



STAFFING ANNOUNCEMENT

Executive Director Parental Leave

September 27, 2016

PWA is pleased to announce that Murray Jose-Boerbridge, Executive Director, is adopting a second son and will be taking parental leave from approximately mid-October 2016 through mid-July 2017.

As an HIV+ gay man, Murray has shared some of the personal impact and complex emotions of moving into this new period with his family.

“Parenting has provided me an incredible opportunity for personal, family and community growth in my life. I expect an expanded family will only enhance the deeper self-understanding that comes with seeing the world (and yourself) through the eyes of a child. The joy and curiosity are quite remarkable to share and the innocence of their observations and actions can result in some insightful (and occasionally uncomfortable!) personal insights. Add to this the emotional and psychological shift that was involved when I first entered into a parenting commitment following 22 years of living with HIV and again now, following the 25th ‘anniversary’ this past spring and you begin to get a sense of my gratitude, excitement and yes, nervousness. This is a further opportunity to explore my dreams and live a life that has been very much shaped by HIV but not defined by it. PWA has been a significant part of getting to this point in my journey. Thank you!”

PWA’s Board of Directors is committed to ensuring strong leadership is in place during Murray’s leave. Supporting the innovative and critical programming, mission and strategic directions of PWA are key priorities while ensuring stability and consistent leadership.

Coverage plans, effective October 3, 2016 include the following:

➤ **Interim Executive Director - Suzanne Paddock**

- ◆ Suzanne, currently PWA’s Director of Programs & Services, has an extensive history of approximately 15 years working in the not-for-profit sector including over 12 years with PWA. Her insight and training with an approach of mindfulness, compassion, humor and social action will provide strong support, leadership and direction for PWA in this role. Suzanne’s commitment to herself and others is grounded in a PWA value of understanding that the more we can embrace authenticity, the more opportunity we create to thrive.
- ◆ *Suzanne’s contact information remains the same: spaddock@pwatoronto.org or ext. 204*



➤ **Interim Director of Programs & Services – Gareth Henry**

- ◆ As a person living with HIV with significant management experience in Toronto and the Caribbean, Gareth, currently PWA’s Service Access Manager, brings passion, skill, training and lived experience to this interim role. Community leadership includes his work at PWA as well as community involvement including roles on the Board of Africans in Partnership Against AIDS (APAA) & Rainbow Railroad. The possibilities of transforming lives that exists within the engagement of those connected with PWA is critical for Gareth and an emphasis for him in this interim role.
- ◆ *Gareth’s contact information remains the same: ghenry@pwatoronto.org or ext. 222*

➤ **Interim Service Access Manager - Rachel Dickson**

- ◆ Currently PWA’s Engagement Coordinator, Dreaming & Opportunities and working on her MSW, Rachel has 5 years of engagement with PWA, contributing in shaping and then fully developing PWA’s innovative Dreaming & Opportunities volunteer program. The inspiration of clients and sense of community and acceptance that she has experienced at PWA have contributed to the excitement of lending her leadership towards sustaining that experience and engagement for everyone at PWA.
- ◆ *Rachel’s contact information remains the same: rdickson@pwatoronto.org or ext. 262*

If you have any questions, please contact Murray Jose-Boerbridge at extension 218 or mjose@pwatoronto.org.

Sincerely,



Brian Fior
Board Chair/President



Murray Jose-Boerbridge
Executive Director