

From: ["Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca)

To: ["Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"](#)

Date: 6/30/2021 4:28:55 PM

Subject: Pride Week - July 26 to August 1

Attachments: image001.png

[PrideWeek\\_Memo to Council\\_June29.pdf](#)

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Dear Mayor and Council,

The attached memo provides an overview of the City's plans to celebrate Pride Week from Monday, July 26 to Sunday, August 1, 2021.

The City of Vancouver is participating in the following Pride Week activities for 2021:

- Virtual Pride Launch, Proclamation and Flag Raising, July 26 from 11:30 am to 1 pm
- Micro-Weddings for LGBTQAI2S+ Couples, July 26 from 9 am to 5 pm:
- Pride Week Flags at Vancouver City Hall, July 26 to August 1
- Virtual Pride Parade, August 1 from NOON until approximately 2 pm

Please contact Katrina Leckovic, City Clerk, at [Katrina.leckovic@vancouver.ca](mailto:Katrina.leckovic@vancouver.ca) or 604.873.7998 with questions regarding this memo.

Best,

Paul

**Paul Mochrie** (he/him)

City Manager

City of Vancouver

[paul.mochrie@vancouver.ca](mailto:paul.mochrie@vancouver.ca)



The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

**MEMORANDUM**

June 29, 2021

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Paul Mochrie, City Manager  
Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager  
Lynda Graves, Administration Services Manager, City Manager's Office  
Maria Pontikis, Director, Civic Engagement and Communications  
Anita Zaenker, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office  
Neil Monckton, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office  
Alvin Singh, Communications Director, Mayor's Office  
Lesley Matthews, Chief, External Relations and Protocol

FROM: Katrina Leckovic  
City Clerk

SUBJECT: Pride Week 2021

RTS #: N/A

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**PURPOSE**

This memo provides an overview of the City's plans to celebrate Pride Week from Monday, July 26 to Sunday, August 1, 2021.

**BACKGROUND**

Pride Week is a Council approved annual event as per Council report RTS# 6438 entitled *Annual Event Guidelines – Honours/Awards and National/International*. Each year, the City and Vancouver Pride Society (VPS) partner to host a launch event at Vancouver City Hall on the last Monday of July to proclaim Pride Week in Vancouver and raise the Pride Flags on the large flag poles located on the north lawn. The City of Vancouver also participates in the annual Pride Parade on the BC long weekend, which is the final event of Pride Week. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, for the second year in a row, the Pride launch event at City Hall and the Pride Parade will be virtual events.

## DISCUSSION

The City of Vancouver is participating in the following Pride Week activities for 2021:

- **Virtual Pride Launch, Proclamation and Flag Raising**

**July 26 from 11:30 am – 1 pm**

The Pride launch event will take place in the Councillors' parking lot on the north side of Vancouver City Hall. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the anticipated noise from the Broadway Subway construction, the event will be brief and the public will be invited to view the event online rather than attend in person. Electronic invitations with links to the livestream will be sent to Council and the public in July.

The program will include emcee Travis Angus, President, Greater Vancouver Native Cultural Society, representatives of each of the three Nations delivering a welcome (confirmation of attendance pending), Mayor Kennedy Stewart delivering remarks, reading the Pride Week Proclamation and presenting it to the Co-Chairs of the VPS who will conclude the event with closing remarks. All speakers will then join together to raise the Pride Progress Flag and Trans Flag on the large flag poles.

The event will be livestreamed on VPS' Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/VancouverPrideSociety> and can be found on VPS' website at the following link [https://vancouverpride.ca/live-stream/\[vancouverpride.ca\]](https://vancouverpride.ca/live-stream/[vancouverpride.ca]). The City of Vancouver and VPS will promote the event on its public websites and social channels.

- **Micro-Weddings for LGBTQAI2S+ Couples**

**July 26 from 9 am – 5 pm:**

The City and VPS will partner to host nine micro-wedding ceremonies exclusively for LGBTQAI2S+ couples wanting to get married at City Hall during Pride Week. Weddings will take place in the Joe Wai Room (formerly Town Hall 110) to accommodate a large decorative archway provided by VPS. The VPS will also provide an officiant, a professional photographer, and decorations for the weddings at no cost to the couples. VPS' liquor sponsor, Molson Vizzy, will also be on site on July 26 to serve couples a complimentary toast after their ceremony.

- **Pride Week Flags at Vancouver City Hall:**

**July 26 – August 1**

As in 2020, the Progress Pride flag and the Trans flag will be raised on the large flag pole on the north lawn of Vancouver City Hall. The flag island at 12th and Cambie will also feature the installation of four Two-Spirit flags, representing the Musqueam, Squamish, Tsleil-Waututh Peoples and the Greater Vancouver Native Cultural Society, surrounded by six Pride flags and six Trans flags. All seven flags featured in the attachment will be displayed as the backdrop for the virtual Pride launch event at City Hall on July 26. Please see the flags with descriptions on the last page of this memo.

- **Virtual Pride Parade:**

**August 1 from NOON until approximately 2 pm**

Due to COVID-19, the annual Pride Parade will be virtual for the second year in a row. Parade participants have been asked to provide a virtual submission, and the City of

Vancouver will submit a photo collage of past City entries in the Pride Parade to demonstrate its support of the 2SLGBTQ+ community. The Parade will be streamed live to the VPS Facebook page and will also be streamed to the website [https://vancouverpride.ca/live-stream/\[vancouver.ca\]](https://vancouverpride.ca/live-stream/[vancouver.ca]).

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the City of Vancouver and VPS will co-host the Pride Launch, Proclamation and Flag Raising as well as micro-weddings for 2SLGBTQ+ on July 26 at Vancouver City Hall. City Hall will be decorated with Pride Flags on the two large poles on the north lawn as well as on the flag island at 12<sup>th</sup> and Cambie for the duration of Pride Week. The week of celebration will conclude with the virtual Pride Parade on August 1 in which the City will be submitting a photo collage of past parade entries that demonstrates the City's long-standing support of our 2SLGBTQ+ community.

Please contact me with questions regarding this memo at [Katrina.leckovic@vancouver.ca](mailto:Katrina.leckovic@vancouver.ca).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Leckovic', is positioned above the typed name.

Katrina Leckovic  
City Clerk

# FLAG DISPLAY

## Celebrating Pride Week in the City of Vancouver



**PRIDE FLAG** – This flag was originally designed by Gilbert Baker, an American artist, activist and veteran who taught himself to sew. He was asked to come up with a symbol of pride for the gay community in San Francisco. His design for the flag was said to be inspired by Judy Garland's "Over the Rainbow". These colours flew at the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Parade celebration on June 25, 1978, and the symbolism continues to be a beacon of hope around the world. Each colour in the flag celebrates an aspect of queer Pride:

Red = Life	Yellow = Sunlight	Blue = Harmony/Peace
Orange = Healing	Green = Nature	Purple/Violet = Spirit



**TRANSGENDER FLAG** – This flag was designed by Monica Helms, a trans woman, in 1999 and it was first flown at a Pride Parade in Phoenix a year later. "The light blue is the traditional color for baby boys, pink is for girls, and the white in the middle is for those who are transitioning, those who feel they have a neutral gender or no gender, and those who are intersexed," Helms noted. "The pattern is such that no matter which way you fly it, it will always be correct. This symbolizes us trying to find correctness in our own lives."



**PROGRESS PRIDE FLAG** – This new flag was designed by Daniel Quasar, who identifies as queer and non-binary. The white, pink, and light blue reflect the colours of the transgender flag, while the brown and black stripes represent people of color and those lost to AIDS. The six full-sized colour stripes have the same meaning as in the original Pride Flag (described above).



**GREATER VANCOUVER NATIVE CULTURAL SOCIETY FLAG** – This flag was commissioned in 2016 by the Council of Elders to the Greater Vancouver Native Cultural Society. The flag depicts two of the Society's cultural logos; the salmon representing the west coast, and the teepee in the centre signifying the creation of the GVNCS by the plains people who migrated to the Lower Mainland. The words "Two-Spirit" were added so that all Two-Spirit people then and now enjoy a safe space here in Vancouver.



**MUSQUEAM TWO-SPIRIT PRIDE FLAG** – This flag was commissioned by the Musqueam Nation and emulates the Nation logo upon a rainbow pride colour splash, in support of Musqueam's Two-Spirit and Indigenous LGBTQ+ relatives and friends.



**SQUAMISH NATION FLAG** – This flag is a celebration of the Squamish Nation's LGBTQ2+ community. The Thunderbird looks down watching over the people, and the two head feathers represent both male and female.



**TSLEIL-WAUTUTH RAINBOW FLAG** – The flag represents the Tsleil-Waututh Nation, People of the Inlet. The wolf with a drum in the centre of the white flag is a tribute to the Nation's ancient connections to wolves. The wolf design has been re-imagined with the rainbow pride colours in support of the LGBTQ and Two-Spirit communities.

