

**1963-1977** 1963 marks the first Ryersonian article published regarding Gay night life titled "Gay World" and the "Gays at Ryerson" club faces a slow start with posters being defaced and homophobic remarks on campus.

**1980** The first official Ryerson Student Group named "Lesbian and Gay Men's Club" is formed by Doug Chan but receives a bomb scare during its first meeting.

**1981** A hotline is set up on Ryerson campus due to Homophobic assaults on campus. Meanwhile, Police raids in bath houses create mistrust for Toronto city police in the Gay community.

Further hardships are experienced by the Ryerson "Lesbian and Gay Men's Club" when a stink bomb is planted in office. Their office experiences its 4th vandalization in 2 years.

SURPI decides the office will now be shared with Christian Fellowship and the French club.

Bill 7 for Gay Rights is voted on. Margaret Atwood and NDP Leader Bob Rae attend as well as many others extending the protection of the Human Rights Code to Gays and Lesbians.

**1989** "Bi's Lesbians and Gays of Ryerson (BGALOR)" is established and host their first "Gay Dance" on campus.

**1990** Lesbian and Gay Sexuality studies run as continuing education courses on campus.

BGALOR participates in protest against city council's refusal of a Gay Pride Day at Nathan Philip's Square.

Article "OUT" is published in Ryersonian exposing fears of coming out on campus. BGALOR hosts a 3 day awareness campaign to support Homosexuals on campus including a controversial "Jeans Day", movie night and coffee house at Oakham Cafe sparking homophobic retaliation from students unaware of "Jeans Day". Gay Bashing epidemic causes concern and a push for task force to deal with homophobia on campus initiates.

**1992** Ryerson's Harassment Prevention office helps organize Ryerson's participation in a teleconference between 140 schools across North America.

Pink Triangle Day is hosted to celebrate a Gay Valentine's day and to represent a day of remembrance for the slaying of over 63,000 gays killed during the Nazi Regime in Germany.

A play, "Hetes in a Homo World" starring members of BGALOR, offers view of society as predominantly homosexual.

BGLAD Week at Ryerson hosts two panel discussions on campus, "Homophobia and Gay Bashing in the Educational System" and "Coming Out in Our Diverse Community" as well as other Ryerson Week of Pride events.

Same Sex Healthcare benefits extends to homosexual couples on campus.

**1993-1994** A prank is pulled where the banner for BGALOR's Office is stolen, returned anonymously to the 519 Community Center.

**1995** BGALOR wins a \$4000.00 grant helping to make 400 "Gay Survival Kits" for students. Kits include a map of safe places on campus, coupons for gay positive businesses, Ryerson's harassment policy and help lines.

BGALOR and the 519 Community Center work together to provide emergency care to gay bashing victims.

**1996** BGALOR buys a new computer offering students a private space to read their newsletter electronically and an anonymous online forum to communicate within between other students.

A campaign to launch a "Positive Space" is started by Women's Center coordinator Tara LaRose with spots where it is "Ok to be Gay".

BGALOR officially changes to Rye Pride.

**1997** Positive Space officially opens in the International Living and Learning Center. Rye Pride is changed from a group to a service, increasing funding from RyeSAC to \$4000.

**1998-1999** Students protest outside St. Michael's Angel Ball urging the hospital to serve women, gays and lesbians as equals.

FAB Issue No.120 features Rye Pride as a student group for the gay community. Rye Pride receives a funding increase of \$8000.00 and students march in the 10th annual Walk for AIDS.

Ryerson student Peter Tretter starts the first gay Scouts Canada group. The group includes youth ages 14-18 and 18-26. The first vigil for Matthew Shepard (University of Wyoming) is held with over 1500 in attendance at Cawartha Square.

**2002** Rye Pride puts first float into the annual Pride Parade.

**2006** Students are recruited from Ryerson campus to represent the LGBTQ community in annual Gay Games.

An article in the Ryersonian redefines the term "Queer".

**2007** Rye Pride lobbies for gender neutral washrooms to be implemented on campus.

P&G addresses Rye Pride and formally invites them to their career information session as a gesture to welcome diversity.

Rye Pride celebrates 30 year anniversary.

**2008** Zenele Muholi (an Image Arts student) produces photographs revealing issues of homophobia at home and abroad in the Lesbian community.

**2009** Students Jesse Trautmann and Ben Weinstock host "Queer Campus Voices", a radio share airing twice monthly on CKLN Radio.

Chris Wright, Co-Chair of Positive Space wins Rye Pride's first Queer Award.

The first vigil is held for Matthew Skinner, a Ryerson Graduate slain in a hate crime.

**2010** The "Christopher Skinner Memorial Award" is launched and the "It Gets Better Campaign" launches in response to bullying related teen suicides.

**2011** Student Lali Mohammed launches the first "Queering Black History Month" event exploring LGBTQ history and colour.

**2012** Ryerson University partners with Egale Canada Human Rights to host the first ever LGBT Youth Suicide Prevention Summit. Positive Space works with the Tri-Mentorship program to create LGBT Mentorship program for students.

**2013** The First National LGBTQA conference "Dare to Stand Out" is hosted at Ryerson during Pride week promoting equity, diversity and inclusion.

**YOU ARE HERE**