



Nova Scotia

*Message from the Honourable Rodney J. MacDonald, M.L.A.
Premier of the Province of Nova Scotia
Halifax Pride '06
July 16 to 23, 2006*

On behalf of the Province of Nova Scotia, I offer support to the organizers of Halifax Pride '06, which will run from July 16th to July 23rd, 2006.

This year's theme is appropriately centred around "community". The young and budding artist who designed this year's logo for Halifax Pride '06, Christin Roper, has incorporated both the bridges crossing between Halifax and Dartmouth and the rainbow. She describes her vision, as depicted through the symbols utilized, as having "the potential to not only represent our cities' geography, but to symbolize a great deal of what pride stands for — unity, bringing communities together, and rising above obstacles".

This appropriately represents the goal of the pride committee in 2006: bringing together our community. With between 20,000 to 25,000 visitors expected for the summer event, it is important that all communities join together to support Halifax Pride Week and the celebration of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered individuals who have overcome obstacles to now take pride in who they are and, at the same time, celebrate as a community.

This is not only a celebration for individuals, for community, it will also be a significant economic contributor to our province. It is now the largest pride festival in the Atlantic Region and will be a significant boost to local businesses and our tourism sector in general.

Author Anthony Burgess said, "Without a sense of caring, there can be no sense of community." Nova Scotia is most definitely a caring community and one which welcomes this year's visitors and celebrants during *Halifax Pride Week*.

Sincerely,


Rodney J. MacDonald
Premier of Nova Scotia

