



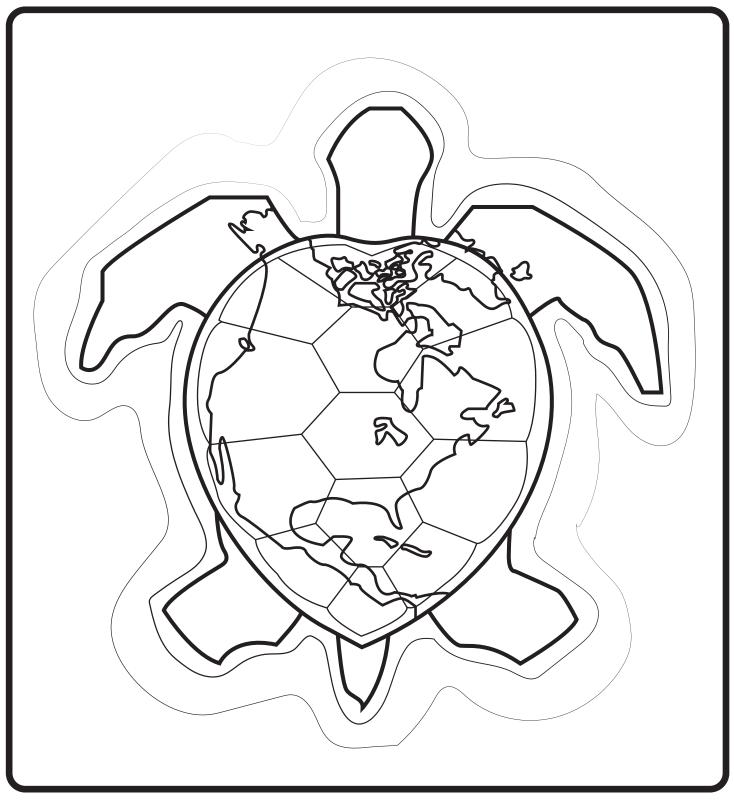


THE CANADIAN CENTRE FOR GENDER+SEXUAL DIVERSITY

QUEER HISTORY COLOURING BOOK

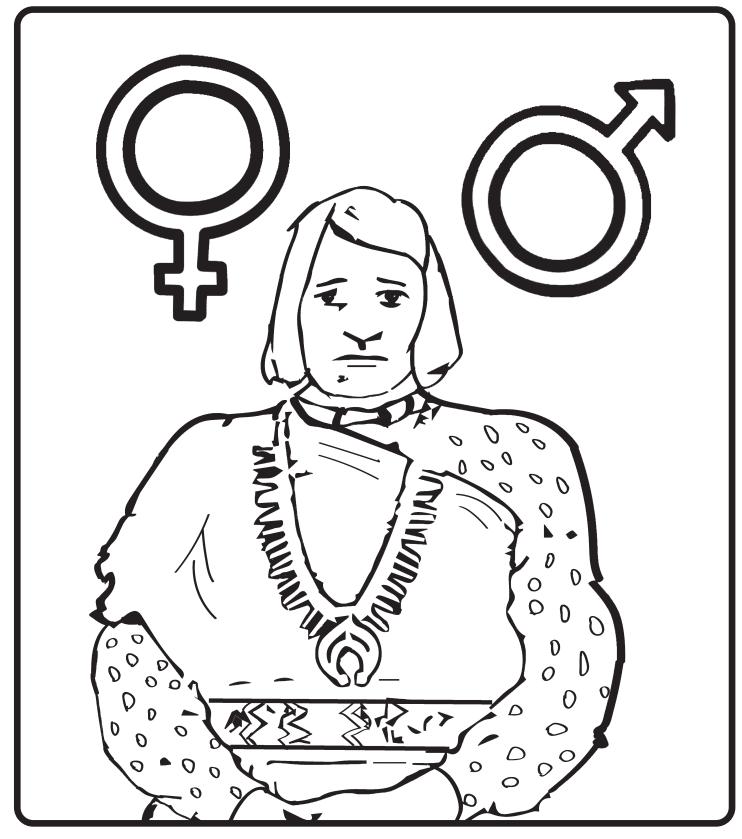
Concept & Text by Tom Hooper Art & Design by Mickayla Jia & Julie Bica

Turtle Island



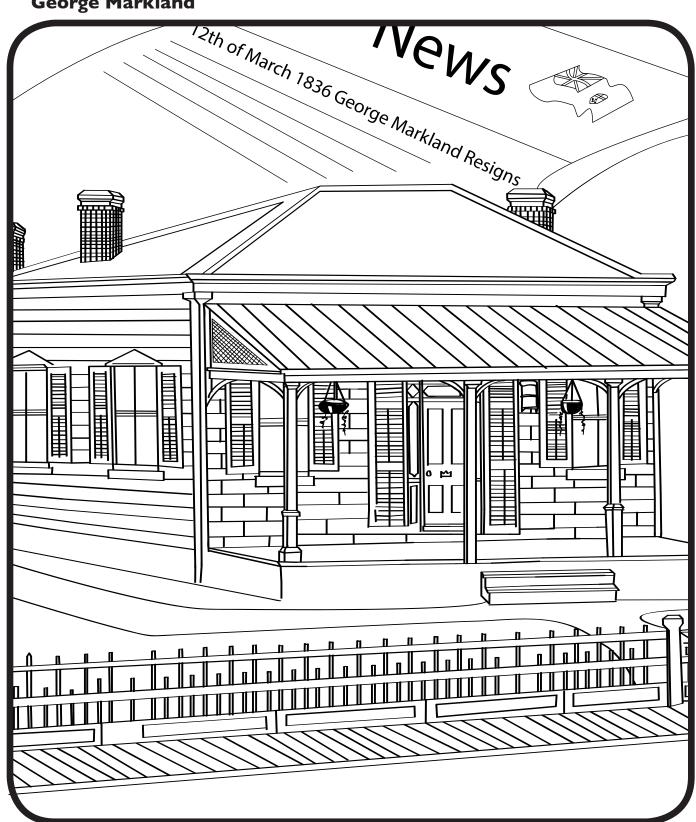
Indigenous societies on Turtle Island recognized between three and five genders, including women, men, Two Spirit women, Two Spirit men, and trans people. The words used to describe these individuals were as diverse as the languages spoken across the continent. Two-Spirit people play an essential role in their societies, earning respect as healers, teachers, and visionaries.

<u>Read More</u>: Duane Brayboy, "Two Spirits, One Heart, Five Genders," *Indian Country Today*, September 7, 2017. <u>Link:</u> <u>newsmaven.io/indiancountrytoday/archive/two-spirits-one-heart-five-genders-9UH_xnbfVEWQHWkjNn-0rQQ/</u>



Jesuit missionaries were concerned about the sexual practices among Indigenous groups they encountered. Colonizers imposed a rigid gender binary of man and woman, in the hopes of creating a Christian society. Two-Spirit identities are now being reclaimed through Indigenous acts of resistance and reconciliation.

<u>Read More:</u> Qwo-Lie Driskill, "Stolen From Our Bodies: First Nations Two-Spirits/Queers and the Journey to a Sovereign Erotic," *Studies in American Indian Literatures*, 16:2 (2004): 50-64.



1838 - The Colonial Home of Upper Canada's Inspector General, George Markland

During rebellion over political power in the British colonies, Upper Canada's Inspector General, George Markland, faced an official inquiry into rumours of his sexual behaviour. The regulation of sexual morality increasingly became a concern in British Canada. Markland ultimately resigned from his position.

<u>Read more:</u> Jarett Henderson, "File M and the Straightness of the Settler State in Early Canada," Borealia: A Group Blog on Early Canadian History, January 2016.

Link: earlycanadianhistory.ca/2016/01/18/file-m-and-the-straightness-of-the-settler-state-in-early-canada/





The 1892 Criminal Code of Canada contained several former British colonial laws prohibiting various sexual acts. The Code included sections on bawdy houses, buggery, gross indecency, indecent acts, and vagrancy. These offenses were used by police forces to surveil, entrap, arrest, and charge queer people.

<u>Read More:</u> Constance Backhouse, "Offenses," in A History of Canadian Sexual Assault Legislation, 1900-2000 [Online].

Link: www.constancebackhouse.ca/fileadmin/website/offence.htm



Lesbian poet Elsa Gidlow and gay journalist Roswell George Mills created the first queer publication in North America. Les Mouches Fantastiques was founded in Montreal in 1918 and published five issues. Gidlow and Mills moved to New York City in 1920.

<u>Read More:</u> Lyndsey D'Arcangelo, "Elsa Gidlow: First Woman to Publish Openly Lesbian Volume of Poetry," *Curve Magazine*, January 12, 2016.

Link: www.curvemag.com/Culture/Elsa-Gidlow-First-Woman-To-Publish-Openly-Lesbian-Volume-Of-Poet-ry-876/index.php?



Various places in the cities across Canada provided discreet opportunities for queer people to meet each other. Police agents conducted surveillance of these places to charge individuals with gross indecency. In 1919, police in Toronto installed outdoor ladders to peer into park washrooms.

<u>Read More</u>: Steven Maynard, "Through a hole in the lavatory wall: Homosexual Subcultures, Police Surveillance, and the Dialectics of Discovery, Toronto, 1890-1930," *Journal of the History of Sexuality*, 5:2 (1994): 207-242.

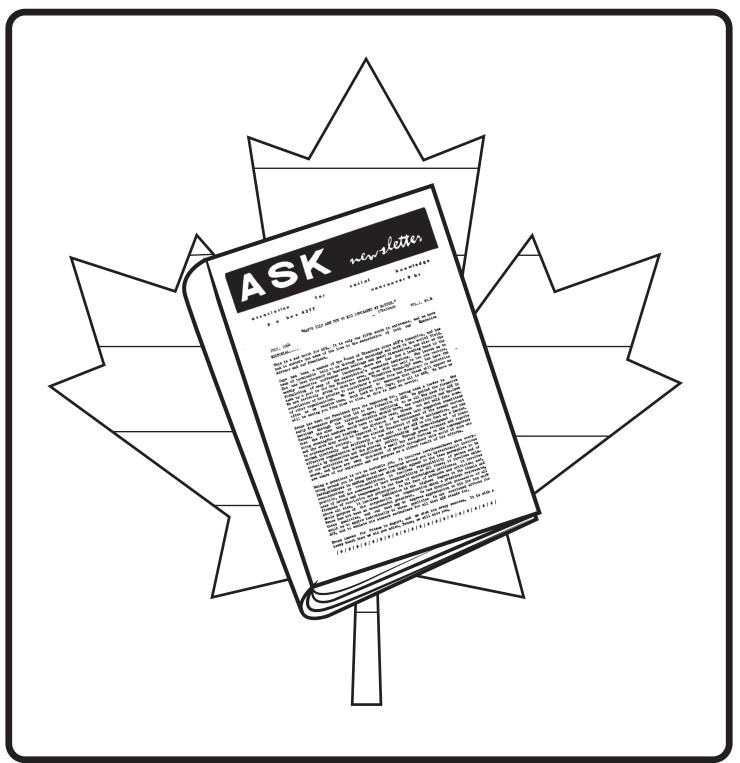
1949 – Jim Egan



"Jack Nesbit and Jim Egan in 1950"

In 1949, Jim Egan began writing letters to newspapers and politicians advocating for law reforms for queer people. After the publication of the Kinsey Report in 1954, Egan argued that many people in Canada violated society's rigid sexual norms, and if caught, would be subject to criminal laws prohibiting such behaviour.

<u>Read More:</u> Jim Egan and Don W. McLeod, *Challenging the Conspiracy of Silence: My Life as a Canadian Gay Activist*, Toronto: Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, 1998.



Doug Sanders, a lawyer from Vancouver, became the spokesperson for a group called the Association of Social Knowledge (ASK), Canada's first gay and lesbian organization. ASK worked with other groups on issues related to discrimination and criminal law reform. In August 1967, Sanders became the secretary of the North American Conference of Homophile Organizations (NACHO).

<u>Read More</u>: Don McLeod, Lesbian and Gay Liberation in Canada: A Selected Annotated Chronology, 1964-1975, To-ronto: ECW Press/Homewood Books, 1996.

Link: https://tspace.library.utoronto.ca/bitstream/1807/4397/71/Donald%20W.%20McLeod%2c%20Lesbian%20 and%20Gay%20Liberation%20in%20Canada.pdf

See Also: Lesbian and Gay Liberation in Canada Database [Online] http://lglc.ca/search



1967 - Pierre Trudeau Speaks To The Press

In November 1967, the Supreme Court of Canada upheld a harsh sentence given to Everett George Klippert, a man who was convicted for having sex with other men. Weeks later, Minister of Justice Pierre Trudeau declared, "there's no place for the state in the bedrooms of the nation." Despite this statement, gross indecency and other Criminal Code offenses continued to be used against queer people after partial reforms in 1969.

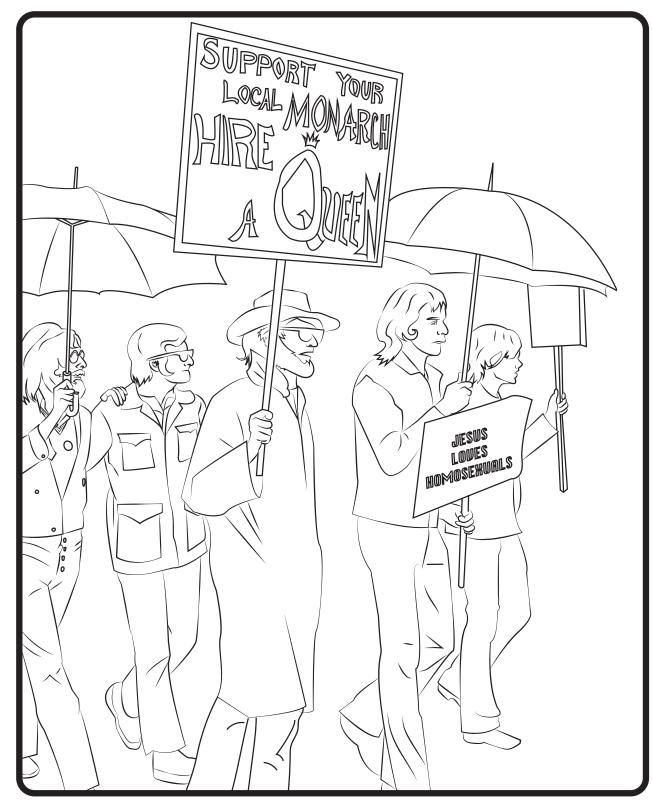
<u>Read More</u>: Calgary Gay History Project, "Klippert Month," October 2017. <u>Link: calgaryqueerhistory.ca/2017/10/05/klippert-month-week-1/</u>



On June 28, 1969, New York City police raided the mafia-owned Stonewall Inn, a gay bar in Greenwich Village. Joined by street youth, drag queens, and trans people, including Marsha P Johnson, the area around the Stonewall became engulfed in a riot that continued for several days. This moment came to symbolize a more radical vision of activism that confronted social attitudes towards queer communities.

<u>Read More:</u> David Carter, Stonewall: The Riots that Sparked the Gay Revolution, New York: St. Martin's Press, 2005.

1971 - We Demand



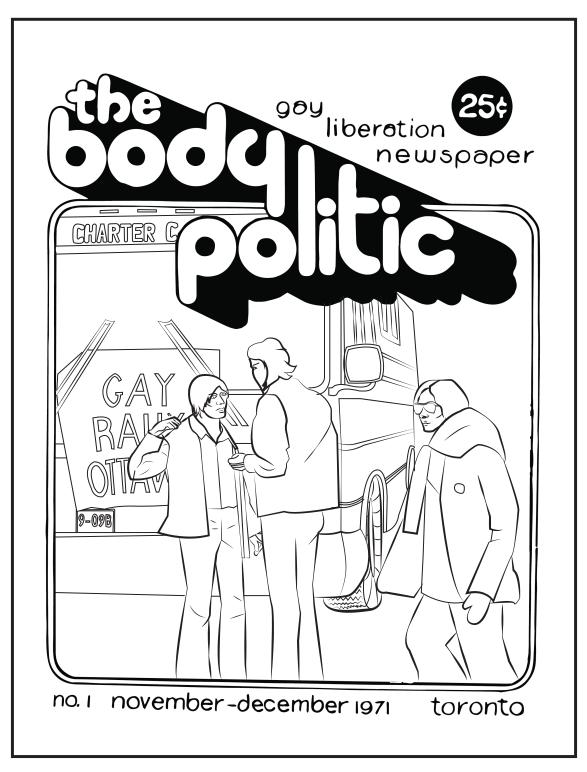
By the early 1970s, several organizations in cities across Canada formed a network of queer activism. In August 1971, activists from Vancouver, Toronto, Montreal, and Ottawa gathered to protest the continued criminalization of queer people. Despite the rain, they gathered at Parliament Hill and declared a 10-point platform of reform. The document, titled "We Demand," was signed by Brian Waite and Cheri DiNovo, both were members of a group called Toronto Gay Action.

<u>Read More</u>: Patrizia Gentile, Gary Kinsman, and L. Pauline Rankin, eds., We Still Demand! Redefining Resistance in Sex and Gender Struggles, Vancouver: UBC Press, 2017.

1971 - "Body Politic"

After the "We Demand" protests, a small group of activists formed a collective that would document struggles for sexual liberation. They called their magazine, "the Body Politic," which was published monthly from 1971 until 1987. The collective was raided by police in 1978 and 1982 for transmitting indecent matter, sparking a battle between freedom of expression and state censorship. After several trials and appeals, all collective members were acquitted of their charges.

<u>Read More:</u> Pink Triangle Press, *The Body Politic*, Volume 1, November-December 1971. <u>Link: https://archive.org/details/bodypolitic01toro</u>



1975 - Olympics Clean Up



Police in Montreal and Ottawa conducted five raids on bathhouses in the months leading up to the 1976 Summer Olympics. In February 1975, Montreal police raided the Sauna Aquarius and charged 36 men with being found in a common bawdy house. Those charged were given the nickname, "found-ins". From 1968-2004, the bawdy house law was used in at least 38 raids on queer spaces across the country, resulting in charges against more than 1,200 found-ins.

<u>Read More:</u> Gary Kinsman and Patrizia Gentile, "Resisting the Olympic Cleanup," Xtra! [Online] <u>https://www.dailyxtra.com/resisting-the-olympic-cleanup-11453</u>

Translation: "Down with oppression against homosexuals!"



1976 – LOOT

In November 1976 a group of women formed The Lesbian Organization of Toronto (LOOT). In February 1977, they opened a community house at 342 Jarvis Street. The purpose of LOOT was to provide lesbians and feminists a safe space for community, support, culture, and politics. LOOT and its community house closed on May 1, 1980.

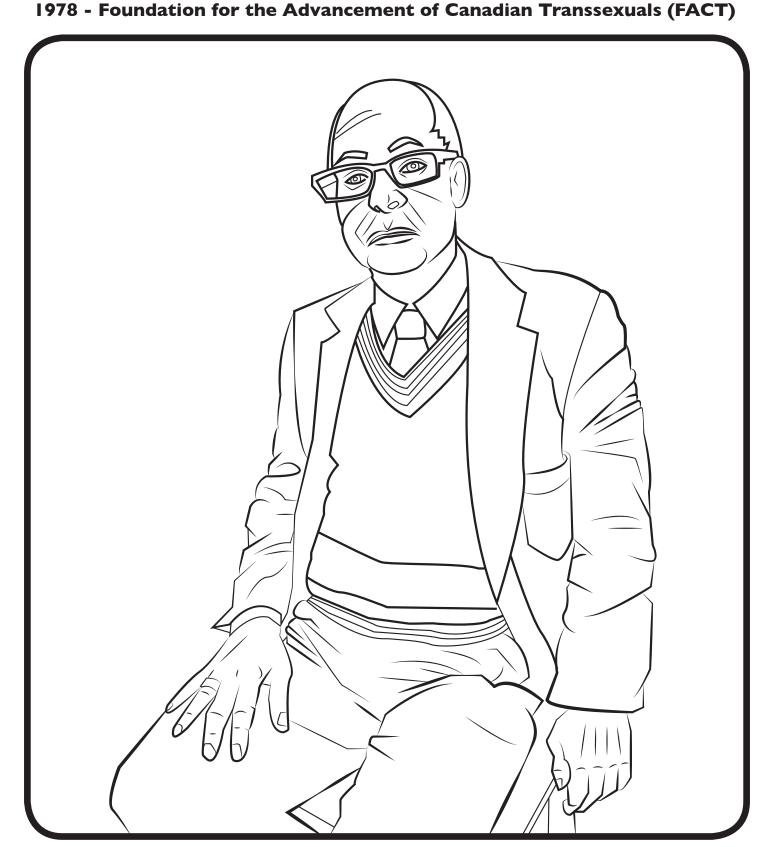
<u>Read More:</u> Becki Ross, The House That Jill Built: Lesbian Nation in Formation, Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1995.



On October 22, 1977, police officers armed with machine guns raided a gay bar in Montreal called the Truxx. 147 men were charged under the bawdy house law. The following night, a group called l'Association pour les droits des gais du Quebec (ADGQ) organized a protest attended by more than 2,000 people.

Translation: "Homosexuals and the police: This is war"

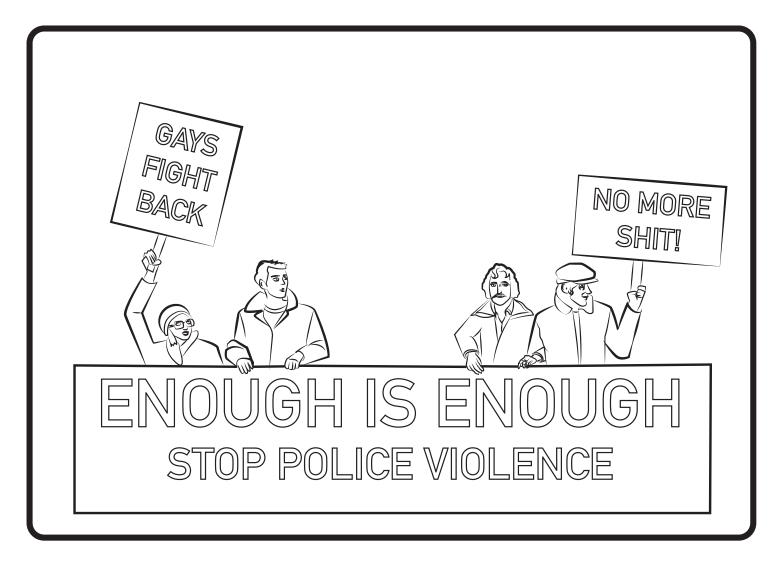
<u>Read More</u>: Matthew Hays, "Raiding History," *The Walrus*, June 28, 2016. <u>Link: thewalrus.ca/raiding-history/</u>



In January 1978, Rupert Raj created the Foundation for the Advancement of Canadian Transsexuals (FACT). Raj helped to organize a nation-wide network of volunteers who worked with FACT to educate and advocate on trans issues. In 1982, Raj founded a bi-monthly newsletter called Metamorphosis, which was published until 1988.

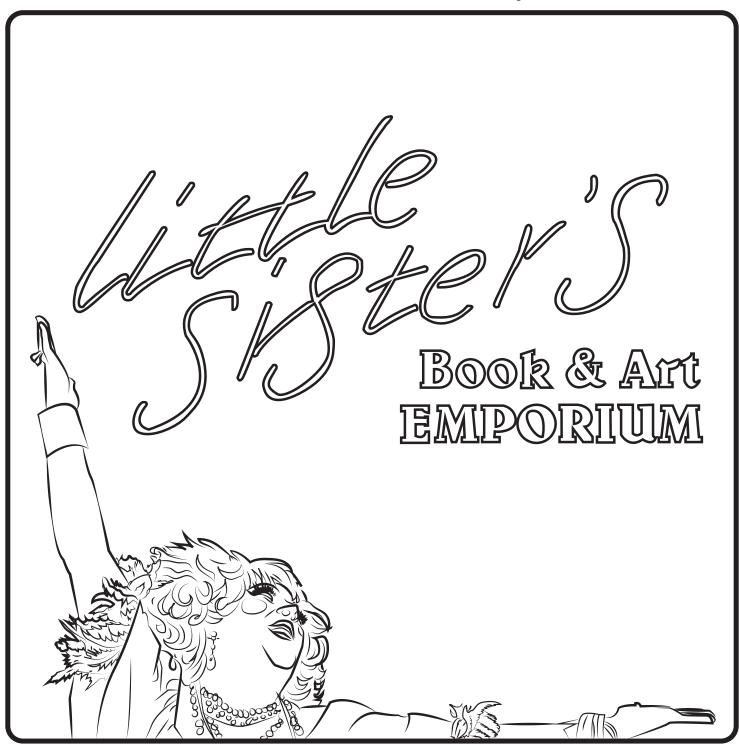
<u>Read More:</u> Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives: Rupert Raj and Trans Activism, 1973-1988 [Online] <u>http://digital-collections.clga.ca/exhibits/show/rupert-raj-and-trans-activism-/rupert-raj-and-trans-activism-</u>

1981 – Operation Soap



On February 5th, 1981, 200 Toronto police officers raided four gay bathhouses. 306 men were charged under the bawdy house law. The following night, thousands from the queer community, and their allies, marched through the streets in protest. A group of activists called the Right to Privacy Committee raised funds to cover the legal fees of those charged, more than 85% were successful in mounting a legal defense in court.

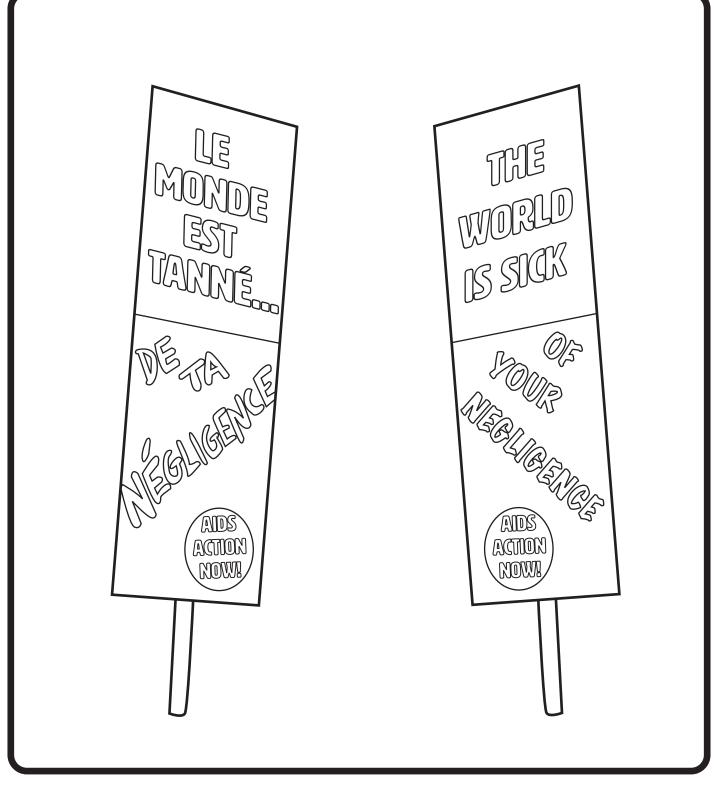
<u>Read More:</u> Harry Sutherland, Jack Lemmon and Gordon Keith, "Track Two: Enough is Enough [Online] <u>https://</u> www.youtube.com/watch?v=iN4_8eurids



1983 – Little Sisters Book and Art Emporium

In 1983, Jim Deva and Bruce Smythe established the Little Sisters Book and Art Emporium in Vancouver. Throughout the 1980s, the Canada Border Services Agency consistently seized queer books, literature, and erotica being importing from the United States. Glad Day Bookshop in Toronto, established by Jearld Moldenhauer in 1970, faced similar customs battles. In 2000, the Little Sisters case was heard before the Supreme Court, the seizures were declared unconstitutional.

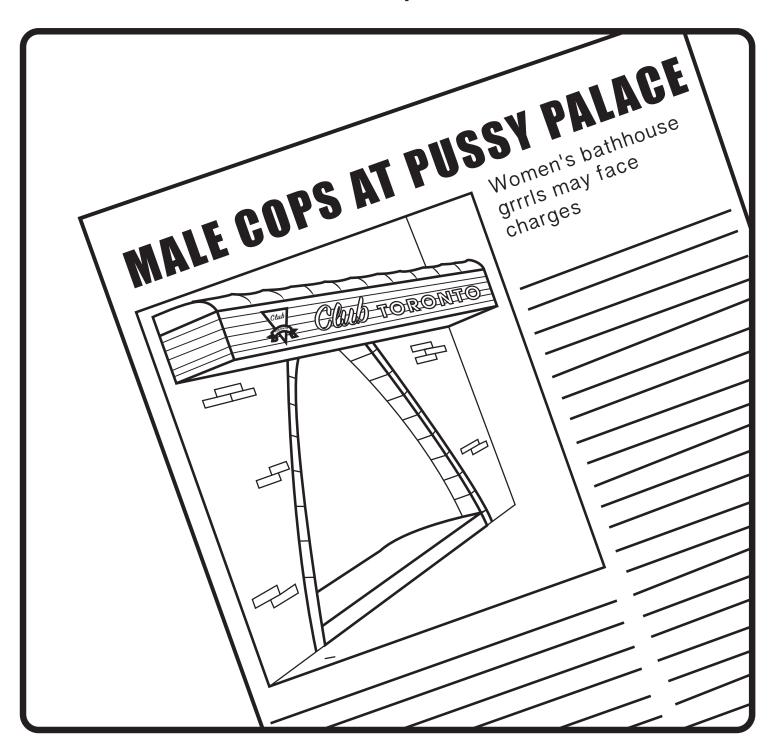
<u>Read More</u>: Brenda Cossman, "Censor, Resist, Repeat: A History of Censorship of Gay and Lesbian Sexual Representation in Canada," *Duke Journal of Gender Law and Policy*, (2014): 45-66.



n February 1988, a group of activists held a public meeting at a Toronto high school to demand better health care and access to drugs for those living with HIV. The group adopted the name AIDS Action Now! (AAN), which continued the tradition of street demonstrations and direct political action used by the queer community in the aftermath of the bathhouse raids. As of 2018, AAN has been advocating on issues of HIV criminalization.

Read More: AIDS Activist History Project [Online] https://aidsactivisthistory.ca/

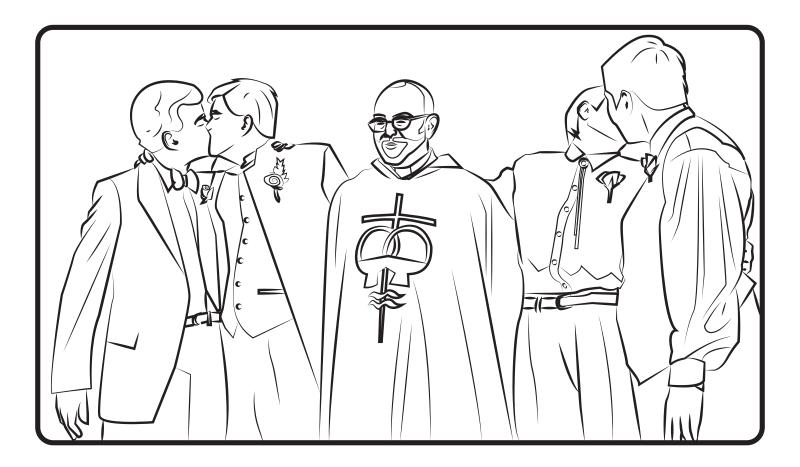
2000 - Pussy Palace



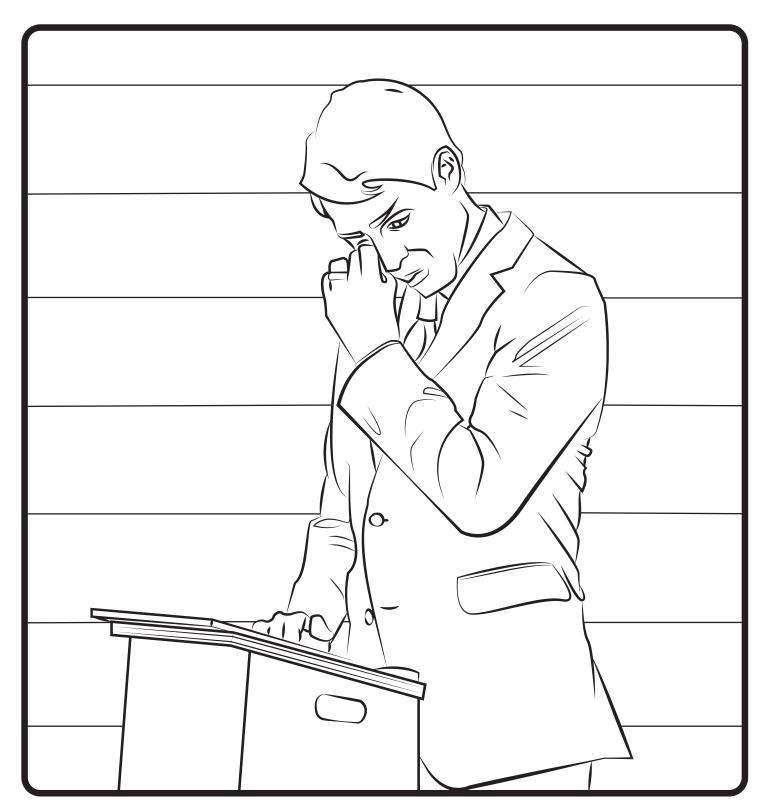
On September 14, 2000, six male police officers raided a women's bathhouse event called the Pussy Palace. In 2005, a collective of lesbians who experienced the raid agreed to a financial settlement. When Toronto Chief of Police Mark Saunders apologized in 2016 for bathhouse raids, the collective from the Pussy Palace refused to accept the apology, citing ongoing issues with the policing of marginalized communities.

<u>Read More</u>: Queer Story: The Pussy Palace [Online] <u>www.queerstory.ca/project/the-pussy-palace/</u>

2001 - Marriage Equality



On January 14, 2001, Reverend Brent Hawkes of the Metropolitan Community Church performed a marriage ceremony for two same-sex couples. When these couples attempted to register their marriage, they were refused. On June 10, 2003, the Ontario Court of Appeal declared that equal marriage is a right guaranteed by section 15 of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. In 2005, the government passed Bill C-38, which legalized equal marriage across the country.



military and civil service. In 2015, a group of activists, academics, and individuals affected by the purge campaign created the We Demand an Apology Network. On November 28, 2017, this group achieved one of their main goals: the Prime Minister delivered an official apology in the House of Commons.

In 1998, researchers and activists called for an official state apology for the purge of queer members of the

<u>Read More</u>: Statement by the We Demand an Apology Network, May 27, 2015 [Online] <u>http://p-sec.org/we-de-mand-an-apology/</u>

2016 - BLM Trans March



The Trans March on July 1st, 2016 in Toronto broke the record for the largest in the world. Black Lives Matter (BLMTO) was asked to be the honoured group to the lead the march. BLMTO asked the marchers to sit down and occupy the middle of the street. They demanded an end to police injustice, and they spoke in memory of those killed at the Pulse Nightclub in Orlando. The Trans March then continued to the festival grounds at Allan Gardens.

Read More: Toronto Star, "Photos: Thousands gather to rally at Trans March," July 2, 2016.

Link: www.thestar.com/news/gta/2016/07/01/trans-march-takes-to-toronto-streets.html