

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Pride Center of Vermont, formerly RU12?, was founded in 1999 and was involved with the passage of many LGBTQ legal protections, helping Vermont gain the reputation as one of the friendliest states for people who identify as LGBTQ; and

WHEREAS, since 2012, Pride Center of Vermont has created more efficient systems and operations, maintaining a leadership role in the LGBTQ movement; and

WHEREAS, Pride Center of Vermont has expanded its focus to include strategic work on intersectional issues such as aging, disability, and addiction, as well as creating LGBTQ social activities and events that also attract many aspiring allies; and

WHEREAS, as part of its re-visioning, Pride Center of Vermont is expanding the work of the Dialogue Project, which pairs youth and seniors in story-telling workshops; and

WHEREAS, Pride Center of Vermont's core programs include Health and Wellness, the Family Program, SafeSpace, the LGBTQ Disabilities Support Network, the LGBTQ Elders SafeSpaces Network, the VT LGBTQ Training Institute, the Transgender Community Program, and LGBTQ Pride in Vermont; and

WHEREAS, Pride Center of Vermont is utilized by people across the state and by people visiting Vermont, from social groups to recovery groups, reaching and supporting over 5,000 people each year; and

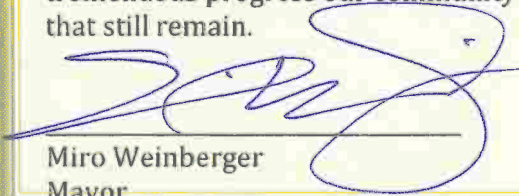
WHEREAS, this June, on the back steps of City Hall, we celebrated the United States Supreme Court's landmark decision guaranteeing the right to same-sex marriage and affirming equal rights for all loving partners; and

WHEREAS, we celebrate and recognize the efforts of Pride Center of Vermont during Vermont Pride Week and year-round in Burlington;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, Miro Weinberger, Mayor of the City of Burlington, do hereby proclaim September 13, 2015 to be

PRIDE DAY

in the City of Burlington and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City celebrates and supports Burlington's and Vermont's LGBTQ community and acknowledges both the tremendous progress our community has made toward equality, as well as the challenges that still remain.


Miro Weinberger
Mayor

