

Viva Cuba! Viva Pride!

JOIN US IN THE VANCOUVER PRIDE PARADE!



Join Vancouver Communities in Solidarity with Cuba (VCSC) as we march with Vancouver Pride! We will have a contingent in the Vancouver Pride Parade on Sunday August 6, where we will demand an end to the cruel U.S. blockade on Cuba and explain the important gains of Cuba's LGBTQAI+ community.

If you like to march, ride, or table with us, get in touch vancubasolidarity@gmail.com or call 778-882-5223.

Hey President Biden,
**CUBA IS NOT A
'SPONSOR OF
TERRORISM'!**
**REMOVE
CUBA FROM
YOUR LIST!**



GET INVOLVED IN VANCOUVER COMMUNITIES IN SOLIDARITY WITH CUBA (VCSC)

778.882.5223 | VANCUBASOLIDARITY@GMAIL.COM

TWITTER & INSTAGRAM: @VANCUBA_VCSC

WWW.VANCUBASOLIDARITY.COM

VANCOUVER MONTHLY CAR CARAVAN LIFT THE U.S. BLOCKADE ON CUBA!



PRESIDENT BIDEN TAKE CUBA OFF THE
"STATE SPONSORS OF TERRORISM" LIST!



#OffTheList
#UnBlockCuba
#PuentesDeAmor
#BridgesOfLove
#ByeByeBlockade

**SUNDAY AUGUST 27 12PM
FOR LOCATION CALL
604.780.4029**

Friends of Cuba Against the U.S. Blockade - Vancouver
WWW.VANCUBAVSBLOCKADE.ORG | @NOBLOQUEOVAN

2023 PRIDE T-SHIRT!



**\$15-20
SLIDING
SCALE**

Why are we marching with Cuban flags and signs at Vancouver Pride?

By Azza Rojhi & Tamara Hansen

On September 25, 2022, Cuba passed a new "Families Code" in a national referendum in which 67% voted in favor of adopting this code into law. Over 6 million Cubans living outside and inside of Cuba participated in the referendum which has cemented and expanded LGBTQAI+, women's, children's, and elders' legal rights in Cuba.

We see a new important



development for the Queer movement in Cuba, which folks in Canada and internationally will benefit to know about. Since 1959, Cuba has used mass mobilizations and popular democracy within all levels of society towards building: agrarian reform, ending illiteracy, health initiatives (such as vaccination campaigns), national defence, and many other legal and political changes.

The Cuban people and their revolution have

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been in constant motion for change. Specifically with the goal of activating and including those who have been traditionally marginalized under capitalism: workers, farmers, women, youth, elders, people of colour, people of African decent, and the Queer community. Cuba's new Families Code shows that Cuba's revolution continues in this dynamic motion.

Trans Rights in Cuba

Trans people in Cuba have had access to free, gender affirming surgery and health care since 2008. Additionally, in Cuba, trans folks can correct their legal names and gender

care since 2008. Additionally, in Cuba, trans folks can correct their legal names and gender

on official documents without surgery since 2013. Cuba also has a national network of trans people and supporters called TransCuba, designed to provide support and family counseling and build social awareness about trans issues across the country.

Cuba’s New Families Code

The new families code expands on the rights of the LGBTQAI+ community and families by expanding the definition of family. Some important highlights of the Families Code include:

- It protects the rights of same sex parents to build a family whether that is through marriage, adoption, or assisted reproduction.
- Equal marriage and adoption rights regardless of gender or sexual orientation.
- Parental rights can now be shared among extended and “non-traditional” family structures, including grandparents, stepparents, and surrogate parents.
- The right to assisted reproduction.

- The extension of labour rights to those who care full-time for children, seniors, or people with disabilities.
- The right to a family life free from violence.
- The codification of domestic violence penalties and the outlawing of corporal punishment (in Cuba, a parent’s decision to disown an LGBTQIA+ child



is considered domestic violence and is punished accordingly).

- The new Families Code does not limit the existing family code, but it expands it. It does not limit the rights of anyone, but again expands and extends them for others.

This new Families Code was not only written by lawyers,

politicians or legislators. It was the result of the research and work over many years by sociologists, psychologists, doctors, statisticians, social workers, and other social institutions in Cuba.

The debates and discussion on the contents of the Families Code took place throughout Cuba over many months in workplaces, community centres, and in the media. You feel it when you talk to people in Cuba. You see it when you observe how mass consultations and processes like this happen in the country. The popular democracy is alive in Cuba, and it is very engaging.

Cuba’s Families Code referendum was important proof of the relationship between the Cuban people and the leadership of the revolution including the government, state, and the popular mass revolutionary institutions such as the Federation of Cuban Women (FMC), the Cuban National Center for Sex Education (CENESEX), the University Student Federation (FEU) and others.

Cuban President Miguel Díaz Canel tweeted after the referendum on the families Code passed, “Approving the new Family Code [#CódigoDeLasFamilias] is doing justice. It is paying off a debt with several generations of Cuban men and women, whose family projects have been waiting for this Law for years. From today we will be a better nation. Love is now the law [#ElAmorYaEsLey]”

As we see the challenges facing the LGBTQAI+ community in Canada and attempts to roll back the rights of trans and non-binary folks, Cuba’s new Families Code shows us that a better future is possible. One that embraces diversity and respects the rights of all.

We hope you will join us in our work in solidarity with Cuba!

Join the New Postcard Campaign in defense of Cuba

Friends of Cuba Against the U.S. Blockade – Vancouver and the NY-NJ Cuba Si Coalition launched a postcard campaign aimed at U.S. President Biden which declares, “Cuba is NOT a ‘sponsor of terrorism!’ Remove Cuba from your list!”.

As part of this campaign, people can send postcards as often as they want to the White House. It is a physical reminder to their mail room about this ongoing campaign and this injustice by the U.S. government against Cuba. But also, as folks are mailing their postcard they can take selfies and share them on social media – making this also a public education campaign. Furthermore, these postcards could be used to hand out at events and protests as a way to engage with people and encourage them to take action in support of Cuba!

We hope that you will join us in this exciting new campaign in solidarity with Cuba. If you would like more information or to order postcards please email: nobloqueovancouver@gmail.com



Get Involved in Vancouver Communities in Solidarity with Cuba (VCSC) follow us on Twitter & Instagram: @VanCuba_VCSC or find us on Facebook @vansubasolidarity. You can also keep up with our work on our website: WWW.VANCUBASOLIDARITY.COM or send an email vancubasolidarity@gmail.com



For more information about Cuba’s challenges and gains related to Queer rights, scan this QR Code to watch the June 29, 2023 webinar: Celebrate Cuba’s International Days Against Homophobia & Transphobia “For all Families, Love is the Law” organized by the U.S.-Cuba Normalization Conference Coalition

AZZA ROJBI – North African queer activist and board member of Fierté Canada Pride. Azza is also the Coordinator of Friends of Cuba Against the U.S. Blockade - Vancouver. Azza participated in the Cuban Days against Homophobia and Transphobia in 2016. Azza is a member of the Editorial Board of the Fire This Time Newspaper. She is the author of “U.S. & Saudi War on the People of Yemen” (Battle of Ideas Press).

TAMARA HANSEN - Coordinator of Vancouver Communities in Solidarity with Cuba (VCSC). She is also a founding organizer with the US-Cuba Normalization Conference Coalition, member of the Editorial Board of the Fire This Time Newspaper, and the author of the book, “5 Decades of the Cuban Revolution the Challenges of an Unwavering leadership” (Battle of Ideas Press).