

NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 1, 2013

CBC Radio's Mainstreet NS and Maritime Magazine Honoured with Raymond Taavel Award

HALIFAX, NS – The Nova Scotia Rainbow Action Project (NSRAP) is pleased and proud to announce that the Raymond Taavel Media Award for 2013 will be shared by Halifax-based CBC Radio One programs **Mainstreet Nova Scotia**, with Host Stephanie Domet (Stephanie Domet, Producer), and **Maritime Magazine**, with Host Pauline Dakin, Christina Harnett, Producer.

“It is still exceedingly rare for the LGBT community to catch the mainstream media’s attention,” said NSRAP Chair Lisa Buchanan, “unless there is either a tragedy or controversy. And in those situations the coverage is often sensationalized. Both of these programs have been exemplary in their portrayal of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and trans-identifying Maritimers *as they are*, real people.”

Over the last year, *Maritime Magazine* has presented several half hour documentaries on LGBT people, including a program on trans students attending university in Charlottetown, PEI, and a story about an openly gay high school student in New Brunswick whose positive outlook and example transformed their community.

Mainstreet NS has consistently offered nuanced, accurate reporting about Nova Scotia’s LGBT communities. They have explored issues facing older LGBT people, trans issues, and LGBT youth.

“Raymond was himself a journalist,” said NSRAP member Hugo Dann. “These programs are fully deserving of an award named in his honour. They tell compelling stories that present our community fairly and accurately, and that sets a good example for others in the media.”

NSRAP’s 10th annual Community Heroes Gala will be held Saturday, November 2 at 6 p.m. at the Atlantica Hotel. This year’s theme is “**We’re Here! We’re Queer!!! Celebrating The Past & Future of LGBTQ Activism in Nova Scotia**.” Tickets for the event can be purchased online or by contacting NSRAP directly.

-30-

For more information or to arrange an interview, please contact:
Hugo Dann, NSRAP Gala Committee Chair
(902) 420-1395
hmdann@gmail.com