



# MEMBER MOTION

## Section 5.4.4(b) of Procedure By-law

<b>Meeting:</b>	Committee of the Whole Meeting
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	May 15, 2024
<b>Subject/Title:</b>	Raising the Pride Flag for the Month of June
<b>Submitted by:</b>	Councillor Karen Cilevitz

Whereas, we in Canada uphold our Charter of Rights and Freedoms, acknowledging the inherent rights and freedoms of all Canadian citizens;

Whereas, the month of June has been proclaimed Pride Month across Canada, including York Region, for at least the past 25 years;

Whereas, York Region is home to over 1.2 million people with an estimated 120,000 2SLGBTQ+ identifying residents;

Whereas, Richmond Hill proudly upholds its Council-approved Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Policy;

Whereas, Pride Month is not only a time of vibrant celebration but also a crucial opportunity to raise awareness of 2SLGBTQ+ issues;

Whereas, since 2021, hate-motivated incidents directed towards Canada's 2SLGBTQ+ population have increased by 64% (Statistics, Canada 2021);

Whereas, York Region municipalities have made significant strides in supporting York Pride events and initiatives, including the annual Pride Parade held every June in Newmarket;

Whereas, the City of Richmond Hill has immense potential to demonstrate its commitment to 2SLGBTQ+ education and support across the region; and

Whereas, by raising the Pride Flag at Richmond Hill's Community Flagpoles located outside City Hall for the duration of the month of June, Richmond Hill exhibits its strong message of support and inclusion to all identifying 2SLGBTQ+ people and their allies; and

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Whereas the Council approved Community Flag Raisings and Flag Protocol Policy currently only permits flags to be flown on a Community Flagpole for up to one week.

Therefore Be It Resolved:

That, notwithstanding the Community Flag Raisings and Flag Protocol Policy, the Pride Flag be flown on one of City's Community Flagpoles for the duration of the month of June, when otherwise not in use for another community flag raising.

Moved by: Councillor Karen Cilevitz

Seconded by: