



Attachment #1

Letter from

New West Pride Society

From: **Katie Stobbart**
Date: Thu, Jun 20, 2024 at 4:16 PM
Subject: Letter of Municipal Significance
To: External-SpecialEvents <specialevents@newwestcity.ca>

Dear Special Events Team,

I am writing on behalf of New West Pride to request that our annual street festival, now in its 15th year, be granted a letter confirming it as an event of municipal significance.

This designation is crucial for our organization as it permits us to engage in fundraising activities that go beyond merely breaking even. Specifically, it allows us to collaborate with local beverage sellers, such as Steel & Oak, to generate additional funds on each beverage sold: funds that go to New West Pride. These funds are vital in ensuring that we can continue to provide spaces for recognizing and celebrating the 2SLGBTQQIA+ community.

New West Pride's mission aligns closely with the City's strategic priority of Community Belonging and Connecting. By supporting our festival, the City affirms its commitment to fostering an inclusive and connected community where diversity is celebrated. Our event not only brings together approximately 40,000 residents and visitors but also promotes understanding and acceptance within the community.

Beyond just the goal of raising funds and achieving greater fiscal sustainability for our organization, there is a significant queer community presence here in New Westminster, of all ages and backgrounds, and it would be incredibly meaningful to them, to us, to see that an event prioritizing equity and inclusion of 2SLGBTQQIA+ people has been declared municipally significant in our city. It demonstrates that the City of New Westminster supports its queer residents and that there is no room for hate in our community.

We believe that the designation of our street festival as an event of municipal significance will significantly enhance our ability to serve the community and uphold the values we share with the City of New Westminster.

Thank you for considering our request. We look forward to the opportunity to continue making a positive impact in our community with your support. If there is any further information you need from me, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

Katie Stobbart (they/them)
President, New West Pride Society