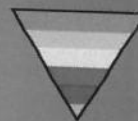




A Face, A Space and A Place
Phone (905) 895-2371 • Fax (905) 895-2389
www.fsyr.ca



March 3rd, 2011

Mr. Denis Kelly, Regional Clerk,
Regional Municipality of York,
17250 Yonge Street,
Newmarket, Ontario L3Y 6Z1



RE: York Region PRIDE Week – June 5-12, 2011

Dear Mr. Kelly,

On behalf of the York Region PRIDE Committee, we are writing to request your participation in PRIDE Week 2011.

The YORK PRIDE FEST Committee is a group of volunteer leaders who assemble each year to organize York Region's Pride Week celebrations. This year marks the eleventh anniversary of Pride Week celebrations in York Region. On behalf of the YORK PRIDE FEST Committee, we are requesting participation and leadership from the Regional Municipality of York through the Recognition of PRIDE WEEK June 5th to June 12th, 2011. This Recognition would be a valued acknowledgement of the lives and contributions of people of all sexual orientations and gender identities living in York Region.

To increase awareness, over the past two years it has been one of our goals to organize the flying of the Rainbow Flag across the region during Pride Week. Previously, this had occurred in York Region only once in 2002, even though many neighbouring towns outside York Region have regularly raised this flag on civic flagpoles during their own pride weeks. In response to our requests in 2009 and 2010, we were delighted and thankful to the city of Vaughan and towns of Aurora, Georgina, Markham and Newmarket, for flying the Rainbow Flag in their municipalities during Pride Week. We request that during Pride Week 2011 the Rainbow Flag be raised in the Regional Municipality of York, in celebration of diversity and protection of equality. If needed, we would be delighted to provide a flag of a size to meet your preference.

Please visit the York Region PRIDE FEST website at www.yorkpridefest.com for up-to-date information about events scheduled throughout Pride Week. Also feel free to contact Barbara Urman at 905-780-9927 ext. 225 or burman@fsyr.ca.

We thank you for your consideration and look forward to welcoming you to some of the exciting activities happening throughout York Region during Pride Week.

Sincerely,

Elisha Laker, MSW,RSW
Executive Director,
Family Services York Region

Mike Taggart
Committee Chair,
York Pride Fest

Barbara Urman, MSW,RSW
Committee Co-Chair,
York Pride Fest