



## International Business Equality **INDEX**

*For immediate release*

### **WHICH IS THE MOST GAY FRIENDLY CORPORATION IN THE WORLD?**

#### **The IGLCC invites corporations to be part of the first edition of the International Business Equality Index**

**Montreal, Canada, February 5<sup>th</sup> 2009** – The International Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce (IGLCC) is proud to invite all major international corporations to participate in the world premiere of the International Business Equality Index survey that will measure how they are performing internationally in issues related to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) community. The Index is a unique tool allowing corporations to draw external comparisons, which illustrate how their competitors are doing as well as internal comparisons that provide a better understanding of their own performance. The deadline for completion of the survey is April 30<sup>th</sup> 2009 with the results being announced during the International Conference on LGBT Human Rights held during the World Outgames in Copenhagen from July 25<sup>th</sup> to August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2009.

In this challenging time of economic uncertainty, participation in a Index of such broad scope provides the exact edge that corporations might need to be ahead of the curve.

“The International Business Equality Index is without a doubt one of the most important initiatives ever launched at the international level to advance LGBT diversity in the business world. It gives a concrete sign that a corporation supports the LGBT community by its dedication and commitment and provides vital access to our ever expanding market segment”, declared the Secretary General of the IGLCC, Pascal Lépine.

The Index provides an excellent and timely opportunity for corporations to be among the first to show their support for the global LGBT community and benefit from its workforce and economic power. A further direct benefit of participation is the chance for corporations to evaluate and enhance their LGBT policies and practices.

“There is a conscious desire from everyone working at the international level to understand how diversity can best be used to advance their business. This Index is a clear response to this and other questions from the international business world such as: Are we doing enough with the vast potential represented by the LGBT community?” added Mr. Lépine.

About the IGLCC

The International Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce (IGLCC) was founded in 2006 in Hamburg, Germany and is based in Montréal, Canada. The IGLCC is the world's leading international LGBT business network. Membership is made up of organizations represented by 17 chambers of commerce and business organizations in 14 countries. The IGLCC connects business leaders local, national and internationally.

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