



**NEWS RELEASE**

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## **Pride Toronto unveils theme for Pride Week 2005**

**TORONTO, February 9, 2005** — Pride Toronto announced today the theme of this year's milestone anniversary Pride Week: 'Pride: 25 years and counting.'

"This is a strong statement that acknowledges that the queer community has only recently been recognized in society and that there was a time when it was almost invisible," said Pride Toronto Co-chair Natasha Garda. "With same-sex legislation currently before the House of Commons, this theme is a bold assertion that we now count as full members of Canadian society."

'Pride: 25 years and counting!' reflects the collective history of Toronto's queer community and looks ahead to a bright future. From its first official event in 1981, at which 1,500 people gathered for an afternoon celebration, Pride Week has grown and evolved into a week-long cultural festival, attracting about one million people and culminating in the renowned Pride Parade.

### **About Pride Toronto**

Pride Toronto ([www.pridetoronto.com](http://www.pridetoronto.com)) is the not-for-profit organization that hosts Pride Week, an annual festival held during the last week of June in downtown Toronto. Pride Week is Canada's largest celebration of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transsexual, transgender, intersex and queer people, and is one of the leading cultural events of its kind in the world.

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