com/>) or <http://www.mindfreedom.org/kb/mental-health-arts/humor>)
- We have films produced about our experiences and interests
- We are organized in many countries and internationally
- We have rights under law both Nationally and internationally
- The experience of Madness produces unique behaviour and language that many Normals don't understand but which make complete sense to many of us (see <http://www.hearing-voices.org/index.htm>)
- We have a special day dedicated to Mad Pride from Toronto's mayor (which makes us special)
- We have had many many parades and Mad Pride celebrations for decades now.
- If you are new to the Mad community you can learn lots from the many “Glossary of Terms” that explain some of the vocabulary used specifically for our range of experiences. (see <http://www.harborside.com/~equinox/glossary.htm> or [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Psychiatric\\_survivor](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Psychiatric_survivor))

So next time someone tries to simply pigeon hole you into a medical label and tells you that Madness is solely a biological experience, tell them about the many ways we as Mad people celebrate our unique, mysterious, wondrous identities and culture.

Happy Mad Pride,  
Lucy Costa



**P.D.A.C.**

**P**sychiatric **D**isabilities **A**nti-Violence **C**oalition presents :

## **Parkdale Solidarity Meeting**

**remember, recognize, respect**



In the spring of 2011, a number of assaults happened in the west Parkdale community particularly impacting tenants of Maynard Ave and Leopold Street.

**We have not forgotten.**

This meeting is to remember those affected, recognise the impacts of violence, and respect each other as we all work for ongoing change to improve the lives of vulnerable people. We will also be sharing information about the work that the Psychiatric Disabilities Anti-violence Coalition (PDAC) has done in the last four years to discuss and address impacts of all kinds of violence.

**JOIN US – ALL ARE WELCOME**

**Wednesday July 15<sup>th</sup> 2015**

**12:00 - 4:00PM**

**Lunch served at noon!**

**250 Dunn Avenue (East of Lansdowne)**

**Bonar-Parkdale Presbyterian Church**

**PLEASE NOTE** ASL interpretation available.

Please contact us at (416) 531-2411 ext. 247 by July 1<sup>st</sup> to let us know so we can book interpretation services.

For more **general information about the event**,  
Please contact 416 535-8501 Ext. 33013 or, email

[PDAC.Network@hotmail.com](mailto:PDAC.Network@hotmail.com)



This project is funded by City of Toronto Access, Equity and Human Rights Program



# BE MAD



## CELEBRATE MAD PRIDE TORONTO



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All Events are at Metro Hall 200 Wellington St. W