

EX6.21.36



May 24, 2011

Dear members of the Executive Committee,

Pride Toronto is important to the Pride and Remembrance Association (PRA), the all-volunteer association that organizes Toronto's annual Pride and Remembrance Run (PRR). In 2011, the PRA will be holding the 16<sup>th</sup> annual PRR. For now 15 years, the PRR has taken place in very close proximity to Pride and we are often seen as an integral part of Toronto's Pride celebrations.

Our event is completely volunteer run and lead. We support important community initiatives and promote health and well being. We work in partnership with Pride Toronto on site and logistical concerns. With the help of corporate sponsors we pay for road closures and other run amenities – we receive no money from the city and no money from Pride Toronto. We are concerned that if Pride Toronto were not to get funding from the City of Toronto, they could become bankrupt and put the PRA in a compromised situation. Could there be a Pride Run with out Pride Toronto?

In 1996, we had 324 participants and raised about \$8,000. By 2008, we had over 1000 participants and raised over \$100,000. Over the past 15 years, our participants have raised about \$800,000 for a dozen charitable organizations that have provided services and benefits to the Lesbian, Gay, Bi and Transgendered (LGBT) community. This year's beneficiaries are the AIDS Committee of Toronto and the Triangle Program of the Toronto District School Board.

Pride Toronto brings large numbers of tourist dollars to Toronto. The upcoming World Pride planned for 2014 will be an even larger event, but this is contingent on the continued financial health and existence of Pride Toronto. Plain and simple, Pride is good for Toronto's economy. Most importantly, Pride is a celebration of our human rights and recognition that LGBT community, though a minority, is a vibrant and integral part of the greater Toronto community.

Sincerely,

Bernardine Pereira  
Co-President  
Pride and Remembrance Association