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○ Vol. 2 | ○ Issue8 | ○ May 1, 2008

# ASAAP

## In Touch

*"Do not follow where the path may lead. Go instead where there is no path and leave a trail."*

- Harold R. McAlindon

### Pride Committee and the TTC

Our first Pride Committee of ASAAP meeting was held to great success, but fear not all you committed volunteers! There is still plenty of time and many opportunities to get involved with ASAAP's Pride contingent.

Those awesome volunteers that came to the meeting have suggested a Pride theme and decoration design that needs staff approval and then we will be able to move forward with our preparations.

Our next meeting will be coming VERY soon, so keep watching your inboxes and checking your phones to find out when we will be continuing forward.

Please also keep aware that our TTC Fundraiser is coming up on May 23, a Friday. We will need 2-3 volunteers with a staff or board member out to three TTC subway stations: **King, Yonge/Bloor, and Dundas** to sell plants in order to fundraise for the agency. Each day will be divided into two shifts of 4.5 hours each. Early shifts (10:00-2:30) will be setting up at their respective station. Later shifts (2:30-7:00) will be closing down after sales. Volunteers like YOU are always vital to the success of these fundraisers. Please e-mail me if you can be at one or both at [volunteer@asaap.ca](mailto:volunteer@asaap.ca). Thanks to all who have signed up already! Keep it coming, guys!

### Meri Kahani a grand success

Our fundraiser at Buddies in Bad Times theatre was a grand success! ASAAP was one of the first agencies supporting the play that started off as a school project for the two social workers and is now touring all over the Greater Toronto Area. Siva Gunaratnam, the Tamil Outreach Coordinator from ASAAP says, "Every time I see it, I get emotional from tears of joy and from tears of sadness. The play pushes boundaries by showing issues not openly talked about, but it does so effectively, in order to make a change." *Meri Kahani* was performed to a large crowd last Thursday April 24 at 7:00. Congrats to the team behind it and everyone for the success!



# CAHR Conference: Montreal

*Three staff attended the informative CAHR Conference in Montreal.*

From April 23-27, three of our terrific staff: Jag, Aalia, and Firdaus, as well as Board Chair Bomi attended the Canadian Association for HIV Research (CAHR) Conference.

This year the focus was on prevention where we learned of CATIE's new mandate to also do prevention work. A major highlight was the Swiss

Guidelines as well as the topic of whether treatment is a means of prevention- PREP. Ethnic communities and their efforts with HIV/AIDS was also a focus and of course various pharmaceutical companies promoting new of ARV's (anti-retrovirals).

## ASAAP

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*The picture above is Iman Grewal in Meri Kahani on April 24, 2008*

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## ASAAP STAFF

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