



November 7th, 2012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRIDE WINNIPEG AND RAINBOW RESOURCE CENTRE TO MARCH IN SANTA CLAUS PARADE
Organizations Want Youth to be Proud

Winnipeg, MB – For the first time in its 25 year history, Pride Winnipeg will march in another city parade and will be joined by the Rainbow Resource Centre. On November 17th, members of Pride Winnipeg and the Rainbow Resource Centre will join in the festivities of The Santa Claus Parade to further their commitment of participating in events that celebrate history, culture, spirit and pride to strengthen the lives of the citizens of Winnipeg.

"The Rainbow Resource Centre is proud to participate in this family fun focused event, representing families with LGBTTT* youth and families with same sex parents," said Matt Wiebe, President of the Rainbow Resource Centre. "We look forward to an amazing fun filled day as our city Santa Claus Parade becomes ever more welcoming and inclusive."

Together, Pride Winnipeg and the Rainbow Resource Centre hope to bring more awareness to youth harassment and suicide by showing that being LGBTTT* is something to be proud of everyday.

"This year Pride Winnipeg will be joining the Santa Claus Parade to show our continuing commitment to the community," said Jonathan Niemczak, President of Pride Winnipeg. "With the recent focus on bullying and youth suicide, Pride Winnipeg felt it was imperative to join youth-oriented celebrations to demonstrate that we are committed to being accessible, supportive and an every-day part of society. Pride Winnipeg wants to show youth that they need to be proud of who they are all year long."

In tradition with Pride marches, members of Pride Winnipeg and the Rainbow Resource Centre will walk in The Santa Claus Parade, but to coincide with the celebration, will don festive gear and hand out candy.

Members of Pride Winnipeg and the Rainbow Resource Centre will be in attendance at the 11 A.M. media launch for The Santa Claus Parade on Thursday, November 8, 2012 at City Hall.

Pride Winnipeg – *The Pride of the Prairies* – is the largest celebration between Toronto and Vancouver of LGBTTT* (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.

The Rainbow Resource Centre is a not-for-profit community organization that provides support and resources to the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and two-spirit, intersex, queer, questioning and ally (LGBTTT*) Communities and Families by providing comprehensive education and outreach services, accessible counseling and other programs and services.

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