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Pride Toronto establishes CAP Implementation/Policy Advisory Committee

Toronto, ON – Pride Toronto has announced the formation of the CAP Implementation/ Policy Advisory Committee. This new committee will provide strategic advice and expertise to the Pride Toronto board of directors, to successfully manage the implementation of the recommendations of the recent Community Advisory Panel (CAP) report, including undertaking an immediate search for a new interim Executive Director for Pride Toronto.

"Pride Toronto is actively committed to implementing the Community Advisory Panel recommendations in partnership with our community stakeholders," said Francisco Alvarez, Co-Chair of Pride Toronto. "The creation of the CAP Implementation/Policy Advisory Committee is the first of many concrete actions that we are taking to deliver a renewed and reinvigorated Pride festival this year."

The members of the CAP Implementation/Policy Advisory Committee are:

Alec Butler, 2-spirit/intersex/trans activist, filmmaker and writer
Angela Robertson (Committee Co-Chair), CAP member
Francisco Alvarez, Pride Toronto board Co-Chair
Glen Brown, independent consultant
Kavita Joshi, CAP member, director in RBC's Client Strategies Group
Luka Amona (Committee Co-Chair), Pride Toronto board of directors
Maura Lawless, Executive Director, The 519 Community Centre
Paul Daniel, Producer-Specialty Programs, Accessible Media Inc. (AMI)
Scott Ferguson, Executive Director, Inside Out
Shannon Ryan, Executive Director, BlackCAP

The CAP Implementation Committee is actively working to deliver the following overall objectives: developing a work plan to prioritize and implement the CAP recommendations in four broad areas: community relations, board governance, financial management and operations; establishing clear timelines and leadership responsibilities for implementation of the recommendations; creating a mechanism to monitor and report on progress to the Board of Pride Toronto board, our members and the broader community; and, producing an effective communications plan to support its work.

Background

In June 2010, Pride Toronto appointed a Community Advisory Panel (CAP) to provide the Board of Pride Toronto with high level strategic recommendations to protect and advance the overall



objectives of Pride and to ensure that those objectives are reflective of the community's priorities while recognizing and valuing diversity, equity, and respectful expression.

The Community Advisory Panel undertook a comprehensive community consultation process and on February 17, 2011, released its findings that included 133 recommendations. The Board of Pride Toronto has in principle fully endorsed the report and its recommendations. One of the recommendations included the establishment of an implementation / policy advisory committee to guide Pride Toronto in the realization of the panel recommendations. The Committee's first meeting was held on March 15, 2011.

More information about the committee members and its terms of reference will be posted on the Pride Toronto website at <http://www.pridetoronto.com>.

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About Pride Toronto:

Pride Toronto is a not-for-profit organization that hosts Pride Week, an annual festival held during the first weekend of July in downtown Toronto. Pride Toronto exists to celebrate the history, courage, diversity, and future of Toronto's LGBTTIQQ2SA* communities and is one of the leading cultural events of its kind in the world.

Toronto's Pride Week has been named Best Festival in Canada by the Canadian Special Events Industry in 2004, 2005, and 2009, and is recognized as one of only eight Signature Events in the City of Toronto. It is ranked one of the TOP 50 festivals in Ontario by Festivals and Events Ontario (FEO) as well as one of the 18 Marquee Festivals of Distinction in Canada. With attendance of over 1.2 million, it is the third largest Pride celebration in the world and the largest in North America.

* Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transsexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer, Questioning, 2-Spirited, and Allies