



ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: June 4, 2014
Contact: Penny Ballem
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Meeting Date: June 11, 2014

TO: Standing Committee on City Finance and Services
FROM: City Manager
SUBJECT: Host City Pride House - Sochi 2014 Mission

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive this report for information.

REPORT SUMMARY

This report provides a summary of the activities and accomplishments related to the Host City Pride House Sochi 2014 Mission.

COUNCIL AUTHORITY/PREVIOUS DECISIONS

At the Standing Committee on City Finance and Services meeting on December 18, 2013, Council passed a motion supporting full recognition of human rights of all athletes participating in Olympic and Paralympic Games by directing all future host cities to facilitate and endorse the creation of a community-led Pride House as part of their bid. Council also endorsed Deputy Mayor Tim Stevenson to lead, as the official representative of the City of Vancouver, a Mission to Sochi for the 2014 Olympic Games to further advocate for the human rights agenda.

REPORT

Background/Context

As the prior 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games host city, Vancouver became deeply concerned about the impact of new anti-gay propaganda legislation passed by the federal government in Russia in the lead up to the 2014 Winter Games. The legislation was assessed

to present a potential safety risk for members of the Russian LGBTQ community and potentially for athletes and spectators attending the 2014 Olympic Winter Games in Sochi. Both the IOC's and Russia's assurances of safety were assessed by many in the international community as weak and there was a strong perception of misalignment of the legislation with stated Olympic values.

Vancouver was the first host city to welcome a Pride House for the Olympic and Paralympic Games - a Pride House was established in both Vancouver and Whistler and the initiative was carried on in London for the Summer Games in 2012. In the lead up to Sochi 2014, permission to establish a community led Pride House in Sochi was denied by the Russian government.

The City of Vancouver, following discussions with the local LGBTQ community, former Olympians, past organizers of the Vancouver 2010 Winter Games, and with international contacts working on LGBT issues worldwide, decided to take action and utilize the City's status as a former host city to advocate for an inclusion agenda both at Sochi 2014, and future Games. A motion enabling and supporting the Host City Pride Mission was passed with a unanimous motion by Vancouver City Council on Dec. 18, 2014.

Two key goals were established for the Mission:

- To advocate that the International Olympic Committee and the International Paralympic committee require future Olympic cities to facilitate and endorse the creation of a community-led Pride House at future Games;
- For the IOC to specifically enshrine the rights of LGBTQ athletes into Principle 6 of the Olympic Charter.

A working group was established composed of City Councillors and a staff member representing the Mayor's office, former Olympians and IOC Award winners, a member of the Paralympic movement, the head of WinterPride and Founder of Vancouver 2010 Pride House, members of the LGBTQ community at large and the City Manager. A project manager was contracted to execute the work of the committee, including developing the outreach strategy and communications materials, trip planning and on-the ground mission management. Maureen Douglas, a former VANOC official and communications professional was hired for this role.

The Mission undertook the following key initiatives to ensure that the engagement of officials on the topic of human rights and particularly LGBTQ inclusion in Sochi would be productive:

- The Mayor initiated contact introducing the initiative and our goals (Appendix A) to:
 - Senior IOC officials
 - Senior Canadian Olympic Committee Officials
 - Mayors of other Canadian and international Olympic cities
 - Presidents of all International Federations for Winter Olympic Sports
 - Key National Olympic Committee Presidents for countries participating at Sochi 2014

- A media strategy was developed for:
 - The lead up for the Mission
 - The duration of the Mission (both on site in Sochi and at home in Canada)
 - The follow-up to the Mission
- A Networking strategy to enable targeted advocacy involving members of Pride International, former and present Canadian Olympians and Paralympians, senior sport officials in Canada and internationally, past and present members of the COC and international contacts in the human rights and sport area to carry key messages and build momentum for the goals of the project
- A community fund-raising strategy was developed and a website for donations from the community for the Mission put in place.

The activities related to preparation, advocacy, networking and fund raising took place over approximately 6 months from the early fall of 2013 through the Games in February and with a wrap up in March 2014. The actual mission to Sochi lasted from February 1 to 9, 2014. Deputy Mayor Tim Stevenson and Project Manager Maureen Douglas constituted the City team.

Strategic Analysis

The full report on the Pride House Mission is attached as Appendix B of this report. There was a remarkable interest in the work of the Mission across the large networks in international sport, the LGBTQ human rights community, and former and future Olympic/Paralympic host cities. The media expressed a high level of interest in the lead up and during the Mission, helping further our key message of inclusion and LGBTQ rights. Intensive social media outreach and engagement furthered awareness and advocacy from across Canada.

In terms of the goals of the Mission, in meetings with the Mission team in Sochi, the IOC representatives stated their shared concerns about the situation in Russia but also articulated the challenges of the fine line they walk as a non-political entity that hosts international sport in a variety of countries – all at various stages of cultural and social inclusion. The IOC does not interfere with the politics of the host nation, nor do they insert themselves into socio-cultural debates. But they shared that they were taken aback by the Russian law when it was made public eight months ago and by Russia's shift in cultural rhetoric in regard to the LGBTQ community.

The IOC representatives also shared their appreciation for the Pride House concept and their respect for Vancouver and Whistler for being the first hosts of Pride House. They wish to see this tradition continue but believe that Pride House should be a community-led initiative in each host city, coordinated by that city's LGBTQ community. Jochen Farber the Head of President Bach's Executive Office indicated that the President of the IOC would be undertaking a major strategic review of the IOC entitled Agenda 2020 which would ask for input from Olympic stakeholders on the future of the Olympic Movement. This was seen as the venue for changes to the IOC Charter the Mission Team was advocating.

Following the meeting with the IOC, the Mission Team communicated with Pride House International to report out on our meeting. The following statement from Pride House International reflects a slight shift in Vancouver's earlier position of asking the IOC to make Pride Houses mandatory in the host city agreement. But with better understanding of Pride House International's mandate, we are now aligned and supportive of Pride House International's position.

STATEMENT FROM PRIDE HOUSE INTERNATIONAL IN SUPPORT OF THE VANCOUVER HOST CITY PRIDE HOUSE PROJECT.

Pride House International is very pleased with the outcome of the meeting between the Vancouver Host City Pride House mission to Sochi and the representatives of the International Olympic Committee. We see this as part of a growing engagement with LGBT sport and the issue of homophobia in sport.

With regard to future Pride Houses, we wish to repeat that a Pride House is a private community-based venue, similar to national hospitality houses during the Olympics. They are not hosted or authorized by the IOC or the local organizing committee, and do not as a rule take place in the Olympic Village. We are not seeking an obligation for a host city to welcome a Pride House.

What is essential, however, is that there be no obstacles to local sports people organizing a Pride House in conjunction with the Olympic and Paralympic Games. For a Pride House not to take place means either that there is no local interest in such a venue, or that there are impediments to a local community organizing one. If impediments do exist it means that the IOC has chosen an inappropriate host country for their event, as undoubtedly these impediments result from institutional homophobia, and/or a lack of freedom of expression and assembly, which should rule out a country hosting the Olympics.

Pride Houses are part of the Olympic mission of promoting sport for all: sport is about more than national communities; it is about everyone, and for everyone. We look forward to a successful Pride House at the 2016 Olympics, where plans are underway by local organisation CDG Brasil, and hope that there can also be one, should the local community wish, in Pyeongchang in 2018.

The IOC under their new President will be pursuing the Agenda 2020 initiative - a process which provides a forum for input from IOC members, NOCs, International Sport Federations, athletes and finally the public - this initiative will be led by President Thomas Bach and is a chance for the IOC to create a new roadmap for the Olympic Movement and the IOC. It is through this forum that Principle 6 may be changed to include "sexual orientation" - a move which is a possibility but which will continue to require ongoing advocacy through networking with key stakeholders, public engagement and social media campaigns. Awareness of this issue is greater than ever before. It will be critical that advocacy in regard to Principle 6 not diminish until Principle 6 is actually changed to include "sexual orientation".

A submission to Agenda 2020 by the Norwegian Olympic and Paralympic Committee is reference good example of the kind of input the IOC is receiving - this strategic paper outlines the responsibility of the IOC to refrain from engaging countries and cities which violate human rights as hosts for the Olympic Games. In a similar vein a letter to Mayor Robertson

from Mayor Boris Johnson, Mayor of London, also an Olympic and Paralympic Host City also references the strong support by leaders associated with the Olympic Movement with the need for the IOC to be explicit and clarify its values.

Another key strategy which is ongoing relates to advocacy with future host cities. Councillor Stevenson has initiated meetings with Dr Kim, the head of the South Korea Organizing Committee and related elected officials to advance the discussion about locating a Pride House in Korea in 2018. Through the City's contacts with Rio de Janeiro, confirmation has been received that a community Pride House will be part of their Games operations in 2016. Finally, the City will be initiating contact with Tokyo who will be hosting the Summer Games in 2020. There is clearly an openness amongst host cities to strengthening the human rights agenda as it relates to LGBTQ issues and to the inclusion of a Pride House as part of that goal.

There is more work to be done and following discussion with the working group in the post Mission debrief, recommendations for ongoing activities for the Pride House initiative should include a number of key human rights areas in sport all of which impact the LGBTQ area:

1. Advocacy with the COC, CPC and other Canadian sport influencers to ensure that LGBTQ inclusion and appropriate non-discrimination language is in the COC and CPC's charter;
2. Advocacy with the COC and CPC to become international advocates for this issue. Canadians have the benefit of living in an inclusive society and the right to freedom of speech - we need to support Canadian leadership on this international issue;
3. Advocacy with the IOC for sport equity between genders. Women still only make up 40% of Olympians and sport events are not equally shared between men and women at the Olympic Games;
4. Gender testing - gender identity issue. In keeping with the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport discussion paper, Sport in Transition, (attached), support the right of gender self-identification in sport and the abolition of the IOC's hyper-androgenism test.

Financial

The Host City Pride House project oversight committee was formed to review and approve the details of the project, including contract management; financial oversight and approvals; and management of contributed funds held in trust by the City for the HCPH project.

Contributions of \$57,080 were received and held in the trust account. The oversight committee approved the project budget and disbursements. A listing of contributors is attached as Appendix C.

The following table is the summary of Revenue and Expenses.

	Budget	Actual	Variance
REVENUE			
Contributions	\$ 50,000	57,080	\$ 7,080
EXPENSES			
Project Costs			
Project Management	25,000	23,520	1,480
Communications/Social Media	8,000	8,000	-
	33,000	31,520	1,480
Travel			
Visa Requirements	418	447	(29)
Airfare	3,800	4,406	(606)
Accommodation	3,450	2,779	671
Transportation	600	225	375
Per Diem	910	827	83
	9,178	8,684	494
Protocal / Gifts	750	72	678
Hospitality	1,000	1,252	(252)
Communication	500	697	(197)
Printing	200	0	200
Total Expenses	44,628	42,225	2,403
Surplus	\$ 5,372	\$ 14,855	\$ 4,677

The working group is continuing to track follow-up activities and will be making decisions in regard future work. As an example, Councillor Stevenson is being funded for air travel from the fund for a total of \$883 to attend the World Pride conference in June 2014 to present the results of the Mission on behalf of the Working Group. The final payment and closure of the trust account will take place at the end of the advocacy work and any remaining funding donated to a non-profit organization aligned with the goal of the Mission, as approved by the Project Oversight Committee.

CONCLUSION

The Sochi 2014 Mission was undertaken at the direction of Council to use the City's platform as a former Host City for the Olympic and Paralympic Games to advocate strongly against the repressive anti-gay legislation passed in Russia in the run up to the 2014 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Our advocacy was focused and mobilized significant support including a strong signal from the senior official of the IOC that the presence of a Pride House in the community during an Olympic event is welcomed by the IOC and that more importantly there was an opportunity to make changes to the Olympic Charter through the Agenda 2020 initiative of President Bach to address the specific issues of LGBTQ rights. Much international and Canadian support and interest was mobilized by the small Mission to Sochi, and there was extensive media coverage of the issue and the Mission. There remains much work to be done advocating for human rights in the Olympic and International sport movements - Vancouver has established itself as a leader through the activities of the Mayor and Council and

leveraging our global brand on this issue. Staff will continue to identify ways to advance this message through the Agenda 2020 process and through our network Canada and beyond.

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ni? et xaʔəmətəl, tə ʔniməʔ, tə təməxʷ ʔi? tə kʷaʔkʷə 1 *
We watch over the land and sea and in turn they watch over us.

January 13, 2014

Mr. Thomas Bach
President
International Olympic Committee
Château de Vidy
Case postale 356
1001 Lausanne
Switzerland

Dear President Bach,

Congratulations on your recent election as president of the International Olympic Committee.

The City of Vancouver was honoured to join the Olympic family as host city for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games and continues to support the success of Olympic Games through transfers of knowledge and best practices with the IOC and future host communities.

With the next Olympic Winter Games just a few weeks away, the power and influence of the Olympic Games and the IOC's leadership role in international sport has never been more important.

Throughout the years, the IOC has had significant positive influence on the inclusion and demonstration of human rights with countries that wish to be part of the Olympic movement. Principle Four in the IOC's Fundamental Principles of Olympism captures this so well: "The practice of sport is a human right. Every individual must have the possibility of practicing sport, without discrimination of any kind and in the Olympic spirit, which requires mutual understanding with a spirit of friendship, solidarity and fair play."

Vancouver is proud of the contributions our Games made to the Olympic movement – including being the most inclusive Games to date. The Vancouver 2010 Games ensured that everyone who wished to could participate in our Games - as an athlete, volunteer or spectator – regardless of race, religion, politics, income, gender or sexual orientation. In

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fact, Vancouver is proud to have been the first host of a Pride House at the Olympic Games, which created a safe, welcoming space for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and queer (LGBTQ) people and their friends and families to celebrate the Games.

But now in 2014, Vancouver is deeply concerned about the impact that new Russian anti-gay legislation is having on the Russian LGBTQ community and on athletes and spectators who wish to participate in the Sochi 2014 Olympic Winter Games. This legislation is threatening and discriminatory and undermines the commitment to human rights that is at the heart of the Olympic movement – leaving an entire segment of the population feeling alienated and vulnerable.

As the prior host city, this situation inspired an initiative by the City of Vancouver to ensure future Olympic and Paralympic Games are safe and inclusive for all participants – the Host City Pride House Mission. Vancouver City Council passed a motion supporting this initiative on December 18, 2013 (attached for your reference).

We are asking the IOC to specifically enshrine the rights of LGBTQ athletes into Principle 6 of the Olympic Charter. Sadly, homophobia in sport still remains a challenge across the globe. But the situation in Sochi creates an opportunity for the IOC to affirm your commitment to human rights and inclusion for all, simply by adjusting the language in your charter.

While many IOC members may feel that the term “otherwise” in Principle 6 adequately ensures protection for LGBTQ athletes, the vagueness of the language has created uncertainty for the LGBTQ community’s safe participation in Sochi. We believe that the need to specifically add “sexual orientation” to Principle 6 can best be articulated by members of the LGBTQ community.

We also propose that the International Olympic Committee and the International Paralympic Committee recommend that future Olympic cities facilitate and endorse the creation of a community-led Pride House at future Games. With this recommendation, the IOC would be demonstrating its commitment to affirm and expand human rights in a practical and immediate way, given the success of Vancouver 2010 and London 2012’s Pride Houses and the efforts already under way to create a Pride House for Rio 2016.

To assist in carrying this message from our Council, I have asked Vancouver City Councillor Tim Stevenson – an openly gay ordained United Church minister, four-term Councillor and Deputy Mayor for Vancouver for February 2014 – to lead a delegation of two to Sochi as



official representatives for Vancouver. They will be on-site for a few days prior to the start of the Sochi 2014 Games to advocate for this proposal with IOC members and Olympic influencers.

President Bach, please know that our objective is not to provoke an incident at Sochi nor to directly challenge Russian policy, but to channel the support for LGBTQ rights in a positive direction with the IOC and IPC that helps future Olympic and Paralympic athletes. To achieve this goal, we are asking for 15 to 20 minutes of your time, to allow our delegation to discuss our recommendations with you.

We greatly appreciate you providing an opportunity to meet with Deputy Mayor Stevenson and his colleague, Maureen Douglas, in Sochi anytime between February 2 and February 9, 2014.

With thanks and appreciation, *and best wishes for the Games!*

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gregor Robertson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Gregor Robertson, Mayor
City of Vancouver

Marion Lay, Olympian
Recipient of the International Olympic Committee's Women and Sport Trophy for the Americas

Bruce Kidd, Olympian
Selection Committee member, Postgraduate Research Grant Program, Olympic Studies Centre, International Olympic Committee.



Sochi 2014 Mission Plan



Sochi 2014 Mission Plan

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1) Introduction

As a proud Olympic host city, Vancouver is working to ensure that Pride House and equality and inclusion for everyone is an integral part of future Olympic and Paralympic Games, no matter where in the world they are hosted.

As the prior Olympic Winter Games host city, Vancouver is deeply concerned about the impact that Russia's new anti-gay propaganda law is having on the Russian GLBTQ community and on athletes and spectators who wish to attend the 2014 Olympic Winter Games in Sochi. Both the IOC's and Russia's assurances of safety are weak at best, leaving an entire segment of the population feeling alienated and vulnerable.

During the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games, Vancouver was the first host city to welcome a Pride House, in both Vancouver and Whistler, and this great initiative was carried on in London in 2012. As we approach Sochi 2014, this inclusive Games-time gathering place is not in Russia's plans, and in fact, a community led Pride House in Sochi was denied by the Russian government.

This situation has inspired an initiative by the City of Vancouver to ensure future Olympic and Paralympic Games are safe and inclusive for all participants - the Host City Pride House Mission (HCPH). This initiative was passed in a motion at Vancouver City Council on Dec. 18, 2014.

Our goal is to propose that the International Olympic Committee and the International Paralympic committee require future Olympic cities to facilitate and endorse the creation of a community-led Pride House at future Games. With such a gesture, the IOC would be demonstrating its commitment to affirm and expand human rights in a practical and immediate way, given the proactive efforts already under way to create a Pride House for Rio 2016. We will also ask the IOC to specifically enshrine the rights of LGBTQ athletes into Principle 6 of the Olympic Charter. This community is currently not specifically protected, which has resulted in a situation such as the one in Sochi.

Our objectives are to advocate and influence for:

- A commitment from the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and International Paralympic Committee (IPC) to include in the Host City Agreement that all future Olympic and Paralympic cities are expected to welcome and facilitate the creation of community-led Pride Houses;
- A decision from the IOC to update Principle 6 in the Olympic Charter to explicitly include a non-discrimination clause in regard to LGBTQ persons and sexual and gender identity; and,
- To provide, through this initiative's actions and proposals, an avenue for solidarity and support for GLBTQ athletes and LGBTQ activists in Russia.

2) City of Vancouver Council motion

Olympic and Paralympic Pride House Initiative

At the Regular Council meeting on Tuesday, December 17, 2013, Vancouver City Council referred the motion below to the Standing Committee on City Finance and Services meeting on December 18, 2013, to hear from speakers.

MOVED by Mayor Robertson, SECONDED by Councillor Meggs

WHEREAS

1. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights proclaims "every individual and every organ of society, keeping this Declaration constantly in mind, shall strive by teaching and education to promote respect for these rights and freedoms, and by progressive measures, national and international, to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance";

2. The Declaration states that "everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind";

3. The Olympic Charter states as fundamental principles of Olympism that:

"The practice of sport is a human right. Every individual must have the possibility of practicing sport, without discrimination of any kind and in the Olympic spirit, which requires mutual understanding with a spirit of friendship, solidarity and fair play," and that

"Any form of discrimination with regard to a country or a person on grounds of religion, politics, gender or otherwise is incompatible with belonging to the Olympic Movement."

The Constitution of the International Paralympic Committee states that the Vision, Mission and Objectives of the IPC are to:

"Promote sports for athletes with disabilities without discrimination for political, religious, economic, disability, racial, gender or sexual orientation reasons.";

4. The community-led creation of Pride Houses at the 2010 Vancouver-Whistler Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games marked a new benchmark in the affirmation of the right of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered and queer athletes to participate in the Games on the basis of full equality and inclusion;

5. The establishment of Pride House at the 2012 London Olympic and Paralympic Games demonstrated that the explicit inclusion of the GLBTQ community as an affirmation of human rights, in keeping with the fundamental principles of Olympism and Paralympism was emerging as an enduring legacy of the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

A. THAT the City of Vancouver, as host city of the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, urge the International Olympic Committee and the International Paralympic Committee to demonstrate their support for full recognition of human rights of all athletes by directing all future host cities to facilitate and endorse the creation of a community-led Pride House as part of their bid.

B. THAT the City of Vancouver, as host city of the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, urge the International Olympic Committee to update their Charters to explicitly include a non-discrimination clause in regard to LGBTQ persons and sexual and gender identity.

C. THAT the City of Vancouver petition the IOC and IPC to ensure the protection of all LGBTQ athletes, coaches, officials and spectators and their allies in Sochi during the forthcoming 2014 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.

D. THAT Vancouver City Council endorse the efforts of Councillor Tim Stevenson, who while serving as Deputy Mayor and representing the City of Vancouver during the upcoming Sochi 2014 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, will advocate for this with members of the International Olympic Committee and International Paralympic Committee, in Sochi Russia.

3) Committees and delegation

Working Group

A working group was formed to develop the initiative and the strategic approach to the IOC and Olympic influencers. The working group members include Olympians, Vancouver city councillors, city staff and community representation from Olympic and Paralympic movements and the LGBTQ community. The working group members are:

- Councillor Tim Stevenson
- Councillor Geoff Meggs
- Bruce Kidd, Olympian
- Marion Lay, Olympian
- Darren Stolz, Paralympic perspective
- Maureen Douglas, Olympic perspective and HCPH contracted project manager
- Bob Rennie, community at large
- Dean Nelson, LGBTQ community and Pride House founder
- Braeden Caley, Communications, Mayor's office
- Penny Ballem, City Manager

Oversight Committee

Once the motion was approved at Vancouver City Council, a Host City Pride House project oversight committee was formed to review and approve the details of the project, including contract management; financial oversight and approvals; and management of contributed funds held in trust by the City for the HCPH project. The Oversight Committee consists of:

- Penny Ballem, City Manager
- Patrice Impey, City Chief Financial Office
- Janice Mackenzie, City Clerk
- Bruce Kidd, Olympian and community member
- Darren Stolz, community member

Mission team

The mission team who will be travel to Sochi for meetings with IOC officials and Olympic influencers is:

- Councillor Tim Stevenson (Deputy Mayor in February 2014)s
- Project manager, Maureen Douglas

4) Funding and Budget

The HCPH project is funded by two sources:

- 1) The majority of project costs are covered by contributions from the community given specifically for this project.
- 2) The costs of Councillor Tim Stevenson's travel and incidentals specific to the trip to Sochi will be covered by the City of Vancouver. This is limited to airfare, hotel, City-rate per diem, international telecom costs and visa processing.

HCPH Project Budget for Sochi mission

HOST CITY PRIDE HOUSE
WORKING BUDGETUpdated: January 21, 2014
Version 2.0

REVENUE:	AMOUNT	
Contribution received to date	\$25,000.00	
Committed contribuion	\$25,000.00	
EXPENSES:	AMOUNT	
Project Contract Services:		
Project Management - Maureen Douglas, Mobilize Strategies	\$22,000.00	
Communications/social media support/fundraising Sub-contract	\$8,000.00	
Project Costs:	Sochi Mission specific costs	City Councillor Costs (information only - outside this contract)
Visa applications	\$328.00	\$328.00
Tickets to sport event (required for visa application)	\$90.00	
Flights to Sochi	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Flight to Toronto for Councillor Stevenson to meet with LGBTQ Russian representative and Bruce Kidd	\$800.00	
Accommodation - Istanbul	\$450.00	\$450.00
Accommodation - Sochi nights of Feb.1 to Feb.8	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Per diems - x \$70/day x 13 days	\$910.00	\$910.00
Gifts for meetings (\$25/unit x 30) estimated	\$750.00	
Meeting hospitality (as required for meetings with Olympic officials)	\$1,000.00	
International telecom - data plan/voice plans for M.Douglas and Councillor Stevenson	\$500.00	\$500.00
Office - printing on-site in Sochi - documents, backgrounders, etc.	\$200.00	
Sochi travel - taxis, etc.	\$600.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$41,628.00	\$8,188.00
H.B. - all amounts are exclusive of taxes		

5) Sochi Mission Strategy

The mission team will travel to Sochi to be there a week in advance of the Olympic Games opening on Feb.7. The team arrives in Sochi on Feb.1 and leaves early on Feb.9. This allows for a week of meetings with the IOC and Olympic influencers when they gather for organizational meetings in advance of the Sochi 2014 Games.

The mission team will attempt to meet with as many Olympic officials as possible, advocating and educating for better LGBTQ inclusion language in the Olympic Charter and for the inclusion of Pride Houses at all future Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The mission team has also requested meetings, via the Vancouver-based honorary Russian Consul, with the Russian Minister of Sport; Russian Minister for Culture; the Russian Olympic Committee; the Mayor of Sochi and civil and faith-based community leaders in the Sochi region.

While in Sochi, the mission team is also requesting meetings with other individuals and groups aligned with our objectives including: Beckie Scott - IOC Athletes Commission

- Brian Burke - The You Can Play Project
- Representatives from Athlete Ally and AllOut.org
- Representatives from Pride House International
- Representatives from Russian LGBTQ sport federation

Their attendance in Sochi or availability is tentative at this time.

It is important to note that we have made it clear in all our messaging that our objective is not to challenge Russian policy nor to provoke an incident at Sochi, but to channel the support for LGBTQ rights in a positive direction with the IOC and IPC that helps future Olympic and Paralympic athletes, through constructive and respectful dialogue.

Meeting requests

Meeting request letters have been sent from Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robertson to IOC President Thomas Bach, senior IOC administrators, senior IOC officials, senior National Olympic Committee (NOC) officials and other Olympic influencers. The meeting request letters had all been distributed by January 17, 2014.

A copy of the letter to President Bach is attached to this document. It demonstrates the tone and approach that the mission team has taken in our meeting request outreach.

6) Communications and Media Protocol

Prior to Sochi departure:

- Media requests in advance of the Sochi mission have been managed by Braeden Caley in the Mayor's Office.

While in Sochi:

- The project manager has added resource support to help manage the increase in inquiries just prior to departure and for support on media requests and social media needs in Vancouver while the mission team is in Sochi.
- The communications liaison, Lesli Boldt, will help coordinate media requests and will liaise with Braeden Caley to ensure that all media requests are addressed.
- Maureen Douglas will manage and coordinate media requests received in Sochi and work with Leslie and Braeden to book media requests received in Vancouver for interviews while we are in Sochi.
- A Google calendar has been set up so that communications coordinators can review the mission team schedule and plan interviews accordingly.

Spokespersons:

- Councillor Tim Stevenson has been the primary spokesperson for the mission project with support as required from Mayor Robertson and City Manager Penny Ballem.
- Maureen Douglas has provided project background information to media and responded to a few media requests directed specifically to her.

While in Sochi:

- Councillor Tim Stevenson will be the primary spokesperson while in Sochi with support from Maureen Douglas as required or as requested.
- Mayor Robertson and Penny Ballem will continue to speak to the project in Vancouver as requested.
- Councillor Geoff Meggs, a member of the steering committee, can also be made available as spokesperson.

Social media

The HCPH project will create awareness and build community engagement through the use of social media tools - primarily a dedicated website and Twitter.

The HCPH has a unique website that will host daily blogs from Sochi and updates as they happen. The site also includes the project Twitter feed.

Web: www.hostcitypridehouse.com

Twitter: @hostcitypride

Content will be managed by Maureen Douglas with support from Lesli Boldt

Communications and Engagement while in Sochi:

- The mission team will post updates and a daily blog to www.hostcitypridehouse.com
- We will liaise with Lesli Boldt to provide content for Twitter, photos, etc.
- Councillor Stevenson will also provide an exclusive daily blog to the Vancouver Sun

KEY MESSAGES - as of January 13, 2014

Objective of Host City Pride House mission:

During the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games, Vancouver was the first host city to welcome a Pride House, in both Vancouver and Whistler. London 2012 carried on this great initiative. As we approach Sochi 2014, this inclusive Games-time gathering place is not in their plans. A community-led Pride House in Sochi was denied by the Russian government.

Our objectives are to advocate and influence for:

- A commitment from the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and International Paralympic Committee (IPC) to include in the Host City Agreement that all future Olympic and Paralympic cities must welcome and help facilitate the creation of community-led Pride Houses.
- A decision from the IOC to update Principle 6 in the Olympic Charter to explicitly include a non-discrimination clause in regard to LGBTQ persons and sexual and gender identity - specifically by adding “sexual orientation” to current Principle 6* wording. And
- To provide, through this initiative’s actions and proposals, an avenue for solidarity and support for GLBTQ athletes and LGBTQ activists in Russia.

**Principle 6 = Any form of discrimination with regard to a country or a person on grounds of race, religion, politics, gender or otherwise is incompatible with belonging to the Olympic Movement.*

Dates in Sochi:

Olympic officials gather to meet in Sochi on various issues in the week before the Games, but once the Games begin the focus shifts entirely to sport and “the politics” are set aside. That’s why we are going to Sochi early - to meet with the IOC while they are in “meeting mode”.

Travel	Jan.28 - 31
Arrive Sochi	Feb. 1
Meetings	Feb. 2-8
Return to Vancouver	Feb.9

Do you have Russian visas?

Yes, both of the mission team has visas allowing us to enter Russia.

Are you concerned for your safety while in Russia?

Given everything in the news of late including the terrorist actions in the region near Sochi, yes, there is some concern but none more than any travelers would have given the circumstances. In regard to our safety as LGBTQ advocates, the Russian government and the IOC continue to assure attendees that it will be safe. But we will of course use caution and stay keenly aware of our safety while we are there.

Why was this delegation chosen?

Often when dealing with issues of human rights for a marginalized group or minority, it is members of that minority who can best articulate their concerns to others.

Councillor Tim Stevenson, an openly gay elected official with the City of Vancouver, has a long history of advocating for human rights and LGBTQ issues and is Deputy Mayor for Vancouver in February 2014. Project manager Maureen Douglas (also gay) served eight years as VANOC's Director of Community Relations and continues to consult with Olympic Games on issues of inclusion and public engagement. The mission team had originally included Pride House founder Dean Nelson as well but a scheduling conflict for Dean made it impossible.

While many IOC members may feel that the term "otherwise" in Principle 6 adequately ensures protection for LGBTQ athletes, the vagueness of the language has created uncertainty for the LGBTQ community's safe participation in Sochi. We believe that the need to specifically add "sexual orientation" to Principle 6 can best be articulated by members of the LGBTQ community.

And as the first host city to have a Pride House, we hope to share the social and cultural importance of this addition to the Games as well as the community, tourism and economic benefits.

Why does the City of Vancouver feel compelled to take up this initiative with the IOC in Sochi?

One of the responsibilities of being an Olympic host city is to commit to making future Games better and to support the continued success of Olympic Games through transfers of knowledge and best practices with the IOC and future host communities.

Vancouver is proud of the contributions our Games made to the Olympic movement –including being the most inclusive Games to date. Everyone who wished to could participate in our Games - as an athlete, volunteer or spectator – regardless of race, religion, politics, income, gender or sexual orientation.

And Vancouver is proud to have been the first host of a Pride House at the Olympic Games, which created a safe, welcoming space for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and queer (LGBTQ) people and their friends and families to celebrate the Games.

So now in 2014, we have a Games that is not making things better in regard to human rights and inclusion. Vancouver is deeply concerned about the impact that Russia's new anti-gay propaganda law is having on the Russian LGBTQ community and on athletes and spectators who wish to participate in the Sochi 2014 Olympic Winter Games. This law is threatening and discriminatory and undermines the commitment to human rights that is at the heart of the Olympic movement – leaving an entire segment of the population feeling alienated and vulnerable.

What will you present to the IOC and others in Sochi?

We are asking the IOC to specifically enshrine the rights of LGBTQ athletes into Principle 6 of the Olympic Charter. The situation in Sochi creates an opportunity for the IOC to affirm their commitment to human rights and inclusion for all, simply by adjusting the language in the charter.

Sadly, homophobia in sport still remains a challenge across the globe. If you are not a member of the LGBTQ community facing that homophobia, you may feel that the term “otherwise” is sufficient to capture the non-discrimination intent. But if you are a gay person reviewing the Olympic charter and you don’t see your minority explicitly expressed in Principle 6, you may well have doubts about your explicit protection and inclusion - exactly as we have seen the situation play out in Sochi.

We also want to educate IOC members and Olympic influencers about the benefits of hosting a Pride House, ensuring a safe, welcoming place for celebration at the Games for LGBTQ community members and their allies. Our Pride House was a place for Olympians to share their experiences with the public and their appreciation for the LGBTQ community supporting the spirit of the Games. It build community, it builds bridges across social disconnects and it reinforces the spirit of inclusion that should be at the heart of Olympism.

Are you working with other groups on these initiatives?

We have made connections with a number of other advocacy groups working toward similar goals including the IOC Athletes Commission, All Out.org, Athlete Ally, the You Can Play Project and Pride House International. These groups are supportive of our efforts and we continue to work with them to strengthen strategic messaging, outreach and awareness. We have also had discussions with the Canadian Olympic Committee, athletes and other sport leaders in Canada to keep them apprised of our plans.

Do you anticipate controversy while in Sochi?

Our objective is not to challenge Russian policy nor to provoke an incident at Sochi, but to channel the support for LGBTQ rights in a positive direction with the IOC and IPC that helps future Olympic and Paralympic athletes. To achieve this goal, we are asking for brief meetings with a wide range of IOC members, National Olympic Committee officials and other Olympic influencers.

We are working through various Olympic and sport channels to achieve these meetings. It is our goal to have respectful and thoughtful dialogue that helps the IOC understand the importance of these changes and recommendations to achieve full inclusion and equality for LGBTQ persons in the Olympic movement and international sport.

Do you think that the IOC will agree to your requests?

Like many initiatives for change, this is part of a process. We don’t expect to come back from Sochi with a revised Principle 6 or a Pride House clause in the host city contract. But we believe that through advocacy and sharing of our concerns, we can help bring some urgency to

these changes, raise awareness and understanding and provide support to athletes who have been lobbying for these changes for some time.

Has Russia expressed any concerns with the Vancouver mission?

No. In fact shortly after the motion passed at Council, Councillor Stevenson was invited to meet with the honorary Russian Consul here in Vancouver. The Consul expressed his willingness to assist us where he could and make appropriate introductions if required.

What meetings do you have booked so far?

We are currently in the process of booking and confirming meetings. The motion passed at Council on Dec. 18, so we needed to wait until after the Christmas break to start the meeting request process. We have now sent our requests to the IOC and others, and will continue to secure meetings right through our time in Sochi.

Will you be meeting with Russian LGBTQ activists while in Sochi?

We are hoping to, but the climate in Russia for the LGBTQ community is changing daily, making it increasingly difficult for Russian LGBTQ activists to travel and meet safely. But we continue to work on securing a meeting with them in Sochi to determine how we can best support them both in Sochi and upon our return to Vancouver.

Will you be checking in with Vancouver while you are in Sochi?

Yes, we will report on our progress and experiences in Sochi with a daily blog that will run from Feb. 1 to 9, 2014. The blog can be found at www.hostcitypridehouse.com. And we will be responding to media in Sochi as requested.

How is it being paid for?

The Host City Pride House project is being funded two ways. In his role as Deputy Mayor, Councillor Stevenson's costs of the Sochi trip will be paid for by municipal tax dollars (approx. \$8,500) and all other costs, including project management, Maureen Douglas's travel costs, communications, outreach and any further actions required upon return to Vancouver will be funded by community contributions. The project has secured \$50,000 to date from community contributors.

How can people support this initiative?

We have set up a fund in trust at the City of Vancouver, with all contributions being used specifically for the Host City Pride House project. If people would like to contribute, they can visit www.hostcitypridehouse.com and click on the "How You Can Help" link that will connect them to a contribution page on Vancouver.ca.

We are also working with the local hospitality community to host Remote Pride Houses during the Sochi Games as a symbol of solidarity with Pride House International. Details on locations and promotions will be posted at www.hostcitypridehouse.com.

7) Mission logistical details

Note: Sochi is 12 hours ahead of Vancouver. 12am in Vancouver = 12pm in Sochi.

Travel Schedule:

Jan.28	Travel to Istanbul
Jan.29	Arrive Istanbul
Feb. 1	Arrive Sochi
Feb. 2 - 8	Meetings in Sochi
Feb. 9	Travel Sochi to Vancouver

Flight Information:

Councillor Stevenson and Maureen Douglas will travel together on the following flights:

Date	FROM	TO	Flight Number	Depart	Arrive	Flying Time (hh:min)
Jan.28	Vancouver	Toronto	Air Canada 1162	11:00am	6:30pm	4:30
Jan. 28	Toronto	Istanbul	Air Canada 810	8:00pm	1:15pm(Jan.29)	10:15
Feb.1	Istanbul	Sochi	Aeroflot 5339	1:05am	5:25am	2:20
Feb.9	Sochi	Frankfurt	Aeroflot 2306	7:30am	8:30am	4:00
Feb.9	Frankfurt	Montreal	Air Canada 875	1:30pm	3:40pm	8:10
Feb.9	Montreal	Vancouver	Air Canada 195	5:50pm	8:24pm	5:35

Accommodation:

<p>Istanbul: nights of Jan. 29 and 30 SWISSOTEL - the Bosphorus Istanbul Bayildim Caddesi No. 2 Macka Istanbul, TR 34357 Phone: 90-212-3261100 Fax: 90-212-3261100</p>	<p>Sochi: nights of Feb.1 to 5. (nights of Feb. 6 to 8 TBD) Radisson Blu Paradise Resort 65 let Pobedy Street 50 Adler District Sochi, Krasnodar region 354340, Russia Phone: +7 862 243 33 33</p>
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Mission team contact information in Sochi:

The mission team will be using their usual cell number and email addresses during their time in Sochi. If there is difficulty reaching us, messages can also be left at our hotel:
 +7 862 243 33 33

<p>Councillor Tim Stevenson: Email: tim.stevenson@vancouver.ca Cell: s. 22(1) Personal and Confidential</p>	<p>Maureen Douglas Email: s. 22(1) Personal and Confidential Cell: s. 22(1) Personal and Confidential</p>
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Other contact numbers:

NAME	ROLE	CELL/Phone NUMBER
Penny Ballem	City Manager	s. 22(1) Personal and Confidential
Braeden Caley	Mayors Office communications	s. 22(1) Personal and Confidential
Lesli Boldt	HCHP communications	s. 22(1) Personal and Confidential
Geoff Meggs	Councillor - working group member	s. 22(1) Personal and Confidential
Bruce Kidd	Olympic advisor	s. 22(1) Personal and Confidential
Canadian Consulates	Moscow - Embassy of Canada Vladivostok - Consulate of Canada	s. 22(1) Personal and Confidential

Safety Protocol:

The mission team will communicate twice per day with simple messages stating the team is okay. Messages will be sent by: 10:00am and 10:00pm each day to:

- Lesli Boldt
- Councillor Geoff Meggs

The mission team will register with the “Registrations for Canadians Abroad” program via Service Canada.

Additionally, safety information from the Government of Canada is included in the following pages:

Canadian Embassy and Consulate in Russia: **Russia****Moscow****Embassy of Canada**

A: 23 Starokonyushenny Pereulok, Moscow, 119002, Russia

T: 7 (495) 925-6000

F: 7 (495) 925-6004 or 7 (495) 925-6025

✉ mosco@international.gc.ca

🌐 www.russia.gc.ca

📄 Passport Services Available

[Print wallet size](#)[Print](#)**Vladivostok****Consulate of Canada**

A: 707-59 Krasnogo Znameni prospekt, Vladivostok 690002, Russia

T: 7 (4232) 49-11-88

F: 7 (4232) 49-11-88

✉ can.consulate.vl@gmail.com

🌐 www.russia.gc.ca

📄 Passport Services Available

[Print wallet size](#)[Print](#)

For calls originating inside Russia the "7" should be replaced by an "8". For assistance after hours, call the Embassy of Canada in Moscow and follow the

“Traveling to Sochi” advisory from the Government of Canada

Travelling to Sochi - Travel.gc.ca

<http://travel.gc.ca/travelling/health-safety/sochi>Government
of CanadaGouvernement
du Canada

[Home \(http://canada.ca/en/index.htm\)](http://canada.ca/en/index.htm) → [A services \(http://canada.ca/en/services/index.htm\)](http://canada.ca/en/services/index.htm)

→ [Travel \(/\)](#) → [Traveling abroad \(/traveling\)](#) → [Travel health and safety \(/traveling/health-safety\)](#)

→ [Sochi](#)

Travelling to Sochi

The 2014 Olympic Winter Games will be held from February 7 to 23, 2014 in Sochi, Russia, followed by the Paralympic Winter Games from March 7 to 16. Some events will also be held in the resort town of Krasnaya Polyana.



[\(/traveling/registration\)](#)

[\(/traveling/documents/travel-insurance\)](#)

In July 2013 Imarat Kavkaz leader Doku Umarov called on militants to derail the Sochi Olympic Games using any necessary means, and lifted his previous moratorium on actions of militants in Russia outside the North Caucasus. On January 19, 2014, the Ansar Al-Sunna terrorist group took responsibility for the December 2013 attacks on Volgograd (see below) and threatened further attacks if the Olympic games were to take place.

On December 29, 2013, an explosive device was detonated inside the main railway station of the city of Volgograd; on December 30, another explosive device was detonated on a public bus in the same city. These incidents caused deaths and injuries. Security measures have been reinforced throughout Russia, specifically in the Volgograd region. The Domodedovo International Airport and the Moscow subway system have also been targeted by terrorist attacks.

Travelling to Sochi - Travel.gc.ca

<http://travel.gc.ca/travelling/health-safety/sochi>

Special security arrangements will be in place at Olympic venues, airports, border crossings and other sensitive areas. Any high profile international event is vulnerable to the risk of a terrorist attack (<http://www.tac.gc.ca/pb/ctns/Sotchi/index-eng.asp>). If you are planning to travel to the Games, take sensible precautions. Maintain a high level of personal security awareness at all times and in all places. Avoid demonstrations, monitor local developments and follow the advice of local authorities.

You should make your travel arrangements, including accommodation, transportation and purchase of sporting events tickets, well in advance using genuine and reliable sources.

Since January 7, 2014, demonstrations, assemblies, rallies, marches and picketing not associated with the Olympic and Paralympic Games in and around Sochi must be held in places or along routes approved by the Interior Ministry. This order will be in effect until March 21, 2014.

Although homosexual activity is not illegal in Russia, a federal law has been passed that prohibits public actions that are described as promoting homosexuality and “non-traditional sexual relations”. This law could render any homosexual and pro-homosexual statements punishable. Public actions (including dissemination of information, statements, displays or conspicuous behaviour) that contravene or appear to contravene this law may lead to arrest, the imposition of a fine and deportation.

If you plan to attend the Games as a participant or to support Canadian athletes

- Please read our [Travel Advice and Advisories for Russia \(/destinations/russia\)](#) before you leave Canada for important updated information on Russian security conditions, entry and exit requirements, health, laws and culture, natural disasters and crime. Please note that there remains an ongoing insurgency in the North Caucasus, located approximately 150 kilometres from Sochi, and consult our [Advisories against travel to the North Caucasus republics of Chechnya, Ingushetia and Dagestan](#).
- If you plan to travel to other countries in the area, please consult the [Travel Advice and Advisories \(/travelling/advisories\)](#) for each destination, such as neighbouring [Georgia \(/destinations/georgia\)](#) for which a regional [Travel Advisory](#) is in effect.
- You will require a tourist visa if you are staying at a hotel or other commercial establishment.

Travelling to Sochi - Travel.gc.ca

<http://travel.gc.ca/travelling/health-safety/sochi>

Make sure the hotel registers your visa.

- Be sure to respect the validity period of your [Russian tourist visa \(/destinations/russia#entryexit\)](#).
- Avoid demonstrations and protests.
- A team of Canadian consular experts will be deployed in Sochi for the duration of the Games to provide [assistance to Canadians in distress \(/assistance/emergency-assistance\)](#).
[\(/embassies/russia#H1\)](#)
- Don't forget to register with our free [Registration of Canadians Abroad \(/travelling/registration\)](#) service and stay connected to Canada in case of an emergency abroad or at home.
- When in Russia, dial 01 for fire, 02 for police and 03 for ambulance in case of emergency.

For more travel news and updates, subscribe to our [Twitter \(https://twitter.com/travelGoC\)](https://twitter.com/travelGoC) and [Facebook \(https://www.facebook.com/travelGoC\)](https://www.facebook.com/travelGoC) accounts.

Related links

- [Travel Health Notice on the 2014 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games in Sochi, Russia \(/travelling/health-safety/travel-health-notices/sochi\)](#)
- [Homosexual, bisexual and transgender travel \(/travelling/health-safety/gbt-travel\)](#)
- [Exchanging your money \(/travelling/air/travel-money/exchanging-money\)](#)
- [Passport \(/travelling/documents/passport\)](#)
- [Traveling and money \(/travelling/air/travel-money\)](#)
- [Visas \(/travelling/documents/visas\)](#)

Date modified: 2014-1-22

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Requesting Emergency Assistance from the Government of Canada:

Request emergency assistance - Travel.gc.ca

<http://travel.gc.ca/assistance/emergency-assistance>

Government
of Canada

Gouvernement
du Canada



[Home \(http://canada.ca/en/index.htm\)](http://canada.ca/en/index.htm) → [A services \(http://canada.ca/en/services/index.htm\)](http://canada.ca/en/services/index.htm)

→ [Travel \(/\)](#) → [Assistance \(/assistance\)](#) → Request emergency assistance

Request emergency assistance

For emergency help during business hours, and if you are outside Canada, call the [nearest embassy or consulate \(http://www.voyage.gc.ca/contact/offices-st-ste-bureaux-eng.asp\)](http://www.voyage.gc.ca/contact/offices-st-ste-bureaux-eng.asp).

IMPORTANT

This service is only intended for Canadian citizens in need of emergency consular services while abroad. The Emergency Response Centre does not have information concerning citizenship, immigration, permanent residence, or visas.

You can also contact our Emergency Watch and Response Centre in Ottawa anytime by:

Email:

- sos@international.gc.ca (mailto:sos@international.gc.ca)
- [Emergency contact form \(/assistance/emergency-assistance/emergency-contact-form\)](/assistance/emergency-assistance/emergency-contact-form)

Telephone:

From outside Canada

- 613-996-8885 (call collect where available)
- [To-free numbers in some countries \(/assistance/emergency-assistance/to-free-numbers\)](/assistance/emergency-assistance/to-free-numbers)

From inside Canada

- 613-996-8885
- 1-800-387-3124 (toll-free from the U.S. and Canada only)

8) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Letter to IOC President Thomas Bach, from Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robertson:



Mayor Gregor Robertson
Le maire Gregor Robertson
羅品信市長
ਗਰੈਗਰ ਰੋਬਰਟਸਨ, ਮੇਅਰ
Punong-bayan Gregor Robertson

ni? et xetomotol, to t'aimot, to tamax? ?? to k'a'alk'a 1 *
We watch over the land and sea and in turn they watch over us.

January 13, 2014

Mr. Thomas Bach
President
International Olympic Committee
Château de Vidy
Case postale 356
1001 Lausanne
Switzerland

Dear President Bach,

Congratulations on your recent election as president of the International Olympic Committee.

The City of Vancouver was honoured to join the Olympic family as host city for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games and continues to support the success of Olympic Games through transfers of knowledge and best practices with the IOC and future host communities.

With the next Olympic Winter Games just a few weeks away, the power and influence of the Olympic Games and the IOC's leadership role in international sport has never been more important.

Throughout the years, the IOC has had significant positive influence on the inclusion and demonstration of human rights with countries that wish to be part of the Olympic movement. Principle Four in the IOC's Fundamental Principles of Olympism captures this so well: "The practice of sport is a human right. Every individual must have the possibility of practicing sport, without discrimination of any kind and in the Olympic spirit, which requires mutual understanding with a spirit of friendship, solidarity and fair play."

Vancouver is proud of the contributions our Games made to the Olympic movement – including being the most inclusive Games to date. The Vancouver 2010 Games ensured that everyone who wished to could participate in our Games - as an athlete, volunteer or spectator – regardless of race, religion, politics, income, gender or sexual orientation. In

1

604.873.7621 604.873.7685 gregor.robertson@vancouver.ca vancouver.ca

Office of the Mayor, City of Vancouver, 453 West 12th Avenue, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada V5Y 1V4

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fact, Vancouver is proud to have been the first host of a Pride House at the Olympic Games, which created a safe, welcoming space for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and queer (LGBTQ) people and their friends and families to celebrate the Games.

But now in 2014, Vancouver is deeply concerned about the impact that new Russian anti-gay legislation is having on the Russian LGBTQ community and on athletes and spectators who wish to participate in the Sochi 2014 Olympic Winter Games. This legislation is threatening and discriminatory and undermines the commitment to human rights that is at the heart of the Olympic movement – leaving an entire segment of the population feeling alienated and vulnerable.

As the prior host city, this situation inspired an initiative by the City of Vancouver to ensure future Olympic and Paralympic Games are safe and inclusive for all participants – the Host City Pride House Mission. Vancouver City Council passed a motion supporting this initiative on December 18, 2013 (attached for your reference).

We are asking the IOC to specifically enshrine the rights of LGBTQ athletes into Principle 6 of the Olympic Charter. Sadly, homophobia in sport still remains a challenge across the globe. But the situation in Sochi creates an opportunity for the IOC to affirm your commitment to human rights and inclusion for all, simply by adjusting the language in your charter.

While many IOC members may feel that the term “otherwise” in Principle 6 adequately ensures protection for LGBTQ athletes, the vagueness of the language has created uncertainty for the LGBTQ community’s safe participation in Sochi. We believe that the need to specifically add “sexual orientation” to Principle 6 can best be articulated by members of the LGBTQ community.

We also propose that the International Olympic Committee and the International Paralympic Committee recommend that future Olympic cities facilitate and endorse the creation of a community-led Pride House at future Games. With this recommendation, the IOC would be demonstrating its commitment to affirm and expand human rights in a practical and immediate way, given the success of Vancouver 2010 and London 2012’s Pride Houses and the efforts already under way to create a Pride House for Rio 2016.

To assist in carrying this message from our Council, I have asked Vancouver City Councillor Tim Stevenson – an openly gay ordained United Church minister, four-term Councillor and Deputy Mayor for Vancouver for February 2014 – to lead a delegation of two to Sochi as

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official representatives for Vancouver. They will be on-site for a few days prior to the start of the Sochi 2014 Games to advocate for this proposal with IOC members and Olympic influencers.

President Bach, please know that our objective is not to provoke an incident at Sochi nor to directly challenge Russian policy, but to channel the support for LGBTQ rights in a positive direction with the IOC and IPC that helps future Olympic and Paralympic athletes. To achieve this goal, we are asking for 15 to 20 minutes of your time, to allow our delegation to discuss our recommendations with you.

We greatly appreciate you providing an opportunity to meet with Deputy Mayor Stevenson and his colleague, Maureen Douglas, in Sochi anytime between February 2 and February 9, 2014.

With thanks and appreciation, *and best wishes for the Games!*

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gregor Robertson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Gregor Robertson, Mayor
City of Vancouver

Marion Lay, Olympian
Recipient of the International Olympic Committee's Women and Sport Trophy for the Americas

Bruce Kidd, Olympian
Selection Committee member, Postgraduate Research Grant Program, Olympic Studies Centre, International Olympic Committee.

List of Meeting Request Letter Recipients:

OLYMPIC COMMITTEE	SECRETARY GENERAL	PRESIDENT	WEBSITE
Australia	Mr Craig PHILLIPS		http://www.olympics.com.au
Austria	Mr Peter MENNEL	Mr Karl STOSS	http://www.olympia.at
Bahamas	Mr Romell KNOWLES	Mr Wellington MILLER	http://www.bahamasolympiccommittee.org/
Belarus	Mr George KATULIN	HE Mr Alexandre LUKASHENKO	http://www.noc.by
Belgium	Mr Guido de BONDT	Baron Pierre-Olivier BECKERS-VIEUJANT	http://www.olympic.be
Belize	Mrs Yolanda FONSECA	Mr Hilberto MARTINEZ	
Bermuda	Mr Philip R. GUISHARD	Ms Judy SIMONS, J.P.	http://www.olympics.bm
Bolivia	Mr Jorge ESPAÑA LARREA	Mr Alvaro GUZMÁN BOWLES	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Mr Said FAZLAGIC (Acting)	Mr Siniša KISIC	
Brazil	Mr André Gustavo RICHER	Mr Carlos Arthur NUZMAN	http://www.cob.org.br
Brunei Darussalam	Mr Zuraimi ABDUL SANI	HRH Prince Haji Sufri BOLKIAH	http://www.bruneiolympic.org
Bulgaria	Mr Belcho GORANOV	Ms Stefka KOSTADINOVA	http://www.bgolympic.org
Chile	Mr Jaime AGLIATI VALENZUELA	Mr Neven Ivan ILIC ALVÁREZ	http://www.coch.cl
Colombia	Mr Andrés Darío TIGREROS ORTEG	Mr Baltazar MEDINA	http://www.coc.org.co
Costa Rica	Ms Silvia GONZÁLEZ	Mr Henry NÚÑEZ	http://www.concra.org
Croatia	Mr Josip COP	Mr Zlatko MATEŠA	http://www.hoo.hr
Cuba	Mr Ruperto HERRERA TABIO	Mr José Ramón FERNÁNDEZ ALVAREZ	
Czech Republic	Mr Petr GRACLÍK	Mr Jiri KEJVAL	http://www.olympic.cz/
Denmark	Mr Karl Christian KOCH	Mr Niels NYGAARD	http://www.dif.dk
Dominican Republic	Mr Antonio ACOSTA	Mr Luis MEJIA OVIEDO	http://www.colimdo.org/
Ecuador	Mr Alex GONZÁLEZ GUTIÉRREZ	Mr Augusto MORÁN NUQUES	http://www.coe.org.ec/
El Salvador	Mr Luis ALVAREZ PRUNERA	Mr Eduardo Alberto PALOMO PACAS	http://www.somosazulyblanco.com
Finland	Mr Mika SULIN	Mr Risto NIEMINEN	http://www.noc.fi
France	Mr Jean-Michel BRUN	Mr Denis MASSEGLIA	http://www.franceolympique.com
Germany	Mr Michael VESPER (Director General)	Mr Hans-Peter KRAEMER (ad interim)	http://www.dosb.de
Great Britain	Mr Bill SWEENEY	Lord Sebastian COE	http://www.olympics.org.uk
Greece	Mr Emmanuel KATSIADAKIS	Mr Spyros CAPRALOS	http://www.hoc.gr
Guatemala	Mr Salomon David ROWE STEWART	General Sergio Arnoldo CAMARGO MURALLÉS	http://www.coq.org.gt
Guyana	Mr Hector EDWARDS	Mr Kalam Azad JUMAN-YASSIN	
Honduras	Mr Oscar René BERGANZA DERAS	Mr Salvador JIMÉNEZ CÁCERES	
Hong Kong (China)	Mr Chung PANG	Mr Timothy Tsun Ting FOK	http://www.hkolympic.org
Hungary	Mr Bence SZABO	Mr Zsolt BORKAI	http://www.olympic-hun.org/
Iceland	Ms Liney Rut HALLDORSÐÓTTIR	Mr Lárus BLÖNDAL	http://www.olympic.is
Indonesia	Mr Timbul Thomas LUBIS	Ms Rita Sri Wahyusih SUBOWO	http://www.olympic.or.id/
Ireland	Mr Dermot J. SHERLOCK	Mr Patrick Joseph HICKEY	http://www.olympicsport.ie
Israel	Mr Efraim ZINGER	Mr Igal CARMÍ	http://www.olympic.one.co.il
Italy	Mr Roberto FABBRICINI	Dr Giovanni MALAGÒ	http://www.coni.it
Jamaica	Mr Christopher SAMUDA	Hon. Michael S. FENNELL	
Japan	Mr Tsuyoshi AOKI	Mr Tsunekazu TAKEDA	
Korea (Republic of)	Mr Jaiwan YANG	Dr Jung Haeng KIM	http://www.sports.or.kr/eng
Liberia	Mr Joseph F. WILLIE	Mr Philipbert S. BROWNE	
Liechtenstein	Mr Alex Hermann	Mr Leo KRANZ	http://www.losv.li/

Macedonia (Former Yugoslav Republic of)	Dr Sasho POPOVSKI	Dr Vasil TUPURKOVSKI	http://www.mok.org.mk
Maldives	Mr Ahmed MARZOOQ	Mr. Mohamed SHAWEED	http://www.nocmaldives.org/
Mali	Mr Mohamed Oumar TRAORE	Mr Habib SISSOKO	
Malta	Mr Joseph CASSAR	Mr Julian PACE BONELLO	http://www.nocmalta.org
Mauritania	Mr Abdel Kader DIENG	Dr. Mohamed Mahmoud OULD MAH	
Mauritius	Mr Vivian Gérard GUNGARAM	Mr Philippe Hao Thyn Voon HA SHUN	http://www.mauritiussportscouncil.com
Mexico	Mr Pedro CUERVO AJA	Mr Carlos PADILLA BECERRA	http://www.com.org.mx/
Monaco	H.E. Ms Yvette LAMBIN-BERTI	H.S.H. the Sovereign Prince Albert II	http://www.comite-olympique.mc/
Nepal	Mr Jeevan Ram SHRESTHA	Mr Dhruva Bahadur PRADHAN	http://www.nocnepal.org.np
Netherlands	Mr Gerard DIELESSEN	Mr André BOLHUIS	http://www.nocnsf.nl
New Zealand	Ms Kereyn SMITH	Mr Mike STANLEY	http://www.olympic.org.nz
Nicaragua	Mr Juan Santiago ESTRADA GARCÍA	Mr Emmett LANG SALMERÓN	
Norway	Mr Inge ANDERSEN	Mr Børre ROGNLIEN	http://www.idrett.no
Panama	Mr Ricardo SASSO	Mr Camilo AMADO	http://www.conpanama.com
Papau New Guinea	Ms Auvita RAPILLA	Sir John Norbert DAWANINCURA, KT OBE	http://www.oceaniaport.com/png
Paraguay	Mr Roberto ESCOBAR	Mr Camilo PÉREZ LÓPEZ MOREIRA	
Poland	Mr Adam KRZESINSKI	Mr Andrzej KRASNICKI	http://www.olimpijski.pl
Portugal	Mr José Manuel ARAÚJO	Mr José Manuel CONSTANTINO	http://www.comiteolimpicoportugal.pt
Puerto Rico	Mr Carlos J. BELTRÁN SVELTI	Ms Sara ROSARIO VÉLEZ	http://www.copur.pr
Romania	Mr Ioan DOBRESCU	Mr Octavian MORARIU	http://www.cosr.ro
Russian Federation	Mr Marat BARIEV	Mr Alexander ZHUKOV	http://www.roc.ru
San Marino	Mr Eros BOLOGNA	Mr Gian Primo GIARDI	http://www.cons.sm
Serbia	Mr Djordje VISACKI	Mr Vlade DIVAC	http://www.oks.org.rs
Singapore	Mr Chris CHAN	Mr Chee Hean TEO	http://www.singaporeolympics.com
Slovakia	Mr Jozef LIBA	Mr Frantisek CHMELAR	http://www.olympic.sk
Slovenia	Mr Tone JAGODIC	Mr Janez KOCIJANCIC	http://www.olympic.si/
South Africa	Mr Tubby REDDY	Mr Gideon SAM	http://www.sascoc.co.za
Spain	Mr Victor SÁNCHEZ NARANJO	Mr Alejandro BLANCO BRAVO	http://www.coe.es
Sweden	Mrs Gunilla LINDBERG	Mr Stefan LINDBERG	http://www.sok.se
Switzerland	Mr Roger SCHNEGG	Mr Jörg SCHILD	http://www.swissolympic.ch
Tunisia	Mr Mahmoud HAMMAMI	Mr Mehrez BOUSSAYENE	
Turkey	Ms Nese GÜNDOGAN	Dr. Ugur ERDENER	http://www.olimpiyat.org.tr
United States of America	Mr Scott BLACKMUN	Mr Lawrence F. PROBST III	http://www.teamusa.org/
Uruguay	Dr. Washington BELTRAN	Dr. Julio César MAGLIONE	http://www.cou.org.uy
Venezuela	Prof. Artemio Ramón LEONETT MAESTRE	Prof. Eduardo ÁLVAREZ CAMACHO	

NAME	COUNTRY	ROLE
Ms. Anita de Frantz	United States	IOC member
Ms. Donna de Varona	United States	USOC and IOC influencer
Mr. Dmytri Chernyshenko	Russia	Sochi 2014 President
Mr. Gaetan Tardif	Canada	CPC President
Mr. Sam Ramsamy	New Zealand	IOC member
Ms. Kereyn Smith	New Zealand	CEO, of New Zealand OC
Ms. Karen O'Neill	Canada	CPC
Ms. Nicole Hoevertsz	Aruba	IOC board, PASO, Chair of Women's Comm, PASO
Mr. Mike Chambers	Canada	COC past president
Ms. Marisol Casado	Spain	Assoc. of Summer Olympic I/s
Lord Sebastian Coe	Great Britain	Chair, British Olympic Association



Contributions

Name	Amount
Andrew Hiscox	100.00
Blaine Culling and Granville Entertainment	1,000.00
Anonymous	1,000.00
Christopher Vollan	1,000.00
Geoff Meggs	250.00
Jackie Haywood	25.00
John Bishop	100.00
Matt Meehan	1,000.00
PCI Developments Corp.	1,000.00
Bob Rennie on behalf of Rennie Marketing Systems	25,000.00
Anonymous	250.00
Tourism Vancouver	1,000.00
Peter Wall on behalf of Wall Financial Corporation	25,000.00
Anonymous	100.00
Anonymous	250.00
Anonymous	5.00
	<u>57,080.00</u>



Sochi 2014 Mission Report

Submitted by Maureen Douglas - Project Manager
February 28, 2014



Host City Pride House
A City of Vancouver Initiative

Sochi 2014 Mission Plan

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1) Introduction

As a proud Olympic and Paralympic host city, Vancouver made a commitment to ensure that Pride House and equality and inclusion for everyone is an integral part of future Olympic and Paralympic Games, no matter where in the world they are hosted.

As the prior Olympic Winter Games host city, Vancouver became deeply concerned about the impact that Russia's new anti-gay propaganda law would have on the Russian LGBTQ community and on athletes and spectators attending the 2014 Olympic Winter Games in Sochi. Both the IOC's and Russia's assurances of safety have been weak at best, leaving an entire segment of the population feeling alienated and vulnerable.

During the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games, Vancouver was the first host city to welcome a Pride House, in both Vancouver and Whistler, and this great initiative was carried on in London in 2012. In the lead up to Sochi 2014, this inclusive Games-time gathering place was not in Russia's plans – a community led Pride House in Sochi was denied by the Russian government.

This situation inspired an initiative by the City of Vancouver to ensure future Olympic and Paralympic Games are safe and inclusive for all participants - the Host City Pride House Mission (HCPH). This initiative was passed with an unanimous motion at Vancouver City Council on Dec. 18, 2014.

Our goal was to propose that the International Olympic Committee and the International Paralympic committee require future Olympic cities to facilitate and endorse the creation of a community-led Pride House at future Games. With such a gesture, the IOC would be demonstrating its commitment to affirm and expand human rights in a practical and immediate way, given the proactive efforts already under way to create a Pride House for Rio 2016. We will also asked the IOC to specifically enshrine the rights of LGBTQ athletes into Principle 6 of the Olympic Charter. This community is currently not specifically protected, which has resulted in a situation such as the one in Sochi.

Our objectives were to advocate and influence for:

- A commitment from the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and International Paralympic Committee (IPC) to include in the Host City Agreement that all future Olympic and Paralympic cities are expected to welcome and facilitate the creation of community-led Pride Houses;
- A decision from the IOC to update Principle 6 in the Olympic Charter to explicitly include a non-discrimination clause in regard to LGBTQ persons and sexual and gender identity; and,
- To provide, through this initiative's actions and proposals, an avenue for solidarity and support for LGBTQ athletes and LGBTQ activists in Russia.

2) City of Vancouver Council motion

Olympic and Paralympic Pride House Initiative

At the Regular Council meeting on Tuesday, December 17, 2013, Vancouver City Council referred the motion below to the Standing Committee on City Finance and Services meeting on December 18, 2013, to hear from speakers.

MOVED by Mayor Robertson, SECONDED by Councillor Meggs

WHEREAS

1. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights proclaims "every individual and every organ of society, keeping this Declaration constantly in mind, shall strive by teaching and education to promote respect for these rights and freedoms, and by progressive measures, national and international, to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance";
2. The Declaration states that "everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind";
3. The Olympic Charter states as fundamental principles of Olympism that:

"The practice of sport is a human right. Every individual must have the possibility of practicing sport, without discrimination of any kind and in the Olympic spirit, which requires mutual understanding with a spirit of friendship, solidarity and fair play," and that

"Any form of discrimination with regard to a country or a person on grounds of religion, politics, gender or otherwise is incompatible with belonging to the Olympic Movement."

The Constitution of the International Paralympic Committee states that the Vision, Mission and Objectives of the IPC are to:

"Promote sports for athletes with disabilities without discrimination for political, religious, economic, disability, racial, gender or sexual orientation reasons.";

4. The community-led creation of Pride Houses at the 2010 Vancouver-Whistler Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games marked a new benchmark in the affirmation of the right of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered and queer athletes to participate in the Games on the basis of full equality and inclusion;
5. The establishment of Pride House at the 2012 London Olympic and Paralympic Games demonstrated that the explicit inclusion of the GLBTQ community as an affirmation of human rights, in keeping with the fundamental principles of Olympism and Paralympism was emerging as an enduring legacy of the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT the City of Vancouver, as host city of the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, urge the International Olympic Committee and the International Paralympic Committee to demonstrate their support for full recognition of human rights of all athletes by directing all future host cities to facilitate and endorse the creation of a community-led Pride House as part of their bid.
- B. THAT the City of Vancouver, as host city of the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, urge the International Olympic Committee to update their Charters to explicitly include a non-discrimination clause in regard to LGBTQ persons and sexual and gender identity.
- C. THAT the City of Vancouver petition the IOC and IPC to ensure the protection of all LGBTQ athletes, coaches, officials and spectators and their allies in Sochi during the forthcoming 2014 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.
- D. THAT Vancouver City Council endorse the efforts of Councillor Tim Stevenson, who while serving as Deputy Mayor and representing the City of Vancouver during the upcoming Sochi 2014 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, will advocate for this with members of the International Olympic Committee and International Paralympic Committee, in Sochi Russia.

3) Committees and delegation

Working Group

A working group was formed to develop the initiative and the strategic approach to the IOC and Olympic influencers. The working group members include Olympians, Vancouver city councillors, city staff and community representation from Olympic and Paralympic movements and the LGBTQ community. The working group members are:

- Councillor Tim Stevenson
- Councillor Geoff Meggs
- Bruce Kidd, Olympian
- Marion Lay, Olympian
- Darren Stolz, Paralympic perspective
- Maureen Douglas, Olympic perspective and HCPH contracted project manager
- Bob Rennie, community at large
- Dean Nelson, LGBTQ community and Pride House founder
- Braeden Caley, Communications, Mayor's office
- Penny Ballem, City Manager

Oversight Committee

Once the motion was approved at Vancouver City Council, a Host City Pride House project oversight committee was formed to review and approve the details of the project, including contract management; financial oversight and approvals; and management of contributed funds held in trust by the City for the HCPH project. The Oversight Committee consists of:

- Penny Ballem, City Manager
- Patrice Impey, City Chief Financial Office
- Janice Mackenzie, City Clerk
- Bruce Kidd, Olympian and community member
- Darren Stolz, community member

Mission team

The mission team who traveled to Sochi for meetings with IOC officials and Olympic influencers was comprised of:

- Councillor Tim Stevenson (Deputy Mayor in February 2014)
- Project manager, Maureen Douglas

4) Funding and Budget

The HCPH project was funded by two sources:

- 1) The majority of project costs were covered by contributions from the community given specifically for this project.
- 2) The costs of Councillor Tim Stevenson's travel and incidentals specific to the trip to Sochi were covered by the City of Vancouver. This was limited to airfare, hotel, City-rate per diem, international telecom costs and visa processing.

HCPH Projected Budget for Sochi mission:

REVENUE:	PROJECT BUDGET
Contribution received to date	\$25,000.00
Committed contribution	\$25,000.00
EXPENSES:	AMOUNT
Project Contract Services:	
Project Management - Maureen Douglas, Mobilize Strategies	\$22,000.00
Communications/social media support/fundraising Sub-contract	\$8,000.00
Project Costs:	Sochi Mission costs
Russian Visa and Turkish Visa	\$396.00
Tickets to sport event (required for visa application)	\$110.00
Flights to Sochi	\$3,000.00
Flight to Toronto for Councillor Stevenson to meet with LGBTQ Russian representative and Bruce Kidd	\$800.00
Accommodation (Jan.29 to Feb.9, 2014)	\$3,035.12
Meals	\$974.25
Ground transport	\$520.57
Miscellaneous	\$15.40
Meeting hospitality (as required for meetings with Olympic officials)	\$1,025.12
International telecom - data plan/voice plans for M.Douglas	\$696.90
Media wire service for international press release distribution	\$1,500.00
Gifts for meetings (\$25/unit x 30) estimated	\$750.00
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$42,073.36

5) Sochi Mission - Meeting the Objectives

The mission team traveled to Sochi a week in advance of the Olympic Games Opening (Feb.7). The team arrived in Sochi on Feb.1 and departed early on Feb.9.

Arriving on Feb.1 without a firm meeting with the IOC, the mission team continued to send out requests to IOC officials and Olympic influencers. Early on Feb.2, a meeting with senior IOC staff was confirmed for Feb. 3.

IOC Meeting:

As a result of our meeting request sent to IOC President Thomas Bach, on February 3 the mission team met with two senior IOC officials:

- Mr. Jochen Farber, Head of the President's Executive Office (i.e. Chief of Staff)
- Mr. Mark Adams, IOC Director of Communications

The meeting was close to 90 minutes long and was a frank and candid conversation about the concerns created by the Russian anti-gay propaganda law as well as their prohibition of a Pride House at the Sochi Games.

The IOC representatives shared our concerns about the situation in Russia but also shared the challenges of the fine line they walk as a non-political entity that hosts international sport in a variety of countries – all at various stages of cultural and social inclusion. The IOC does not interfere with the politics of the host nation, nor do they insert themselves into socio-cultural debates. But they shared that they were taken aback by the Russian law when it was made public eight months ago and by Russia's shift in cultural rhetoric in regard to the LGBTQ community.

The IOC representatives also shared their appreciation for the Pride House concept and their respect for Vancouver and Whistler for being the first hosts of Pride House. They wish to see this tradition continue but believe that Pride House should be a community-led initiative in each host city, coordinated by that city's LGBTQ community.

OLYMPIC AGENDA 2020

The IOC acknowledged that the anti-gay position in Russia has been difficult for the Olympic brand and their world reputation. The situation in Russia, along with other challenges facing the IOC, has motivated them to undertake a full and comprehensive review of IOC policies, the charter, sponsorship, bidding requirements, cost of staging the Games, etc. Virtually every issue is on the table for discussion, including the inclusion of "sexual orientation" in Principle 6 of the Olympic Charter.

The Olympic Agenda 2020 review process was just being launched in the days before the opening of Sochi 2014. Throughout this year the IOC will receive input from IOC members, NOCs, international sport federations, athletes, and, later in the process, the public, through the IOC website. This is a sweeping review that President Bach has characterized as "evolution, not revolution", but it indicates a significant shift in thinking and engagement for the IOC.

Pride House Mission - Objectives Met:

Principle 6:

Through the Olympic Agenda 2020 process, we have every confidence that “sexual orientation” will be added to Principle 6 of the Olympic Charter. BUT it is imperative that we continue to lobby the IOC and encourage others to do the same. The Agenda 2020 process provides a forum for input, but in addition to this, other public engagement and social media campaigns should be supported. Awareness of this issue is greater than ever before. Advocacy in regard to Principle 6 should not diminish until Principle 6 is actually changed to include “sexual orientation”.

Pride House inclusion:

Following the meeting with the IOC, we communicated with Pride House International to report out on our meeting. The following statement from Pride House International reflects a slight shift in Vancouver’s earlier position of asking the IOC to make Pride Houses mandatory in the host city agreement. But with better understanding of Pride House International’s mandate, we are now aligned and supportive of Pride House International’s position.

STATEMENT FROM PRIDE HOUSE INTERNATIONAL IN SUPPORT OF THE VANCOUVER HOST CITY PRIDE HOUSE PROJECT.

Pride House International is very pleased with the outcome of the meeting between the Vancouver Host City Pride House mission to Sochi and the representatives of the International Olympic Committee. We see this as part of a growing engagement with LGBT sport and the issue of homophobia in sport.

With regard to future Pride Houses, we wish to repeat that a Pride House is a private community-based venue, similar to national hospitality houses during the Olympics. They are not hosted or authorized by the IOC or the local organizing committee, and do not as a rule take place in the Olympic Village. We are not seeking an obligation for a host city to welcome a Pride House.

What is essential, however, is that there be no obstacles to local sports people organizing a Pride House in conjunction with the Olympic and Paralympic Games. For a Pride House not to take place means either that there is no local interest in such a venue, or that there are impediments to a local community organizing one. If impediments do exist it means that the IOC has chosen an inappropriate host country for their event, as undoubtedly these impediments result from institutional homophobia, and/or a lack of freedom of expression and assembly, which should rule out a country hosting the Olympics.

Pride Houses are part of the Olympic mission of promoting sport for all: sport is about more than national communities; it is about everyone, and for everyone. We look forward to a successful Pride House at the 2016 Olympics, where plans are underway by local organisation CDG Brasil, and hope that there can also be one, should the local community wish, in Pyeongchang in 2018.

“Remote Pride House program” with Pride House International

Lesli Boldt helped promote Pride House International’s “remote Pride House” initiative, encouraging hospitality establishments to host honorary Pride Houses during the Sochi 2014 Olympic Games. The initiative was intended to raise awareness of the importance of Pride Houses and to send a message of solidarity to the Russian LGBTQ community. Vancouver hospitality establishments stepped in with seven participating businesses: Legacy Liquor Store, Craft Beer Market, Terra Breads (all three located at the Olympic Village); the Fountainhead Pub, the Pumpjack, the Junction and Doolin’s Pub.

Support and Solidarity with Russian LGBTQ:

The Sochi Mayor's now infamous comment, "There are no gay people in Sochi", took the media by storm and made it all the more important that the mission team connect with the "invisible" gay community of Sochi. We were able to do so on the evening of Feb.2, when we visited the one and only gay club in Sochi, Club Mayak, and met with club owner Andrei Tanichev.

The club had a modest audience for a Sunday night, but the owner shared his appreciation for the support of the City of Vancouver and from Canadians in regard to the anti-gay legislation. Throughout the Games he has courageously welcomed media into the bar, to increase awareness of the gay community and the challenges that they now face in Russia. Ironically, for many years Sochi had been considered a "gay-friendly" community and a popular tourist destination for Russia's gay population.

In the early stages of mission planning, Tim Stevenson was able to meet with Konstantin Yablotskiy, co-president of the Russian LGBT Sports Federation. We had hoped to meet with him again in Sochi, but anti-gay legislation and "politics", as Konstantin framed it, did not allow him to visit Sochi while we were there. However, the Russian LGBT Sports Federation has welcomed support from us and many others around the world. We just learned that he did visit Sochi this week, making himself available for media interviews.

OTHER MEETINGS:

We had anticipated the need to meet with National Olympic Committees and other Olympic influencers to influence the IOC into meeting with the mission team. In the end, this was not the case.

However, we did continue to press for meetings with Russian officials, but to no avail. The Sochi Mayor's office contacted Mo on Feb.7, requesting a meeting on Feb.9. They knew that we were departing that day, so it may have been a strategic ask on their part, knowing we couldn't attend. We requested a meeting for any time on Feb.8 but got no reply. Our request to meet with Russian faith leaders and civic leaders did not receive a response. And the CEO of Sochi 2014 declined our request due to time constraints.

Our requests to meet with various allies while in Sochi also proved difficult due to their scheduling demands and travel and access challenges. We did meet with the Sport Canada delegation, led by Executive Director Martin Boileau. Mr. Boileau was sympathetic to our cause but shared that Canada's and the COC's primary concern at these Games was about security. The threat of terrorist actions at the Sochi Games were considered very real and impacted every national team's planning and policies.

6) Communications and Media Protocol

MEDIA:

Following the meeting with the IOC, requests for media interviews and the opportunity to share the purposed of our mission with Canadians became a significant part of our time in Sochi. Media interest created an opportunity for us to engage all audiences in Canada, not just the LGBTQ community, which was critical in ensuring that the community at large understand and support this human rights issue of LGBTQ equality and inclusion. The attention that our meeting with the IOC received, enabled us to share our message and solicit support from a much broader audience.

Interviews while in Sochi:

Tracking all media requests has been challenging due to the amount of requests received before the trip, during the trip and upon return, many of which went direct to Councillor Stevenson directly. But the following outlines highlights of coverage while in Sochi:

- CBC The National - top story on Feb.3
- CTV National News - 2nd story on Feb.3
- CTV Canada AM
- CBC Morning News
- CTV News Network
- CBC News Channel
- Q - with Jian Ghomeshi - Feb.7
- CBC BC - all morning radio shows Feb.7
- Xtra Daily
- The Toronto Star
- Vancouver Sun (coverage and Tim's blog)
- Canada.com (coverage and Tim's blog)
- The Globe and Mail
- The Vancouver Province
- Metro - Vancouver edition
- News1130
- Huffington Post
- Global BC1
- CKNW
- Canadian Press (CP)
- CBC Radio-Canada
- Mountain FM (Rogers)

Social media

The HCPH project worked to create awareness and build community engagement through the use of social media tools - primarily a dedicated website and Twitter.

Website:

Mo Douglas posted blogs on the HCPH website, almost daily, filing seven blogs from Sochi. The website also listed all Vancouver-based remote Pride Houses, promoting community engagement with this these venues.

Twitter:

Both Mo and Lesli Boldt managed the Twitter feed, tweeting out news stories, activity in Sochi and promoting the Vancouver remote Pride Houses.

Facebook:

Mo and Tim Stevenson used their Facebook accounts to connect with their networks, posting photos, updates, anecdotes and observations. The community participation in our Facebook

feeds was extraordinary. Sharing the mission experience through this forum created much support for our cause and resulted in significant community engagement with our posts, including reposting and shares, furthering the reach of our message.

Blog:

In addition to the blogs at www.hostcitypridehouse.com, Tim Stevenson contributed several blogs to the Vancouver Sun, which were also posted on Post Media's Canada.com Olympic site, reaching a national audience across Canada.

7) What's Next? Post-mission Opportunities

The situation in Russia has galvanized the international gay community and our supporters. We have created momentum and we need to maximize it.

Community interest and engagement in the mission's trip to Sochi created an audience who share our concerns about the issue of LGBTQ inclusion and equality. We have an opportunity to harness that audience and keep them engaged.

The City of Vancouver and the working group should consider possible next steps for this initiative:

- Does the working group continue in some capacity?
- Do the communications tools of website and Twitter feed stay active under the City's management?
- Should the City of Vancouver continue to lobby the IOC until a change is made to Principle 6?
- Should the City of Vancouver align with other initiatives working toward the same goal?
- Should the City of Vancouver consider a community engagement campaign to urge public participation in Olympic Agenda 2020 once it is open for public input?
- Should the City of Vancouver continue to lobby NOCs, international sport federations and other Olympic influencers until "sexual orientation" is included in Principle 6 and Pride Houses are supported by the Olympic community?
- Should the City of Vancouver continue to request support for our primary objectives from other Olympic host cities? London's endorsement of the Host City Pride House project could be leveraged to influence other cities into joining the cause.
- Canadian Olympic Committee CEO, Chris Overholt, has offered to meet with Tim Stevenson and Maureen Douglas sometime in March 2014. Perhaps a delegation should meet with him, including other members of the working group.

8) Conclusion

In conclusion, the Host City Pride House mission was a success. While it will still take some time to ensure that "sexual orientation" is included in the Olympic Charter, the mission team is very confident that this will happen as a result of Olympic Agenda 2020. The mission team was able to emphasize the importance of Pride House to the IOC (and media) and have them

agree that they are a positive and welcome addition to all Olympic and Paralympic Games. And we were able to reach out to the Russian LGBT community in solidarity and support. The Host City Pride House initiative created awareness and support of these issues at a level that surpassed our expectations. Following our very positive meetings with IOC officials, we worked to create better understanding of why this visit was so important. The support from Canada, through the media and through our community networks has been overwhelming and profoundly appreciated. [Mission accomplished...](#) but there is still work to be done to ensure that LGBTQ inclusion in sport is embraced and homophobia is eradicated.



Meeting with IOC: Jochen Farber & Mark Adams



Farber, Stevenson, Adams, Douglas



Tim on CBC Morning News w/Heather Hiscox



Tim and Mo (Team Timo) prior to Canada AM



Tim with Jian Ghomeshi on CBC Radio's "Q".



Still some work to do to get us here.