

# Memo

April 12, 2001  
File #: 0450 PRO

To: His Worship the Mayor  
and Members of City Council

Re: Proclamation – Heterosexual Family Pride Day

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I have attached, for your information, a copy of a letter received from 28(1) Personal of the University of Regina, dated March 31, 2001, regarding the above-noted subject.

This communication is being circulated to you, rather than including it as an item on the next City Council meeting agenda, in accordance with Section 10 (3) (e) of the Procedure Bylaw. We have acknowledged receipt of the correspondence and no further action is required.

Please call me at 777-7264 if you have any questions.

  
Randy Markewich  
City Clerk

/dlk

c: City Manager

Attachment

i:\wordpro\proclam\2001\heterosexual - green.3emem.doc

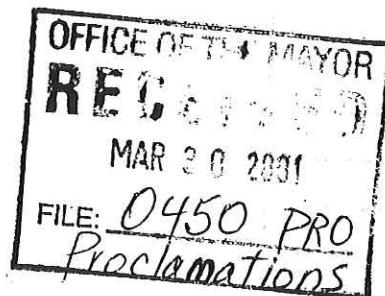
Note: Mayor's Office responded to

28(1) Personal

28(1) Personal



UNIVERSITY OF REGINA  
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE



Copy to  
Clerks

March 31, 2001

Mayor Pat Fiacco and City Council  
FAX 306-777-6824

Dear Mayor Fiacco and Councillors:

I write to express my dismay for the decision of City Council to declare Heterosexual Family Pride Day. The City's endorsement of dedicated days has always been reserved to prominent causes that promote social well-being, and those that focus on those who have been marginalised within our society by discriminatory practices such as racism, sexism and homophobia. Heterosexual families are not subject to such discrimination. Heterosexual families are the norm in our society, and political culture and public policy address the social, economic and political interests of heterosexual families as a matter of normative assumption. To promote this form of familial organisation as though it needed recognition; as though it were unrecognised, unsupported, and in danger of oppression, is misleading and politically unwise. On this logic, the fact of recognition of National Aboriginal Day (June 21) would require an 'equal' recognition of a National Coloniser (or National White Folks) Day; the recognition of International Women's Day (March 8) would require an International Men's Day. This logic creates a false equality between patently unequal social formations, in order to promote the privileged 'equally' with the subordinated. In declaring Heterosexual Family Pride Day, City Council in fact plays into the hands of those heterosexuals (and potentially, of racists and sexists) who clamour for 'equal' treatment, which in fact amounts to diluting the social message of anti-sexist, heterosexual and racist designated days. It's unnecessary, it's dangerous, and it's wrong.

Finally, the language used in the City Proclamation is exclusionary, and promotes the alleged virtues of the heterosexual biblically ordained family in such a way as to imply that these virtues are not held by other family forms, or by other religious faiths, or by single persons. In doing this the City of Regina in fact perpetuates negative stereotyping of non-nuclear heterosexual families, and celebrates an idealised notion of the heterosexual family that is illusory for many.

Sincerely,

28(1) Personal



April 12, 2001  
File No. 0450 PRO

28(1) Personal

University of Regina  
Department of Political Science  
3737 Wascana Parkway  
REGINA SK S4S 0A2

Dear 28(1) Personal

Re: Proclamation – Heterosexual Family Pride Day

---

Thank you for your correspondence of March 31, 2001, regarding the “Heterosexual Family Pride Day” proclamation. Copies of your letter were provided to all members of City Council.

I also wish to provide you with some background information on the process for proclamations. City Council’s Procedure Bylaw No. 9004 authorizes the Mayor to issue proclamations. The provisions in the bylaw state that, subject to *The Saskatchewan Human Rights Code*, the Mayor may approve the proclamation submitted provided it does not:

- (a) promote any commercial business;
- (b) involve any person or organization which promotes hatred of any person or class of persons or otherwise involved illegal activity; or
- (c) contain any inflammatory, obscene or libelous statement.

Approximately 60 to 70 proclamations are approved each year in Regina for various groups and events. Proclamations are usually approved based on the words submitted by the group. They may publish the proclamation in local newspapers, at their own cost, for promotional purposes. This process has been a longstanding practice, which predates the present Mayor.

The “Heterosexual Family Pride Day” proclamation was signed and issued in the words submitted. Mayor Fiocco approved this proclamation based on freedom of expression, the absence of anything illegal or specifically indicating hatred. Since approving the proclamation, the Mayor has received correspondence from a number of individuals who feel that the proclamation is worded too strongly.

Based on the feedback received, Mayor Fiocco intends to change the policy for the wording of proclamations. Effective July 1, 2001, all proclamations approved by the Mayor will be issued with standard wording chosen by the Mayor.

April 12, 2001

Page 2

I hope this clarifies the background on our process for proclamations. Thank you for taking the time to write.

Yours truly,

Randy Markewich  
City Clerk

/dlk

i:\wordpro\proclam\2001\heterosexual - green.ltr.doc

cc: City Manager  
Mayor & Members of Council

✓



**From:** Carol Edwards  
**To:** 28(1) Personal  
**WEBMASTER**  
**Date:** 4/20/01 4:46pm  
**Subject:** Re: Other

nternet.Regina Groupwise Domain1; City of Regina

Hi 28(1) Personal

Thank you for your e-mail correspondence inquiring about the "Heterosexual Family Pride Day" proclamation. I can confirm that the Mayor did sign a proclamation for this day and also wish to provide you with some additional information regarding our process for proclamations.

City Council's Procedure Bylaw authorizes the Mayor to issue proclamations. The provisions in the bylaw state that, subject to The Saskatchewan Human Rights Code, the Mayor may approve the proclamation submitted provided it does not:

- (a) promote any commercial business;
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Please let us know if you require any further information.

Carol Edwards,  
Committee Services Co-ordinator  
City Clerk's Office  
P.O. Box 1790  
REGINA, SK S4P 3C8  
(306) 777-7185

>>> City of Regina WEBMASTER 04/11/01 08:28am >>>

Thank you for visiting the City of Regina website. Your inquiry has been forwarded to the appropriate division for a response.

>>> 28(1) Personal . 04/10/01 11:38pm >>>

Name 28(1) Personal

Address: 28(1)

PostalCode:

HomePhone: 28(1) Personal

WorkPhone:

Fax:

Email: [28\(1\) Personal](#)

TimetoCall: Evening

Contact by : E-Mail

Hi,

Someone emailed me something about \"NOW THEREFORE I, Pat Fiacco, Mayor of the City of Regina,  
do hereby proclaim  
Monday, June 18, 2001 as  
HETEROSEXUAL FAMILY PRIDE DAY  
in Regina, and in issuing this proclamation, ask our citizens to recognize  
this day.\"

Is there anything to this?

Thanks.

[28\(1\) Personal](#)

**From:** Carol Edwards  
**To:** 28(1) Personal ".Internet.Regina Groupwise Domain1  
**Date:** 4/5/01 8:40am  
**Subject:** Re: Heterosexual Family Pride Day

Good morning 28(1) Personal

The Heterosexual Family Pride Day proclamation was requested by Mr. Bill Whatcott, representing a group called the Christian Truth Activists.

Carol Edwards

>>> 28(1) Personal > 04/04/01 05:41pm >>>

Dear Ms. Edwards,

Thank you for sending me the wording of the proclamation of Heterosexual Family Pride Day and for the additional information on the process of passing proclamations, which was helpful in providing the context. I would be grateful if you'd complete the picture by letting me know which group submitted the proclamation to Mayor Fiocco.

Thank you,

28(1) Personal

=====

28(1) Personal

=====



**Carol Edwards - Heterosexual Family Pride Day**

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**From:** 28(1) Personal  
**To:** <cityhelp@cityregina.com>  
**Date:** 29/Mar/2001 9:30 AM  
**Subject:** Heterosexual Family Pride Day

---

Dear Sir/Madam,

I understand that the Mayor of the City of Regina has proclaimed Monday, June 18, 2001 as Heterosexual Family Pride Day.

I would be grateful if you would mail (or email or fax) me a copy of the proclamation to the address below.

Thank you for your assistance,

28(1) Personal

**From:** Carol Edwards  
**To:** 28(1) Personal .Internet.Regina Groupwise Domain1; City Central Help City Central Help  
**Date:** 4/4/01 5:31pm  
**Subject:** Re: Heterosexual Family Pride Day

Hello 28(1) Personal

Thank you for your e-mail correspondence of March 29th inquiring about the "Heterosexual Family Pride Day" proclamation. As requested, I have attached the wording and also wish to provide you with some additional information regarding our process for proclamations.

City Council's Procedure Bylaw authorizes the Mayor to issue proclamations. The provisions in the bylaw state that, subject to The Saskatchewan Human Rights Code, the Mayor may approve the proclamation submitted provided it does not:

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Based on the feedback received, Mayor Fiacco intends to change the policy for the wording of proclamations. Effective July 1st, 2001, all proclamations approved by the Mayor will be issued with standard wording chosen by the Mayor.

Please let us know if you require any further information.

Carol Edwards,  
Committee Services Co-ordinator  
City Clerk's Office  
P.O. Box 1790  
REGINA, SK S4P 3C8  
(306) 777-7185

>>> 28(1) Personal

03/29/01 09:29am >>>

Dear Sir/Madam,

I understand that the Mayor of the City of Regina has proclaimed Monday, June 18, 2001 as Heterosexual Family Pride Day.

I would be grateful if you would mail (or email or fax) me a copy of the proclamation to the address below.  
Thank you for your assistance,

28(1) Personal

28(1) Personal



**From:** Carol Edwards  
**To:** 28(1) Personal  
Central Help  
**Date:** 6/4/01 10:38am  
**Subject:** Re: Mayor Pat Fiacco

.Internet.Regina Groupwise Domain1; City Central Help City

Thank you for your e-mail correspondence. A copy of your e-mail has been forwarded to the Mayor for his information.

>>> 28(1) Personal 05/30/01 11:13am >>>

28(1) Personal

Name is

Email is \_\_\_\_\_

Comments are I am in agreement with the Cities decision to allow a Hetrosexual Pride Day. To not allow this day would have been a form of reverse discrimination and intolerance. Don't give in to intimidation. You simply cannot please all the people all the time. Hetrosexuals have every right to express pride in thier relationship. For homosexuals and their advocates to decry hetrosexuals this same right is at best out right hypocrisy and at worst \"hetrophobic\". If homosexuals themselves want the right to express pride in thier relationships they must be willing to extend those same rights to others. To not do so is discriminating against the very right they propose to embrace and literally stand on.

**From:** Carol Edwards  
**To:** 28(1) Personal .Internet.Regina Groupwise Domain1; City of Regina  
**WEBMASTER**  
**Date:** 4/5/01 10:23am  
**Subject:** Re: Other

Hi 28(1)

Thank you for your e-mail correspondence of April 4th inquiring about the "Heterosexual Family Pride Day" proclamation. I can confirm that this day was proclaimed by Mayor Fiocco in Regina and I also wish to provide you with some background on this subject.

City Council's Procedure Bylaw authorizes the Mayor to issue proclamations. The provisions in the bylaw state that, subject to The Saskatchewan Human Rights Code, the Mayor may approve the proclamation submitted provided it does not:

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I hope this clarifies the background on our process for proclamations. Please let us know if you require further information.

Carol Edwards  
 Committee Services Co-ordinator  
 City Clerk's Office  
 P.O. Box 1790  
 REGINA, SK S4P 3C8  
 (306) 777-7185

>>> City of Regina WEBMASTER 04/04/01 03:39pm >>>  
 Thank you for visiting the City of Regina website. Your inquiry has been forwarded to the appropriate division for a response.

>>> 28(1) Personal 04/04/01 02:45pm >>>

Name: 28(1) Personal

Address:

PostalCode:

HomePhone:

WorkPhone:

Fax:  
Email: [28\(1\) Personal](#)

TimetoCall: Anytime

Contact by : E-Mail

I just received this over email and I was wondering if it was legitimate. Thanks.

--

**PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS the intact heterosexual family unit is ordained by God as clearly revealed in the Holy Bible (Gen 2:23, 24 Matt 19:4-6); and

WHEREAS large bodies of research support the conclusion that intact heterosexual families provide an excellent nurturing environment for children; and

WHEREAS many believe that intact heterosexual families provide a necessary source of stability that benefits society as a whole; and

WHEREAS intact heterosexual family units provide much needed stability and moral direction for children and young adults; and

WHEREAS intact heterosexual families provide sexual satisfaction for the men And women who are committed to them; and WHEREAS when monogamy is practiced, the husband and wives who enjoy sexual relations in the confines of their heterosexual marriage have no reason to worry about STD\* s, AIDS or broken hearts.

NOW THEREFORE I, Pat Fiocco, Mayor of the city of Regina, do hereby proclaim Monday, June 18, 2001 as HETEROSEXUAL FAMILY PRIDE DAY in Regina, and in issuing this proclamation, ask our citizens to recognize this day.



**From:** Carol Edwards  
**To:** 28(1) Personal internet.Regina Groupwise Domain1  
**Date:** 6/7/01 5:07pm  
**Subject:** Re: Respect all Families in your community!

Dear 28(1) Personal

Mayor Fiacco received your e-mail correspondence regarding the "Heterosexual Family Pride Day" proclamation. On his behalf, I wanted to provide you with some background on this proclamation, and let you know that Mayor Fiacco has recently also proclaimed "Lesbian, Bisexual and Gay Pride Week" in June, as has been done for the last several years.

City Council's Procedure Bylaw authorizes the Mayor to issue proclamations. The provisions in the bylaw state that, subject to The Saskatchewan Human Rights Code, the Mayor may approve the proclamation submitted provided it does not:

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Committee Services Co-ordinator  
City Clerk's Office  
P.O. Box 1790  
REGINA, SK S4P 3C8  
(306) 777-7185

>>> 28(1) Personal

06/05/01 07:18pm >>>

Dear Mr. Fiaacco,

My nine year old-step daughter's family includes a gay dad ,two step dads, one gay and one who is heterosexual, and a heterosexual mother , all of whom she loves very much and all of whom love her and care for her every need.

I'm curious as to what you would say to her when she asks why her family is not able to participate in your "Heterosexaul Family Pride Day"

I believe that you were elected to represent all the citizens of your city. Many of those citizens are members of families that are not reflected in your proclamation. "Intact heterosexual families" are only one part of the diverse nature of families today. What you are saying to your constituents that are not members of "intact heterosexual families" is that their families are not worthy of respect. Your proclamation is insulting to all families. Shame on you for not showing respect for the rights of all members of your community. Shame on you for creating division and promoting hatred among members of your community. Your proclamation is not meant to bring people together rather it aims to drive people apart.

I'm proud of the heterosexual family that raised and supported me. But they are also proud and very supportive of the family that I love, a family that is made of a same sex couple and a heterosexual couple who love and care for a wonderful little girl.

28(1) Personal

A loving and proud gay father from 28(1) Personal

## Carol Edwards - Re: Your remarks regarding Heterosexual Family Pride Day

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**From:** 28(1) Personal  
**To:** "Carol Edwards" <CEDWARDS@cityregina.com>  
**Date:** 09/Jun/2001 7:18 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Your remarks regarding Heterosexual Family Pride Day

---

Dear Carol,  
Obviously your Mayor is still missing the point. It was the remarks about STD's and AIDS that went along with his proclamation that is the source of the bigotry. I thank you very much for your reply. It was most thoughtful. I realize that my e-mail won't change his narrow mind but as an upstanding citizen, a father of two beautiful children and being a gay father at that I thank God every day that I'm not like your mayor.

Sincerely,

28(1)

----- Original Message -----

From: Carol Edwards <CEDWARDS@cityregina.com>

To: 28(1)

Sent: Sunday, June 03, 2001 7:30 PM

Subject: Re: Your remarks regarding Heterosexual Family Pride Day

Hello 28(1)

Mayor Fiocco received your e-mail correspondence regarding the "Heterosexual Family Pride Day" proclamation. On his behalf, I wanted to provide you with some background on this proclamation, and let you know that Mayor Fiocco has recently also proclaimed "Lesbian, Bisexual and Gay Pride Week" in June, as has been done for the last several years.

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Please let us know if you require any further information.

Carol Edwards,  
Committee Services Co-ordinator  
City Clerk's Office  
P.O. Box 1790  
REGINA, SK S4P 3C8  
(306) 777-7185



>>>28(1) Personal

06/02/01 07:49am >>>

Hello Sir,

Just when one thinks that we are growing up as a civilization someone like you decides to use his authority for the purposes of bigotry. I am a very religious man. I believe in God and I am a father of two beautiful children. We teach them tolerance in our society, we teach them to honour thy neighbour. We taught them to appreciate the value of all people, no matter what race or orientation they may have. Our children are examples of how God would want us to treat others. It is because of people like you that the gay community must have their "Pride Days." You and your comments are the reason that narrow minded, bigoted people like you need to be educated that homosexuality is as natural as heterosexuality. It is the way God made us. I'm sure this e-mail won't change your mind. After all you are a product of your own family's upbringing. I just hope that your attitude will change one day. There is only one person who can judge us in life and it is not you or I; it is God. I just hope you can sleep with your conscience at night. I can. God bless.

28(1) Personal

**From:** Carol Edwards  
**To:** 28(1) Personal  
**WEBMASTER**  
**Date:** 4/4/01 5:35pm  
**Subject:** Re: Other

Internet.Regina Groupwise Domain1; City of Regina

Dear 28(1) Personal

Thank you for your e-mail correspondence of March 29th inquiring about the "Heterosexual Family Pride Day" proclamation. I wish to confirm that Mayor Fiacco has issued this proclamation and to provide you with some background on this subject.

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 (306) 777-7185

>>> City of Regina WEBMASTER 03/29/01 09:22am >>>

Thank you for visiting the City of Regina website. Your inquiry has been forwarded to Carol Edwards, City Clerks Office for a response.

>>> 28(1) Personal 03/29/01 10:45am >>>

Name: 28(1) Personal

Address:

PostalCode:

HomePhone:

WorkPhone:

Fax:  
Email: [28\(1\) Personal](#)

TimetoCall: Anytime

Contact by : E\_Mail

Just a quick info request. Has Mayor Fiacco proclaimed June 18, 2001 to be \"Heterosexual Family Pride Day\" in Regina? Thx for your assistance.

**From:** City of Regina WEBMASTER  
**To:** 28(1) Personal Internet.Regina Groupwise Domain1  
**Date:** 3/29/01 3:22pm  
**Subject:** Re: Other

Thank you for visiting the City of Regina website. Your inquiry has been forwarded to Carol Edwards, City Clerks Office for a response.

>>> 28(1) Personal 03/29/01 10:45am >>>

Name: 28(1) Personal  
Address:  
PostalCode:  
HomePhone:  
WorkPhone:  
Fax:  
Email: 28(1) Personal

TimetoCall: Anytime

Contact by : E-Mail

Just a quick info request. Has Mayor Fiacco proclaimed June 18, 2001 to be \"Heterosexual Family Pride Day\" in Regina? Thx for your assistance.



**From:** Carol Edwards  
**To:** 28(1) Personal '.Internet.Regina Groupwise Domain1  
**Date:** 5/30/01 2:25pm  
**Subject:** Re: heterosexual pride

Hi 28(1) Personal

Mayor Fiacco received your e-mail correspondence regarding the "Heterosexual Family Pride Day" proclamation. On his behalf, I wanted to provide you with some background on this proclamation, and let you know that Mayor Fiacco has also recently proclaimed "Lesbian, Bisexual and Gay Pride Week" in June, as has been done for the last several years.

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Carol Edwards,  
Committee Services Co-ordinator  
City Clerk's Office  
P.O. Box 1790  
REGINA, SK S4P 3C8  
(306) 777-7185

>>> 28(1) Personal 05/29/01 06:12am >>>

Your proclamation shows the world what a hateful and bigoted city you have.

In times when we would want to spend our vacation in places that accommodate diverse and joyous sentiments, places in fact that the world needs in view of the ever-diminishing borders from global interconnections, you use politics to convert your city into a throwback to discriminatory and persecutory times.

Thank you for making public your insular views.  
By the way, I view the New Testament as trying to dispel

some of the authoritarian, hostile and arguably myopic perspectives of earlier times.

May God forgive you for using His name to bolster your hateful views.

---

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<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

**From:** Carol Edwards  
**To:** 28(1) Personal Internet.Regina Groupwise Domain1  
**Date:** 6/3/01 5:17pm  
**Subject:** Re: Sorry I voted!

Hi 28(1) Personal

Mayor Fiacco received your e-mail correspondence regarding the Heterosexual Family Pride Day" proclamation. On his behalf, I wanted to provide you with some background on this proclamation, and let you know that Mayor Fiacco has recently also proclaimed "Lesbian, Bisexual and Gay Pride Week" in June, as has been done for the last several years.

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The "Heterosexual Family Pride Day" proclamation was signed and issued in the words submitted. Mayor Fiacco approved this proclamation based on freedom of expression, the absence of anything illegal or specifically indicating hatred. Since approving the proclamation, the Mayor has received correspondence from a number of individuals who feel that the proclamation is worded too strongly.

Based on the feedback received, Mayor Fiacco intends to change the policy for the wording of proclamations. Effective July 1st, 2001, all proclamations approved by the Mayor will be issued with standard wording chosen by the Mayor.

Please let us know if you require any further information.

Carol Edwards,  
Committee Services Co-ordinator  
City Clerk's Office  
P.O. Box 1790  
REGINA, SK S4P 3C8  
(306) 777-7185

>>> 28(1) Personal . 05/31/01 02:21pm >>>

Sorry I voted for you, but glad I moved! My wife and I are appauld at your comments towards the gay community. I guess you ,as a politician, in your little own world do not realize everyday is heteralsexual day, and the only reason the gay community has their "Gay pride Day" is because of ignorant non informed individuals like yourself and the people who work for you! All I know know is when your term is up you will not be re-elected due to the words you have uttered and the hard work of myself and my friends and family in your riding. In one swift

move you have hurt our community, the gay community and Canada's great human rights record. Also you may have hurt Canada's chances to win the summer games bid and given ammunition to Paris and Beijings camps!

You should think hard before making assinine proclamations!

28(1) Personal

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