

# **UNITED JEWISH PEOPLE'S ORDER – Toronto**

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April 22, 2013

Via email: [exc@toronto.ca](mailto:exc@toronto.ca)

City of Toronto  
Executive Council  
10th floor, West Tower, City Hall  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Executive Council Members:

The United Jewish People's Order (UJPO) is a progressive, secular Jewish organization, and has a history of principled defence of the oppressed. True to our tradition, we stand in solidarity with those Israelis and Palestinians who fight for peace based on freedom, equality and justice.

We support the reports from city staff submitted on April 9, 2013. The Toronto Board of the United Jewish Peoples Order (UJPO) strongly believes that there should be no censorship of the political message of groups such as Queers Against Israeli Apartheid (QuAIA) who have, for many years, marched in the Pride Parade. Therefore, we urge the members of the Executive Committee to follow the recommendations laid out in the reports.

The McCarthyist attempt to silence and marginalize one particular group in Pride is an attack on LGBTQ peoples' rights of political expression, and as such, it is an attack on all supporters of human rights. We demand that Pride be able to continue to receive city funding while being open to free expression of all political opinions, including those of QuAIA, without any undemocratic conditions or restrictions.

Respectfully,

Henry Lowi

On behalf of the Toronto Board of Directors of the United Jewish People's Order