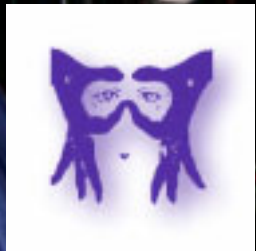


Masquerade Girlstuff Fun Since 1997!

Volume 13 Issue 3

Lipstick & Lace

March 2009



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Our New

Pres.

& VP!

Masquerade Girlstuff Fun Since
1997!



c/o Lady Godiva Boutique
1475 Pembina Hwy.
Winnipeg, MB R3T 2C5

For more information...
Phone: 204-452-1100
Email: girlstuff@masquerade.ca

Where boys have
fun...being girls!

www.masquerade.ca

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Edited by Shandi.

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About Masquerade!

Masquerade is a FUN LOVING social and support group for cross-dressers, and transgendered persons. Our purpose is for people who crossdress to associate, socialize, and learn about all facets of this lifestyle in an open and safe atmosphere of fun, respect and understanding. It is not for the purpose of soliciting or engaging in sexual activities.

Spouses and significant others are more than welcome and encouraged to attend all our meetings and functions, as are all such individuals, who are 18 years of age or older, and are prepared to respect our bi-laws. We regularly meet the 2nd Tuesday of every month. The meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. and go until 9:30. They feature topics related to all facets of cross dressing including makeup tips, dressing techniques, and lifestyle, taught by our experienced members and guest speakers. Socializing and dancing are done afterwards!

We endeavor to maintain a fun, friendly, laid-back atmosphere. We are all there for the same reason, a place to go to be the girls we strive to be. Change facilities are available.

You are welcome to attend two meetings before paying your annual dues prior to joining. Dressing for the first meeting or two is not required, but obviously encouraged!

Masquerade, where boys have fun being girls!

Our Special Girls!

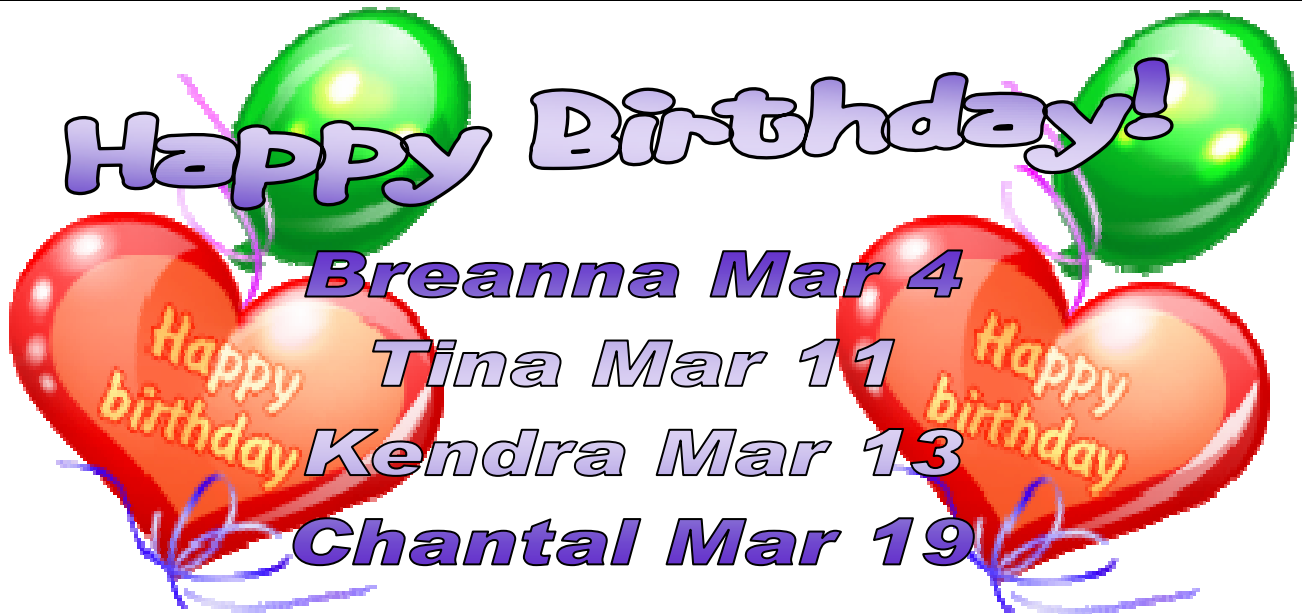
Happy Birthday!

Breanna Mar 4

Tina Mar 11

Kendra Mar 13

Chantal Mar 19



Chantal's Space!

Well girls, it is a new era for the Masquerade group. An executive team led by a first time President and Vice President to guide the group into it's 12th year of fun with fresh new ideas built on top of the foundation and structure that has been laid before us. Thank gawd as Madame President that I've got pretty shoes to be filled that have been well maintained by the best; unlike U.S. President Obama and the stinky, ugly, broken down shoes that he inherited. I bet he would love to trade, but there's no way that I'd bite.

I'd like to thank the founders of the group for recognizing a need of a support group for cross dressers, transvestites and transsexuals, then taking the action to pave the sidewalk that we strut along today. Through their dedication, passion and hard work we are here today as Masquerade.

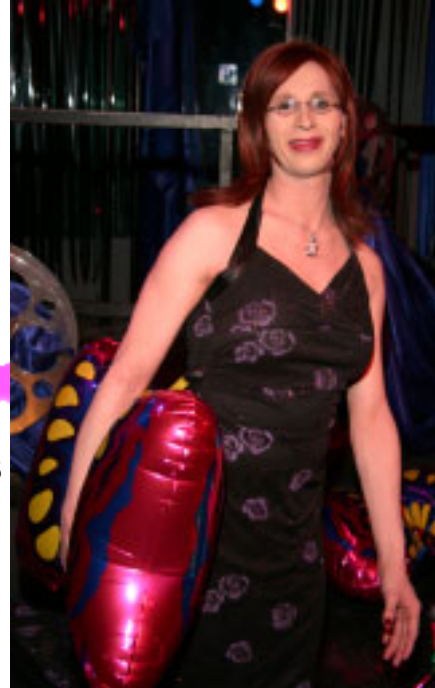
I have been a member for 7 years and have seen us grow into the great group we are today. The most obvious factor in the growth of the group is the passion shown by the many current and past members. That passion has been seen in the leadership and hard work of the executives and supporting staff, it has been seen in the time and effort put forth by members taking on the Big Sisters roles to help on an individual basis, it has been seen in the prominent attendance and par-

**...I've got
pretty
shoes to be
filled...**

ticipation at the meetings, events and outings, and it has been seen in the contributions to the newsletter and website.

The passion has produced our group's many accomplishments. A few of the accomplishments that the group has succeeded to do are as follows:

- We have grown to over 50 members, with over 15 consistently attending our monthly meetings
- As a group we have contributed, participated and connected with others in the LGBT* community in many aspects
- We have come up with numerous resources for taking care of our cross dressing needs
- We are producing a newsletter monthly
- We have an awesome site that is admired by other crossdressing groups
- And most importantly, We have socialized and produced relationships not only with each other, but with their spouses, friends and/or family



Every year (or should I say month) that goes by I have observed how each one of us are amplifying our comfort levels to where we are

going out in the public frequently, sharing our dressing with friends and families, and interacting with those that are outside of group. We are quite lucky to have a group and a community that not only accepts us but supports us. Whether it be the ladies from Lady Godiva Boutique, the Queens and Kings of the drag community, the kinksters of the Ball, or the staff of Gio's; we are greeted with friendly and warm

smiles every time they see us to make us feel comfortable. It's a joy to see each individual progress their dressing skills to a point that our own members are conducting dressing presentations and sharing tips at each meeting.

I am so looking forward to this year to see if our strides this year evolve the shoes that I put on today would lead to a sleek higher heel for the next and future presidents to slide their feet into.

Chantal

Proud President of
Masquerade

Words From Felicia

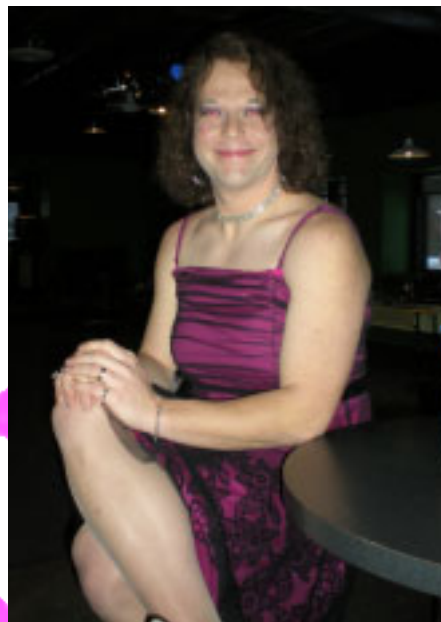
The closet. Metaphorically we're in it, out of it, or emerging from it. Literally, I am changing closets.

My wife is pregnant with our first child and the guest room which previously served as my office & girl room is now destined to become baby's, which means my computer moves down to the basement along with the closet full of clothes, shoes and makeup. Not that I'm complaining that much – the closet I'm moving into is about three times as large as my current closet, but it does need work. The doors need to be changed from sliding to swing, the structure itself is out of square and it's generally suffering from neglect. I plan on new hardware, new paint and even lighting so once it's renovated it will be perfect for me.

The problem is that I fear the closet. Not that I think it will sneak up behind me and start snacking on my arm, but I worry that it represents becoming too comfortable where I am as a girl and as a human being and that I may consider myself 'finished with the renovations'. Anytime in the past we have pushed ourselves to explore more of our female side, such as coming out to our loved ones, going outside in public as a girl, or even attending our first Masquerade

meeting, the reason behind it all is that we have wanted to better ourselves. This desire forced (and continues to force) us to improve ourselves, sharpen our makeup and hair skills, better our deportment, and work on all the little things females naturally do. Every meeting I try to do something different – a different hairstyle, different makeup technique, an outfit that is outside the norm for me (if you see me at a meeting, feel free to ask what I did!). But once we get comfortable with that, where do we go from there? What is the next personal renovation?

For me, I'm not really sure. I would love to start working on my female voice (instead of trying to talk like Minnie Mouse all the time), as well as losing those few pounds to really show off my curves. Of course, now that I'm Vice-President of Masquerade I have to be even more open to new-



comers both at the meetings and through any E-mail I receive, to take on more of the load of presentations, and I have to be out more in the community. That means taking part in Pride and other events. I will be brutally honest when I say that it still scares the bejeezus out of me to be dolled up on the float in the parade and that by being videotaped for the news one of my family members will recognize me. Completely irrational?

Most likely, but I have to approach it as a chance to make myself that much better. I can't allow myself to be finished with my renovations.

Your new Vice President,

Felicia

Assistant Newsletter Editor WANTED!

Hey girls! Yes, I'm looking for an assistant to assist in the monthly duties of putting together our highly acclaimed little newsletter here! The successful girl should have an aptitude for layout, and a sense of humour, balanced with the desire to do positive things for the club and the people we share it with. If you are interested, and have a PC computer, I will supply the program and guidance so that you one day can have my glamorous yet fulfilling job!

Contact Shandi at Shandi@masquerade.ca

Thank you!



Upcoming Events!



- ◆ Mr. & Ms. Gio's Present "Phantom of the Pink Paradise" Featuring a few twists and turns on a Winnipeg Cult Classic!! Saturday March 21, 2009, Doors at 9, show at 10!
- ◆ Prom Night! Once again the prom you wish you'd had returns to Gio's! Come have your prom your way, Saturday April 18th!
- ◆ Shandi's final show as Ms. Gio's 2008-2009 Beginning with a meet & greet on Thursday April 23, Competition for the New Mr. & Ms. Gio's on Friday April 24th, Stepdown and Final Show on Saturday April 25th, and Brunch on Sunday April 26th. All events held at Gio's and all proceeds go towards supporting the bar and all GLBT* events held there throughout the year. Please come out and support Gio's and our past president and see many Masquerade members and friends be honoured!
- ◆ Hope to see you there!



Upcoming Meetings!



- ◆ Tuesday March 10, 2009, Meeting starts at 7:30 pm sharp. Theme Southern Belles and Daisy Dukes! Programming "All about bras!"
- ◆ Tuesday May 12, 2009. Meeting starts at 7:30 pm sharp. Theme TBA , Programming "Budgeting time and money for crossdressing."
- ◆ Every meeting! Girlstuff Fun! Makeup tips, dressing tips, making new friends! Dancing and socializing. Plus Raffle prize draws, Gift Certificates for Lady Godiva Boutique and more!

Get your own Girlstuff "@masquerade.ca" email address!
Free to members and can be forwarded to any existing email address!
Contact Sabrina for the details! sabrina_markes@masquerade.ca

Reminder! Don't forget to renew!

Upcoming Events

MARILYN MONROE: LIFE AS A LEGEND

March 28 to June 7, 2009

Visit www.wag.mb.ca/upcoming.asp

For more details!

She is one of the great icons of our time, celebrated for her beauty, powerful appeal, vulnerability, and her tragically young death.

Marilyn Monroe: Life as a Legend, coming to The Winnipeg Art Gallery from March 28 to June 7, captures the celebrity and the myth behind one of the most famous women of the 20th century in an exhibition of over 175 works of art, documenting her life and image. For decades, artists have been captivated by her, and they continue to respond as evidenced by the paintings, photographs, prints, and sculptures featured in this international exhibition.

Shandi would like to organize a group to go in May, so if you are interested in attending please email her at shandi@masquerade.ca



WHAT ALL STARTED AS A LITTLE SNACK, ENDS soon!

WHEN THE HONEYMOON'S OVER!

MR. & MS. GIO'S JAMIE & SHANDI STEPDOWN APRIL 24TH & 25TH, 2009

THE LADY & THE TRAMP
ARE BACK TO THE GRIND.
THEY DID IT ALL, NOW
IT'S TIME TO UNWIND.
WE ROCKED & WE ROLLED,
WE KICKED SOME ASS,
A NIGHT ON THE TOWN,
A GOOD TIME TO THE LAST.
IT'S OVER IT'S DONE,
THE FAT LADY HAS SUNG,
& NO HONEY, WE WEREN'T
TALKING ABOUT YOU.
YOU WERE LIP-SYNCING!



155 SMITH STREET | WINNIPEG, MB | GIOS.CA

GIO'S IS AN 18+ PRIVATE MEMBERSHIP CLUB. VALID ID REQUIRED TO ENTER



Masquerade

Where Boys Have Fun, Being Girls!

2009 Glamour Ball & Banquet

Sunday March 1, 2009

Thank you to all of our members, family, friends and supporters who attended and made it such a success!

Thank you also to everyone who worked hard to set up and run the event, Tess, Rhiannon, Felicia, Sabrina, Chantal, Ardra.

Thank you so much to the Board and Staff at Gio's for making us all feel so special, not only at this event, but all the time. Especially Mama C. who coordinated everything and got us the lovely and delicious cake! James for the beautiful posters and tickets. And Mike M. for the fantastic decorations, butterflies, lighting, staging, and sweat!

Tess, Gio's, and Lady Godiva Boutique for supplying the raffle prizes.

Air of Excitement for the Helium Balloons and air compressor.

The Illuminari Dance Troupe for the inspiring entertainment and fun!

www.masquerade.com



Lady Godiva Boutique
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155 Smith Street - 204.786.1236 - www.gios.ca

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Masquerade and the community!



Child Life Department

CH212, Children's Hospital

840 Sherbrook Street

Winnipeg, MB
R3A 1S1

Ph: (204) 787-2260

Fax: (204) 787-1965

March 5, 2009

Chantal Leah Delannoire

President

Masquerade Cross Dressing Social Group

c/o [chantal in heels@yahoo.ca](mailto:chantal_in_heels@yahoo.ca)

Dear Chantal and Members of the Masquerade Cross Dressing Social Group:

On behalf of the patients, families and staff, I would like to thank you for once again making a donation of beautiful mylar balloons to the Children's Hospital.

Your gift of butterfly balloons are just gorgeous! They will go a long way in beautifying the hospital environment for children and their families. The patients have be thrilled to receive them. We appreciate your thoughtfulness.

Thanks for helping children!

Sincerely,

Renée Ethans, CCLS

Manager

Child Life Department

Children's Hospital

Editor's note

A more complete story will be featured next issue. But needless to say we all should be very proud of Chantal's thoughtfulness on behalf of our group as once again she has shown others that we are more than what we wear.

Shandi

New Executive and more!

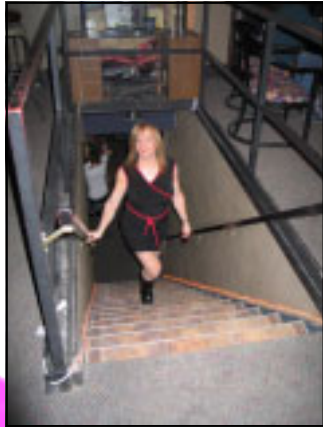


L to R Mary-Memberships, Ardra -Treasurer & Librarian, Chantal -President, Sabrina - Website, Felicia -Vice President, Shandi -Newsletter & Events, Rhiannon -Programming



February Meeting Photos

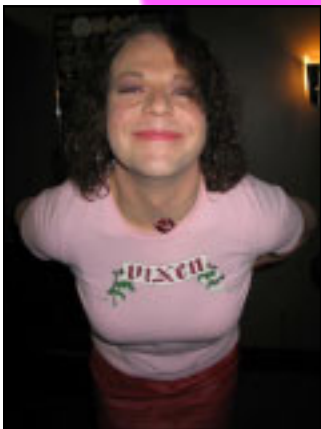
The February meeting featured our elections and a Valentine's theme!



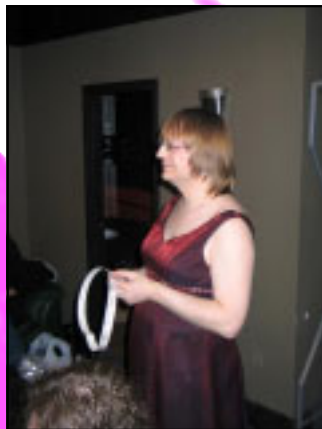
Last time up the stairs as club president!!



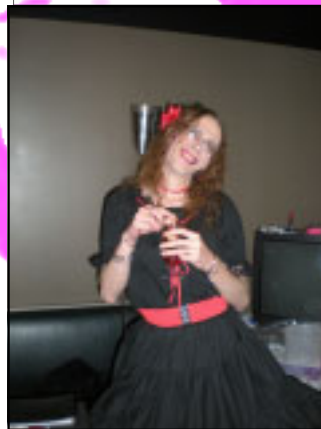
Ladies in theme!!!



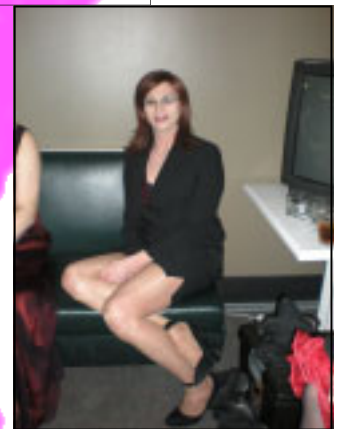
Felicia has fun!



Tess and raffle tickets!!



Ardra



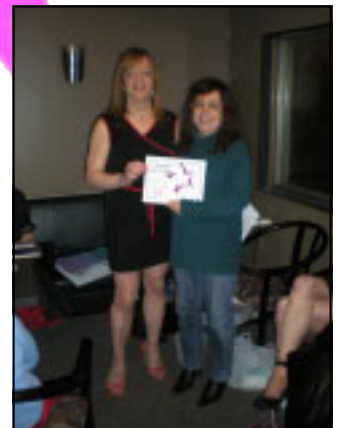
Chantal our new Pres!!



Tiffany's triumph!!



Kendra and Tess relax!!



Rhiannon's award!

Got photos, stories or tips to share?

Out and about!

February featured many fun filled events at Gio's, including Shandi's "son's" first performance on stage!



Shandi and Crystal at the Gio's Staff party!



Charm and Shandi at Gio's



Shandi and Crystal at Gio's Valentine's Party



Our Rockstar



Foxy Breanna!



"B.J.'s" first performance!



Christine & Shandi hangin' out!

...We want them! Email them to shandi@masquerade.ca!

Glamour Ball 2009!

Our annual Glamour Ball and Banquet was a fun time, thanks to everyone who helped out and partied with us!



Our Red Carpet photo girl
Sabrina!



Crystal and Natalie!



Mary and Andrea!



Our new VP Felicia!



A memorial for Tina.



Jean-Ann and Denise!



Tiffany, Christine and friend!



Linda and Angela!



Ardra and friend!



Sabrina and Mary!

This issue's photos courtesy of Sabrina, Shandi and Felicia!

Glamour Ball cont'd!

Everyone looked fabulous and had a great time celebrating all that is Masquerade!



Krystal joins us!!



Shandi and Sabrina!



Paula and Belinda!



Chantal and Rhaina!



Terry and Partner!!



10 years, Martina!



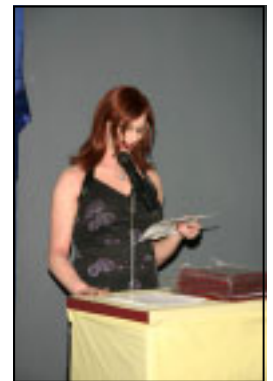
10 years, Paula!



10 years, Rhaina!



Tina Martin Award, Chantal!



First speech as President!



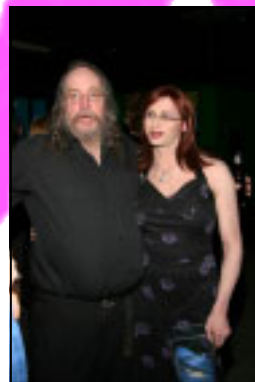
Patty and Vanessa!



Silly Martina!



Shandi and Crystal!



Bryan and Chantal!



Chantal and Shandi!

This issue's photos courtesy of Sabrina, Shandi and Chantal!

Glamour Ball cont'd!

More photos will be posted on our website soon!



Appreciation for Tess



Special appreciation for a very special Den Mother!



Illuminari Dance Troupe.



What a fabulous show!



Joining in for some fun!!



1st Official Duty!!



Our very own Ms. Gio's !



David dances for us!

This issue's photos courtesy of Sabrina, Shandi and Chantal!

Lady Godiva's



1475 Pembina Hwy!

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for all your
Girlstuff
needs!**



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* not applicable with
membership renewals

FREE \$25.00 Lady Godiva Gift certificate!*

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www.ladygodivaboutique.ca**

Phone 452-1100

MARCH EVENTS

SATURDAY MARCH 7TH WOMYN'S NIGHT

DJ IAN SPINNING ALL NIGHT
HAPPY HOUR UNTIL 10PM

SUNDAY MARCH 8TH ONE ACT, FOURPLAY

GD PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS A NIGHT OF
THEATRE FEATURING FOUR, ONE ACT PLAYS
WINE & CHEESE AT 7 - CURTAINS AT 8
TICKETS \$10 AVAILABLE AT GIO'S
DIRECTED BY TONY FROST

SATURDAY MARCH 14TH WLF PRESENTS: CIRCUS

WINNIPEG LEATHER FETISH IS
HOSING ANOTHER FABULOUS
FETISH EVENING AT GIO'S
LEATHER/FETISH DRESS CODE

SATURDAY MARCH 21ST MR. & MS. SHOW

IT'S MR. & MS. GIO'S FINAL BAR
SHOW, SO CELEBRATE THE END OF A
FABULOUS YEAR SHOW AT 10:00PM

WEEKLYEVENTS

MONDAY 4PM - 11PM: HAPPY HOUR PRICES

TUESDAY 4PM - 11PM: HAPPY HOUR PRICES

WEDNESDAY 4PM - 2AM: KARAOKE AT 10PM

THURSDAY 4PM - 11PM: HAPPY HOUR PRICES

FRIDAY 4PM - LATE: FULL HOUSE FRIDAYS

SATURDAY 4PM - 2AM: VISIT GIOS.CA FOR DETAILS

SUNDAY 4PM - 12AM: HAPPY HOUR PRICES

COULD YOU BE THE NEXT
MR. OR MS. GIO'S?



CONTEST RULES & APPLICATIONS

AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS SAT APRIL 11/09

THE MR. & MS. GIO'S PAGEANT WILL BE

HELD ON FRIDAY APRIL 24, 2009

STEPDOWN AND CROWNING WILL BE

HELD ON SATURDAY APRIL 25, 2009

FOR COMPLETE EVENT DETAILS PLEASE VISIT WWW.GIOS.CA

155 SMITH STREET - 204.786.1236 - WINNIPEG, MB

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