

**Ministry of Tourism and Culture**

Minister

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**Ministère du Tourisme et de la Culture**

Ministre

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May 13, 2010

Ms. Tracey Sandilands  
Executive Director  
Pride Toronto  
14 Dundonald Street  
Toronto, ON M4Y 1K2

Dear Ms. Sandilands:

I am writing to you regarding recent media articles and correspondence I have received concerning messages expressed by some participants of the 2009 Toronto Pride Parade.

The Ministry of Tourism and Culture has been a strong supporter of Pride Toronto. Over the years, our government has provided close to \$1.8 million to this event. Pride Toronto plays an important role in welcoming diverse communities and promoting Toronto as an open and accepting city. I commend you on the work you have done to make this event a signature tourism festival in the province. I also congratulate you on winning the bid for World Pride 2014. This is an incredible achievement for Toronto and Ontario.

As you are well aware, considerable concern has been raised over messages expressed during the course of the parade. It is vital that the Pride Parade remains a positive and welcoming environment that celebrates Ontario's rich diversity.

I encourage you to take steps to address concerns that have been raised as it will ensure that the Pride Parade remains a positive environment for years to come.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Chan".

Michael Chan  
Minister

c: Kathleen Wynne, MPP, Don Valley West

Glen Murray, MPP, Toronto Centre