

2009 Womonspace Annual General Meeting President's Report

Firstly, on behalf of the Board, I would like to thank all of you for taking the time out of your busy schedules to attend this meeting tonight. It means a lot to see this many faces out to our Annual General Meeting!!

In keeping with the **Womonspace purpose** to “**provide opportunities for lesbians to interact and support each other in a safe environment, and contribute to the broader community**”, during 2009 we were able to create valuable relationships with many other groups in the LGBT community. We extended ourselves by advertising, participating and/or sponsoring events held by: Team Edmonton; Western Canadian Pride Festival; HIV Edmonton; Pride Week Society; ERBA (Edmonton Rainbow Business Association); Camp fYrefly; Play Night Club; DIAM (Diversity of Identities and Acceptance of all Minds); the Court; and, Prism Bar & Grill.

As you will see from our financial statements, **Womonspace** had a successful year thanks to our dances, memberships, silent auction, good budgeting, a donation from HIV Edmonton, and even our Pride parade float winnings. We also made **Womonspace** more familiar within the broader community by donating some of our annual proceeds to the WIN House, the Emily Morgan Foundation, the Cross Cancer Institute, Santa's Anonymous, the Food Bank and the Edmonton Humane Society. All of these avenues make **Womonspace** more visible and recognizable to the average individual and we hope to continue good relations with these groups!

I would like everyone to join me in thanking the outgoing Board Members: Trish for her many years as Treasurer, Lori as Marketing Director, Joclyan as Vice-President, Ann as Membership Director and Linda as Volunteer Coordinator. All of these women have made serious contributions to our cause and we are grateful.

Thank you for joining us this evening!

Colleen Sutherland
President

WOMONSPACE AGM 2009 Vice-President Report

This year, 2009, was another successful year for the woman space social calendar. Many events were held and well attended. The dances, games nights, golf tournament, pool tournaments and silent auction went well with many thanks to all the volunteers who helped out and the board members who headed up committees for the various events.

I would personally like to offer a very special thank you to our creative crew who put together another prize winning float for the Pride Celebrations. Well done ladies, you did a great job.

I have decided not to let my name stand for re-election this year so I can focus my energy elsewhere in our community but I would like to leave saying this...Womonspace is a great organization with a great deal of potential to reach many more women. I would like to suggest in the coming years that the board consider looking at ways to reach those in the community who are not into the bars and dances and for those who do enjoy these venues perhaps brainstorm ways to reach out to those who are new to the events. No matter who you are, it can be very intimidating to walk into a crowd of women who all seem to know each other when you are new to the community.

Keep up the good work-when we work together we can make great things happen.

Regards

Joclyan McDonnell

Vice President

Womonspace 2008-2009

2009 WOMONSPACE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Membership Director's Report

I have held the position of Membership Director for the past 12 months. Unfortunately I am unable to attend the October 24th meeting and have submitted this written report instead.

Being relatively new to the community, I appreciate this organization and the many wonderful people I have met through it. Although there is a lot of work involved with the various events we do, it has been a relatively pain-free term. That said, I will always remember to bring a pair of flat shoes when loading beverages at the end of the evening!!

The responsibility for memberships can be a bit challenging at times, but I am thankful for the continuous help I received from the rest of the Board. The women that I have worked with are truly committed to offering the best possible events for our members as well as raising our profile in the rest of the LGBT community. There have been many suggestions and discussions to better realize our successes and we encourage more input from the membership. If there's something you think would be of interest to others, please feel free to share that. And maybe consider volunteering at an event or two – the best way to meet members and give back to your organization.

I will miss being an active member of Womonspace! Thanks for making me feel like family for the short time I was here. Hope you have a productive meeting and an enjoyable evening.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Green
Membership Director

2009 Womonspace Annual General Meeting Volunteer Director's Report

This year brought with it many events and this led to an increase in the number of volunteers that we asked for. From our parade float, to the booth at Churchill Square, the dances, the golf tournament and the silent auction, we were able to find dedicated women to step forward and help out. Keep up the great volunteering!!

I would like to thank all of you (including Board members) that have come forward and volunteered at our events over the past year. Without our volunteers, we could not host most of our functions and we certainly would not have a Board.

Kudos to the volunteers!!!

Linda Crossman
Volunteer Director

2009 Womonspace Annual General Meeting Marketing Director's Report

Welcome!

Womonspace has had another successful year.

The Festive Dinner & Dance was a huge success due to our new caterer Bruce. He is committed again this year to provide us with a wonderful meal.

Our Volunteer Appreciation Party, which was sponsored by Play Night Club, was well attended. Thank you to all our volunteers for all your assistance during the year. Please ensure Womonspace has your contact information for our volunteer registry so you all can be invited to our next volunteer party.

The Silent Auction was very profitable again this year. Womonspace had some excellent items donated for this function. Thankyou to everyone who attended and bid on our items.

Womonspace entered a float in the Pride Parade and again won first place! We also rented a booth at Pride Square. This year, we decided to rent Hellenic Hall for our Pride Dance as we required a bigger venue to accommodate everyone. A big Thank You to Linda and Kim for organizing volunteers and creating a fantastic float with excellent costumes. We will be striving to win the best float three years in a row!!

The Carol Cattell Golf Tournament and Campout was also a huge success. We had 70 participants enter the tournament and it was also well attended by non-golfers. The Golf Committee did a wonderful job in securing donations for prizes for all the participants. Womonspace will continue to work with The Country 9 Golf Club in providing their venue for this event.

Womonspace held several Games Nites at Prism Bar & Grill. These nights have been so successful that in September, the Prism Pool League was formed. The League is now in its second session. With the increased interest, the League is considering running two nights a week for the next session.

This year Womonspace entered a small team in the HIV Edmonton Walk for Life. We raised just over \$1700 for HIV Edmonton. Next year, we would like to see a Womonspace team walk in other events. These are just some of the highlights of our year.

Womonspace will continue to open channels with other LGBT organizations. We will be maintaining our memberships with E.R.B.A and the E.P.R.S. (Edmonton Pride Week Society).

Marni Gras, who has stepped down as the Empress of the I.S.C.W.R., has requested that I pass along her gratitude to Womonspace as well as the rest of the gay and lesbian community. During her reign, the Court has raised in excess of \$35,000 for worthwhile charities.

Womonspace purchased the domain www.womonspace.ca last year to replace our old website. Our web mistress continues to maintain the website to ensure it contains updated information on our own events, as well as events pertaining to the lesbian community.

The new format of the newsletter is functioning well. We also offer our members the option of going "green" by receiving their newsletters electronically. Our advertisers also benefit from having links to their websites within the electronic copy. With this added benefit, we hope to attract new advertisers, as well as maintain our current advertising clients.

Thank you for attending the Womonspace Annual General Meeting.

Lori Sitar
Marketing Director

2009 WOMONSPACE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Newsletter/Website Director's Report

It has been an exciting year at Womonspace regarding the newsletter and website. We finally formatted the newsletter in a way that is easy to convert to attach to an email, and Springboard Now Printers provide excellent service in printing the mail-out copies. Currently we email 160 copies and mail about 60 through Canada Post. Thank you for signing up for the electronic version! It does save time and printing and postage costs.

The website is a work in progress as updates are required frequently. We try to keep it current, but check back often to see updates.

We hope you check out the photos on Google Picassa. In order to protect people's privacy, we do not post them or the username/password on the web; only in the newsletter.

We produced a Resource Directory this summer. We will endeavor to update this list twice a year.

We always welcome articles, points of view, poetry or anything else you have to offer. Just send us an email and we'll be in touch.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Folkins
Newsletter/Website Director

Activities Report

The only new activity was the Tits and Mitts Tourney. We had an awesome turnout; approximately 30 women participated. We had our dances and games night, we added bring a gift to November's games night. It was very well received and we will repeat it again; as well as a food bank donation at the Christmas Dinner and Dance. We had our silent auction as well as several raffle baskets which were great and I think should be continued. The number of campers at our annual golf tournament was up as this is the only 'lesbian only' camp out. In closing, I would like to hear from our membership to get ideas for activities.