



Request to Council:

Declaration of Pride Month and Raising of the Pride Flag

April 22, 2025

Dear Council Members,

On behalf of Stratford-Perth Pride, I respectfully request that your municipality proclaim June as Pride Month and raise the progress Pride flag for the duration of the month. This meaningful act is a visible and powerful show of support for the 2SLGBTQIA+ community and a recognition of their vital contributions to our municipality.

Raising the Pride flag demonstrates a commitment to inclusion, diversity, and equality. It sends a clear message to all residents—especially those who identify as 2SLGBTQIA+—that they are seen, valued, and supported in their community. It also affirms your municipality's commitment to creating safe, welcoming spaces for all people, regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.

Pride Month is celebrated globally each June to honour the Stonewall Uprising in New York City on June 28, 1969—a pivotal moment in the 2SLGBTQIA+ rights movement. It is a time to recognize the history, achievements, and resilience of the community, while also acknowledging the ongoing challenges, including disproportionate experiences of homelessness, poverty, discrimination, and bullying that still impact many 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals. Though symbolic, raising the Pride flag and issuing a formal proclamation have real and lasting impacts. These actions foster a sense of belonging and solidarity, and they demonstrate leadership in advancing equity and human rights for all.

Stratford-Perth Pride is a volunteer-run, incorporated not-for-profit founded in 2017. Our mission is to provide inclusive programming, education, and resources that make every corner of Perth County a more welcoming place for gender- and sexually diverse individuals. Our vision is a community—across Stratford, St. Marys, and Perth County—where everyone, regardless of who they love or how they identify, can live with safety, dignity, and pride.

We would welcome the opportunity to engage in further discussion about this request and are available to support your Council and staff in developing more inclusive practices. Please don't hesitate to reach out.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We hope you will stand with us by declaring June as Pride Month and raising the Pride flag in celebration and solidarity.

Yours in Pride,

Brock Hart (he/him)

President & Board Chair

Stratford-Perth Pride