

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **County of Simcoe kicks off Fierté Simcoe Pride**

**Midhurst/July 25, 2022** – In recognition of the County’s commitment to diversity and inclusion, earlier today Warden George Cornell raised the Progress Pride flag, kicking off two weeks of Fierté Simcoe Pride celebrations.

“Over the past few years, we at the County have embraced the motto “Stronger Together”, which embodies the importance of events like today,” said Warden George Cornell. “When we stand together, we help to ensure equality, acceptance, and safe and inclusive communities for all.”

In honour of this year’s theme, “Progress and Pride”, the County raised the intersex inclusive progress pride flag which was created by Valentino Vecchietti and combines Daniel Quasar’s 2018 pride progress flag, with Morgan Carpenter’s 2013 intersex flag. This new design celebrates the diversity of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community, placing a greater emphasis on inclusion and progression.

Fierté Simcoe Pride celebrations run July 25 to August 7, 2022.

#### **About Fierté Simcoe Pride**

Fierté Simcoe Pride (FSP) formed in May of 2012 as a small grassroots volunteer group aiming to unite people in Pride across the County. As an organization, FSP continues a long tradition of LGBT organizing in Simcoe while working with other organizations, groups, and partners to build community. Visit [simcoepride.com](http://simcoepride.com) to learn more.

#### **About County of Simcoe**

County of Simcoe is composed of sixteen member municipalities and provides crucial public services to County residents in addition to providing paramedic and social services to the separated cities of Barrie and Orillia. Visit our website at [simcoe.ca](http://simcoe.ca).

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(L-R): County Councillor Sylvia Bray, Deputy Warden Lynn Dollin, Warden George Cornell, were joined by Fierté Simcoe Pride Representatives Chair Caleb Kenehan, Christian Kenehan and President Colin Nelthorpe to celebrate the official flag raising.