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Date: 6/26/2019 5:49:50 PM
Subject: Pride celebrations - follow up

Hello Mayor and Councillors,

In response to questions regarding Pride Week 2019, I can confirm that the City will officially participate in the following events:

2019 Pride Proclamation and Launch at City Hall – July 29, 2019 - NOON – 2 PM - Helena Gutteridge Plaza

- The annual *Pride Proclamation and Launch* is hosted by the City in partnership with the Vancouver Pride Society to celebrate the start of Pride Week in Vancouver. The event includes the reading of the Pride Week Proclamation by the Mayor, a traditional welcome by the host nations, short speeches by representatives of the Vancouver Pride Society, and the raising of the Pride and Trans Flags on the north lawn. We will also activate the Plaza with entertainment, food trucks and information booths presented by local LGBTQ2+ organizations.
- In the past, the City has hosted a community dialogue in the Council Chamber before the outdoor launch event. The dialogue does not take place every year, and a decision was made by the planning team to forego the dialogue this year for the following reasons:
 - The community dialogue often examines sensitive topics affecting the LGBTQ2+ community. Given that July 29 is a Council Reserve day, a time constrained dialogue may not allow for speakers to fully engage and be heard in a meaningful way on these topics. Given the limited time, it was agreed that resources should be focused on the outdoor event to attract a large community turnout.
 - The newly appointed interim Chairs of the LGBTQ2+ Advisory Committee have expressed interest in consulting with committee members over the next several months regarding how best to celebrate the launch of Pride Week at City Hall, the format of the event, the process for selecting dialogue topics, as well as involving the Two-Spirit Community in the event planning. Once the Advisory Committee has some recommendations, we will work with them to plan the 2020 Pride Proclamation and Launch event.

2019 Vancouver Pride Parade ☞August 4 2019 from 11:30 AM ☞2 PM ☞Parade Starts at Robson and Thurlow, Parade concludes at Beach and Jervis.

- The City will participate in the Pride Parade along with the Park Board, Library, Vancouver Police Department and the Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services. This year, two low-emission City vehicles will lead the City's team, and participants will either walk in the parade as a marcher, or participate as a dancer with the City's *Dance with Pride* troupe. An e-mail was sent to Councillors earlier this month inviting you to participate in the parade as a marcher, dancer or ride in one of the vehicles. We've received your responses and it looks like we'll have a great turnout from Council this year. Parade details will be sent out closer to the date with the meet up time and the City's exact staging location at the start of the parade route. Those of you participating will receive a City t-shirt in advance of the parade date.

For other events related to Pride Week, please see the following link to the Vancouver Pride Society's calendar of events - <http://www.vancouverpride.ca/index.php?ch=Events&sc2=events>. If any events or opportunities emerge where Council can participate in an official capacity, we will let you know as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, please contact lesley.matthews@vancouver.ca.

Sincerely,
Paul