



MEDIA RELEASE

Statement on recent Pride Flag Vandalism in North Perth

North Perth, June 23, 2023 – The Municipality of North Perth has been made aware of two incidents at a local business, involving vandalism and mischief of Pride flags and private property.

"Earlier this week, and on two distinct occasions separated by a few hours, parties in our community trespassed onto the property of Van Allen Insurance in Listowel, damaging property and removing Pride flags being displayed there. These flags showed the solidarity of the team at Van Allen Insurance with our 2SLGBTQIA+ community.

Those who undertook these acts have offended our entire community with these intolerant acts. Our North Perth has made a commitment to being a place where diversity is celebrated, inequities addressed, and where all are welcomed.

My concern is expressed to community members who are 2SLGBTQIA+, and to their allies, and I express sorrow to them that these intolerant acts have happened here. To the great team at Van Allen Insurance, who have had to withstand these assaults, I express my solidarity and appreciation for bravery to persist with Pride flag flying.

To those who have perpetrated this, I invite you to educate yourselves about the value of addressing solidarity with Pride, and to be mindful that our laws prohibit trespassing and acts of intolerance of this nature. All efforts will be made to identify you and bring justice in this unfortunate situation." says Mayor Todd Kasenberg

Each year during Pride Month, our community is asked to re-examine the frameworks that prevent many of our 2SLGBTQIA+ community members from feeling fully accepted and seen in our town. True inclusion in our community creates a sense of belonging and safety for all.

The newly established North Perth Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advisory Committee is committed to improving the ways we show up to support each other and is working to create a more inclusive and welcoming community. As North Perth joins together to celebrate Pride, we remain committed to our efforts to build a more inclusive community.

For questions, please contact:
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