

Letter of intent: Steve Taylor

26 September 2023

Dear colleagues

We have all heard the recent calls from InterPride for members to be the change they want to see in the organisation. We are asked to 'step up, lean in, and create change' and so I am stepping up for election as Vice President of Global Outreach and Partnership Management.

In the modern history of our movement we have never faced challenges as we do today and that is why we need a competent, respected international network that represents us as Pride organisers, focused first on the needs of our members. We are our movement.

But InterPride has got a little lost along the way, too focused on lofty ideas that distract it from the real work that needs to happen on the ground to support our members. While its members face legal and financial challenges, violent attacks and increasingly hostile legislation, InterPride repeatedly runs head-first into avoidable controversy: declining to oppose the death penalty, refusing to recognise Taiwanese self-determination, interfering with WorldPride hosts and cannibalising their sponsorship opportunities, and spending the budget of all the Prides in Poland on one party in Hollywood are just a few examples.

I have *hope* that we can do better. We can be more strategic. More focused. More sensible. More realistic. And I want to be a part of that *better* InterPride. I will lean in to the organisation because I want to create change and help it get back on track and be the best organisation that it can be. I will use my unique blend of experience gained within Pride in London, EPOA, UKPON, Copenhagen 2021, Sydney WorldPride and Copenhagen Pride to achieve that. I will also offer to lead its Communications Committee provided that Committee has the necessary operational independence that it was denied in the past.

I stand for an expectation of honesty, authenticity, value and transparency in everything that InterPride does, and for an unapologetic and unrelenting focus on our members and their needs. I'm stepping up, leaning in and creating change because without members, there is no InterPride.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steve Taylor', with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Steve Taylor (he/him)
Copenhagen Pride

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