

## CREATIVE WORKS

**Body mapping: works-in-progress**

Participants in the recent body mapping workshop in Edmonton, Alberta, said it increased their awareness and appreciation of the various threads and storylines making up their lives. The 3 men, all of whom are HIV-positive, also noticed the sometimes limiting ways in which they had narrated their stories and gained an appreciation of everything that helped them to sustain their courage, integrity and hope. In addition, they experienced a renewed commitment to promoting increased acceptance and understanding that would help reduce the stigma of HIV.

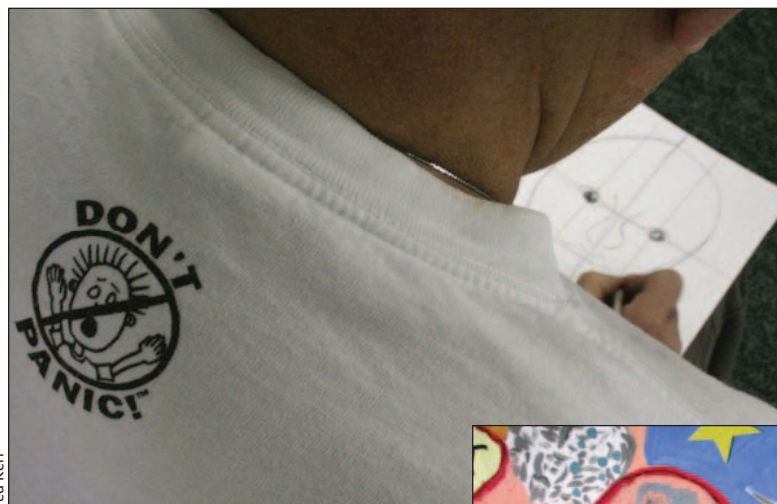
The process is explained in the following photographs. — Barbara Sibbald, *CMAJ*



Body mapping begins by outlining the body.



The artists then explored their identity through image and text. First, they inscribed their name and place of birth then they drew representations of significant personal memories and turning points, including those related to living with HIV.



Ted Kerr

Jim draws a draft of his face, which he then used to draw his face on the body map. "It is always surprising to participants, many of whom do not consider themselves to be artists, that they can indeed draw a face," said Ted Kerr, the workshop leader.



Ted Kerr

Jim with his body map.



Ted Kerr

David with his body map.