

Update on InterPride & EPOA AGM and World Conference

COVID-19 has fundamentally changed the way in which we all live our lives, and the impact on the Pride movement has been enormous. More than 400 Prides have either been cancelled or postponed and many of us have experienced loss first-hand.

Mindful of our responsibility to our members and the wider LGBTI+ community, we have taken the painful decision to change the in-person AGM and World Conference scheduled to take place in Oslo, Norway, from **October 1-4 2020**, to a virtual Conference.

We have not taken the decision lightly and we want to thank the team at Oslo Pride who have worked so hard in planning the AGM and World Conference and who have been pragmatic and constructive as we worked towards our decision. There were a number of reasons why we felt that the change in the format is necessary.

First, the financial impact of COVID-19 on our organisations would mean that many members would not be in a position to attend a four-day conference with the attendee costs of flights and hotels. Second, many in our community live with long-term conditions that leave them especially vulnerable to COVID-19 and we would not wish to increase their risk. And third, whilst Norway is showing signs of recovery from COVID-19, we simply do not know what the situation or social distancing rules will be in October.

InterPride World Conference

Oslo Pride has assembled a rich collection of educational workshops that will be presented in a virtual format. These will be augmented with affinity caucuses and workshops that allow for our members to network. Details on how this will take place will be rolled out over the summer.

Time will also be reserved for regional meetings to take place to conduct regional business and for members to network.

InterPride AGM

The InterPride AGM will be conducted in a virtual format on the weekends of **October 3 & 4** and **October 10 & 11**, 2020. InterPride's Conference Structure and Integrity Committee (CSIC) will be working with the officers of InterPride to finalize the meeting times so we can update the members on our progress and conduct the required business.

EPOA AGM

The EPOA AGM will go ahead online on **October 3rd and 4th**. The Board of EPOA will meet in mid-May to decide upon their approach and will then email members with information on how they can participate. Bids for EuroPride 2023, the AGM 2021 and board elections will go ahead.

Both the InterPride and EPOA schedules will be arranged to avoid clashes and to ensure all European members can attend both.

Conference Refunds

Later this week, Oslo Pride will begin the process of issuing refunds to everyone that has already paid for their registration. This could be a time consuming process so please be patient and hold off contacting them. If you do not receive your refund by **June 1, 2020**, you should email **agm@oslopride.no**.

Thank you for your understanding of this difficult decision to move the conference to a virtual format, stay safe and watch for more details this summer.



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