

NORTH BAY PRIDE 101 Worthington Street East PO Box 204 North Bay, ON P1B 8H2 <u>https://www.facebook.com/</u> NorthBayPrideLGBTTIQQ2SA/ May 16, 2021

Municipality of East Ferris 390 Highway 94 Corbeil, ON P0H 1K0

Dear Mayor Pauline Rochefort:

As you may be aware, North Bay Pride is into its fifth year of being organized in the area. Our celebrations have been moved to Sept 2021, this year in hopes that Covid will be under control so that some type of in person event can take place. Regardless, our event like 2020, will be virtual again. In 2020, we had celebrities join our local community which included Logan Staats, Bif Naked and Colin Mochrie.

As we have been planning our event for 2021, we have secured Serena Ryder as our headline act on Sept 18, 2021. As you know, we do include the surrounding areas when it comes to Pride.

North Bay Pride supports a historically vulnerable population, advocating for change by cultivating conversations highlighting challenges still faced by 2SLGBTQ+ people who unquestionably experience long-term stress related to their orientation or identity, while also celebrating their important cultural contributions historically, and still today.

By ensuring fulsome engagement of those within the gender & sexually diverse population who are also indigenous, racialized, trans, nonbinary, and disabled, they create a unique opportunity in which to ignite connectivity and celebration through the artistic narration of unique lived experiences. This is a monumentally impactful measure of enacting change that strengthens our city's cultural fabric while providing visibility to those who are being disproportionately impacted by the effects of COVID-19, and isolation.

Furthermore, we recognize funding of this programming would inspire empathy and awareness within the broader public, addressing the impacts of systemic racism, discrimination, homophobia, and transphobia. We are asking for you to support our efforts this year 2021. It is a challenging time and people need to see that Pride is still here. We are looking for some type of financial contribution from you to help cover out expenses. We have attached an information sheet that explains our results from last year, and what our packages are available this year. Please keep in mind, if you are hoping for some specific, please reach out and ask. Can you match the City of North Bay at \$2500? That would be great, but if not, just doing what you can helps.

If you should have any further questions, please reach out to me any time at <u>jasonmaclennan@ymail.com</u> or my cell at 705-471-4764.

With warm regards,

Jason Maclennan Director of Communications