



FIERTÉ
Sudbury
PRIDE

2023

ANNUAL

REPORT

Land Acknowledgment

We acknowledge that we are in the Robinson-Huron Treaty territory and the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Atikameksheng Anishnawbek. As settlers and to recognize the privilege of living, working, creating, and celebrating on these lands, we pledge to stand with the Indigenous communities and nations of N'Swakamok and across Turtle Island, as well as with our Two-Spirit siblings, to continue on the long road ahead to truth, reconciliation, equity, and justice.

We invite the community to read and learn from the final report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls and the reports from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, including its 94 Calls to Action.

Our 2023 Team

Co-Chair – Laur O’Gorman
Secretary – Ryan Wildgoose
Communications Lead – Jade Roberts
Volunteer Coordinator – Cora Eckert
Indigenous Liaison – Quinn Organ

Equity & Diversity Lead – Chriss Lalande
Sponsorship Lead – Kyelle Byne
Treasurer – Jeff Burton
Activism Lead – Garrett Carr
Youth Representative – Rou

Active since 1997 and incorporated in 2012, Fierté Sudbury Pride (FSP) is a not-for-profit community-based organization dedicated to supporting and celebrating the Queer community in the City of Greater Sudbury. Entirely volunteer-run, we aim to foster understanding and diversity by showcasing Queer culture through a variety of artistic and educational events. We aim to provide spaces free of stigma and discrimination for everyone, regardless of religion, creed, race, gender, or sexual orientation (including non-queer people).

For more information on Fierté Sudbury Pride, visit sudburypride.com

For general or media inquiries, email us at info@sudburypride.com

WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR

To the members of our 2SLGBTQ+ community and allies,

The past year has been a rough one for a lot of us. We went from watching in horror as Florida and Texas passed laws infringing on queer and trans people's rights, to watching Canadian provinces, municipalities, and the Conservative Party propose legislation and use language that is devastating to the trans community. We have even seen our coworkers and our neighbours take to the streets protesting against our existence. With everything going on, it is ok to not be ok.

This is when we need Pride the most. Pride has helped organise three counter protests against the anti-trans protests; providing advice, safety information, volunteers, and material donations to help with these events. I personally have attended these events, clad in rainbows and holding up signs with messages of support for queer and trans youth.

My biggest learning experience this year happened during Pride Week when Black Lives Matter Sudbury called us out for allowing police to guide our March, as per city policy. While many in the community reacted defensively, we had to really try to put ourselves in their shoes; racialized queer and trans people are telling us that they do not feel safe with a police presence. So, we met with the mayor and other city officials to figure out a way to march without police presence. While it didn't work out for this year, I hope that given more time, next year's Board can make this happen. This is too important to let fall through the cracks.

We had to weigh the need to be visible in a hostile political climate with the need for all of our members to feel safe at our events. The cancellation of the March disappointed a lot of members of our community who said that we were putting the needs of a different community over our own, ignoring that Black and Brown people ARE part of our community. The queer community is at the crossroads of so many intersecting identities. We come from every race, ethnicity, and nationality. Our experiences greatly differ, but we can't forget that no matter our respective disabilities, religious beliefs, or income brackets, we must depend on one another.

We need to ask ourselves what it is we want from Pride. Do we rest on our community's successes and become an organisation focused on parades and parties? Or do we honour our roots by continuing to fight for queer acceptance? The thing is, we don't have to choose—and nor should we. Let's take a lesson from our history: Stonewall was an uprising, and drag queens danced and sang as they threw bricks. Pride needs to both be a celebration of how far we've come and an acknowledgement of how much further we need to go to achieve queer liberation. Without the fun, we all get tired. But without the fight, we stand to lose everything our queer forbears have fought—and celebrated—so hard for.

LAUR O'GORMAN
FIERTÉ SUDBURY PRIDE BOARD CHAIR 2023

MISSION

Fierté Sudbury Pride strives to ensure the wellbeing of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community in Greater Sudbury by advocating on its behalf and by offering social, educational, and artistic events and programs to all.

VISION

Fierté Sudbury Pride is the champion of a strong, vibrant, and intersectional 2SLGBTQIA+ community that exists openly and safely in Greater Sudbury. It is responsive to the needs of the community and is able to meet them.

VALUES

- **ACCESSIBILITY:** Participation is essential to the strength of the community. We strive to demolish systemic barriers both within and without our organization to allow full participation by community members in our programming and in that of our partners.
- **ADVOCACY:** We are proactive in fighting injustice and social inequity. Our advocacy is done with an intersectional lens.
- **COMMUNITY:** We invest in the wellbeing of the local 2SLGBTQIA+ community and remain accountable to it. We create opportunities for community members to come together, to celebrate, and to live authentically in environments that are free of judgement and violence.
- **CREATIVITY:** We strive to innovate in everything we do, from our partnerships to our programming, and want to serve as an inspiration to others.
- **SOLIDARITY:** We support and stand alongside other marginalised and exploited individuals, groups, and populations, even when that means taking a stand against members of our own community. We recognize that true liberation is a collective effort.
- **SUSTAINABILITY:** For future generations, we fight for the health of our organization, our community, and the lands on which we are privileged to operate.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

1) Act as a strong voice and advocate that fights for social justice; 2) Offer programming that fosters a sense of community in the region and that responds to the needs of the community; 3) Ensure the sustainability of the organization and of the community.

PRIDE WEEK 2023

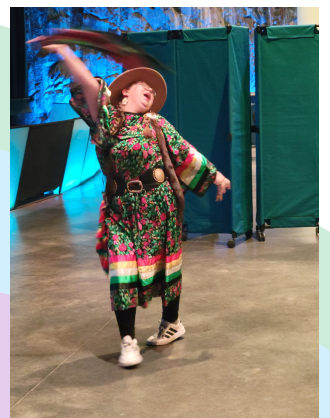
Fierté Sudbury Pride's 2023 Pride Week celebrations were incredibly successful, engaging 2,310 participants in person and an additional 6,336 reached through live-streamed and virtual events. More than 800 people participated in Pride in the "Park" on Saturday, July 15th.

Fierté Sudbury Pride partnered with several 2SLGBTQ+ and allied organizations in Northern Ontario to deliver 30 events in 2023, including educational panels, hands-on workshops, gender-affirming activities and programming, and arts and cultural entertainment by 2SLGBTQ+ artists. We once again partnered with Science North & Dynamic Earth to light up the Big Nickel, one of Sudbury's biggest symbols and attractions, with the colours of the Rainbow Flag.

This full week of events, supported by our generous sponsors, directly empowered Fierté Sudbury Pride to achieve its vision of a strong, vibrant, and intersectional 2SLGBTQ+ community that exists openly and safely in Greater Sudbury.

EVENTS

Pride Week 2023 opened with the 2-Spirit Social event on July 9th – the first event of its kind ever held in Greater Sudbury. 15 Indigenous performers and vendors facilitated workshops, educational talks, and dance style showcases throughout the day, engaging 90+ visitors in cultural content and learning about 2-Spirit identities and Indigenous Ways of Knowing. Feedback on the event was incredibly positive, with many Indigenous elders and 2-Spirit individuals commenting on the significant support from the community and overall organization of the event, and community members requesting similar workshops in the future.



Fierté Sudbury Pride then kicked off its 26th Anniversary celebrations with the opening ceremonies event. More than 60 attendees gathered in Tom Davies Square to hear from local activists and 2SLGBTQ+ advocates championing social justice, change, and equity for all 2SLGBTQ+ people and intersecting identities in our community. Monday continued with a Pride Paint Night hoisted by PAINT S-CAPES Social Painting Events at Seasons Culinaria and Pharmacy.

Tuesday began with Rainbow Storytime at the New Sudbury Library, followed by a Pride Panel hosted by Eastlink Community TV, featuring Aspen Groom from Réseau Access Network. The newly opened Compass Youth Wellness Hub at the YMCA was available for youth to enjoy a full afternoon of activities. We partnered with Great White North Pottery Supplies to host a Planter's Uncensored pottery workshop, and with Réseau Access Network to host a speed-friending Place Des Arts. Science North and Hauz Noir partnered with the Alibi Room to host a sold out Science Werks! event, Sudbury's first ever drag show for nerds.

Wednesday events included another Rainbow Storytime at the South End Sudbury Library, followed by a Pride Panel Speaker hosted by Eastlink Community TV, featuring local 2SLGBTQ+ youth entrepreneur Ethan's Custom Clothing; a Queer North Film Festival double feature at the Sudbury Indie Cinema; a gender-inclusive 2SLGBTQ+ Pool Party presented by the YMCA of Northeastern Ontario and Réseau Access Network; and Pride Idol Karaoke Night hosted by Zig's Bar.

Thursday was a busy day, including another Rainbow Storytime at the Downtown Sudbury Library and Pride Panel with Reverend Ryan from St. Peter's United Church. Nickel City Trivia hosted the popular Queer Trivia Night in front of the YMCA. In the evening, The Townhouse Tavern hosted an All Ages Rock Show featuring Diva Worship, Sullen and the Sundried Whales, and Zigs Bar hosted Dirty Bingo with local drag queen Emma Daniels.



On Friday, Fierté Sudbury Pride presented a Prom night to remember for all queer, trans and allied youth in our community, with more than 230 youth gathering to celebrate. Zig's Bar hosted a star-studded Drag Variety Show, full of drag queens, drag kings, burlesque, exotic dancers, live music and rap!

Saturday, July 15 was Pride in the "Park" – though rain and thunderstorms meant that the event was forced to move indoors to the Sudbury Community Arena, the event still engaged more than 800 community members and 30+ vendors and local businesses. Performances included Brooklyn Doran, Tess Balez, Juno-award nominee Tafari Anthony, and Juno-award winner G.R. Gritt, as well as a Drag Show by local drag house Hauz Noir and Queens from North Bay and Sault Ste Marie, a dance workshop by Northern Latin Flavour, and a cardio drumming workshop by Councillor Natalie Labbee from the Parkside Centre.

Sunday was a day to wind down with events like Queer Birding at the New Sudbury Historical Trail and the Spirit of Pride Worship Service at St. Peter's United Church, as well as a sold out Drag Brunch at the Laughing Buddha, featuring Kings and Queens from Hauz Noir and drag houses from across Northern Ontario.



PRIDE CARE PACKAGES

In addition to celebrating Pride with events throughout the week, Fierté Sudbury Pride created and packaged 100 Pride Care Packages for 2SLGBTQ+ youth in our community. Care packages were filled with Pride swag, resources, toys and games, as well as science centre passes donated by Science North, to help youth feel safe and accepted as they celebrated their authentic selves.

2SLGBTQ+ COMMUNITY AWARDS

Fierté Sudbury Pride was proud to present the second annual 2SLGBTQ+ Community Awards Gala, recognizing the significant contributions that various 2SLGBTQ+ leaders from across sectors and generations have made to our community. Award recipients included a number of exemplary individuals and community organizations who have done exceptional work within their fields and who are helping to uplift and progress the 2SLGBTQ+ community in Greater Sudbury.



Gilles Gervais

Lifetime Achievement Award



Jackie Balleny

Golden Brick Award for
Exemplary Activism



Ra'Jah Mohamed

Young Trailblazer
of the Year

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS AND FUNDING

As an entirely volunteer-run and community-funded organization, Fierté Sudbury Pride relies on the efforts of volunteers and the support of generous donors to continue doing our important work. In 2023, we had more than 50 community volunteers support our work, in addition to the support we received from community leaders and organizations.

Fierté Sudbury Pride revamped its fundraising process in 2023, proactively seeking out grants from foundations, municipal and federal funding sources, and launching a targeted fundraising campaign to community organizations and private sector business with shared priorities. This campaign was incredibly successful, and Fierté Sudbury Pride secured over \$38,000 in private sector and grant revenues, more than double what was secured in previous years. In addition, Fierté Sudbury Pride secured over \$3,300 in revenues and donations from community members.

These funds allowed Fierté Sudbury Pride to invest more into supporting Northern Ontario drag artists, musicians, and speakers during Pride Week, and empowered the organization to provide funds to Indie Cinemas and Nickel City Fits to run additional entertainment and advocacy events.

Pride Week 2023 sponsors were recognized in the official program and social media content on Fierté Sudbury Pride's Facebook and Instagram, which reached over 30,600 accounts and generated over 7,600 likes and engagements on content posted leading up to and throughout Pride Week. Funders were also recognized in the official media release and speaking notes at the opening ceremonies and Pride in the Park, as well as on volunteer t-shirts and the Fierté Sudbury Pride website.



ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCES

As in previous years, our biggest source of expenses was Pride Week. Our plans to deliver a spectacular series of events celebrating 26 years of Pride in Sudbury, meant that expenses were significantly higher than in previous years. A targeted sponsorship campaign, along with a sizeable surplus from the 2022 Fiscal Year, left

us in a healthy enough position to organize a good number of events and projects, make necessary purchases, and be able to adequately compensate artists, technicians, and panelists. In addition, we were able to support several community partners in running 2SLGBTQ+ events outside of Pride Week. Going into 2024, the organization has a comfortable base of funds at its disposal to deliver new and exciting in-person events and projects through the next year.

2022 Carry Over	\$	10,214
Earned Revenue	\$	3,872
Corporate & Community Donations	\$	15,800
<small>Desjardins, TD Community Foundation, Enbridge, OLG, Walmart, PCL Constructors, Compass, Children's Aid Services of Manitoulin-Sudbury, Huntington University</small>		
Public Sector Funding	\$	26,230
<small>City of Sudbury, Sudbury Tourism, NOHFC, Fierté Canada Pride</small>		
Total 2023 Funds	\$	56,116
Event Entertainment	\$	7,653
Event Costs and Rentals	\$	5,506
Honorariums and Awards	\$	4,314
Food and Hospitality	\$	4,961
Supplies and Decorations	\$	6,057
Marketing and Promotion	\$	1,935
Administration	\$	4,350
YCW Summer Student	\$	2,248
Sponsorship and Community Events	\$	4,671
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$	41,695
NET POSITION - Overall	\$	14,421

THANK YOU!

We want to thank and acknowledge the contributions from our many community partners, sponsors, and individual donors. Without their vital support, there's no way we would've been able to accomplish what we did this past year.

PRIDE WEEK 2023 PRESENTING SPONSOR

Desjardins

MAINSTAGE SPONSOR

OLG

OUR GOVERNMENT FUNDERS

City of Sudbury, Sudbury Tourism, NOHFC, Government of Canada

OUR CORPORATE SPONSORS

TD Community Foundation, Walmart, Enbridge

OUR COMMUNITY SPONSORS

Fierté Canada Pride, Huntington University, COMPASS, Children's Aid Society of Sudbury and Manitoulin, PCL Constructors

OUR PROGRAMMING AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Reseau Access Network, Science North, Greater Sudbury Public Library, Compass Youth Wellness Hub, Haux Noir, Sudbury Indie Cinema, Zig;s Bar, YMCA of Northwestern Ontario, Place des Arts, PAINT S-CAPES Social Painting Events, Seasons Culinaria and Pharmacy, Great White North Pottery Supplies, Alibi Room, St. Peter's United Church, Sudbury Farmer's Market, Townehouse Tavern, Nickel City Trivia, Northern Latin Flavour, Laughing Buddha

MEDIA PARTNERS

Eastlink Community TV, Sudbury.com

