



BLUE

BLUE Nominees



Blue - Harmony (Community Leaders) The award recognizes an outstanding individual that has dedicated endless hours as a board member to create real lasting change in Vancouver's LGBTQ Community through their volunteerism. Eligible nominees include individuals who retired within five years of the award date and individuals who will retire before the award date. The nominator must be a senior.

Valerie Nicholson

I am an HIV positive woman that lives and works in the DTES of Vancouver. I have been homeless in my 50's and I am also a former drug addict. After this lived experience I worked on a national food security study. Food and nutrition became a passion of mine. Went to SFU Literacy Lives certificated course which gave me the tools to make a difference. I now work on several studies which address housing HIV and Health. This is done through photography. I travel around North America doing presentations and speeches on these topics. Including the world AIDS conference speaking 3 times. Through this work and seeing a need I co founded Harvest Co-op which had been a dream of mine since experiencing the lack of health foods for HIV + persons. This co-op welcomes all persons with any type of compromised immune system and those that are affected and to those that work in the field. I currently am the national peer representative on 2 national studies, and REACH. I am a peer research associate and community rep. I am also a proud grandmother and elder in my community.

Dean Malone

Dean is the CEO of Plum Living Home Health Care located in Vancouver BC. Dean has over 20 years experience in operations planning and management, in the corporate, non-profit, and health care sectors. His background, combining financial and operations management with health care has proven critical to respond to the diverse needs of the Plum Living portfolio – Home Health Care, and Older Adult Lifestyle Communities, also delivering services specifically for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered, and Queer (LGBTQ) communities. Dean's leadership and collaboration within the "seniors retirement" industry has resulted in plans for the development of RainbowVision Vancouver, to be Canada's first LGBTQ and Friends community for "*The Second Fifty Years*".

Dean previously worked in non-profit health care for 5 years as Director of Development for the Dr. Peter AIDS Foundation, and with the development team of Canuck Place Children's Hospice. Prior to health care Dean worked for 8 years with a federal crown corporation as a Business Planning Advisor, Restructuring and Recovery Advisor, Property Manager, and Staffing & Employee Relations Consultant.

Dean also serves in the community with various Board and Committee appointments including:
Advisory Committee, Aging Out – Creating belonging in Healthcare for LGBTQ Older Adults. (www.qmunity.ca) (Feb 2013-current)

Advisory Committee, West End Better at Home – Helping Older Adults in Vancouver's West End with simple day-to-day tasks so they can continue to live safely in their own home (April 2013-current)

Co-Chair, LGBTQ Advisory Committee, City of Vancouver – The LGBTQ Advisory Committee is advisory to City Council. The mandate of the committee is to enhance access to full participation in City Services for LGBTQ Communities. (Jan 2012-current)

Co-Chair, West End Mayor's Advisory Committee, City of Vancouver – Responsible for communicating community priorities to the City in its planning and policy development and for helping to communicate City policy initiatives that may be of interest to residents in the West End. (2010/2011)

Board Chair, Fillmore Family Foundation – Providing funding to non-profit agencies that deliver programs and services in the areas of nutrition, housing and health. (www.fillmorefamily.ca) (2005-current)

Board Director, Out on Screen – Celebrating and advancing queer communities through cultural expression. (www.outonscreen.com) (2012-current)

Recipient, Queen Elizabeth I I Diamond Jubilee Medal – In recognition of significant contributions made to Vancouver, British Columbia and Canada. (<http://www.gg.ca/document.aspx?id=14019>) (November 21, 2012)

Advisory Member, Lesbian and Gay Aging Issues Network (LAIN) of the American Society on Aging (ASA) – Raising awareness about the concerns of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBTQ) elders and about the unique barriers they encounter in gaining access to housing, healthcare, long-term care and other needed services. (www.asaging.org) (2009/2010)

Honorary Director, A Loving Spoonful – Providing free, nutritious meals to people living with HIV/AIDS in Greater Vancouver. (www.alovingspoonful.org)

Craig Maynard

As a born-and-raised, circa 1962, Vancouverite, I joined "The Centre" Board of Directors (the Board) in 1996, three years after coming out, to become the treasurer. I instituted new cash handling procedures and expense control systems. This allowed The Centre to define itself as "reporting society" which started The Centre's use of government funding. We grew the budget to over \$300k in a few years.

My work on the Board also facilitated The Centre's presence outside of Vancouver. In 1998 and 1999, Centre volunteers joined others around BC to create the RainbowBC reports that highlighted queer life in rural and urban BC. Today, Qmunity is BC's queer resource centre.

By 1998, I was co-chairing and stick-handling a new governance policy that moved the Board away from day-to-day operations. This focused the Board on policy development and fundraising activities. At that time, I began donating \$1,000 per year, which led to more board-member donations. Also, I directed the Board while developing professional fundraising procedures that raised an additional \$5k to \$10k per year. In the next 5 years, I chaired "Stardom" fundraising events which also raised about \$3k per year.

By 2008, I had recruited top-rate board members who, changed the operating name to "Qmunity", upgraded the donor recognition program, raised money in their workplaces and implemented human resource and professional development policies. I also chaired two hiring panels for the executive director. Qmunity joined the North American Queer Community Centers and the Board and I raised (or personally paid) to travel to other Centers' operations.

During the winter Olympics, Qmunity co-hosted Pride Houses in Vancouver and Whistler, second to my personal relationships with the owners of WinterPride, which I later turned into an annual source of \$1,000 to \$1,500 fundraising. By 2011, and 15 years later, I had decided to make that my last year on the Board. I still fundraise at Pride, by arranging water and chip sales

(\$500-\$1,000) year. I still work the coat check at WinterPride in Whistler. Lastly, I still continue my personal donations to Qmunity - now up to \$1,300 per year.