



July 1, 2016

PRIDE 2016

For this past month and upcoming weekend we join the University of Toronto and broader community in celebrating Pride in Toronto. Reflecting on this we recognize and denounce the acts of queerphobia, transphobia and discrimination as well as other forms of oppression that continue to exist at our University and in society at large, manifesting in multiple and intersecting ways.

This year, Pride Toronto is recognizing the intersections of race, gender identity, sexual orientation and liberation by honouring Black Lives Matter - Toronto (BLMTO) and inviting them to lead the parade. We support the affirmation of Black, queer, and trans voices and the work of BLMTO. We support the efforts to strengthen the voices of marginalized trans and queer people of colour, while highlighting queerphobia, transphobia, state-based violence and racism as barriers for justice and equity for racialized communities.

We recognize the disproportionate levels of queerphobic and transphobic violence that affect Black, Indigenous and people of colour communities. While this year's focus and lead in the Pride Parade is BLM-TO, we encourage members of the community to unite to resist these violences and the intersecting realities of discrimination and oppression, everywhere.

As the events of Orlando remind us, Pride is political. And while Pride is a month celebration, it is everyday that we must continue to fight for safer communities and work to end violence against all queer and trans members of our community.

We look forward to seeing our members on the streets this weekend and wish you all a happy and safe Pride weekend!

#loveoverhate #pridenotfear #pridemustgoon #blacklivesmatter

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