**Sample Activity for Including LGBTQ Content**

**Opening:** In groups, brainstorm as many Edmonton summer festivals as you can. Write the festivals on the board. Add some festivals that students may not know about, and make sure to include the Pride Festival if students have not mentioned it.

**Activity:** Write the name of 10 festivals (including the Pride Festival) on 10 separate sheets of paper (one festival per page.)

Post these pages around the room.

Split groups into 3 students per group. Have students circulate around to the different festivals and ask students to discuss 3 questions at each station. Each group should write on the paper what they think the festival celebrates. Rotate stations every 3-5 minutes.

1. What does this festival celebrate?
2. Have you been to this festival? If so, what do you know about it?
3. Would you like to attend this festival? Why or why not?

**Wrap-up:** Discuss the questions as a class to elicit:

1. A quick overview of what each festival celebrates (teacher fills in missing information)
2. Which festivals have students attended? Which have they not?
3. Which festivals are popular/interesting to students? Which are not? Why?
4. If you have attended some of these festivals (especially Pride), share a couple of your experiences to build excitement around the event.

**Other ideas:** Have students:

* research a festival and give a short presentation about it. Encourage one of your students to present on the Pride Festival. Students can take notes about each presentation as a listening/note-taking activity on the form included on the other side of this page.
* watch videos from several of the festivals as listening activities. There are a number of beautiful stories you can find by searching “pride festivals around the world.”
* write about one festival they would like to attend.
* take a class field trip to one of the festivals to celebrate Canadian culture.

**Background:** The Pride Festival was started in the US in June of 1970 to mark the first anniversary of the police raid on Stonewall Inn in Greenwich Village of New York. “Stonewall” was a bar owned by the mafia and was one of the few places that welcomed the most marginalized individuals in society, including gay men, lesbians, transgender individuals, and drag queens. Police raids were commonplace in the ‘60s, but this riot was pivitol in launching the gay rights movement because during this raid, the patrons refused to comply with the derogatory and abusive treatment by the officers, and bystanders outside the bar spontaneously joined the patrons in protesting the raids. Violence broke out and arrests were made, but this act of defiance prompted cities across the world to join in solidarity with the LGBTQ community to promote gay rights. Now, there are Pride Festivals in hundreds of cities across the world where people of all backgrounds gather to celebrate the rights of LGBTQ people to be free from discrimination.

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pMu8-xswHd8**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pMu8-xswHd8) **for a video on pride parades around the world**

**Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Name of Festival/Attraction:

Location:

Dates:

Hours:

Cost:

Description of Event:

Name of Festival/Attraction:

Location:

Dates:

Hours:

Cost:

Description of Event:

Name of Festival/Attraction:

Location:

Dates:

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