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## **Pride Winnipeg announces global focus with “Unity” theme for Pride 2011**

**Winnipeg, MB** – Pride Winnipeg is pleased to announce its theme for Pride 2011: “Unity.” The choice of theme is a reflection of recent events affecting LGBTTQ communities around the world, including the brutal arrest of Moscow Pride organizer Nikolai Alekseev, and a spate of tragic teenage suicides in the U.S. as a result of homophobia-related bullying.

“While we celebrate the progress we have made in terms of legal and human rights at home, we recognize that others around the world still struggle because they lack the freedom to be who they are,” says Pride Winnipeg chair Barb Burkowski. “We invite people to join us next June to celebrate our victories and to protest on behalf of those who are still suffering.”

The theme for Pride 2011 was unveiled at a special screening and launch party on Oct. 9, during the Reel Pride Film Festival. Pride Winnipeg was pleased to present the Winnipeg premiere of *Beyond Gay – The Politics of Pride*.

*Beyond Gay – The Politics of Pride* is the most comprehensive look ever at Pride marches and festivals around the world. This feature-length documentary follows members of the Vancouver Pride Society as they travel to places where Pride is still steeped in protest, to personally experience the rampant homophobia that still exists. They also travel to Sao Paulo Brazil for the world’s largest gay parade and New York City, the birthplace of the modern gay liberation movement.

“It’s easy to think of LGBTTQ communities divided by geographic region, and turn a blind eye to what’s going on in the world around us. We need to stand united with our queer brothers and sisters around the world and put a stop – once and for all – to violence and hatred,” says Burkowski.



For more information about Pride Winnipeg, please visit our official website at [www.pridewinnipeg.com](http://www.pridewinnipeg.com).

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