



Saturday, March 11, women of Halifax took to the streets to celebrate International Women's Day. Photo: Ariella Pahlke

We are all longing to go home to some place we have never been — a place, half-remembered, and half-envisioned we can only catch glimpses of from time to time. Community. Somewhere, there are people to whom we can speak with passion without having the words,

we can speak with passion without having the words catch in our throats. Somewhere a circle of hands will open to receive us, eyes will light up as we enter, voices will celebrate with us whenever we come into our own power. Community means strength that joins our strength to do the work that needs to be done. Arms to hold us when we falter. A circle of healing. A circle of friends. Someplace where we can be free.

Starhawk

# CKDU funding blitz half-way to netting its goal

by Michele Thibeau

"You're listening to CKDU, 97.5 FM." This is what you normally hear on the air, but during

the week, of March 10 to the 19th you'll also hear lots of "the number to dial and donate is 424-1990. Please support your community station."

Talking to the Station Manager, Mark MacLeod, about the goal of \$35,000, he rejoiced that, "At the halfway point we were half way!" During the annual Public Funding Drive, everything is live, 24 hours a day. This means hard work for all of the staff and the over two hundred volunteers at the station, who help out collecting pledges for their shows, answering phones, stuffing Pledge Packs and even busking in the middle of the SUB at lunch time. The money generously donated to the station each year goes straight into the budget, making up a nice 15% of it. The Student Union gives the station money, but without the Funding Drive, CKDU would not function. Plans for the future include an eventual power increase to enable current listeners to receive better reception and new listeners reception in place like Bedford and Sackville.

The Drive is a requirement of all the volunteers who work here. "I want to do a show and I understand that I have to do my part to make the station work" says Libby Baxter, host of the Floor-show on Saturdays, a veteran of three Funding Drives. "It gets

easier to do every year. You learn what to say and how to prepare for what should be the best show you do." This year she was elected to sit on the Board of CKDU FM Society, making her very aware that this "is the money we need to keep operating." Some people ask, why not get a corporate sponsor? CKDU's answer is "we can say that we are commercial free, our focus is on the music we play and the current affairs we produce, and we are a community-based station which relies on the community for their input and funds to operate."

Last week from Wednesday to Saturday night there were events scheduled to help raise this year's goal of \$35,000. Wednesday night there was an alcohol-free Dance Party, held by James Webster, in

the Green Room of the Dal SUB where people "danced up a storm", and some even "danced their heads off!" Also held on Wednesday was "Jazz Night", the first of four "specialty nights" hosted by CKDU personalities at the Flamingo, where the proceeds at the door went to CKDU.

Still to come on March 16th, *The Word is Out*, Halifax's only gay/lesbian show heard Mondays at 5:45pm, will be holding a benefit in support of CKDU at Rumours, 2112 Gottigen Street. There is also a rumour that there will be another Dance Party hosted by James Webster in support of his show *The World of Music* heard Wednesday at 8:00pm. For more details about this and other upcoming events stay tuned.

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