

## Pride Week coming in Peel

By Bill Rea

July 19 to 28 will be Pride Week in Peel Region.

Regional council passed the necessary proclamation last Thursday, after receiving a delegation from Pride Committee of Peel Chair Greg Roach.

The staff report to council stated a major event during the week will be the 10th annual Peel Pride Day, held this Saturday (July 20) at Chinguacousy Park in Brampton.

The report also stated the Pride movement continues to promote inclusive communities and less discrimination.

"The Peel community is rich with diversity of many forms and is a key contributor to our strength, creativity and innovation as a region," the report added.

The Region has had a Pride committee in place since 2003; a volunteer, non-profit group working to bring the lesbian, gay, bi-sexual and transgendered (LGBT) communities together. It also works to address other issues related to youth, such as HIV/AIDS.

Roach told councillors the work of the committee is "incredibly important" in letting them set up a community for LGBT.

Roach was accompanied at council by a young man, Braden Dias, who showed appreciation for the committee making things easier when his mother came out.

"We know we're not alone in having a gay parent," he said.

"Peel Pride is one day when the heat is the least of our problems," he added.