

MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release
Friday, November 18, 2022



WINDSOR-ESSEX PRIDE FEST RECEIVES MUCH NEEDED FUNDING TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE YEAR-ROUND PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Windsor, ON – On Friday, November 18, 2022, Windsor Essex Pride Fest welcomed members of the public to its office on Ottawa Street for a recognition event to mark the Ontario Trillium Foundation funding of \$49,200.00 from the Community Building Fund. Mr. Andrew Dowie, Member of Provincial Parliament for Windsor-Tecumseh was on hand to make the formal announcement and to congratulate Windsor-Essex Pride Fest on its success of receiving the funding.

“To the many 2SLGBTQIA+ community members in our region, it is my sincere privilege to make this announcement to support the Windsor-Essex Pride Fest, keeping your year-round social programs and services available to the community”, said Andrew Dowie, Member of Provincial Parliament for Windsor - Tecumseh.

“This investment by the Ontario Trillium Foundation, an agency of the Government of Ontario, will provide the funding vital to sustain your facilities and ensure that all members of the Windsor-Essex 2SLGBTQIA+ community can access the important programs and services that they need.”

The funding received from the Ontario Trillium Foundation specifically assists the Windsor-Essex Pride Fest to continue facility operations, provide program facilitation, technology improvement, office rent, activity space rental, utilities, website maintenance and more.

“The impact of this funding from the Ontario Trillium Foundation grant cannot be underestimated,” said Wendi Nicholson, President of the Windsor Essex Pride Fest. “Fundraising revenue for our organization was dramatically affected during the last couple years during COVID-19 with cancellation of our fundraising events and reduction in advertising and sponsorships”. “This funding has allowed us to continue to operate our office and deliver on our mission to strengthen the sense of community and contributes to the vibrancy, health and overall well-being of 2SLGBTQIA+ persons in Windsor-Essex”.

Our programs and services are available for the 2SLGBTQIA+ community and that everyone has the opportunity to have connections and engage in engaging and safe activities year-round. We never would have had the funding to continue these programs without the help of the Ontario Trillium Foundation, we are truly grateful for their assistance.

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Windsor-Essex Pride Fest, 2109 Ottawa Street, Suite 216, Windsor, ONT, N8Y 1R8 Phone: 226-348-3378

www.wepridefest.com

About Windsor-Essex Pride Fest

Windsor-Essex Pride Fest is run by a volunteer Board of Directors that deliver safe, inclusive events, programs and initiatives accessible to all members of the Two-Spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Queer, Intersex and Asexual (2SLGBTQIA+), their family, caregivers, allies and friend and seeks to strengthen and contribute to the health, resilience and overall well-being of 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals in Windsor-Essex. Windsor Essex Pride Fest advocates on behalf of Windsor-Essex to safeguard the rights of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community, ward against discrimination and foster a community of inclusion and engagement for all of its citizens. Windsor-Essex Pride Fest will continue to promote acceptance of 2SLGBTQIA+ identities with education, initiatives and community partnerships. Visit www.wepridefest.com to learn more.

About the Ontario Trillium Foundation

The Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) is an agency of the Government of Ontario and one of Canada's leading granting foundations. Our investments in communities across the province help build healthy and vibrant communities. Our key funder, the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries enables us to provide grants that can make the greatest impact. OTF also administers grants on behalf of the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services. Last year, \$115 million was invested into more than 644 projects in communities across the province. Visit www.otf.ca to learn more.

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For more information, please contact:

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