

## Edmonton Pride Parade

**Saturday June 13, 2:00 – 3:00 pm**

**Assembling: 1:00 pm at 108 St. south of Jasper Ave.**

**Entertainment, displays & refreshments  
2:30 - 8:00 pm**

### Unitarian Pride

Saturday, June 13, 2009 is the Edmonton Pride Parade. As is our annual tradition, we celebrate pride in diversity, tolerance and community. Unitarians from Westwood, UCE & the Campus ministry at the U of A will join in the festivities and show our support.

Sometimes this is referred to as the "Gay Pride Parade". While this parade is a definite highlight for the gay/queer communities, there is also a Unitarian highlight. The first Unitarian principle - The inherent worth and dignity of every person - is worth a parade in & of itself.

We embrace this opportunity to take Pride in everyone - straight, gay, lesbian, bisexual, trans-identified, queer, questioning or however else a person may wish to be identified. It's an opportunity to celebrate diversity, bring awareness to concerns, and have fun!

### GLBTQ - Gay Lesbian Bisexual Trans-identified Queer

Queer is a term that has been reclaimed by many in the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities. It is an overall term that encompasses sexual orientation and gender variations. Historically, to say someone was queer was a put-down. For some people, it is still a difficult term to use. For the reclaimers, to be queer is to acknowledge being different -- and that it is completely alright to be different! More important than any of these labels is the priority to treat all people with respect!

### Huge Pride Rainbow Banner

This year we have a special item in Edmonton for Pride - 125 feet of the Pride Rainbow Project banner.

The Pride Rainbow Project was started in Fall 2004 by five youth of the Unitarian Church of Calgary. It was originally designed to show support for the same-sex marriage legislation in Canada, but is now branching out to work for GLBTQ rights in general. It's a huge symbol of diversity and pride, with a Unitarian Youth source. The banner will be in the Pride parade, and hopefully out and about in Edmonton creating awareness.



### Mandate for the Pride Rainbow Project

To support equal treatment and equal opportunity for people who are often marginalized or discriminated against based on their sexual orientation, gender expression and/or identity; through use of the banner as a rallying point. Some major areas of focus for advocacy and support are:

- Trans rights – working for human rights legislation to protect trans persons from discrimination and abuse
- AIDS work – prevention among youth, prevention in general population, raising funds for better treatment options and to help find a cure
- Support for marginalized youth through education
- Encouragement of partnerships among people of all sexualities and gender identities, encouragement of the establishment of Gay-Straight-Alliances in schools
- Encouragement of the international community to work towards equality, including equal marriage