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For immediate release

## **David Pepper and Winnipeg “Group of 5” lead this year’s Pride Parade**

**Winnipeg, MB** – Pride Winnipeg is pleased to announce that activist David Pepper and members of the Winnipeg “Group of 5” will lead this year’s Pride Parade on June 5, 2011. Pepper will also speak at the rally at 11:30 a.m. on the grounds of the Manitoba legislature, to kick off the parade through downtown.

Pepper recently launched the North Star Triangle Project, aimed at mobilizing members of the LGBTTQ\* community to support refugees who are persecuted in their homeland because of their sexuality. The Winnipeg “Group of 5” is a group of individuals who have already committed to supporting a refugee to Winnipeg.

“David Pepper reminds us that although we enjoy many rights and freedoms in our country, there are others around the world who still suffer because of who they love,” says Pride Winnipeg chair Barb Burkowski. “As we celebrate Pride this year with a ‘Unity’ theme we want to acknowledge the inspiring work of David Pepper and the North Star Triangle Project.”

Pepper, who grew up in Brandon, is currently touring the country to raise awareness about the plight of refugees. This spring, he launched his tour in Winnipeg because Winnipeg is an immigrant city, and the future home of the Canadian Museum for Human Rights.

For more information about the North Star Triangle Project please visit <http://northstartriangle.blogspot.com/>. For more information about Pride Winnipeg – and to download a map of lesbian and gay rights around the world – please visit [www.pridewinnipeg.com](http://www.pridewinnipeg.com).



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