

# PFLAG CANADA

## York Region

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Richmond Hill, ON. L4C 2R5  
1-888-905-5428 ext 73

REGIO... DRK  
CLERK... CE

FILE No. - P03



March 1st, 2014

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

**RE:** Request for Recognition and Flag Raising for York Region Pride Week - June 14-22, 2014

Dear Mr. Kelly,

On behalf of York Pride Fest, I am writing to request your participation in Pride Week 2014.

The York Pride Fest team, made up of volunteer leaders, organizes York Region's Pride Week celebrations. PFLAG Canada - York Region, a registered charity and York Region's local chapter of the national PFLAG Canada organization, has been a proud member of York Pride Fest since its formation.

This year marks the 14<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Pride Week in York Region, and importantly, our pride events fall prior to and overlap with the largest Pride celebration in the world, World Pride 2014, which is being staged in the GTA. Organizers of World Pride are expecting up to 6 million participants from around the world to attend.

York Pride Fest is requesting involvement and leadership from the Regional Municipality of York through the recognition of Pride Week June 14<sup>th</sup> to June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2014. 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. In recent years, York Region's Pride Week has been proclaimed by all municipalities (except King Township, which has a 'no proclamations' policy).

We also request that during Pride Week 2014 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. Last year marked York Region Pride Week's first official flag-raising ceremony in the City of Markham, after previous years in the Town of Richmond Hill. Aurora, East Gwillimbury, Georgina, Newmarket and the City of Vaughan also flew the Pride flag in 2013.

Please visit the *York Region Pride Fest* website at [www.yorkpridefest.com](http://www.yorkpridefest.com) for up-to-date information about events scheduled throughout the week. Contact *Haran Vijayanathan* at 416-529-7161 or [haran.vijayanathan@yorkpridefest.com](mailto:haran.vijayanathan@yorkpridefest.com) for more information

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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Linda Keith".

Linda Keith  
President, PFLAG Canada - York Region