



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pride Winnipeg Festival Expanded and 2014 Theme Revealed

(Winnipeg, MB; January 30, 2014) – After an extremely successful 2013 Pride Festival, which saw over 30,000 people participate in the festivities, Pride Winnipeg announced today at The Forks Market, that the 2014 Pride Festival will be bigger and better than ever with an even greater focus on breaking down barriers.

The Pride Winnipeg Festival, which this year runs from May 23rd – June 1st, is one of the largest Pride celebrations between Toronto and Vancouver. Today, Pride Winnipeg revealed its 2014 Parade & Festival Theme as “WITHOUT BORDERS”.

The theme takes its cues from LGBTTTQ* history, the celebration of hard-won victories for equality and justice, a vision of equality for all, and a deep desire to make real change at home and abroad. The theme is centred on the overarching theme of Pride itself: of being “Out and Proud” as a group, as a movement, and as an ideal. To encourage others to be unashamed of their identity and to march proudly. It’s concentrated on the vision of a world WITHOUT BORDERS both in a global sense for justice and equality, and also in a personal sense, for freedom of one’s own expression without barriers.

“Borders are continually being brought down as our world becomes a more global community,” explained Pride Winnipeg President, Jonathan Niemczak. “A perfect example would be the global reaction to anti-gay legislation in Russia, Uganda, India and Nigeria, along with the outrage in response to vicious attacks against transgender people across the world.”

Pride Winnipeg also announced today that the Pride Forks Festival, which occurs on Pride Day (the first Sunday in June), will now begin on the Saturday before. By beginning on Saturday, Pride Winnipeg will be able to further meet the demands of festival-goers for more programming, an expanded Queer Beer Tent, more time to take in the festivities and also an opportunity to draw more attention to community-run events such as the Winnipeg DykeMarch.

“The Pride Forks Festival is tons of fun and is free for everyone,” said Niemczak. “Just wait until we reveal our headliners in March.”

For more information about the Pride Winnipeg Festival please visit www.pridewinnipeg.com or on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/PrideWinnipegFestival>.

Pride Winnipeg – The Pride of the Prairies – is one of the largest celebrations between Toronto and Vancouver of LGBTTTQ* (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and two-spirited, intersex, and queer/questioning) people and their allies, supporters and friends. Our mission is to affirm the lives of everyone by generating and participating in events that celebrate the history, culture, spirit and pride of people within the Winnipeg community. We invite everyone from far and wide to join our welcoming city and celebrate Pride in Winnipeg – the heart of the continent.

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