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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA ADVISORY

CiTR FM broadcasts 2011 GLISA North America OutGames with QMUNITY's GAB Youth!

June 8, 2011 (Vancouver, B.C.) Having won \$10,000 broadcast grant from Community Radio Fund of Canada, CiTR 101.9FM Vancouver's technical and educational staff, along with the staff of LGBTQ radio show QueerFM will be recruiting, certifying, and paying queer youth broadcasters for a unique summer position - to comprise the bulk of each CiTR broadcast team providing radio coverage of the 2011 GLISA North American OutGames July 25 - 31, 2011.

Transmitting from the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, CiTR 101.9FM represents 79 original, locally developed programs and broadcasts in five different languages. With CiTR's continued commitment to represent the diversity of community, CiTR station manager Brenda Granau and QueerFM's Aedan Saint created a project to broadcast the 2011 North American OutGames. As a collaboration with queer resource centre QMUNITY, The OutGames Project was proposed and broadcast grant awarded to CiTR by the CRFC in May, 2011.

The CiTR OutGames team will be training and certifying at minimum seven LGBTQ youth of QMUNITY's GAB program as well as taking on current and future CiTR broadcast voices from UBC. Broadcast teams composed of CiTR staff and queer youth will have the opportunity to interact with a fantastic list of human rights leaders, world class athletes, performers and artists converging on Vancouver for the once every four year event. CiTR will provide a daily hour of highlights of the athletic competitions, the Human Rights Conference, and the cultural events that accompany the games. broadcasting live at various locations around Davie Village, Vancouver's LGBTQ center. CiTR also plans to preempt it's programming schedule to broadcast live at three events per day, totalling five or more hours of programming every day throughout the Games. The coverage will end with a party - a live broadcast float from CiTR, QueerFM, and the QMUNITY GAB Youth program in the 2011 Vancouver Pride Parade. The live broadcast will highlight the March of Athletes and will feature many local queer youth, artists and performers.

QueerFM is one of the longest running LGBTQ radio shows in Canada, broadcasting for for

over 18 years. Originally hosted by Heather Kitching, QueerFM was awarded the Rhinestone Phoenix Outreach Award in 2010 for media excellence in coverage of queer news, events, and causes. After Heather moved to Ontario, QueerFM was passed on to Aedan Saint, former host of Fruit Salad on Vancouver Co-op Radio. His husband Justin Saint and entertainers The Samantha Mack and Clement C-Blaze Luah later joined QueerFM as co-hosts, leading to the creation of a new bi-weekly queer arts show called QueerFM Arts Xtra. QueerFM broadcasts to an international audience and over 3400 people visit QueerFM's podcast page every month. "It's an honor to continue the work Heather Kitching started in not only raising awareness of LGBTQ issues, news, artistic expression and opinions from around the world, but giving a voice to those with the most to say - LGBTQ youth." states Aedan Saint, CiTR Outgames Coordinator.

For over 30 years, QMUNITY has been and continues to be BC's leading queer resource centre offering many vital social services and programs. The GAB Program is a safe space for queer youth under the age of twenty five and their allies. GAB provides weekly drop-in socials, peer support, Pridespeak anti-homophobia and transphobia workshops, leadership training and special events such as youth dances.

Jennifer Breakspear, executive director of QMUNITY had this to say about the project: "We are thrilled to take part in this exciting collaboration between QMUNITY and CiTR. The young people who take part in the QMUNITY Gab Youth program are talented innovative individuals who thrive with the support and guidance of passionate community leaders such as Aedan and Justin Saint. The CiTR OutGames Broadcast Project will support leadership and skills development for queer youth that is unlike any other opportunity currently available to them."

The OutGames organizers have also been instrumental in making this broadcast possible by providing insight and visibility into the event and it's scheduling despite very busy schedules and tight time lines. "The Vancouver 2011 Outgames are honoured to be able to assist in this amazing and original joint project that CiTR is doing with Qmunity and GAB Youth. To be able to take part in providing our LGTBQ youth the opportunity to learn valuable trade skills while showcasing the Outgames is truly the embodiment of community. CiTR and Qmunity are to be lauded for this inclusive initiative" states Barb Snelgrove, Communications Director for the Vancouver 2011 Outgames.

Broadcasts begin in mid July and continue through August 1st on CiTR 101.9FM in Vancouver and streamed live as well as podcast on citr.ca and queerfmvancouver.com

For more on 2011 North American OutGames: <http://www.vancouver2011outgames.com>

For more on QMUNITY: <http://qmunity.ca>

For more on CiTR: <http://citr.ca>

For more on QueerFM: <http://queerfmvancouver.com>

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