

For Immediate Release

LGCA names new Executive Director

Philip Wong moves to the LGCA from the Youth Line in September

Toronto – August 14, 2007 – The Lesbian & Gay Community Appeal Foundation (LGCA) is pleased to announce the hiring of its new executive director Philip Wong, Executive Director of the Lesbian Gay Bi Trans Youth Line for the last five years begins work at the LGCA in September.

“We know our community’s organizations need more financial support,” says LGCA Co-chair Beth Jordan. “We’ve hired Philip to help the LGCA build more community resources, serve more people and ensure our community’s ideas and dreams have the funding to become realities.”

Recommended by a diverse panel of volunteer grant reviewers, 39 grants totaling \$69,000 were made in 2007 in support for organizations and projects serving the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered communities. However, close to 50 grant applications totaling more than \$130,000 were received.

“There is a gap in Canada’s philanthropic world that the volunteers of the LGCA works to fill; ensuring that our LGBT communities evolve and grow armed with the resources needed,” says Philip, a member of the Association of Fundraising Professionals with a Bachelors of Journalism from Ryerson University. “The fundraising environment is highly competitive making it difficult for new and innovative projects to gain financial support and momentum.”

Since 1980, the LGCA Foundation has raised funds through an annual giving program and special initiatives. Through the generosity of individuals and businesses, the LGCA Foundation is able to provide much-needed funding for projects and programs in the areas of education, health, human rights and arts and culture. The LGCA is also trustee of the Jonathan R. Steinert and Fernando G. Ferreiro Award, recognizing a significant contribution to community, and is co-trustee of the Bill 7 Award for youth.

Over the years, the LGCA has raised over \$2 million to fund hundreds of community-based projects, including the Lesbian Gay Bi Trans Youth Line, The Metropolitan Community Church Toronto, Buddies in Bad Times Theatre, Toronto Pride Day Committee, PFLAG Toronto, Gays and Lesbians of African Descent, Salaam Queer Muslim Community, The Chinese Canadian National Council, The Alliance for South Asian AIDS Prevention, and The Inside Out Gay and Lesbian Film Festival. Visit www.lgca.ca.

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For more information please contact the LGCA at 416-920-5422 or info@lgca.ca.

