

June 25, 2023

To: BC Lavender Initiatives
BC Student Government Association

From: BC SAGA Club

Re: Pride Pool Party



We appreciate the efforts made by the Lavender Initiatives and Student Government Association to honor our goal of providing a safe and trans-affirming pool party. We appreciate your work to provide:

- Non-gendered changing rooms
- Cost of pool staff
- Cost of pool chlorine for the day
- On-campus advertising
- A date on which to hold the event

However, we feel that the resulting event does not provide a safe and affirming space for our members because:

- Lack of clarity regarding appropriate attire has stopped us from marketing the event to our members,
- A requirement that would force our members to buy new clothes to attend the event would stop many of our members from attending,
- The potential for body shaming and being turned away for inappropriate attire would stop our members from attending,
- We were not informed of these limitations and only found out through an event flyer, then a member sought further clarity,
- That was when we learned that there would be no pop-ups allowed, thus no shade available, on a date when it will be over 100 degrees.

The body dysmorphia experienced by our trans, non-binary, and non-societally expected body shape membership is deep and profoundly life-altering. Our hope was that this event would help all of us feel more comfortable and safer in our bodies in a space where we are usually disconfirmed and feel unsafe.

We feel that the resulting event does not meet our goals and we no longer feel comfortable co-sponsoring the event.

This letter was crafted at the executive board's June 24 emergency club meeting (all members were invited).

Present:

- President Elect, Lance Mack
- Vice President Elect, Cord Swanson
- ICC Rep Elect, Julia Bates
- Co-Advisor, Helen Acosta

The choice not to use club funds in support of the Pride Pool Party was approved by the club in a poll on our discord server that was open from 1pm June 24-8pm June 25. 72.7% of respondents voted, "No, we should save the funds and do our own trans-affirming pool party at a different location and later date."