

# Victoria Pride

2026

 VICTORIA  
PRIDE  
SOCIETY



# Welcome

**We're so excited to celebrate Pride with all of you!**

First and foremost, the Victoria Pride Society acknowledges that it organizes and works on the traditional territories of the Lekwungen Peoples and that the land's relationships with the Songhees, Esquimalt, and W̱SÁNEĆ Peoples have existed since time immemorial. Further to this acknowledgement, the Victoria Pride Society affirms that colonialism and the attitudes and practices that have accompanied it contribute to systemic discrimination and violence against Indigenous Peoples and all marginalized and equity-deserving people. You can learn more and find resources [here](#).

At Victoria Pride Society (VPS), our mission is to educate, advocate and create visible platforms that elevate the voices of Greater Victoria's equity deserving Gender, Sexual and Relationship Diverse (GSRD) individuals and communities.

Aiming to be a leader in best practices for equity and social impact, VPS hopes to inspire others to do the same, and supports accountability for all. Our Vision is a city free of marginalization, discrimination, and oppression, where members of 2SLGBTQIA+ communities are safe to live and love, openly and authentically.

**You can read more about our mission & values here**



# Pride Events

2026




## Memorial Drag Ball Game

July 01st, 2026

12:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Vic West Park



## Pride in the Word

July 04th, 2026

6:30 PM Doors, Event  
7:30 PM - 10:30 PM

Victoria  
Conference Centre



## Big Gay Dog Walk

June 08th, 2026

5:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Banfield Park in Vic West



## Pride Parade

July 12th, 2026

Starts at Johnson  
and Government

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM  
(Approximately)



## Pride Festival in the Park

July 12th, 2026

11:00 AM - 6:00 PM

McDonald Park in James Bay



# Memorial Drag Ball

The Memorial Drag Ball Game is one of Victoria Pride's signature events, and we're so excited for this year. Join us on Wednesday, July 1st, from 12 PM to 3 PM at Vic West Park for baseball, community picnic, laughs, and—of course—community!

## Why we play

The game has roots dating back to the early 1990's. Kevin Harney, pitched the idea of having a Tits and Mitts baseball game to the Garden City Softball Association. This association was essentially a group of gay men who wished to play softball and play in tournaments with other teams in Vancouver and Seattle. The Tits and Mitts concept was taken from an annual Vancouver event where a team of drag queens would play a team of lesbians. All of the players on our team thought this concept was very cool. So, the first game drew a small but enthusiastic crowd. The event developed as folks were grieving the loss of community members from HIV/AIDS. This was a way for a way to keep spirits up and so the Memorial Dragball Game as we know it was formed.

Over time, more people have joined, and the gathering founded on resilience has also become a community celebration. Keeping the name to remain authentic to its roots, the Memorial Drag Ball Game now draws up to 1000 spectators who, every year, let go of differences, embrace fun and absurdity, and just come for the DRAG of it!



# Big Gay Dog Walk

The Big Gay Dog Walk has found a new date! Join us at Banfield Park in Vic West on Wednesday, June 8th, at 5:30 PM for all your favourite Big Gay Dog Walk activities!

Highlights include a dog costume contest, an impressive dog trick competition, and a scenic group walk. Contest sign-ups will be at the event!

Come and enjoy a variety of fabulous pet vendors, grab a bite from local food trucks, and don't miss our special memorial area, a peaceful space to honour and remember our beloved pets who've crossed the rainbow bridge.

We can't wait to celebrate our four-legged friends with you! We highly encourage biking or taking transit, as parking is limited.

## Hosted by Eddi Licious!

Your host for the 2026 Big Gay Dog Walk, Eddi Licious is a Two Spirit Métis drag artist and prominent figure in the queer arts scene. They have been actively performing on both local and international stages since 2005. Recognized for their versatility as a quintuple threat (drag king, dancer, educator, performance artist, and former veterinary technician of 15 years), Eddi is thrilled to host the Big Gay Dog Walk and celebrate our furry familiars!

# Pride in The Word

## Canada's Largest Pride Literary Event!

Join us for a night of captivating Queer Literary Readings in the Lecture Theatre at the Victoria Conference Centre on Saturday, July 4th, 2026 from 7:30 PM - 10:30 PM with doors opening at 6:30 PM. As our only ticketed event, VPS strives to keep Pride in the Word (PITW) accessible. As such, PITW tickets are based on a pay-what-you-can ticket model!

We are thrilled to welcome many great writers and speakers who will be presenting their work for our community audience including Billy Ray, the Keynote speaker for 2026, and a writer from the Driftpile Cree Nation in northwest Alberta. Billy Ray is an Associate Professor in the School of Creative Writing at the University of British Columbia, and has authored six books; most recently, *Coexistence: Stories and the Idea of an Entire Life: Poems*.

Live captioning will be available during the event. To access the captions on your personal device, scan the QR code or visit <https://bc.typewell.com/mbcjimog>. Captioning services are provided by Kali Morrison and Chloe Burritt through Island Deaf and Hard of Hearing Centre.

[Get your tickets here!](#)



# Pride Parade

The 2026 Victoria Pride Parade starts on Sunday, July 12th, 2026, at 11 AM. This large, colourful parade—with as many as 140 entries and 80,000+ spectators—is one of our favourite moments of the year!





# Festival in the Park

Join us on Sunday, July 12th, at McDonald Park in James Bay (212 Niagara St, Victoria, BC) for an afternoon of Pride Festivities! The grounds will open at 11 AM, and there will be a quieter atmosphere. All vendors will be open and available for those who would like to enjoy the festival with less stimulation.

## **Festival Features:**

- Entertainment launches at 12 PM with an all-star lineup of drag royalty, DJs spinning dance-floor magic, and a dazzling variety of live performances.
- Over 130 vendors will be showing off their Pride, plus a Food Court packed with your favourite local bites.
- Hit up the traditional Bar or sip something refreshing from the Sober Bar, shaking up fabulous non-alcoholic creations.
- Cool off in the shaded viewing areas near the stage or take a breather in the Chill Zone Tent, a low-sensory space designed for peaceful downtime.
- The Kid's Area will be buzzing with Drag Storytime, stage shows, crafty fun, a bouncy castle, and even an inflatable obstacle course!
- Bike Valet included.
- And more!

**Come as you are, and celebrate community, love, and Pride with us!**



# Get Involved

## Volunteer with Pride!

It takes a lot of volunteers to create a safe, positive, and inclusive Victoria Pride Festival! Thank you to all our volunteers, past, present, and future. We can't do any of this without you!

If you're interested in volunteering at any of the 2026 Victoria Pride events, please fill out an application. We would love to have you!

[Learn more and apply here](#)

## Become a Member!

Members are the cornerstone of the Victoria Pride Society. They participate in discussions and decisions that impact our organization's future. As we work towards our vision and mission, we are only as strong as our diverse and representative membership. If you would like to be more involved with Victoria Pride, we welcome your application!

[Learn more and apply here](#)

# Maps

Victoria Pride Festival in the Park

## FESTIVAL IN THE PARK 2026



### LEGEND

- 1 Accessible Entrance
- 2 North Exit
- 3 East Entrance
- 4 Bar Service (Sober Options)
- 5 Food Vendors
- 6 Vendor Village
- 7 First Aid
- 8 Water Station
- 9 Shade Tents
- 10 Main Stage
- 11 Kids' Stage
- 12 Ruby's Peepshow
- 13 Island Circus
- 14 Inflatables
- 15 Accessibility Platform
- 16 Pride Lounge
- 17 Low-Sensory Lounge
- 18 Seating Area
- 19 Washrooms
- 20 Volunteer Area
- 21 Info Booth
- 22 Bicycle Valet
- 23 Mobility Aid Charging Station
- 24 The "I Do" Booth

# Maps

## Victoria Pride Parade Route



# Better together



Welcoming is in our nature.  
Happy Pride.



Rainbow  
Registered  
Arc-en-ciel  
Officiel

DESTINATION GREATER  
**VICTORIA**

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