

# Movie Monday Society

2033 Chaucer Street  
Victoria B C Canada V8R 1H6  
250-595-5977 [www.movie monday.ca](http://www.movie monday.ca)

Mar 21, 2015

Carri Boulton  
Manager, Community Relations  
Western Canada  
Janssen - Pharmaceutical Companies of Johnson & Johnson

Dear Carri,

This is a request for continuation of the funding for the Movie Monday project in Victoria. I'm hoping that Janssen Inc. will be able to contribute again to our on-going efforts to engage and educate using the catalyst of movies.

Through our 60 or so events per year, as well as several special events in our psychiatric hospital auditorium venue, Movie Monday has kept educational and positive messages moving out to our community; my peers who are learning to cope with mental illness in their lives, "people who just want to see a good movie", and through the media to Victoria's greater community. It's a consistent message about recovery from, and acceptance of, mental illness. Upcoming in June is our 22<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!

This year we continue teaming up with Friends Of Music to present Music Movie [now] Fridays once a month, using our mutual space and my public performance licence and equipment to provide another opportunity to share films and promote their music program. Last Fall I presented a course using film to open discussion and networking about dementia and Alzheimers, in collaboration with Alz. Soc and Beacon Community Services staff training.

As always, included in our eclectic weekly series of well chosen films, many with mental health themes are explored with guests and extended discussions.

Just some MM presentations this past year:

- Bill and Sylvia Williams, aboriginal couple who have both struggled with mental health and trauma issues did amazing presentations to both MM audience and CPD rounds in June 2014
- And Ontario filmmaker did the same, presenting his a film about a difficult to treat hip hop artist who lives with a delusional self image. Both short films with lots to discuss. It's terrific to have a chance to bring these stories and guests to or audience and the professional community.
- Last Fall, besides MM regular programming, I produced a five part film/discussion series on Dementia and Alzheimers for public and care providers in collaboration with Alzheimer Society and Beacon Community Services
- Dr Delaney Ruston called in from Seattle a Q&A with her acclaimed film, Hidden Pictures about world experiences and stigma around mental illness.

Upcoming - beyond our regular weekly servings of entertainment and thought provoking fare

- Dr Roger Sparhawk is visiting the West Coast to present at the Bipolar Foundation in Vancouver April 18. I've arranged an open-to-public and CPD accredited presentation (Chief of Psych Dr Yaxley attending) April 15 to have him share his ideas and perspective with local professionals and those in our community touched by bipolar disorder. Dr. Sparhawk is a renowned psychiatrist from Ohio who has focused his work on bipolar disorders. He has been associated for years with the International Society of Bipolar Disorders and is the author of **Calm Seas: Keys to the Successful Treatment of Bipolar Disorder**.

- On April 20 a filmmaker from Portland Oregon is presenting, with Victoria Police Chief Frank Elsner, **Alien Boy**. It's a feature documentary about a police street stop of a man, a musician

and artist with schizophrenia. That interaction went very badly. Things have changed there because of this incident, and also in Victoria policing is changing as they realize, reluctantly, that much of their role is as first responders to mental health and addiction crises. Having our police chief come to MM to speak about this a important issue is a coup!

The next day Brian Lindstrom will also present his documentary, **Finding Normal**, about peer mentoring to overcome persistent addictions, a unique and very effective model in his home town. It will be an open screening at Our Place, our city's 'helping the homeless' facility comparable to the Portland one offering this Recovery Mentor Program.

- For Mental Health Week, May 2, I plan to screen **Clara's Big Ride** a new documentary about Olympian athlete Clara Hughes' Cross Canada mental health outreach. These are just highlights in our rich programming of recovery-related stories.

I've had several opportunities to speak and have MM guests on CFX and CBC radio, including a piece about movie depictions, good and bad, of mental illness for Bell Canada's 'Let's Talk'.

Since the New Year we have had five full houses and last year's **average attendance was 68% - 3489 individual visits to 51 events** (just our main events) in our 100 seat space.

Janssen Inc.'s contribution is a greatly appreciated part of Movie Monday's modest budget. Your participation in our "consumer driven" project is credited regularly on our programs, and on our web site "Sponsors" page.

I'm hoping you will consider again contributing \$1500 toward our increasingly ambitious programming this year.

Thanks in advance,

Bruce Saunders - Coordinator Movie Monday Society      **vendor id 4255097285**

This from an audience member:

*June 28, 2014*

*Hi Bruce,*

*I wish I had stayed around for cake on your anniversary night - I hope the celebrations went well!*

*Congratulations on your 21st Anniversary with Movie Monday!*

*It took a lot of courage to go out there and put Movie Monday on the map and a huge amount of commitment to keep it sailing along.*

*Movie Monday has been a beacon of hope for me throughout my fight with depression/anxiety. Having Movie Monday there says to me that there are others fighting right along side me and they are surviving. And it has taken the horror out of depression saying, "it's not that bad, you're going to survive it."*

*So smooth sailing to you all!*

*Cheers, Rory*

=====

*included by email: AGM Report Nov/14*

*Insights Dementia*

*4 special event posters*

*MM March/April 2015 program*