

**RESOLUTION OF
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF
CANTON, MICHIGAN**

Resolution to Declare June 2021 as Pride Month in Canton Township

Whereas lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people are our family, friends, neighbors and co-workers who contribute meaningfully to our community;

Whereas LGBT Pride events are held in June to commemorate the June 28, 1969 Stonewall riots, that were also a catalyst for establishing safe places for LGBT folks to be open about their sexual orientation and gender identity without fear of being arrested or jailed;

Whereas the fight for dignity, equality and inclusion for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people has been hard-fought in the streets and in the courts of this country;

Whereas these fights for inclusion have made much progress toward changing the hearts and minds of people in many parts of the world;

Whereas on June 13, 2014 Canton Township added a new chapter 36 to the Canton Township Municipal Code related to sustaining a safe, welcoming and inclusive community for all residents regardless of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, age, HIV status, sexual orientation, or gender identity;

Whereas on June 24, 2014 Canton Township passed a resolution calling on the Michigan State Legislature to amend the Elliott Larsen Civil Rights act to provide protections for LGBT Michiganders;

Whereas in 2018 Canton Leisure Services launched the “You Belong Here” initiative, as a part of the commitment to honoring diversity, inclusion and equity, while remaining dedicated to a mission that promotes a spirit of mutual respect, feelings of belonging, and a greater sense of community for all of our neighbors;

Whereas in 2019, Canton Township will be supporting the First Annual Canton Pride Festival. The Canton Pride Festival will be sponsored by PFLAG Plymouth-Canton, the PCEP Gender and Sexuality Alliance, the Ruth Ellis Center and In the Band Music Appreciation Studio and Hosted by Canton Township’s Village Theatre;

Whereas Canton Pride OUTside event will be held on Friday, July 9, 2021 from 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm at the Heritage Park Amphitheatre. Pride OUTside will be a free event where everyone is welcome; now, therefore be it

Resolved, that the Township Board of the Charter Township of Canton do hereby proclaim June 2021 as “Pride Month” in Canton Township, to celebrate lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender members of our community, and as an affirmation of the Township’s commitment to protect and

serve everyone who resides in, works in, or visits Canton without discrimination, as well its belief in the dignity, equality and constitutional and civil rights of all people; be it further

Resolved, that the Canton Township Board of Trustees reaffirms its resolution passed in 2014, calling for immediate action by the Michigan Legislature and Governor to introduce, adopt and enroll (with immediate effect) legislation providing for real protection against discrimination of all residents of this state by amending the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act to include protection for physical or mental limitation, disability, source of income, family responsibilities, educational association, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or HIV status; be it further

Resolved that the Clerk of the Charter Township of Canton is directed to submit a copy of this resolution to the Office of the Governor, Senate Majority and Minority Leaders, and the House Speaker and Minority Leader.