

Yukon Pride Centre & Police

Police have a long history of violence against and murder of Black, Indigenous and People of Colour (BIPOC) folx, in Canada and elsewhere. We also remember the violent and discriminatory history of police in dealing with queer and trans people.

Too often, we have been disproportionately targeted for enforcement activities, and our experiences of homophobic and transphobic harassment and violence ignored or downplayed. Police continue to overpolice and under-protect many segments of Canadian society, including Indigenous and Black people, People of Colour, trans people, sex workers, people who use drugs, and others.

In solidarity with Black, Indigenous, People of Colour, and members of the LGBTQIA2S+ community who are protesting police brutality and systemic racism, we are clearly stating that any visible RCMP presence is not welcome at any Queer Takeover events. This means:

- Uniformed police or members of the police force who are part of an organized police presence are not welcome to participate in any of the Queer Takeover events.
- Symbols associated with the RCMP or other police forces are also not welcome at any of the Queer Takeover events.
- Members of the police force who are part of the LGBTQ2S+ community or allies are, as always, welcome to participate in the Queer Takeover events.

As an organization, the Yukon Pride Centre prioritizes marginalized people's safety over privileged people's comfort. We will continue to listen to, and take direction from, our community members on this issue, and in particular queer and trans Indigenous, Black and people of colour. We have communicated this decision to the RCMP. We continue to call for police accountability on these issues, as well as comprehensive reforms to end violent and discriminatory police practices and institutionalized racism in Canada and around the world.