



worldpride

2014 · toronto · ontario · canada

JUNE 20-29, 2014

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0 **Backgrounder**

About WorldPride

About Pride Toronto

History of Pride Toronto Timeline

About WorldPride 2014 Toronto

2.0 **WorldPride 2014 FAQ**

3.0 **WorldPride 2014 Event Highlights**

4.0 **Biographies**

5.0 **Press Releases**

Call for presentations at the WorldPride
Human Rights Conference 2014

Pride Toronto to Promote WorldPride
2014 at WorldPride London 2012

6.0 **Photos**

7.0 **Contact Information**

BACKGROUND

ABOUT WORLDPRIDE

WorldPride is an international event that brings together LGBTTIQQ2SA* people from around the world to honour our past, celebrate the present, and inspire a better future for our communities everywhere.



InterPride, the international association of LGBTI Pride organizations around the world, awards the licence to host WorldPride to one of its member Prides every few years. The mission of InterPride is to increase the capacity of its members to raise awareness of cultural, social and legal inequality, and to effect positive change through education, collaboration, advocacy and outreach.

Pride Toronto will host the first WorldPride event ever held in North America from June 20 to 29, 2014. The first WorldPride celebration was held in Rome in 2000, followed by Jerusalem in 2006, and most recently London in 2012.

After Toronto, the next WorldPride will be held in Madrid, Spain in 2017. Toronto will hand over the emblem to the next host city as part of the closing ceremony in 2014.

ABOUT PRIDE TORONTO

Pride Toronto exists to celebrate the history, courage, diversity and future of Toronto's LGBTTIQQ2SA* communities. Pride Toronto is the volunteer-driven not-for-profit organization that hosts the city's Pride Festival, one of the premier arts and cultural festivals in Canada. The Pride Toronto festival is also one of the largest Pride celebrations in the world, with an estimated attendance of over 1.22 million people in 2012. Toronto's 33rd Pride Festival will take place from June 21-30, 2013.



*LGBTTIQQ2SA is an abbreviation used to represent a broad array of identities such as, but not limited to, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer, questioning, two-spirited and allies

HISTORY OF PRIDE TORONTO

- 1969** On August 28, the Canadian government decriminalizes homosexual acts for consenting adults over 21, under then-Justice Minister Pierre Trudeau. Trudeau utters his famous "the state has no place in the bedrooms of the nation" statement.
- 1971** Toronto's first "Gay Day Picnic" is held on the beach at Hanlan's Point.
- 1980** First official Pride Toronto Celebration.
- 1984** Church Street, the heart of Toronto's Church-Wellesley queer village, is closed for the first time. This annual tradition continues to this day on a much larger scale.
- 1987** Sexual Orientation is included in the Ontario Human Rights Code.
- 1991** Toronto City Council proclaims Pride Day for the first time. In November, openly gay candidate Kyle Rae wins seat as Toronto City Councillor for Ward 6.
- 1992** The Supreme Court of Canada rules that under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms and the Canadian Human Rights Act, gays and lesbians cannot be excluded from entering the Canadian Forces. The federal government does not appeal the ruling.
- 1996** The City of Toronto and the Pride Committee study Pride's economic impact, which shows that over \$46 million is spent by Pride tourists.
- 1998** Toronto's new mayor Mel Lastman participates in the annual Pride Parade for the first time, having a fantastic time getting soaked by revelers with power water guns.
- 1999** Corporate sponsorship revenues are higher than ever and put Pride Toronto on firm financial footing for the next year.
- 2001** For the first time, the City of Toronto's Official Proclamation of Pride Week includes bisexuals, transsexuals, and transgendered people. Canadian newspaper The Globe and Mail reports that Toronto's Pride parade has become "a Canadian institution."
- 2006** Toronto's Pride Parade is lead by Pride Toronto's first International Grand Marshal, highlighting the issues of inequality faced by our brothers and sisters worldwide and honoured the heroes of Toronto's own queer community past and present.
- 2009** On October 18, at InterPride's annual conference in St. Petersburg, Florida, Pride Toronto wins the bid to host WorldPride in 2014, over rival Stockholm, Sweden.
- 2010** Pride Toronto celebrates its 30th festival.
- 2012** On June 13, the Ontario government passes Bill 33 (Toby's Act), which amends the Ontario Human Rights Code to include gender identity and gender expression, making Ontario the first major jurisdiction in North America to provide human rights protection for transgendered people.
- 2013** Toronto's 33rd annual Pride Festival is celebrated from June 21-30, with the theme "Superqueer!"
- 2014** **Toronto hosts WorldPride 2014**, the largest event of its kind.

BACKGROUND

ABOUT WORLDPRIDE 2014 TORONTO

The journey toward WorldPride 2014 Toronto began on October 18, 2009 when Toronto was named as the host city for WorldPride 2014 at the annual InterPride Conference in St. Petersburg, Florida. Toronto won the bid over rival, Stockholm, Sweden.

Pride Toronto was handed over the Official WorldPride Emblem at Trafalgar Square, London, UK on Saturday July 7, 2012 at the close of their WorldPride event.

WorldPride 2014 Toronto (WP14TO) is an international celebration incorporating activism, education, and the history and culture of global LGBTTIQQ2SA communities. Highlighting Canada's continued progress in human rights, WP14TO also celebrates the diversity and dynamism of Toronto, one of the world's most progressive and livable cities. WP14TO will mark the first WorldPride celebration ever held in North America, and the fourth such festival in the world.

WorldPride 2014 is produced by Pride Toronto, under license from InterPride.

WORLDPRIDE 2014 FAQ

Will there be two Pride celebrations in Toronto in 2014?

No. WorldPride is being presented by Pride Toronto. In 2014, Pride Toronto's annual Pride Festival will be replaced by WorldPride 2014 Toronto. In 2015, the annual Pride Festival will return.

How many people are expected to attend WorldPride in Toronto?

We are proud that in 2011, Pride Toronto attracted more than 1.2 people. In 2014 we are hoping to welcome over 1.5 million visitors, from Toronto, Ontario, Canada and all around the world.

What makes WorldPride 2014 Toronto different from the regular annual Pride festival in Toronto?

Prides across the world are local by nature and reflect, but are part of a global movement. WorldPride 2014 Toronto gives the opportunity for a link to be made between these local movements and a platform and space for them to come together over the course of a 10-day festival.

Will WorldPride 2014 Toronto events be held solely in the downtown area?

No. While most of the events will happen in the Greater Toronto Area, they will not necessarily be concentrated in the Church-Wellesley Village area. We are looking to engage organizations and individuals from across the Greater Toronto Area.

Can I make my event part of the official WorldPride Festival calendar?

There are several ways to affiliate your event with WorldPride 2014 Toronto. Watch WP14TO.com for more information soon.

WORLDPRIDE 2014 FAQ

I would like to hold a fundraiser to support WorldPride 2014 Toronto. Can I do this?

Absolutely! We welcome any support to help us make this the best event it can possibly be. Soon we will be launching a program with guidelines to make this process as easy as possible. But don't let that stop you from organizing your event. Contact us and let us know what you are planning.

I would like to become an official sponsor for WorldPride 2014 Toronto, who do I talk to?

WorldPride 2014 Toronto is a great opportunity for businesses to reach the LGBTTIQQ2SA international and local markets. We encourage you to contact Pride Toronto's Director of Development (ben@pridetoronto.com) to talk about the various opportunities available.

I am planning an event in support of WorldPride 2014 Toronto, can I use the WorldPride logo from your website?

We welcome any support of WorldPride 2014 Toronto. Pride Toronto, under license from InterPride, has been asked to manage the WorldPride brand. Part of the success of the event will be to build awareness as far and wide as we can. However, we ask that you work with us by emailing us at worldpride@pridetoronto.com and letting us know how you would like to use the WorldPride branding. We can then make sure you have the best tools to include in your promotions.

How can I volunteer for WP14TO?

We will have many volunteer opportunities at WorldPride as we welcome the world to Toronto. We will be especially interested in recruiting volunteers who speak other languages than English. Some people volunteer year-round to help create our Festival, others give a few hours of their time. If you are interested in volunteering, please email our Volunteer Program Manager, Kiona Sinclair at kiona@pridetoronto.com.

WORLDPRIDE 2014 EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

NOTE: MOST EVENTS WILL BE FREE TO THE PUBLIC

ALL WEEK	Arts and Culture Festival with major cultural organizations
JUNE 20	Opening Ceremony
JUNE 23	Flag Raising at City Hall
JUNE 25-27	WP14TO International Human Rights Conference & Program
JUNE 26	WorldPride Gala and Awards
JUNE 27-29	Streetfair and Arts & Culture Festival
JUNE 27	Trans March
JUNE 28	Dyke March, Pride and Remembrance Run, Stonewall 45th Anniversary
JUNE 29	Pride Parade and WP14TO Closing Ceremony

BIOGRAPHIES

FRANCISCO ALVAREZ

Co-Chair



Francisco Alvarez is an experienced arts and communications leader with a strong history of volunteer work in Toronto's LGBTQ2SA community.

Currently managing an art consulting business, Francisco previously spent 14 years at the Royal

Ontario Museum, initially as Director of Communications prior to becoming Managing Director of the Institute for Contemporary Culture.

He was one of the co-founders of Inside Out, Toronto's Lesbian and Gay Film Festival, where he remained for ten years. He has also served as co-chair of Dancers for Life, a major annual fundraiser for the AIDS Committee of Toronto and has proudly served on several other Boards in Toronto.

Francisco has been a Pride Toronto Board member since February 2009, serving as Co-Chair of the Board since September 2010.

SEAN HILLIER

Co-Chair



Sean has been involved with Pride Toronto for over five years, most recently as Coordinator for the Public Safety Committee in 2011.

He is currently completing his PhD in Policy Studies at Ryerson University. His research focuses on both First Nations and Trans People and the impact

policy has on related healthcare issues. Sean is also a Director of the Board for Our Place Community of Hope, a mental health drop-in centre located in midtown Toronto.

Sean has focused a great deal of his attention on governance and community outreach. He has worked alongside high school students to strongly advocate for Gay Straight Alliances (GSAs), in addition to LGBT educational outreach programs in numerous low-income communities throughout the city. As a member of the Qalipu Mi'kmiq First Nations Band who identifies as gay and 2-Spirited, Sean has also worked with First Nations communities through his academic research (MA 2010 in Critical Disability Studies) and has forged many relationships with two-spirited and LGBT members.

BIOGRAPHIES

KEVIN BEAULIEU

Executive Director



Kevin Beaulieu joined Pride Toronto as Executive Director in 2012.

Since 2003, Kevin has served as a Toronto City Council Executive Assistant, most recently to Toronto City Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam, whose ward includes the Church-Wellesley

neighbourhood, which hosts the majority of Pride Toronto's events. This position allowed him to work with local community organizations, business associations, labour groups and media on a broad range of community issues.

Prior to his time at City Hall, Kevin served as the Coordinator for Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals and Transpeople at the University of Toronto (LGBTOUT), overseeing the well-known Homohop and other student community events and campaigns. He was also involved in grassroots advocacy campaigns such as the Party People Project/iDance Rally and June 13 Committee.

CHRYSTAL DEAN

WorldPride Manager

Chrystal hails from Sydney, Australia, but if asked would call Tasmania home. She has spent the last three years living and working abroad in both London, UK and Toronto. She joined the Pride Toronto team in February 2013.



Chrystal brings with her over seven years experience in event production, marketing and coordination within the arts and cultural sector. Perhaps her proudest achievement to date, is her two years as Vice President of TasPride, a not-for-profit organization focused on celebrating, promoting and uniting the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer (LGBTIQ) community in Tasmania, Australia. During her tenure, she saw the organization through a transition from small community organization to presenter of major events on the national LGBT calendar, including a two-week arts and cultural festival.

She also spent five years working for the Tasmanian Department of Economic Development, Tourism and the Arts running signature recognition events and conferences for the sport and recreation, and screen (film, television and digital media) industries.

Chrystal has a BA in Communication Studies, with majors in Public Relations and Media Production. She also has a massive crush on Toronto, and can't wait to see it as the backdrop for the world's biggest international LGBTTIQQ2SA event in 2014.

PRESS RELEASES

CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS AT THE WORLDPRIDE HUMAN RIGHTS CONFERENCE 2014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

12 April, 2013 (Toronto, Canada) The Mark S. Bonham Centre for Sexual Diversity Studies at the University of Toronto and Pride Toronto are thrilled to announce their partnership to present The WorldPride Human Rights Conference 2014. Taking place June 25 – 27, 2014 in the heart of downtown Toronto, Canada, The WorldPride Human Rights Conference 2014 provides a unique opportunity for a global dialogue about LGBTTIQQ2SA human rights. For more information, visit www.wphrc14.com.

Activists, artists, educators, journalists, policymakers, students, and others engaged in

LGBTTIQQ2SA human rights around the world are invited to submit their presentations for consideration in The WorldPride Human Rights Conference 2014. Starting today, applications are available online and are due June 15, 2013. Possible themes for presentations include Schools and Education, Trans Rights and Activism, Indigenous Peoples, The Role of Law, HIV/AIDS, and

Brenda Cossman and Doug Kerr, co-chairs of The WorldPride Human Rights Conference 2014, are delighted to welcome participants from around the world to the University of Toronto for this dynamic three-day conference. They state: “This is a groundbreaking event for the Bonham Centre and Pride Toronto. We are thrilled that this is the first time such a major human rights conference on sexual diversity has been held in Toronto.”

Pride Toronto Board co-chairs Francisco Alvarez and Sean Hillier are looking forward to this important global dialogue about LGBTTIQQ2SA human rights, explaining: “Working towards reaching true equality for our communities everywhere in the world is one of the key reasons we are hosting WorldPride 2014 in Toronto. Everybody who attends or hears about our event – the largest international LGBTTIQQ2SA celebration in the world – will get the message that our struggle still continues. We look forward to hosting the world’s leading activists and theorists at the conference, where they will inspire us by sharing their strategies and success stories.”

- 30 -

The Mark S. Bonham Centre for Sexual Diversity Studies at University College, University of Toronto offers an undergraduate program, a collaborative graduate program, hosts academic and community events, and promotes research into sexuality. It is a hub forging connections among faculty, students, and community members interested in questions about how we understand sexual diversity and sexual practices. For more information, visit www.uc.utoronto.ca/sexualdiversity.

For more information about The World Pride Human Rights Conference 2014, or to book an interview, please contact:

Brenda Cossman, Director of the Bonham Centre for Sexual Diversity Studies & Co-Chair of The WorldPride Human Rights Conference 2014, (416) 819-1921 b.cossman@utoronto.ca

Sean Hillier, Pride Toronto Co-Chair, sean.hillier@pridetoronto.com

PHOTOS



PHOTOS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST FROM: chrystal@pridetoronto.com

CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information on WorldPride 2014 Toronto,
please contact one of the following individuals:

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GENERAL INQUIRIES

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InterPride

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